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- DCV: 0-0.6-6-30-120-600-1,200V at 20K/OPV. ACV: 0-6-30-120-600-1,200V at 10K/OPV. DC Current: 0-0.6-6-6600 mA . Resistance: $0-10 \mathrm{~K} 100 \mathrm{~K}-1 \mathrm{M}-10 \mathrm{M} / \mathrm{ohma}$ ( 5 - $500-$ $5.8 \mathrm{~K}-58 \mathrm{~K}$ at mid-scate). Capacitance: 0-602-0.24F (AC 6 V range). Decibels -20 to +63 dB . Output: $0.45 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ blocking capacitor. Uses two 1.5 V (U7 type) bafteries, Black bakelite cabinet-Size $5 \frac{1}{4} \times 3 \frac{2}{2} \times 1$ inin. Complete with test leads.
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TO－3 PORTABLE OSCILLOSCOPE

in．tube．Y amp．Sensiti－ $\begin{array}{lll}\text { vity } 0 \cdot 1 \mathrm{v} & \mathrm{p}-\mathrm{p} / \mathrm{CM} \text { ．Band－} \\ \text { widh } 1.5 & \text { cps－1．5 } & \mathrm{MHz} \text { ．}\end{array}$ wiath 1.0 cps－1．$\Omega 25 z$ ．
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## Type MR．85P．4itin．$\times$ 4 $\frac{2}{4} \mathrm{in}$ ．fronts．

|  | $50 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | 100 mA |
| ： | 1 amp ． |
|  | 5 amp ． |
| 5，mity mom | 15 amp ． |
|  | 30 amp． $20 \mathrm{~V} . \mathrm{D}$. |
| $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ ．．．．．． $72 /-$ | 50 V. D．C 150 V ．D |
| $500-0.50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ ．$\quad 682 /-$ | 300 V ．D．C |
| ${ }^{100 \mu \mathrm{~A}} \ldots \ldots .{ }^{62 /-}$ | ${ }^{15} \mathrm{~V}$ ．${ }^{\text {A．C．}}$ |
| 100－0－100 LA － $62 /-$ | 300 V ．A．C． |
| ${ }^{200 \mu A}$ A $\cdots$ ．${ }^{57 / 6}$ | S Meter 1 mA |
| $\begin{array}{llll}500 \mu \mathrm{~A} & \ldots . . & 56 /- \\ 500-0-500 \mu \mathrm{~A} & 58 \\ 58\end{array}$ | 1 YU Meter |
| 1 mA ．．．．．．52／－ | 5 amp． |
| 1－0－1mA ．．．．58／－ | 10 amp ．A． |
| $5 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . . .5$ | 20 amp ．A． |
|  | 30 amp ．A． |



|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 67／6 |  |
| $50-0-50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 55／－ | 20V．D． |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 55／ | 50 V ．D．C．．．．．48／－ |
| $100-0-100 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 52／－ | 150V．D．C．．．42／－ |
|  | 52／－ | 300V．D．C．．．42／－ |
| $500 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 47／6 | 15V．A．C．．．．． $42 /-$ |
| $500-0-500 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 42／－ | 50 V ．A．C |
|  | 42／－ | 150V．A．C．．．42／－ |
| 5 ma | 42／－ | 300V．A．C．． $42 /-$ |
| 10 mA | 42／－ | 500 V A．C． |
| 50 mA | 42／－ | S Meter $\operatorname{lma}$ A 476 |
| 100 mA | 42／－ | YO meter ．． $87 / 6$ |
| 500 ma | 42／－ | $50 \mathrm{~mA} \mathrm{A.C}.{ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$. |
| 1 amp | 42／－ | 100 mA A．C．＊ $42 /-$ |
| 5 an | 42／－ | $200 \mathrm{~mA} \mathrm{A.C.*} \mathrm{42/}$ |
| 10 amp ． | 42／－ | 500 mAA A．C．＊ $42 /$ |
| 15 amp ． | 42／－ | 1 amp ．A．C．＊42／－ |
| 29 amp ． | 42／－ | 5 amp ．A．C．＊${ }^{\text {42／－}}$ |
| 30 amp ． |  | 10 amp ．A．C．＊＊ $42 /-$ |
| 50 amp ． |  | 20 amp A．C．＊＊42j－ |
| 5v．D．C． |  | 30 amp ．A．C．＊42／ |

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| Type Mr．38R． 1 21／32in．square Ironts． |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  | 500mA …… $27 / 8$ |
|  | $750 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . .{ }^{27 / 6}$ |
|  | $1 \mathrm{amp} . . . . . . .^{27 / 6}$ |
| \％ | ${ }^{2} \mathrm{amp} . . . . .{ }^{27 / 8}$ |
| ，㮽：$\because$ ， |  |
|  |  |
| 37／6 | 10 V. |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ …．．37／6 | 15 |
| $100-0-100 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ 35／－ | 20 V ．D． |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 100V．D． |
| 500 1 A $\ldots \ldots . .380$ | 150 V ．D． |
| 500－0－500 $\mu \mathrm{A} \quad 27 / 6$ | 300V．D． |
| $1 \mathrm{~mA} \ldots \ldots . .{ }^{\text {a }}$ 276 | ${ }^{500 \mathrm{~V} . \mathrm{DC.C} . ~ . ~} 27 / 6$ |
| $1 ⿻ 上 丨^{1 m A} \ldots . .{ }^{27 / 6}$ | 750V．D．C．． $27 / 8$ |
| nA $\ldots . . . . . .^{27 / 6}$ | 15V．A．C |
| 27／6 | $50 \mathrm{Y} . \mathrm{A}$. |
| $10 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . .{ }^{27 / 6}$ | 150V．A．C．．．${ }^{2 / / 6}$ |
| 20 mA ．．．．．． $27 / 6$ | 300V．A．C．．．2\％／8 |
| 50 mA ．．．．．． $27 / 6$ | 500V．A．C．． $27 / 6$ |
| $100 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . .28$ | \＄Meter 1m |
| $150 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . .27 / 6$ | VU meter |
| ．45P．2in．squar |  |
|  |  |
| $50-0-50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ ．． $42 /-$ | 10V．D． |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~A} \ldots \ldots .{ }^{42} /{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 20V．D．C．．．．．${ }^{30 /-}$ |
| $100-0-100 \mu \mathrm{~A} \quad 37 / 6$ | 50V．D．C．．．．301－ |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~A} . . . .{ }^{37 / 6}$ | 300V．D．C．．．301－ |
| $500 \mu \mathrm{~A} \ldots . . .382 /-$ | $15 \mathrm{~V} . \mathrm{A.C...} 330 /$. |
| $500-0-500 \mu \mathrm{~A} \quad 30 /-$ | 300 V ．A．C．．．30／－ |
| $1 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . . .{ }^{30 /}$ | S Meter 1 ma $37 / 6$ <br> VU meter  <br> $5 /-$  |
| ${ }^{5 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . . .} .30 /-$ |  |
| 50 mA …… $30 / \mathrm{m}$ | 5 amp A．C．＊ $30 /-$ |
| $100 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . .3$ 30／－ | 10 amp ．A．c．${ }^{\text {a }}$ 30／－ |
| $500 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . .3 .30 /-$ | 20 mmp A．C．＊30／－ |
| $1 \mathrm{mmp} . . . . .$. 80／ | 30 amp ．A．c．＊ $30 /$ |

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| :---: | :---: |
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|  | 20V．D．C．．．．．． 35 |
|  | 50V．D．C．．．．．35／ |
|  | 150V．D．C．． $35 /-$ |
|  | 300 V ．D．C．． $35 /-$ |
| ${ }^{25 \mu \mathrm{~A}}$ ．${ }^{\text {a }}$ ．．．．${ }^{70 /-}$ | 30V．A．C．＊${ }^{30 \mathrm{~V}}$ ． $35 /$ |
|  | ${ }^{50 .}$ V．A．C．＊． $35 /$ |
| ${ }_{50} 0-0-50 \mu \mathrm{~A} . .$. | 150 V. A．C．＊．${ }^{35}$ |
| 100 A A ．．．．．．45／－ | 300 V ．A．C |
| 100－0－100 $\mu \mathrm{A}$ 45／－ | $500 \mathrm{~mA} \mathrm{A.C.*}$ |
| $800 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ ．${ }^{\text {c．．．}}$ 42／－ | 1 amp ．A．C．＊＊ |
| $1 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . . .^{35 /-}$ | 5 amp A．c．＊＊${ }^{35}$ |
| $1-0-1 \mathrm{man} . \cdots .{ }^{35 /-}$ | 10 amp ．A．C．＊＊ 35 |
| $5 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . . . .{ }^{35 /-}$ | 20 amp A． |
| $10 \mathrm{~mA} . . . .{ }^{35}$－ | 30 amp A．C．＊ |
| Б0mA ．．．．．．．35／－ | 50 amp ．A．c．＊ |
|  | VU |



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L． $14 H Y$ H11
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Accurate wide range sig－
nal generator covering $\begin{array}{ll}\text { nal } \\ 120 & \mathrm{Kenerator} \\ \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}-500 & \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} \text { on }\end{array}$ $120 \mathrm{Ke} / \mathrm{s}-500 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ on
6 bands．Directly cali－ 6 bands．Directly call tenuator，audio output tion． $220 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ ．A．C Brand new with instruc tions． 815 ．Carr． $7 / 6$ Size $140 \times 215 \times 170$ mm．
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Supplied in perfect order． $\mathbf{f 1 2 . 1 0 . 0 \mathrm { Carr } \text { ．} 1 0 / -}$

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AUDIO GENERATORS


Sine： $20 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to 200 $\mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ on 4 bands．
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S125．0．0． TRANSISTOR TESTER．Full range of facilities for testing PN
sistors in or out of circuit
sistors in or out of circuit．
£37．10．0．Carriage 10／－per item
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$0-40 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} . \quad$ £20．Cart．30／－

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\&11.10.0. P. \& P. $3 / 6$.
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$3 / 6$
 $10,100,500 \mathrm{~mA}, 2 . \overline{6}, 10$
amp. Resistance: $1 \mathrm{~K}, 10 \mathrm{~K}, 10 \mathrm{~K}, 10 \mathrm{MEG}$ $100 \mathrm{MEG} \Omega$. Decibels: -10 to 49 db . Plas
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SPECIFICATIONS
Output $\pm 10$ watts. $\quad$ Output impedance- 3 to 4 ohmes.
Inputs $\pm 1$. -xtal mic 10 mV Tone Controle-Treble control ras
Inputa $\pm 1$. -xtal nicic 10 mV Tone Controle-Treble control range $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 10 KHz . 2. Gram/radio 250 mV . Bass control range $\pm 13 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 100 Hz .

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$300-0-300 \mathrm{v} .100 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{an}, 1,0-5 \cdot 6.3 \mathrm{v}, 3 \mathrm{a}$. $300-0-300 \mathrm{v} .100 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{a} ., 0-5 \cdot 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. 3 a.
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## TOPIC ロF THE MONTH

## Local what?

READERS of Practical Wireless (at least those who bought the December issue) will know that BBC Radio London is transmitting on 95.3 MHz . They are a pretty exclusive club, because hardly anyone else seems to know that the station exists, let alone listens to it. After all the hoo-hah about local radio, it is strange that the actual realisation should be greeted with what might almost be called a deathly 'ush.
The launching of Radio London, for instance, could have been a matter of fanfares. It was, in fact, nothing more than a damp squib. It was not difficult to count the wordage in the southern editions of most newspapers-one gay Editor went mad and gave it five whole lines. In the matter of programme publicity our daily paper today, and we quote in entirety, says:
5.30 a.m. As Radio 2. 6.45 a.m. to 7.15 p.m. Radio London Broadcasts.
Hardly the stuff to set the blood surging and the fingers itching to switch on! However, although the general press treats local radio as a non-event, the BBC itself has taken a curiously aloof attitude towards the publicising of what, after all, is their own brainchild. There is a fair bit of crossfertilisation between the various BBC radio channels as to what is happening on other channels but we cannot remember having heard much about the local stations. Yet surely the BBC are in the finest possible position to stimulate interest for with a captive audience on four major radio channels and two TV channels the opportunities for a publicity campaign would gladden the heart of any publicity man. Despite this, the launching and sustaining of local radio as a public relations operation has been a disaster.
The programmes themselves have not been good (to be truthful they are mainly pathetic) but the quality hardly matters if nobody is going to listen! In the past the BBC has mounted some magnificent promotions-such as that on colour TV. Local radio appears to have been allowed to happen without any great enthusiasm. Which leads one to ask if the BBC itself has any faith in its own scheme, and further to conclude that if nothing more energetic and imaginative is done in the way of promotion (and programme quality) then local radio, in its present form, is a dead duck.

> W. N. STEVENS-Editor.

## FEBRUARY ISSUE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 8

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## NEWS... NEWS...

## Air Conditioner

To clean, filter, purify and humidify the air in offices and homes or the workshop Felvic Industries have developed a compact, inexpensive air conditioner to sell for $£ 1818 \mathrm{~s}$. under the name of Sanamatic.

The surrounding room air is blown by means of a powerful fan through a spiral filter system which removes dust, dirt, and smoke particles from the air.

By filling the bottom container with up to 8 pints of water, correct humidification is achieved as the passing air evaporates moisture from the water-soaked filter pad inside the container.

To purify, deodorise and/or disinfect the ambient air appropriate liquid additives may be added to the water.

The Sanamatic is quiet running. One unit will serve rooms up to approx. $3,000 \mathrm{cu} . \mathrm{ft}$.

There is no maintenance required except regular changing of the filter every three months or so depending on contamination. For full details and literature contact Felvic Industries Ltd., 21 Foxley Lane, Purley, Surrey, CR2 3EH. Tel. 01-668 2228.


## World Radio Club

From Thursday, 5th November, the first edition of World Radio Club was broadcast on Thursdays at 1245 GMT with repeats on Fridays at 2345 GMT and Sundays at 0815 GMT.

## The Electron's Tale



As part of their Golden Jubilee celebrations, Mullard Ltd. have released a new 15 -minute film entitled The Electron's Tale.

Using mainly cartoon techniques in colour and black and white, it tells in a light-hearted way how the electron has revolutionised human life. The story-told in the first person by an electronbegins with the ancient Greeks. They discovered the attraction existing between a piece of silk and a piece of amber. A thousand years later in 1752 Franklin confirmed that the movement of electrons in the atmosphere, causing thunder and lightning, was not "the anger of the gods" and invented the lightning conductor.
Then came the battery, the resistor, the magnet and the various laws and units of electrical measurement. Later man
found a way to convert his speech into electrons and this led to the thermionic valve, to wireless and, eventually, to the cathode ray tube and television.

Ideas then began to flow at an ever-increasing rate: electrons gave man radar, computers, transistors, integrated circuits.
Today the electron serves man in a host of ways, with the promise of many more to come. Yet, complains the electron in the film, it is man who takes all the credit.

Suitable for lay and technical audience alike, The Electron's Tale is available on free loan ( 16 mm ) from Mullard Film Library, 269 Merton Road, Merton Park, London, S.W.19, It was produced by Beryl Stevens of The Larkins Studio Ltd. (in association with the Film Producers Guild Ltd.).

## Desolder Braid

Solderstat have produced their Desolder Braid. The illustration shows a simple method, by means of which all solder is removed from the joint, using only the Desolder Braid, and a standard 25 W soldering iron.

The Desolder Braid is normally supplied on a special Dispenser Card, and is extremely economical in use, the cost of desoldering the joint being less than one penny. The Desolder Braid is also avail-
able in larger reels for major industrial users. Solderstat Ltd., P.O. Box No. 10, Bush Fair, Har-


# News... NEWS... NEWS... 

## A. Day of Memories

Recently, Walters Electrical Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Kensal Town Telegraph Works, 249-251 Kensal Road, London, W.10, donated one of their early receivers to the BBC. The presentation took place in the office of John Redmond, Director of Engineering.

The receiver, which was in pristine form, was one of a few experimental models manufactured by Walters in 1923 and still has the official seal of the GPO bound round it. It will reside in the BBC museum.

The presentation was made by the present Chairman of Walters, Mrs. Guise'Moores, whose father founded the works in the early '20's.

## IIT $\frac{1}{8} \mathbf{W}$ resistors

The ITT range of carbon composition resistors has been augmented by the addition of a $\frac{1}{8} \mathrm{~W}$ device. Resistance values are from $2 \cdot 2 \Omega$ to $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ with choice of tolerances $\pm 5 \%, \pm 10 \%$ and $\pm 20 \%$
Available at very competitive prices, these resistors are capable of withstanding high overloads, have excellent h.f. characteristics and are fully insulated. Picture shows resistors actual size.


## LST Chart

During the last few years LST Electronic Components Ltd. has sold many hundreds of copies of the RCA Hobbies Circuit Manual, reference HM.90. Many customers have complained that they have been unable to obtain the special transistors specified for the many useful and varied circuits described in this book.

LST have now managed to publish a short list of direct equivalents and wish to contact their many customers who have bought this book and inform them that the equivalents chart is available, free of charge, if they care to write to: $L S T$ Electronic Components Ltd., 7 Coptfold Road, Brentwood, Essex.

## Falkirk \& District

The above club is once again active in a rejuvenated form. Meetings are being held on the last Friday of each month in the "Temperance Café," Lint Riggs, Falkirk.

The Chairman of the club is Mr. Alan Cameron GM30GJ, and the Secretary is Mr. Brian Mulleady. Anyone who would like to know more about the club should contact the Secretary at his QTH-9 Elizabeth Crescent, Camelon, Falkirk (telephone Falkirk 26437).

## North Stafts R.R.S.

At the A.G.M. of the above Society Ian Hunter was elected to serve as Secretary for the next twelve months.
He would be obliged if readers would forward all the communications regarding the Society to 34 Ainsworth Street, Stoke-onTrent, ST4 4JS.

## Cases from Vero



A new half-panel width version of their very popular "Series D" Cases has just been introduced by Vero Electronics Ltd., of Chandler's Ford. Hampshire. These cases are designed with the same well-known slim line style of the larger model. On this range, the front aperture is 9.5 in wide and internal depth $10 \cdot 5 \mathrm{in}$. There are four panel sizes ranging from $3 \cdot 5 \mathrm{in}$ to $8 \cdot 75 \mathrm{in}$ in steps of 1.75 in . The styling of these cases results in the overall height and width being kept to only 0.75 in more than the front panel size. They are available with or without handles, but are supplied with a tilt foot as standard.


## HALVOR MOORSHEAD

THE advent of cassette tape recorders has seen the decline in popularity of the conventional reel-to-reel recorders, yet for good quality the higher speeds and track widths available on the conventional system take a lot of beating. There is also a certain satisfaction in building a machine of your own and there is a considerable saving to be made in cost. Assuming that a tape deck can be acquired for under $£ 15$ with heads, the total cost should be only about $£ 30$, this is of course a very considerable saving over commercial units.

The P.W. Stereo Tape Recorder has been designed especially for the constructor and although it cannot be recommended as a beginners project, any reader who has built a transistor amplifier should have little difficulty in tackling the project. The unit can, of course, be built for mono by using only one of the channels, but if mono is the main aim, the circuit can be further simplified and the cost reduced and for readers wanting to build a mono version one will be featured in the magazine in the near future.

The tape deck used in the prototype was unfortunately withdrawn from the market a week after the cover photograph was taken but the actual deck used is not at all important since standard wafer switches are used for the record/playback function and the heads used are still available and will be for some time.

It must be emphasised that the specified heads must be used as on record most heads require far higher bias currents and the erase head inductance forms part of the oscillator. For playback most heads will do, including those usually intended for valved recorders, but they will be completely unsuitable for recording.

The heads used are the Marriott X/RPS/36 for the record/playback head and the X/ES/11 for the erase head.


## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

At first the design of a transistor tape recorder amplifier may seem straightforward, amplifying low level signals and applying the correct equalisation with an oscillator to cater for the a.c. bias and erase voltages.

However, a more careful study will reveal the problems. Transistors are basically low impedance devices but the input to the preamplifier must be reasonably high to accept crystal microphone or ceramic cartridges and on playback to show a reasonably high impedance to the tape head.

Secondly a fair-sized voltage swing (for transistors) is needed for the erase head, so a low voltage supply is not possible, 22 V is the practical minimum and the one finally chosen.

The greatest design problems however come from the high gains required. The output from the specified head from a fully modulated tape is in the order of $0 \cdot 5 \mathrm{mV}$-lower than that from a magnetic pickup, yet in the output stages the currents are high-in the order of 500 mA . From this it will be seen that careful thought has been given to layout and actual wiring as far as earth loops are concerned, since the currents in the output stage will cause small, but significant, a.c. voltages to appear across even the shortest wire and if these find their way to the input circuit, instability will result. This point cannot be overstressed; an early prototype, even though some thought had been given to layout, proved quite unsuitable because of instability of this sort.

Another problem is caused by the considerable frequency response of modern silicon transistors. The same transistors used in the audio stage have been successfully used by the author in a short wave receiver so a deliberate effort must be made to prevent and hold back r.f. pickup.

Finally tape recorders require switching from playback to record and the wires leading to the switch can bring about many of the problems mentioned above.

Solutions for all the above problems have been found and have been incorporated in the final design and have resulted in a first-class recorder. The author hesitates to call the final result Hi-Fi for a number of reasons. First, exhaustive tests for distortion, frequency response and noise have been carried out but not with laboratory equipment; secondly the monitor amplifiers are fairly simple and would not fall into the $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$ category. But, having said that, the results obtained have been excellent and are indistinguishable from machines retailing for very considerably more.

## EQUALISATION

To conform to international standards some treble boost must be applied on record and considerable bass boost applied on playback. Fig. 1 shows the C.C.I.R. equalisation curves for record and playback. It occurred to the author that if the preamplifier was continually applying playback equalisation this would avoid some switching and the correct curve


Fig. 1: The equalisation curves which are required to conform with current standards.
could be obtained from frequency sensitive networks which would only be used on record. Therefore, assuming that the preamplifier is arranged to give the curve shown as "Playback Response" in Fig. 1, and after the record amplifier we need a response looking like "Record Response", we can do this by inserting a network between the two amplifiers giving the response marked on the graph "Combined Response". The lines shown in Fig. 1 apply only to $71_{2}$ i.p.s. but if similar curves are drawn for $33_{4}$ and $17_{8}$ i.p.s. the line shown as "Combined Response" will be virtually identical.

This means that by altering only the playback equalisation curve for each speed we will also obtain the correct record response.

There are disadvantages in this system; as we are initially cutting the top and then cutting the bass we are obviously going to need greater gain
out of the stages involved and this also means a slightly worse signal-to-noise ratio than we could otherwise achieve but since high-gain, low-noise transistors are used, this effect is not in any way noticeable.

## MONITOR AMPLIFIERS

The P.W. Stereo Tape Recorder is designed for use with an existing Hi-Fi system and for this reason a low-level output is taken from the amplifier but, for versatility and portability, two monitor amplifiers are included in the design and built-in loudspeakers are incorporated in the cabinet but the external loudspeaker sockets will have to be used for any real stereo effect.

Since the monitor amplifiers are completely independent of the rest of the recorder, a large number of designs could be used. The one used is based on the Mullard 3 watt record player amplifier design with only slight modifications and using different transistors. This has a high impedance input and so it does not load the preamplifier circuit in any way. The amplifiers are in operation during both playback and record and this of course means that if recordings are made from a microphone the volume will have to be turned right down.

A simple tone control is incorporated and it was considered greater versatility would be achieved by having these independent of each other rather than ganged.

If the monitor amplifiers are left out of the recorder the power supply can be considerably reduced in its size and cost since these amplifiers account for well over half the total current consumption, even on record.

## OVERALL CIRCUIT

The block diagram Fig. 2 shows the operation of one channel and the various switching operations. All parts are duplicated for stereo operation except the erase and bias oscillator which is common. In this diagram SWa and SWb convert the amplifier from recording to playback (it is shown here in the record position). SWc applies an earth to the V.U. meter only on record (thus giving an indication of whether the machine is recording) and on playback earths the output from the record amplifier to avoid high-level signals appearing on the switch wafers when they are not needed. This section of the switch is not vital to the operation' and can be left out if required. SWd applies 22 V to the oscillator only on


Fig. 2: Block diagram showing the basic operation of the Stereo Tape Recorder; only one channel
is shown. is shown.


Fig. 3: Circuit diagram of the preamplifier and record amplifier of one channe/ only, the other is, of course, identical.
record. Cx is a low-value capacitor which applies bias to the record head.

## PREAMPLIFIER AND RECORD AMP.

Fig. 3 is the complete circuit of the preamplifier and record amplifiers; the components inside the dotted line are mounted on Veroboard, the layout of which is shown in Fig. 4.

The DIN input sockets are connected as shown to SWla (SW1b is on the other channel) via various components to attenuate and correct the inputs. The direct input is for a moving coil microphone, the second, which is paralleled by a $6,800 \mathrm{pF}$ capacitor, is for a crystal microphone and the third with a $100: 1$ attenuator is for high-level sources such as a ceramic or crystal pickup or radio; the input impedance of this source is of course high (IM $)$ ). The output from SWla is taken via the record/playback switch to the input of the amplifier, C2 acting as a d.c. blocking capacitor. All the coupling capacitors in the amplifier (and some of the decoupling capacitors) are $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ types. In many cases they could be lower in value or in working voltage but for simplicity and versatility they have all been kept the same.

By using this system the necessary value is never worse and usually better than it need be and it will save the constructor having to purchase a larger variety of types.

Tr 1 and Tr 2 are d.c. coupled with R4 providing the base bias for Tr1. R3 and R7, the emitter resistors are not by-passed, R3 because it acts as the load for the equalisation circuit and R7 to add a considerable degree of negative feedback to stabilise the circuit. Care has to be taken with the decoupling in the supply to these stages otherwise instability could result. The output from the collector of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$


Fig. 4: The components within the dotted line in Fig, 3 are mounted on Veroboard as shown.


Fig. 5: Circuit of one of the monitor amplifiers; apart from the balance control all components are duplicated for the other channel.
is coupled via C8 and either R18, R19 and R20 back to emitter of Tr 1 , this giving the response curve shown on Fig. 1 for the playback equalisation.

C 6 is a 100 pF capacitor connected between the collector and base of Tr2. It will have virtually no effect on the audio response but it will prevent the amplifier going into oscillation under certain conditions and it will hold down any r.f. pickup. Four identical panels as in Fig. 4 were built during development and only one needed this component. For those with limited test equipment it may be as well to incorporate this component automatically between holes A10 and A12.


Fig. 6: Layout of the monitor amplifier Veroboards. The power transistors are mounted on the chassis.

The output from the preamplifier stage goes three ways; first to the monitor amplifier volume control VR3, secondly to the low-level output socket and thirdly to R10 which is in series with the record level control VR1. The output to the external output socket is about 600 mV and this will drive most transistor amplifiers.

R10 is incorporated because at maximum setting of VR1 control (which is far too much anyway) the input to the monitor amplifiers is heavily damped.

R11 and C10 in this circuit give a response which is shown in Fig. 1 as "Combined Response" and this overcomes the bass boost applied in the preamplifier stage and at the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ the correct response appears. To prevent too much a.c. feedback in this stage Cll is incorporated in the base bias resistor network to take this to chassis. The collector load comprises VR2 and R15. VR2 is used to obtain the correct setting for the V.U. meter and is a miniature skeleton preset that must be adjusted later.

The output from Tr 3 is taken via Cl 2 and R 16 to the record head via the various switches.

Note that the wiper of SW2c does not go directly to the head as shown in the circuit but it goes via another switch which enables either track to be used on mono or both to be used on record.

SW6, which alters the equalisation for the various. speeds can be incorporated on the actual deck. However excellent results on the two slower speeds can


Photograph of the monitor amplifier component board.

## components list

## Resistors:

Preamplifier and Record Amp.

| Mo | tor Amp. | Osc | lator |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R21 | 1k | R31 | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R22 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R32 | $68 \Omega$ |
| R23 | $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R33 | $68 \Omega$ |
| R24 | 390k $\Omega$ | R34 | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R25 | $10 \Omega$ | R35 | $6 \cdot 8 \Omega^{*}$ |
| R26 | $1 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ | R36 | $1 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R27 | $1 \Omega 1 W$ | R37 | 1』1W |


| R1 | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | R11 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R2 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R12 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $120 \Omega$ | R13 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | 390k $\Omega$ | R14 | $56 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R5 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R15 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R6 | $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R16 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R7 | 820, | R17 | $1.8 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R8 | $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R18 | 47k * $^{*}$ |
| R9 | $2 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R19 | 82k ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ |
| R10 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R20 | $180 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ * |

All resistors $\frac{1}{3}$ watt, $5 \%$ except where stated. *See text.
Two off required of each R1 to R30 inclusive.

VR1 (Record level control)
$25 \mathrm{k} \Omega \log$.
VR2 (V.U adjust preset) $\quad 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ lin. skeleton preset.
VR3 (Volume control)
VR4 (Balance control)
VR5 (Tone control)
$250 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ log. double ganged.
$500 \mathrm{k} \Omega \mathrm{lin}$.
$25 \mathrm{k} \Omega \mathrm{lin}$.

Two off required VR1, VR2 and VR5.
Capacitors:

| Preamplifier and Record Amp. |  | Monitor Amp. |  | Oscillator |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C1 | $6.8 \mathrm{nF}(68,000 \mathrm{pF})$ polyester | C14 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C19 | $68 \mathrm{nF}(68,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C2 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C15 | $100 \mathrm{nF}(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ | C20 | $68 \mathrm{nF}(68,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C3 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C16 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C21 | $68 \mathrm{nF}(68,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C4 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C17 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C22 | $68 \mathrm{nF}(68,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C5 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C18 | $50 \mathrm{nF}(0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ | C23 | $33 \mathrm{nF}(33,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C6 | 100 pF ceramic* |  |  | C24 | $33 \mathrm{nF}(33,000 \mathrm{pF})$ |
| C7 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  | C25 | 300 pF * |
| C8 | $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{nF}(3,300 \mathrm{pF})$ ceramic |  |  | C26 | 300 pF * |
| C9 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  | C27 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| C10 | $50 \mathrm{nF}(0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ polyester | Power Supply |  |  |  |
| C11 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  |  |  |
| C12 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  |  |  |
| C13 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C28 | $2000 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  |

Transistors
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Tr1 } & \text { BC169C } \\ \text { Tr2 } & \text { BC169C }\end{array}$
Tr3 BC169C

| Tr4 | 2N2926* | Tr7 | AD162 $\dagger$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tr5 | BC109 | Tr8 | AD161 $\dagger$ |
| Tr6 | AD161 $\dagger$ | Tr9 | AD162 $\dagger$ |

Two off required Tri to Tr7 inclusive. $\dagger$ Matched pairs. * See text
Switches
SW1 2 pole, 4 way rotary (input selector)
SW2 8 pole, 2 way (depends on tape deck) (record/playback function)
SW3 6 pole, 3 way rotary (mono-stereo-track selector)
SW4 2 pole, on/off toggle (mains on/off)
SW5 2 pole, on/off toggle (deck motor on/off)

## Miscellaneous

Mains transformer, type MT103AT, (misc. secondaries at 1A) (Henry's Radio)
Veroboard, various sizes, see drawings, all 0.15 in . matrix, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ in. wide.
Indicator neons, with built in resistor.
Mains plug and socket, miniature Bulgin type.
Input sockets and low level out socket, 4 off 5 -pin DIN types.
Speaker sockets, 2 off DIN speaker type.
Loudspeakers, 2 off 15 2 , $6 \times 4$ in.
V.U. Meters, $1 \frac{9}{16} \mathrm{in}$. square face, Henry's Radio, type V403.
be obtained if the setting is continually left on the $7^{1} 2$ i.p.s. position and R18 can, if desired be incorporated between holes H 13 and H14 on the Veroboard.

The layout of the components on the Veroboard panel is shown in Fig. 4 and should be quite straight forward. For an uncluttered layout two earth strips
are used ( 3 and 16) and these are connected by a link. All external connections are taken to the ends of the board and it is strongly recommended that Veropins are used as the terminals here. There is an awful amount of wiring to do later this is far easier done with the panels fixed in position.

The breaks in the copper strip are clearly shown,


A view of the completed amplifier viewed inside showing the location of component boards.

Photograph of one of the preamplifier and record amplifier boards.
note that under the preset VR2 one break is needed between two holes.

Mounting holes are located at E2 and E15, and T2 and T15.

The $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitors as already mentioned are all the same and the cylindrical types with both wires coming out of one end are the best types, these being produced by several manufacturers.

## MONITOR AMPLIFIERS

As mentioned previously the monitor amplifiers are very similar to the Mullard record player circuit. VR3 is the volume control which is in series with a $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor which enables a fair amount of negative feedback to be applied at all times. The slider ofthe control is connected to $500 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ linear potentiometer whose slider is in turn earthed, this acts as the balance control. $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ are connected to give very high gain and high input impedance. Tr 4 could well be a BC169C like the other transistors used in the preamplifier but $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ should be the normal metal covered BC109 as it is handling quite a current and can get hot enough to warrant a heat sink. In any case plastic encapsulated types, though identical in construction, do not really have the current handling capacity. Tr6 and Tr7 are connected in the usual complimentary pair mode. Although power transistors are used here this is done purely on a cost basis. An AC176 and AC128 would do here (though the emitter resistors R26 and R27 should then be raised to $2 \cdot 2 \Omega$ ) but generally these cost more than the recommended power types specified. The usual retail price for a matched pair of AD161-AD162 is around 15 s but they have been advertised for 10 s .

These transistors will handle well over 10 watts in a similar configuration but this would involve a more costly power supply. By under running the output transistors (as is done here) one is not only saving on power but damage due to other factors is far less likely. The amplifier feeds into a $15 \Omega$ loundspeaker but $8 \Omega$ types will work just as well here.

A simple tone control is incorporated in the feedback circuit and this acts as a top cut; even though
simple it is very effective in this circuit and gives a wide control over the tone.

Some readers may have noticed that since playback equalisation is applied at all times to the feed to the monitor amplifier that the input will be far from linear on record. This is quite true and it will be found that signals monitored on record will be rather too high at the bass frequencies but it hardly matters as the amplifiers are only intended for monitoring and anyway recorders are used in the playback mode far more often than for recording. In actual fact with the built in speakers, which are only $6 \mathrm{in} . \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. this extra bass tends to overcome the shortcomings of the loudspeakers themselves so the problem is self-cancelling.

Like the preamplifier and record amplifier, the monitor amplifiers are built on Veroboard of a standard width. The layout used brings all take-off points to one end and Vero pins should be used. No breaks are necessary in any of the copper strips. Two mounting holes should be drilled as shown.

> In Part 2, next month, the oscillator, construction and wiring of the P.W. Stereo Tape Recorder will be described.


ONE of the simplest, yet most useful devices used in valve audio amplifiers, yet seldom commented upon, is the 'grid stopper' shown in Fig. 1. Just a simple resistor, yet it is surprising just how many things it can do.
(a) It can prevent any tendency for the valve to self-oscillate due to accidental stray inductances in the wiring or p.c. board. The effect of such oscillation is to make reproduction sound 'strangled', as if it is permanently overloading.
(b) It will prevent r.f. picked up by long leads being rectified into audio. Most of use have experienced pickup of morse or 'Radio One' by a pet amplifier, right in the middle of a favourite record! It can be a hard thing to get rid of, but a 'stopper' will do it without difficulty.
(c) In mains driven apparatus, 'thumps' from thermostats and the like can be troublesome and actually make one fear for the speaker cone! A stopper will often reduce it to inoffensive dimensions.


Fig. 1. (Left) Grid stopper in a valve circuit
Fig. 2. (Right) Stopper applied to a transistor
(d) We all know about amplifiers rated to 200 kHz and one wonders what use such response is to anybody but a bat! Unfortunately, such amplifiers tend to exaggerate spiky waveforms such as 'ignition noise' by shock exciting the speaker cone. A stopper will restrict the response to the audible spectrum.
(e) In circuits using large amounts of negative feedback from the speaker circuit, voice coil transients can be fed back causing unexplained 'rattles', known as 'overshoot'. A stopper will often cure it completely. This it does because such overshoot is usually at supersonic frequencies.
(f) Where very compact layouts are used with high gain amplifiers, trouble can arise from accidental capacitative coupling from the output to the input. This can cause instability, which manifests itself by whistles and 'rough' noises. A 'stopper' will reduce the possibility.

## Application

Quite a lot of very useful jobs-and all for the price of a threepenny resistor! The strange thing is, that one never seems to see the equivalent in transistor circuits. There was some excuse for this when germanium transistors were the order of the day, for the placing of a series resistor in the base circuit could cause a serious loss of gain, as well as disturbing the bias.


Fig. 3. Method of mounting a stopper on a p.c. board

With silicons, however, the base current is much lower and it is easier to take liberties. Fig. 2 shows a simple application to a silicon transistor of the general class $\mathrm{BCl} 07 / 8 / 9$ and similar low-power types. It is, of course, mainly in the early stages that the 'stoppers' are most effective.

The difference such a simple device can make to an amplifier is astonishing. Pre-amplifiers virtually unusable owing to extraneous noises have been made 'hi-fi' by just one resistor so connected. One warning, however. It is essential the resistor is placed as close as is practical to the transistor. On a printed circuit board, a good way is shown in Fig. 3. A $1_{4}$ watt or even $\frac{1}{10}$ watt resistor is suitable. The value is not critical, but should exceed $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.

A special case is found with 'Class $B$ ' amplifiers. Most of the so-called 'cross-over distortion' when investigated, turns out to be due to feedback transients. (See (e) above.) Do not try to put stoppers on the output transistors, which must have a low impedance drive. Try putting a stopper in the earlier stage, somewhere within the feedback chain.

It must also be repeated-do not put 'stoppers' in circuits using germanium transistors.

It is hoped that this article will have helped constructors who have been faced with seemingly insoluble problems of electrical noise pickup. The author is convinced that most of the cheap sneers about 'transistor sound' are due just to the absence of this simple device.



## W. A. SMITH

THE phrase "high fidelity" or the foreshortened version, "hi-fi," is currently applied to a variety of products including ladies' hosiery and facial make-up. However, most of us recognise it as referring to the faithful reproduction of sound via the mediums of f.m. radio or modern gramophone plus amplifiers and loudspeakers. Sound, however produced or reproduced is, in the final analysis, what we hear. It may be melodious or hideous and we may be discerning or indifferent. Studio acoustics are very desirable but we cannot all have them and in the average household the simple act of drawing the curtains is often a means of improving baffle. A great many people are quite content with a self-contained record player whilst, for others, this is not nearly good enough. A lot depends on individual taste but I think that it is true to say that in the hi-fi enthusiast bracket, excellence is very closely related to the price we pay for equipment. In catering for the absolute connoisseur, one accepts that his expenditure will be commensurate with his convictions, usually to the tune of many hundreds of pounds. Conversely, but still within the hi-fi category, a high standard of sound reproduction is possible for a much more modest outlay plus, perhaps, a little ingenuity.

This article was prompted by a genuine problem confronting a friend, concerning a certain ceramic cartridge. Whilst no one will deny the superiority of magnetic cartridges, they obviously cannot be used to advantage if one's preamplifier inputs are not designed for them. In addition, the better types are quite expensive. The better of the ceramic cartridges are less expensive but are capable of high performance provided that they are given the input conditions recommended by their manufacturers (i.e. most of the better ones are mechanically corrected for the R.I.A.A. characteristic so that they will produce a desirably flat response when looking into a load impedance of $2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and upwards). The lower priced ceramic cartridges (and my friend had one) are difficult to categorise. I think it is fair to say that, in general, they give reasonable performance but one must accept some discrepancies as inevitable (i.e. they are not fussy as to impedance loading but are not so good in terms of playing weight, compliance and full frequency response).

The device shown in Fig. 1 enables an R.I.A.A. corrected, high impedance loading, 50 mV output, high compliance ceramic cartridge to be used sucessfully with an R.I.A.A equalised, stereo preamplifier having a $100-300 \mathrm{mV}$ gramophone input. (Normally only suitable for crystal or the lower priced of the ceramic cartridges.) The test results were so outstanding that I considered it well worthwhile passing
on. Perhaps I should say at once that I have not tested the device other than as shown in Fig. 1 (i.e. R8, $820 \Omega$, gain factor $=2 \cdot 6$ ). However, I see no valid reason why R8 should not be selected to produce other gain factors within reasonable limits. D.C. supplies of 15 V and upwards can be used. A chassis negative version is easy to arrange (see technical notes).

Two such devices are necessary for stereo application but, in view of the great transformation made to an originally disappointing set up, I do not consider it to be a costly undertaking. Most of the components are available in advertised lists and some may already be in the spares box. Constructors may prefer to style their own pin-boards and housings. Fig. 2 is a facsimile of one of the two pin-boards actually in use and the housings were 2 ounce tobacco tins. No doubt it could be more neatly designed but, since the device worked so well and was out of sight, when connected up, I saw no reason to disturb it. Time, in any case, was not really on my side and I did not have all the tools or the workshop facilities that I would have liked at the time (see constructional notes).

## PROOF OF THE PUDDING, VIDEO AND AUDIO

I joined my friend Reg (for an all too brief holiday at his Plymouth home), shortly after he had purchased the following items by mail order: a 24 V power supply, two main amplifiers and a stereo preamplifier model SP4A (Henry's Radio Ltd.), Garrard SP25 Mk II turntable, a pair of "Solent"' speakers and a $£ 310$ s ceramic cartridge to suit the SP4A $100-300 \mathrm{MV}$ input.

To be perfectly fair to the latter item it may have been a bad one that got through or have become invisibly damaged in transit, but the following defects were obvious. 1. Output was low, necessitating the preamplifier gain controls to be turned up to a level not conducive to optimum signal-to-noise ratio. 2. Frequency response. The amplitude of bass tones compared to the pilot tone on a Decca stereo checkout disc was progressively poor. The two lowest tones could not be heard at all, even with the bass control at maximum. 3. Compliance. A characteristic poor compliance "fuzz" was evident in both channels when playing high note string passages of music.

Reg is a very discerning character but he did not bemoan his lot. Instead, he simply "wrote off" the offending cartridge and plumped for a Decca Deram ceramic cartridge in the full knowledge that an intermediate input stage would be necessary. i.e. a stage presenting at least $2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ input loading followed
by an initial gain of at least 2 (to match the 100 mV minimum requirement of the SP4A preamplifier). An f.e.t. input was one of the most obvious answers. After some thought and about half a ream of paper later, the circuit of Fig. 1 transpired. Two units were built as shown. (At this stage I must again thank those other very enthusiastic Plymouthian friends who not only came up with most of the components, including the transistors, but also mustered a rather fine video oscillator and double-beam oscilloscope for test purposes. Shades of Sir Francis Drake and the Golden hi-fi, methinks!)


Fig 1: Circuit of one channel. Note that D1 and C4 are not needed for the second channel if the negative supply is taken from R7.


Fig. 2: A suggested layout for the circuit shown above.
all tests the oscillator sweep was 50 Hz to 30 Hz . For gain and frequency response the oscillator output was 50 mV . For channel separation it was raised to 200 mV .

1. Current consumption at 24 V d.c. supplied. A steady 20 mA throughout sweep (i.e. 10 mA per channel).
2. Gain in each channel throughout sweep. Rock steady $2 \cdot 6$ (R8, $820 \Omega, 5 \% 1_{4} W$ ).
3. Frequency response in each channel throughout sweep. This was carried out with meticulous care and attention. The response was beautifully flat all the way. We could detect no distortion or deviation whatsoever and did the whole gamut about five times just to make sure we weren't dreaming. At the risk of self-praise I can only describe this result as very excellent.
4. Channel separation throughout sweep (at 200 mV signals). There was no sign of pick-up hum, interference or phase shift.

We were now rather jubilant and applied the device between the gram (with the Deram cartridge) and the SP4A input.

## ACID TESTS (SOUNDS)

At first there was a very annoying hum. (To sober us somewhat.) However, it was deduced that the now initial gain would invite hum pick-up at the gram. The open tag-terminals below the deck had to be boxed in with thin sheet metal which was joined to the cable screening. The complete silence which followed was indeed golden. From then on we could only express genuine delight. The sounds that came forth when the stylus was applied to disc were quite magnificent and compared very favourably with much more expensive equipment.

1. With the stylus off the disc, no speaker noise

Although hopeful, we did not expect the results listed below. The oscillator and 'scope were first arranged so that one beam was monitoring the oscillator output (as applied to the device input), and the other beam seeing the device output. In the channel separation test, the oscillator output was fed to both channel inputs simultaneously with the device outputs fed, one to each beam of the 'scope. In
could be detected until the preamplifier gain controls were taken up to $3_{4}$ maximum. A slight hiss did then begin to appear but playing at such a level would have blown the house down.
2. Using the Decca stereo check-out disc. Gain controls $1_{4}$ maximum. Bass and treble controls midway. All tests on the disc were passed with flying colours. Very particularly, the lowest bass tone was now, not


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only present but at the same amplitude as the pilot tone.
3. Using a phase four "spectacular" disc. I can only describe the result as just that. All the nuances were present and the strings sailed up into sweet crescendo without a trace of poor compliance "fuzz." (Thank you, Deram.)
4. Really "belting" it (sorry neighbours, for this one). The gain controls were turned up until the crockery began to dance. The hum level between tracks was barely discernable.

I returned to my home with one of those rare feelings of real satisfaction and Reg has since written to say that he now considers it really worthwhile to start buying complete operas on disc. Perhaps that is the best recommendation for the cartridge and the device.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Voltage Supplies. Where a 15 V stabilised supply is available, R7, C4 and the zener diode can be omitted. For supplies of 18 V and upward they should be included. R7 is a current limiter (to protect the zener) and it's value should be in proportion to the supply used. I suggest that R7 should be $500 \Omega$ for an 18 V supply. For higher supplies the value should be increased in the ratio of $500 \Omega$ per 6 V . i.e. $24 \mathrm{~V}-1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, $30 \mathrm{~V}-1 \cdot 5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and so on.

For stereo, I duplicated R7, C4 and D1 but a single combination can be used to supply both channels provided that $R 7$ and D1 are $\mathrm{I}_{2} \mathrm{~W}$ types.

A chassis negative version of the device can be arranged by transferring R7 to the upper (Fig. 1) rail and transferring the screening (shown dotted) and the chassis-connecting solder tag (Fig. 2) to the lower rail i.e. the polarity and potential difference remain the same but the lower rail and chassis become zero volts and the upper rail becomes a positive number (e.g. +24 V ).

Device Current. Most mains power supplies should be capable of continuously delivering the small extra current without distress. However, small capacity batteries, if used, would become drained fairly rapidly, ( 10 mA per channel).

Gain. The potential divider formed by R4 and R5 determines the optimum d.c. conditions at $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ source. Without C5 and R8, the gain of the device would be 15 . i.e. R4 divided by R5.
I cannot envisage any modern ceramic cartridge output/amplifier input sensitivity differing so greatly as to require such a figure and I do not, in any case, advise such usage. However, the facility is there to allow a choice of gain factor as follows-C5 forms an a.c. bypass (without upsetting the d.c. conditions at Tr 1 source). The choice of R8 value thus determines the gain factor which now becomes the parallel sum of $R 4+R 8$ divided by $R 5$. The gain for Fig. 1 was calculated to be $2 \cdot 5$ but actually resulted as 2.6 (R8, 820 2 ). To save mathematics, R8 could temporarily be a non-inductive, $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, variable resistor. Optimum gain position for a particular cartridge could be found, the resistance measured and the variable then replaced by a fixed resistor of the nearest preferred value.

The device was not intended as an attenuator and would be rather wasted at less than unity gain (R8, $360 \Omega$ ). I do not recommend an upper gain factor in excess of $7 \cdot 5(\mathrm{R} 8,4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega)$ as already stated, the device has only been tested at a gain of $2 \cdot 6$ and this figure necessitated additional screening of the gram output tags to stop hum pick-up.

High Input Impedance. Among its many assets, the field effect transistor is particularly useful in this respect. It is, as nearly as possible, a solid state triode valve (without the inconvenience of heaters). The gate can be considered to have the same effect as the signal grid of a triode. Perhaps "transistor" is a misnomer? In the device, $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ and R1 present an impedance greatly in excess of $2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and the Deram cartridge at any rate, thrives on it.

## CONSTRUCTIONAL NOTES

All my resistors were ${ }^{1} 4 \mathrm{~W}, 5 \%$ but R7, if singular for stereo, should be ${ }_{2} \mathrm{~W}$.

For C1, I used 200 V paper tubular types as they were available at the time but much lower voltage, types such as mica sandwich or plastic film will be physically smaller and do the job equally well. C2, C 3 and C5 were 16 V d.c. rated. For C4 I used a rating greater than the supply voltage (to cope with initial surge).

If duplicated for stereo, the zener diodes can be 250 mV types but if D1 is singular for two channels it should be rated at 500 mW . The transistors should be as Fig. 1. I cannot vouch for equivalents.

The pin-boards were as Fig. 2, the dots being the pin positions and the rails and four short interconnections were of 24 s.w.g. tinned copper wire. The only coloured wire actually attached was the longer blue to extend the -24 V supply (through matching holes in the twin housings) to the second board. The other "wires" are included for identification purposes only.

My housings were rather hurriedly made from two, 2 ounce tobacco tins, each $4{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. $\times{ }^{1}{ }^{1}{ }_{8} \mathrm{in}$. $\times \frac{5}{16} \mathrm{in}$. deep. Holes to match 1, 2 and 3 of each board were made in the bottoms of the tins and furnished with $6 \mathrm{BA} \times 3_{4}$ in. screws. These were fixed, first by one nut each followed by two more to form stand-off separators between tin bases and boards.

The tins were fixed together (on their long sides) by 6BA screws and nuts but with the thickness of four washers separating them to allow both lids to go on. Small, matching holes, were made at half depth and as near as possible toward the intended output end, in the joined sides $(-24 \mathrm{~V}$ extension wire holes). Five, ${ }^{1} 4 \mathrm{in}$. dia. holes were made at half depth in the ends of the tins i.e. one in each compartment input end, one in each compartment output end and a single fifth one in one only of the output ends (power cable hole). The projecting pins on the undersides of the boards were snipped off short and the boards placed in position over the stand-off uprights, then fixed down with final nuts.

As shown in Fig. 2, the solder tags thus commoned both positive rails to chassis. A length of blue, in sulated, flexible wire was used (through the small holes in the joined sides of the tins) to common the two negative rails.

All five connecting cables were made from screened coaxial cable. These were passed through the $\mathrm{I}_{4} \mathrm{in}$. holes and the insulated inners were soldered to the appropriate input, output and power pins. The screening of all five cables was made off into short tails which were soldered to the inside of the tins. This served the double purpose of making all screening commonly positive and making cable "anchors." The lids were applied to the tins, the free ends of the cables attached appropriately to gram, preamplifier and power pack and we were in business.

# LUXEMEOURG BANDSPREAD 



THIS compact receiver, constructed in a readily available case, measures approximately $5_{2}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in} . \mathrm{x}$ $3_{4}{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. X $1^{5}{ }_{8} \mathrm{in}$. external dimensions. The use of seven transistors-all popular types-results in adequate volume from quite a large number of transmissions.

Usual medium wave coverage is provided, and in addition a band which covers about $1650-1400 \mathrm{kHz}$ or the high-frequency end of the medium waves. This is useful for easy tuning of those stations which come at the extreme h.f. end of the usual m.w. band and where tuning is difficult.

## CIRCUIT DETAILS

Figure 1 is the circuit; L1 is the internal ferrite rod aerial. Transistor $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ is the mixer with oscillator coil L2. S1 and S2 are sections of the band-switch. When S1 is at "M.W.", VC1 tunes L1, for usual m.w. coverage, and S2 is at "M.W.", so that VC2 tunes the oscillator coil L2. TC1 is the aerial trimmer, TC2 the oscillator trimmer, and C3 the oscillator padder.

When S 1 is in the "LUX" (Luxembourg bandspread) position, TC3 is in series with VC1, while S2 places C4 in series with VC2. The full swing of $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$ now covers a narrow band. TC3 is adjusted so that the tuning of L1 tracks with that of the oscillator coil.
$\operatorname{Tr} 2$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ are AF117 intermediate frequency amplifiers and three single-tuned.miniature i.f.t's. are employed. This section has good gain, and the small i.f.t's are easily accommodated.

D1 is the usual diode detector and applies automatic gain control bias through R6 to Tr2. VR1 is the audio gain control.

Tr4 is the first a.f. amplifier, followed by the driver Tr5. Both these stages are OC71's, and they give considerable amplification with little noise. Tr6 and Tr7 are OC72s, operated as single-ended push-pull output, feeding the speaker through C15. These transistors give plenty of volume for a pocket receiver, while the current drawn is small, so that. the internal battery has a long life.

## FORM OF CONSTRUCTION

The speaker is mounted inside the case, and two flexible leads from the receiver are soldered to it. The receiver itself is constructed completely on a $5 \times 3 \mathrm{in}$.

paxolin panel. The larger components are on the back of this panel, with most of the wiring and some smaller items on the front.

When the panel is inserted in the case the volume control and tuning capacitor spindle project through the apertures provided, and the panel is fixed with three 6BA bolts, which pass into threaded mounting pillars already incorporated in the case. The back is a snap fit, and the chrome handle included may be used for carrying, or turned to support the receiver upright.

Quite a number of components have to be accommodated, so it is essential to use the small resistors and capacitors which are made for transistor equipment.

## NOTES ON WIRING

Because of the small free space between some items, neat soldered joints are required. In many places the wire ends of resistors and capacitors can be used for connecting purposes. Elsewhere, leads are best made with thin tinred copper wire (such as 26 s.w.g.).

All leads and wires are insulated with sleeving, small 1 mm sleeving is probably most suitable. For easy identification of leads when building, and afterwards, blue sleeving was put on each transistor emitter wire, green sleeving on each base wire, and orange sleeving on collector leads.
For identification of circuits within the receiver, it is very helpful to use black sleeving for the negative line, with red (or orange) for the positive line. A different colour is used with other connections. Sleeving which does not melt when soldering is strongly recommended.

## SPEAKER MOUNTING

A piece of ${ }_{16}$ in. thick paxolin is cut to the dimensions shown in Fig. 2. The speaker fixing holes are countersunk for the heads of short 6BA bolts. These are put in place and the paxolin with bolts is cemented inside the case. When the cement is dry, the speaker can be placed on the bolts, and held with washers and nuts.

## PREPARING THE PANEL

Dimensions for this are shown in Fig. 3. A hole to


Fig. 1: Circuit of the Luxembourg Bandspread Pocket 7.

## components list

| Resistors |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1 | $56 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R14 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R2 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R15 | $1 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $680 \Omega$ | R16 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | $3.9 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R17 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R5 | $56 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R18 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R6 | $6.8 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R19 | 680 $\Omega$ |
| R7 | $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R20 | $2.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega \mathrm{5} \%$ |
| R8 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R21 | 100』 5\% |
| R9 | $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R22 | $2.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega 5 \%$ |
| R10 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R23 | 100』 5\% |
| Ri1 | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R24 | $5 \cdot 6 \Omega$ |
| R12 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R25 | $5 \cdot 6 \Omega$ |
| R13 | $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |  |

All resistors $\frac{1}{4}$ watt, $10 \%$ except where indicated. VR1 $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ miniature log. pot. with switch.

## Capacitors

| C1 $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ CO $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C2 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C10 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | F 12 V |
| C3 | 175pF 2\% silver mica | C11 | $2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6 V |
| C4 | 18pF silver mica | C12 | $8 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6 V |
| C5 | $30 \mu \mathrm{~F} 6 \mathrm{~V}$ | C13 | $30 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6V |
| C6 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C14 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | F 12V |
| C7 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C15 | $100 \mu$ F | F 12 V |
| C8 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | Jackson ganged. |  |  |
| VC1/ | VC2 208/176pF Jack |  |  |  |
| TC1 | 30 pF trimmer |  |  |  |
| TC2 | 60 pF trimmer |  |  |  |
| TC3 | 60 pF trimmer |  |  |  |
| Semiconductors |  |  |  |  |
| Tr1 | OC44 | Tr5 | OC71 |  |
| Tr2 | AF117 | Tr6 | OC72 $\}$ | matched |
| Tr3 | AF117 | Tr7 0 | OC72 $\}$ | pair |
| Tr4 | OC71 | D1 O | OA81 |  |

Coils and Transformers
L1 MW5FR (Denco)
L. 1 TOC. 1 "

IFT1 IFT13 "
IFT2 IFT13 "
IFT3 IFT14 ,
T1 Driver transformer Home Radio Cat. No. TR61

## Miscellaneous

Loudspeaker, WB 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in 75 ; S1/S2, miniature 2-pole slide switch; $5 \times 3$ in case with dial Electronics (Croydon) Ltd, 266 London Road, Croydon, Surrey; $5 \times 3 \times \frac{1}{16}$ in paxolin; 1 mm sleeving; etc.
clear the speaker is cut with a washer-cutter or fretsaw. The three holes marked $\mathbf{X}$ are for short bolts which secure the panel inside the case. If these or other holes are drilled in slightly incorrect positions, a correct fit can be achieved by using a very small round file to enlarge or elongate the holes. Alternatively cut a postcard as a template, put this in the case, and mark it into the fixing bushes with a pointed tool. The card can then be placed on the paxolin, and drilling positions marked through in the correct positions.

The hole $\mathbf{Y}$ is for the volume control, which is held with a single small bolt and projects through a side slot.

The two holes Z.Z are for the miniature slide switch. It was found necessary to file this to reduce the thickness of its operating knob to suit the slot already formed in the case front.


Fig. 2: The speaker mounting paxolin panel.
The ganged capacitor is held with three 4BA bolts. It must be placed slightly high so that a PP4 type battery will rest easily between it and the case. If VC1/2 is fixed with its spindle centrally in the cabinet hole, only the smaller type of 9 V battery can be accommodated.
A tag for earthing is placed under one bolt head when the capacitor is finally secured. The bolts must be extremely short or must have washers under their heads, so that they do not project and foul the inner plates of the capacitor. The capacitor should have a short, flat-sided and threaded spindle.

Figure 3 also shows drilling positions for the oscillator coil and i.f.t's. Paper can be pressed against the pins, then held on the paxolin board. Pin positions can then be marked through with a sharp tool so that drilling is accurate.

Slots for the trimmer tags and TC1 feet are made by drilling small holes side by side.

It is best to drill as many holes as possible before fixing any components in place. Small holes for wires can be made afterwards, during construction, with a


Fig. 3: The main panel drilling details.
$\frac{1}{16 i n}$. drill. The panel should be fitted in a small vice while doing this, or supported so that other items, already fitted, are not damaged. It was found very helpful to place long 6BA bolts or screwed rods through the holes $\mathbf{X}$, locked with a nut each side of the panel. The panel may then be rested upright, or will stand with either surface uppermost for wiring.

When wiring, be sure to leave clearance round the speaker, and for the bolts holding this item. There is a free space of about ${ }^{5} 16 \mathrm{in}$. between the panel and front of the case inside, and about lin. from the panel to the case back. With reasonable care, all wiring and components can be kept within these limits.

Some care is necessary, because there is little free space. The following notes on this part of the construction should be useful.

L2 and i.f.t's. L2 has six pins, with slightly closer spacing between 1 and 2,5 and 6 , which are placed as in Fig. 5. The i.f.t's have five pins, arranged as in Fig. 5. All these items have two can tags, which pass through small boles. These tags are wired together and to the "earth" (positive) line.

VR1 and S3. The ive tags lie flat on the board, as in Fig. 5. The control is secured with an 8BA or 10BA countersunk headed bolt which is cut or filed off so that it does not project into the space required for the battery.

S1/S2. This is secured with two 8BA or 10 BA countersunk headed bolts, with nuts Z-Z, Fig. 4. Spacers (or lock nuts) are put between the switch fiange and paxolin.

Driver Transformer. The projections on T1 pass through small slots and are bent over. Tags come as in Fig. 5, and are numbered 1 to 6 .

Trimmer TC1. The "earth" tag of this is soldered directly to the frame of VC1/2, Fig. 4. This really requires a large iron (say 60 watt). If only a small iron is to hand, solder TCl to a tag which can be bolted near VC1/2, and connect this to the frame (MC in Fig. 5).

Other Trimmers. In addition to slots for the


Internal view of the completed receiver.
tags, a central hole is necessary under each to clear the screw.

Resistors. Shape and cut the wire ends to suit, before fitting these. Put sleeving on all leads.
Electrolytic Capacitors. Each must be fitted with the polarity shown. Miniature electrolytic capacitors generally have some form of external insulation. This is essential as otherwise contact between the metal cans (negative) and other leads could prevent the receiver working.
Other Capacitors. These can be fitted either way round, and the $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ miniature low voltage discs could be $0 \cdot 04 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ tubular types.

Transistors. The leads from these are all left at such a length that the tops of the transistors come about level with the tops of the i.f.t's.

## WIRING

Figure 4 shows comnections etc. at the back of the panel, and the front side is shown in Fig. 5.

It will be very helpful to take a coloured pencil, and run over each lead and component on this drawing as it is fitted and soldered. If this is done systematically, it will always be clear what has been done, and what items and leads remain to do. It will also avoid any connection being omitted.

Wiring is easier if very small sleeving is used, so that it can pass through the holes in the paxolin. This avoids having to fit separate lengths of sleeving on each side of the board.

No heat sinks are needed when soldering D1 and the transistors, provided these wires are not too short. The iron should be at full temperature, and is removed immediately the joint is made. Lengthy heating of resistors, capacitors or other items may also cause damage to them. Usually, the iron should only need to be in contact with the joint for a second or two.

The junction of $\mathrm{C} 1, \mathrm{R} 1, \mathrm{R} 2$ and Tr 1 base are anchored by the wire end of one resistor going through a small hole, but no connections go to this point on the other side of the board.

The emitter lead of $\operatorname{Tr} 6$ is soldered to R24, Fig. 4, but no connection is made to this point the other side of the board. R18 is soldered to the negative lead of C13, and so only a single wire comes through to the panel front, Fig. 5. Use thin flex for the battery leads, with the correct clips. Glue cardboard to keep the battery a little away from $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$ and


Fig. 4: The wiring at the back of the paxolin panel shown in Fig. 3.


Fig. 5: The wiring at the front of the circuit board.

The winding should not be pressed on to the adjusting screw of TC3. If there is danger of this, place insulating tape at this point. Trimmers TC2 and TC3 can be reached with a small bladed tool or the rod can be swivelled a little clear, for initial adjustments to these.

The end of the rod near TC3 was further supported by a stout wire loop. This should not be a complete turn electrically, but goes about three-quarters round the rod, and is soldered to a tag, which is held by the fixing screw which passes through the adjacent hole X.

## ALIGNMENT

The cores of the three i.f.t's have first to be aligned at about 465 kHz . If a signal generator is available, tune it to provide a modulated output of this frequency, and couple it to the base of the Trl. Output from the receiver can be checked by ear or preferably by using an audio output meter or observing the battery current with a d.c. meter. Make adjustments for maximum current, but keep this down to 20 mA or so by reducing the generator input.

If no signal generator is to hand, adjust the cores
i.f.t.2. If metal parts of a battery clip touch i.f.t.2, this will put the receiver on or short-circuit the battery.

## FERRITE ROD AERIAL

Connections for this are shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The rod lies above TC2 and TC3, with a little clearance. A mount with a V-shaped notch to take the rod is made from wood or other insulating material, and screwed at the hole shown in Fig. 4, near the speaker. Tape holds the rod to the mount.

The tuned section of the aerial is that between 1 and 2, and the coupling winding is 3 and 4 . Ends 2 and 4 are twisted together, insulated with sleeving, and soldered to the frame of $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$, or to a tag bolted to the frame.

End 1 goes to TCl and TC 3 as in Fìg. 4, from where a lead passes to S1, as in Fig. 5. End 3 is soldered Cl, Fig. 4.

The tuned winding consists of Litz wire, which has many individually insulated strands of fine wire, so it is advisable to solder to the ready prepared ends. If this wire is cut, all strands have to be cleaned and soldered together, which may prove difficult.


The wiring on the finished receiver.
for best reception of a steady signal tuned in, and repeat this later with a weak transmission.

The receiver was adjusted to provide coverage of $575-1450 \mathrm{kHz}$ on "MW" (about $520-210$ metres) and $1400-1625 \mathrm{kHz}$ ( about $215-185$ metres) on "LUX". To do this, close VC1/VC2, set the generator to 575 kHz , and rotate the core of L2 until the signal is tuned -continued on page 747


ASIGNAL generator which provides harmonic "pips" at regular frequency intérvals is much easier to build than a tuned signal generator, and also much more accurate. It does not have to be calibrated throughout its working range as required with the conventional, fully tunable signal generator, because all its outputs are multiples of one or more known frequencies.
A comparison between the popular type of signal generator, and the harmonic marker, will help to differentiate between their modes of operation.

## Tuned Signal Generator

This will have several switched frequency ranges, each tuned with a variable capacitor and with a scale upon which frequencies are marked. For average long, medium and short wave use, the ranges may cover from about 2000 metres to 10 metres, or 150 kHz to 30 MHz .
One advantage of this type of generator is that it can be tuned to give an output at any wanted frequency within its range. Outputs such as $1 \cdot 62 \mathrm{MHz}$, 470 kHz or any other frequency can be had, for intermediate frequency circuit alignment. The generator can also be used to check band coverage, and for the trimming and alignment of a receiver. Though
harmonics are sometimes used for higher frequencies, the output is usually at the fundamental frequency.

A disadvantage of this type of generator is that each fundamental band requires a separate inductor, and each band has to be individually calibrated which can be a problem to a user with little other equipment. Accuracy, with a large dial, would not be better than 1 or $2 \%$ except with laboratory-type generators.

## Harmonic Marker

This has no variable tuning (except for initial adjustment). A crystal, or capacitor-inductor combination, operates at some fixed frequency and its harmonics are then used for calibration and other purposes. For example, a 100 kHz marker will give outputs at multiples of 100 kHz , such as 600,700 , 1400 and 1500 kHz , to allow calibration of a medium wave receiver band from 600 kHz ( 500 metres) to 1500 kHz ( 200 metres).

Primary advantages are a simple circuit and extremely high accuracy, while there are no individual tuning ranges on the marker requiring calibration. Accuracy can easily be within a few parts per million, quite unattainable with a tuned type of generator and its accuracy is well within the limits required for the calibration of amateur transmitting equipment.

The main disadvantage arises from the fact that all outputs are "round" figures or multiples, intermediate figures such as 455 kHz not being available. However, the output allows alignment of an r.f. stage for example, if done at round figures such as 1400 kHz and 600 kHz .

Another disadvantage is that harmonics have to be identified, but this is generally easy although their strength falls as the frequency rises, but they can be usable up to 30 MHz . They give very few calibration points at
low frequencies, such as $150-300 \mathrm{kHz}$, so are most useful over the medium and short wave bands.

It is clear that a harmonic marker can be a very useful instrument. Two circuits are described here, one very simple but extremely handy, the other more comprehensive.

## Frequency Determining Circuits

For high accuracy without too much checking, a harmonic marker has one or more crystals. These maintain their frequency with only extremely small errors, and are used in the comprehensive marker.

When experimenting with such circuits, it was apparent that stable $L / C$ tuned circuits could be used. These save the expense of crystals, and can easily give enough accuracy for general purposes, so they are employed in the simpler marker.

The simple marker can be identified if necessary by switching it on and off.

The larger marker has a neon which modulates the amplifier and thus gives a tone on the carrier.

## Single-Valve Marker

The circuit for this is shown in Fig. 1 and it has very few parts. A 3-way switch selects L1 for $5 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{L} 2$ for 1 MHz , and L 3 for 100 kHz . These inductors are core-tuned. A range can be omitted if its harmonics are not wanted. Output is via the isolating capacitor C5. An isolating transformer supplies power for the valve heater and the positive supply.

With a home-built receiver 100 kHz harmonics were heard to $5 \mathrm{MHz}, 1 \mathrm{HMz}$ harmonics to 10 MHz , and 5 MHz harmonics to 30 MHz .


A harmonic marker need have one frequency determining circuit only, often 100 kHz . Then harmonic pips arise at multiples of 100 kHz .

For higher frequencies, the pips fall very close together on the tuning scales of a general coverage receiver. So a second higher fundamental frequency and its harmonics can be useful. The simple marker (Fig. 1) has three fundamental frequencies that for 100 kHz giving harmonics as already described. The 1 MHz circuit gives signals at $1,2,3,4,5 \mathrm{MHz}$, etc., with the third circuit providing pips at 5 MHz intervals.
The larger marker (Fig. 3) has a 100 kHz crystal, and an h.f. crystal to identify 100 kHz frequency points within the amateur bands up to 30 MHz .

## Identification

A means of identification of the pips from a harmonic marker is useful, because the receiver will probably pick up other signals even with the aerial disconnected.

Fig. 2: Under chassis wiring of the single valve marker.

## Construction

The chassis is four-sided with flanges, and is closed by fixing a plate with self-tapping screws, the core-adjusting screws projecting above.

Wiring is straightforward, and is shown in Fig. 2. No mains on/off switch was included, as the marker can be plugged in when required. A mains toggle switch could be placed in the transformer primary.
The coil formers are $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. in diameter, with pins and adjustable core. Windings are shown in Fig. 2.
$\mathrm{L} 1: 5 \mathrm{MHz}$. 20 turns of 24 s.w.g. enamelled wire, layer wound, and the tapping $T$ is 5 turns from $E$. L2: 1 MHz . 58 turns of 34 s.w.g. enamelled wire, layer wound, with the tapping 8 turns from $E$.

Smear the formers lightly with adhesive before winding. Windings commence as near the tagged end of the former as possible.
$\mathrm{L} 3: 100 \mathrm{kHz} .500$ turns of 36 s.w.g. enamelled wire, the tapping T being 50 turns from E . Cut two discs of paxolin or other insulating material, with $\mathrm{I}_{2} \mathrm{in}$. holes to fit the former. Cement one disc near the tagged end, and the other to leave $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. winding space. Take end G through a small hole near the centre of one disc. Wind on 450 turns, pass a loop through a small hole for the tapping $T$, and wind on the further 50 turns, ending at E .

Three $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. holes are made in a piece of insulating material about $4 \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. The inductors are cemented in these, with the threaded rods passing through the metal box. Put a spring washer and 6BA nut on each rod. The ends of the windings are bared and soldered to the end pins of the formers.

Other details of wiring and construction should be clear from Fig. 2.

## Frequency Adjustment

As the purpose of a harmonic marker is to permit calibration, etc., of receivers, a receiver is brought into use to adjust the circuits L1, L2 and L3.
For L 3 , on 100 kHz , tune a receiver to the 1500 m $(200 \mathrm{kHz}) \mathrm{BBC}$ transmission. If an external aerial is used, and signal strength is too great, keep this down by using a temporary short wire as aerial. Place an insulated lead from the marker output socket near to the receiver, or its aerial or lead-in, or ferrite rod.
Adjust the core of L 3 until a heterodyne whistle is heard in the receiver. Set the core to the zerobeat position. Rotating the core either way, from this position, should cause a tone which rises in pitch. Lightly lock the core in the zero-beat position, which means L 3 is tuned to 100 kHz , and its second harmonic falls on 200 kHz .


Tune the receiver across the medium wave band when the marker signal should come in at multiples of 100 kHz , as described. If necessary, reduce textraneous signals by removing the aerial connection.

The tuning scale of an uncalibrated receiver can be marked at 100 kHz points. Identify one such point by reference to a known BBC transmission, then count up and down from it, putting in the actual frequencies.

Tune the receiver to the 1000 kHz or 1 MHz point found, and switch the marker to 1 MHz . Rotate the core of L 2 until the marker signal is correctly tuned on the receiver.

L2 can now be adjusted precisely by tuning the receiver to the 5 th harmonic on $5 \mathrm{HMz}_{\mathrm{z}}$. Switch the marker off, and search with the receiver a little either side to find a 5 MHz standard frequency transmission. Switch the marker on, and adjust L2


Fig. 3: In this circult two valves are used with crystals to determine the marker frequencles.
to zero-beat. Then switch to L1, and adjust it for zero-beat, or 5 MHz .
Check the core adjustments, and lock the cores. Before permanently calibrating a receiver from the marker, make a quick check of frequencies at one known frequency for each circuit, such as the BBC on 200 kHz or MSF on 2.5 MHz (for L3), and 5 MHz (for L2 and L1).

## Two Valve Crystal Marker

Fig. 3 is the circuit of this instrument and V1, a 6AM6, is the crystal controlled oscillator, with two crystals. The h.f. crystal, Xl, is 3550 kHz , giving outputs on $33 \cdot 55,7 \cdot 10,14 \cdot 20,21 \cdot 30$ and $28 \cdot 40 \mathrm{MHz}$. Crystal X2 is for immediate identification of 100 kHz points in the $80,40,20,15$ and 10 metre amateur bands.

V2, another 6AM6, is a harmonic amplifier, increasing the signal strength of the higher order harmonics and is normally used untuned. The switch

X 1 is the h.f. crystal, 3550 kHz but numerous crystals in the 1.8 MHz to 8 MHz range were all found satisfactory in this circuit. X2 is the l.f. crystal, adjustment of TC1 allowing a change of a few cycles, for synchronisation with the BBC or MSF.

## Construction

Components are on a $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. chassis, as in Fig. 4. The rotary switches and lampholder secure panel and chassis together. The h.f. crystals mentioned fit a $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 2 -pin holder, and the 100 kHz crystal requires an International octal holder.

The mains cord is anchored at a 3 -tag strip, E goes to chassis, N to transformer primary, and L to switch.
When wiring V1, keep grid, switch and crystal leads short, and near the chassis, to avoid any chance of spurious oscillation. Pin 6 of the octal


Fig. 4: Wiring details of the two valve crystal marker.
may, however, bring in inductors which can be peaked with the variable capacitor, to boost and identify high order harmonics. This makes 100 kHz points available up to 30 MHz , without too much difficulty. Resonance, or best signal strength, obtained with the variable capacitor, also identifies immediately the harmonic of the h.f. crystal. This proves useful occasionally with uncalibrated equipment.

Switching allows the neon V3 to modulate the harmonic amplifier grid, to identify the marker among other external signals. The ordinary type of neon mains voltage indicator lamp is not suitable.
holder is merely used an an anchor point for C3.
Both sets of plates of the trimmer TC1 must be insulated from the chassis. No extra insulation is needed when fitting the trimmer listed. Its 6BA adjusting screw was replaced by a longer one, so that lock nuts could be put on, allowing adjustment from the rear.

With reasonably direct grid and anode leads, V2 was perfectly stable, both untuned or when resonated by VC1. Since VC1 is left in circuit, it is placed at minimum capacitance when using V2 untuned. Wiring an extra switch pole to disconnect VCl did not seem worth while.

## Inductors

Two ranges are provided, covering $5 \cdot 5-15 \mathrm{MHz}$, and 15 MHz to 32 MHz . The larger inductor has 32 turns of $26 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . \mathrm{g}$. enamelled wire, layer wound, on a paxolin tube $1 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. long and ${ }^{7}{ }_{16} \mathrm{in}$. in diameter.

The smaller inductor is self-supporting, and wound with 16 s.w.g. tinned copper wire. It has $10 \frac{1}{2}$ turns, spaced to occupy $\frac{7}{8} \mathrm{in}$. winding length, and it is $\frac{5}{8} \mathrm{in}$. outside diameter. The ends of the $16 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . \mathrm{g}$. wire are shaped to solder to the switch tag, and a chassis tag. The larger inductor is fitted with stouter leads, which support it.

A small scale is fixed so that a pointer knob on VCl can be read against it. Known harmonics are tuned in on a receiver, and the signal peaked with VCl , so that the scale can be roughly calibrated.


The neat panel arrangement and compact layout are shown in this photograph.

## Adjustment

Normally, adjustment of X 1 is not necessary, and no means of altering this frequency is provided.

Adjusting TCl allows the 100 kHz frequency to be adjusted very slightly. Switch V3 off. Tune in the BBC 200 kHz transmission and place the marker output lead near the receiver aerial lead, so as not to swamp the signal. A difference between the 100 kHz crystal 2nd harmonic and BBC frequency

## components list

## Single Valve Marker

## Resistors:

R1 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W} 10 \%$
R2 $3.9 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W} 10 \%$

## Capacitors:

| C1 | 100 pF S.M. | C4 | 150pF S.M. $2 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C2 | 500 pF S.M. $2 \%$ | C5 | 50 pF mica |
| C3 | 500 pF S.M. $2 \%$ | C6 | $50 \mu \mathrm{~F} 50 \mathrm{~V}$ elec. |

Miscellaneous:
Valve, 6AM6 with B7G holder and screen. Diode OA81 or OA91. Transformer $230 \mathrm{~V} / 12 \cdot 6 \mathrm{~V} 0.75 \mathrm{~A}$ or similar. Dial lamp 6.3 V 0.3 A and holder, 3 Coil formers, $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. dia. with cores (Home Radio type CR22). Universal box $7 \times 5 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. with plate $7 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. (Home Radio). On/off switch. Rotary wafer switch, 2-pole 3-way. Insulated socket.

## Two Valve Crystal Marker

## Resistors:

| R1 | $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ | R6 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{~W}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ | R7 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R3 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ | R8 $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R4 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ | R9 $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R5 $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ | R10 $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |  |

## Capacitors:

C1 22pF S.M.
C2 220 pF S.M.
C3 1000 pF S.M.
C4 $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$
C5 100 pF mica
C6 $0.25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$
Valves:

```
V1 6AM6 V2 6AM6 V3 QS95-10
```


## Miscellaneous:

VC1, 150 pF , miniature, air spaced tuning capacitor. 3 B7G valveholders and 2 screens.
Switch, 2-pole 2-way. Switch, Single pole, 3-way (Home Radio WS17 for both switches)
Switches, 2, on/off. Dial lamp 6.3 V 0.3 A and holder. 100 kHz crystal and holder (QCC). $3 \cdot 550 \mathrm{MHz}$ crystal and holder
Transformer (Home Radio TM26A) Dinkicase $8 \times 5 \times 5 i n$. (Electroniques). Chassis $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. Diode BY100 or similar. Knobs. Socket, etc.


Fig. 5: Typical calibration points obtainable on the medium waveband and the amateur bands.
will be apparent as a fluttering, or rise and fall in signal strength.

Rotate TC1 to bring the beat (or difference) to the lowest frequency. An accuracy of one or two cycles per second is easily obtained, but there is no point whatever in achieving better than this, which is of far greater accuracy than ever required for ordinary purposes. The standard frequency transmissions on $2 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ or 5 MHz may be used instead of the BBC .

## Receiver Calibration

For medium waves or relatively low frequencies, tune in the 100 kHz crystal harmonics one by one. Fig. 5(a) is a m.w. scale marked in this way.

For higher frequencies, mark the h.f. crystal harmonics as a guide, then fill in as wanted with the 100 kHz harmonics. Fig. 5(b) shows this method employed with an amateur band receiver, and also shows positions of the $3 \cdot 55 \mathrm{MHz}$ harmonics. It will be realised that the crystal need not be 3550 kHz . The frequencies which will be obtained with other crystals can be found by multiplying its actual or fundamental frequency by 2 , then by 3 , and 4 , and so on, up to any wanted figure.

## IF Alignment

IFT's may be peaked, without knowing the actual frequency, by using the crystal marker as a source of stable signals. Feed the marker harmonic into the receiver aerial circuit, tune it correctly with the receiver, then peak the i.f.t's.

## RF Circuits

Select a harmonic near the low frequency end of a band, and adjust r.f. coil cores for maximum signal. Tune in a harmonic near the high frequency end of the band, and adjust trimmers.

## maxwell <br> by G8DSH


"He can't be WX3MAS—that's our callsign!"

## P.W. at the AUDIO FAIR

Practical Wireless was represented once again at the 1970 International Audio Music Fair, Olympia. We shared an exhibition stand with our Sister Magazine P.E. The Practical Wireless part of the display featured a selection of constructional projects of particular interest to audio enthusiasts. The 25/25 Stereo Amplifier was demonstrated together with the 25-50 Guitar Amplifier (our grateful thanks here to a pop group whose lead guitarist gave a musical rendering on a borrowed instrument). The P.W. Organ Pedal Base Unit was exhibited and a great amount of interest was shown in the Sound Effects Synthesiser (to be published in 1971).

A special display was devoted to the Decca 3000 Series Audio System-the prize offered in the competition mentioned in our November issue.


An outside and an Inside view of the Practical Wireless stand.


Asignal tracer in its basic form consists of a test probe, an audio amplifier and a loudspeaker. Even in this form it has many uses, such as, tracing audio signals, hum, distortion, noise, etc., checking microphones, pick-up cartridges and as a null detector for an a.c. bridge.

The Signal Tracer to be described is one of a range of simple test instruments, the first two of which have been described recently in Practical Wireless, namely, a Transistor Tester (October 1970) and a CR Bridge (November 1970). The Signal Tracer is built into the large size Eddystone die-cast box and matches the previous instruments in style and appearance.

The versatility of a Signal Tracer depends on the accessories that are available for use with it. Three probes are included in the design and these are for use in a.f., r.f. and e.h.t. circuits.


Fig. 1: Circuit of the Signal Tracer with connections of PC4 amplifier module

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The circuit of the Signal Tracer is shown in Fig. 1. The input signal may be connected via the two input terminals or the jacket socket. The terminals are primarily intended for connection to the "Detector" terminals of the companion CR Bridge and the jack socket for the connection of the various probes, which are all fitted with jack plugs.

The input signal is a.c. coupled by Cl to the gain controd VRI. This control has a double-pole switch attached, Sla and SIb, which enables the battery supply to be switched on and off. The signal from the slider of the gain control is passed to the input of the Amplifier Module, which is a Newmarket Type PC4. This amplifier was chosen because of its high input impedance of $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and its high sensitivity of 150 mV input for an output of 400 mW .

The loudspeaker used in the Signal Tracer is a Radiospares $2^{1}{ }_{2}$-inch type, but any alternative type may be used provided that it will fit physically into the space available, and that it has an impedance of between about 8 ohms and 35 ohms . The amplifier module requires a supply of 9 volts and this is provided by a single PP9 battery.

The a.c. probe, which is shown in Fig. 2, is a simple direct probe in which the probe tip is directly connected to the centre of the screened lead and through this to the live input, tip, of the jack plug. The earthy connection is made by a croc-clip lead connected to the earth tag, sleeve, of the jack plug along with the braid of the screened cable.

This probe is useful for tracing audio signals and the coupling capacitor, Cl , in the Signal Tracer, provides blocking of any d.c. voltage which may be present at the point of test.

The r.f. probe, shown in Fig. 3, has a built-in detector/demodulator circuit for tracing signals at

radio and intermediate frequencies.
Input signals are coupled by C2 to the demodulator diode, D1. The diode load resistor for D1 is R2 and r.f. filtering is provided by R1 and the capacitance of the screened cable, which carries the a.f. signals to the input jack.

The r.f. probe is suitable for use up to about

30 MHz and the maximum voltage input should not exceed about 35 volts r.m.s. ( 50 volts peak).

The e.h.t. probe, shown in Fig. 4, is intended for tracing high voltage breakdown, tracking or corona discharge. The probe consists of an insulated perspex tube, sealed at one end, in which a length of screened cable is fitted. The screening at the end of the cable is cut back for about one inch to provide a small capacitance pick-up probe having high insulation.

Input signals are capacitively coupled from the external circuit through the perspex tube to the unscreened wire end and then via the cable to the input jack. The use of this probe is described later.

If difficulty is experienced in obtaining a suitable piece of perspex tube, $1_{4}$ inch diameter and $5_{32}$ inch bore, heavy gauge polythene tube may be used instead. The importance of adequate insulation of the tube cannot be stressed too strongly.

## CONSTRUCTION

The Signal Tracer is built in the large Eddystone die-cast box, type 6357P. The lid is used as the front panel of the instrument and the box itself forms the case and as such is fitted with a small plastic carrying handle and plastic feet.

The drilling information for the front panel is given in Fig. 5. It should be noted that the terminal fixing holes should be drilled to suit the actual terminals being used and that the drillings for the loudspeaker are only suitable for the $2^{1}{ }_{2}$-inch Radiospares type listed.

The PC4 amplifier is mounted on an aluminium bracket which is held in place on the back of the front panel by clamping it under the gain control. The details of the bracket are given in Fig. 6 and the method of mounting can be seen from the photographs.


Fig. 2: Details of the simple a.c. probe


4Fig. 3: Construction of the r.f. probe and built-in detector demodulator

The PC4 amplifier is fixed to the bracket with the copper circuit side facing the bracket. Two 6BA nylon screws and nuts are used to fix and insulate the amplifier from the bracket and extra nylon nuts are used to provide the required spacing of the amplifier from the bracket.


Fig. 5: Drilling detalls for panel :- Holes $A-\frac{1}{8} i n, B-\frac{3}{8} i n, C-2 \frac{1}{2} i n$. Holes $D$ to suit terminals

The PP9 battery is held inside the case by means of a metal clip, bent to the shape of the battery and fixed to the case with a screw and nut as shown in the photographs.

The layout of the wiring is not critical but it is desirable to keep the amplifier input and output wiring separated to avoid any possibility of feedback and instability.

## OPERATION

Using the simple a.c. probe, it is possible to trace the presence of an audio signal through the various stages of an audio amplifier. The absence of a signal from an expected point will narrow down the area in which the faulty component may be located.

Cathode and emitter decoupling capacitors may be


Close-up of the PC4 ampliffer module mounted on bracket (Fig. 6) and flxed to front panel by the gain control.

checked in situ by testing the level of a.f. signal appearing across them whilst the amplifier is carrying a signal. A relatively large signal across a decoupling capacitor may indicate a partial or complete open circuit of the component.

The cause of noise or hum may be located by tracing through a circuit for the area where this signal originates and then by checking across the various components, the faulty component, earth connection or switch contact, etc., may be found.

The r.f. probe can be used in a similar way to the a.f. probe, but this time in the r.f. and i.f. stages of a receiver. It is necessary to provide an input signal to the receiver being tested and this may be done by connecting an r.f. signal generator and setting this to the required frequency or by tuning to a local station.


Fig. 6: Details of mounting bracket for amplifier Module
The main purpose of the e.h.t. probe is to trace corona discharge and partial breakdown in the components of the e.h.t. supplies of a television receiver or an oscilloscope.

Corona discharge is usually caused by a sharp point in the e.h.t. wiring causing a discharge into
the surrounding air. The location of the discharge can sometimes be located by carefully listening for the source of the fizzing-singing noise or by looking in total darkness for the characteristic blue glow.

The e.h.t. probe picks up the electric field of the discharge and, as the probe is moved about, the point of maximum noise and thus the source of the discharge will easily be located. This can be done in normal lighting and ambient noise.

## components list

## Resistors:

R1 10k $\Omega \quad$ both $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\begin{array}{r}\text { R2 47k } \Omega \\ \text { 10\% carbon }\end{array}$
VR1 $500 \mathrm{k} \Omega \log$. with DP switch

## Miscellaneous:

C1 $0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F} 400 \mathrm{~V}$ polyester
D1 OA81 (Mullard)
PC4 Amplifier module (Newmarket-Electroniques Ltd.)
Die-cast box (Eddystone 6357P-Home Radio)
Jack socket, Jack plugs (3), Handle, plastic feet, Knob, PP9 battery with connectors. Loudspeaker $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. (Radiospares). Terminals, materials for probes.

The e.h.t. probe will make it possible to detect and locate leakage paths and tracking across components and insulators. The probe tip is moved carefully around the suspected location and the path of the leakage will be indicated by the areas of maximum noise.

## WARNING

It is most important to exercise the greatest care when working on the e.h.t. circuits of electronic equipment. If the e.h.t. voltage is generated by rectifiers, from the secondary winding of a 50 Hz mains transformer, the current available could almost certainly be lethal, and work on this type of equipment should not be carried out by the beginner.
The e.h.t. supply of television receivers is usually derived from the line output stage and is current limited to some extent. However, quite severe shocks can be obtained from this type of supply and it should be treated with the greatest respect.

When working on equipment containing high voltages, the following safety suggestions should be observed:-

1. Make sure the equipment is properly earthed. If it is a television receiver which is connected to the mains, ensure the chassis is at neutral. Better still, use an isolating transformer.
2. Connect the earth connection of the probe to the chassis under test.
3. Stand on a rubber or plastic mat.
4. Use only one hand, keeping the other hand in the pocket.
5. Don't stick the head inside the equipment.
6. After switching off, ensure that all e.h.t. capacitors are discharged by shorting them with an earthing lead.

## LUXEMBOURG 7

in. Slide the ferrite rod in L1 to peak the signal for best results.
Open $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$ fully and set the generator to 1450 kHz . Adjust T2 to tune to this frequency, and rotate TCl for best results. As this and earlier adjustments to L2 and L1 interact, repeat to check band coverage.

When band coverage is suitable, move L1 on the rod at about 600 kHz for best results, and adjust TCl at about 1350 kHz , also for best results.

The switch should then be placed in the "LUX" position, and a signal is tuned in with VC1/2 about half closed. TC3 is then rotated for best reception.

When further adjustment of trimmers or cores gives no improvement, alignment is completed.

If no generator is available, choose signals near the open and closed position or $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$, and use these for adjustment purposes. The setting of TC2 considerably influences frequencies at the high frequency end of the band ( $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$ nearly open) while the core of L2 has most effect at the low frequency end (VC1/2 nearly closed). Alignment is not particularly difficult, and it is not essential that the exact band coverages are as mentioned above. Because oscillator coverage at the "LUX" position depends on C4, which is fixed, adjustment of this band is easy, once "MW" alignment is in order. TC3 is not in circuit on "MW", but is merely peaked for best reception with the switch in the "LUX" position.
The best value for R3 depends somewhat on the actual transistors, though $680 \Omega$ should generally be suitable. It may be reduced in value, provided continuous oscillation does not arise at some frequencies.
Should a first test of the receiver produce only weak and very distorted signals, it is most likely that one of the secondaries of Tl is in the wrong phase. This could arise with alternative transformers. Reversing connections to one secondary will cure this. For example, take 4 to $\operatorname{Tr} 7$ base, and 3 to the junction of R22 and R23.
If audio signals from D1, Tr4 and Tr5 are of normal quality, but results sound somewhat unpleasant from the speaker, this is probably crossover distortion, and can be cured by slightly increasing the values of R21 and R23 ( $120 \Omega$ resistors can be tried). Alternatively R20 and R22 can be reduced to be about $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. Exact results depend on Tr6 and Tr7, but the values shown are normally suitable.

## PW Vibrasonic 25-50 Guitar Amplifier Part 2.

PW, October 1970.-It is regretted that the following errors occurred in the diagrams of the circuit boards:-
Fig. 6. The connections to Tr1 should read 'c', 'b', 'e', not 'c', 'e', 'b'.
Fig. 7. The connections to Tr5 should read 'c', 'e', 'b', not 'c', 'b', 'e'.
Insert R40, $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, from the emitter of Tr 8 to common negative line.
Fig. 8. The connections to Tr3 should read ' $c$ ', ' $b$ ', ' $e$ ', not ' $c$ ', ' $e$ ', ' $b$ '.


## GRAHAM HASLIP

MANY readers, like the author, have most probably found great difficulty when working resonant frequency calculations using the standard formulae:

$$
\mathrm{f}=\frac{1}{2 \pi \sqrt{ } \mathrm{LC}} \text { or } \mathrm{L}=\frac{1}{4 \pi^{2} \mathrm{f}^{2} \mathrm{C}} \text { or } \mathrm{C}=\frac{1}{4 \pi^{2} \mathrm{f}^{2} \mathrm{~L}}
$$

where the frequency is in hertz, capacity in farads and the inductance in henrys.

Therefore, purely out of interest. it was decided to see if an easier way could be found of calculating values in resonant circuits.

After burning a couple of pints of the old midnight oil three far easier formulae were evolved in which the frequency is in megahertz, the capacity in picofarads and the inductance in microhenrys.

The three formulae for calculating the unknown quantity, given the other two quantities are:

$$
\mathbf{f}^{2}=\frac{25000}{L \times C} L=\frac{25000}{\mathbf{f}^{2}} \div C \quad C=\frac{25000}{f^{2}} \div L
$$

The simplicity in the working of the formulae may best be shown in the following examples.


Fig. 1: A tuned circuit of which the resonant frequency is unknown.

Example 1. A tuned circuit (Fig. 1) consists of an inductor of $10 \mu \mathrm{H}$ and a capacitor of 50 pF . What is the resonant frequency of the circuit?

$$
\mathrm{f}^{2}=\frac{25000}{\mathrm{~L} \times \mathrm{C}}
$$

Substituting values:

$$
\mathrm{f}^{2}=\frac{25000}{10 \times 50}=\frac{25000}{500}=50
$$

Therefore 50 is the frequency squared so the frequency is equal to the square root of 50 which is $7 \cdot 07$ or approximately 7 MHz .


Fig. 2: In this case the frequency and the capacity only are known.
Example 2. A tuned circuit (Fig. 2) consists of an inductor of unknown value, a capacitor of 50 pF and resonates at 7.07 MHz . What is the value of the inductor?

$$
L=\frac{25000}{\mathrm{f}^{2}} \div \mathrm{C}
$$

Substituting values:

$$
L=\frac{25000}{7 \cdot 07 \times 7 \cdot 07} \div 50=\frac{25000}{50} \div 50=10
$$

Therefore L is $10 \mu \mathrm{H}$ approximately.

Example 3. A tuned circuit (Fig. 3) consists of an inductor of $10 \mu \mathrm{H}$ and a capacitor of unknown value, the circuit resonating at $7 \cdot 07 \mathrm{MHz}$. What is the value of the capacitor?

$$
\mathrm{C}=\frac{25000}{\mathrm{f}^{2}} \div \mathrm{L}
$$



Fig. 3 : In this circuit the value of the capacitor is required.

Substituting values:

$$
C=\frac{25000}{7.07 \times 7.07} \div 10=\frac{25000}{50} \div 10=50
$$

Therefore C is 50 pF approximately.

The great advantage is that the formulae can be worked out very quickly and easily on paper and on occasions entirely in one's head. For general working a table of square roots is advisable but not always necessary. In the examples just given the square root of 50 could be taken as 7 and the same may be done with other numbers.

## Explanation

Now to explain how the three formulae were derived which may be of some interest to readers.

Starting by making out a table of all the values of $L$ and $C$ in relationship to their respective values of resonant frequency, Table 1, it was noticed that the LC product for 10 MHz was 250 and that for 1 MHz , 25000 . This is the square of the ratio of the frequencies which is 10 . So the formulae, already quoted, was easily arrived at, i.e.

$$
\mathbf{f}^{2}=\frac{.25000}{\mathrm{~L}} \times
$$

Table 1

| Frequency MHz | $\mathbf{L} \times$ C | Frequency MHz $\mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{C}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 25000 | 11 | 207 |
| 2 | 6250 | 12 | 175 |
| 3 | 2777 | 13 | 147 |
| 4 | 1560 | 14 | 125 |
| 5 | 1000 | 15 | 111 |
| 6 | 695 | 16 | 94 |
| 7 | 510 | 17 | 86 |
| 8 | 390 | 18 | 77 |
| 9 | 310 | 19 | 69 |
| 10 | 250 | 20 | 62 |

It is now possible to rearrange this first formulae to find either $L$ or $C$ thus:

$$
\mathbf{f}^{2}=\frac{25000}{\mathrm{~L} \times \mathrm{C}}
$$

Multiplying both sides of the equation by LC

$$
\mathrm{LC}\left(\mathbf{f}^{2}\right)=25000
$$

Dividing both sides of the equation by $\mathrm{f}^{2}$

$$
\mathrm{LC}=\frac{25000}{\mathrm{f}^{2}}
$$

Dividing both sides of the equation by $L$

$$
\mathrm{C}=\frac{25000}{\mathbf{f}^{2}} \div \mathrm{L}
$$

Dividing both sides of the equation by $C$

$$
\mathrm{L}=\frac{25000}{\mathbf{f}^{2}} \div \mathrm{C}
$$

Keeping the two steps of division separate enables most calculations to be done in the head or to make at least a close approximation.

It must be noted that the formulae only hold good when the units are in megahertz, picofarads and microhenrys but this is not a great disadvantage as the majority of tuned circuits used by amateurs employ these units.
The formulae are not precise as the figure of 25000 is only an approximation of the constant used in the basic formula, i.e.,

$$
\frac{10_{6}}{4 \pi^{2}} \text { i.e. } \frac{1000000}{4 \times 3.14 \times 3 \cdot 14}=25330
$$

| Table 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Frequency <br> MHz | $\mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{C}$ |
| $1 \cdot 8$ | 7700 |
| $2 \cdot 0$ | 6250 |
| $3 \cdot 5$ | 2040 |
| $7 \cdot 0$ | 510 |
| $14 \cdot 0$ | 125 |
| $21 \cdot 0$ | 56 |
| 28.0 | 32 |

Those interested only in the h.f. amateur bands will find the values of LC given in Table 2 of great value. If, for instance, it is required to use a 100 pF capacitor set at half scale to tune to 14 MHz then, from Table 2, it is only necessary to divide 125 by 50 to find the value of the inductor required, i.e. $2 \cdot 5 \mu \mathrm{H}$.

## Hఠx

## fterry Christmas


from

Norman Stevens (Editor)<br>Lionel Howes, G3AYA Eric Dowdeswell, G4AR<br>Halvor Moorshead John Reddihough<br>Peter Metalli (Art Editor)<br>Ruth Cyster<br>Miriam Casey<br>(Secretarial)

IN this part the b.f.o., product detector, audio amplifier, $S$ meter and power supply circuits will be discussed and details given of their construction. This will enable the second converter and i.f. stages described last month to be used as a complete receiver for Top Band.

## BFO and Product Detector

The essential features of a b.f.o. are that it must be frequency stable, and produce (for lowest distortion in the product detector) a perfect sine wave. These requirements are easily met in the oscillator used, which is similar in most respects to that used in the v.f.o.

In the case of s.s.b. and c.w. the two transistors of the product detector are used in the same manner as a normal mixer, where the difference in frequency between the b.f.o. and i.f. appear in the collector circuit as a.f. The filter R11, C6, C7 removes the 470 kHz component present on the audio.

On a.m., the b.f.o. is switched off, and Tr3, biased approximately to cut off, serves on its own as a.m. detector, R7, C5, being switched across the emitter resistor to ensure that the gain on a.m. is comparable to that on s.s.b.

On s.s.b. and c.w. the drive required by the product detector is low if distortion is to be kept to a minimum, but should be sufficiently high to secure a reasonable conversion gain. The optimum drive voltages are 200 mV r.m.s. from the b.f.o. and a maximum of 100 mV from the i.f. which means small value coupling capacitors, 10 pF (C4) from the b.f.o. and 15 pF (C19) from the i.f. The complete circuit is shown in Fig. 5.

Fig. 5. Circuit diagram of the b.f.o. and product detector subassembly.


## Construction of BFO/Product Detector

The b.f.o. and product detector is constructed on an 18 -way group panel board measuring $4^{1}{ }_{2} \times 1^{1}{ }_{2}$ in.
The oscillator coil used is a standard 470 kHz miniature i.f.t. Only the primary (tuned) winding is used, the capacitor across this winding being part of the assembly enclosed within the screening can.
Apart from voltage checks (Table 2) it will not be possible to set up the unit until the audio unit is installed. The only adjustment then required is to set VC1 at half capacity, and adjust the core of LI to zero beat with the i.f.
This is done by again feeding an i.f. signal ( 470 kHz ) into $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ in the second converter/i.f. amplifier unit,

TABLE 2

|  | Collector | Base | Emitter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tr1 | 7.6 | 3.7 | 3.3 |
| Tr2 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.4 |
| Tr3 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.4 |

Voltage readings with B.F.O. "on".
and adjusting the b.f.o. coil Ll for zero beat.
The circuit of this unit is shown in Fig. 5 and assembly details in Fig. 6.


Fig. 6. Panel board for the b.f.o./product detector. Pin 3 of $L 1$ is soldered directly to a tag which acts as a support for 17.

## Audio Amplifier

Nothing elaborate is required for this, the requirements being that it should have an output of about 1 watt with low distortion, and a sensitivity of not less than 30 mV to produce this output. The input impedance should be not less than $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.

For best results the loudspeaker impedance should be 15 or 25 ohms, although a 3 ohm speaker can be used if distortion at high volume is acceptable.


Fig. 7. Circuit diagram of the audio amplifler.

TABLE 3

|  | Collector | Base | Emitter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tr1 | 4.0 | 0.9 | 0.4 |
| Tr2 | 5.2 | 0.65 | 0 |
| Tr3 | 11.7 | 6.6 | 6.0 |
| Tr4 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 0 |

## Construction of Audio Amplifier

The audio amplifier is also assembled on an 18 -way group panel board, $4_{2} \times 1^{1}{ }_{2}$ in. The circuit is given in Fig. 7 and assembly details in Fig. 8.


Fig. 8. Layout of the audio amplifier panel board. The a.f. gain control referred to is VR1 (Fig. 7) not VC1.


VR1 $25 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer, log
Capacitors:
C1 $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ cer $\quad \mathrm{C} 2 \quad 25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 12 \mathrm{~V} \quad \mathrm{C} 3 \quad 100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 12 \mathrm{~V}$

## Semi conductors :

Tr1-2 BC108 Tr3 BFY51 Tr4 BFX88
Miscellaneous:
Group panel board, $4 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$.

## POWER SUPPLY

## Resistors:

| $R 1$ | $10 \Omega$ | $R 2$ | $15 \Omega$ | $R 3$ | $56 \Omega$ | $R 4$ | $15 \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Capacitors:

C1, C2, C3, C4. $1000 \mu \mathrm{~F} 12 \mathrm{~V}$

## Semi-conductors:

D1, D2, D3, D4. Silicon rectifiers 50 p.i.v. or more. D5 Zener diode, $9 \cdot 1 \mathrm{~V}$, 1 W .

## Miscellaneous:

Mains transformer, 230/250V primary, $9-0-9 \mathrm{~V}$ secondary at 500 mA . Fuse holder and fuse 1.5A. DPDT changeover switch.

S-METER
Resistors:

| R1 | $270 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 2 | $2.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 3 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | All $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ | $10 \%$ |  |  |
| Vr1 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | pre-set | Vr 2 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | pre-set |

## Miscellaneous:

Tr1 BC108. Moving-coil meter 1 mA f.s.d.
of up to 16 volts. In this case $R 7$ would be about 100 ohms. Table 3 gives typical voltage readings at the transistors.

## Power Supply

The total current consumption of the receiver at maximum volume is about 150 mA , so the mains transformer can be quite small. That used in the model provides $9-0-9 \mathrm{~V}$ at 500 mA giving 12 V d.c. after rectification and smoothing.

Separate rectifier and smoothing circuits are used for the supplies to the audio amplifier, and to the rest of the receiver. This is to isolate the receiver supply line from any audio fluctuations present on the audio supply line, which would otherwise cause distortion.

The rectifiers are any silicon types rated at 50 p.i.v. or more, such as BY100's, and all the power supply components are mounted directly on the chassis. (See photographs in Part 1.)

The circuit, for mains or battery operation, is


Fig. 9. Circuit of the mains/battery power supply. Components are mounted on a tag strip on top of the chassis. See photographs in Part 1.


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Ü 16 Silicon Rectiflers Top-Hat 7 b0mA up to $1,000 \mathrm{~V}$. U8 50 Sil. Planar Diodes 250 mA OA/200/402 | U9 | 20 Mixed Volts $I$ watt Zetier Diodes |
| :--- | :--- |
| T11 | 30 |

U11 30 PNP Silicon Planar Translstors To-5 simi. 2Ni132. U14 30 PNP-NPIN Sil. Transistors OC200 \& 28104 U14 1000 Mised Silicon end Germanium Diodes U15 25NPN Silicon Planar Transiators TO-5 sim. 2N697 U16 10 -amp Silicon Rectifters Stud Type up to 1,000 PIV U17 30 Germaninu PNP AF Tranststars TO-5 1 Ke ACY17-22 U18 8 6-Amp Silicon Rectifiers BYZ13 Type up to 600 PIV

U20 121.5 amp Silicon Rectifiers Top-Hat up to 1,000 PIV U21. 30 A $\bar{P}$ Germanium alloy Transistors 2 G300 Ser. d OC71 U23 30 Madt'A like MAT geries PNP Tranalators. U24 20 Germaniman 1-amp Rectifiers GJM up to 300 PIV U26 $25300 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ NPN Silicon Transiators 2N708, BS Y 27 E28 Experimenters' Assortment of Integrated Circaits, un-
tested Gates Flip-Flops Begisters, etc 8 Assorted Pieces U29 10 1-amp SOR's TO- 5 can up to 600 PIV CRB1/25-600.. U31 20 Sil, Planar NPN trans. low neise Amp 2N370̄7. U32 25 Zener diodea 400 mW D07 case mixed Volta, 3 -18. U33 15 Plastic case 1 amp Silicon Pectifert IN4000 series U34 30 Sil. PNP alloy trans. TO-5 BCY26, $2 \mathrm{~S} 302 / 4$ U35 25 Sil. Planar trans. PNP TO-13 2N2906
U36 25 Sil. Planar NPN trans. TO-5 BFY $50 / 51 / 52$
U37 30 Sil. alloy trans. BO-2 PNP, OC200 25322
U38 20 Fast बwitching Sil. trans. NPN. $400 \mathrm{Mo} / \mathrm{s}$ QN3011 UT39 30 RF ('erm. PNP trang. aN1303/5 TOU40 10 Dual trans. 6 lead TO-5 $2 N 2000$ U41 25 RF Germ. trans. TO-I OC4 4 KT72 U42 10 VEF Germ. PNP trans. TO-1 NKT667 AF117 Code Nos. mentioned above are given- as a guide to the type of

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shown in Fig. 9. This has the advantage that the rectifiers also serve as protective diodes against accidental reversal of battery polarity.

If battery operation only is required, then the input resistors R1 and R4 and electrolytics C2 and C4 can be dispensed with and the two supply lines via R2 and R3 connected together. The remarks concerning audio fluctuations do not apply as a battery, particularly if an accumulator, has a low internal resistance.

If mains-only operation is required the switching may be deleted and the centre-tap of the transformer returned to earth.


Fig. 10. Circuitry of the simple S-meter.' The few components are located below the panel-mounted meter.

## S-Meter

The S-meter circuit is shown in Fig. 10. Its components can be wired on a tag strip and mounted in any convenient position on the chassis. Each adjustment of the sensitivity control makes necessary the readjustment of the set-zero control. Sensitivity can be further increased if required by reducing the value of R1.

NOTE:- An error occurred in Fig. 2, Part 1 of this article. The diagram of the connections for transistor $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ (BC108) was incorrect. Reading clockwise they should read e,b,c and not $c, b, e$.

NEXT MONTH FULL DETAILS WILL BE GIVEN OF THE R.F. AND FIRST CONVERTER STAGES WHICH WILL ENABLE-THE RECEIVER TO BE COMPLETED AND ALIGNED FOR USE ON ALL THE H.F. AMATEUR BANDS.


LATE FLASH . . . The Editor wishes to thank the many contributors who sent in entries for this competition. All entries have been acknowledged and preliminary judging is now taking place. An announcement naming the winner of the PW "Designer's Trophy" and the runners-up will appear in our next issue.


ENUGU NIGERIA 1320 kHz is now a consistent signal during the late evening before it signsoff at 2305 hrs GMT. Programmes are European in style and there is a nightly news bulletin in English at 2300 hrs . CKEC in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia is on the same channel but a medium wave loop aerial will easily separate the two. CQA 760 kHz on the Portuguese island of Sao Tome in the Gulf of Guinea is occasionally heard during the evenings. This station is currently being raised in power to 10 kW so it should soon be a much stronger signal. Further south, CR6RZ in Luanda, Angola has been heard on 1088 kHz after BBC4 has closed down for the night (nominally at 2300 hrs GMT). Although Sottons, Switzerland transmits the letters ST in morse on 764 kHz after it's programmes finish at 2230 hrs ( 2300 hrs on Saturdays) Dakar in Senegal on the same frequency is usually a strong signal when it closes down with announcements in French at 2300 hrs .

The strongest West African on the band is Conakry 1403 kHz in the Republic of Guinea which is prominent and free of QRM from 2300 hrs until it goes off at midnight GMT. Conakry's programmes are quite distinctive, with African music, drums, singing and announcements in French. Others from this area to look for, include EAJ203 El Aioun, Spanish Sahara on 656 kHz until midnight, Tenerife 620 kHz in the Canary Islands in Spanish until 0100 hrs and CSB91 Funchal Madeira 1529 kHz . Vatican Radio is on 1529 until 2200 h ;s while CSB91 signs-off in Portuguese at 0000 hrs . Monrovia, Liberia on 629 kHz closes down at 0045 hrs GMT; the programmes are in English and it is usually during the last half hour of transmission, when it is carrying the Late Night Show, that it is logged.

From Freemantle in Australia comes a report of reception of the medium wave Radio Luxemburg 1439 kHz at 2030 hrs GMT on the 24th August, 1970. The logging was made by David Worthy who is a member of the World DX Club and he gave it a SINPO rating of 22442 in a report to Contact, the club magazine. Reception of European medium wave stations is not unknown in Australia, in fact the late Radio Caroline North had reports from both Australia and New Zealand. Propagation should be the same in either direction but Australians are not logged in UK as the European DXer is at a disadvantage compared with his opposite number down under. The most favourable time for reception on this path is at sunset in Spring and Autumn but it is at this time of day that European QRM is heavy while many Australian stations have not yet signedon. In spite of the difficulties, it can only be a matter of time until someone in this country adds Australia to his list of medium wave countries verified.

On the long waves, Chris Stacey in Tunbridge Wells has heard Yakutsk 263 kHz at 2300 hrs GMT through strong QRM from Radio Volga, while the writer has logged Omsk 394 kHz at 2240 hrs when it was carrying the same programme as Minsk 400 kHz . Yakutsk is situated 4000 miles away at the far side of Asiatic USSR.

Books reviewed on this page are normally obtainable through any retail bookshop. In this instance, the information printed in heavy type should be quoted.

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO RADIO<br>By Gordon J. King<br>Published by Newnes-Butterworths<br>194 pages, $7 \frac{1}{2} \times 5 i n$. 20s.

THIS book is a rewritten version of the original Beginner's Guide to Radio by F. J. Camm, first published in 1955. The rapid advances in electronics during the last decade have made the publishing of any "beginner's" book a difficult and risky business, for one intended even as a simple introduction is quickly dated. Only three years ago how many of us foresaw the dominance of silicon transistors, the availability of integrated circuits for the amateur hobbyist or the wide use of FETs?

The function of a beginner's book is to introduce the reader to the subject and raise his knowledge to the level where he can understand and appreciate - more advanced books or magazines such as Practical Wireless. Unfortunately Beginner's Guide to Radio does not achieve this and still retains the flavour of the 1950 s and the first edition. It pays only lip service to the massive changes of the last fifteen years.

Although the basic principles are well explained and there are sections covering most aspects of the subject, the book leaves a large gap from where it leaves off to the "state-of-the-art" today. Transistors take second place to valves and although we are told about the existence of FETs and ICs, there is no information given on their operation or uses.

There is only one transistor circuit given (and this contains at least one error) and the caption describing "two typical transistors" is underneath an illustration of two types, both of which are now obsolete!-HWM.

## 101 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT HI-FI AND STEREO <br> By Sands and Shunaman Published by Foulsham Ltd. 128 pages, $8 \frac{1}{2} \times 5 \frac{1}{2}$ in. Price 24s.

THIS book, the text written and printed in the U.S.A., has the usual rather inane introductory chapter directed towards us natives in Great Britain. Therefore before starting to read the book proper it will be necessary for the newcomer to the subject to go through the three and a half pages of the introductory chapter and to mark the pages of the text where differences in jargon or standards occur. The expert will not bother about this of course as he will spot the differences right away but then he will hardly be reading the book in the first place!

The book is dividend into six sections: High Fidelity, Amplifiers, Tuners, Record and Tape Players, Speakers and Troubleshooting and Maintenance. The old problem of trying adequately to define a standard for amplifier output power ratings is highlighted when the reader is told that the " 50
watts output for 5 millivolts magnetic-circuit input" is the practical one to use. However, the questions are well chosen and no matter how experienced one may be in electronics it is usually possible to pick up the odd hint or tip from this type of book.

To the hi-fi enthusiast who has merely assembled a collection of boxes into a working unit this book will be able to answer most of the questions he will start to ask when his curiousity begins to be aroused as to just what goes on inside those expensive boxes.-AED.

## HOW TO USE INTEGRATED CIRCUIT LOGIC ELEMENTS <br> By Jack W. Streater <br> Published by Foulsham-Sams <br> 136 pages, $8 \frac{3}{4} \times 5 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in}$. Price 28 s .

DURING the last few years many readers must have noticed some funny-looking words appear in the technical press-words like Flip-Flop, Nand, Gate, etc. and references to Boolean Algebra. Most of us know that these have something to do with computers but that is as far as it goes.

Most constructors are all too aware of the "transistor revolution" that has been going on for the last fifteen or so years; this book is heralding the new revolution and teaching us the new language that is necessary. The Integrated Circuit Logic Element revolution has of course been going on for some time, but as yet it has affected us little.

This book, in clear and simple language, gently guides the average constructor into this new field and for those not wishing to be left behind by the new revolution it is a very good buy.-HWM.

## WORKSHOP IN SOLID STATE <br> By Harold E. Ennes Published by Foulsham-Sams 382 pages, $8 \frac{3}{4} \times 5 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{ins}$. Price 65 s.

IT is unusual to come across a book today which sets out to convert the reader from thinking in terms of valves to transistors, but that is the aim of this book and it succeeds admirably.

A basic knowledge of electronics is assumed, but not to any great level, and it takes the reader through the theories governing transistor operation to a pretty advanced level. Each section is terminated with a short questionnaire with the answers at the back.

Although originally written for broadcast engineers, this book should be ideal for the electronics enthusiast who, although thoroughly conversant with valves and general theory, never quite got round to finding out much about transistors and found himself behind. $-M W$.

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# racticially Wireless commentary by IENKI 

THE task of providing a monthly hunk of comment and controversy, with only the redoubtable Pax to make other inroads into a PW page, may seem enviably simple.
"Say what you think" suggests the Editor, when the problem of an impending deadline is broached. Well, do you want to read a blank page, Joe? Or worse, a rag-bag of radio trivia?

Henry has been told more than once that his regular offerings should read like "letters home". He would be pleased to think that his effusions gave the impression of being dashed off between Sunday lunch and the Al Read Show-even more flattered if they could be compared with the Al Read Show

Their genesis is more laborious. Henry keeps masses of jottings in one of his bulging files. To this, he adds newspaper cuttings, magazine snippets, or references on twists of paper that say: "PW May 69 P18."*

In the $H$ for Henry file we may find scraps of hilarious verse, notes of odd happenings in the radio world, dates and times of special programmes, peculiar advertise-ments-everything, it seems, but the fatstock prices. When it is deadline-plus-one day the impression is sometimes gained that it would be of more interest if I


The chronic disease of "sorter's cramp".
really did quote the fatstock prices. When nothing seems to have been occurring in the world of wireless, when the Editor is markedly reserved and Pax becomes unrestrainedly explosiveheaven knows why, for he's an expert at the dashed-off cartoonHenry delves into his jotting file, seeking electronic inspiration.

Trouble is, like Eric Shorter digging in his cellar through trunks of old theatre programmes, like Colin Reid hoarding old laundry bills or Bernard Levin papering the walls of his retreat with Hansard or Wagnerian leits motif, your scribe falls prey to the chronic disease of "sorter's cramp".

The symptoms are a tendency to squat among the papers until one's haunches ache, for the eye to become glazed and the mouth to drop open and the fingers to make febrile fluttering movements. There also occurs a selective deafness in advanced stages of the ailment, when the sufferer becomes impervious to such cries as: "How: long are you going to be up there in that dusty attic? Your dinner's going cold."

The PW reader who has had to thumb back to find whether F. G. Rayer described the Beginner's One-plus-three (or was it Three-plus-one?) in June 1956 or October '61, will know exactly what I mean. As the soup grows cold in inverse proportion to the way the little lady grows more heated we find ourselves absorbed by the proof of the old adage "there's nothing new under the sun."

For example, the thoughts of those ubiquitous portable radios on the summer beaches (and promenading the evening streets of town) lead us to the kind of music they generally broadcast. Henry is always tempted-but has thus far lacked the temerity-to recline among the sun-worshippers with a large-speakered Bush or something equally powerful, tuned


Third programme among the sun worshippers.
to the Third programme in the middle of a chamber concert. Well, what's sauce for a skinhead. . . .

But there is nothing new-guess who said this, and when: "The introduction of a new kind of music should be shunned as imperilling the whole state, since styles of music are never disturbed without affecting the most important political institutions."

Chairman Mao? Mrs. Woodhouse? Vice-President Agnew? Lord Reith? You would be wrong on all counts, for those sentiments were expressed by Plato, a couple of thousand years ago. And he did not even have to endure the benefits of modern solid-state technology.

Another odd item-the giveaway gimmick, little known in the pure world of wireless, but introduced by Pyttronic Industries Corp. (USA) with the offer of a record album "Greatest Conductors" to anyone ordering more than fifty dollars' worth of Motorola transistors. Fine except that the offer only stands if their delivery takes more than 24 hours.

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## THE BROADCAST BANDS Malcolm Conanh

## Frequencies in kHz - Times in GMT

THE first reporter this month is John W. Smith of Anstruther in Fife who has started to report again after several months. His equipment consists of an Eddystone 840C with a Joystick and A.T.U., his very interesting log included:

4777 R. TV Gabonaise, sign-off at 2300
4800 Radio Lara, Ven. at 0130
4850 R. Dif. Nat. de Mauritanie at 1925
4890 R. Dif. Venezuela at 0330
4900 Radio Juventud, Ven. at 0430
4915 Tentative: R. Guatapuri, Col. at 0455
4945 Radio Colosal, Col. at 0700
4965 R. Sante Fe, Col. at 0625
4970 R. Rumbos, Ven. at 0445
4980 Ecos del Torbes, Ven. at 0010
4990 R. Barquisimeto, Ven. at 0130
4995 R. Brasil Central at 2315
James Parker also lives in Anstruther in Fife and his equipment is a Codar CR70A, a PR30 preselector and a 60 foot long-wire. With this equipment he heard the following stations:

4810 R. Popular, Ven. in Spanish at 0215
4915 Nairobi, Kenya, Swahili at 1730
4915 Ghana B.C., English at 2245
4955 R. Nacional, Col., Spanish at 2300
4967 R. Kuwait, English at 1900
5050 R. Tanzania, Swahili at 1700
6250 Santa Isabel, Guinea, Spanish at 2230
11865 R. Trans Europe in English, 1345-1415
11920 Ivory Coast in French at 2320
15265 R. Afghanistan in German at 1730
15270 ETLF, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at 0430
Craig Tyson has sent in his second report from Perth in Australia. The stations in his log may seem easy to European DXers but they are quite difficult for Australians.

9570 BBC, Far East Relay, Tebrau at 0000
9630 R. Canada in English from 0830 to 0930
9650 V.O.A. in English from 0000 to 0200
9705 R. South Africa in English at 2330
9745 HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, 0930 to 1000
15105 Radio Sweden at 1230 in English
15165 Radio Denmark in Danish, 1000
15175 Radio Norway, Oslo at 0700
17885 Radio Portugal in English at 0830
Paul Sexton of Preston in Lancashire has used his Ultra transistor radio and 20foot long-wire to hear the following stations:

6130 Radio Norway in English from 1200 to 1230
7310 R. Vilnius, Lithuania from 2230 to 2300
9625 Kol Israel in English, 2100 to 2145
9730 Radio Australia in English at 0815
11735 Radio Rabat, Morocco at 1715
11795 WINB, Red Lion, U.S.A., English at 2140
15300 NHK, Japan in English at 2200

Roy Patrick of Derby has sent in some more news items of interest including:

AFGHANISTAN Radio Kabul has been logged at 1800 in English on 15265 but now seems to have stopped using this frequency.

JORDAN Radio Amman has been audible on 7160 until about 2030 or later at 2100 .

NORWAY Radio Norway has been heard with a new transmission at 0500 to 0630 on the frequencies of 9645 and 21730 .

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC Radio Cairo has been testing various frequencies in the 31 metre band and has been heard on 9605 and 9640 on different days.

## DXing Tips

One of the major problems experienced by newcomers to DXing is that of obtaining the accurate frequency of a station. Crystal calibrators or frequency meters are expensive pieces of equipment which are usually beyond the reach of the beginner.

A receiver which has a bandspread control can be calibrated easily to very good accuracy using the method described below. Bandspread control can easily be added to a receiver as detailed in the article: Tuning Facilitated in the November 1970 issue of Practical Wireless.

The only requirements for this method are several sheets of graph paper (preferably $1 / 10$ th of an inch grid) and a little patience. The bandspread dial is usually marked from 0 to 100 and these numbers should be plotted on the vertical axis of the graph.

Suppose, for instance, that we wish to calibrate the 31 metre band. The main tuning is set so that the bandspread covers the whole of the band; this position of the main tuning is marked so that it can be returned to at any time. The horizontal axis of the graph is marked with frequencies from 9500 to 10000 kHz .

Whilst tuning through the band there are bound to be several strong stations of which the frequency is known or announced during the transmission. These stations can be plotted on the graph until several points have been obtained. (Standard frequency stations such as $W W V$ on 10000 kHz are very useful in this method.)

When enough points have been obtained they can be joined by a smooth curve. Similar graphs can be made for all the bands of interest. When an unknown station is heard the bandspread dial reading can be converted to frequency using the graph. The frequency obtained by this method will be reasonably accurate providing that the graph is made carefully and the main tuning is set correctly.


WHAT should one do about BC pirates? This question has cropped up again and again in letters, a number being received this month. First, note the time, and frequency. This must be as accurate as possible and care should be taken to ensure that the signals really are within the Amateur band and are not, for example, second channel QRM. This particularly applies if you are using a single conversion superhet. Next, all the relevant information should be sent to the R.S.G.B. who run a special intruder watch.

The QSL address of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society is now P.O. Box 462, Stella Avenue, Dublin 9, Ireland. Cards sent to the old address in Wicklow Street are being forwarded.

## Logs

Conditions on 144 MHz have been nothing short of fantastic, claims N. Richardson from his Aylesbury den. One G station was heard working an HB9/M who was running 10 W to a halo antenna. Nick is to work in Air Traffic Control at Heathrow soon. No mods to the radar to come out on Topband OM! Using an 8 -element Yagi at 30 ft . to a Garex converter, PR30 and CR70A tuning $28-30 \mathrm{MHz}$, Nick heard 2 metre sigs from: DC6BE, DC8BP, DCØKT, DJ9UXA, DK1VE, DK2DPX, DK4EO, DLØAK, DL8LR, F1AOY, F3NG, F6AKQ/P, F8MM, F9YR, HB9LN, ON5NY, OZ5KG, to mention just a few.

Another two-metre sleuth is T. Rumble (Wilts), 4 -element Yagi at 20ft., transistor converter to an HA700 tuning $3-5 \mathrm{MHz}$. Some signals tried to get away, but the following were rumbled: DC6BB, DC6EQ, DC8KU, DC9KY, DJ9DL, DK2AM, DK4DQ, DL1XG, DL8LR, F1CF, F1AAY/P, ON5KE, OZ5NM, PAøFWS. Trevor is thinking of building a 70 cm converter and threatens logs for that band. (Promises, promises.)

If you saw a suspicious character loitering around the l.f. bands with an R209, 150 ft . end-fed plus a.t.u., it was probably P. Bonfield (Dorset). Patrick hopes to take the R.A.E. this month (good luck OM) and says his favourite band is 160 metres. Heard on Topband: EI6AN, GC3HFE, G13WSS, numerous GMs, and GWs. These were on phone, while a spell on c.w. raised: DL9KRA, EI9BG, EI9J, GW3YGH, OK1AEH, OL4AMU, OL5ALY. Eighty metres brought sigs from: HBØWQ/P, OX3WQ, VE1IE, V01FG, VP9GR, VS600, WA6EGL/TF, ZB2AH, 4U1ITU, 9 H 1 BH all on phone. Even the dreaded forty parted with: AX3ABR, CM3LN, CO2DC, HI3PG and TF5TP.

Clive (of Kent, not India) Manuel, 6 -valve homebrew plus 100 ft of wire in the loft, finds the best times for an eavesdrop on eighty is between 2030 and 0600 . His $\log$ for the band seems to prove him right: AP2AD, AP2KS, ELøK/MM, KL7DTH/KG6,

## THE AMATEUR BANDS David Gitson, G3JDG

## Freauencies in klz • Times in GMT

MP4MBB, OX6CH, OY2X, VEØNEF/P/OZ, VE1LJ, VE2DNS, VP6GR, VS6DO, WA6EGL, YA1HG, YT2NFJ, ZB2A, ZS1EC, 4X4VF, 7P8PR, 9L1RP.

The best frequency on eighty, according to $\mathbf{T}$. Morrison (Lancs) is around 3798. Trevor has bagged the R.A.E. and hopes to be licensed in 1971. Meanwhile, he sends in a $3.5 \mathrm{MHz} \log$ of some of the stations heard. These include: CNBAW, CR7IJ, ELØK/MM (off coast of S.W. Africa), JWIEE, K1GZO, K2ZKA, PYøAD, PY3BAD, VE1EK/P, VE2XR, VO1FG, W1CBH, W4NYL, W4XHR/P, WA6EGO/P/TF, YT2NFJ, YT2RBN, ZB2A, 4X4RN, 9H1BZ, 9X5PB.

On 7 MHz , Trevor logged: AX2KM, AX6SM, CN8HD, CN8BH, CT1GD, JAøSX, JA2JHH, JA3MZB, W2HCW, YO6ALD, 4X4AB.
M. Marsden (Essex), Hallicrafters S120, 66 ft . endfed plus the treat of making a 144 MHz converter, went s.s.b.-ing on 14 MHz . Fruits of labours include: AP2KT, AX2WZ, AX3AXC, AX6FD, CR4BS, CM8CD, CN8AX, EL6EQ, ET3XL, HTIFCH, HS1ACW, HSøISB, KP4OKX, KH6HIH, KH6FF, KL7YK, LX1BJ, MP4TT, M1ZKB, OX2BFR, PY2DUT, SV1EQ, SVøWY, TR8ML, TJ1AX, VU3FD, VK2ABC, VK6FD, VE1EL, W5ZXS, XF5AM, ZS1KJ, ZL2BGV, ZL1AH, ZM4BXD, ZK2AF, ZS6BKW, 4X4NJ, 6W8AW, 7X2MD, 9H1R, 9K2AM.
S. Wainwright (Lancs) confesses to listening on 14 MHz with a Trio 9R-59DS and a 100 ft . long wire. He pleads guilty to hearing: AX3AHR, AX3MO, AX4TT, CE6GB, CT2AE, DA1RS (new prefix for U.S. Forces in Germany), KV4FZ, LU4VW, OD5FA, PY2BCQ, PY7YS, PZ5RK, VK2FU, VK2XG, VO1CU, VU1AFY, WB5VVS/YV6, YV1WX, 4S7PB, 4U1ITU, 4X4GT, 5J3CC, 9K2AM, 9V1PQ.

Andy Crooks (Leics) is off to Tees-side for a spell (there's nothing like a nice cup of Tee). Last $\log$ from Leicester for 21 MHz reads: AX4TT, CT3AS, EA6AR, HI8FED, HKøBKW (San Andre), JA1WUN, JA2WAA, JA3MNM, JA4ITN, JA7GST, JA8FZT, K6BW, KP4QM, KR6JU, PY1CZH, PY2HY, W7GVA, WøOYP, YA1HD, YV1TP, ZE4JW, 3V8AL, 9H1R, 9J2MA.

On ten metres s.s.b. Andy bagged: AX6CT, AX6NM, CE8AO, CR6MT, CR7JP, CX9CO, FH8CG, LU2DEK, LU3DLZ, LU5FEH, PY2RE, PZ1AH, TY7ATF, VE8YL, VK6CF, VP8KL, VP9FE, YV5AK, ZE1BP, ZE5JU, ZS6HR, 9J2HE, 9J2RO.

Sad news for the contest fanatics. There's only one in December and that's a two-meter fixed station contest. It only remains to wish all readers a Very Happy Christmas and New Year. Don't forget the local nets on Christmas morning. Favourite bands are 160 metres and 2 metres.

[^1]
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# $1 \phi \phi$ (1.) 

THESE monthly notes have illustrated two divergent trends in linear integrated circuits. On one hand there is the continuing evolution of more complex special function i.c.'s, contrasting with the wider adoption of silicon planar technology at the other end of the scale for the production of a range of basic utility circuits for the mass market. Typical of these units is the TAA320 bifet, the topic of this column last November, which combines features of the bipolar transistor and the field effect device in a single three terminal assembly.

## Description

This month it is the General Electric (U.S.A.) type D13V, again a three terminal device, but this time associating the zener effect with bipolar transistors, to provide a voltage regulating unit. The device acts alone as a shunt (parallel) regulator, or with an auxiliary external transistor in series regulation. It can also form a voltage reference unit, for example in power d.c. amplifiers or control systems.

In appearance identical to a small signal transistor in an epoxy package (TO-98), the device falls into the same price range, currently being available in the U.K. at around 8 s . 6 d . for single units. This economy should be reflected in a great popularity, since active regulation now becomes attractive for many purposes where previously decoupling with r.c. circuits would have been considered quite satisfactory. R.F., i.f. and


Fig. 1. Basic shunt regulator circuit. $R$ is a dropper resistor chosen to ensure that, at minimum d.c. supply volts and maximum load current, at least 1 mA flows in D13V.

| D13V Characteristics |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Power dissipation | 400 mW |
| Regulated voltage $\left(\mathrm{V}_{21}\right)$ | 40 V |
| Shunt current $\left(\mathrm{l}_{2}\right)$ | 40 mA |
| Bias current $\left(3_{3}\right)$ | -15 to |
| Temp. range | $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Absolute max. ratings. (At $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Reduce dissipation |  |
| for higher temperatures) |  |

b.f.o. stages of transistor communications sets are points at which cheap regulator circuits can pay off in increased stability and performance.

## Shunt Regulator

Fig. 1 shows the regulator in a typical shunt circuit. As is evident, a drop in the current drawn by the load would tend to increase the voltage applied to the load, due to the drop in the "lost" voltage in the current source internal resistance. However, the resistive voltage divider across the output of the D13V will then feed a higher bias back to the transistors, with a resultant increase in regulator current. Hence the i.c. compensates for fluctuations in the load by sharing current to ensure constant demand on the power supply.

## Series Regulator

It is also evident that this procedure is incompatible with battery economy in portable devices, where series regulation is called for. Here the integrated voltage regulator is used as a reference voltage, with the base of a transistor in series with the load connected to the output of the D13V. If a positive supply is to be series regulated, an n.p.n. power series transistor is used, with a p.n.p. for a negative supply. The collector is connected to the smoothed power supply or battery, the emitter to the load. The current in the transistor is practically independent of the collector-base voltage, so that the emitter remains close to the value of the voltage reference., Hence the voltage applied to the load remeans practically constant despite variations in the current drain.

## Advantages

The advantage over a simple zener controlled regulator lies in the fact that the voltage at which the unit is effective can be set simply by a variable resistor, whereas with a zener a fixed reference voltage is attained. The unit can therefore form the basis of a controlled regulated voltage source.
The chief disadvantage is that the minimum voltage at which the device is applicable is 10 volts, so that 9 volt supplies in utility transistor apparatus lies below its range. It is however ideal for auto applications, as every device designed for use in and around the car is commonly designed for the 12 volt car battery. Indeed, a "trickle" battery charger is an obvious outlet for the potential of this unit. At the high end of the scale, up to 40 volts can be applied across the unit, though care must be taken to ensure that device dissipation is not exceeded.


Fig. 2 . Repulution characterstic curves.

Fig. 2 gives an indication of the effectiveness of the unit with differing feedback resistances, and consequently differing voltage regulating levels. In choosing the resistors, it should be the objective to keep the value of $R_{1} R_{2} /\left(R_{1}+R_{2}\right)$ in the range $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $50 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. The output voltage will be given approximately by:

$$
\mathrm{V}_{21}=8 \cdot 5\left(\mathrm{R}_{1}+\mathrm{R}_{2}\right) / \mathrm{R}_{2} .
$$

## Sensitivity and Stability

The sensitivity of the device to variation in power supply output voltage is less than 2 mV per 1 volt supply variation, while stability over an extended period is within 100 mV . Naturally this compares rather unfavourably with the LM300 or other complex regulators, as reported in these notes some time ago, but their excellence must be paid for; at its price the D13V is undoubtedly a bargain. It is available from: Jermyn Industries, Vestry Estate, Sevenoaks, Kent or Celdis Limited, 37-39 Loverock Road, Reading, Berks.

## NEXT MONH IN

## 

## BUILD THE TEST-MASTER

A piece of equipment that will do practically everything while servicing gear and be a great aid during development work may sound like a dream-but we've done it! These are some of the functions of the "Test-Master". . . . .

* Resistance substitution of 12 values.
$\star$ Capacitance substitution of 11 values.
$\star$ Audio amplifier with loudspeaker and volume control.
$\star$ R.F. signal tracer with loudspeaker output.
$\star 1 \mathrm{MHz}$ signal injector which can be modulated.
$\star 465 \mathrm{kHz}$ i.f. injector, modulated or unmodulated.
$\star 1 \mathrm{kHz}$ a.f. signal injector.
$\star$ Ohmmeter.
$\star$ Transistor tester for leakage and gain of all types.
$\star$ Diode tester.
$\star 9 \mathrm{~V}$ battery supply with series 100 mA meter. $\star$ Capacitance bridge.
$\star$ Resistance bridge.
Full circuit and constructional details are given in the next issue.


## THE TWO-SIX RECEIVER

A straightforward design that will appeal to the newcomer as well as to the experienced constructor. Using cheap transistors and components this LW/MW receiver should be very popular.

## A 25kV EHT VOLTMETER

With a range of 25 kV this voltmeter features 500 Megohm input resistance and reversible polarity. The multi-range version, incorporating an i.c. operational amplifier, will prove useful to the amateur constructor and TV service engineer.

PLUS THE REGULAR "TAKE 20" AND "I.C. OF THE MONTH" SERIES AND OTHER CONSTRUCTIONAL ARTICLES AND FEATURES

## Don't miss your copy of the February issue of Practical Wireless-on sale 8th January-price 3s. 6d.

## ELECTRIC CLOCK

 WITH 25 AMP SWITCHMade by Smith's, these units are as fitted to many top quality cookers to control the oven. The quency controlled so it is exquency controlled so it is extremely accurate. The two sman,
dials enable wwitch on and of
 for switching on tape recorders. Offered at onfy
fraction of the regtalar price-new and unused only 39/6, less than the value of the clock alonepost and insurance $2 / 9$.


#### Abstract

FLUORESCENT CONTROL KITS Each kit comprises seven items-Choke, 2 tube ends, starter, starter holder and 2 tube clips, with wiring instructions. Buitable for tubes for fish tanks and indoor plants. Chokes are super-silent, mostly resin flled. Kit A $\rightarrow 15-20$ w. 18/8. Kit B-30-40 W. 18/6. Kit C-80 w. 23/6. Kit $E-65 \mathrm{w} .23 / 6$. Kit $F$ for 8it. 125 w. tube $35 /-$. Kit MFl is for 6in., 9in. and 12 in . miniature tubes, $19 / 6$. Kit M82 for 21 im . 13 W . mimiature tube $20 /-$. Postage on Kits A and B $4 / 6$ ior one or two Kits C, D and E $4 / 6$ on first kit than $3 / 6$ for Kits C, D and E $4 / 6$ on first kit than $3 / 6$ for kit ordered. Kit MF'1 3/6 on flrst kit then $3 / 6$ on each two kits ordered.


BLANKET SWITCH
Double pole with neon let
into side so luminous in dark,
use with waterproot element, n

## BLANKET SHMMERSTAT <br> Although looking like, and fitted as an ordinary blanket switeh, this is in fact a device for switcbing on for varying time periods, thus giving a complete control from of to full heat. Although suitable for controlling the temperature of any other appliances using up to 1 wip. Listed at $27 / 6$ each we offer these while our stocks last at only $12 / 6$ each. <br> REED SWITCHES

 Glass encased, switches operated by external 3 types:Minfsture. lin. long $\times$ approximately $\frac{1 n}{}$. diameter. Will make and break up to $\frac{1}{2} A$ up to 300 volts. Price $2 / 6$ each. 24/- dozen.
stendard. 2in long $\times 3 / 16 \mathrm{in}$. diameter. This will break currents of up to 1 A , voltages up to 250 volts. Price 2/- each. 18/- per dozen.
Flat. Flat type, 2 in . long, just over $1 / 16 \mathrm{in}$. thick, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$. Wide. The Standard Type flattened out, so that it can be fitted into a smaller aquare solenoid. Rating 1 amp 200 volts. Price $6 /-$ each. $£ 3$ per dozen.
Small ceramic magnets to operate these reed witches $1 / 9$ each. 18/- dozen.

HIGH CAPACITY ELECTROLYTICS
Brand new, not ex-equipment.
$100 \mathrm{mfd} .25 \mathrm{v} ., 1 / 8$ each $12 /-$ doz.
200 mfd.
$25 \mathrm{v}, 1 / 6$ each $15 /-$ doz.
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600 mtd . $12 \mathrm{v} ., 52 / 4$ each 11.1 .0 doz
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$500 \mathrm{mfd} .350 \mathrm{v} ., 8 / 6$ each $£ 4.10 .0$ do
$1000 \mathrm{mfd} .12 \mathrm{v} ., 3 / \mathrm{m}$ - each $\mathrm{E1.10.0doz}$

1000 mfd. $647 ., 7 / 4$ each $80 /-$ doz.
2009 mfd . $25 \mathrm{v} ., 8 / 8$ each $78 /-$ doz.
$5000 \mathrm{mtd} .12 \mathrm{v} ., 4 / 9$ each $£ 2.8 .0 \mathrm{doz}$
10.000 mfd . $6 \mathrm{v} ., 5 / 9$ each $£ 3.0 .0 \mathrm{doz}$.
$10,000 \mathrm{mfd}$. $15 \mathrm{v} ., 8 / 6$ each f 4.10 .0 doz
$15,000 \mathrm{mfd}$. $10 \mathrm{v} ., 10 / 6$ each $\mathbf{5 5 . 0 . 0}$ doz.
$70,000 \mathrm{mfd}$. $18 \mathrm{v}, 40 /-$ each $\$ 20.00 \mathrm{doz}$
3 amp 12v Battery Charger Kit-comprising 230/40 mains transformer with 3 amp secondary and 3 amp rectifler 22/6 plus 4/6 post.
12 volt $1 \frac{1}{2}$ amp Power Pack. This comprises double-wound $230 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ mains transformer with tull wave rectiffer and $2000 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{f} / \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{smoothing}$ Price 27/
Sonotone Stereo Cartidge, Turnover type, ref. No 19 T1. This fits most British pick-ups and is a really excellent reproducer. Limited quantity, $19 / 6$ 5 amp 3 pin Sookets, These are always good stock you never know when you will need some. Famou make, brown bakelite, standard size, 12 for 18
plus $4 / 6$ post.
Ditto but with switeh. 12 for 81 plus $4 / 6$ post. 18 amp nockets, fush mounting. Bakelite, cream, less switch. 6 for $£ 1$.
Eakelite Panels, many thicknesses. We have just taken delivery of approximately 10 tons of bakelite in varyiag thicknesses from 2ina. to a few thou. If you have a need for any of this then we would be glad to supply. The thickest is very heavy and
could be used, for instance, as a bed for a motorised unit. Medium thickness is useful for front panels of instrument, etc., etc. Cut to your size price is 6/- per lb. plus 6/-cutting charge plus carriage. 2 amp 3 pin $S$ witched socirets for surface mounting,
brown bakelite. Made by famous maker, $2 / 6$ each or brown bakel
$24 /-$ dozen.
100 Aasorted Silicon Reetifiers C.P. and switehing diodes. Small and very small sizes. A real snip for experimenters, $12 / 6$ per 100.

20 AMP ELECTRICAL, PROGRAMMER Leern in your sleep: Have Radio playing and kettle boiling as you awake-switeh-on lights to ward off
intruacrs-have warm house to come home to. AI intrucers-have warm house to come home to. Al these and manty other things you can do if you invest in an Electrical Programmer. Made by the famoue
 $230 / 240$ volt mains operated Clock and a 20 amp Switch, the switch-off time of Which can be delayed up to 12 hours (continuously variable not stepped). Similarly the switeh-on time can be delayed. This is a beautiful unit, size 5 事 $\times$ $3 \frac{3}{3} \times 2$ in. deep. Metal encased, glass fronted with chrome surround. Offered at $47 / 6$ pus $4 / 6$ postage and insurance.

## 40 WATT 12 in . HI-FI SPEAKER

Is undoubtedly one of the finest loudspeakers that we have ever offered, produced by one of the country's most famous makers. It has a die-cast metal frame and is strongly recommended for $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$ and public addreas. Handling 40 watts R.M.S.-Cone moulded fibre-Freq. response 30 10,000 c.p.s.--specity 3 or 15 ohms. Chassis diam. $12 \mathrm{in} .-$ 12 yin. over mounting lugs. Overalith height A a spe
offered this month for $\mathrm{E} 5.19 .6 \mathrm{plus} 7 / 6$ post and ins.

## INTEGRATED CIRCUIT BARGAIN

A parcel of integrated circuits made by the famous Plessey Company. A once-in-a-1ifetime offer of Micro-electronic devices well below cost of manufacture. The parcel contains 5 ICs all new and perfect, first-grade device, definitely not sub-standard or seconds. 4 of the ICs are single silicon chip GP ampliflers. The 5th is a monolithic NPN matched pair. Regular price addition you will receive a list of many different ICs areailable at bareain addition you will reeeive a list of many different ics available ate barkain only £1 post paid. DON' T MISS THIS TERRIFIC BARGAIN.


## DISTRIBUTION PANELS

Just what you need tor work bench or lab.
 $4 \times 13 \mathrm{amp}$ sockets in metal box to take
standard 13 amp fused plugs and on/ standard 13 amp fused plugs and on/off gwitch with neon warning light. Suppled complete with 7 feet of heavy cable. Wired up ready to work, $39 / 6$ less plug
$45 /-$ with fitted 13 amp plug; $47 / 6$ with fitted 15 mp plug, plus $4 / 6 \mathrm{P}$ \&

should work perfectly-offered without guarantee
6 for $£ 7$ post free. Pair of rechargeable batteries and charger $2 / 6$ pos
6 for $\mathbf{5 7}$ post free. Pair of rechargeable batteries and charger 17/-

## TANGENTIAL HEATER UNITS

This heater unit is the very latest type, most eflicient, and quiet running. Is as fitted in hoover and blower heaters costing $£ 15$ and more. We have a few only. Comprises motor, impeller, and two elements allowing 3 heat switching and with thermal safety cut out. Can be fitted into any metaline case or cabinet. Only need control 8 witch.
$2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{k} . w$. model $50 / 6 ; 2 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{w}$. model $39 / \mathrm{B}$. Postage and. $2 \frac{1}{2} k . w$. model
insurance $6 / 6$. Control switch $5 / 6$.

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Neat fiat torch, fits unobtrusively in your pocket, contains 2 Nicad cells and built-in charger. Plugs into volt mains. American made, sold originally at over 4 dollars. Our price only 19/6 each.


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This is a motorised programmer switch, mains operated, with six 15 amp changeover contacts operated by triggers on a rotating drum. six triggers will put switches up and another ix triggers will put switches down. This simple on/off operation or changeovers are possible. The triggers can be exactly set to any position around the drum which is rotated by a one rev. per hour motor. A probably cost in excess of $\& 20$. Limited
 probably cost in excess of $£ 20$. Limited a with $15 \times 10 \mathrm{amp}$ switches operated by $5 \mathrm{r} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. motor $\mathbf{8 5 . 1 5}$ plus 4/6 post. $\&$ ins.

Mains Connector A quick way to connect equipment to the mains and E . coded to new and E. coded to new nection by plugs prevents aecidental switching on: has sockets which allow insertion of meter without disconnection: cable inlets firmly hold one hair wire on up to four 7.029 cables. $12 / 6$ each.

## DRILL

## ONTROLLER

Electronically changes speed from approximately 10 revs. to
maximum. Full power at all speeds by finger-tip all speeds by finger-tip parts, case, everything and full instructions. 19/6 plus up model also available, $37 / 6$. plus 2/6 post \& $p$.

BALANCED ARMATURE UKIT 500 ohm. operates speaker or micro* circuits. 6/6 ea, $£ 3.10 .0$ doz.

BATTERY OPERATED


TAPE DECK
Whis unit is extremel This unit is extremely well made and meas in. deep. Has three piano key type cou trols for Record, Play back and Rewind Motor is a special heavy duty type in tended for operation
off $4 / 5$ volts. Supplied complete with 2 spools ready to install. Record Replayhead is the sensitive M4 type intended to use with transivtor amplifier. Price 79/6. Posi


THERMOSTAT This has a senso attached to a 15 sA switch by a 14in length of flexible capillary tubiag control range is it is suitable to control soil heating and liquid heating especially when in buckets or portable vessels as the sensor can be raised out and lowered to sound a bell or other alarm when critical terp is reached in stack or heap subject to spontaneous combustion or if liquid is being heated by gas or other means not controllable by the switch. Made by the famous Teddington Co., We offer these at 12/6 each. Postage and insurance $2 / 9$.


MAINS MOTOR
Precigion made - in record deck: and tape recordersideal also for extractor fan, blower, heaters. etc. New and periect. Snip at $9 / 6$. Postage
$3 /-$ for first one then 1/-10r each one ordered, 12 and ordered, 12 and

NEED A SPECIAL SWITCH? Double Leat Contact, Very slight pressure closes each, 12/- doz. Plastic push-
rod suitable for operatink, $1 /=$
each, $9 /-$ doz each, 9/m doz.


MICRO SWITCH
s mmp. changeover contacts, $1 / 9$ each. 18/- doz. 15 a
$2 /=$ each or $21 /-$ doz.


Where postage is not stated then orders over 45 are post free. Below 45 add $2 / 9$. Eemi-conductors add $1 /$ post. Over $2 . \mathrm{l}$ post tree. S.A.E. with enquiries please. Also 102/3 Tamworth Road, Croydon

## DISCOSOUND



DISCOSOUND 40 PRE-AMP
The Discosound 40 offers the same specification as the D.J. Disco Amp without the power output stage. Size $16 \mathrm{in} \times 7 \mathrm{in} \times 7 \mathrm{in}$. Self powered and ideal for use with the Discosound 100 Power Amplifier below and one of the outstanding features is that it is capable of running ten of these Power Amplifiers (Total 1,000W).

PRICE $£ 40.10 .0$ inc. P. \& P.

## DISCOSOUND 100 POWER AMPLIFIER



A 100W RMS (8 Ohms) High Fidelity power Amplifier which utilises all silicon transistors of modular construction and features full automatic overload protection against short or open circuits. Frequency response $20-20,000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 2 \mathrm{~dB}$. The High output is ideally suited for discotheques, groups, clubs, etc., or anywhere where reliability and quality are required. This unit is the companion model for use with our control companion model any other high quality pre-amp control unit. Completely built and tested on steel Chassis.
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## DJ70S <br> INTEGRATED <br> MIXER- <br> AMPLIFIER



One of the finest units available on the market today, regardless of price. The front end of the unit consists of a four channel mixer with separate inputs and volume controls, plus a separate bass, treble and master volume control. One of the main features of this remarkable amplifier. is its elaborate protection against short and open circuit and we can guarantee that it is virtually indestructible. Allied to this is its very high power output ( 70 W R.M.S.), a frequency response $(30-20.000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 3 \mathrm{~dB}$ ) that is superb, and distortionthat is well below $1 \%$ even at full output. The unit is suitable for use with discotheques, groups, P.A., clubs, etc., or anywhere that high quality high output is required. Size: $15 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} \times 5 \mathrm{in} \times 6 \mathrm{in}$.

PRICE $£ 63.0 .0$ inc. $P$. \& $P$.
Also available DJ105S 30W PA Amplifier. Similar specification to above.

PRICE $£ 41.0 .0$ inc. $P$. \& $P$.

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Full money back guarantee if returned within 10 days. All Discosound Products are guaranteed for 12 months. Demonstrations given at any time.

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## The Mystery Solved?

The letters by J. B. Jobe (Feb. 1970) and the one by D. A. Evered recently, concerning speaker-less reception, are intriguing. (They should have solved the mystery, though). I had a valve superhet which did the same thing, perking out music with one speaker lead disconnected! Refusing to go "round the bend," I removed the loudspeaker from the metal chassis, whereupon the music stopped. I replaced three shorted capacitors (connected to chassis) and put in a new valve, which had emission damaged, and the mystery was solved, the radio was back to normal. Why did it receive? Because of those capacitors conducting a portion of the signals to a leaky speaker transformer, hence the music. The transformer was cleaned with petrol, varnished, and is still working fine. - R. Wibberley (Nottingham).

Recently I have noticed one or two correspondents in your magazine describing sound coming from transistors themselves.

The other day, on removing the loudspeaker leads from a radio, I noticed the same phenomenon, faint but definitely audible. It was Radio Luxembourg, to which the radio had been tuned before removing the loudspeaker.
P. Everett (July 1970) suggests the Piezoelectric effect for the cause. This seems the most plausible.

The radio was a reasonably modern type, though imported (Empire made), and the transistors were metal-encased, being $2 \times 2$ SB56 in push-pull output.

It was not possible to ascertain whether one or both output transistors were "sounding off," though it seemed to be only one, as on moving the radio about, it seemed to be localised to only one.

In this case, the volume control did affect the volume coming from the transistors, which would seem to support the Piezoelectric theory, as the greater the current the greater the vibra-tion.-G. Hughes (Flintshire).

I recently read a letter published in the August edition of your magazine. In it Mr. David A. Evered described phenomena which he experienced when servicing a receiver some years ago.

I, too, experienced the same phenomena a few days ago whilst installing a car radio. I switched on and tuned in a station. I could hear music but it was not very loud. I then noticed that the loudspeaker was not connected-so where was the music coming from?

I know very little about radios and would not attempt to explain this but it may be of interest to some of your readers. The make of the set is Halcyon A.M. Minor.-P. Duggan ( $N$. Ireland).

Having read Mr. Evered's addition to Mr. Jobes phenomenal event of disconnected radio, I would like to go one better and claim the prize.

I serviced a transistor radio only a few months ago, and found it to be one of those awkward types where one has to disconnect a wire here and there to make the job more "getatable."

Having soldered a short link across a cracked circuit line on p.c. board, I proceeded to fit it back in its case, and in doing so broke a lead away from the speaker. Unfortunately this was not noticed until I had connected the battery for a try-out, and there it was; a stray lead with one end anchored to nowt! the novice's nightmare.

It was then that I saw only one lead going to the speaker from the p.c. board, and in order to verify this situation I decided to switch on and place the loose lead on to its respective terminal. No need to bother, the programme came through the speaker loud and clear, the loose wire still detached.

I, too, thought it a bit comical at first until I realised the speaker was being fed by a wellworn ear plug socket. - J. Thompson (Lancashire).

Having read Mr. Evered's letter (August '70) I feel bound to give an account of my experience.

I was testing my newly completed miniature audio amplifier (T. Bölstad, Dec. '69). A six-volt battery operated the device with an American "Rola" microphone and a loudspeaker (picked up at a Jumble Sale!) connected to it.

On shorting out the two microphone terminals, Radio 4 was quite clearly heard, with Franklin Englemann and the programme "Down Your Way!". Examination of the wiring gave no reasonable explanation, so the only answer I can give is that the long length of wire to the mike must act as an aerial for the "amplifier-cum-radio" and the large frequency response of the unit must serve as an r.f. and a.f. amplifier, thus sending the signal through the speaker.

I would be grateful to anyone who has had similar experiences to contact me, as I am a relative newcomer to this subject and would like more information.Christopher Pearce, age 14 (85 Percy Road, Hampton, Middx).

## Thanks

Thank you for publishing my CQ in your columns. The Sunday after publication of the issue it was printed in I received a call from two gentlemen who kindly lent some information, and a few days later received a large sheaf of immensely useable information from an anonymous donor who signed himself "e.h.t." with the postmark Ipswich. I received many other letters and would like to thank all, especially "e.h.t.," and to assure the same that his request about passing on the information will be honoured.-A. Howard, A7033 (Norfolk).

## Switched F.M. Tuner

Would anyone who has built the above project and who lives in the Hamilton-Glasgow area please contact me with a view to giving me some assistance.B. Bach ( 6 Birch Brae, Hamilton, Lanarkshire).


A$S$ one of the pioneers of radio communication the Mullard organisation has a very fine record of development in this field and to celebrate its Golden Jubilee held an exhibition in London from October 5th to 24th.

Entitled "Electronic Jubilee-An Exhibition of Electronic Ideas and Development" the show had many vintage items of radio equipment on display including part of the original 2LO station (see "Going Back" PW August 1970) various microphones with historical associations and a 1932 BBC receiver that was used for many years to pick up the transmissions from the launch that followed the annual Varsity Boat Race.

Although not strictly "vintage" the tape recorder used by the infamous WW2 character Lord HawHaw together with some of his original tapes were on display. As if to show that a recorder can be put to better use the disc recorder belonging to Stanley Maxwell, the BBC wartime correspondent of Arnhem fame, was also on view.

One of the exhibits, "Mullard" Through the Decades" illustrated the way in which Mullard have always kept abreast of developments and produced the latest electronic equipment for the public and industry alike.

An interesting mixture of ancient and modern was to be seen in the amateur station set up at the exhibition. With the callsign GB3MUL and manned by radio amateurs employed within the Mullard organisation the station made many contacts all over the world. Part of the gear using early Mullard valves worked happily alongside some of the latest s.s.b. communication equipment.

It was obvious that many of the radio receivers of the early days had been constructed with much loving care and it was good to see that the cabinets which held them were also fine examples of another art.

It is hoped that some readers of this column were able to take the opportunity to inspect some of these old receivers, powered with accumulators and hightension batteries, together tension batteries, together
with their cumbersome frame aerials and horn loudspeakers.

Modern Mullard equipment on show included a hi-fi amplifier, a car radio and a closed-circuit colour television unit and, of course, the inevitable computing equipment.

Those who thought the vintage side of the exhibition a trifle "heavy" were able to pit their wits against various electronic games in the "Electronics Go Pop" section of the show.

[^2]
# TRANSISTOR RADIOS 

## TO BUILD YOURSELF

## Backed by after sales service

## NEW! roamer eight mk 1

## WITH VARIABLE TONE CONTROL

7 Tunable Warebands: Medium Wave 1, Medium Ware 2, Long Wave, SW1, SW2, SW3 and Trawler Band. Built in Ferrite Rod Aerial for Mediurn and Long Waves. 4 section $24^{\prime \prime}$ retractable chrome plated Telescopic aerlal for Short Waves for maximum perfor: mance. Push pin output using 600 m transistors, socket for car aerial, Tape recor ing. Eight transistora plus 3 ditched earpiece socket complete with earpiece for private listen condenser. On/Off switch volume control. Wave change switch and tuning control. Attractive case in rich chestnut shade with gold blocking. Size 9 I 7 x 4 in. approx. Easy to follow instructions and diagrams make the Roamer Eight a pleasure to
build.
Parts Price List and Easy Build Plans 5/. (FREE with parts).

P. \& P. $7 / 6$

roamer seven mk IV
gEVEN FULLY TUNABLE WAVE-BANDS-MW1, MW2, LW, SW1, SW2, BW3 and Trawler Band. Extra traning of Radio Lixxembours, etc. Built in ferrite rod aerial for Medium and Long Waves. Retractable 4 section 24 in . chrome plated telescopic aerial for peak Short Wave listenlig. Socket for Car Aerlal. Poweriul pushpull output. Seven transistors and two diodes including Micro-Alloy TR.F. Transistors. Famous make 7 x 4in. P.M. speaker. Alr spaced ganged tuning condenser. Volume/on/off control, wave change switches and tuning control Attractive case with carrying handle. Size $9 \times 7 \times 4 i n$.
approx. Easy to follow instructions and diagrams make the Roamer 7 a pleasure to build. Parts price list and easy buid pians private listening, $5 /-$ extra

Total building costs
£5.19.6
P. \& P. $7 / 6$

## pocket five

MEDIUM WAVE, LONG WAVE AND TRAWLER BAND PORTABLE WITH SPEAKER

Attractive black and gold case. Size $\overline{5} \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ 世 $3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$
Tunable over both Medium and Long Waves with
extended M.W. band for easjer tuning of Luxem-
bourg, etc. 7 stages-5 transistors and 2 diodes,
supersensitive ferrite rod aerish, fine tone moving coil speaker. Easy build plans and parts price list 1/6 (FREE with parts).


Total building costs


## IMPROVED MODEL!

## roamer six

SIX WAVEBAND PORTABLE
WITH 3 in . SPEAKER
Attractive black case with red grille and crean knobs and dial polished brass inserts. Size $9 \times 5+\times 23$ in. approx. Tunable on Medium and Long Waves, two Short Waves, Tramler Band plus en extan M.W. band for easier tuning of luxembourg, eic. Neilal for Short Waves Improved circuit. 8 stages- -6 tran sistors and 2 diodes including Micro-Alloy R.F. Transistors, etc. (Carrying strap $2 / 6$ extra), Easy
 build plans and parts price list $2 / \cdot$ (FREE with parts).

Total building costs $79^{\prime} 6_{\substack{\text { p.app. } \\ 4 / 6}}^{\substack{\text { P. }}}$

## NEW!

## trans eight

SIX WAVEBAND PORTABLE WITH 3in. SPEAKER

Attractive case in black with red grille and cream knobs and dial with polished brass inserts. Bize $9 \pi 5 t \times 2$ in. approx.
Tunable on Medium and Long Waves, three
Short Waves and Trawler Band. Sensitive ferrite rod
aerial for M.W. and L.W. Teleacopic aerial for Short Waves
Eight improved type transistors plus 3 diodes. Push pull output. Battery economiser switch for extended battery life. Ample power to drive Earpiece with switched socket for private listening $\overline{/} /-$ extra.

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\begin{array}{r}
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\text { P. } \& .8 / 6
\end{array} Q
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* Open 10-1, 2.30-4.30 Mon.-Fri. 9-12 Sat.


## transona five

MEDIUM WAVE, LONG WAVE AND TRAWLER BAND
PORTABLE
WITH SPEAKER

Attractive caue with red speaker gribe. Size $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 43 \times 1 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{~m} .7$ stage-5 transistors and 2 diodes, ferrite rod aerial, tuning condenser, volume control, fine tone moving coil speaker. Easy build plans and parts price list $1 / 6$
(FREE with parts).

## RADIO EXCHANGECO

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Tel. 023452367
I enclose $£ \ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ~ p l e a s e ~ s e n d ~ i t e m s ~ m a r k e d ~$




$2 \frac{1}{2} k W$ FAN HEATER Three position switching to
suit changes in the weather. Switch up for full heater (2) k W), awitch down for hall heat $(1+\mathrm{kW})$, switch central blows cold for summer cooling -adjustable thermostat acts zs auto control and safety cutout. Complete kit 88.15 .0 Post and ins. 7/6.

MAINS SUPPRESSION ADAPTOR for preventing mains interference caused by racuum cleaners, razors, sewing machoues, 4 amps, simply 3 pin socket, $6 /-$ each

## 12 VOLT BATTERY CHARGER

 Made in Jayan, this is very small and neat Regular use will keep your car battery in good trip througith postage and insurance.QUICK CUPPA
Minl Immersion Heater, 350 w . $200 / 240 \mathrm{v}$. Bolls full cup in about lamp hinder. Have at bedside for tea, baby's food, etc. 24/6 post and insurance $2 / 9$. 12v. car model also a vailable 19/6 plus 2/9 postage.

## MAINS TRANSISTOR POWER

PACK
Desigued to operate translstor sets and amplifiers. Adjustahle ontput $6 \mathrm{v} . .9 \mathrm{~F}$., 12 volts for up $t$ b00mA (class $\mathbf{B}$ working). Takes the place of ant of the following batteries: PP1, PP3, PP4, PP6. PP7, PP9 aud others. Kit comprises: msin transformer rectifier, smoothing and load resistor, condensers and instructions. Real snip at only 16/6, plus 3/6 postage.

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How long does it take you to renew a fuse? Time yourgelf when next one blows. Then reckoning your time at $£ 1$ per hour gee how quickly our resettable fuse (anto circuit breaker) win pay for -simply fit in place of suiteh.

## COMPUTER TAPE

$2,400 \mathrm{ft}$ of the best magnetic tape money can buy. Made by F.M.I $1^{\prime \prime}$ wide almost unbreakable and on a $101^{\prime \prime}$ metal computer spool recordings. 18/6 plus 6/6 post. Cassette to hold spool 10/- extra.


THE FULL-FI STEREO SIX


The amplifie
You sensation of the year fullness of be amazed at the fullness of reproduction and at the added qualities your records or tuner will reproduce. Built atyled in simalated teak finished
o blend with modern furnishings, this ampliffer uges n integrated solid state circuit with an outpat power of 6 watts R.M.S. split an lutegrated solid state circuit with an outpat power of 6 ซatts k.m.s. split tunera, it has a double wound mains tranaformer and ganged volume and tone controls--also awitching for Mono to Stereo, taner or pick-up. Other controls nclude "treble lift and cut". "balance" and separate mains on/off switch.


EXTRACTOR FAN At the pull of a cord out go Suitable for kitehens, bathrooms, toilets, etc., it's so quiel it can hardly be heard. Compact $51^{*}$ casing with fan. Kit comprises motor, fan blades, sheet oteel casing, pull switch, mains connector and fixing brackets.
$39 / 6+8 / 6$ post and ins.

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 p.m. (ideal polishing speeds) from the main urive shaft. Very powerful and useful motor size appox $2 i n$. diameter, 5in. long. Price 17/6 plus 4/6 p. ins. 12 or zore post free.

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$220 / 240 \mathrm{v}$. 50 cycle solenoid with laminated core so very silent in operation. Closes 4 Extremely well made by a German Electrical Compan Overall size $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. 19/6 each.

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at a fraction of maker's price. Plus this FREE ever-
resdy drop-front case and shonlder strap. British made with precision auto-focas in colour and $\mathrm{B} \& \mathrm{~W}$. in colour and B \& W. 12 pictures on Kodak
127 film. Extremely gtrong and robust. 14 disy ${ }^{\text {s }}$ Ires trial, We guarantee to return your money in fall if you can't take perfeet pictures. $18 / 6+2 / 6 \mathrm{p}$.


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## G. F. MILWARD MAIL ORDERS: Drayton Bassett, Tamworth, Staffs.

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| WIRE-ENDED TYPES |  | IT IS ESSEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| REF, No. |  |  |  | REF. No G4/13 |  |  | ${ }^{\text {REF }} \mathrm{H} / \mathrm{N}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { REF.N } \\ & \text { HZ } \end{aligned}$ |  | 6 |
| G1113 40150V | $\begin{aligned} & 2-H 1 / 1 \\ & 1 /-H 2 / 2 \end{aligned}$ | 84/2.5V | 11- | G4114 | $500 / 4 \mathrm{~V}$ | $9 \mathrm{9d}$ | H712 | 20115 V | 1/- | H7110 | 6015 V | 116 |
| $62 / 51016 \mathrm{~V}$ | 9d H2/6A | 24/275V | 1- | H5/3A | 500/25V | 21- | H7/24 | 2016.4 V | 9 d | H7111 | $64 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 / 6$ |
| G3/7 100/25V | 21- ${ }^{1 / 8}$ | 321150 V | 1/- | H5/6A | 40/3V | 6 d | H7/3 | 25112 V | 9 d | H7113 | 75115V | $1 / 6$ |
| G3/14 1001180V | $21-\mathrm{H} / 9 \mathrm{~A}$ | $2 / 150 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 /$ | H517 | 3016 V | 6d | H7/4 | $25 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 116 | H7114 | 10014 V | 11 |
| G5/9 818/450V | 3 - ${ }^{2} / 10 \mathrm{~A}$ | $16132 / 350 \mathrm{~V}$ | 2/- | H5/11 | $400 / 6.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | $4 d$ | H714A | 25/20V | $1 / 16$ | H812 | $2 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | 1- |
| G6/13A 40/450V | 2/- $\mathrm{H}_{2} / 11 \mathrm{~A}$ | 32/275V | 116 | H5/12 | $320 / 10 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 /$ | H7/5 | 40115 V | $1 / 6$ | H813 | 3150 V | 1/- |
| H1/1 116 V | 6 d H3/7A | 500112 V | 116 | H5/14 | $5 / 6 \mathrm{~V}$ | 6 d |  | 50/3V |  |  | $12 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 116 |
| H1/3 4/4V | 6 d H 318 | 750112 V | $1 / 6$ | H611 | 100150 V | $1 / 6$ | H716A | $26 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | 116 | Heifa | $15 / 15 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 / 6$ |
| H1/4 616 V | $6 \mathrm{dH310A}$ | 30110 V | 6 d | H616 | 20013 V | 6 d | H717 | 50112V | 116 | H810 | 2275 V |  |
| H117 2016 V | $6{ }^{\text {d }} \mathrm{H}_{3} / 12$ | $16 / 50$ (REV) | $21-$ | H617 | $200 / 16 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 / 6$ | H717A | $50 / 10 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 /$ | H8IIIA | $250 / 12 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 / 6$ |
| HI/9 60/6V | 6diH4/I | 2014/275V | $1 / 6$ | H6113 | 500/3V | 9 d | H7/8 | 50/15V | 1/6 |  | 100/25V | 2/- |
| CAN TYPES REF. NO. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GI/8A i $16 / 35 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 /$ G3Milia | 2.000130 V | 5- | G5/i2 | 100/20/10/350/20/5 |  | HIJIOA | 10/10/350V | $1 / 6$ | H4/3A | $500 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | 1/6 |
| G1/10 32/275V | 1/-G4/1 | $300 / 700 / 320 \mathrm{~V}$ | 7/6 |  |  | 216 | H1/12 | 2001275 V |  |  | 40016 (REV) |  |
| G1/14 16/275V | 1)-G4/3 | $250 / 150 \mathrm{~V}$ | 21 | G513 | 4011001350 | $2 / 6$ | H1/15 | ${ }^{1001200160 / 275 V}$ | $51-$ | H445 | $32 / 32 / 550 \mathrm{~V}$ | $21-$ |
| G2/1 6,000/30V | 716 G4/4 | 50/50/200V | 2 | G5/13A | 40/40/40/40/350V | $2 / 6$ | H2/4 | 50180/300V |  | H4/6 | 64/275V |  |
| G2/5 125/200V (REV) | 5i-G415A | 60/350V | 1/- | G6/1 | 12,000/15V | $151-$ | H2/5 | $100 / 100 / 100 / 275 \mathrm{~V}$ | 216 | H4/8 | 818/8/275V | $2 / 6$ |
| G2/11 100/350V | 21-G4/6 | 60/2001275V | $2 / 6$ | G6/2A | $2.500 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | 716 | H2/6 | $50 / 275 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 / 16$ |  | $500 / 6 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
| G2/12 100/150V | $21-\mathrm{G417}$ | $40 / 401275 \mathrm{~V}$ | 116 | G6/3A | $2.000 / 15 \mathrm{~V}$ | $31-$ | $\mathrm{H}_{2} 19$ | 161161450 V | 21 | H4110 | $10 / 101425 \mathrm{~V}$ | 216 |
| G2/14 20/10/10/450V | 21-G4/7A | $40 / 40 / 450 \mathrm{~V}$ | $2 / 6$ | G6/4A | $1.000 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 216 | H2/10 | $1,0001100 \mathrm{~V}$ | 716 | $H 4111$ $H 5 / 2$ | 75/400/16/275V | 716 |
| G311 6011001350V | 3/-G4/11 | $2,000125 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  | $1,000 / 1,500 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  | $32 / 32 / 250 \mathrm{~V}$ $50 / 50 / 150 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | $\mathrm{H} 5 / 2$ <br> H 5 | 64/3218/275V |  |
| $\begin{array}{ll}\text { G3/2 } & 200 / 200 / 350 \mathrm{~V} \\ \mathrm{G3} / 2 \mathrm{~A} & 200 / 2001100 / 350 \mathrm{~V}\end{array}$ | ${ }_{7 / 6}^{6 / 6} \mathrm{G4/12}$ | $150 / 30 \mathrm{~V}$ $100 / 200 / 16 / 275 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {G6/6 }}^{\text {G6 }}$ | 1,600170V | $7 / 16$ | H2/12 | $50150 / 150 \mathrm{~V}$ $1,000 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | H5/3 $\mathbf{H 5 / 9}$ | $500 / 250(R E V)$ $100 / 100 / 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | $2 / 6$ |
| $\mathrm{G} 3 / 4^{650 / 300 \mathrm{~V}}$ | $7 / 6 \mathrm{G} 5 / 3$ | $35,000115 \mathrm{~V}$ | 151- | G6/8 | $200 / 250 \mathrm{~V}$ | $31-$ | H3/4A | 3,000/25V | 31- | H5/9 | 50/50/50/350V | $3{ }^{1}$ |
| G3/6A 50/50/350V | 2i-G5/5 | 4001275 V | 31- | 66/9 | 60/200/300V | 51- |  | 2,500/9V | 216 | H5/13 | 32/32/8/300V |  |
| G3/9 100/200/250V | 61-G516 | $60 / 1001275 \mathrm{~V}$ | 216 | G611 | 40/350V | $1 /$ | H316A | 5,000/18V | 41- | H6/4 | 1501150 V | 1/6 |
| G3/10 40/20/10/10/350V | 31-6517 | $100 / 400 / 300 \mathrm{~V}$ | 716 | G6/12 | 250125 V | 21 | H3/9 | 10012758 | 21 | H6/14 | 1,000/20V | 21- |
| G3]10A 2001350V | 21-G517A | 45,000 12 V | 151- | H5/4 | $325 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 1/6 | H3/11 | $150 / 200 \mathrm{~V}$ | 2/- | H8/2 | 3.000016 V | $31-$ |
| G3/12 100/200/16/16/300V | 5/-G5/10 | $100 / 100 / 50 / 350 \mathrm{~V}$ | 31- | HI/5 | 2,000/18V | $31-$ | ${ }^{\text {H3/13 }}$ | 16/16/375V | 21 | $\mathrm{HBl}_{13}$ | 6,00076V | 41/ |
| G3/13 64/275V | 2/-G5/11 | $100 / 200 / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 2/- | HI/6 | $125 / 200 \mathrm{~V}$ | 21 | H4/3 | 500/12V | 116 | H8/13A | 100/25/200/25V | $1 / 6$ |
| TAG ENDS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| REF. NO. | REF. NO |  |  | \|REF, NO |  |  | REF, NO |  |  | REF. |  |  |
| GI/4 4/150V | 1/-G2/4 | 40/300V | 1/6 | G4/9 | 8/8/350V | 21- | H1/9A | 50/150V | 1/- | H4/12 | 500150 V | 2/- |
| G1/5 8/275V | 1/-G2/13 | 100150V | 1/- | G4/10 | 350/25V | 21- | H3/5 | 250/150V | 2/- | H5/6 | 250/50V | 21- |
| GI/5A 32/350V | II-G4/3A | 200/25V | $1 / 6$ | G6/1A | 3,000/15 | 3/- | H4/2 | 250/25V | $1 / 6$ |  |  |  |
| G1/7 16/16/275V | 2/-G4/5 | $16 / 300 \mathrm{~V}$ | $1 /-$ | G6/12 | 1,000/12V | 2/- | H4/7A | 32/32/275V | 2/6 |  |  |  |

## G. F. MILLWARD, Drayton Bassett, Tamworth, Staffs. Postage (minimum) per order 2/-

## A series of simple transistor projects, each using less than twenty components and costing less than twenty shillings to build.

WE have described a two transistor radio before in this series (Take 20 No. 13, May 1970) and the only reason why we are doing another one is because of the popularity of these simple radio circuits. We get quite a large mailbag dealing with this page and from it we can get a pretty good idea of what people like; if you are one of those who thinks we have too many simple radio circuits I am afraid you will have to bow to the majority opinion.

Despite the fact that the previous circuit used two transistors, the similarity between the circuits stops there, for the one we are describing this month is not only simpler but, in my opinion at least, it is rather better.

## THE CIRCUIT

The function of any radio, whether it be a communications receiver or a simple little design of the type shown here, is to pick up the radio waves, amplify them, detect them and present them as usable information, which in the case of normal sets is in the form of sound waves. To pick up radio waves an aerial is required and to differentiate between the various frequencies (for an aerial will of course pick up all frequencies) a tuned circuit is needed.

In the design shown here the coil part of the tuned circuit also acts as the aerial, the rest of the tuned circuit comprising VC1 and the $0 \cdot 01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor. The radio frequencies appearing across the tuned circuit are coupled to the base of Tr1 and amplified by it. The amplified signal appears at the collector, R1 acting as the load and this is directly connected to the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ which acts as an emitter follower. Now the emitter "resistor" of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ is a $2,000 \Omega$ magnetic earpiece which has considerable inductance and r.f. signals will not pass through it, but the detector diode D1 will pass them and these are smoothed by the $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor which also forms part of the tuned circuit so that audio frequency signals are presented to the base of Trl. The same amplification action takes place as for the r.f. signals but this time the inductance of the earpiece is far less effective at blocking the r.f. signals and so it is heard in the earpiece itself. Some of the a.f. does get through for a third trip but so little that it doesn't really matter. D.C. base bias for Trl is taken from the emitter of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ through D1. Depending on the characteristics of Trl and D1 an additional resistor $R_{x}$ may improve the performance and indeed with some components may be essential. It's value will probably lie between $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. In addition to helping with the base bias it will also introduce a certain amount of regeneration which will improve


Fig. 1: The complete circuit.

## $\star$ components list

| R1 | $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{k} \Omega 10 \%$, $\frac{1}{4}$ watt-see text |
| :---: | :---: |
| C1 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| VC1 | 250pF variable |
| L1 | See text |
| D1 | OA91 diode |
| Tr1 | 2N2926G (green) |
| Tr2 | 2N2926G (green) |
| Earpi | ece, $2000 \Omega$ magnetic type |
| 9 V b | attery |
| On/o | ff switch |

the performance. R 3 is nominally $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ but values between $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ can be tried for best results.

Generally speaking I dislike reflex circuits (which of course this one is) and this is only the second that has been shown in this column; they tend to be unstable, highly dependent on component values and poor value for money (the extra components usually cost more than an extra transistor) but in this circuit it works very well and none of the values are critical.

It must be emphasised that low impedance and crystal earpieces are not suitable for this type of circuit and only high impedance magnetic types will work at all.

The coil Ll consist of about 80 turns of enamelled copper wire wound on to a $\frac{7}{8}$ in. diameter ferrite rod tapped at 8 turns. The actual gauge of wire used is not critical but I usually use 36 s.w.g. size.

> At the time of going to press, it seems that the December issue of Television will not be published due to an industrial dispute at the printers. Future issues of Practical Wireless will not be affected.

# BBC <br> VHFRADIO TRANSMITTING STATIONS 

Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 4
Ashkirk
Ballachulish
Ballycastle
Barnstaple
Bath
Beimont
Betws-y-Coed
Blaenplwyf
Brecon
Bressay
Brighton
Brougher Mountain
Cambridge
Campbeltown
Carmarthen
Churchdown Hill
Divis
Dolgellau
Douglas
Ffestiniog
Forfar
Fort Wiliam
Grantown
Haverfordwest
Hereford
Hoime Moss
Isles of Scilly
Kendal
Kilkeel
Kingussie
Kinlochleven
Kirk o'Shotts
Larne
Les Platons
Llanddona
Elandrindod Wells
Llangollen
Lfanidtoes
Lochgilphead
Londonderry
Machynlleth
Maddybenny More
Meldrum
Melvaig
Morecambe Bay
Newry
Northampton
North Hessary Tor
Oban
Okehampton
Orkney
(BBC sheet) Radio 2 Radı $3 \quad$ Rad

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline Oxford \& 89.5 \& 91.7 ${ }^{\text {s }}$ \& 93.9 \& (South and \& West) \& \& kW* <br>
\hline Penifiler \& 89.5 \& 91.7 \& 93.9 \& (Scottish) \& \& \& $\mathrm{W}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Perth \& 89.3 \& 91-5 \& 93.7 \& (Scottish) \& \& \& $\mathrm{W}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Peterborough \& 90.1 \& 92-3 \& 94.5 \& (Midland) \& \& \& $\mathrm{kW}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Pitlochry \& 89.2 \& 91.4 \& $93 \cdot 6$ \& (Scottish) \& \& \& $W^{*}$ <br>
\hline Pontop Pike \& 88.5 \& $90 \cdot 7$ \& 92.9 \& (North) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Redruth \& 89.7 \& 91.9 \& 94.1 \& (South and \& West! \& \& kW* <br>
\hline Rosernarkie \& $89 \cdot 6$ \& 91.8 \& 94.0 \& (Scottish) \& \& \& kW* <br>
\hline Rowridge \& 88.5 \& $90 \cdot 7$ \& 92.9 \& (South and \& Wes? \& 60 \& kW <br>
\hline Sandale \& 88.1 \& $90 \cdot 3$ \& 92.5 \& (Scottish) \& \& 120 \& kW <br>
\hline \& \& \& 94.7 \& (North) \& \& 120 \& <br>
\hline Scarborough \& $89 \cdot 9$ \& 92.15 \& 94.3 \& (North) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Sheffield \& $89 \cdot 9$ \& 92-1 ${ }^{\text {s }}$ \& 94.3 \& (North) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Skriaig \& 88.5 \& 90.7 \& 92.9 \& [Scottish] \& \& \& $\mathrm{kW}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Sutton Coldfield \& 88.3 \& $90.5{ }^{5}$ \& 92.7 \& (Midland) \& \& 120 \& <br>
\hline $\dagger$ Swaledale \& 896 \& 91.8 \& 94.0 \& (North) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Swingate \& $90 \cdot 9$ \& $92.4{ }^{5}$ \& 94.4 \& (London) \& \& \& $\mathrm{kW}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Tacolneston \& 89.7 \& 91.9 \& 94.1 \& (Midland) \& \& 120 \& <br>
\hline Thrumster \& 90-1 \& 92.3 \& 94.5 \& (Scottish) \& \& \& $\mathrm{kW}^{*}$ <br>
\hline Toward \& 88.5 \& 90.7 \& 92.9 \& (Scottish) \& \& 250 \& <br>
\hline Ventnor \& $89 \cdot 4$ \& $91 \cdot 6$ \& 93.8 \& (Snuth and \& West) \& \& <br>
\hline Weardale \& 89.7 \& 91.9 \& 94.1 \& (North) \& \& 100 \& <br>
\hline Wensleydate \& 88.3 \& 90.5 \& 92.7 \& (North) \& \& 25 \& <br>
\hline Wenvoe \& 89.95 \& 96.8 \& $94 \cdot 3$ \& (Wersh) \& \& 120 \& <br>
\hline \& \& \& $92 \cdot 125$ \& (South and \& West) \& 120 \& <br>
\hline Whitby \& $89 \cdot 6$ \& 91.8 \& 94.0 \& (North) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Windermere \& $88 \cdot 6$ \& $90 \cdot 8$ \& 93.0 \& (North) \& \& 20 \& <br>
\hline Wrotham \& 89.1 \& $91 \cdot 3^{\text {s }}$ \& 93.5 \& (London) \& \& 120 \& kW <br>
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{BBC Local Radio Stations} \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Frequency ( MHz )} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{Maximum ERP} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{\$ Birmingham (opening November 1970)} \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.6} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{5.5 kW *} <br>
\hline †Black burn \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{96.47} \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{1.5
75

W}} \& \multirow{3}{*}{(500 W} <br>
\hline Brighton \& \& \& \& (95.8) \& \& \& <br>
\hline Bristol \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.4} \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{$5 \mathrm{~kW}{ }^{*}$} \& <br>
\hline $\dagger$ Derby \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{$96.5 \ddagger$
96.8}} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{$5.5 \mathrm{~kW}{ }^{*}$} <br>
\hline Durham \& \& \& \& \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{$2.6 \mathrm{~kW}^{+}$
4.5 kW}} <br>
\hline $\dagger$ Humberside \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{95.3 ( 3 )} \& \& \& <br>
\hline Leeds \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{$94 \cdot 6$} \& 140 \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{\multirow[b]{2}{*}{(155 W}} <br>
\hline Leicester \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.2} \& 140 \& \& <br>
\hline tLondon lopening \& ober 1 \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.3} \& 16.5 \& \& <br>
\hline Manchester \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.1\#} \& \& \& <br>
\hline tMedway (opening \& cember \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{97.0} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{$5.5 \mathrm{~kW}{ }^{*}$} <br>
\hline Merseyside \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{95.85 (95.8)} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{$2.5 \mathrm{~kW}^{*} 15 \mathrm{~kW}$} <br>
\hline $\dagger$ Newcastle (openin \& Novemb \& cember \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{$1 \quad 95 \cdot 4$} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{3.5 kW} <br>
\hline Nottingham \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{94.8} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{140 W} <br>
\hline toxford lopening \& ober 19 \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{$95 \cdot 0$} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{4.5 kW} <br>
\hline Sheffield \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{88.6} \& \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{30 W} <br>
\hline (Rotherham \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{95.05} \& \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{$9 \mathrm{~W}^{*}$} <br>
\hline +Solent fopening D \& mber 1 \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{96.1} \& \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{5 kW} <br>
\hline Stoke-on-Trent \& \& \& \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{94.6} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{$2.5 \mathrm{~kW}^{*}$} <br>
\hline tTeesside (opening \& vember \& ember 1 \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{) 96.6} \& \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{$5 \mathrm{~kW}{ }^{*}$} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{Changes of trequency and power are planned at some stations, indicated by the figures in brackets.} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{5 Includes stereophonic programmes} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{- Directionas aerial} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{+ Station not in service at date of issue of this sheet} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{$\ddagger$ Stant polarization. All other vhf radio transmissions are horizontatly polarized} <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

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PRACTICAL WIRELESS, JANUARY 1971

## PRACTICAL WIRELESS

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$250-0-25080 \mathrm{~mA} .6 .3$ v. 3.5 в. 6.3 v. 1 a, or 5 v. 2 a , $300-0-300$ 120. 12.3 F. 3.5 a. 6.3 v. 1 a, or 5 v. 2 a
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Triple speaker aystem combining on ready cut baffle. $\frac{1}{2}$ in. chipboard $15 \mathrm{in}, \times 8 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$. Separate Bass, Middle heavy duty 5 in. Bass Woofer unit has a low resonance cone. The mid-Range unit is specially designed to add drive to the middle register and the tweeter recreates the top end of the musical spectrum. Total response $20-15,000 \mathrm{eps}$. Full instructions $\mathbf{7}$ or 3 or 8 ohm . TEAK VENEERED BOOKSHELF ENCLOSURE $16 \times 10 \times 9 \mathrm{in}$. Modern Scandinavian $\mathbf{t 5}$ Post $2 / 6$
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$25 \mathrm{ohm}, 3 \mathrm{in}$. dia.; $6 \times 4 \mathrm{in} .8 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$.
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## Project 60



# the world's most advanced high fidelity modules 

With the introduction of an entirely new and original high fidelity stereo F.M. tuner, the Project 60 range can be said at this stage to be complete. It offers the constructor a most attractive choice of modular arrangements whereby a high fidelity system can be selected to suit the user's personal requirements. Equally, it is possible to use any Project 60 modules separately or partially grouped and so benefit greatly from the flexibility in use these modules afford. The chart below shows some of the most popular applications for constructors to assemble. The Project 60 manual (free with the modules) suggests others as well and its 48 pages are packed with valuable information. The new tuner, for example can be used with any good high fidelity system as well as Project 60.

Project 60 now falls into;four interdependent groups : -1 . The $Z .30$ and Z.50 amplifiers which have only $0.02 \%$ distortion at all output levels and are useful in a wide variety of other applications. 2. The control units comprising the Stereo 60 preamp and control unit and the Active Filter Unit (A.F.U.) with which both high pass and low pass filtering can be introduced between control unit and power amplifiers. 3. The Stereo F.M. tuner as described opposite : and 4. The power supply units PZ.5,
$P Z .6$ and $P Z .8$. For most requirements when using $Z .30$ power amplifiers, the PZ. 5 will be perfectly adequate ; if low efficiency (high quality) loud speakers are used, the PZ. 6 stabilised power supply unit will be used. The PZ. 8 will be needed with $Z .50$ s which can be used for any Project 60 system.
Project 60 modules incorporate some of the most advanced circuitry in the world to achieve unsurpassed standards of high fidelity and modern manufacturing techniques enable these modules to be sold at exceptionally attractive prices. Assembling the modules requires no skill or previous experience since the manual supplied with the modules explains clearly how everything can be done with nothing more than the simplest of domestic tools.

## Project 60 manuals

How to assemble and use Project 60 modules to best advantage in the above and other applications will be found in the fully descriptive Project 60 manual included with Project 60 systems. This 48 page manual is available separately, price $2 / 6$ d including postage.

|  | System | The Units to use | In conjuction with | Cost of Units | + Project 60 tuner |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | Car Radio | 2.30 | Existing car radio. Sinclair Micromatic | 89/6 |  |
| B | Simple battery powered record player | 2.30 | Crystal pick-up, 12V or more battery supply and volume control | 89/6 |  |
| C | Mains powered record player | Z.30 and PZ.5 | Crystal or ceramic P.U. <br> Volume control etc. | £9.9.0 | £34.9.0 |
| D | $20+20$ watts R.M.S. stereo amplifier for most needs | Two Z.30s, Stereo 60 and PZ. 5 | Crystal, ceramic or magnetic P.U., most dynamic speakers, F.M. tuner etc. | £23.18.0 | £48.18.0 |
| E | $20+20$ watts R.M.S. stereo amplifier for use with low efficiency (high performance) speakers | Two Z.30s, Stereo 60 and PZ. 6 | High quality ceramic or magnetic P.U., F.M. Tuner, Tape Deck, etc All dynamic speakers | £26.18.0 | £51.18.9 |
| F | $40+40$ watts R.M.S. de-Iuxe stereo amplifier | Two Z.50s, Stereo 60 PZ. 8 and mains transformer | As for E | £32.17.6 | f57.17.6 |
| G | Outdoor public address system | Z.50 | Microphone, up to 4 P.A. speakers, 12 V car battery with converter, or 45 V d.c., controls | £5.9.6 |  |
| H | Indoor P.A. | One Z.50, PZ. 8 and mains transformer | Microphone, guitar, heavy duty speakers etc., controls | £17.8.6. |  |
| $J$ | High pass and low pass filters | A.F.U. | D, E or F as above | £5.19.6 |  |

## Z. 30 \& Z. 50 power amplifiers <br> The $Z .30$ together with the $Z .50$ are both of

 advanced design using silicon epitaxial planar transistors to achieve unsurpassed standards of performance. Total harmonic distertion is an incredibly low $0.02 \%$ at full output and all lower outputs. Whether you use the $Z .30$ or Z.50 power amplifiers in your Project 60 system will depend on personal preference. but they are the same physical size and may be used with other units in the Project 60 range equally well. For operating from mains, for the $Z .30$ use PZ. 5 for most domestic requirements, or $P Z .6$. If you have very low efficiency lcudspeakers. For Z.50. use the PZ. 8 described below.SPECIFICATIONS (Z. 50 units are interchangeable with Z.30s in all applications).

## Power Outputs

Z. 3015 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms, using 35 V : 20 watts R.M.S. into 30 hms using 30 volts
Z. 5040 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms from 40 volts : 30 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms, using 50 volts.
Frequency response 30 to $300.000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$
Distortion $0.02 \%$ into 8 ohms
Signal to noise ratio better than 70 dB unweighted Input sensitivity 250 mV into 100 Kohms . For speakers from 3 to 15 ohms impedance. Size $3 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ ins.


Built, tested and guaranteed with circuits and instructions manual

89/6
2.50

Built. tested and guaranteed with circuits and instructions manual $109 / 6$

## Stereo 60 pre amp/control unit

Designed for the Project 60 range but suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Again silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout. achieving a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excellent tracking between channels. input selection cellent tracking between channels. input selection
is by means of push buttons and accurate equalisais by means of push buttons and accurate equalisation is provided for all the usual inputs.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- Input sensitivities - Radio - up to 3mV. Mag. p.u. 3 mV ; correct to R.I.A.A. curve $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}: 20$ to 25.000 Hz . Ceramic p.u. - up to 3 mV : Aux. - up to 3 mV .
Ceramic p.u. -up to
- Dutput -250 mV .
- Dutput-250mV.
- Signal-to-noise satio-better than 70 dB .
- Channel matching - within 1 dB.
-Tone controls - TREBLE +15 to -15 dB at $10 \mathrm{kHz}: \mathrm{BASS}+15$ to -15 dB at 100 Hz .

- Front panel -- brushed alumınium with black knobs and controls.
- Size $8 \frac{1}{4} \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \times 4$ ins.

Built, tested and guaranteed
£9.19.6

## Active Filter Unit

For use between Stereo 60 unit and two Z.30s or $Z .50 \mathrm{~s}$, the Active Filter Unit matches the Stereo 60 in styling and is as easily mounted. It is unique in that the cut-off frequencies are continuously variable, and as attenuation in the rejected band is rapid ( $12 \mathrm{~dB} /$ octave), there is less loss of the wanted signal than has previously been possible. Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. The Sinclair A.F.U. is suitable also for use with any other amplifier system.
Two stages of filtering are incorporated - rumble (high pass) and scratch (low pass). Supply voltage 15 to 35 V . Current -3 mA . H.F cut-off ( -3 dB )

## Stereo FM tuner



## first in the world to use the phase lock loop principle

Before production of this tuner, the phase lock loop principle was used for receiving signals from space craft because of its vastly improved signal to noise ratio over other systems. Now, for the first time the principle has been applied to an FM tuner with fantastically good results. By the inclusion of other original features such as varicap diode tuning. printed circuit coils and an I.C. in the specially designed stereo decoder. the tuner has an unsurpassed specification, which also incorporates a squelch circuit for silent tuning between stations, A.F.C. and A.G.C. Sensitivity is such that good reception becomes possible in difficult areas, foreign stations can be tuned in suitable conditions and often a few inches of wire are enough for an aerial. In terms of high fidelity. this tuner has a lower level of distortion than any other tuner we know. Stereo broadcasts are received automatically as the tuning control is rotated, a panel indicator lighting up as the stereo signal is tuned in. Although the tuner is intended primarily for use with a Project 60 system, it can be used to advantage with any other high fidelity system. It is easily mounted into any cabinet as shown in the manual supplied with it.

## Specifications

Number of transistors 16 plus 20 in I.C.
Tuning range 87.5 to 108 MHz
Capture ratio 1.5 dB
Sensitivity $2 \mu \vee$ for 30 dB quieting $7 \mu \vee$ for full limiting
Squelch level $20 \mu \mathrm{~V}$
A.F.C. range $\pm 200 \mathrm{KHz}$

Signal to noise ratio $>65 \mathrm{~dB}$
Audio frequency response $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-15 \mathrm{kHz}( \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB})$
Total harmonic distortion $0.15 \%$ for $30 \%$
modulation
Stereo decoder operating level $2 \mu \mathrm{~V}$
Pilot tone suppression 30 dB
Cross talk 40 dB
I.F. frequency 10.7 MHz

Output voltage $2 \times 150 \mathrm{mV}$ R.M.S.
Aerial Impedance 75 Ohms
Indicators Mains on; Stereo on; tuning indicator Operating voltage $25-30 \mathrm{VDC}$
Size $3.6 \times 1.6 \times 8.15$ inches : $91.5 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}$


Price : $\mathbf{£ 2 5}$ built and tested. Post free.

## Power Supply Units

The units below are designed specially for use with the Project 60 system of your choice.
Illustration shows PZ. 5 power supply unit to left and PZ. 8 (for use with $Z .50$ s) to the right. Use PZ. 5 for normal $Z .30$ assembiies and $P Z .6$ where a stabilised supply is essential.

PZ-5 30 volts unstabilised $£ 4.19 .6$
PZ-6 35 volts stabilised $\mathbf{~} 7.19 .6$
PZ-845 volts stabilised
(less mains transformers) £5.19.6
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GUARANTEE If within 3 months of purchasing Project 60 modules directly from us, you are dissatisfied with them, we will refund your money at once. Each module is guaranteed to work' perfectly and should any defect arise in normal use we will service it at once and without any cost to you whatsoever provided that it is returned to us within 2 vears of the purchase date. There will be a small charge for service thereatter. No charge for postage by surface mail. Air-mail charged at cost.


To: Sinclair Radionics Ltd., 22 Newmarket Road, Cambridge Please send


## Sinclair IC-10



## the world's most advanced high fidelity amplifier

## Specifications

Output: 10 Watts peak, 5 Watts R.M.S. continuous
Frequency response. $\quad 5 \mathrm{~Hz}$ to $100 \mathrm{KHz} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ Total harmonic distortion: Less than $1 \%$ at full output.
Load impedance: 3 to 15 ohms.
Power gain: 110 dB (100,000,000,000 times) total.
Supply voltage: 8 to 18 volts.
Size: $\quad 1 \times 0.4 \times 02$ inches.
Sensitivity: 5 mV .
Input impedance: Adjustable externally up to
25 M ohms.

## Circuit Description

The first three transistors are used in the pre-amp and the remaining 10 in the power amplifier. Class AB output is used with closely controlled quiescent current which is independent of temperature. Generous negative feedback is used round both sections and the amplifier is completely free from crossover distortion at all supply voltages, making battery operation eminently satisfactory.

## Applications

Each $1 \mathrm{C}-10$ is sold with a very comprehensive manual giving circuit and wiring diagrams for a large number of applications in addition to high fidelity. These include stabilised power supplies. oscillators. etc. The pre-amp section can be used as an R.F. or I.F. amplifier without any additional transistors.

The Sinclair $1 C-10$ is the world's first monolithic integrated crrcuit high fidelity power amplifier and pre-amplifier. The circuit itself, a chip of silicon only a twentieth of an inch square by one hundredth of an inch thick, has 5 watts R.M.S. output ( 10 W . peak). It contains 13 transistors (including two power types). 2 diodes, 1 zener diode and 18 resistors, formed simultaneously in the silicon by a series of diffusions. The chip is encapsulated in a solid plastic package which holds the metal heat sink and connecting pins. This exciting device is not only more rugged and reliable than any previous amplifier, it also has considerable performance advantages. The most important are complete freedom from thermal runaway due to the close thermal coupling between the output transistors and the bias diodes and very low level of distortion.

The $1 C-10$ is primarily intended as a full performance high fidelity power and pre-amplifier, for which application it only requires the addition of such components as tone and volume controls and a battery or mains power supply. However, it is so designed that it may be used simply in many other applications including car radios, electronic organs, servo amplifiers (it is d.c. coupled throughout), etc. Once proven. the circuits can be produced with complete uniformity which enables us to give a full guarantee on every $1 \mathrm{C}-10$, knowing that every unit will work as perfectly as the original and do so for a lifetime.

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IC-10
with IC-10 manual Post free.

59/6
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## 0. 16 Hígh fidelity loudspeaker

Developed out of the revolutionary and much praised design of the original Sinclair 0.14 comes this more advanced version to meet the requirements of even greater numbers of high fidelity enthusiasts. The 0.16 employs the same well proven acoustic principles in which a special driver assembly is meticulously matched to the physical characteristics of the uniquely designed housing. In reviewing this exclusive Sinclair design, technical journals have been loud in their praise for it and it comfortably stands comparison with very much more expensive loudspeakers. The shape of the 0.16 enables it to be positioned and matched to its environment to much better effect than is the case with conventionally styled enclosures, and with its improved styling,
the 0.16 presents an entirely new and attractive appearance. A solid teak surround is used with a special all-over cellular black foam front chosen as much for its appearance as for its ability to pass all audio frequencies unimpaired.
The 0.16 is compact and slim and is the ideal shelf-mounted speaker, and brings genuine high fidelity within reach of every music lover.

## Specifications

 Construction:Loading
Input impedance:

Driver unit:

Size and styling:

Price:

Frequency response: From 60 to 16.000 Hz , as confirmed.
by independently plotted $B$ \& $K$ curve.
A sealed seamless sound or pressure chamber is used with internal baffle, all of materials carefully chosen to ensure freedom from spurious tone coloration.
Up to 14 watts R.M.S. 8 ohms. Specially designed high compliance unit having massive ceramic magnet of 11,000 gauss, aluminium speech coil and special cone suspension. Excellent transient response is achieved.
$9 \frac{3}{4}^{\prime \prime}$ square on face $\times 4 \frac{3{ }^{\prime \prime}}{}$ deep with neat pedestal base. Black all-over cellular foam front with natural solid teak surround.
front with
£8 196.


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Considerably smaller than an ordinary box of matches, this is a multi-stage A.M. receiver meticulously designed to provide remarkable standards of selectivity, power and quality. Powerful A.G.C. is incorporated to counteract fading from distant stations: bandspread at higher frequencies makes reception of Radio 1 easy at all times. Vernier type tuning plus the directional properties of the self-contained special ferrite rod aerial makes station separation very much easier than with many larger sets. The plug-in high fidelity type magnetic earpiece which matches exactly with the output of the Micromatic provides wonderful standards of reproduction both for speech and for music. Everything including the batteries is contained within the attractively designed case. Whether you build your Micromatic or buy it ready built and tested, you will find it as easy to take with you as your wristwatch. and dependable under the severest listening conditions.

## Specifications

Size:
Weight including
batteries:
Tuning:
Earpiece:
Battery
requirements:
Case:

Price:

Controls: Tuning dial, and on/off switching by means of earpiece plug.
$1 \frac{19}{16^{\prime \prime}} \times 1 \frac{7}{16}{ }^{\prime \prime} \times \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}(46 \times 33 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm})$. 1 oz. ( 28.35 gm ) approx

Medium wave' band with bandspread at higher frequency end.
High-fidelity magnetic type.
Two Mallory Mercury Cells, type R.M. 675. for long working life.
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| $\text { B83 } 20$ | Trans．Makers rejects．NPN／PNP． $\mid 0 /-~$ Sil．and Germ． |
| B | Silicon Diodes DO－7 glass equiv．to $10 / \mathrm{m}$ OA200，OAEO2． |
| 30 | Top Hat silicon Rectifers $750 \mathrm{~mA} .10 /-$ Mixed volts． |
| ${ }^{\text {B86 }} 5$ | Mil．Diodes sub．min．IN914 and IN916 $10 /=-$ types． |
| H16 | Experimenters；Pak of circuits．Data supplied． |
| ${ }^{\text {B88 }} 5$ | Sil．Trans．NPN，PNP，equivalent to $\mathbf{O C} 200 / 1,2 \mathrm{~N} 00 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{BSY} 95 \mathrm{~A}$, etc． O． |
| ${ }^{\text {B60 }} 10$ | 7 Watt Zener Diodes．Mixed voltages．10／－ |
| $\mathrm{H}_{200} 20$ | BY126／7 type Silicon Rectifers $1 \mathrm{amp} \mid \mathrm{O}_{1}$ i－ plastic．Up to 1,000 volts． |

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B935 GET113 Trans．equiv．to ACY17 to $\mid \mathbf{I C} /$－

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