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| 1 $\mathrm{LVi}^{\text {i }}$ | 9／6 | 6 Dti | $3 /-$ | 912 310 | $30 \mathrm{P} 412 /=$ | AZ41 0／6 | HC 53 | 12／6 | EMK1 7／－ | P61 2／6 | TH4B | 10\％ | VP4B | 12／＝ | GEX 45 6／G |
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| 1R1） | 4i－ | が13 | $13 / 5$ | 110 ${ }^{\text {17 }} 178$ | 3．） | 「リバ 6／6 | ECrisa | $4 / 8$ | E240 $5 / 6$ | PCF86 813 | UBF80 | $5 / 6$ | W21 | 5\％－ | OA8 6 4／－ |
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| J3i） | $3 / 3$ | 万F＊24 | 10／6 | $12 A t i$ | 413＇T1．8i－ | D1 1／8 | ECCNS | 819 | EZ\＄0 3／9 | Pリア゙40：10／6 | UBLSI | 10／9 | W＇91M | $24 / 6$ | OAM1 3／－ |
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| 174 | $2 / 3$ | （1）Fis | $3 / 6$ | 12Ach $\quad 8 / 6$ | 425 | D4． $10 / 6$ | tcC189 | 11／6 | NZ90 $\quad 3 / 9$ | PCF406 12／9 | UCCB | $8 /$ | W76 | $3 / 6$ | OACDOE 5／－ |
| 104 | $5 / 6$ | Ukili | $2 / 8$ | 12ADi 0／6 | 45101 | D03 5／－ | ECoso4 | 819 | Fit 14／6 | PCLn 2 6／6 | UCCOS | 6／6 | W77 | \％／8 | $04210 \quad 9 / 0$ |
| 113 | 5／8 | ${ }^{6} \mathrm{HE}$ | 1／8 | 1UAE6 8／－ | 4510 | D：7 2／3 | ECCS07 | 16／－ | FU 4 4 | PCIs $83 / 8$ | UCF80 | $8 / 3$ | W814 | $5 / 9$ | $0.4211 \quad 13 / 6$ |
| 2A－ | $12 / 8$ | 3J5G | 3／－ | 12ABC 5／2 | 4526GT $15 /-$ | DAC＂32 $7 / 6$ | ECF80 | $7 / 8$ | $\mathrm{FCl}^{2} 14 / 6$ | PCL84 716 | $\mathrm{ECH} 2$ | $8 /=$ | W101 | $28 / 8$ | OAZ200 16／6 |
| 2 CL 6 | 818 | bJちら1 | 4／3 | 12AH8 10／9 | 50A5 21／10 | DAFY1 3／3 | ECFs\％ | 6／3 | Fel3C 171． | PCLR5 816 | U＇1442 | 81. | W10： | $10 / 6$ | OAZ20： $9 / 6$ |
| 2013C | $7 /$ | GJ ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 3／－ | 12ATG 4／6 | 50B3 616 | LaF96 8／－ | WCF86 | 10／－ | FW 41500818 | PC1s6 819 | UUH81 | 8／8 | W 72e | $17 / 6$ | OAZEO4 916 |
| 2D． 21 | 5／－ | 6JTG | 4／6 | 12AT： $3 / 6$ | $5 \mathrm{CC} 5 \quad 6 / 6$ | Decso 8／8 | ECF804 | 24／－ | FW $1 / 8008 / 6$ | PCL88 $18 / 6$ | COL82 | 7／3 | x1t | 719 | OAZ210 76 |
| $2 \mathbf{8 2}$ | 8／－ | BJ 7 GT | 7） | 12AU； $5 / 9$ | $50056040 / 8$ | DJ4 $12 / 6$ | ECH：3 | 28／3 | GTIC $9 / 9$ | PEN40DD | UCL83 | $9 / 3$ | X 18 | $8 /$ | OC16W 35\％ |
| 3 A 4 | $3 / 9$ | 5K8GT | 6／8 | 12AU7 $4 / 8$ | 50d，LGT 6／－ | ［D41 10／8 | E［PH2］ | 9／－ | G050 55／－ | 84／＝ | LF＋1 | $6 / 9$ | ${ }^{8}$ | 18／8． | OC19 20\％－ |
|  | 8／9 | 6K76 | 1／3 | L2AV6 519 | 52KU 14／6． | DLT4 $\quad 7 / 6$ | ECH ${ }^{\text {asis }}$ | $22 / 8$ | G730 7／6 | PEN45 \％／ | LF44 | $4 / 9$ | X 41 | 10\％ | Or93 23／－ |
| $3 \mathrm{~B}_{7}$ | 5／－ | 6E7tre | 4／5 | 12AX： $4 / 6$ | 53KU 14／e | DFT25 \％／ | FCH3s | 6／－ | （4Z，3）2 8\％ | PEN45DD | Uドメ） | 6／3 | X ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 8／－ | OC23 5\％－ |
| 3 BH | $3 / 9$ | iK8 ${ }^{\text {ci }}$ | 3／3 | 12AY＇ 918 | 6／8 | 17 F 3388 | ECH4－ | 81－ | GiZ3i 14／8 | 12／－ | 1）588 | 6／8 | I 3 B | $5 / 9$ |  |
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| 384 | $4 / 9$ | dLJ | 10\％ | 12 BH 7 6／－ | 20 $\quad 5 / 3$ | DI＇91 2／3 | ECH94 | 9／8 | H30 $6 /-$ | PEN403D1） | ［1L4］ | \％／－ | $\times 18$ | 7／3 | O（24 18／6 |
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| $5 \mathrm{~T} 4$ | 71. | 6 L 18 | 10\％． | 12．1－6＇ $2 / 3$ | 90ar 8i／6 | UHris 4／－ | HCLSo | $81 \%$ | HL23 12／6 | $4020 \quad 17 / 8$ | 13134 | $17 / 6$ | Inds | 29／1 | OC42 6／6 |
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| 3v4G | 8／－ | 6 LD 3 | 6／6 | 1こん7GT 3／8 | 90\％${ }^{\text {a }}$ 42／－ | DH\％3／6 | EF9 | 20／6 | HLil $3 / 9$ | PL23 9/- | $\mathrm{R} 1 \mathrm{C}$ | $8 / 6$ | $\times 109$ | $281-$ | 0 CH 419 |
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| lisy＇t | 616 | 68R7 | 12／6 | $20 \mathrm{DL} \mathrm{10} \mathrm{\%-}$ | 7193116 | DW4， $0008 / 6$ | EH901 | 9／6 | $\mathrm{K}^{5} 763818$ | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { PLuO } & 8 / 6\end{array}$ | C35 | 16／6 | AF＇ll | 11／ | $\text { O1ㅎㅇ } 19 /=$ |
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| ${ }_{\text {tiPRF }}$ | 8／3 | 6 Y 7 G | 12／6 | $25 \mathrm{L6}$ 4／9 | ${ }_{105}^{14} 12 / 6$ | EATH 6／9 | F1， 12 | 710 | LN132 5／9 | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { R13 } & \text { 98／－}\end{array}$ | 1.107 -191 | 17／8 | $A F Z 18$ | 28／4 | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { OE1＇12 } & 12 / 8 \\ \text { TS } & 12 / 6\end{array}$ |
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$250-0-250 \mathrm{v} .10 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 v .4 \mathrm{a}, 0-5-6.3 \mathrm{v} .3 \mathrm{a}$
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## RESOURCEFULNESS

"I wonder if the average radio enthusiast is so resourceful and ingenious as he used to be?" This chance remark, thrown up after a reference to the "hints and tips" columns without which no self-respecting radio magazine would once have been complete, sparked off a lively discussion. It proved inconclusive.

One line was that the apparent ingenuity increases as one rolls back the years, for the earlier you made a start the more resourceful you had to be. Right back in the early 1920's, the average enthusiast even had to make many of his own components before thinking of wiring them up. Would he have gone to all this trouble if commercial products had been readily and inexpensively available? Is it a case of necessity being the mother of invention?

And what of that fine field of gimmicks? The little self-designed gadgets, the odd uses for conventional bits and pieces, the salvaging of otherwise discarded items for further use, the novel ways to overcome constructional snags-all these used to flourish in an unending stream.

Are constructors no longer interested in such gadgetry or in this affluent society is the saving of the odd pence no longer a driving force? Perhaps the seeming absence of those Hints and Tips is due to the fact that most of them are now common currency and that people are still using them, like family heirlooms passed on from previous generations.

On the other hand, it could be that the average constructor is no longer so resourceful since everything is made so very easy for him and he has no need to puzzle over such things. In order to attempt some sort of assessment on this problem we are inviting readers to send along any original ideas they may have. The best of those received will be fublished.

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## PCR Mods

After having read $W$. V. Wood's article "PCR Mods" in the June issue of Practical Wireless, I have added a noise limiter, a.v.c. switch to my PCR and I am now working on the b.f.o. unit. I have also added another audio stage which was not described in the article.

I do not intend replacing the r.f. or frequency changer valves, but I would like to modify the set to cover the 80 and 160 metre bands so that my receiver will tune 18 m to $2,000 \mathrm{~m}$.

If possible, I would like to have these extra coils inside the set rather than an external converter. Can anyone help please? 1 am aged 15.
Terence Wright,
The Bungalow, Glenbana, Ballyaughlis, Lisburn, Co. Down, N . Ireland.

## Tagboard Warning

In the article for beginners in the July issue of Practical Wireless, the use of either paxolin or Formica for a tagboard is specified. May I give a word of warning about Formica being used for this purpose? As it is heat-resistant it has a thin metal foil sandwiched in it, and this foil can cause short-circuits. To be safe, use paxolin and ignore any form of decorative plastic sheet.

Some years ago I hit on what 1 thought was a bright idea to use Formica for tagboards, but soon found to my cost the damage that the metal foil could do when the power supplies were switched on!
W. E. Thompson, G3MQT,

St. Leonards-on-Sea,
Sussex.

Correspondent
I would like to correspond with someone of my own age (14).
G. Jackson.

50 Bury Street. Coff Sandy Lane, Stockport, Cheshire.

## NEWS AND

WINIATURE JACK SOCKETS


A new moulded miniature jack socket from Corr Fastener Co. Ltd., is designed to accept all miniature jack plugs including Carr's jack plug type 83:263. The contacts hove a tinned finish for ease of soldering and are fully enclosed within the moulding thus protecting them from damoge in handling or transit.

## THE HAMS OF EUROPE

According to the IARU (International Amateur Radio Union), the number of licensed radio amateurs in Europe has now risen to over 54,000 including over 11,000 in the UK. The country which boasts the most amateur radio stations is Germany, with 11,465 .

## FIVE MEN PROBE SPACE SIGNALS

Five experts-two from the Soviet Union, two from the United States and one from Czechoslovakia, have been assigned to the job of making a thorough probe into radio signals received on earth from all over the universe. They will study the signals for six months then report their findings back to the International Astronautical Academy.

Scientists in many countries have received extremely powerful radio signals from outer space, and the signals from one source, called CTA-102 appear to follow a definite pattern which changes every fortnight. One of the Russian scientists in the team says that he cannot rule out the possibility that these signals may emanate from intelligent beings.

## BALL BEARINGS IN SPACE

Four foot diameter aluminium "ball bearings" are being placed in orbit round the earth for radar calibrations and signal strength tests and also for experiments to measure the influence of atmospheric conditions on satellite relay communications.

The first "ball bearing", made by the Rohr Corporation of USA was launched last May. A second in the series of five was launched with the experimental communications satellite LES-2.

A useful life of about five years is expected before surface deterioration through micrometeorite bombardment renders the spheres useless.

## Hawaiian Guitar

I Have successfully built the Hawaiian Guitar from your June issue. However, instead of just making the frets on the guitar body, I have constructed a fretboard which I have stuck on to the guitar. The board was made from a piece of black formica 2 in . wide. The frets were cut with a saw and gold paint was rubbed into the cuts to make a really professional finish.
M. Edwards.

Herne Bay,
Kent.

## Correspondent

I AM interested in transistor circuitry and in radio in general. I would like to correspond with anyone who shares my interests and who is about my own age (16).

Donal Gabriei.

> 43 Oliver Plunkett St., Bandon, Co. Cork, Ireland.

## Offer of Components

I have in my possession certain components that I would like to offer to Practical Wireless readers. They are valves: EF80. 6Q7G, HL133/DD, 6A8G. DAF96, EF39. ECL80, MHD4, 6F6G, DH63, DL96, D77, PY81. W42, ECH35, $25 \mathrm{~A} 6 \mathrm{G}, \mathrm{DF} 96, \mathrm{PCC} 84,20 \mathrm{~F} 2$, 10F1.

Also I have most values of resistors, all $20 \%$, and electrolytic capacitors: $8 \mu \mathrm{~F} \quad 500 \mathrm{~V}$. $12 /$ $4 \mu \mathrm{~F} 450 \mathrm{~V}, 100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 6 \mathrm{~V}$. $32 / 32 /$ $.8 \mu \mathrm{~F} \quad 350 \mathrm{~V}, \quad 100 / 200 \mu \mathrm{~F} \quad 275 \mathrm{~V}$, $16 / 32 \mu \mathrm{~F} \quad 350 \mathrm{~V}, \quad 16 \mu \mathrm{~F} \quad 350 \mathrm{~V}$, $200 \mu \mathrm{~F} 12 \mathrm{~V}, 40 / 30 / 20 \mu \mathrm{~F} 275 \mathrm{~V}$.

In addition I also have a selection of precut chassis.
D. J. Geer.

The Caldecott Community, Mersham-le-Hatch, Ashford, Kent.

We must stress that ample postage and a stamped addressed envelope must accompany all requests for components sent to Mr. Geer. First come will be first served.-Editor.
on page 596


TWE miniature oscilloscope about to be described was designed and built to fulfil two functions: (1) To provide an adequate a.f. response and (2) to occupy the minimum of bench space.

There were two different ways of achieving the objective: (a) by designing the circuit and then compressing it into as small a space as possible and (b) by deciding on the maxinum size permissible and designing a suitable circuit to fit into it. Although both methods have their disadvantages the author felt that the first method held a better chance of success. A circuit was therefore evolved and ways and means sought of compressing this into the minimum space possible.

The restrictions governing length, breadth and height soon became apparent. The minimum length was dependent upon the length of the c.r.t. and the breadth and height upon the diameter of the c.r.t. plus the number of controls it was necessary to have on the front panel.
The author has always subscribed to the belief that too many oscilloscopes have too many seldom-used controls on the fron't panel-even if they do look impressive! Reducing the number of controls can materially assist in reducing the size of the equipment as well as improving operational efficiency. In the present design the most used controls (in the author's case anyway) are mounted on the front panel and the two least used ones on the rear panel.

Where the oscilloscope is to be confined to one work bench or where extreme portability is not an outstanding consideration the use of a separate power pack has much to commend it. The oscilloscope proper can be made very much smaller and lighter and the absence of the heat generated by the mains transformer and rectifiers can considerably improve the frequency stability of the timebase. The magnetic field of the mains transformer, which can cause such waveform distortion. will also be absent, so that a mumetal c.r.t. screen can be dispensed with, resulting in a fair saving in cost. for good mumetal screens are by no means cheap. In accordance with this philosophy the design under consideration was built in two parts.

The first part, which can be regarded as the


Fig. I. Vertical omplifier ( $Y$-amp) with symmetrical deflection and probe umit.
oscilloscope proper, occupies a bench space of $9 \times 4 \times 5 i n$. (high) and contains the c.r.t. Y-amp and timebase. The power supply was built on a chassis $8 \times 4 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$.

| COMPONENTS LIST |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Resistors: |  |
| RI IOMS | R21 47ks |
| R2 IM! | R22 47ks |
| R3 IM@ | R23 1k!1 |
| R4 IkS | R24 68k!2 |
| R5 $2.2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | R25 IMs |
| R6 10k $\Omega$ | R26 $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R7 $39 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R27 $3.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R8 Ik $\Omega$ | R28 $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega \mathrm{Hi}$ Stab. 5\% |
| R9 $33 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R29 47k $\Omega$ Hi Stab. 5\% |
| R10 IMs | R30 22 k , |
| RII $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega 5 \%$ Hi Stab. | R31 10ks |
| RI2 22 k S $5 \%$ HiStab. | R32 330k $25 \%$ Hi Stab. |
| R13 $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 33 27ks2 5\% Hi Stab. |
| R14 $3.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R34 470k $\Omega$ |
| R15 10ks | R35 IMs |
| R16 470k $\Omega$ | R36 IMs |
| R17 10ks | R37 I $\Omega$ IW (See text) |
| R18 IMS | R38 1.5k $\Omega 3 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R19 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R39 1.5k $\Omega 3 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R20 $68 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R40 100ks |
| All $20 \% \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ except where stated |  |
| Potentiometers: |  |
| VRI $25 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | VR5 $2 M \Omega$ |
| VR2 $25 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | VR6 IM $\Omega$ |
| VR3 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | VR7 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| VR4 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| All linear |  |
| Capacitors: |  |
| TCI $3-30 \mathrm{pF}$ trimmer |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl} \quad 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| C2 $25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| C3 1000 pF silver mica |  |
| C4 $0.25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| C5 0.05 $\mu \mathrm{F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| C6 $2 \mu \mathrm{~F} 150 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| C7 1000pF silver mica |  |
| C8 $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ paper |  |
| C9 100 pF silver mica |  |
| Cl0 500pF silver mica |  |
| Cll 2500 pF silver mica |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl} 20.01 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| CI3 $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
|  |  |
| $\begin{array}{ll}\text { C14 } & 0.25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V} \text { paper } \\ \text { Cl5 } & 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V} \text { paper }\end{array}$ |  |
| C16 $32 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| C17 $32 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| Cl8 $32 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| C19 32 $\mu \mathrm{F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| C20 16 16 F 350 V electrolytic |  |
| C21 $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 750 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| C22 0.1 F F 750 V paper |  |
| C23 0.1 $\mu \mathrm{F} 1000 \mathrm{~V}$ paper |  |
| C24 $32 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic |  |
| Valves: |  |
| VI 12AT7 V2 EF86 V3; V5 12AU7 |  |
| V4 EF86 V6 $6 \times 4$ | V7 E4205-B-7 or VCR139 |
| Miscellaneous: |  |
| SI, Ip 5W or 2 p $5 W$ (see text). DI, OA8I, D2 D3 K3/40. L1, Repanco $2.5 \mathrm{mH}, \mathrm{L} 210 \mathrm{H} 60 \mathrm{~mA}$. Mains transformers 200-240V Primary, 250-0250 V at $60 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{~V}$ at $2.5 \mathrm{~A}, 5 \mathrm{~V}$ or 4 V at 1 A . |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |



## The Y Amplifier

The circuit of this is shown in Fig. 1, from which it will be seen to be quite conventional and straightforward. The input valve V1a is a $12 \mathrm{AT7}$ double triode the other half of which is used as the sync amplifier. V1a is arranged as a cathode follower input stage with the fine gain control VR2 formong the cathode load. This is connected "back to back" with the sync amplitude control. Of the two attributes of a cathode follower, namely high input and low output impedances, uso is made of the low output impedance only by connecting, as already described, the gain control across it. The high input impedance has been sacrificed in order to provide a coarse input attenuator in the grid circuit. This is necessary because a high-amplitude signal would overload the stage, and, although VR2 would reduce the signal sufficiently to fill the c.r.t., the waveform would contain distortion that was introduced by the oscilloscope itself due to V1a overloading. Since panel space was at a premium the input attenuator was made in the form of a probe which could be plugged in as and when required. This probe consists of a high-value resistor R1 and lowcapacity trimmer TC1 in parallel. At low frequencies R1 and R2 form the potential dividing elements but, as the frequency is increased, the stray capacities to earth play an ever-increasing part so that the attenuation factor is increased. The attenuator can in fact be said to be frequency conscious. The inclusion of TC1 alters this considerably and allows an attenuator to bo constructed that is for practical purposes, not frequency conscious. The optimum value for TCl is when the time-constant of C1 R1 is equal to the time constant of R2 $x$ strays and, since the strays cannot be calculated, ${ }^{\text {TCL }}$ is made $\mathrm{a}^{\circ}$ trimmer with a maximum capacity of 30 pF . An incidental though important advantage of using such a probe is the reduction in the input capacity of connecting cable plus strays imposed upon the circuit under test.

V2 provides the bulk of the $Y$ amplifier gain and comprises a triode connected EF86. Two minor modifications to this stage can increase the input sensitivity but at the expense of a muchcurtailed h.f. response. These are increasing tho value of the anode load and connecting the valvo as a pentode. The h.f. response is further extended by the frequency conscious characteristics of L1
and C5. The impedance of L 1 increases with increasing frequency and, since it is in series with R7. the $o / p$ tends to increase. Similarly the impedance of C 5 decreases, so shunting or bypassing R8 more and more, their combined result being to increase the o/p from V2, thus compensating for the h.f. losses incurred elsewhere in the circuit.
The E4205-B-7 in common with many other c.r.t.'s benefits from the use of symmetrical deflection. V3 is accordingly connected as a push-pull o/p stage, the anodes being directly coupled to the c.r.t.'s Y1 and Y2 plates. Vertical movement of the trace is accomplished by altering the grid bias on V3b by means of VR3, which causes the d.c. potential of V3b anode to alter with respect to $V 3$ a anode. Since these anodes are directly coupled to the Y 1 and Y 2 plates the change in the d.c. potential causes the trace to move up or down. It must be noted that too much vertical movement is very undesirable. requiring as it does an excessive change in the valves' grid bias with the attendant danger of waveform deformation.

## The Sync Amplifler

Although some sync signals could have been introduced from the $Y$-amp to the t.b: by means of a simple capacitive coupling the inclusion of an amplifying and limiting stage was considered to be well worth the slight increase in cost and complexity. The sync take-off point is by means of VR1, which as the sync amplitude control allows just the right amount of sync to be sélected. Vib operates with zero grid bias and so tends to amplify only positive-going signals which emerge from the anode in an amplified and phase-reversed form, i.e. negative going. These are then fed to
the suppressor grid of V4 via C7, thus synchronising it to the waveform under examination. Since DI clamps any positive-going signals which may have escaped the limiting action of V1b. 14 is synchronised by negative-going signals only, obviating the jitter caused by double synchronising by positive and negative peaks.

## The Timebase

This is a comparatively simple circuit but still provides an adequately linear sawtooth waveform. The five coarse speeds are selected by S1, which switches the appropriate integrator capacitor into circuit. Fine speed is controlled by VR5, which provides a small overlap from range to range. In the interests of simplicity and space economy the flyback capacitor consists of just C8 instead of being switched in step with C9 to C13. This has the disadvantage that the flyback speed varies from range to range, though the value finally selected for C8 was a reasonable compromise. Constructors wishing to switch in different flyback capacitors could use a two-pole switch and arrange it to select capacitors having values of $1 / 3$ to $1 / 5$ of those integrators they are in step with. Flyback suppression was not included in the prototype but can be added quite easily if desired and is shown dotted in the t.b. circuit. The values shown may require adjustment, particularly the $0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor to the c.r.t. grid, the value of which should be no higher than is necessary for adequate blanking.

The timebase output is taken from the slider of VR4, which is the X gain or width control and is fed via C14 to V5. the t.b. amplifier stage, which is similar in design to the $\mathrm{Y} o / \mathrm{p}$ stage. Since an extended h.f. response is unnecessary here the anode loads have been increased in value tin


Fig. 2: The timebase and symmetrical deflection amplifier (X-amp). The dotted components comprise the flyback blanking


Fig. 3: The c.r.t. network including brilliance and focusing controls.
provide rather more o/p. Any apparent nonlinearity in the t.b. waveform can thus be got rid of by increasing the t.b. o/p and using only the central portion of the trace. Horizontal movement of the trace was not required and so $V 5$ b grid is taken to a potential divider formed by R32 and R33, the values of which will almost certainly
require adjustment in individual cases to bring the trace to a central position on the screen.

## The C.R.T. Circuit

This does not call for any particular comment except for saying that the capacitor used for coupling the flyback pulses to the grid must be of impeccable character. The tube will almost certainly be damaged if this should break down and allow a comparatively large positive voltage to be impressed upon the grid for any length of time.

## Power Supply

The power supply circuit is quite conventional. Two separate, well filtered and decoupled (from each other) h.t. supplies are provided for the $Y$ amplifier and t.b. circuits. By using a 6 X 4 or U78 rectifier and running its heater from the common 6.3 V line the 5 V winding is left available for the c.r.t. and, since its heater requires 4 V at 1 A , a $1 \Omega$ 1W resistor (R37) is used to drop the surplus volt. This expedient will not, of course, be necessary where the transformer already has a suitable 4 V winding. The normal rectifier heater windings are well insulated and are eminently suited to feeding the c.r.t., the heater of which is at a quite high potential with respect to chassis. A voltage doubler comprising C23 and D2. D3 provides some -450 V e.h.t. and although the trace is not as bright as it would be with $1,000 \mathrm{~V}$ e.h.t. it is still adequate in all but the brightest light. The current demands are very modest and so a simple filter comprising R40 and C21. C22 is all that is necessary for adequate e.h.t. smoothing.

## PART 2 NEXT MONTH



Fig. 4: The oscilloscope power supply unit.

## REDUCING TRÁNSMITTER BCI/TVI

## BY F. G. RAYER G3OGR

IT is a great inconvenience to everyone when television or broadcast band interference is caused by one's own transmitting equipment as this imposes limits on operating. However, after some experiment the writer found it possible to operate a 150 W transmitter, with full high-level modulation on all bands from $1.8 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, with no interference to the radio or television receivers in the same house.
The complete removal of all broadcast band or TV interference seems often to be extremely difficult. But it is hoped that some of the causes and possible cures given here will be helpful.

## Broadcast Images

Very many domestic broadcast band receivers are superhets with a frequency changer as first stage and an i.f. of about $470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. These receivers are susceptible to second channel or image frequency interference. Points' at which this will arise are easily calculated.

As an example suppose the wanted broadcast station uses $1,000 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}(300 \mathrm{~m})$. If the receiver i.f. is $470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ the receiver oscillator is tuned to $1,470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The second channel is $470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ above $1,470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ or $1,940 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. This is in the $1.8-2.0 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ amateur band. So if the transmitter is operating around $1,940 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ it will probably be heard on the receiver.

This interference is tunable on the receiver. It may easily be possible to use a transmitter frequency which does not result in the unwanted signal falling on or near a wanted broadcast station.
Receiver oscillator harmonics cause similar troubie. Suppose the broadcast band receiver is tuned to $1.100 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The receiver oscillator is then on $1,570 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ if the receiver i.f. is $470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The second harmonic of $1,570 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ is $3,140 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. This


Fig. 1: Harmonic Detection.
will beat with an amateur signal on $3.610 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ to produse a $470 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ output. So the amateur signals in the $3 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 8 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ band can also be tuned in on the receiver.

Again this trouble can be avoided by using frequencies which do not result in such spurious receiver responses falling on or near wanted stations. With troubles of this nature any steps which reduce the power of the amateur signal at the receiver will help alleviate the interference.

If the transmitter radiates harmonics these will probably cause television interference. Multiples of frequencies in the h.f. band easily fall near TV channel frequencies. A harmonic detector such as that in Fig. 1 will help check for unwanted output at multiples of the transmitter frequency. Many crystal and other oscillators produce strong harmonics and may in fact be designed to do so for multi-band work. So it is wise to have several tuned circuits after the oscillator.

In the home-built transmitter mentioned a $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ v.f.o. was followed by a $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ buffer, working into a $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ doubler-amplifier, which in turn was followed by the $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ p.a. Each stage was tuned and with this line-up no harmonic output could be detected. When using an end-fed aerial an aerial tuner was also added to provide one further tuned circuit.

## Little Suppression

If the transmitter has much harmonic output this may well be due to some of the broad-banded or untuned types of coupling which are often used to simplify band changing. Some of these circuits offer little suppression of unwanted harmonics.
Harmonics may be reduced by adding a harmonic filter in the transmitter. One simple circuit is shown in Fig. 2. It is a series tuned acceptor and can be adjusted with a grid-dip oscillator or by reference to the offended TV receiver or a harmonic detector.
An aerial which is a good harmonic radiator will naturally increase troubles from this cause. An end-fed aerial will often work effectively as a harmonic radiator. A coaxial or twin-lead-fed dipole may also be fairly effective at odd multiples ( 3,5 , etc.) of the transmitter frequency.
In some tests changing from an end-fed aerial to a $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ dipole very greatly reduced TVI. In these tests TVI was less when using the end-fed aerial with a tuner. With a popular commercially made transmitter TVl was bad with an end-fed
aerial but slight with a dipole. This also seemed to be bound up with the presence of stray radio frequency currents in house wiring, etc.

## Stray RF

With an end-fed aerial the return r.f. path must be through earth. the earth connection, mains wiring to the transmitter, etc. With a system such as a balanced dipole this return r.f. path is not employed as the r.f. power is applied to the two halves of the dipole, not to an aerial and earth.

In tests balanced dipoles were always found much less likely to cause interference than end-fed aerials. End-fed aerials were at their worst when in part near house mains wiring, etc. That is, when causing strong r.f. currents in other circuits.

A separate good r.f. earth for the transmitter was also found helpful in reducing TVI. In some tests TVI was extremely bad when earthing of the transmitter was via the mains earth. Here no other change than providing a good r.f. earth almost wholly removed TVI. The actual length of the earth connection can be important and, if long or near resonant frequency on transmitter frequency or harmonics, then two or three alternative earths of different length can be provided.

## Blanketing

The amateur signal may be so strong in the immediate vicinity that it breaks through on broadcast band or TV receivers, even if no spurious or harmonic responses arise. This was experienced on 80 m when an end-fed aerial downlead ran within a few feet of a room in which a broadcast band receiver was used. The transmitter signal completely blanketed reception and was not tunable.

This was completely cured by changing to a dipole, though the dipole feeder ran over exactly the same path as the original downlead.

Blanketing will be reduced by steps which reduce the strength at the receiver of the offending signals. Single-wire downleads which radiate may cause the trouble. Or it may help to remove the transmitter aerial from near the receiver or its aerial. When this fails filters or wavetraps are often added at the receiver.

For a TV receiver a high-pass filter is probably most suitable. But no such filter was found necessary when taking the other precautions so far described here.

## Mains Suppressors

Where r.f. is passing from the transmitter to the receiver through the mains a suppressor such as that in Fig. 3 may be helpful. Something of this kind is often present in commercially made equipment. The chokes are probably best placed inside the transmitter but immediately adjoining the point where the mains power lead enters.

A suppressor may be added at the receiver if this is found helpful. But it is probably better to keep r.f. out of the mains by measures at the transmitter itself or by using some balanced aerial system.
If a driver or power amplifier stage is operated at an unnecessarily high level of grid drive this is supposed to increase the chances of harmonic

fig. 2: Tunable Harmonic Trap.
output. In the home-built transmitter mentioned the grid drive on each stage was kept just about at the level netded for efficient working.

Later it was found that no interference troubles arose even if drive was increased to twice that normal. But with other transmitters it may be worth runaing each stage with the minimum drive which does not cause a loss of efficiency.

If interference is bad it may be worth running the transmitter into an artificial aerial for a first test. For a.m. equipment this can be a 100 W or other suitable domestic-type lamp. It may be screened with an old cabinet, metal box or other means if required.

If interference ceases or is much reduced with the a.a. then the transmitter aerial or aerial/earth system, including the aerial feeder, are suspected. But if interference remains very bad, then the offending signals are probably travelling on the mains or reaching the receiver by direct radiation from the transmitter.

Radiation from the transmitter can be much reduced by good screening. But it was found that totally unscreened transmitters could quite often be operated with no broadcast band or TV interference to receivers only a few feet away.

When testing the effect of various aerials it was generally found that a tuned doublet with an open-wire feeder had the same advantages as a dipole with low-impedance feeder. As the tuned doublet can be used for several bands it may bo preferred.

A watch should be kept for individual, unnecessary forms of coupling between transmitter and receiver. One set of equipment, used for many months, always caused TV1. This transmitter was placed near a wall and the T.V receiver aerial
-continued on page 576


About 40 turns 22 s.w.g. enamelled
slde by side on $3 / 8$ "dia. formers
Fig. 3: Mains Suppressor.


# SELF REGULATING TRANSISTOR CIRCUITS 

BY G. R. WILDING

PARALLEL with the dramatic improvements in transistor performance over the past few years has been the improvements in transistor circuitry with especial emphasis on self regulating and stabilising arrangements to protect and enhance portable design.

Thus current designs now incorporate circuitry. to stabilise the output transistors bias. compensate for cabinet temperature rises, protect against overloads, extend a.g.c. characteristics, stabilise power supplies in battery/mains versions, and stabilise the v.h.f. oscillator voltage in f.m. models.

To this end small diodes and transistors connec-


Fig. I: Typical bias stabilisation circuit (Ferranti). As botte?y voltage falls it increases internal resistonce developing a higher proportion of the available e.m.f. and thus maintoining output tronsistor bias constont over a wide bottery voltage range.
ted as diodes are mainly used, but miniature thermistors and voltage - dependent - resistors (v.d.r."s) are also utilised.

Probably the most important self-regulating device is that which controls the base bias of the output transistors within quite wide battery voltage variations and also increases battery economy.

As is well known, particularly with push-pull output stages, it is very important to obtain correct base biasing. Insufficient bias causes cross-over distortion due to the extremes of the half-cycles not being fully amplified, while excess biasing causes an unnecessarily bigh no-signal standing current. -

Thus if biasing is just right when a new battery is fitted it tends to fall off with falling battery voltage.

To avoid this, a transistor connected as a diode. is wired from the lower end of the base biasing resistor to chassis thus forming the bottom end of a potential divider. (Fig. 1).
. However, the internal resistance of a transistor so connected. increases as the applied voltage decreases, so that as the terminal battery voltage falls, a x relatively larger proportion of it is developed across transistor Trl.

This voltage is also the biasing voltage to the two power transistors so that over a longer period of time than usual, the battery can correctly worl the output transistors.

Furthermore, should the temperature rise excessively so that the output transistors reduce their normal-internal resistance and pass excessive collector current, the control transistor Trl will similarly be affected, its volts-drop will reduce and thius bias back the output stage.

Other makers use somewhat similar schemes to provide bias stabilisation but all generally operate on the same principle the variation of a diode or diode-connected wansistors internal resistance with applied voltage.

However, one or two models made by Berec and Ever Ready, and quite a few Car Radios made by Radiomobile. Ekco and Motorola etc. which are of course especially liable to extremes of temperature. employ miniature thermistors to keep the output transistors correctly biased in spite of excessive cabinet temperature.

The basic circuit is very simple and merelv comprises the shunting of the thermistor across the bottom section of the resistor potential divider that biases the output transistors.

Thermistors type KS2Y, VA1040 and VA1039 are usually used and in Fig. 2 can be seen the typical arrangement as used in some Ever Ready "Sky Prince" and "Brigand"" receivers where the thermistor is paralleled across the bottom $33 \Omega$ resistor of the $12 \mathrm{~K} / 33 \Omega$ voltage divider combination.

As temperature increases, the ohmage. of the thermistor
decreases and reduces the potential developed across it, thus biasing back the output transistor pair.

A really effective a.g.c. system is probably the most difficult section of a small transistor portable to design, since transistors are essentially current and not voltage operated devices, while a.g.c. bias can only usually be applied to an r.f. or i.f. stage since application of the bias 10 the frequency-changer would result in mis-tuning with variations of voltage.

It is often the practice to augment the normal a.g.c. control with a transformer damping arrangement so that on these high inputs the " Q " of an i.f. transformer can be cut down.

In practice it is usually the primary of the first i.f. that is selected and Fig. 3 shows a very typical arrangement.

The series combination of the OA79 diode and $680 \Omega$ resistor links the live end of the i.f.t. 1 primary to the junction of the decoupling resistor and capacitor of the i.f. amplifiers collector.

Under normal no-signal conditions the anode connection to the rectifier is slightly more negative than the cathode so no conduction occurs, the combination is virtually open circuit and no loading is imposed of the i.f.t. primary.

However, shonld a very strong signal be received so that the i.f. transistor is fed with a heavy a.g.c. bias, its collector current will reduce and its collector voltage rise to approaching that of the frequency-changer. Partial conduction through the rectifier and resistor occurs, loading i.f.t. 1 primary, and reducing gain.


Fig. 2: Bias stabilisation circuit using thermistor (Ever Ready Berec) thermistor VAlO40 decreases the p.d. developed across the $33 \Omega$ resistor as temperature rises thus biasing back the twin output transistors.

Particularly strong inputs will raise the $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ collector voltage above that of $\operatorname{Trl}$ and so bias the rectifier that it acts almost like a short circuit in series with the limiting $680 \Omega$ resistor heavily curtailing " $Q$ " and gain. Naturally, this transformer damping results in some slight loss of selectivity, but the freedom from over-loading more than compensates.

Other makers vary the design by tapping the rectifier acrose a section of the i.f. winding or by completely eliminating the series resistor, while one or two designers shunt the rectifier across the aerial coils and control it from the emitter resistor of the i.f. amplifier.

Most all-transistor Car Radios employ an r.f. stage, not merely to provide extra gain, and maintain volume over widely varying reception conditions, but also to help maintain the signal input voltage to the frequency-changer within fairly close limits as big changes in input strength can cause mistuning in a transistor mixer stage.

To this end, the rff. stage is
a.g.c. controlled by a separate diode from the detector, and is fed by a small capacitor from the collector of the i.f. transistor.

Fig. 4 shows a typical a.g.c. circuit to the r.f. stage and it will be noted that the diode is shunted across the a.g.c. line to provide the rectifying action.

Also present in the circuit is a voltage dependent resistor paralleled across the aerial tuned circuit but in no way connected with the a.g.c. action.

Car radios invariably operate on a low signal/noise ratio and on many occasions can be subject to very heavy brief bursts of interference, which apart from its aural objections can momentarily over•run the transistors. The v.d.r. prevents this for while acting as a very high value load on low value signals, performs as a much lower one on high value signals and thus effectively cuts down their strength.

Quite a number of table-size transistor receivers are available in mains/battery versions, and while the power supply circuits in these is always orthodox, the associated voltage stabilising system is often a new development.

In the eight transistor Ferranti MBT1089 receivers for instance. a conventional quadruple rectifier bridge circuit provides the rectified d.c. power for the receiver. but it is fed to the circuit via a NKT251 power transistor.

The smoothed output from the rectifiers is fed


Fig. 5: Stabilised power supply circuit for battery/mains transistor sets (Ferranti). The entire d.c. output passes through the NKT25I power transistor to the receiver's negative rail. Variations in mains voltage produce similar variations across RI which are applied to the base of the transistor so that its internal resistance is varied accordingly. When mains voltage rises its internal resistance increases, taking up a larger volts drop, and maintaining output within very close limits.


Fig. 4: Skeleton r.f. amp and a.g.c. circuit all-transistor car radio (Motorola). Separate a.g.c. circuit controls r.f. stage only while v.d.r. shunted across aerial coils clamps down on heavy interference peaks.
to the transistors collector and taken off at the emitter, so that it is virtually in series with the d.c. supply.

However a separate small rectifier produces a separate reference voltage from another secondary winding which is used to bias the base of the transistor, so that increases or decreases of mains voltage increase or decrease this base bias and vary its internal resistance to provide a very constant output indeed.

Adjustment of the $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer selects the optimum output valtage which is then automatically maintained by this simple circuitry.

## REDUCING BCIITVI

(continued from page 573)
feeder ran on the outside of this wall only a few feet from the transmitter. With this set of equipment merely moving the transmitter to the other side of the room reduced TVI very much.

It will be noted that licence conditions stress that "every precaution shall be taken to avoid aver-modulation". When making tests it was found that any over-modulation of ten immediately caused bad interference.

In the circumstances described it was found possible to operate on the $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and lower frequency bands with no TV1 on a receiver a few feet away in another room. As these bands were those most wanted only a little attention was given to possible TVI from working on $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ bands.

The home-built transmitter covered the $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ band and gave no broadcast band interference but bad TV interference on this band. As the third harmonic of $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}(63 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s})$ was not very far removed from the particular BBC-TV frequency it was felt this problem would have to be examined separately.

A commercially made transmitter also gave bad TVI on $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ but not on $14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. When using the latter band TVI was not experienced on either BBC or ITA channels.

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# THE 

## By John Colley

IHAD always wanted to be a Radio Ham; anyway, ever since I was 14. Curiously enough that was 46 years ago. Those that are mathematically minded will see that I am now 60.

Well, last year I dragged myself to an evening institute where the instructor revised my ideas of radio completely. As a result I passed the R.A.E. I rubbed my hands at this and listened to all the gossip about the Morse Test.

## Impossible, Difficult, Hard . . .

From different people $I$ gathered that it was impossible, difficult, moderately hard, easy and a piece of cake. Some despondent people assured me that I'd just as well ask for a "B" licence because, at my age, I'd never do it.

But I am an obstinate old coot. I asked questions as to the best way to master the mystery Morse and again I had different advice. One smart-looking Royal Air Force sergeant said airily: "Just listen to ordinary commercial Morse on the air and after a time you'll find yourself picking out various letters and symbols and in no sime you'll know it".

As I didn't know any Morse at all except the "V" sign, which seemed to be made with two fingers, 1 thought hard how this chap could have been made a sergeant. Perhaps he had got full marks for ingenuity.

So I asked another chap, who said: "Just latch on to the slow Morse transmissions of the R.S.G.B.-you'll find yourself learning in no time". I pondered.

Another bloke in a pub (I remember him particularly well because I bought him two pints) told me to buy some Morse records and play them on my gramophone. Well, I have no gramophone and the price of beer being what it is I thought I would have to find a method of my own.

## Labour and Perseverance

I looked at the symbols in an old Boy Scout diary and decided that it would entail a bit of good old-fashioned labour and perseverance. I had a tape recorder and I knew that this must come into it somewhere. So I scouted around to see what method I could find of making the noise.

From a book I got a transistor circuit that was supposed to simulate the actual sound of a Morse transmission on the air. It was soon after this thot I was afflicted with sorrow for all c.w.
wireless operators, because this transistorised thingummy made notes between the mooing of a sick cow and the soft sighing of an asthmatic donkey. Never once did it sound like a real live Morse note and it had a habit of changing its note whilst you waited.

I spent hours manipulating the potentiometer of this crazy device and then gave it up. In Tottenham Court Road I bought an ex-Army telephone buzzer, a Mark 76 ten stars and an asterisk or two, I think it was. And a Morse key, also ex-Army, which only set me back-sixpence. Then I bought a cycle lamp battery and wired up. Now this note was good and even became better when I connected the secondary winding of the buzzer to the radio input terminals of the recorder.

I was now ready. I had heard one Public Bar Pundit say: "Never touch a key until you can read 20 words a minute". So, as I thought this would mean that I would never touch a key at all in this life, I ignored him as well. I opened the Boy Scout diary, adjusted my specs, switched to "Record" and I was off. With a nice new spool of tape I started on the figures "Dit . . . Dah . . Dah . . .Dah . . . Dah".

## On the dots-E, I, S and H

In a little while I had a tape covered with haphazard numbers and I played it back at odd hours for several days. There was a gap after the fourth day when I agreed to wear headphones if my wife would promise not to run away. But I soon memorised the numbers and started on the dots, you know, the " $E$ ", "I ", " $S$ " and " H".

I was some weeks at it, I hummed Morse to myself all day, and any advertisements on hoardings I hummed their message as I stood staring. I realised that Samuel Morse had been a genius. Well, at 60 you are not as bright at picking things up as at 26 , but I persevered and one day I put my system to the test.

I went up to St. Martins Le Grand and did the Morse test. I passed and I walked away around the back of Smithfield Meat Market with such a broad smile that the meat porters thought I was the owner of the lot and got on with their work even quicker.

I now have a licence and I enjoy thumping out a little Morse. Advice? Yes. Ignore the old wives' tales, get a buzzer and a key and a battery and, if you haven't got a recorder, borrow or buy one. Oh, yes. A piece of advice from an old radio comedian: "Don't be fright l"


IN the absence of a Radio Show this year, many manufacturers booked hotel suites to display their new season's models to the trade. There were hundreds of new radio receivers, record players, tape recorders and radiograms, many of them extremely attractively presented. There was little, however, to excite us technically and the main trend noticeable was the obvious one of the spread of transistors to more and more record players. radiograms and tape recorders. There was a good deal more stereo equipment and more bandspreading (not only the h.f. end of the m.w.), more multiband sets and more sets with more than one speaker.

It would be impossible to cover all the new sets in the space available, but the following are a few notes on some of the more interesting models we noticed, intended to show the overall picture rather than be a detailed summary. The new TV sets are described in the October isque of Practical. TeleVISION.

## RADIO RECEIVERS

Where to begin? Perhaps to give an unqualified bouquet to practically every manufacturer for a dazzling display of first-rate styling. The latest transistor radios look good and, generally, are very sood. We must admit. however, to being very disappointed at the almost complete lack of mai..s
operated transistor sets although there were many models intended primarily for home use only.

Full marks. then, to PYE for their TrunsConinental, Model 1110, an elegant table model incorporating 15 semiconductors and covering long, medium, short and v.h.f./f.m. bands. Output is 3 W to a $7 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. speaker. Three internal aerials ara fitted and there are sockets for external aerials, tape recorder, gram pickup. The set operates from standard a.c. mains supplies and sells at 32 gns.

Novel feature of the MURPHY Magna B818 is a pre-tuned position which gives Luxembourg reception at the push of a button. It has 8 semiconductors, a $6 \times 4 i n$. speaker, 1 W output and sells at 15 gns. Another attractive new one from Murphy is the Magna B837, intended as a "home portable", covering l.w., m.w. and v.h.f./f.m. bands, plus the now customary bandspread for pop station coverage. This set retails at 23 gns.

Another example of really good value is the new McMICHAEL M126 which has push button selection of l.w., m.w., s.w. ind bandspread. and features a dust-proofed speaker and telescopic aerial. Housed in an unbreakable cy- jlas case it sells at $14 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{gns}$.

From PHILIPS comes the new Le Mans, which incorporates a "power boost" switch-at maximum the output is IW (for group listening) and on minimum the output is reduced to 400 mW , thus reducing battery drain. It costs $15 \frac{1}{2}$ gns. Also new from Philips is the Cadiz, an interesting two band portable featuring microtechnique. It has a battery check button. Price 11 gns .

HMV have added several to their range, including the Model 2124. This features a "car" button which switches in permeability tuned front end for use in a car, and an illuminated scale for night driving. Price, $18 \frac{1}{2}$ gns. An innovation is the 2130, which also incorporates the 2124 features but has v.h.f./f.m. coverage and is housed in fashionable teak cabinet. It incorporates a dual speaker system and retails at 26 gns.

STELLA showed their new ST7228T. described as a 3-band, a.m./f.m. sports portable. It features a special biasing circuit to reduce distortion as the battery voltage falls and has automatic frequency control for f.m. Incorporating 16 semiconductors it sells at $25 \frac{1}{2}$ gns.

DECCA introduced several high quality radio

sets, most unusual being the Diadem, a 15 -semiconductor set with $7 \times 3 \frac{1}{2} i n$. speaker, covering m.w., l.w. and v.h.f./f.m. bands. It is fitted into a teak or rosewood cabinet of novel design, styled like a music box. It costs 30 gns. The four new portables, TP85. TP86, TP89 and TP90 cover m.w., l.w. and v.h.f./f.m. bands. The TP90 ( 20 gns.), has 10 semiconductors. The TP85 and TP86 (both 25 gns.) have 15 semiconductors and feature a " mute" control for low volume level listening. The TP89 at 30 gns.. incorporates 17 semiconductors and also has short wave coverage. It has mechanical bandspread on all bands. It is intcresting to note that all Decca receivers now carry a two-years' guarantee for all components, including transistors.

The new GEC models G826 and G828 (both 14: gns.), cover l.w., m.w., Luxembourg bandspread and s.w. (though this coverage is only over the 31.41 and 49 m bands). There were also two new oncs in the ALBA range-the Trans-Continental 838. covering m.w., l.w. and s.w. ( $16-50 \mathrm{mI}$ ), handspread on all hands and telencopic acrial. Price 16 gns. The Alba Scout 737 sells at 14 gns., and covers l.w.. m.w. and l.uxembourg bandspread, housed in a wooden cabinet.

Another one with short wave coverage is the RUSH TR116. which has a two-transistor miver for efficient s.w. operation. It also covers m.w. and l.w. hands and incorporates pre-tuned Luxemhourg. Ouput $500 \mathrm{~m} W$ via a $6 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. speaker. Price. 17 gns. The new TR 130 at 15 gns. has a $1 W$ output, $6 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. speaker, and covers m.w. and l.w.

GRUNDIG introduced two new luxury radio sets. The Ocean Boy incorporates 23 semiconducfors. two speakers, a tuning meter. a.f.c., fine tuning on s.w., hass and treble tone controls. and covers vh.f., l.w., m.w. and four s.w. bands $110-$ $185 \mathrm{~m})$. The set measures only $15 \times 8 \frac{5}{8} \times 4 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$. and weighs $10 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{lb}$. The cost is 87 gns. Even more luxurious is the Satellit which operates from hatteries or from a.c. mains. It has 28 semiconductors. and covers no less than 13 wavebands (six of them bandspread s.w. bands). It has fine tuning for s.w., a.f.e. on v.h.f.. two speakers, a tuning and hattery power meter, sockets for almost everything! Price? 119 gns.

Another new one with s.w. coverage is the ULTRA 6120-9 semiconductors. l.w. and m.w. reception also, plus bandspread Luxembourg. retailing at $13 \frac{1}{2}$ gns. V.H.F.. plus m.w, and I.w. is covered by the 6122 (17 gns.) and the 6128 (at 23 gns.) has a wooden cabinet. v.h.f.. m.w.. l.w. and Luxembourg bandspread, 15 semiconductors.

## RECORD PLAYERS AND GRAMS

Everyone seemed to have a good range of attractive record players and radiograms. Here is a quick selection of some of them.

ALBA showed a smart new 5-transistor reeord player with $3 W$ output via an $8 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. speaker and separate bass and treble controls. The 328 has a BSR UAI5 autochanger and sockets for microphone and tape recoder. the mic' ean be lued in collunction with the amplifier as a haby alam. Price is 24 gns. Also now is a range of Gold Star


Murphy Magna B337.

G.E.C. G819.

H.M.V. 2130
stereograms, ranging in price from $69 \frac{1}{2}-134$ gns. The Viscount ( 134 gns.) and Viking (129 gns.) have 8W per channel, four speakers (two in tuned enclosures), l.w., m.w., v.h.f./f.m. and two short wave bands.

At the other end of the (price) scale is the radiogram described by PHILIPS as "Britain's Smallest " and which could be carried inside most ladies' handbags. Based on the AG4000 Disc Jockey player it incorporates a two-band radio within the space of the original lid, which also houses the 4 in. round speaker. It measures $11 \times 7 \frac{3}{4}$ $x 4_{\frac{3}{8}} \mathrm{in}$., and sells at 21 gns.
"Upright" model from RGD is the RP233 stereo record player, housed in a suitcase-type cabinet with top carrying handle. Transistor amplifiers feed $8 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. speakers at 3 W each channel. The changer is a BSR UA15. Price 36 gns. FALCON now introduce "solid state" radiograms, ranging from the mono FT65 at 31 gns . to the Galaxy, Concerto and Fiesta stereograns (from 47-62 gns.). BUSH add the SRG107 luxury stereogram to their range; the speaker system has six units in an acoustically balanced network with 5 W per channel. Twelve semiconductors are incorporated and the radio covers l.w., m.w. and v.h.f. Price is 125 gns., but other Bush stereograms range down to 65 gns .

GEC have two new stereogranns, G980 and G981. Both have a Garrard changer and 5 -band a.m./f.m. radio sections feeding 14W twin channel amplifiers into $10 \times 6 \mathrm{in}$. and 4 in . speakers. The v.h.f. tuner has a.f.c. Price 110 gns.

ULTRA also have an "upright" record player in Model 6010, a completely self-contained $20-$ semiconductor stereo system. Separate, bass and treble, indicator lamp, tape and radio sockets, both speaker units detachable. Price 36 gns. Also new are 6008 ( $15 \frac{1}{2}$ gns.) and 6006 ( 29 gns.) record players and 6316 ( 61 gns.) and 6320 ( 86 gns.) stereograms.

Novel design from K-B is the KP033 stereo record player with $3 W$ transistor amplifiers. The wooden cabinet has a rear hinged lid and has a compartment for the extension speaker unit when not in use. Price 34 gns. SOBELL showed their

H.M.V. 2018 "Stereomaster"
new S680 stereogram, with all-transistor circuitry and 7W per channel ( 85 gns.).
Two new record players for MARCONIPHONE. The Mirabelle has a BSR Superslim deck and gives $2 \frac{1}{4}$ W output ( 15 gns.). The Major has separate bass and treble controls and gives $2 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{~W}$ via an 8 x 5 in . speaker ( 19 gns .). Also new were the $4314 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m} . / \mathrm{f} . \mathrm{m}$. stereogram ( 56 gns .), and the Model 4310-a m.w., l.w. and v.h.f. "solid state" stereogram at 83 gns.

GRUNDIG came up with two luxury stereograms. The KS680 has ten speakers in an infinite baffle enclosure and incorporates the Grundig HF10 tuner, NF10 stereo amplifier and a transcription autochanger. The tuner has a.f.c. on v.h.f. and the set is fitted with a stereo decoder for possible future stereo radio broadcasts. Space is provided for incorporating a TM45 tape recorder chassis and there is provision for a reverberation unit. The KS740 incorporates a fourband a.m./f.m. radio chassis and feeds 3 W per channel to large Superphon speakers. Prices for both models not available at time of going to press.

Highlighted by HMV was their new 2018 Stereomaster, a compact unit ( 33 in . wide) incorporating four soft - suspension speakers, Garrard 300 autochanger, low mass arm-high compliance pickup, 7 watts per channel, treble and bass controls; price 59 gns. Also seen was a new solid state portable record player with Garrard 2000 autochanger, 8 x 5 in . speaker (Model 2012. 25 gns.) and a range of radiograms from the popular priced a.m./f.m. stereogram 2320 ( 56 gns. ) to the 22 -

# Practical <br> Substitutes 

by M. L. Michaelis, M.A.

T-HE lists of parts for constructional articles are those found satisfactory in the prototypes. Querles which the Editor receives show that many beginners regard these lists as strictly binding down to the last detail.

It is the aim of these articles to help beginners make on-the-spot substitute decisions when their dealers do not have specific components on stock. The information should also help when replacing obsolete components and making use of junkbox parts.

## PART FOUR

## Zener Diodes and Neon Stabiliser Tubes

Zener diodes are now marketed with graded zener voltages (Vz in Fig. 13) from one or two volts up to 180 V or more at current ratings from a fraction of a milliamp up to 1 A or more.

The circuit of a zener diode connected as voltage stabiliser (Fig. 14a) is essentially the same as that of the familiar neon tube stabiliser cireuit (Fig. 14b). The input voltage is applied to the zener diode through a suitable series resistor such that the anode is negative and the cathode positive wherewith inverse current flows through Di and Vz and Rz of Fig. 13.

Since $R z$ is small for a good zener diode it may be neglected to a first approximation. so that the output voltage across the zener diode is then largely independent of the current through the diode and is equal to Vz .

Provided that the maximum current rating and the zener voltage of a given zener diode are the same as the current rating and operating voltage of a particular neon tube the zener diode may always be substituted for that neon tube in a voltage stabiliser circuit.

This leads to further advantages, since zener diodes do not manifest a striking voltage higher than their running voltage and there is no lower limit to the stable range of zener currents. Thus zener diodes can be connected in series without any need for auxiliary starter resistors as in the case of series-connected neon tubes and they can operate down to zero zencr current.


Fig. 13: Equivalent circuit of any semiconductor diode.

Neon tubes tend to oscillate when starved of current. It is for this reason not always possible to substitute a neon tube of the same operating voltage for a specified zener diode. If the operating current is too low the neon tube may oscillate and if the input voltage is not sufficiently high the neon tube may refuse to strike. Apart from these limitations zener diodes and neon tubes of similar ratings may be interchanged.

Zener diodes at present have somewhat greater differential resistances Rz (Fig. 13) than neon tubes of the same voltage ratings and the temperature coefficients of zener diodes are somewhat greater.

Neither neon tubes nor zener diodes may be connected in parallel to achieve increased current ratings, since in both cases even the slightest differences of characteristics will lead to grossly unequal current sharing.

## Relays, Meters, Switches

Relays and meters may be shunted in the samo manner to achieve higher current values for energising or for full-scale deflection respectively. Thus if a relay or a meter of a certain sensitivity is specified for a piece of equipment it is always possible to use more sensitive components with suitable shunts as substitutes.

If a definite internal resistance is also specified for the relay or meter then any other component of lower resistance may be used if the difference is added as an external series resistor. Both adjustments may be used simultaneously.

A simple example will suffice to make this clear. Suppose a relay of 100 mA sensitivity and $150 \Omega$ resistance is specified for a piece of equipment. A relay of 25 mA sensitivity and $120 \Omega$ resistance is a vailable as a substitute.

The shunt must be such that 75 mA of the total 100 mA flow through it, leaving the required 25 mA for the relay coil. Since 75 is three times 25 the shunt must have one-third as great a resistance as the relay coil, i.e. $40 \Omega$. The shunted relay then has an effective resistance of $40 \Omega$ in parallel with 12012. which is equal to $30 \Omega$.

Thus an external series resistor of $120 \Omega$ must be added to reach the specified total figure of $150 \Omega$. Note that the relay must first be shunted before any required external series resistor is subscquently determined. Exactly the same procedure is used to shunt a meter for a higher current range.

If a relay is fitted with insufficient contacts for a particular purpose any required number of
similar relays may be energised in series or in parallel or a master relay can energise various slave relays via its own contacts. The latter procedure is useful if a very sensitive relay cannot be obtained with contacts of sufficient voltage or current rating; it is then merely used to energise a larger, more robust relay which in turn has the required rugged contacts.

If a specified multi-contact wafer switch is unobtainable it is possible to use a simpler switch energising suitably disposed multi-contact relays. Such measures are often useful for other reasons too, e.g. to perform switching operations at each stage of a piece of equipment without the need for long signal current leads of intolerable stray capacity and stray couplings to a central manual switch.

## Loudspeakers and Output Transformers

It is always possible to substitute N smaller loudspeakers for a single larger one. In such cases it is convenient to make N a perfect square, c.g. $4,9,16$ or more, so that $\sqrt{ } \mathrm{N}$ groups or $\sqrt{ } \mathrm{N}$ series-connected speakers (Fig. 15) may be wired in parallel. The power rating is then N times that of a single speaker but the matching impedance is quite unchanged.
If $\mathbf{N}$ speakers of smaller size are disposed on a large baffle in a well-designed cabinet the quality of reproduction is at least as good as that of a single, much larger speaker. Make sure that all speakers are identical in such a case and that connection polarities are the same for all speakers so that all speech cones move in sympathy. If the speakers. are in separate roons the polarity of connection of each speaker is immaterial.

If an amplifier or receiver design is published with an output transformer for a specified speaker impedance then an output transformer for any other speaker impedance may be substituted provided it matches the specified output valves or the latter are substituted with ones matching the available output transformer.

The only other point to watch when substituting other output transformers is to correct any negative feedback circuit taken from the output transformer secondary to the amplifier input. Such a negative feedback circuit should be examined to determine the attenuation ratio of the signal through the connection from the output


Fig. 14i Simple voltage stabiliser circuits (a) Zener diode stabiliser circuit; (b) Neon tube stabiliser circuit.


Fig. 15: Loudspeaker groupings
transformer secondary to the amplifier input.
This attenuation factor must be changed by the square root of the factor by which the output impedance (speaker matching impedance) is changed and in the same sense. For example, in Fig. 16 the negative feedback attenuation factor is given by R1/R2 $=50$ for the depicted output impedance of $3-4 \Omega$. If the output transformer is changed to match a $15 \Omega$ speaker, i.e. the output impedance is now about four times as great, the negative feedback attenuation must be doubled, i.e. a $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor must be substituted for R1. There is generally no need to be over-critical in this kind of correction.

If the output impedance of an amplifier or receiver is arranged to match a $15 \Omega$ speaker three $5 \Omega$ speakers may be connected in series to the same output without any need for modifications. The three speakers should be identical, at least electrically, and each must be capable of handling one-third of the total output power of the amplifier.
If the output impedance of the amplifier is $5 \Omega$ three mutually identical $15 \Omega$ speakers may be connected to it in parallel and each must again be able to handle one-third of the total power output of the amplifier. Any similar matching combinations of identical speakers may

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| lif． | $18 \%$ | $1 \frac{1}{5} \mathrm{in}$ ． | 2016 | lin．sq． | 311 |

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$2,0007.0 .005,0.01,0.02,2 / 6 ; 0.05,8 / 6$ ．
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looit． $5 \mathrm{mon} \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} / 6 \mathrm{yd}$. TELESCOPIC CHROME AERIALS，I：to $331 \mathrm{~m} ., 8 / 6$ TRIPLEXERS Bands I，II．III，12／6，COAX PLUGS 1／ LEAD SOCKET8，\＆／＝：PANEL SOCKETS， $1 /$
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 10 ohms to 10 meg．Dteto 5 o 10 ohms to 22 ment， 84 ． $\left.\begin{array}{c}5 \text { watt } \\ 10 \text { watt }\end{array}\right\}$ WIRE－WOUND RESESTORS
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be used as required.
In all such cases. where the corred matching impedance is preserved, it is never necessary to modify any negative feedback circuit connected to the secondary of the existing outpht transformer.

Whilst reasonably good matching should be aimed at in audio output stages it is not necessary to be over-critical. Thus if an output transformer of $8 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ anode matching impedance is specified any other available item with a value between $7-9 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ will usually be quite satisfactory. Simple equipment may well tolerate even greater departures, especially if the low-impedance secondary of the output transformer has several tappings for obtaining optimum results by trial and error selection.

## Interchangeable Stages

It would be useful to discuss one final problem -the interchangeability of entire stages from various independent published designs to constitute a new design meeting the particular requirements of the constructor.

There exists a very large scope for such measures and it is the aim of the magazine to, provide readers with ideas for "circuit bricks" as much as to provide complete designs for copying as they stand. Many published constructional articles implicitly cater for both these requirements, even if a design happens to be for a piece of equipment complete in itself.

If a reader wishes to use individual stages from one design with ones from another or even with. others of his own devising he must be able to discern the input and output positions of each. stage. In general an amplifier stage commences with the input coupling capacitor from the


Fig. 16: Correcting a negative-feedback loop when changing on output transformer to a different loudspeaker matching impedance (see text).

previous stage (which thus belongs to it) and ends with the output. load component (e.g. the collector or anode load resistor in the conventional type of RC-coupled amplifier stage).

The coupling capacitor from the output load to the next stage belongs to the next stage. This is because it determines the frequency response of the next stage in conjunction with the input load resistor (e.g. a gridleak) of the next stage, which has nothing to do with the function of the stage from which the output is being taken through this coupling capacitor.

If a piece of electronic equipment uses some stage to drive a relay, and the next stage consists of some device actuated by the relay contacts. then any other actuated stage may be substituted, even if of a completely different function.

## $\bullet$

## Simple Matching Measures

Any sound radio tuner may be connected to any audio amplifier of sufficient quality in relation to the tuner output. Normally only simple matching measures are required which are in many cases completely non-critical. If an amplifier is published with a microphone preamplifier stage this can always be omitted if only a radio or pick-up is to be used as input signal source. Or some quite different preamplifier circuit may the substituted. Auxiliaries such as a magic eye may be added or dispensed with according to individual desires.

## SHOWTIME

 -continued from page 582 semiconductor 4-band 2318 ( 86 gns.).DECCA has three new grams. MRG525 is a mono radiogram at 45 gns. SRG545 is a threeband a.m./f.m. stereogram with 25 semiconductors, $8 \times 5$ in. speakers, $3 W$ per channel ( 57 gns .). Model SRG565 is similar electrically ( 66 gns.). These grams carry a year's guarantee on components plus a 5 -year guarantee on the Decca autochanger.

## TAPE RECORDERS

FIDELITY introduce their new Playmatic, a 3 -speed, 7 in. recorder in a teak, metal and plastics housing. It has separate bass and treble controls, monitor and external speaker sockets, separate inputs (which can be mixed) for mic and radio/gram, magic eye level indicator, and optional automatic or manual recording level. It is available for 2 -track at 28 gns. or 4 -track at 31 gns.

Teak styling is also used on the new PHILIPS EL3556, a 4 -track, 4 -speed recorder with separate bass and treble controls ( 62 gns.). GRUNDIG showed their TK27L, designed to fit into the recorder compartment of a Grundig stereogram. It is similar to the TK23L and has optional automatuc/manual facilities for recording. Price is 69 gns.

New from ELIZABETHAN is the LZ012, 4track, 3 speed solid state recorder. Maker's spec. claims wow and flutter not greater than $0.15 \%$ at $7 \cdot 5 \mathrm{i} / \mathrm{S}$, frequency response $60-15,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s} \pm 4 \mathrm{~dB}$ at $7.5 \mathrm{i} / \mathrm{S}$, signal-to-noise ratio 40 dB . The machine features VU meter, mic' and gram inputs, hi-fi and external LS/headphone outputs, bass and treble controls, 4W output, two speakers. Price is 49 gns . Also new is the LZ711-a stereo recorder with 3W per channel to two $8 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. speakers, VU recording


Stondard SR-F2IT.

level meters, four inputs, four speaker outputs, $5 \%$ distortion at full gain, separate channel selector switches, monitoring facilities, sound on sound and dub-in system. Price 75 gns.

DENHAM \& MORLEY displayed the new Standard SR-F21T, a 6-transistor miniature tape recorder measuring $7 \times 6 \times 3 i n .$, giving 500 mW output. It has a 2 -track sytem at $1 \frac{7}{7} \mathrm{i} / \mathrm{S}$ and incorporates a recording level and battery life meter. Price is 15 gns .

PERDIO enter the tape recorder field with their T26 (2-track) and T46 (4-track) models. Maximum spool size, $5 \frac{3}{4}$ in. 3 -speed Deck. Model T46 incorporates a parallel track switch. Prices, 29 and 33 gns. ULTRA exhibited their new Model 6204, a 2 -speed 4-track recorder with two-way tape inching, straight-through amplifier facilities, various auxiliary sockets ( 34 gns ).

STELLA showed their smallest-ever tape recorder, weighing only 3 lb ., and battery operated. (Five Ull's.) About 20 hours' playing time is claimed. This camera-styled recorder uses Philips tape casettes, Fast Rewind, Playback and (linked with a safety interlock button) Record. There is a combined modulation level meter and battery condition indicator. Price of the ST472 is 26 gns.

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## PART FOUR

## PRE-RECORDED

TWHIS term is used indiscriminately to mean a tape record or a tape being replayed on which a recording has been made (e.g. for test). The tape record made by reputable engineers should conform to international specifications (see Standards).

## PRESSURE PADS

Felts pads mounted on sprung arms, making contact with the back (polished) surface of the tape, pressing the tape into intimate contact with the head facing during recording or replay.

Alternative methods are the pressure sling, a strip of material sprung to engage tape and heads in the same way; tape pins, which press the tape inward at intermediate points. forming a "wraparound" contact with the heads.

A method of screening, making use of the pressure pad system, is the provision of a mimetal shield on the pad spring, completely closing off the face of the playback head.

## PRESSURE ROLLER

Free-running roller wheel of rubber or composition which engages the tape and holds it against the revolving capstan spindle to obtain drive. The pressure roller (or pinch wheel) is mounted on a sprung bracket or arm to ensure correct pressure and obviate tape slip (see also Pinch Wheel).

## PRINT THROUGH

When tape is tightly spooled. magnetism from one spot on the tape can affect the field at a corresponding spot of the adjacent layers. This produces spurious effects which at their extreme cause pre- and post-echo; i.e. a replica of the original at a short interval before or after the correct signal is replayed. Modern tapes of good quality are not so prone to this effect as some older types.

## PUSH-PULL OSCILLATOR

For good-quality recording it is necessary that the bids waveform be free from distortion. If one side of the wave. for example. has greater amplitude than the other. second harmonic distortion results and the tape becomes partitlly magnetised.

To reduce second harmonic distortion a pushpull bias oscillator is used in place of the tuned

by H. W. Hellyer

anode or tuned grid Class $C$ oscillator generally employed (see Fig. 15).

## QUARTER TRACK

Loosely used as a synonym for four-track. Correctly used to denote the type of head, i.e. quarter-track head designed for standard ( $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$.) tapes has two windings and two gaps and records the first and third tracks (top to bottom) of a fourtrack system. (E.g. a quarter-track head is used to make a four-track recording.) (See also Tracks.)

## REPLAY

Playing back recordings: strictly those made on the same machine. Loosely used to denote playback.

## RESONANCE

Particularly regarding loudspeaker cones: resonance occurs when the natural frequency of a


Fig. 15: Push-pull r.f. oscillator to minimise second harmonic distortion.


Fig. 16: Schematic diagram of commercial reverberation unit (Grampian 636).
system such as the vibrating cone coincides with the frequency of the stimulus such as the signal source. The output at this frequency is greater. Distortion is thus produced.

Enclosure design concentrates on balancing out the resonances of loudspeaker, "box" and enclosed air and keeping any resonance that may introduce distortion to a frequency below that usefully employed.

A resonant peak below $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ is not unusual with bookcase-type enclosures or larger columns with acoustic damping.

## REMOTE CONTROL

Method of switching the functions of a tape recorder when at a distance from the apparatus. May consist of electrical switching to actuate solenoids or of mechanical devices such as Bowden cables or torque connectors. Widely used with diotating and transcribing machines where the operator has a foot control to select "stop", " start" and "backspace".

Type of remote control used on many machines is a simple on/off switch in the microphone housing.

## REVERBERATION

To recapture the ambience of the concert hall or other site of recording, various methods of delaying the reproduced sound slightly have been developed. Reverberation units, so called, can consist of simple delay spring devices or complicated tape loop methods with circuitry that also allows variable characteristics.

The schematic diagram of a portable reverberation unit (Grampian 636) is given in Fig. 16. This is transistorised device asing spring delay lines
driven from a split signal derived from the input via a push-pull Class B amplifier and a direct signal from the splitter, making the unit also useful as a mixer.

## REVERBERATION TIME

A measure of the acoustic properties of a room or hall. The time it takes for a sound to die away to one-millionth of its original strength. Typical figure for a hall may be three to five seconds when empty, less than a second with a full audience.

## REWIND

The action of winding tape back to the feed spool.

## REWIND TIME

The time taken to respool a complete reel of tape.

## SAFETY SWITCH

A method of preventing accidental selection of the recording function by fitting an interlocking switch or by requiring a double switch action to select " record".

## SENSITIVITY

The voltage of input signal required to produce a fully modulated tape (or other specified output, where stated) Correctly, should be qualified by the distortion figure at this level.

## SERVO BRAKE

Method of braking where the rotation of the brake drum is used as variable force, aiding or opposing the wrap of the brake according to direction of rotation. Very effective for smooth,
rapid halting of fast-winding function.

## SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO

The ratio between the output level of a fully modulated recording ( $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ signal, undistorted) and the inherent noise in the system with no signal played back. Stated in decibels. Should be greater than 45 dB unweighted (see also Weighted). Professional standards demand better than 70dB.

## SINGLE TRACK

Recording full width of the tape. Used for certain professional applications.




Fig. 17 (a): Playback head curve showing response for signal of constant recording level.
Fig. 17 (b): Playback amplifier response.
Fig. 17 (c) Final response curve.


Fig. 18: Playback equalizing circuitry for three speeds.

## SLEEP-LEARNING

Method of replaying instructional matter via a pillow loudspeaker, using either a time switch or loop cassette system. With correct preparatory study this method of learning is effective by its impression on the subconscious mind.

## SOUND.ON-SOUND

Trade term for cross-track' or multiplay recording. Output from one track is applied to input of another and mixed with existing signal. The process is more effective and easier to control than super-imposition and can be used to build up. quite complicated recordings from simple sources.

## SPEED

Tape speeds have evolved arbitrarily. After the successful development of the German AEG Magnetophone during the Second World War, which had a tape speed of $76 \mathrm{cms} / \mathrm{sec}$. , it was necessary to adapt machines with compatible systems to replay pre-recorded tapes. The nearest whole number was then $30 \mathrm{in} . / \mathrm{sec}$., which became the original standard.

Improvement in tapes and recording and playback heads, and reduction of gap widths made reduction of speed possible with no loss of quality. The reductions were made by halving speeds successively. Speeds are $15,7 \frac{1}{2}, 3 \frac{3}{4}, 1 \frac{7}{8}$ and $\frac{10}{8}$ in. per second. The highest speed is generally used for high-quality work, the lowest mainly for dictation or other speech-only work.

In general the higher the speed the better tho high-frequency response. Doubling the speed of a pre-recorded tape raises the tone one octave, halving the speed lowers the tone an octave. The standard speed for domestic use is $3 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} . / \mathrm{sec}$. at present.


BECAUSE the "Ten-Five" receiver was the first complete double-conversion transistorised communications type model to be described in this magazine it aroused considerable interest. Correspondence shows that the receiver has already been built by a great many Practical Wireless readers and it is pleasing to note that models other than the prototype are giving good results. Full details relating to the "Ten-Five" appeared in the October and November, 1964, issues of the magazine, whilst a further short article suggesting some minor changes to certain sections appeared in the April, 1965, issue.

The "Ten-Five" may be run either from the domestic mains supply of $220-240 \mathrm{~V}$ a.c. or from a battery; in the latter case this can be the car battery, thereby facilitating / P or $/ \mathrm{M}$ working. Bearing this last point in mind it is noted that some readers have enquired whether a switched "front end " is feasible, since in the original scheme a plug-in band changing method was adopted.

In the original "Ten-Five" a total of nine transformers (coils)-three per band-have to be moved around to obtain complete gap-free coverage of the frequency range $1 \cdot 67-31 \cdot 5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$
and. whilst the system used is a simple one to set up and operate, losses via the pins can degrade performance. The loose coils are also apt to become mislaid or their core settings may become disranged.

Trimmer adjustments are also likely to become a compromise, although this is overcome somewhat by the inclusion of panel-fitted TC4. Although some improvement would result from adopting a "umt-built", three-coil, plug-in assembly for optimum results a switched front end is to be preferred.

## Physical Considerations

Assembling a suitable switched front end, however, is tricky, since to cover the range of frequencies quoted a total of nine individual transformers must be used, whilst the switch•itself must have not less than nine " pole" tags and 27 "way" tags. These "poles" and "ways" should be available via a three-way rotary switch carrying three wafers each having identical three-pole, three-way characteristics.

Incorporating the switched eircuitry into a


Fig. 1: Complete theoretical circuit diagram of the bondswitched front end. In the interests of clarity only one transformer for each range is shown.

# Iso the'TEN-FIVE' A.S.CARPENTER,G3TYJ 

"Ten-Five" already built also requires consideration, for it is inadvisable to disturb the receiver wiring unduly. At tirst sight it would seem a simple matter to remove the existing front end wiring. etc., and mount the nine coils in the vacated space, but in practice this is not easily accomplished.

An alternative is to construct a separate unit as a sub-assembly carrying the minimum number of outlets and although this scheme is also open to criticism it does seem to be the best of the two. Such a unit can be wired separately and on completion be fitted to the receiver with the minimum of trouble.

It should be noted. however, that considerable effort is required to construct a suitable unit, for the work needs concentration and thus tends to become tedious. Patience, a miniature bit soldering iron, and a pair of strong tweezers are essentials. Each joint, too, must first be made mechanically firm before solder is applied.

## Circuitry

The circuit of the complete switched front end is shown in Fig. 1 and closely follows that portrayed earlier. Component designations are also kept identical. Only one transformer is shown for each range in the interests of clarity but the locations of the necessary switching positions are clearly indicated.

The slightly amended (external) r.f. sensitivity
control wiring necessitates but one lead-out and this is taken from point " $y$ "; the original panel fitted " oscillator trimmer" control, if used, may finally be connected at point " $z$ ".

Output at $1.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ i.f. appears at pins 8. T3A-C, and is then fed to pin 2 of the original i.f. transformer, IFT1 (see Fig. 2a, P.W., October, 1964), whilst the original damping diode, D1, is also connected there via R14 (see Fig. 2b as above).

In passing it may be noted that this particular switched unit may be used as a front end for other receiving apparatus capable of accepting $1.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ signals provided VR1 ( $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) is incorporated; in such cases the connections marked "x" and " $z$ " can be ignored. For essential details regarding the frequency ranges available refer to Table I.

## Construction

The unit is most conveniently built on a small L-shaped piece of 16 s.w.g. aluminium suitably drilled and cut to size. It is not recommended that a thinner gauge be used since a high degree of rigidity is desirable in the interests of stability.

In Fig. 3a the switch and its associated transformers are shown mounted. At first sight it would seem impossible to reach contacts of switch wafers " $b$ " and " $c$ " (see Fig. 3b) with the soldering iron, but the transformer stems are less thick than the pin ends and so no such difficulty arises. Tagstrips "A" and "B" are not wired until the remainder of the unit is completed, nor are any trimmers mounted.

An attempt has been made to secure minimum transformer interaction and although some degree of absorption might be present the compact wiring enables the majority of the leads to be no longer


Note $\mathrm{B}=$ Range number
Fig, 2: (a) Connections made to wafer " $a$ ". (b) Wofer " $b$ " connections, (c) Connẹctions required at wafer " $c$ ".


Fig. 3: The way in which the transformers and switch should be orientated.

fig. 4: Switch wafer arrangement and trimmer location.
than $\frac{1}{2}$ in.! This point is further favoured by the transformer orientation.

Commence wiring with wafer " c", proceed to wafer "b " and finish on wafer "a". Owing to confusion which may arise, constructors are strongly advised to wire in this order and for each wafer use wire with a different shade of insulation, since this will considerably assist final checking. Do not overheat the transformer pins whilst soldering but should the polystyrene soften due to this cause leave the particular pin for a few minutes to enable the material to reset.

When most of the wiring assóciated with the various switch wafers has been completed the tagstrips may be mounted and then wired to agree with Fig 5 . Most of the associated items are already available from the existing "Ten-Five".

To find the required values of the padder capacitors (C9) and the pins to which they should be connected refer to Table 1. For the external connections that will be required use flying leads with distinctive insulations; these leads may be shortened later but the lead carrying the $1.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ i.f. signal should be screened or spurious signals may be received later.

## Mounting of Trimmers

Trimmers are afterwards mounted as is indicated in Fig. 6, the centre spigots being brought together sufficiently close to enable a copper wire ring to be soldered to them. The other trimmer connections are soldered to the appropriate tags of wafer "a" on the lines shown in Fig. 4.

The finalised unit should feel physically rigid and before it is bolted to the receiver a thorough check should be made.

First remove all the original front end material except the wavetrap and first i.f. transformer, together with the three valveholders which previously held the transformers, and if necessary reinforce the base board. Bolt the switched unit in so that its control shaft will project through the cabinet sidelooking at the receiver from the front.

Check that the moving vanes
of VCl cannot foul the trimmers, then solder the eight fiying leads in position, shortening them as required. The eight leads are: (1) + ve. line, (2) negative line at point "C" (original Fig. 2a), (3) "Y" to VR1, (4) to pin 2 of IFT1 (screened). (5) to pin 2 of wavetrap, (6) to $\mathrm{VC} 1,(7)$ to VC 2 , (8) to VC3.

Remove any trimmers associated with $\mathrm{VCl}-3$ and if the original irimmer, TC4 is to be used connect this to VC3.

## Alignment

- This is carried out on the basis of core adjustments at the low frequency end of the bands, followed by trimmer adjusiments at the high frequency ends. Commence with the lowest switched range, i.e. range 3 , and if TC4 is being used set this to about $25 \%$ capacity.

Use of a signal generator is necessary and, although results can be achieved without one, these are likely to be sub-opti mum. When using a generator always attenuate its output suffjciently to give but the smallest detectable indication on the " $S$ " meter or other indicator in use. Core locking is achieved by means of a 6 BA nut fitted to each transformer stem.
(1) Connect the generator via $a_{1}$ standard dummy load (or $400 \Omega$ resistor) to the aerial socket and, using Table II as a guide, inject a $1.67 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ signal with the tuning capacitor vanes fully enmeshed.
(2) Adjust the core of White R3 to resolve the signal (see note on "Second Channel" later).
(3) Set generator to $5 \cdot 3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and fully disengage tuning capacitor vanes. Set White R3 trimmer for maximum output.
(4) Repeat (2) and (3) above.
(5) Set generator to low frequency (LF) tracking point (see Table II) and tune in signal using VC1-2-3. Adjust Blue R3 and Yellow R3 cores for maximum, output. (See note on " pulling" later).
(Continued on page 624)

Fig. 5 (top): Type of togstrip required and wiring details. Fig. 6: The trimmers in position. Note the central ring made from copper wire.

PRACTICAL WIRELESS


Tag strips laid flat for clarity


## C.W. Standards

I would like to reply to F Taylor's letter in the August issue as I am such a person to which he refers, i.e. an old exService operator keen to do a spot of operating.

Over the years I have followed the arguments in Practical Wireless for and against the R.A.E. and have kept an open mind.

Last year I took a six-month course for the R.A.E. at the local Technical College and sat the examination last May. I am pleased to say I passed this and in addition. have since passed the G.P.O. Morse Test.

Perhaps this proves that if you are keen enough, you are not too old at 40 to pass the R.A.E. and do a spot of operating.
Conway Parker,

Bath,<br>Somerset.

## Tape Terminology

I would like to congratulate Mr. H. W. Hellyer on his series of articles, Tape Terminology. So often one sees references in books to Modulation, Noise Levels, Monitoring etc., and to the uninitiated, like me, these terms conjure up all sorts of weird ideas.

Mr. Hellyer's articles do help a great deal by explaining exactly what things are and what they do. I think it would be a good idea to publish them as a separate booklet which would really help beginners like myself understand some of those many "Mysteries" of radio.
A. Read,

Walthamstow,
London, E.17.

## Correspondents

I would like to correspond with anyone who is interested in making crystal sets.
Nanubhai Patel.
33 Princeville St., Bradford 7, Yorkshire.
I AM interested in radio and electronics and would like to correspond with other P.W. readers of any age and country. Omar bin Abdullah.

203 Arab Street, Singapore 7.

# NEWS AND 

## THE RADIO SHOW SPECIAL



This year's Radio Show is over 200 yards long, runs on wheels and comes direct to the public in their own towns and cities.

The Radio Show Special, a thirteen coach train, is touring Britain for three weeks and spending two days each at Southampton, Cardiff, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow, Newcastle, Nottingham and Norwich.
In one coach, a complete local broadcasting station is showing just how local radio works and the form it will take when it comes to this country. Another coach will supply pictures on both 405 and 625 -lines to television sets all over the train. A third coach will show working demonstrations of radiotelephones and other communications equipment. The remaining coaches will display the full range of Pye/Ekco domestic products.

## SEMICONDUCTOR DIODE CIRCUITS

Mullard Educational Service announce a new 27 -frame filmstrip entitled "Semiconductor Diode Circuits". Intended for use in universities, technical colleges, training establishments and industry, this film forms part of a series covering advanced electronic circuitry.
"Semiconductor Diode Circuits" describes the theory and construction of semiconductor diodes and their use in power supply circuits, computers, and radio and television.

Copies of the film cost 25 s. per strip including fully comprehensive teaching notes and may be ordered from Unicorn Head Visual Aids Ltd., 42 Westminster Polace Gordens, Artillery Row, London, S.W.I.

## LARGEST COMPUTER FOR BRITISH INSURANCE

English Electric-Leo-Marconi announces that the largest computer system ordered by a British insurance company has been installed at the Sun Life Assurance Society's head office in London.
The computer, a KDF 9, will be used to maintain the records of more than half a million insurance policies. This large file will be interrogated and brought up to date each day by the computer in under two and a half hours.
The machine was built and tested at English Electric-Leo-Marconi's factory at Kidsgrove, near Stoke-on-Trent. It brings the total value of computers delivered by the company to insurance offices to nearly E2 million.
Sun Life's KDF 9 is a multi-programming machine (able to carry out more than one job at a time). It has nine magnetic tape deck units each capable of transferring 80,000 characters per second, a magnetic drum store, two 1.000 lines per minute on-line printers and paper tape and punched card equipment.

## CATALOGUE RECEIVED

Lind-Air (Supplies) Ltd., 53 Tottenham Court Road, have produced a new catalogue of transistors, motors and servo equipment and separate lists are included on pen recorders, transducers and accelerometers, industrial plugs and panel meters.

BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER

# COMIMENT 

## PYE MINIATURE RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPMENT

Pye Telecommunications of Cambridge announce their new u.h.f. radiotelephone, the Pye Pocketfone. Coming in two separate units, the receiver unit fits into the breast pocket, has its own power supply and loudspeaker and contains a built-in concealed aerial. The transmitter, a similar small unit, is normally carried in the side pocket. To make a call. the transmitter is held in front of the mouth and when the transmit button is pressed, a small rod aerial, obout 6 in. long, springs out. Very high
 quality two-way communication may then take place over ranges up to a distance of two to five miles depending on the kind of instollotion provided.
An outstanding feature of the Pocketfone is the long battery life that has been achieved. A new and potented battery economy circuit enables a battery life of several times that of a more conventional receiver to be realised. The tiny receiver battery, which measures only $1.8 \times 1 \times 0.55 \mathrm{in}$. and weighs only 1.60 z has been made to give continuous receiver operation of thirty hours. Either chargeable or replaceable batteries may be used.

## LARGS NEW COMPARATOR



Largs of Holborn have installed a new Comparator which enables customers to hear and compare different types of hi-fi equipment. It was designed by Arthur Burrows, the company's chief engineer, and constructed by the company's engineers and cabinet workshop team.
Expressly intended for stereo equipment, the Comparator permits a virtually uncountable number of permutations of equipment under demonstration. There are facilities for combining 16 pickup arms, 16 tuners. 16 amplifiers, 12 tope recorders and 16 ouxiliary inputs, playing through 50 loudspeakers. 4,750 yards of wire are used and the whole unit is built on 20 different chassis.

OF OUTSTANDING "SELL OR LOAN" REQUESTS NOW HELD BY US, WE REGRET THAT FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT ANY LETTERS FOR THIS COLUMN.

Sir, I would be grateful if any reader could sell or loan me...
service sheet circuit diagram for Kolster Brandes Model No. BR30T table radio.-G. Missen, 8 Russell Drive. Ampthill. Beds.
Concert Model-D. E. Eny on Claviotines Concert Model,-D. E. Jones, 31 Heath Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire. Road, .. circuit diagrams and detaits of headset and battery connections of the type 38 transceiver.-P. C. Bateman, 42 Buckingham Road, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
any information at all about the "McMichaci moving coil mains Receiver" especially the coil pack. Set is about 30 years old, 3 ralve, regenerative. $V I=12 A 2$ $V_{2}=3 \times 23 \mathrm{~V}_{3}=?-\mathrm{N}$. D. Benyon. 'Westleigh": 3 Elmfield Road, Audenshaw, Lancashire.
. information of any kind on v.h.f. receiver type 62 H , Ref. No. AP61357, Ser. No. 2216. Modification No. 7085 A/10.K. J. Martin, Belmont Hall, Dundee, Angus. $62 .$. any information on indicator type 62 Ref. No. 10Q/13000-A.M., Ser. No.
GO61219.-Tony H. Yassa. Abbassyin GO61219.-Tony H. Yassa, Abiro, United Street No. 8, Heliopolis, Cairo, United Arab Republic.
derails of conversion of V.H.F. $R \times R$. 1132 rrom $100-125 \mathrm{mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $65.86 \mathrm{mc} / \mathrm{s} .-$ W. Stockburn, 40 Netherburn Road, Sunderland, Co. Durham.
information on assembly of National HRO tuning dial.-N. H. Punford, 93 Sunny Gardens Road, Hendon, London. N.W. 4. ....circuit diagram and details of P.C.R. communications receiver.-T. Wright, The Bungalow, Glenbana, Ballyaughlis, Lisburn, Co. Down, N. Ireland. aughis, the plans for a battery tremolo unit.-1. H. Wesley, 16 Emperors Gate, London, S.W.I.
. details of the Synchrodyne Receiver, produced in brochure form about 1946.L. A. Wilkinson. Radio Designer, Field Aireraft Services Led., Wymeswold Aerodrome, Burton-on-the-Wolds, Nr. Loughborough, Leicestershire.
the circuit of the transmitter type 5 AH . No. 162 made in 1949.-S. Powell 7 Commercial Road, Hereford.
any information on comparison of performance between HE-30 Lafayette and Eddystone 840 C .-F. W. Brown, 79 Glebe Road, Stoneferry, Hull.
any da.a on the P. 104 (R1392) Receiver Model No. 62 H . Navy version I.F. $9.72 \mathrm{me} / \mathrm{s}$. I would particularly like to know the aerial infut impedance and the phone output impedance.-N. A. Couroy, 7 Nab Lane, Shipley, Yorkshire.
7 ... any information or circuit of Globe any ive plus add-on amplifier.-S. L. King I valve plus add-on amplifar. Cornwall.
. BC3I2M manual circuir modifications or eorrespondence on the receiver. -R. Wilson, II Sulgrave Close, Liverpool 16. Lancashire.
circuit of the "Regency" transistor radio.-I. Owens, 26 Ardd Fawr, Dolgelly. North Wales.
a circuir diagram and information on Govt. Surplus Power Unit Type 633 Ref. No. IOKB/6205 using valve nos. CV45 and CV572.-P. J C. Payne, 33 Strawberry Vale, Twickenham, Middlesex.

# MW DX <br> SOME NOTES FOR BEGINNERS 

W. N. STEVENS

Editor, Practical Wireless

IIANY of us become involved in the business of radio in the oddest ways. My introduction was accidentally listening to KDA in Pittsburgh on the medium waves. It was one in the morning and the set was the family radio.
This phenomena fired my schoolboy enthusiasm. The die was cast. Like an addict needing a "fix", I wanted American stations and since late night listening was restricted, the family was persuaded to buy a short wave converter and I was thus exposed to the infinite fascination of DX.
Since then, there have been many exciting moments---receiving the first QSL cards. obtaining an amateur licence ...working DX myself. There have been moments of triumph being first to report reception of low power broadcast stations... acquiring coveted DX certificates $\ldots$ making two-way with America using a 1 -valve receiver and 1 -valve transmitter . . . working exotic DX stations.
Yet, even so. some of the best moments have been in pulling through a difficult medium wave DX station. For despite the perennial pleasures of the short waves, there is a special something about m.w. DX which cannot be explained. as might be imagined in the writer's case. as nostalgia.
Most of the older hands at the game are well familiarised with the world of m.w. DX. but the newcomers (and potential newcomers) may find some basic notes of interest. And as the "season" is now with us, this is the time to get organised.

## When to Listen

By virtue of the range of frequencies involved, optimum results are obtained with paths of maximum darkness. Thus, the winter months are the best for all-round reception: the atmospheric noise level is lower, too, during the colder months. You can still hear some DX through the summer but this means very late night (or more precisely, early morning!) sessions. Conditions will also vary from season to season and, quite naturally, the best years for m.w. DX are those with low sunspot activity. We are in such a trough now. and conditions can be expected to be quite good for at least several years.
In many ways. m.w. DX listening is much less predictable than s.w. listening. Conditions can be really good for several days. then really bad. Some days North Americans will be good and South Americans poor. Some years may be good for North America, others good for South America. Skip distance effects are very pronounced; peak times for different areas may be short lived. There are numerous permutations of possible conditions. Life is exciting, if at times frustrating!

Here is a, necessarily. brief outline of what to expect from different parts of the world.

## North America

USA: The East Coast stations of the USA are there, to some extent, all through the year. In the summer, the openings may be in the period around 0430. As the hours of nightly darkness increase. so will the openings start early, and last longer. In the actual winter months, some of the stations will be heard from midnight or earlier but QRM from European stations may be troublesome. They will "stay" until dawn or later. Last year there was one fantastic opening when many of the East Coasters were still coming through at 1000 in the morning-though this was unprecedented.
There are a few regular stations from the central States, but the best chances are around 0300 . The West Coast represents really first rate DX and the openings are quite rare; when they do occur they are usually around dawn ( $0300-0600$ ).

There are three major networks-NBC, ABC. CBS, but many stations are independently owned, though they may carry network programmes at times. Most US stations have a callsign beginning W , some have K . The callsign is invariably used as identification. Many of the East Coast stations are received very regularly during the best months and often reach quite surprising strengths.

Canada: Similar remarks apply. They tend. however, to break through much earlier and a few of them are often heard as early as 2100 hours in the winter, and reception as early as 1900 is not unknown. There is a national State-owned network, rather BBC-ish-the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. There are also numerous privately owned and operated stations. Most CBC stations have a three-letter callsign (such as CBA, CBF. etc). all the others have four-letter callsigns (CJCX. etc). The callsigns are invariably used for identification.
Important note for newcomers: Many of the Canadian stations broadcast only in French!
Normally. Canadians will be heard when the U.S.A. is good but this is not an invariable rule. Manv occasions will occur when the USA is poor and Canada good-and vice versa.
Latin America: Harder to identify. but experienced short wave listeners should not have ton much trouble. Call signs are usually used, together with other means of identification. Best times for the Latin Americans is usually an. hour or two after the North Americans are well established, This again depends on conditions and last season many of them were heard at reasonable strength before midnight. Central American, how-

## November, 1965

## MAINS POWER PACK

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ever, is usually best later on (around 0230-0330 for example). Again not a general rule, they will often be heard at their best when North America is below average. Regular s.w. DX'ers will find a familiar scene with Venezuela and Colombian Republic well to the fore.

Africa: Winter evenings can produce a large number of North Africans, plus things like Kaduna (Nigeria) and Dakar (Senegal). They often reach superb strength. Liberia is another possible, later in the evenings. Kenya has been heard signing on around 0300 and one or two South African stations have been logged at around 0130-but these are not easy by any means.

Asia: A surprising number of Asian stations can be heard, with patience and perseverance. Middle East stations are fairly plentiful, some being quite regular-last season for instance Kuwait was heard night after night (small hours). Although they can be heard in the late evening. some have been logged in the afternoons in winter. A good time is during the Feast of Ramadan when they operate all through the night!

Further afield. India and Pakistan are worth searching for. Best times for All India Radio and Radio Pakistan stations last season were around $0000-0100,0100-0200$ and similar hour-long peaks. On good days. they can sometimes be heard during the afternoons. English announcements and news bulletins are helpful in identification, but are not of long duration. Some, particularly Indians often have strong signals.
China is more difficult but some stations are quite well received. Best times are from 2200 and at various times from early afternoon onwards. according to time of year. Japan is very rare but several were heard last season. mostly during afternoon Far East openings. Other stations in this area have been heard, mainly during the afternoon/early evening.

General: Having acquired a general idea of what to expect, from actual listening sessions. and having located a few key stations, the band is yours to search. Expectation of conditions can often be fairly well assessed by the signals of a few star performers. Judging from last season. these are worth checking as a guide to conditions on a particular day:

CBA. Sackville. N.B.. Canada on $1.070 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Probably the most consistent North American. heard night after night, sometimes even pefore Paris on the same frequency has closed down. If CBA is not coming in, not much else will be heard from North America: at least Canada. Another good check is CJON, St. John's, Newfoundland, on $930 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. usually earlier even than CBAsometimes from 2000 or so in peak conditions. By midnight, in winter. these (and others) should be very strong in good conditions.
South Americans are difficult to judge since skip seems to vary through the season. IR1, Bucnos Aires, for instance, is on the same frequency as CBA and whereas it was hardly heard (by the writer at least) early in the season, it was often dominant over CBA later in the season. The subcontinent is a vast area and you can expect good periods of, say, Argentinians and others of, say, Brazilians, etc.

For the Caribbean areas, however, there is no
better than the Spanish-speaking propaganda station Radio Americas on Swan Island ( $1,160 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) which is very consistent and very strong. Another pointer is Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, which has been putting out phenomenal signals on $800 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$.
A key station for Far Eastern prospects is the Voice of America station in Okinawa on $1,178 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. This is often surprisingly strong and is heard during the winter from early afternoon onwards, closing around 1630. Programmes are in Eastern tongues, but there are English announcements.

Of the Indians, the best last year were Rajkot ( $910 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and Sangli ( $1,250 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ). From China, the most consistent were Kiangsi ( $840 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and Anwhei ( $940 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ).

## Equipment

A standard transistor portable is virtually useless and a communications receiver is ideal. Between the two extremes there is a good deal of scope. Main requirements are high sensitivity and high sclectivity; remember that many European stations are on the air till 0200 and many start up again around 0400. Most Americans (South and North) operate on even $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ channels (i.e. 770, 780. $790 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) whereas Europeans, Africans and Middle East stations are on $9 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ channels (i.e. 764, 773 , $782 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ). Even so, selectivity is a major requirement for serious DX work.

Fortunately there are still a number of very good war surphus communications receivers on the market at bargain prices. The more experienced may also find that some of the vintage domestic valve radio sets have good possibilities, especially if they can be hotted up.

Calibration is another aspect. A set without reasonably accurate calibration (in $\mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) can be supplemented with a simple frequency meter, but this is inconvenient except where specially precise measurements are wanted.

Really good slow motion tuning is essential. Variable selectivity in some form (and/or crystal filters) and noise limiters are useful features.

These features are all desirable to some extent, depending on how serious one takes his m.w. DX.

Aerials need thought. Simplest is a random long wire. erected as long and as high as possible. And clear from obstructions such as trees, roofs, etc. Various systems should be tried, and results evaluated. Indoor aerials are not completely useless and, in fact. can give quite good results if sufficient wire is used (routed around picture rails. etc). Vertical aerials have some advantages. A good earth is worth while, too.
Many serious DX enthusiasts use tuned loops and aerial tuning units. useful in view of their variable direction properties. If sufficient readers are interested we hope to publish some fuller data on acrials, tuner units and loops.

## Practical Experiment

Should the desirable features of the receiving equipment scare off potential m.w. DX'ers, let them take heart from the following! Last season (from Scptember 1964 to March 1965) the writer undertook a fairly intensive survey of m.w. DX using only a home built tuner (r.f. amp, f.c., two i.f. amps, variable selectivity) into an audio
amplifier and feeding the tuner from the downlead of the chimney-mounted TV aerial!
The list which follows shows the large number of DX stations from all over the world which were received on this less-than-ideal set up. We hope it will encourage others to give the neglected medium wave band a good search during the coming months. It leaves out semi-DX such as Egypt, Morroco, Algeria, etc.

## Reference Material

(1) World Radio TV Handbook. This contains, by country, details of all the broadcasting stations
of the world. A wealth of invaluable information. Cost is 26 s.
(2) World Medium Wave Guide. Essential for all m.w. DX fans. Gives complete listings of all m.w. stations by frequency as well as North America stations by location.
These two books are published in Denmark (written in English throughout) and obtainable through specialist book shops.
(3) Medium Wave News. A privately distributed newsletter published during the main DX season containing all the latest news. Details from the Editor-Ken Brownless, 7 The Avenue, Clifton, York.

## LOG FOR SEPTEMBER 1964—MARCH 1965

| Ke/s | Call | Location | Kc/s | Call | Location |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 560 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LVI } \\ & \text { CKCN } \end{aligned}$ | Mendoza, Argentina Seven Sisters, P.O. | 760 | ZFY | Georgetown, British Guiana |
| 570 |  | Godthab, Greenland |  | WJR | Lucknow, India |
| 580 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CJFX } \\ & \text { CFRA } \end{aligned}$ | Antigonish, N.S. Ottawa, P.O. | 764 |  | Dakar, Senegal |
|  |  | Tiruchi, India | 770 | WABC | New York |
|  | LW1 | Cordoba, Argentina |  |  | Hupeh, China |
| 590 | VOCM | St. Johns, Newfoundland Peking China | $\begin{aligned} & 775 \\ & 777 \end{aligned}$ | PJA8 | Aruba, Netherlands Antilles |
| 600 |  | Ajmer, India | 785 |  | Zaheden, Iran |
|  | CFCF | Montreal, P.Q. | 790 | CFDR | Dartmouth, N.S. |
| 6.10 | CHNC | New Carlisle, P.Q. | 800 | PJB | Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles |
| 620 | CKCM | Grand Falls, Newfoundland Peking, China |  | CHRC | Quebec City, P.Q. <br> Amman, Jordan |
|  |  | Santa Cruz, Canary Is. | 810 | WGY | Schenectady, N.Y. |
| 630 |  | Lahore I, Pakistan |  | WKVM | San Juan, Puerto Rico |
|  | CFCY WKYN | Charlottetown, P.E.I. <br> Rio Pedras, Puerto Rico | 820 |  | Delhi, India ${ }^{\text {Cali, Columbian Rep. }}$ |
| 638 |  | BBC Relay, Cyprus |  | WBAP | Fort Worth, Texas |
|  |  | Peking, China | 835 |  | Osaka, Japan |
|  |  | Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe | 840 |  | Kiangsi, China |
| 650 | YVQO | Puerto la Cruz, Venezuela |  |  | Radio Caribbean, St. Lucia |
|  |  | Indore, India |  | WHAS | Louisville, Kentucky |
|  | ELBC | Monrovia, Liberia | 850 | CKVL | Verdum, P.Q. |
|  | WSM | Godhavn, Greenland |  |  | Montevideo, Uruguay |
| 656 |  | Tel Aviv, Israel |  |  | Pyongyang, North Korea |
| 660 | WNBC | New York | 860 | PRA3 | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil |
|  | CE660 | Santiago, Chile |  | CBH | Halifax, N.S. |
|  | YVLH | Caracas, Venezuela |  | CJBC | Toronto. Ontario |
| 668 |  | Damascus, Syria |  |  | Lanchow, China |
| 677 |  | Jerusalem, Jordan |  |  | Sambalpur, India |
| 680 | CJCM WNAC | Grand Bank, Newfoundland | $\begin{aligned} & 870 \\ & 880 \end{aligned}$ | WWL | New Orleans, La. |
|  | WNAC | Boston, Mass. | $880$ | WCBS | New York |
|  | WAPA | San Juan, Puerto Rico | 890 | WLS | Chicago, III. |
| 690 | CMBC | Havana, Cuba |  | YVLW | Valencia, Venezuela |
|  | CBF | Montreal, P.Q. | 900 | XEW | Mexico City, Mexico |
|  |  | Dacca 1, Pakistan |  | CJBR | Rimouski, P.Q. |
| 692 |  | Nicosia, Cyprus | 908 |  | Baghdad, Iraq |
| 701 |  | BBC Relay, Perrim is. | 910 |  | Raikot, India |
| 700 | WLW | Cincinnati, Ohio |  | WABI | Bangor, Maine |
| 710 | WOR | New York |  | YVPF | Marquetia, Venezuela |
|  | ciox | Grand. Falls, Newfoundland | 920 | CJCH | Halifax, N.S. |
|  |  | Jullunder, India | 930 | CJON | St. Johns, Newfoundland |
| 746 |  | Aleppo, Syria | 940 | CBM | Montreal, P.Q. |
| 749 | CBL | Toronto, Ontario |  | WNZ | Miami, Florida |
|  | PRA4 | Salvador, Brazil |  |  | Anwhei, China |
| 750 | WSB | Atlanta, Georgia |  |  | Kaduna, Nigeria |
|  | YVKS | Caracas, Venezueta | 950 | CKNB | Campbeliton, N.B. |

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| 1030 | WBZ | Boston, Mass. |  | CKOY | Ottawa, P.Q. |
| 1040 | VUB | Bombay, India |  |  | Radio Martinique, Martinique |
| 1050 | CHUM WHN | Toronto, Ontario New York | $\begin{aligned} & 1315 \\ & 1320 \end{aligned}$ | HJAK CKEC | Barranquilla, Colombian Rep. New Glasgow, N.S. |
| 1060 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CJLR } \\ & \text { CB106 } \end{aligned}$ | Quebec City (F) Santiago, Chile |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CISO } \\ & \text { WZOK } \end{aligned}$ LUG | Sorel, P.Q. <br> Jacksonville, Florida Mar del Plata, Argentina |
| 1070 | CBA <br> LRI <br> VUD | Sackville, N.B. <br> Buenos Aires, Argentina <br> Delhi B, India | 1325 | 4VW | Port-au-Prince, Haiti Teheran, Iran |
|  | WMIA | Arecibo, Puerto Rico | 1330 | WPOW | New York |
| $1080$ | WTIC | Hartiord, Conn. |  | WCRB | Waltham, Mass. Bikaner, India |
| 1090 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { WBAL } \\ & \text { CX28 } \\ & \text { KING } \end{aligned}$ | Baltimore, Maryland <br> Montevideo, Uruguay <br> Seattle, Washington | 1340 | PRH6 | Belo Horizonte, Brazil |
| 1100 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PRG9 } \\ & \text { KYW } \\ & \text { YVKE } \end{aligned}$ | Sao Paulo, Brazil Cleveland, Ohio Caracas, Venezuela | 1345 1350 | WAVY <br> WEZY | Kuwait <br> Portsmouth, Va. Cocoa, Florida |
| 1110 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CBD } \\ & \text { WBT } \end{aligned}$ | St. John, N.B. Charlotte, N.C. | 1360 | CKBC WDRC | Bathurst, N.S. Hartford, Conn. |
| 1120 | KMOX | St. Louis, Missouri | 1370 | CFLV | Valleyfield, P.Q. |
| 1130 | WNEW WDGY | New York <br> Minneapolis Minnesora | 1375 | WSAY | Rochester, N.Y. REF, St. Pierre |
|  | YVMF | Maracaibo, Venezuela | 1380 | CFDA | Victoriaville, P.Q. |
| 1140 | CBI | Sydney, N.S. V.O.A., Philippines | 1385 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { WLCY } \\ & \text { 4VS } \end{aligned}$ | St. Peterburgh, Florida Port-au-Prince, Haiti |
| 1150 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CHSJ } \\ & \text { XEJP } \\ & \text { CKTR } \end{aligned}$ | St. John, N.B. <br> Rawalpindi, Pakistan <br> Mexico City, Mexico <br> Three Rivers, P.Q. | 1390 | WCSG <br> WEGP | Charleston, S.C. Presque Is., Maine Arwaz, Iran Imphal, India |
| 1160 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { WJJD } \\ & \text { HJCK } \end{aligned}$ | Chicago, III. <br> Bogota, Colombian Rep. | $\begin{aligned} & 1400 \\ & 1410 \end{aligned}$ | WOND WPOP | Pleasantville, N.J. Hartiord, Conn. |
| 1165 |  | Radio Americas, Swan Island | 1420 | WOC | Davenport, lowa |
| 1170 | WWVA | Wheeling, West Virginia |  | WCOJ | Coatsville, Pa . |
| 1178 |  | V.O.A., Okinawa | 1430 | WENE | Endicott, N.Y. |
| 1180 | WHAM | Rochester, N.Y. | 14 | CKPM WHHH | Ottawa, P.Q. <br> Warren, Ohio |
| 1190 | wowo HJCT | Fort Wayne, Indiana Barranquilia, Colombian Rep. | 1460 | CKRB <br> WHEC | Ville de St. Georges, P.Q. Rochester, N.Y. |
| 1200 | WOAI YVOZ BED88 | San Antonia, Texas Caracas, Venezuela Taiwan, formosa | 1470 | WOKO <br> WLAM <br> CFOX | Albany, N.Y. <br> Lewiston, Maine <br> Pte. Claire, P.Q. |
| 1210 | WCAU | Philadelphia, Penn. | 1480 | CBZ | Fredericton, N.B. |
| 1230 | VUB | Bombay, India | 1490 | WTOP | Washington, D.C. |
| 1235 | ZBMI | Hamilton, Bermuda | 1510 | WMEX | Boston, Mass. |
| 1240 |  | Aden, Forces Broadcasting Service | 1520 | WKBW | Buffalo, N.Y. |

## A COMMENTARY BY HENRY PRACTICAMY <br> WIRELESS <br> No. 14 The Import Gap

THIS month, dear reader, I beg your leave to indulge in what an editorial colleague has called a "typical Henry Carp".

There are several subjects that rouse Henry's spleen. Among them, is hinted in September during a dissertation on the Metric System, is the imported radio receiver or other associated equipment.

Not that imports are wrong in themselves. Not even that the price-catting techniques of some makers allow batches of cheap rubbish to be spawned upon the supermarket shelves, To be realistic about this, we can hardly expect a healthy export business mnless we accept somo sort of reciprocal trade.
My objection is to the indifference, almost contempt, of British distributars who enload forcign gear on as and, having made their profit from its male, want nothing more to do with the product Lip service is paid to "specialised service facilities", or "distribution backed by oné of the largest manufacturers... etc". But jost try, as a private individual, a purchaser, obtaining spares or service information and see what happens.
This is no wour grape contention. Henry is in the trade, and has had the bitter experience of having to reture goods to customers because repair was impossible-or at least, economically unsound. And why?

"Fancy buying that rubbish"

Because the importers could do no more than forward the equipment to its source of origin when repairs were needed.

In the case of tiny radios this may have seemed sound policy: but a half-hour with some service information and the appropriate spare parts would in many cases have solved the problem. And would have suited the customer far better than the protracted wait while his precious unit sailed half across the world.

If the bona fide members of the radio service fraternity cannot get as much as a polite acknowledgement from some distributors, what hope is there for the man in the street? Hardly surprising that some radio dealers turn such service work away with the implied comment: "Fancy buying that rubbish."

The annoying fact is that so much imported equipment is by no means rubbish. And the foregoing remarks certainly do not apply to the better foreign manufacturers who take great trouble to ensure service facilities and information to back their sales. Although even they cannot always keep the spares rolling.

It should be the absolute rule that imported goods must always be backed with service informa-tion-and this information should be available on request to any accredited service agency. Not just to the so-called service agents of the importers, who are anybody willing to accept the franchise at the terms these astute gentry are prepared to offer.

They need have no special training in dealing with the equipment, and very often their facilities are unquestioned. Bill Jones in the next street is as likely to be accepted as Messrs Mendit with branches in every major city. The customer is not to know. Not, that is, until his equipment goes wrong and it is too late for tearm.

"Succumb to rough treatment . . ."

Needless to say, there are notable exceptions. The larger companies have admirable service facilities. To the extent that we regard a couple of them as British as anything on the market. There is seldom any difficulty with Grundig spares, nor lack of information; and it is interesting to note that the recent Philips' challenge to the Hong Kong portables is a fistsized Popmaster designed and produced at Croydon.

We do not ask for massive tomes of data pinned to every set. No need for a Guide Litteraire with every model. Not even for the sort of instruction book, complete with thirty-six full-page illustrations, that accompanies the Beocord 2000 tape recorder. (Yet it is worth noting that this quality manufacturer has always insisted on inserting a service diagram in the bowels of even the least of their portables.)
All we want is the common courtesy of our money's worth. After all, what's cheap about a set that has to be thrown away when it goes wrong, merely because nobody in town has the facilities to repair it?

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## Also in the December issue <br> BUILDING AN LCR BRIDGE <br> TWO-BAND PHONE TRANSMITTER CORRECT EARTH SYSTEM SHORT WAVE CONVERTER

## DECEMBER ISSUE on sale NOV 4th



# on the <br> Short Waves MONTHLY NEWS FOR DX LISTENERS 

All times are in G.M.T.
The Broadcast Bands-by John Guttridge

Tunisia: Radiodifusion Television Tunisienne (139 Avenue de Paris, Tunis), gives full QSL details. English from $2200-2300$ is often audible on 962.

Cyprus: BBC-East Mediterranean Relay has an English transmission from 1845-1900 on 9,580. After 1900 this channel carries a relay of the BBC World Service in parallel with 9,625 until close down at 2115.
Iran: Radio Iran (Ministry of Information, Meydan Ark, Tehran), keeps drifting around the 19 and $25 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{b}$. with its foreign service from $1730-$ 2130 (English 2000-2030). Most reported outlets are $11,760 / 15,110$, although $11,750,15,135,15,145$ and 15,150 have also been reported. The clandestine station Radio Peyk-e Iran (Radio Free Iran), has been heard from 1500-1600 on 11,410/11,695.
Iraq: Broadcasting Station of the Republic of Iraq (Salihiya, Baghdad), now has Arabic on 6,905 until 1930 when its foreign service starts with an English transmission. The latter is also on 6,030.
Israel: Kol Israel, now uses 9,725 to Europe and 9,009 to South Africa during its 2045-2115 English transmission. 9,625 has been dropped. Full QSL
Japan: N.H.K., Tokyo, has replaced 11,940 by 6,140 for General Service transmissions from 2100 - 0030. Other frequencies used are 2100 and 2200 transmissions 9,605/15.195; 2300 and 0000 transmissions $15,105 / 15,425$. The European service from 0615-0845 (English 0800) is on 15,135/, 17,875. Frequencies for the South Asian transmission at 1500-1630 (English 1525) are 7.195/ $9,525 / 9,765$. Several new QSL's have been issued by this station.
Korea (North): Radio Pyongyang, has French from 2000-2100 on $6,540 / 7,580 / 9,875 / 11,750$.

Pakistan: Radio Pakistan (71 Garden Road, Karachi 3), now uses 11,672/9,615 in English to Europe from 1945-2030.

Taiwar: Voice of Free China (New Park, Taipei), now uses 15,125 in its transmissions from 1530-1800. The English broadcast at 1530-1610 has been heard in the U.K. on this outlet.
New Zealand: New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation (P.O. Box 98, Wellington), gives full QSL.

Canada: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (P.D. Box 6000 , Montreal), has been using 17,820/15,320/11,720 for the English and French transmission to Europe from 2000-2150 during the summer but is expected to replace 17,820 by
9.630 during the winter. CHNS (Halifax) has been heard on 960 at $0330-0400$.
U.S.A.: Armed Forces Radio and TV Service ( 250 West 57 th Street, New York, New York 10019), uses $15,430 / 15,350 / 15,330$ from $1330-$ 2245. From $1800-224517,855$ is used also.

Radio New York Worldwide (4 West 58th Street, New York City 19, N.Y.). English frequency utilization is $15,1551200-1515 ; 15.310$ 1500 (1200 Saturday and Sunday)-2200; 15,440 1200-2400; 17,755 1800-2145; 17,880 1245 (1200 Saturday and Sunday)-1745; 11,790 12001515 Saturdays and Sundays. From 2200-2400 11,970 is also believed to be in use. Has formed a SWL Club, membership of which costs $\$ 1$ a year. Members will be offered QSL report forms in Spanish, German, French, Arabic and English; the use of a station identification bureau; a station address bureau and a monthly DX bulletin.

Voice of America (U.S. Information Agency, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington 25 , D.C.), is transmitting to Europe as follows during the autumn: On 1,196 Munich $0400-0430,0500-$ 0700, 1600-1830, 2200-2330; 3,980 Munich 0300 -0700, $1400-2330$; 5.965 Tangier, 5.995 Greenville, $7,200 \mathrm{BBC}$ and 7,270 0300-0700; 5,995 Tangier $1630-2330 ; 9,540$ and 9,740 BBC $0430-$ 0730; 9,760 1830-2245; 11,790 Tangier 06000730; 15.205 Greenville, 1400-2215; 15,290 Tangier 1400-2000; 15,295 Tangier 0600-0730; 17,780 Greenville 1400-1745.

Windward Islands: Windward Islands Broadcasting Service (St. George's, Grenada, W.1.), now uses 15,130 for its evening transmission to Europe.

Argentina: Radio Belgrano (Cerrito 941, Buenos Aires), has been heard over LR3 on 950 at 03300400 with a fairly good signal.
Ecuador: La Voz de los Andes (HCJB, Casilla 691, Quito), has been trying different frequencies for its evening European transmission. English 1845--2030, and Swedish 2030-2100 are on 17,890/15,105 and German 2100 and Spanish 2130 -2200 are on 17, 850/15,105.

Austria: Osterreichischer Rundfunk (Wien IV, Argentinierstrasse 30a) has a music programme for 2300-2400 on 9,770 . There is an English transmission on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1705 and every other Sunday at 1830 on $6,155 / 7,245$. Also October 18 at 1230 on 6,155/7,245/9,770; October 22 at 1300 on 6,155/9,770; October 28 at 0920 on 6,155/7,245/9,770/11,785 and October 23 at 1700 on $6,155 / 7,245$. Full QSL.

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RADIO SOCIETY Of GREAT BRITAIN Dept. PW, 28 Little Russell St, London, W.C.1.

# The Amateur Bands-by David Gibson G3JDG 

WHAT a month. A colossal mailbag from just about everywhere on all frequencies. The 160 metre specialists are out in force and reports on all bands all modes have arrived from topband transatlantics to the v.h.f. n.f.d. which finished today. (1) was on at $0300 \mathrm{hr}-$ no justice anywhere these days). A. Botley writes to say that ZB4 callsigns are illegal, certainly up till 29.7.65. Alan's just returned from Cyprus where he was active under ZC4GT. Congratulations to Alan Dailey (Leeds) who got his ticket, call to listen for on 160 and 80 is G3UMH. L.F. DX news from E. Rawlands (Liverpool) 9 M 20 V (Malaya) on 7Mc/s s.s.b. between 2130-2300. ZL2BCG (New Zealand) has skeds with G's on $3800 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} 0530$-0600 hrs. If they can hear him perhaps you can. OX3JV on $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ most nights, his QTH 600 miles from the N. Pole and running 600 W .

## One Hundred and Sixty

If you've heard only G's on this band have another listen. Alan Baker (Welwyn) R $107+$ PR 30 60 ft . Iong wire: times given for would-be topband DX hounds-GM3-EGW 2235. HUN 2125, KDT 2300. GW, 3 NMZ 2200. 5 Bl 2330. OK1KRL2300. 3BU2230, OL3-ABD 2300, ABO 0300, PAOPN 2315 and 0950, VOIFB 0330. WIBB 0330.

A very interesting letter from I. Ross GM3TMK. Ian says that the 4UI-4UKITU stations are on the band and have worked VOIFB in Newfoundland. Also on is K1LMO. VE3DM, and of course. WIBB. He says "Stew's" new antenna is a "big un". Inverted V 265 ft . high at the apex. (Wonder what he uses on $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ '? ) 3 TMK has worked WIBB. the Scilly Isles expedition. and VOIFBB. the latter on 18 occasions since last November. Jan's antenna is 260 ft . long and 39 ft . high and he's about 60 miles s.s.w. of John $\mathrm{O}^{-}$ Groats. Robert Nelson (Nr. Blackpool) B34. 60 ft . longwire, says he hears many mobiles up there. From further afield on phone GM3RYO, and GW3-HUM/M. MDK, NNF, TFN

## Eighty and Forty

Fared better this month and just shows what's about if you are prepared to search fo: it as opposed to 20 where "it" finds youl.
E. Rawlands (Livernool) 52 set 71 ft . Iongwire. says "Good for W./VE after 2300 hrs ". his bect on s.s.b. KINAC. K4LDR/M, VE1-MA, WH. VOIEL. W4INL, while on 40 the same set up raised MP4BAA. OX3JV, PY7AOT. YV5BPJ. at 58 too. ZSIJA. ZSiKJ, 4XIDK. 5A2TR. G. Watson (Sheffield) reports hearing over 200 G , GC. GI. GW stations on 80 since April. with only tin. bandspread on his transistor portable, while Chris Woodrow (Norwich) tells of almost a worldwide net on $7015 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ with GW3AX and many DJ's. DL's, ON's. OH's and a Zs. Chris also logged a fine signal from VK2KM and 4X1DK. P. Edwards (Birmingham), Hammerlund comet, preselector. 33 ft . longwire, started quietly on 80 with DL1FI, F2WS, GD3RFK, and SMSABO when
who should come in but EA9AZ, KIGXU/P/7. WЧJIH, YVSBPJ. ZP5-KT. OG.
Expensive gear isn't necessary for DX. A three valve t.r.f., 132 ft . longwire, and Steve Wilson (Nr. Wakefield) between the headphones August lst4th. CP5EZ. CX3JV. KøBAT, K4NET, K7PDZ. OA4SE. OY7X. (Faroes), PY5UL, TF2BR, VE3BLU. WA-1NOJ, 2SHK, 4PUB, 8FFO, W5 -MCO, JXC. XE1DD. YV5-BK. CET, ZP5CF all c.w. on $40, \mathrm{Vy} \mathrm{fb} \mathrm{OM}$.
" 40 opens up around 0030 hrs ", so states M. Jolley (Stafford). 19 Set, 66 ft . longwire. numbers are standard r.s.t. to show just how they're coming in. HR1FD 569. KILPL 579. K3JJG 579. PY1CJL 569. VE3FTM 449. VK8KA 559. VOIHS 569, VP6AK 559, 4X4NVE 449. 4XSVB (Israel?), SX5UD 569. R. Hall (Worksop). SX28, PR 30, 80ft. of $14 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . g$. HK-4EB, 41X, 7 XI , LU3BLK. VE-2NI. 7AC, WA5KA.I.

## Royal Twenty

Yes royal, because it's hard not to hear the distant ones. Almost misery to try local working because the Europeans are blotted out by the DX. Well, not quite, but take Bob Garvey with his trusty S 640 and 90 ft . longwire, the result is CN8BW, CO2JB. CPSEZ, CR3AD (Portuguese Guinea). CR-4BC, 6CH, FG7XS. FM7WP, HK3RQ. HP1PV, K5AEU, KG4AN, KH6DQ. KZ-5AY. SBC. LU4AA, LXIAN. OH2AM/ OHQ. TF3EA. UB5ARTEK. VE3AR, VK6WT, VP3AC, VS9OG. VU2CO. WASIZT, W6CYV. YAOH (Gus Browning). ZB2AM, ZC4TX. ZSSUP. $7 \times 2 \mathrm{AP}$. $9 \mathrm{~J} 2 \mathrm{~W}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{BM}$, 9M4ML. B. Wilde (Wirral) 52 Set. ground plane CTINL. EP2TF, HZ1AB. K2CAP. PY7ABW. VE2BL. VK6XXX. W2MM. $4 X 4 \mathrm{HJ}, 5 \mathrm{AlTK}, 7 \mathrm{Q} 7 \mathrm{PBD}$. 7X2MD. 9M4MX.

Stephen Beal (N.10) t.r.f. 66 ft . indoor antenna as per P.W.. May 1964. HB9, K-1, 2, MP4. W-2. 3. 4. 6. YA4. 4U1. Martin Davies (Alnwick) 5? Set. dipole. all a.m. or s.s.b. HC, HK. HV. JA, KA3, LU. OHO. OX4. PJ2. PZ1, VE3/P. VK9. VOI. VP2. VP7. W5. XE1. YV1, 3A8, 5R4. 9Q5. Jim Dunnett (Royston) Racal RA17. 60 ft . longwire. c.w.--CO2. CP5. CR6, KH6, KL1. KP4. KZ5, MP4. PJ3. SL6. UH8. VS9, 6Y5/P. 7X3. 9M4. 9M6. 905: s.s b.--EA6. EPZ, FG7. HB9/P. K70. KZ5. 9H3. 9Q5. I. Black (Gillingham) HE30, window frame if wondered how long it would be). CN8. EL8. ET3. FG7 (Guadaloupe). FM7 (Martinique) HS1 (Thailand), KA6. KG4, LA8 (Jan Mayen Is.). PJ1 and 2. VP2. VS6. ZBㄴ, 4X4, 5A4. 574. 6Y5. 7Q7. 7X2.9M2, 9M4, 9Q5.

## Fifteen and Ten

Poor old 15, so popular a few months back, isn't getting much attention these days. Exceptions to the rule-G, Wood (Grimsby) AR88D, PR30, 2-ele. beam or quad, all phone-CE3QB, CR5 SP. 6EP, 7FM. EA3HL, EL8D. HB9FU. HCIDM, ITIDJ. KV4CX, KZ5AY. OA5C.
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# by R. F. Farley, G3SSJ 

# A Thumbnail History of Radio 

## PART 2: FROM SPUTTERING SPARK TO SPOKEN WORD

IN 1901 the Marconi Company began installing spark stations in ships. The detector was still the coherer but many experiments were being made to improve its efficiency. Particularly notable were those of Chunder Bose, of Calcutta, who found that potassium would decohere without tapping. Unfortunately the potassium proved vulnerable to oxidisation and had to be used in a vacuum or under paraffin oil.

During the same year P. Castelli, of the Italian Navy, invented a greatly improved detector of the coherer type. It consisted of a glass tube containing a globule of mercury between two electrodes of polished copper. The spacing between the electrodes could be adjusted by a micrometer screw. This coherer decohered automatically in the absence of signals and this eliminated the cumbersome tapping mechanism.

## Trans-Atlantic Tests of 1901

For the transatlantic tests of 1901 between Poldhu and Newfoundland a power of 20 kW was used. Dr. Ambrose Fleming (later Sir Ambrose Fleming) was in charge of engineering design. Fleming is perhaps best known for the invention of the thermionic diode but he was without question one of the first great wireless engineers.

The transmitter at Poldhu was an a.c.-operated set, using an alternator in conjunction with a transformer to power the spark. It is claimed that this was the first time that this method was used but De Forrest also used it in America during the same year and American historians claim that he was the first to use a.c. power.

The great advantage of this method was that the troublesome primary circuit interrupter of the d.c.-powered spark coil was eliminated. The Poldhu transmitting aerial consisted of a large inverted cone, 200 ft high, supported between four towers. The receiver in Newfoundland consisted of a Castelli mercury detector used in conjunction with a telephone receiver, together with an aerial tuning inductance and an aerial and earth system. The aerial was carried aloft by a kite à la Loomis. Tuning had been introduced by Sir Oliver Lodge in the $1890^{\prime}$ 's and was now becoming universally adopted.

Although the world was astounded by the results of these tests they were only of experimental value, the received message consisting of the single letter " $S$ " in Morse code, i.e. three dots. Even these were hardly distinguishable from the high background of static; in fact some sceptics suggested that Marconi and his assistant, Kemp, had imagined they heard it. Marconi's
prestige was, however, high and among those who believed his claim was the inventor, Edison.
Shortly after these tests signals were picked up on the American liner "Philadelphia" from a source 2,000 miles away. The world was awakening to the possibility of world-wide wireless communication, but it was not until the development of continuous wave transmission that reliable transatlantic communication was realised.

## Spark Stations Open

The next few years were to witness the opening of a number of high-powered long-distance spark stations. Notable among these were the German stations at Nauen and Nordeich. The French station on the Eiffel Tower was transmitting regular time signals and was heard throughout Europe.

Perhaps the most famous of the great spark stations was that built by the Marconi Company at Clifden in Ireland, although the site is now better known as the place where Alcock and Brown crash-landed in 1919. Clifden was powered by a $15,000 \mathrm{~V}$ bank of accumulators which were kept charged by three generators connected in series and powered by a steam engine. The cells were used to charge a huge condenser through series resistor. The condenser disćharged through a rotary spark gap via the primary winding of the aerial transformer or "jigger" as it was then called. The power drawn from the cells was 300 kW and the sparking rate was 500 per second.

## "An Exciting Rescue at Sea"

In 1908 the newspapers carried accounts of an exciting rescue at sea in which wireless had played an important part. "On a foggy January night the steamship "Florida" collided with the "Republic". The "Republic's" hull was badly damaged and she began to sink. Her Marconi operator was an Englishman, John R. Binns. He began calling CQD, which was then the distress call. The ship's lighting system had failed but fortunately the transmitter continued to operate (probably from batteries).
The call was received by a station in Massachusetts, the land operator there then notified several other ships in the area and all aboard were rescued. When Binns landed he was astonished to find the dockside crowded with cheering people; he had become a hero overnight.

It is almost certain that the CQD of Binns-was
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| Brand new |  |  |  |  |  | HL：3D1 $51-$ 9f21 |  | U33 | $\begin{aligned} & 4 /- \\ & 8 /- \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \pm 01 \\ & 5 A 17.36 \end{aligned}$ |  | 6F14 6F3 | 8／－9 96 |  |  | $\begin{array}{l\|l} 6 / 6086 \\ 8 . & 8080 \end{array}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 61 \\ 2! \\ 2! \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | H141 4／－ | QP25 5／． | v1＊9 |  |  |  |  | 4／－ | 12A6 28 | 3s |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | BVFU 9\％－ | पP230 5\％ | V X 3250 | $41-$ | SAliti | 5／－ | 6F＇3\％ | $3 / 8$ | 12AH7 5\％ | 54 | $8 / 8$ | －198 | 119 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { h:A } & 80 /= \\ \text { KTSC } & 82 /= \end{array}$ | Q8150\％示 |  | $5 /$ 51. | $\begin{aligned} & 38451585 / \\ & 5 B 23440 \% \end{aligned}$ |  | 6HRM | $2 / 8$ $1 / 8$ | liatter 11－ | 75 70 | 518 | 9475 30193 | 25／0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | KT3：8\％． | Q 9 95／10 5／6 | W－1 | 51 | 5 B 255 H | $35 \%$ | 6J4WA | $10 \%$ | 12Al＇t $5 \%$ | \％ | H／8 | 3030 | $8 \%$ |
| $\forall A B E$ |  |  |  |  |  | 5TSBC 6／0 | Y81202 8／． | W 1.15 | $8 /$ | 6R4GY | 9\％－ | 6.55 | 6／． | 12AX $6 /$. | 75 | 6／－ | 9601 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | ET44 6／9 | QV04 812 | W119 | 81. | 5 T 4 | $7 \%$ | 6F56 | 2\％ | 12A\％ $10 \%$ | 80 | 5／6 | 8902 | 1，8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | KTis 1／0 | R3 8／－ | $\times$ Xis | \％／8 | $5 \mathrm{U40}$ | 4／8 | 6.56 | $8 / 8$ | 12BA6 5i－ | 31 | －1－ | 2004 | \％／0 |
|  | 4／6 | DL\％ 4 | 519 | EF＇su | ） | ET65 12／9 | RG＋／1200 | X 119 | 8／5 | 3V46 | 3／－ | 6． 56 W | $8 \%$ | 12BE6 $\% /$ | 82 | $8 / 6$ | 8004 | － |
| $\mathrm{AOP}_{4}$ | 61． | DL96 | 81. | E581 | 8／8 | $\mathrm{KTS}^{-} 16 / 0$ | 80／－ | $\times 145$ | 8\％ | 5X46 | $8 / 6$ | 6J7G | 51. | 12BE\％\％ | 84 | $8 \%$ | 9006 | 9／6 |
| AC6PEN | － 51 | DLS10 | 8\％ | EF95 | 4／6 | E Y＇76 8／6 | RE72 8／\％ | Y68 | 5／0 | 6Y8G | 4／－ | 6J7M | 8／2 | 1208 8／－ | 8542 | \％ |  |  |
| \＄L60 | 5／－ | DLs19 | 15\％ | $\mathrm{Fr}_{4} \mathrm{~F}_{6}$ | $6 / 6$ | KT88 80／－ | 81．30P 15／． | Y60́ | $41^{-}$ | 5 Y 8 CT | 3／－ | 6K6GT | 818 | $\underline{12 H 6}$ | $210{ }^{\text {P＇P }}$ |  | C．R．Tulen |  |
| ARS | 5／＊ | E80F | 28／ | EF89 | $3 / 9$ | KTWB1 4／8 | 31．40 12／6 | －86 | $8 /$ | 5Y3W＇STB |  | 6K7G | 21－ | 12J5GT 2／6 | －pio | 2／6 |  |  |  |
| ARPS | 8／5 | E8800 | 12\％ | EFP1 | $2 / 9$ | KTW63 2／＊ | $8 \mathrm{lar}^{8} 816$ | YF | 1／－ |  | $9 /-$ | fK7GT | $4 / 8$ | 12JTGT 8／6 | 220 PA | $1 \%$ | CV109 |  |
| ARPIS | 2／B | E90C0 | 10\％ | EFPM | $2 \%$ | KTZ4］6／＊ | SP41 1／6 | 28000 | 201－ | 5746 | 6／6 | 6K8G | 31－ | 12E7ET 2\％ | 220 TH | 4／0 | （09 | 5\％／0 |
| $\triangle \mathrm{RPO} 4$ | $3 / 6$ | E1149 | 2／6 | Firys | 5／． | KT763 5／． | SP61 1／8 | 780111 | 101． | 5249T | $81 /$ | $6 \mathrm{K8GT}$ | 818 | 12K93 10\％ | 22500 | $8 \cdot$ | E43 | 16 |
| ARPS4 | 4／2 | E1266 | 501. | EF1s3 | 81 | M8100 9／－ | sPalor $3 / 6$ | 1AB | 8／－ | 6 ABr | 4／－ | 9K8M | 6／8 | 12Q7GT $8 / 8$ | 3078 | 5／6 |  | 28／－ |
| ARTP1 | 6／－ | EI415 | 301． | Er＇184 | 81. | M8142 12／－ | gTV $280 / 40$ | IAJGT | 5／0 | tact | $2 / 6$ | 6LSG | 6 | 129A7 7／0 | 2100 | 26／－ | 7 | 20\％ |
| ATP1 | 2／3 | E1524 | 12／8 | EHT1 | 300／． | M8161 \％／－ | 12／6 | 1822 | 301． | Gatas | $2 / 8$ | 61．AG | 8／6 | 128074 | 3508 | $8 /$ | $\nabla \mathrm{C}$ | 0\％ |
| ATP\％ | $5 / 6$ | EA50 | 1\％ | ELu3 | 3／9 | MH4 5\％ | sU2150A | 1050T | 8\％ | $6 \mathrm{AG7}$ | $81 /$ | 6L6G4 | 76 | 12897 3／＊ | 3574 | 7／0 |  |  |
| $\triangle$ U\％ | 55／－ | E173 | 7\％ | EL34 | 10／． | $\begin{gathered} M H L D 610 /= \\ M L 68 \% \end{gathered}$ | 10／－ | JD9GT | 8／0 | GAH6 | 10\％ | 6L8M | 11／－ | 1288878 | 3884 | 8／－ |  | 49／－ |
| B6H | 16／ | EABC80 | 51－ | EL36 | 51. |  | T41 8／6 | 157G | \％ 16 | 64.57 | 81－ | 6L7G | 4／6 | 12857 5／ | 3984 | 10／－ |  |  |
| BD78 | 40／－ | EA91 | 3／8 | ELA3 | 17／8 | N78 15\％ | TP22 $6 / 0$ | LF＊） | 8／－ | 6AKS | 8\％ | 6L34 | $4 / 8$ | 129K7GTB／ | 448 | 8／0 |  | 86／${ }^{\circ}$ |
| 81．63 | 10\％ | EAF＇42 | 81 | EL41 | 7／－ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { NE17 } & 7 j- \\ \text { OB3 } & 7 / \end{array}$ | TP25 15／． | 1060T | 6／－ | 6AE7 | 6／－ | 6L．D20 | $5 / 9$ | 129NTGT | 703A | 3010 | 7 |  |
| 881 | 81． | EB34 | $1 / 6$ | EL42 | 81. |  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { TT11 } & 5 /- \\ \text { TT15 } & 85 /= \end{array}$ | LLA | 2／6 | 6ALis | 3／－ | 6S 7 | 6／－ | $5 / 9$ | 705A | 101－ |  | 10／0 |
| B45 | $20 /$ | EB91 | $8 \%$ | CL50 | $81 /$ | $0 \mathrm{C8}$ 6\％ |  | 11LA | 8／－ | 6ALS | 7. | 6N7G | $5 / 9$ | 128876 | 715 B | 60／－ | VCB |  |
| $\mathrm{Bg}_{4}$ | $37 / 6$ | EBC28 | 81 | ELS］ | 81. | OD？5／－ | TTR31 45／－ | 1LCo | 71 | 6am3 | $2 / 6$ | 6076 | $8 / 6$ | $12 Y 4$ 2／－ | 717A | $8{ }^{3}=$ |  | j－ |
| B2134 | 16／－ | EBC41 | 71 | E1．83 | $6 / 3$ | O24A 5／－ | $\begin{array}{cc} T Z 0520 & 4 / \\ T Z 20 & 10 /= \end{array}$ | 11.44 | 4／－ | H．4．M6 | 4／－ | $6 \mathrm{R7}$ | $5 / 8$ | 12 L | 724 | 15 | 9 |  |
| BT19 | 251－ | EBC81 | 5／． | E1．34 | 5／－ | PCC84 5／－ |  | ［N21B | 4／＊ | faqs | 7\％－ | tida7 | 710 | $16 \mathrm{D}^{2}$ \％／－ | 801 |  | 8FP7 |  |
| BT8． | 25／． | FBFPO | $5 /$. | ELI8．亏 | $81-$ | PCC85 $71-$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { TZ20 } & 18 \% \\ 481 & 30 \% \end{array}$ | IN43 | 41－ | GAQ5 | 910 | 98A7G | 0／8 | 10E2 15／0 | 808 | 2e／8 | 8ECl |  |
| BTAS 1 | 150／－ | EBF83 | 2／6 | ELL91 | $4 / 8$ | PCes9 10／－ | 112／4 8／0 | 1N76 | 4／． | fas6 | 4／2－ | 68K70T | 4／－ | 29G8 10／－ | 807 |  | ${ }_{5}{ }^{5 P 1}$ |  |
| B 「3y | 85／． | EBF9\％ | $8 / 9$ | ELQs | 3／\％ | PCFRO 6／6 | $\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{U17} & 5 / \\ \mathrm{C18} & 6 i \end{array}$ | 18.4 | 51－ | 6ABtw | 9／－ | 6807 | 7／ | 1968 \％／－ | 808 |  | ${ }^{6} \mathrm{FP} 7$ | 18／＊ |
| COBL | 2j－ | HCS2 | 4／6 | EL360 | 20\％ | PCFA2 6／6 |  | 183 | 8／6 | 6A87G | 20\％ | 68C7GT |  | 1967 5／＊ | 811 | $17 /$ |  |  |
| CL33 | 0 | FCSa | 12／8 | EM80 | 6／： | PCFR4 6／7 | $\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{E} 18 & 8 j \\ \mathrm{~V} 25 & 11 j \end{array}$ | 134 | 61－ | 6AT＇6 | 8／6 | 68FGT | $5 / 6$ | 19 El （ $6 /=$ | 818 | 60：－ |  |  |
| CF71 | 81 | EC70 | 4／6 | EM81 | $7 / 6$ | PC181 0／－ | $\begin{array}{cc} 1 / 7 & 8 / 6 \\ \mathrm{U} 52 & 4 / 6 \end{array}$ | 185 | $4 / 6$ | 6aUf | 7. | 68H7 | 8／－ | 19 ML 5／0 | 816 | $85:-$ | Reo | － |
| CV7 | $8 /$ | ECS0 | 2／－ | WM84 | 6／8 | POL89 6／－ |  | 1T4 | 2／－ | 6AX4 | 8／－ | 68.7 | 61． | 20 P 4 13／\％ | 8284 | 80， | CMG8 | 8／－ |
| dV102 |  | EC91 | 3／－ | EM85 | $9 /$ | PCL83 8／3 | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { US2 } & 4 / 8 \\ \text { UABC80 } \\ \hline 1 / 6 \end{array}$ | 448 | 5／－ | 6B7 | 6／－ | 68J79T | 8／e | 2186 | 8298 | 50：－ | Q816 | 18／6 |
| CV109 | 4／5 | ECC81 | 41\％ | EN31 | 10\％ | PCL94 7\％－ | UBC41 6／－ | 2A5 | 8／－ | 688G | 2／6 | 68．J7G | 6／8 | 25LBGT 5／\％ | 880 B | $4 /$ | 9814 | 65／m |
| CV4004 | $7 /$ | ECCA2 | \％ | ESUT4， | g01－ | PCL85 $8 / 6$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { UBF80 } & 5 / 6 \\ \text { UBF'89 } & 6 / 6 \end{array}$ | －2B26 | 3／－ | 6BA6 |  | 68K7 | $4 / 8$ | 25 yc | 8824 | 45\％ | $6097$ |  |
| CV4014 | 8. | ECC83 |  | Eqir208 | 6／6 | PCLA6 $\%$ |  | ${ }^{2} \mathrm{Cl}^{26}$ | 71. | 6BA7 | ， | 681 | 5／8 | 252406818 | 832 | $15 \cdot$ | Specia |  |
| Cv4015 | 51. | ECC84 | 5／6 | EY51 | 5／6 | PEN25 $4 / 8$ | UBE＇89 0／6 <br> UBL피 11／． | 2026A | 3／． | 68E6 | 4／3 | 68N7 | $3 / 6$ | $2525 \quad 716$ | 8384 | 212 | Vilved |  |
| CV 4025 | 101－ | EiCC85 | 616 | EY86 | 6／8 | PEN45 3／－ | UCCs 8／6 UCR48 © $/ 8$ | 2C34 | $2 / 6$ | 6B．7 | $7 /=$ | 9R97GT | 6／＊ | 25Z6QT 8／i | 848 | \％ | ACT6 |  |
| CV404¢ | 401－ | ECO88 | \％／－ | E391 | 81. | PEN20048／2 |  | 2 C 43 | 12／6 | ¢BG7A | 8／－ | ag87 | 2／－ | 250：8／6 | 866 | 14－ | K 301 |  |
| OV4049 | 8／－ | E0091 | 4／－ | EZ40 | $5 /$. | Plus6 $7 / 6$ | UCH83 8\％ | 2C45 | 22／6 | ABE7 | 9／＝ | 6U4GT | $9 / 6$ | 80 5／6 | 884 | 10／0 |  |  |
| CY81 | 6／6 | ECF82 | 7／－ | EZ41 | $8 / 8$ | PL8S 16． | $\begin{array}{lr} \text { UCLR2 } & 8 / \\ \text { UCLs3 } & 10 \% \end{array}$ | 2 C 4 4 | $301-$ | ¢ВW6 | $9 /-$ | 6V6G | $5 / 6$ | 30 Cl 5 E 9／8 | 954 | $4 / 8$ |  | 10.0 |
| D1 | 1／6 | ECH42 | 8／． | EZ80 | 618 | PL\＆$\%$ \％－ |  | 2Cbl | 12）－ | HC4 | 2／． | GVGGT | $7 / 6$ | 30Fs ${ }^{3 / 8}$ | 985 | $2 / 6$ | 1824 | 8／5 |
| 0141 | $6 /$ | ECH81 | 5／－ | E281 | $3 / 6$ | PL8 $51-$ | UF41． $7 /$ | 2D21 | 3／－ | 005 G | 2／6 | 6V6M | $8 /=$ | ．30FLI 10／6 | 986 | $8 \%$ | $2 J 22$ | 10.9 |
| D81 | $81 /$ | ECHES | $7 / 6$ | F／6057 | 5／－ | PL83 61－ | ${ }^{\text {UF89 }}$ 8／－ | $3 \times 2$ | 3／－ | BCEGI | 61－ | 6X4 | 8／8 | 90P19 12／． | 9.57 | 51－ |  |  |
| Dit | $8 / 8$ | ECL80 | 618 | F／6061 | $5 /$ | PL84 $6 / 8$ |  | 344 | 4／－ | ${ }_{6}^{6066}$ | 4／\％ | 6x5c | 5／－ | $30 \mathrm{PL1} 81$ | 958A | $1 / 0$ | 417A |  |
| D 430 | 12／6 | ECL88 | $7 / 8$ | F／6063 | $4 \%$ | PMO4A 5／． | $\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{UH} 1 & 8 / 8 \\ \mathrm{ULH} & 5 / 8 \end{array}$ | 8 － $108 \pm 20 \%$ |  |  | \％／ | 6ZSGT | 5／3 | 3516 GT \％／－ | 1618 | 5／－ | 1／92／ |  |
| DAF96 | 6／ | ECL88 | 101－ | FW4／50 | 008／6 | PT15 10／－ | $\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{ULH} 4 & 5 / 6 \\ \mathrm{UU5} & 7 / \end{array}$ | a $/ 46 \mathrm{~J}$ 35／$3 \mathrm{~S} / 16 \mathrm{M}$ |  | 6089 | 81 | 6169 | 61. | 35 T 17／6 | 1616 | \％ |  | 19.0 |
| DDI | 4／－ | ECL8 6 | 10／－ | FW +1800 | 008／6 | PT25E $7 / 6$ | UU9 8／8 |  |  | 6CH6 | 4／8 | 6－80L | 10／－ | 35W4 5／－ | 1619 | 5／－ | 7144 | 4 |
| DETS | $8 /$ | EF36 | $8 / 4$ | G1／2380 | G 8\％ | PTบ5 M 7／6 | UY21 $7 / 6$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3 \mathrm{~A} / 167 / \mathrm{M} \\ 25 /- \end{array}$ |  | 6C21 | 80\％ | 674 | $5 /$ | 3578 81－ | 1824 | $\%^{\circ}$ | 725 A | 80\％ |
| DET20 | 21. | EF37 | $7 \%$ | Q1／971K | K19\％ | PX4 14／－ |  | $3 \mathrm{B7} 5 /-$ |  | RCL 6 | \％／ | 787 | $7 / 6$ | 85Z4CT ${ }^{\text {8／0 }}$ | 1626 | $3 / 6$ | 7264 | 13／＊ |
| DET25 | 15\％ | EF40 | 8／． | G50120 | 6\％－ | PX25 9／－ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { UYR } & 5 / \\ \text { VIICO } & 4 / \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|rr} 3 B 24 & 5 /- \\ 3 B 28 & 15 /= \end{array}$ |  | 6D3 | 31. | 7C5 | 101． | 3875GT \％ | 1629 | 4／6 |  |  |
| DF78 | $5 \%$ | EP50 | $2 / 8$ | G180／2 | 415／－ | PY33 8／6 | $\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{V} 1100 & 4 /= \\ \mathrm{V} 1507 & 5 /= \end{array}$ |  |  | AES | 8／－ | 706 | 71＊ | 37 4／－ | 2051 | 510 |  |  |
| DF91 | $8{ }^{3}$ | EF52 | 6／0 | GM4 | $45 \%$ | PY80 $5 / 6$ | V1924 80\％ <br> VMP4s 12\％ | $\begin{aligned} & 3020 \\ & 3 D \% \\ & 3 \mathbf{E} 29 \end{aligned}$ | 4／1． | 6F5G | $5 / 3$ | ${ }^{7} \times$ | 81 | 38 4／\％ | 40430 | $13 / 6$ | Trang |  |
| DF9：3 | 81. | EF5 | $4 / 6$ | （1732 | 10\％－ | PY81 5／8 |  |  | 50\％． | RF5GT | $8 / 5$ | 7 ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ | $7 / 8$ | 41 MP ／／＊ | 4063 | 816 | 0 OCH | 8 |
| DFG6 | $6 /=$ | EF55 | $8 / 5$ | G82， | $101-$ | PYge 510 | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { VMP4 } & 18 /- \\ \text { VP-2g } & 3 /- \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \mathrm{E} 99 \\ & 394 \\ & 30: 0 \mathrm{~T} \end{aligned}$ | 61. | GFGG | 410 | $7 \mathrm{~T}_{1}$ | \％ 10 | 44／180N | 48330 | 80\％ | OC45 | $7 \%$ |
| DK92 | $6 / 8$ | EFI | $7 / 6$ | H64 | $7 \%$ | PY83 8／\％ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { VPl33 } & 9 / \\ \text { VR99 } & 8 /- \end{array}$ |  | 7. | HF\％ | 61. | 747 | $5 / 5$ | 80／－ | 5704 | \％／－ | $00^{-1} 2$ | $8 \%$ |
| DE96 | $5 / 6$ | EFis | $6 /-$ | HK64 | 22／6 | PY 90006 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3050 T \\ & \hline 84 \end{aligned}$ | 4／\％ | AFPG | 6／6 | $\checkmark 74$ | $4 / 6$ | 21589 8／－ | 5726 | \％ | 0073 | \％ |
| DL92 | 5／－ | EF78 | $5 /$ | HLSE | 2／8 | PZ1－35 9／6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { VRg9 8/- } \\ & \text { VR105/305/- } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 384 \\ & 3 \mathrm{Y} 4 \\ & 4 \mathrm{C} 2: \end{aligned}$ | $5 / 9$ | GF12 | 4／6 | 802 | $2 / 8$ | 50L6GT \％ | 6 cbo | 6\％ | 0081 | \％ |
| DL98 | 8\％ | EF74 | 4） | HLこ\％ | 81. | PZ1．75 18／－ | VR105／305／－ VR150／305／． |  | $5 \%$ | 6 F 13 | 1 | 9 D ？ | 81 | $53 \mathrm{~A} \quad 1 / 6$ | 8064 | 7\％ | 0082 | 10／－ |

MARCONI COMMUNICATION RECEIVERS CR， 150 ．Frequency coverage $2.60 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ in 5 bands．Two Ifs $1 \mathrm{st} 1,600 \mathrm{ke} / \mathrm{s}$ ．2nd $463 \mathrm{ke} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Image signal protecting over 40 dB up to 30 Me ＇s and 20－40 dB from $30-60 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Self－checking catioration（built－in ca，ibrator）Stabi＇isa－ tion of supply and remperaxure som－ pensation．Electricat and mechanical pensazion．Electrical and mechanical
indicator Bandpass from $100 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ bandspread．Metering and visual tuning in 5 stages．Acoustic filter associated with $100 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Bandpass position for CW recep． tion．Facilities for diversity reception Excellent checked condition， 639 －Mans P．S．U．by P．C．Radio $4.10 .0{ }^{\circ}$ Carriage $30^{\prime}$－ CR． $150 / 2$ ．Frequency coverage $1.5-22 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ in 4 bands，all orher features as in CR． 150 ． Price $\mathbf{2 3 1}$ ．Carriage $30^{\prime}$ ．
P．C．RADIO＇S mains P．S．U．tor above． 901.
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| 500 mV | $31{ }^{1}$ | DC | 35\％ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 500 mA | $2 \frac{1}{*}^{\circ}$ | DC | $22 / 6$ |
| 500 microamp | 2 | DC | 191． |
| C－500 microamp |  | AC | 35\％ |
| 0－500 microamp． | $2{ }^{\frac{1}{7}}$ | D．C． | $22 \cdot 6$ |
| $0.1 \mathrm{~mA}{ }^{\text {＊}}$ | 2 | D．C． | 1916 |
| 25.0 .25 mA | 21＊ | D．C． | 45\％ |
| 150－0－1500 mA | 3 ＊ | D．C． | 29\％ |
| 0.500 mV | $31^{*}$ | D．C． | $32 / 6$ |
| 0.5 V | 31＊＊ | A．C． | $22 / 6$ |
| 0.15 V | $2{ }^{\prime \prime}$ | A．C． | 1716 |
| $0-50 \mathrm{~V}$ | 23＊＊ | D．C． | 281． |
| 0.150 V | 23＊＊ | A．C | 24． |
| $0-10 \mathrm{kV}$ | $2 \frac{1}{1}^{*}$ | D．C | 631. |

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## Thumbnail History of Radio

-continued from page 614
not heard directly by the ships in the vicinity due to skip effects. Heaviside had already published his theory about the reflecting layers above the earth but it was treated with scepticism. In 1912 the theory was expanded by Dr. Eccles, of the Marconi Company, and this time caused a storm of controversy.

The value of wireless was probably emphasised most strongly by the part it played in the "Titanic" disaster of 1912 . There followed a sharp increase in the number of licensed stations and it became necessary to establish the first International Radio Telegraphic Conference. As a result it became international law that all vessels of a certain size should carry wireless installations and trained operators.

Meanwhile much had been done to improve the efficiency of the spark transmitters. Ionisation was a frequent source of trouble with the early spark gaps. When this occurred damped oscillattions from the primary circuit of the spark coil were fed into the aerial circuit.

The contacts of the primary interrupter also tended to become pitted so that the general tone (which in any case was low pitched) was wavery. This was overcome by the introduction of the synchronous rotary gap in which a number of interrupter and discharger electrodes were evenly spaced circumferentially on two insulating discs. These were rotated on a common shaft.

In marine installations the equipment was required to operate from the ship's d.c. main supply. A.C. power for the spark was usually derived from a motor generator set used in conjunction with, a transformer having a synchronous gap mounted on the generator shaft. An input frequency of $500 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ would give a steady sparking rate of $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ which was easily identified through the high static on marine frequencies.

## Marconi's Chief Competitors

The German Telefunken Company were Marconi's chief competitors and produced the ultimate in spark transmitters. A German physicist. Max Wien, invented the quenched spark gap, which was highly efficient because of its superb heat dissipation.

In 1906 Colonel Donwoody invented the carborundum crystal detector. Other crystal detectors soon followed and were commercially produced. The Fleming diode was patented in 1904 but was little used.

The Marconi magnetic detector was very popular in ship installations on account of its reliability. although its efficiency was lower than that of the crystal detector. It consisted of an endless hand of sotit iron wire which passed through a coil carrying the received current. A secondary coil was wound over the primary coil and connected to a pair of telephone receivers.

A magnetic field was provided by two powerful horseshoe magnets and the iron band was kept moving by an arrangement of two wooden pulleys and a clockwork motor which the operator had to rewind every half-hour or so. Due to hysteresis
effects in the iron wire a rectifying action took place.

It was first devised by Rutherford in 1895 but the popular version was greatly improved and patented by Marconi in 1903. 1t was finally ousted by the thermionic valve during the First World War.

Experimental work with wireless telephony had been going on since the turn of the century. The spark transmitters generated damped waves at a recurrence frequency of about $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ at the most and were, of course. useless as carriers for speech frequencies, having a spectrum of from 300 to $3,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.

A Danish engineer. Valdemar Poulsen, developed a d.c. are for use as a continuous wave generator. It was with this device that $R$. A. Fessenden transmitted speech over a distance of one mile in 1902.

## Musical Headphones

On Christmas.Eve. 1906, narine operators were astonished to hear music in their headphones. It was followed by a short speech inviting everyone to write to R. A. Fessenden at Brank Rock, Mass., several hundred miles away from many of his listeners. Again Fessenden was using a d.c. are to excite the aerial circuit. Modulation was by a carbon button directly connected to the aerial circuit. By this time most detectors consisted of rectifiers of one form or another which, unlike the coherer, would demodulate.

In 1907. in America, De Forrest added a third electrode. now hnown as the grid, to the Fleming diode and soon discovered that it would amplify besides detecting. At first De Forrest believed that his valve (or "audion". as it was called) amplified by controlling ionisation caused by wireless waves within the bulb and it was several years before its action was understood.

Meanwhile a fierce battle developed between the Marconi Company and De Forrest over patent rights, since the Marconi Company held the patents of the Fleming diode. The final outcome was that neither could use the "triode" without the consent of the other party.

Much controversy still exists as to who discovered the triode's potentiality as regenerative detector and oscillator. Mr. K. W. Alford, then a student at the London School of Telegraphy. observed that signals were accidentally hetrodyned by a De Forrest audion he was experimenting with in 1913 (he was later known for his pioneer work on superhets and is still well known as G2DX in the field of amateur radio) but he did not know why. Meisigner developed a triode oscillator in the same year in Germany.

Edward Armstrong announced his first claims around this time. Armstrong's subsequent inventions included the superhet. In 1914 he filed a patent for a regenerative audion circuit. It was soon followed by another patent from De Forrest, claiming that his cireuit could be used for regeneration and oscillation. After prolonged legal proceedings the Supreme Court upheld De Forrest's claim. During this year the Marconi Company in England marketed a combined telephony transmitter and receiver using valves.

# BOOKS REVEWED 

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION HANDBOOK. Leon Wortman. W. Foulsham \& Co. Led., Slough, Bucks 273 pages. Size $8 \frac{3}{4} i n . \times 5 \frac{1}{2} i n . ~ P r i c e ~ 42^{\prime}$ 。.

THE title of this book raised my hopes of some interesting reading, together with some practical circuitry, as the name handbook usually implies.

At 42s. I thought I was at least entitled to one or the other. As it happens this book, in my opinion, provides neither. It is a long-drawn-out account of the hundreds of different ways to use CC-TV. Chapters such as cameras, video recording techniques are entirely commercial and there is very little of interest to the amateur or practically minded enthusiast.

The professional engaged in this field might find it interesting but for me it was one long, hard 273-page slog.-D.L.G.
三 BASIC ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS.
Published by The Technical Press Lid.
112 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2. Prite 42'.

HAVE you ever opened a text book and found the type so small you almost had to use a magnifying glass to read it? And circuit diagrams tyrannically reduced until they looked more like a street map of Hong Kong? Those who like such miniaturisation will be disappointed in this book!

The type is large and easily readable, the circuit diagrams and illustrations are bold and clear. Add careful thought and planning, as has obviously gone into this book.

Clearly intended for the would-be technician, it offers a near-ideal work for the purpose. Each circuit has a group of waveforms and has a step-bystep explanation showing clearly what is happening at various stages. Nearly all circuitry is shown with valves, followed by the equivalent using transistors, and again the circuit action and waveforms are shown step by step at each instant of time.

Commencing with the response of $C R$ circuits to pulses it proceeds to diodes and thence to multivibrators. The clear way in which the latter are dealt with make the book worth having on the shelf.

## SOLID-STATE PHOTOFLASH

With regard to the Photoflash unit which should have appeared in the October issue, we regret that just before publication we learnt that the photoflash tube had been discontinued by the manufacturers.

We are investigating the possibility of redesigning this equipment to use a tube which is in current supply, and should this be possible the article will appear without delay. In the meantime we trust that our readers will accept our apologies.

Part 2 covers timebase circuitry, again with the same thorough treatment, with separate consideration for both electrostatic and electromagnetic deflection. The later sections of the volume tend towards radar circuitry and give the same meticulous treatment to strobe pulse markers.

All good basic reading and offering a very sound basis on which to build later knowledge. For technicians, engineers or indeed anyone wanting a good basic primer in electronics this book is a good buy. The price may be high but, compared with some others, it becomes a decided bargain.D.L.G.

## ON THE SHORT WAVES

-continued from page $\mathrm{KI}_{3}$ PX1JS, PY5ACB, SV1DL. TR2DE, VOIBD, W7HH/MM, ZD8TV, ZS6BRG, 4X1DK, 5AITK, 5N2SMV, 5Z4AA, 9L1MJ, 9Q5DL, 9U5BB. On $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ P. Baker (Pontypool) HE30, 14ft. whip CM3TDS, CT1GE, DJ-2UC, 8XQ, 9EV, DM3WEK, EA7BD, EL2JT, F9IE, I1LCE, LA4AX, 5WU, W4ZZZ (Florida) 9Q5WB all a.m. Note the W's starting to appear.

## News

9 M 8 KS is reported 10 w end of 20 seeking G's, VKØ on Macquarie Is. around 14,200 , a PYØ is rumoured active on Fernando de Noronha and / or Trinidad Is. same prefix, ZS2MI for the vigilant on Marion Is., and ZD9 on Gough Is.

If youre contest minded, then the following happenings are forecast for October $2 / 3$ rd VK/ZL contest (phone section): $2 / 3$ rd WADM (c.w.); $9 / 10$ th Raynet Rally $1.8,3 \cdot 5,70$ and $144 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Times for this one- 9 th 1800-2200 and 10 th 0800 -1200, 1500-1900. 9/10th VK/ZL (c.w.); 10th Northern Radio Society's Convention at Belle Vue: $16 / 17$ th $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} \mathrm{DX}$ contest (phone). $16 / 17$ th Eighth Jamboree-on-the-Air; 23/24th CQ World Wide contest (phone); $30 / 31 \mathrm{st}$ VU2/4S7 contest (c.w.). Nov 6/7th VU2/4S7 (phone); Nov. 6/7th $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ DX (c.w.) 73 good DX and deadline for this month is 28th.

## IF YOU KEEP UP WITH PRESENT-DAY TRENDS YOU MUST TAKE

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NOVEMBER ISSUE ON SALE OCTOBER 14

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Alumin. Sheet. $18 \mathrm{~g} .6^{\prime \prime} \times 6^{\prime \prime}$, $1 /=6^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime}, 1 / 6,6^{\prime \prime} \times 12^{\prime \prime}, 2 /=$,' $12^{N} \times 12^{\prime \prime}, 4 / 6$, etc.

 rectitier. Helf-contaibuld power uurt. A.S. 2001250 V operationt, Magic-eye irritieator, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{pu}^{\circ} \mathrm{h}$-bistton controls, on/oti. Med. SMF. Dodes and high oitput sockets with gan control. Illuminated 2 -colour perspex dial
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Condensers-siver Mrea. All values "p F to $1,000 \mathrm{pF}, 8 \mathrm{~d}$ each. Ditto Ceramice 9d, Tub 450 V T.C.C. ete 9.001 (1.02-0.1/500V. 1/= 0.25 Hunts $9 \mathrm{~d} .(1.02-0.1 / 500 \mathrm{~L}, 1 /=0.25$ Hunts
$1 / 6,0.5$ T.C.C. $1 / 9$, ete., etc. Close Tol. S/Micas- $10 \%$ 5pF-500 pF 8d. (301. 9d. $100 \mathrm{pF}-500 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. 11 d . 575 pF , 9.4MOnP L/B. Resistors- Finil


 ohms-1 meg). Other values 8 d . $1 \% 1 \mathrm{~F} 1 / 8$, etc.. etc.

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DP. 8w. $4 / 6$. Twin Stereo ess Sw DP. 8w. $4 / 6$. Twin Stereo esss Sw
$7 / 8$ 100k to 2 M obms with $\mathrm{DP} \$ w$. ${ }_{9 / 6}^{7 / 6} 100 \mathrm{k}$ to 2 M obms with DP 9/6. WAVECHANGE SWITCHES. I $p$.
12 -war 2 p . $1-$ way. $\because \mathrm{p} .6$-was.
 3 p. tway. ${ }^{4}$ p. Juna
long spinde. $3 / 6$ ea.

EXPANDED ANODISED METAL. Attractive gilt finsh tin. I \$in. diamond meeb $4 / 6$ su. ft . Muliple- 1 bin cut. Max. size 4itt. x 3 ft., $47 / 6$ plite tarr. Ior, biner patterne ment 4/6 sif. ft. multipere ol L:in., max.


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 PHILLIPS. Bee Hive Type (eonc. $1 \%$ EWNOBS-Modera Continental trpe KNOBS-Modern Continental trpe
Brown of [vory with Gold centre Browt ol dia., 9d. each: 13 . $1 /$ - each; I' dia., 9d. each: $1 h^{3}$. $1 /-$ each:
Conc, knoths ivory with Gold Centre Conc, knobs ivory with Gold Centre 2/6 ra. LARGE SLILECIION AVAIIABI.F. METAL RECTIFIERS, STC R314, 18/F: RM5, 21/-; RM+B, $17 / 6$. TUB-ELECTROLYTICS-CAN $25 / 25 \mathrm{v} .50 / 12 \mathrm{v} .1 / 9: 8+8 / 450 \mathrm{v} .4 / 8$.
$50 / 50 \mathrm{v} 100 / 125 \mathrm{v}, 2 /=: 32+32 / 275 \mathrm{v} .4 / 8$. $50 / 50 \mathrm{v} .100 / 125 \mathrm{v}, 2 /-: 32+32 / 275 \mathrm{v} .4 / 6$. $16+18 / 450$ v. $5 / 6: 60 / 250 / 275 \vee$. $12 / \mathrm{B}$ $32+32 / 450 \mathrm{v} .8 / 6: 100+200 / 275 \mathrm{v} .12 / 6$


## M MULLARD " $3-3$ " $\&$ " "5-10" $3 \mathrm{ohm} \& 15$ ohm output

"3-3" Armp. 3 valve, 3 watt hi-f quality at reasonable cost. Bass Boost Anil treble controls quality ectional witput transiormer, 40 e/s-2g kc/s
+1 JB. 10 nuv for 3 . less than $1 \%$ + Intortion. Bronze escuteheon pancl hatortion. Bronze escutcheon panc Wrmplete Kit onty 56.19 .6 .

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Baxic amplifier kyt brice 89.19 .6
CONTROL PANEL KIT. Bass, Trebte and Vulume controls with 4 -position ennetol suitch wr railio tupe aud 1 lin. x fia. excutchenn pantl.〔14.19.6. 2rulit with fult erpalinathon. with rolime, bass. treble and b-powition selector



4 Spl Garrard and Mnllard latest 3 watt printed circuist amplitiol (EC'L. 8 b and EZ $Z$ 80), vol., hask and treble controls. Hith $\aleph^{2} \times \bar{\sigma}^{\prime \prime} 10,000$ lise .speaker.
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Vertical pointer. Hotizontal station names. Gotd od brown background Vurtical pointer Hotizontal station names. Circuit diagrain now svailable. Aligned and tested ready sor use $£ 13.19 .6$. Carr. is Ina. 7/8

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 $1 \underline{2}^{\prime}$ F.A. with corte. Tweeter. 42/6. Carl. 2 /h.
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## Sub-miniature

 Electrolyticsfor Transistor Circuits

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { T.C.C. } \\ & \text { TYPE } \\ & \text { NO. } \end{aligned}$ |  | Case Size in inches |  |  | Maximum D.C. Wkg. Voltages and Cap. ( $\mu \mathrm{F}$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | D | $L$ | c | 3 V. | 6 V . | 9 V. | 12V. | 15 V. | 25 V . |
| CE. 2 | $V$ or 'H' | $\frac{1}{6}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 0.07 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | - |
| CE. 3 | - | $\frac{3}{16}$ | $\frac{7}{16}$ | 0.1 | 25 | 20 | 15 | 10 | 6 | 4 |
| CE. 4 | , | $\frac{3}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 0.1 | 40 | 30 | 20 | 15 | 8 | 6 |
| CE. 5 | " | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{7}{16}$ | 0.14 | 50 | 40 | 25 | 20 | 10 | 8 |
| CE. 6 | $\cdots$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 0.14 | 80 | 60 | 40 | 30 | 15 | 12 |
| CE. 7 | " | 7 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 0.18 | 100 | 75 | 50 | 40 | 20 | 15 |
|  |  | D | $L$ | c | 3V. | 6 V . | 10 V . | 15 V . | 25 V . | 50 V . |
| CE. 8 | " | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 를 | 0.14 | 100 | 80 | $60!$ | 40 | 25 | 8 |
| CE. 9 | $\because$ | $\frac{3}{6}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ | 0.2 | 250 | 200 | 160 : | 100 | 60 | 20 |

$V=$ Vertical Mounting $\quad H=$ Horizontal Mounting


Operating Temperature Range. $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. to $+60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
Connection wires are welded for low resistance contact, and solder-coated for ease of assembly, the standard length being $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " for the horizontal range, cropped to $\frac{3}{16}$ " long for the vertical range. The capacitors are in insulated seamless aluminium cases, and sealed with a synthetic rubber bung.
Cap. Tolerance. The standard tolerance of all capacitors is $-20 \%+100 \%$ of the rated capacitance.
Leakage Current. CE.2-7 may be determined from the following: $1(\mu \mathrm{~A})=01$ C.V. +10 at applied working voltage and at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. CE.8-9 may be determined from : 02 C.V. +20 at applied working voltage and at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

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1$\Gamma$ is an established fact that the first wireless club in the country was formed in Derby during 1911. In the spring of that year, Professor G. P. Bailey gave a lecture in the Guildhall. entitled "Scientific Progress In Our Time" and demonstrated the ringing of bells and lighting of lamps by means of wireless waves. This prompted local experimenters to form a group and with the guidance of S. Grimwoud-Taylor and A. T. Lee I whose sudden death was reported on 10 th June, 1965), the Derby Wireless Club (QIX) was formed.

In the following year, books were purchased and a lending library started, and in 1913, the Cluh moved to new rooms. An exhibition was presented which received full-page coverage in the 6th February issue of the "Daily Sketch". On 7th May, in the "Daily News and Leader", there was a column devoted to the Club and in the 9th July issue of the same paper, under the heading "Aerial Music". reference was made in the Club and to a cigar-box crystal receiver made by A. T. Lee.

The February 1913 issue of "Model Engineer" carried a letter with a plea for other towns to start radio clubs and correspondence ensued in which the Club helped in the formation of several others.

The Club continued during the next few years. although the 1914 18 war reduced its activities. In 1921 there were transatlantic tests on the short waves and several members co-operated in these.

In 1922. on 12th May, the local newspaper featured a naragraph on the Club with an illustration showing $A$. T. Lee's sister broadcasting to members the result of the Carpenticr-Lewis fight, which had taken place the previous night.

## Wireless for Hospital

The main project in 1926 was the provision of wireless for the patients in Derbyshire Royal Intirmary. This was carried out in co-operation with several other local organisations and the

## DERBY AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

installation was offiçially presented on 15 th November. It included 300 pairs of headphones and several loudspeakers.

The Club celebrated its coming-of-age with a dinner on 8th February, 1932, and many of the founder and early members were present. In 1936, the Silver Jubilee was celebrated with a dinner on 28 th October, and a presentation was made to the founder members S . Girimwood-Taylor and A. T. Lee.

In 1937, 10th April saw the erection of an aerial on the Police Headquarters Building, for experiments in communication on the 5 m band.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, transmitting activity ceased. all apparatus being confiscated by the authoritics. After the war, in 1947. ir was decided to form the Derby and District Amateur Radio Society to cater for all aspects of radio and electronics, both technically and socially. Membership was to be open to all. on payment of a 5 s . annual subscription (the same ineidentally as today and when the Derby Wireless Club started in 1911).

A. T. Lee (seated) operating the Derby Wireless Club transmitter in the Full Street, Derby, Club Room in 1913. Looking on is another founder member 5. Grimwood-Taylor.


Near Derby, at Staunton Harold, is one of the Group Captain Cheshire Homes, and a project undertaken by the Society in 1960 was the provision of a complete amateur station at the Home. The prime mover in this project was J. Ballinger, G3NAJ, who constructed an all-band transmitter in a console cabinet. The parts for the transmitter were given by local ond national firms and members of the Society. A sale of donated items orgonised by the Society realised $£ 60$ which was used to provide a receiver for the station.

The picture shows (left to right) J. Ballinger; Group Captain Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.; F. C. Ward (Secretary); and Sir Denning Pearson, who presented the equipment to the Home on behalf of the Society.

At the Annual Dinner, held in 1949, A. G. G. Melville. F.R.C.S.(E.), Consultant Radiologist at Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, accepted office as the Society's President, a post which he continues to hold.

Interest in the society continued to grow, and in 1954, at a meeting between the Committee and the founder members of Derby Wireless Club, it was agreed that the Society should incorporate in its title " Derby Wireless Club 1911 ".

## Mobile Rally

It was in 1958 that the first of the Society's Annual Mobile Rallies was held at Rykneld School, Derby. This proved to be a very popular event. In the next year, the second rally was held and was an even greater success than the first had been, with over 1,000 visitors. (Recent rallies have often attracted as many as 4,000 visitors.)

Near Derby, at Staunton Harold, is one of the Homes founded by Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., and a project tundertaken by the Society in 1960 was the installation of a complete amateur station at the Home.

## History

As may be seen from the foregoing, the members of the Society are keen on keeping track of its history and many of the items constructed by Club members in the first days of amateur radio are preserved together with original documents and photographs, and items of correspondence.

## Club Room

The present Club room is in the sub-basement of Derby College of Art, and the limited accommodation restricts the activities of the Club, at least so far as transmitting from the premises is concerned. However, it is hoped that the Club will be provided with better accommodation in the not too distant future.

The Society's call-sign was originally G3ERD (Experimental Radio Derby) and this is still in use. However, the Society has recently been fortunate enough to acquire another call-sign-G2DJwhich it is hoped will shortly be as well known on the air as G3ERD.

## Meetings

Meetings are held once per week, at 730 p.m.. on Wednesdays, at 119 Green Lane, Derby (near the College of Art) and visitors are always welcomed. Details of meetings are issued four times per year with full information on the next quarter's events.

A popular annual function is the Dinner and Dance. This year the attendance was 186 , the members travelling from as far afield as Stamford. Bristol and Marlow.

The Derby and District Amateur Radio Society has now flourished for many years, due to a very keen membershin and the continuing existence of. an enthusiastic Management Committee. Present members and committee are as keen as the earlier ones were and see no reason why the Society should not continue to expand and preserve its position in the forefront of amateur radio.

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## COMPONENTS LIST

Note: The majority of the following items are already present in the "Ten-Five".

## Resistors

| R1 | $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R4 | $3.9 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $R 5$ | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $1 \mathrm{~kJ} \Omega$ | R6 | $1.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| VRI | $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ pot. |  |  |
| Capacitors |  |  |  |
| C1 | 75 pF mica |  |  |
| C2 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ electrolytic |  |  |
| C3 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic or paper |  |  |
| C4 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic or paper |  |  |
| C5 | $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ paper |  |  |
| C6 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic or paper |  |  |
| C7 | 2000 pF mica or ceramic |  |  |
| C8 | 5000 pF mica or ceramic |  |  |
| C9 | See Table I |  |  |
| TC | 0.30 pF Beehive trimmers (9) |  |  |

## Semiconductors

TRI/2 AFI 15
Switch
3-wafer, 3-pole, 3-way rotary (Radiospares, etc.)

## Coils and Transformers

TIA Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilBlue. Range 3

TIB Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilBlue. Range 4
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T2A Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilYellow. Range 3
T2B Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilYellow. Range 4
T2C Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilYellow. Range 5
T3A Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilWhite. Range 3
T3B Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilWhite. Range 4.
T3C Miniature Dual purpose transistor coilWhite. Range 5
LI Miniature Dual purpose valve type coilRed. Range 2

Note: All the above coils and transformers are by Denco (Clacton) Ltd.

## Oddments

Piece aluminium $4 \times 3 \mathrm{~h}$ in., Control knob, 6BA nuts (15), 6BA bolts (6), Tagstrips (2), Connecting wire, insulated and assorted colours.

## Continued from page 595

(6) Set generator to HF tracking point and tune in signal using VCl-2-3. Adjust trimmers of Blue R3 and Yellow R3 for maximum output.

Exactly the same procedure as outlined above is used for aligning the other two ranges, always taking care not to upset the adjustments already made. Final locking of the cores and trimmers is not recommended until each range has been rechecked in case interaction has introduced changes.

## Second Channel

Two responses can usually be found on shori wave ranges and the one requiring minimum core or trimmer in circuit is the correct one. To check move the generator pointer on completion above and below its setting ( $3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ), when a second response will be noted. This should be higher in frequency that the one used for initial adjustment.

Detuning of the osciltator can occur when aligning the signal circuits (pulling) but may be overcome by slightly rocking the tuning capacitor when making adjustments.

## Conclusion

lt is now merely necessary to retrim the wavetrap against $1.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ signals if necessary and to cut out a hole in the receiver casing to accommodate the switch shafting. The casing now requires no hinged or removable lid, of course, but screening against self pick-up is necessary. This means that if the casing is not metal its interior must be lined with metallised foil that is grounded.

Proof of adequate screening is easily found by adjusting the switched section to the highest frequency range and noting if any signals are received when the aerial is left disconnected.

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The performance and frequency range of more than 60 instruments is examined. with a large number of photographs and diagrams. In fact, the book is intended to appeal to both the concert-goer and the audiophile. The usual touches of humour enliven some of the pages, with 16 cartoons to relieve the monotony of reading.

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THE SINCLAIR MICRO FM is a seven transistor, two diode F.M. superhet for use both as a tuner for amplifier or tape recorder and as a self-contained pocket portable receiver. The telescopic aerial is coupled to an R.F. amplifier followed by a self oscillating mixer. Use of a low I.F. dispenses with the need for alignment. A three stage I.F. amplifier amplifies and limits the signal to produce a square wave of constant voltage which is fed into the pulse counting discriminator. This converts the square wave formation into uniform pulses, the average output from which is directly proportional to the signal frequency, so that the original modulation is reproduced exactly. After equalisation, the signal is fed to the audio output socket for use as a tuner and also to the receiver's own audio amplifying stage which enables the Micro FM to be used as an independent self-constage which enables the Micro FM to be used as an independent self-con-
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## SIX-STAGE CIRCUIT

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#### Abstract

No transistor set has ever yet compared in its class with the Micro-6 for size. power, performance and design. Enthusiasts from electronic engineers to beginners in transistor construction go on building the Micro-6 until thousands are now in use all over the world. Everything except the lightweight earpiece is contained wichin the smart minute whire, gold and black case. With pill-size batteries and self-contained aerial, the Micro-6 weighs under one ounce! Unique fearures which make such wonderful performance possible include bandspread over the higher frequency end of the


medium waveband for easy reception of Luxembourg, powerful A.G.C. to counteract fading of distant stations, and vernier type tuning. Quality of reproduction is outstandingly good, so that you derive real pleagure from using this fantastic set. Order your Micco-6 now and you will quickly soe why it cannot be too highly recommended as all intriguing design to build and a most practical radio to use. You can build it in an evening and when you have built your first, be certain others are going to wart one too, when they see and hear the Micro-6.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OA6 | 4/- | OAss | $3 /$ | CQIOE | 1/6 |
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| OA70 | 2/- | OAgn | 2/- | GFX23 | 1/6 |
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2.25W, -.35V

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(b) We cannot undertake to supply detailed information for converting war surplus equipment, or to supply circuitry.
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