# Wireless Wprlil 

JULY 1954 TWO SHILLINGS




# EDISWAN MAZDA 

## VALVES AND CATHODE RAY TUBES

THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC CO. LTD., 155 CHARING GROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C. 2

## Wirpeless World

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RADIO, T ELE E I SION
AND ELECTRONICS
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44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION
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## VALVES, TUBES \& CTIRCUITIS

## 19. ECC85: COMBINED R.F. AMPLIFIER AND MIXER FOR BAND II F.M. RECEPTION

Preliminary Valve Data

| HEATER |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $V_{h}$ | 6.3 | V |
| ih |  | 35 A |
| CAPACITANCES |  |  |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Ca}-\mathrm{g}$ | 1.5 | pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Cg}-(k+h+s)$ | 3.0 | pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{ca}-\mathrm{k}$ | 0.17 | 7 pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Ca}-(\mathrm{k}+\mathrm{h}+\mathrm{s})$ | 1.2 | pF |
| ${ }^{*}{ }^{*} \mathrm{ca}^{\prime}-\left(k^{\prime}+h+s\right)$ | 1.9 | pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Ca}^{\prime \prime}-\left(k^{\prime \prime}+h+s\right)$ | 1.8 | pF |
| $\mathrm{ca}^{\prime}-\mathrm{a}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.04$ | 4 pF |
| ** ${ }^{\text {ca' }}$ - ${ }^{\text {" }}$ | $<0.00$ | P pF |
| $\mathrm{ca}^{\prime}$ - $\mathbf{k}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.00$ | pF |
| $\mathrm{Cg}^{\prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime \prime}$ | <0.00 | pF |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.00$ | 8 pF |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime \prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime}$ | <0.00 | 8 pF |
| $\mathrm{ca}^{\prime \prime}$ - $\mathrm{k}^{\prime}$ | < 0.00 | pF |
| $\mathbf{c g}^{\prime}$ - $\mathbf{k}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.00$ | 3 pF |
| $\mathrm{cg}^{\prime \prime}-\mathrm{k}^{\prime}$ | $<0.00$ | 3 pF |
| *Each section |  |  |
| * Measured with an external shield |  |  |
| CHARACTERISTICS |  |  |
| Va | 250 | $V$ |
| 1 a | 10 | mA |
| $V_{g}$ | -2.3 | $V$ |
| $g m$ | 6.0 m | mA/V |
| $\mu$ | 57 |  |
| OPERATING CONDITIONS R.F. Amplifier |  |  |
| Vb | 250 | V |
| Va | 230 | $V$ |
| 1 a | 10 | mA |
| $\mathrm{Vg}_{\mathrm{g}}$ | -2.0 | $V$ |
| gm | 6.0 m | mA/V |
| ra | 9.0 | $k \Omega$ |
| Self-Oscillating Mixer |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{b}}$ | 250 | $V$ |
| $\mathrm{Ra}_{\mathbf{a}}$ | 12 | $k \Omega$ |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{g}}$ - k | 1.0 | $m \Omega$ |
| $\mathrm{l}_{2}$ | 5.2 | mA |
| Vosc(r.m,s.) | 3.0 | $V$ |
| ge | 2.3 m | A/V |
| ra | 20 | $k \Omega$ |
| LIMITING VALUES (each section) |  |  |
| $V_{a}(\mathrm{~b})$ max. | 550 | $V$ |
| $V_{a}$ max. | 300 | $V$ |
| pa max. | 2.5 | W |
| $\mathrm{pa}^{\prime}+\mathrm{pa}^{\prime \prime}$ max. | 4.5 | W |
| Ik max. | 15 | mA |
| $-V_{g}$ max. | 100 | $V$ |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{g}-\mathrm{k}} \mathrm{max}$. | 1.0 | $M \Omega$ |
| Vh-k max. | $90$ | $\stackrel{V}{8}$ |
| Rh-k max. | 20 | $k \Omega$ |
| BASE | B9A |  |

It is essential when designing F.M. receivers for operation at V.H.F. to reduce noise in the input stages and radiation from the local oscillator by including an R.F. amplifier before the frequency changer. A triode is preferred for the R.F. stage because it has better noise properties than a pentode. The Mullard double triode type ECCB5 has been specially designed for the "front-end" stages in F.M. reception. One triode section is used as the low-noise amplifier and the other triode section follows it as a self-oscillating additive mixer. With this arrangement both oscillator radiation and noise are reduced by feeding the signal from the R.F. stage to a null point on the oscillator coil.

The outstanding feature of the ECC85 is that extensive internal screening has been provided to reduce the capacitance between the anodes to less than 0.04 pF , so that in a suitable circuit the oscillator radiation can be made lower than with any double triode previously available. This capacitance can be reduced to less than 0.008 pF by surrounding the valve with a screening can 22.5 mm in diameter. The front-end stages are thus separated effectively without the cost of using two separatc triodes. These measures are completely satisfactory in reducing oscillator radiation to an acceptable value, since only a relatively low oscillator voltage is required to drive the mixer. In addition to having high slope and input resistance, the ECC85 has an amplification factor of 57.
A typical circuit for the ECC85 is given below in which the R.F. section is operated with a grounded grid and the mixer with a grounded cathode. A grounded-grid circuit has the advantage of being more easily adjusted than one which requires special measures to neutralise the anode-to-grid capacitance. Any additional gain which might be obtained from more complex circuits is not necessary, and in fact the input coils L1, L2 can be matched for minimum noise rather than maximum power. The frequency changer input is taken from a tap on the R.F. coil, L4, in order to increase the R.F. gain and also to ensure that the required frequency range is covered by the $2-12 \mathrm{pF}$ tuning capacitor. The oscillator circuit is anode-tuned and is coupled to the anode by a 17 pF capacitor which because it presents a low impedance to an intermediate frequency of, say, $10.7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ also tunes the I.F. transformer. Internal anode-togrid capacitance in the mixer triode, which might reduce the amplification, is neutralised by applying an I.F. feedback voltage to the grid.


## Wirolbss IVortil

JULY 1954

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## Hadia Lieomers

IAST month we entered a mild protest about the new G.P.O. radio licence regulations, drawing attention to certain anomalies and irrelevancies. In particular, we complained that the licence fees charged for broadcast sound and vision reception in guest rooms of hotels were excessively high. According to the regulations, the full domestic fee is to be paid for each room equipped.

We are now told, in effect, that the "Statutory Instrument" under which these regulations were made must not be taken too literally. The wording of the Post Office official statement on this subject is somewhat vague, but apparently the regulation applies only to "permanent" residents; most transient occupants of hotel rooms may be assumed to have already a licence for their home installations. And, anyway, the onus of seeing that his set (or extension loudspeaker) is licensed is apparently on the guest; not on the hotel proprietor.

What is a "permanent " guest? A person normally resident abroad is, we believe, liable to be caught up in the U.K. tax net after a stay of six months in this country. It sounds reasonable, therefore, to suggest that, after the same period, the hotel guest, whether British or foreign, might he held liable to pay for a broadcast licence. But how many people stay in the same hotel for six months or longer? Not enough, we should guess, to justify this rigmarole of the so-called Comprehensive Hotels Licence. The comparatively rare case of the "permanent" hotel guest could easily, and administratively much more simply, have been covered by adding a few words to the regulations covering ordinary domestic licences.

We are forced to the conclusion that the Post Office, over-anxious to regularize its position with regard to the whole question of licences, has rushed through the new regulations without sufficient thought. Not only has the hotel licence already become virtually a dead letter; it has been found necessary to alter the conditions under which apparatus for the radio control of models may be operated. Further, it appears that the terms of the licence appropriate for this purpose were framed
without consultation with the bodies concerned. Indeed, it would seem that the only body of radio users to express satisfaction with the new licence regulations are the transmitting amatcurs, who, as reported last month, have been granted some small concessions.

## Trelomisione fior IPoscorrily

I T is being increasingly borne home to all of us that in choosing standards for a public television service we are acting as trustees for posterity. When a system is once firmly established it becomes, almost inevitably, a standard for all times. At the least, it will have a profound influence on technical developments for many decades ahead. All progress tends to be handicapped by the need for "compatibility "; the new system must be able to work with the old.

Even to hint at the possibility of a non-compatible successor to the present British system has, until recently, been considered unrealistic, idealistic or "starry-eyed." But now there are faint signs of a revolt against the dogma of compatibility, and a correspondent whose letter is published elsewhere in this issue does not hesitate to say "it may tie a weight round the neck of every receiver designer for the next century." He refers to compatibility in relation t/ colour television.

Wireless World has often been impatient when artificial barriers are put in the way of progress in the various branches of our art. But, in this matter, we are on the side of those who believe in making haste slowly. To start colour television before a really practical solution of the many technical difficulties has been found would be foolish. A policy of "anything so long as it is colour" is to be deplored; so are irresponsible statements that the public may expect colour television within a year or two.

In the meanwhile, no effort should be spared in exploring all the technical possibilities for the future and in planning, with all the wisdom we can command, for orderly development of the service.


AN improved kind of kite is one of the accessories of a transmitter-receiver for ships' lifeboats, recently typeapproved by the G.P.O. and Ministry of Transport, which has been produced by the International Marine Radio Company. Kites have been used for raising wireless aerials ever since Marconi's transatlantic experiments of 1902, but have been generally considered unreliable: the new design produced by I.M.R.C. seems to represent a distinct advance, and is easily launched from the restricted platform provided by a ship's lifeboat. The kite flies well in winds of five or six miles an hour, and, by lifting an aerial wire to a height of about 200 ft , provides a radiocommunication range vastly greater than that attainable with any practicable mast-supported lifeboat aerial. During recent tests, daylight ranges of over 500 miles were achieved with average radiated power as low as 4 wattsa rather remarkable performance, considering the tests were carried out in Southampton Water, where heavy' interference prevails.

The I.M.R.C. " SOL.AS" (Safety Of Life At Sea) set transmits on the international distress frequencies of $500 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $8.634 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. There is clockwork-driven automatic keving for the alarm signal, SOS, and direction-


On the left is shown the kite just ofter lounching : at its normal working height the oerial wire is more nearly vartical. The fixed inverted-V aerial is carried by a resin. bonded fibre-glass mast. Above is the SOLAS lifeboat set, with front cover removed.
finding dash, with hand-keying as an alternative. Telephone modulation is also provided. Reception is on $500 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ only. The set is powered entirely by a handturned generator; an extra crank is provided so that the work may be shared by two men.

For transmission, the three valves work as master oscillator, power amplifier and modulator; modulation for m.c.w. telegraphy is square-wave, giving the wide-band characteristics desirable for distress calls. The note is distinctive and readable through interference. There is a tuning indicator as an aid to adjusting the aerial circuit; this is needed for obtaining maxımum radiation under ail conditions, as a fixed aerial supported by an 18 ft mast is used as an alternative to the kite aerial.

For reception, two of the valves become r.f. amplifiers and the third an a.f. amplifier; there is a germanium diode detector. An external crystal receiver can be provided; this permits listening without turning the generator

The set is contained within a completely waterproof light alloy case which can withstand rough handling. The spindles of the controls work in waterproof sleeves, so the gear can be operated in bad weather with the front cover removed.

## THINSISTOHE FOH

AN inherent limitation of the first junction transistors was the comparatively low frequency at which a sudden deterioration of current gain sets in (the so-called alpha cut-off). The physical cause of this cut-off is complex, but is generally accepted as being related, among other things, to the transit time of current carriers at the base'collector junction.

In practice the frequency at which cut-off occurs can be increased by reducing the width of the centre base section of the junction, but this involves expensive manufacturing techniques and may have adverse effects on other desirable parameters of the transistor.

An alternative method of construction is described by J. M. Early in the May, 1954, issue of The Bell System Technical Journal. Essentially it involves the interposition of a layer of high-purity germanium between base and

## 

collector, which is described as a depletion layer and has the attributes of a space charge. In addition to reducing the effective base-collector capacitance and increasing the reverse breakdown voltage, it also results in an increase in the mobility of current carriers through this region. The germanium in this layer is said to have intrinsic conductivity, that is to say, the available current carriers are not supplemented by donor impurities (giving negative electrons, $n$ ) or acceptor impurities (creating positive holes, $p$ ). Hence the description $p-n-i-p$ or its converse $n-p-i-n$.

Experimental transistors, constructed on this principle with 0.002 -in thick $i$-type layers, have oscillated up to a frequency of $95 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Theoretically, with improved materials and geometrical forms, it is stated that there is a prospect that they may be made to work up to $3,000 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.

B.B.C. in Band HI • Hore V.II.F. Transmitters (Ordered • Television for Jersey - Electronies Comemtion and Show

## Pand III Telerision

BOTH the component and receiver manufacturing sections of the industry (iepresented by R.E.C.M.F. and B.R.E.M.A.) have recommended the standardized use of a single input of 75 ohms for both Bands I and III. This is a long-term policy to which both receiver and acrial manufacturers will work, but it is pointed out that in the interim there will be some installations for which two inputs will be necessary.

It is understood that pulsed test signals in Channel 8 ( $186-191 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) are already being radiated by the B.B.C. from Sutton Coldficld. Sir Ian Jacob has said that the B.B.C. is ready to put into operation its scheme for a second programme as soon as frequencies become available.

## B.B.C. Aurails Gresm I,ight

ALTHOUGH official approval of the B.B.C.'s plan to reinforce the present coverage of the Home, Light and Third Programme Services with v.h.f. transmissions is still awaited, the Corporation is continuing to place orders for equipment.
A further order for 14 v.h.f. frequency-modulated transmitters has been placed with Marconi's. This brings the total number of transmitters now on order to 64 (40 Marconi and 24 S.T.C.). With the exception of two, which will have a power of 10 kW , the transmitters will be rated at 4.5 kW .

Since the Government decision that f.m. should be used for the proposed v.h.f. service, both experimental transmitters at Wrotham have been employing frequency modulation. The present schedule is Mondays to Thursdays 11.15-12 noon, 1-2 p.m. and 2.454.30 p.m.; every day except Friday 6 p.m. until the close down of the service being radiated. The Home Service is radiated on $93.8 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and the Light Programne (until 4.30) and the Third Programme (from 6) are radiated on $91.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.

Tests of tone modulation with various peak deviations are radiated from 11 to 11.15 and 2.30 to 2.45 (Mondays to Thursdays) on both frequencies.

## Industrial E'lictronies

THE five-day industrial electronics convention organized by the Brit.I.R.E., which opens at Christ Church, Oxford, on July 8th, has aroused considerable interest in many industrics, including aircraft, electrical, film, glass, iron and steel, motor, oil and rubber, all of which will be represented.

Thirty-two papers will be presented and discussed during the six sessions-Industrial Applications of Electronic Computors (chairman, L. H. Bedford), Industrial Applications of X-Rays and Sonics (H. G. Foster), Nucleonic Instrumentation and Application (N. C. Robertson), Electronic Sensing DevicesTransducers (Prof. E. E. Zepler), Process Control (J. L. Thompson), Electronic Aids to Production (Sir Walter Puckey). The papers and a verbatim report of the discussions will be published by the Institution.

## Channel Islands TV

DIRECT reception of the Wenvoe and Alexandra Palace transmitters will be relied upon for the telcvision "booster" service which the B.B.C. plans to introduce in the Channel Islands within a year. The distances between these stations and the receiving centre to be set up at Torteval on the south-west coast of Guernsey, are approximately 130 and 190 miles, respectively.
The picture received in Guernsey on the alternative aerial systems directed towards the two stations will be transmitted by radio link to Les Platons on the north coast of Jersey-some 20 miles away. There a low-power transmitter working on $61.75 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ vision and $58.25 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ sound will re-broadeast a service to the group of islands. The transmissions will be horizontally polarized.
Rediffusion is planning to install a telecision wire distribution service in Jersey.

## Rudio Control of Models

THE LICENCE now required for the operation of radio equipment for the control of models has been criticized by the International Radio Controlled Models Society, and, as a result of meetings with the G.P.O., some concessions have been made and obscure rulings interpreted.
The maximum effective radiated power, which is the mean r.f. power multiplied by the aerial gain in the horizontal plane, was originaliy limited to 0.3 W . This has now been raised by the Post Office to 0.5 W when working on $465 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and 1.5 W on $27 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.

Although not permitted under the original provisions of the new licence, operation of equipment by other people under direct supervision of the licensec will now be allowed.

## Earl's Court

PLANS for the National Radio Exhibition (Earl's Court, August 25th-September 4th) are going ahead and the preliminary list of exhibitors totals 107. Of this number some 40 are manufacturers of domestic sound and vision receivers.
The technical training display will be more ambitious than in past years. It will include sections devoted to machine-shop practice, components, glass manipulation, circuitry and acrials. Also the Radio Trades Examination Board has been invited to organize a section illustrating radio servicing.

## Elpctronics Shom

THE ninth annual electronics exhibition organized by the N.W. Branch of the Institution of Electronics, will be held at the College of Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester, from July 14th to 20th.

The exhibition will be divided into two main sec-tions-research, composed of displays by universities, research organizations, hospitals, etc., and commer-
cial, devoted to the products of over 50 manufacturers.
A programme of 40 lectures has been arranged for presentation during the exhibition, which opens at noon on the 14th and at 10 on other days and closes at 10 except on the 17 th, when it closes at 7 .

Tickets are obtainable by sending a stampedaddressed envelope to W. Birtwistle, 78, Shaw Road, Thornham, Rochdale, Lancs., from whom the 100page exhibition catalogue, which includes the timetable of lectures, is also obtainable, price ls 6 d .

## BIRTIIOAY IION(IURS

Among those whose names appeared in the Birthday Honours List are:-

## C.B.

W. A. Wolverson, director, External Telecommunications Executive, G.P.O.
K.C.M.G.

Major General L. B. Nicholls, chairman, Cable \& Wireless, Ltd.
M.V.O.

Lt. T. D. Grosset, Royal Navy (Shore Wireless Service).
C.B.E.
T. E. Goldup, director of Mullard, Ltd. (see "Personalitics ").

## O.B.E.

W. E. Cleaver, manager, Cable \& Wireless Engincering School, Porthcurno, Cornwall.
F. M. Colebrook, senior principal scientific officer, National Physical Laboratory, D.S.I.R. (see "Personalities ").
M.B.E.
F. N. Calver, engineer-in-charge of the Daventry transmitting station, B.B.C.
R. H. J. Cary, senior experimental officer, Radar Research Establishment, Malvern.
I. A. Dalgliesh, chief radio officer, British European Airways.
R. B. Hosking, signals officer, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.
R. D. Lanser, superintendent of radio maintenance, British Overseas Airways Corporation.
S. H. Lines, general works manager, A. C. Cossor, Lid.
A. I. F. Simpson, senior engineer, General Electric Company (see "Personalities").

## PERSONALITIES

Colonel A. H. Read, C.B., O.B.E., who, as announced in our May issue, recently retired from the Post Office where he was director of Overseas Telecommunications,


Cdr. C. M. JACOB

K. SHORT
has taken up an appointment as Telecommunications Attaché at the British Embassy in Washington.

Colonel J. D. Haigh was recently appointed director of Electronics Research and Development (Defence) in the

Ministry of Supply and promoted acting Brigadier. He has already served in this directorate (1946-50) when it was known as the Directorate of Telecommunications Research and Development. Since October of last year Col. Haigh has been employed on fuze design at the Armament Design Establishment, Fort Halstead.

Group Captain P. Allerston, O.B.E., M.I.E.E., recently appointed manager of the new Equipment Servicing Department of A. C. Cossor, Ltd., was concerned with the inauguration of the original Gee programme during the war. From 1946 to 1949 he was Deputy Director of Radio Engineering (Air) at the Air Ministry. In his new post he will be responsible for the installation and maintenance, both at home and overseas, of Cossor's airfield control radar, Gee ground and airborne equipment and other radio and radar gear.

Commander C. M. Jacob, D.S.C., A.M.I.E.E., R.N. (Ret.), recently appointed deputy technical manager of the Marconi International Marine Communication Company, specialized in radio and radar during the greater part of his naval career, which began in 1923. In 1939 he was appointed to the Home Fleet as fleet wireless officer and fleet radar officer. Since the end of the war he has held a number of shore appointments, including that of deputy captain-superintendent of the Admiralty Signal and Radar Establishment.
K. Short, D.L.C. (Hons.), A.M.I.E.E., who joined Truvox during the war and has been chief engineer since 1950, has been appointed technical director of the company. He studied at Loughborough College for five years, receiving a first-class honours diploma, and returned to the college for a further year in 1948.
T. E. Goldup, M.I.E.E., who has been a governor of the Ministry of Supply's School of Electronics at Malvern since 1949 and chairman of the Board of Governors for the past two years, is among the new C.B.E.s. Mr. Goldup is a director of Mullard, whom he joined in 1923. He was a member of the Radio Research Board of D.S.I.R. from 1950 until March this year, and was chairman of the Radio Communication and Electronic Enginecring Association for 1953-54.
F. M. Colebrook, B.Sc., D.I.C., A.C.G.I., who is appointed an O.B.E., has been on the staff of the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, since 1920. Since 1949 he has been officer-in-charge of the Electronics Section, prior to which he was deputy superintendent of the Radio Division. Mr. Colebrook is on the editorial board of our sister journal Wireless Engineer and has been a contributor to both $W$.W. and W.E. for the past 30 years. He is the author of "Basic Mathematics for Radio Students" published from this office.

A, I. F. Simpson, appointed an M.B.E., has been engaged in the design of radio equipment in the Coventry group of the G.E.C. for the past 19 years. Since the war he has been leading teams on various government projects, including one on the remote control of aircraft. Towards the end of the war he led the engineering team working on airborne, multi-channel radio-telephone equipment.

Joshua S.eger, who has been in the United States since the end of 1946, has returned to this country and proposes to continue his consulting work in radio and electronics. From 1930 to 1939 he was with Scophony and during the major part of the war was principal technical officer at T.R.E. During his stay in America he has acted as consultant and directed the research and development of acronautical radar equipment and television gear. He was a member of two of the planning committees of the National Television Systems Committee, which established principles for a compatible colour system. Mr. Sicger's address is "Montcalm," Cliff Drive, Canford Cliffs, Bournemouth, Hants.

Stanley Kelly, whose article on piezoelectric crystals is concluded in this issue, has resigned the post of chief engineer with Cosmocord, Lid., and has been appointed technical director of Thames Industries, Lid., 143, Cannon Street, London, E.C.4, manuiacturers of chemical and scientific equipment.
A. W. Montgomery, O.B.E., B.Sc., M.I.E.E., joint general manager of Standard Telephones and Cables, has been clected a Fellow of the American Institute of Radio Engineers for his "leadership in radio and telecommunication research in England, and his services in the international liaison in these fields." During the war he was engaged on the development of this country's defence teleprinter network and communication equipment.
Fred R. Lesser, formerly overseas sales manager, Goodmans Industries, Lid., is now operating on his own account as representative of manufacturers of radio and electronic equipment and components. His address is 66, Holland Park Avenue, London, W.11 (Tel.: Bayswater 6792).

## IV BRIEF

Television Licences in the U.K. increased by 51,946 during April, bringing the total to 3,300,838. The number of broadcast receiving licences, including television and 229,542 for car radio sets, totalled $13,455,061$.

Receiver Oscillator Radiation.-Reports continuc to be received that oscillation radiation from television receivers is causing considerable trouble on some of the v.h.f. bands and it is a pity the Admiralty's lead in regard to naval receivers cannot be more widely applied. A rigid requirement is imposed in regard to oscillator radiation from both set and aerial, the specified level being less than $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{m}$ at one nautical mile. Incidentally, the Rees Mace naval set, CAT, described elsewhere in this issue, fully complics with this requirement.
Ships' Newspapers.-The jubilec of the first regular daily newspaper to be published in transatlantic liners was celebrated by Occan Times on June th. It was first published on R.M.S. Campania in 1904 as the Cunard Daily Bulletin. News collated from many sources is sent from the London office of the publishers. Wireless Press, Lid., via the Rugby radio station, and similar dispatches are sent from New York.

Television as an advertising medium, and the problems facing advertisers using the medium, are dealt with in a booklet, "Advertising by Television," issued by TV Commercials, Lid., of 35, Portland Place, London, W.1. The new company will provide advertisers with technical as well as programme scrvices for television advertising. Among the dircetors is Richard Mcyer, who was from 1930 to 1940 general manager of the International Broadcasting Company, organizers of commercial programmes from Radio Normandy and Radio Luxembourg.

French F.M.-The French broadcasting authority. Radiodiffusion et Télévision Francaises, is to introduce a v.h.f. service based on the Stockholm Plan, which provides for some 170 French stations in Band 11. Regular transmissions have been radiated from the new Paris f.m. station since the end of March. The $5-\mathrm{kW}$ transmitter, with an e.r.p. of 20 kW , radiates on $96.1 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.

A further step in the plan to improve the coverage of the Home Service was taken by the B.B.C. on May 30th when the permanent $2-\mathrm{kW}$ transmitter at Barrow-inFurness took over from the $0.5-k \mathbf{W}$ temporary station set up some time ago. It radiates on the international common frequency of $1484 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ( 202.2 metres).

Television Society-At the annual general meeting of the Television Society on May 27th the following were elected to fill the vacancies on the council: C. H. Banthorpe (Derwent Radio); J. H. Etheridge (Cinema-Television); H. A. Fairhurst (Murphy Radio); and E. A. Wood (Radio Rentals).

Radio Industries Club membership stood at 841 at the end of March-an increase of 47 during the year. The new president is C. O. Stanley, managing director of Pye, Lid., and this year's chairman is R. F. Payne-Gallwey.

Acknowledgement.-The photograph of the Sir John Cass-the training vessel of the Navigation Department of the Sir John Cass College-reproduced in our last issue should have been acknowledged to Motor Boat and Yachting.

Mobile Radio.-The Postmaster-General has set up a committee to "examine the practical problems which the Television Advisory Committee's first report [on television] raises in relation to the mobile radio services." The Mobile Radio Committee, as it is called, which is unde: the chairmanship of R. J. P. Harvey (G.P.O.), includes two representatives of the Post Office, Ministry of Transport and Mobile Radio Users' Association, and a representative of marine users. Capt. L. P. S. Orr, M.P., and J. R. Brinkley (Pye Telecommunications) are representing the M.R.U.A. One of the Post Office representatives is C. W. Sowton, who is secretary of the T.A.C. Technical Sub-Committec.

## (EI)ECATION AVID TRAINIGG

Transistor Course.-Dr. G. N. Patchett, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering of the Bradford Technical College, is giving a course of cight lectures on the principles and applications of transistors at the college in the autumn. The fee for the eight lectures, which will be given on Wednesday evenings from September 29th, is £l 10 s . Students should have reached the standard of the H.N.C. in electrical engineering.

Radio Recruiting.-A brief outline of the opportunities open to those who enter the radio and electronics industry and of the qualifications needed is given in "Careers in Radio and Electronics,", a 12-page booklet issued by the Radio Industry Council. It is for free circulation to schools and technical colleges, and is obtainable from the R.I.C., 59, Russell Square, London, W.C.1.
"Careers in Engineering," an 18-minute film made by the English Electric Company, portrays the training available to the three grades of apprentice-craft, student and graduate-through the English Electric group of companies, which includes Marconi's. The $16-\mathrm{mm}$ sound film, which is available on loan to technical colleges, schools, etc., covers the various branches of engincering including telecommunications and electronics. Further details of the company's apprenticeship schemes are given in two booklets entitled "Earning While Learning" and "Opportunities for University Graduates."

Details of Day and Evening Courses in radio, television and electronics provided by the Department of Telecommunications Engineering of the Northern Polytechnic, London, N.7, are given in the 1954-55 prospectus, which is obtainable from the secretary.

## INDUSTRIAI, NEWK

Birmingham's new Engineering Centre at Stephenson Place, which was opened on June 17th, provides a permanent exhibition for the display of engineering equipment. Kelvin \& Hughes (Industrial), Ltd., are showing an electronic controller for the regulation of temperature in furnaces, dye vats, heat exchangers, etc.

To facilitate rescue operations in the 111 collieries under the jurisdiction of the N.W. Division of the National Coal Board, the vehicles used by the mines rescue service have been fitted with G.E.C. v.h.f. radiocommunication equipment. Fixed stations have been installed at Boothstown (the headquarters of the service), Burnley and Wrexham.

A chain of Decca stations has been erected in the Sahara Desert to assist in a survey of some hundreds of square miles for oil.

Marconi Organization.-G. R. Tyler has been appointed manager of the recently-formed Maritime Division of Marconi's W.T. Company. He is succeeded as manager of the company's Central Division by R. H. Deighton. Chief engincer of the new division is J. Watt, B.Sc. (Hons.), D.I.C. The company's Services Equipment Division will in future be known as the Radar Division, of which H. J. H. Wassell, O.IB.E., B.Sc. (Hons.), has been appointed chicf engineer.

Among the four cable ships for which Mullard's Equipment Division is supplying "Discovery " direction-finding equipment is the Monarch, being refitted by the Poit

Office in readiness for the laying of the transatantic telephone cable.

Minnesota Mining \& Manufacturing Company, whose products include "Scotch Boy" sound-recording tape, have opened a sales office at 90 , Mitchell Street, Glasgow, C. 1 (Tel.: City 6704).

## VND(ORTNEWS

Colour c.r. tubes are to be manufactured in this country by a new company-Sylvania-Thorn Colour Laboratories, Ltd.-which has been formed jointly by Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., of New York, and Thorn Electrical Industries, Ltd., manufacturers of Ferguson receivers. Sylvania's patents and technical know-how will be available to the new company.
S.H.F. radio networks, intended for the two-way transmission of 525 -line television, are being supplied by Standard Telephones \& Cables to the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways. Five unattended intermediate repeaters will link Montreal and Quebec, and three will link Toronto and London. On the latter chain two spurs will go to Kitchener and Hamilton. These radio links can provide up to seven radio channels in each direction, and each of these can be utilized for carrying a television channel or 600 telephone channels.
B.T-H. has received a third contract for mobile firecontrol radar from the U.S. Army European Headquarters Command. This contract, valued at $£ 2.02 \mathrm{M}$, brings the total value of the three orders to nearly $£ 5 \mathrm{M}$. All the equipment is for N.A.T.O. countries.
Marconi-I.A.L. Contract.-By combining their manufacturing and planning resources, Marconi's W.T. Company and International Aeradio, Ltd., have jointly secured a contract from the Syrian Ministry of Defence for the planning and equipment of a complete radio communications network for the Syrian air force. The contract also includes v.h.f./d.f. stations and a training school.

Precision approach radar equipment, which provides an airfield ground controller with visual and threedimensional information (distance, azimuth and elevation) relating to an approaching aircraft, is being installed by Standard Telephones \& Cables at the Royal Canadian Navy's airfield at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Similar equipment is already in use at two Ministry of Supply airfields in the U.K., two air force stations in Holland and the international airport at Zurich.
N. American Agency Enquiries.-Manufacturers of record changers not already represented in the United States are invited by the J. M. Zamoiski Company, 110 , South Paca Street, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A., to send them particulars of their products. A.P.M., Lid., of 15. Bacon Street, Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, wish to undertake the distribution of British-made television acrial accessories, including masts. (B.o.T. references ESB/10817/54, ESB/10807/54).

Exporting Amateur Gear.-The Export Services Branct. of the B.o.T. advise us that W. B. Dismukes, of 125 , Velarde, Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A., would like ts receive catalogues and price lists of British amateur transmitting and receiving equipment with a view to acting as distributor in New Mexico. Further particulars are available from the Branch at Lacon House, Theobalds Road. I.ondon, W.C.1. (Ref. ESB/13794/54.)

British manufacturers of Television Aerials, covering the U.S. Channels 2-13 (54-216 Mc/s), and aerial accessories are invited by C. L. Curren of Atlantic Television Distributors, Lid., 207, Charlotte Street, St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, to send him particulars of equipment by air mail.

Marconi's recently shipped to Brazil complete sound and vision equipment for a television station in Sao Paulo. The installation included four television camera channels, a vision mixer and associated equipment.

# AIDS TO NECHINICAL IIMNIDING: 



Pye v.h.f. radio-telephone installed in a "Conveyancer" truck shown at the Mechanical Hondling Exhibition.

CLOSED-CIRCUIT television has a sufficiently promising future in the industrial field to warrant the commercial introduction of suitable equipment. This, in the form shown by Pye at the recent Mechanical Handling Exhibition and Convention organized by Mechanical Handling, consists of two units. One is a camera unit embodying a miniature camera tube measuring 6 in $\times 1 \mathrm{in}$, operating on the photo-conductive as distinct from the photoemissive principle; it is known as a Cathodeon Staticon.

Focusing of the image is achieved by moving the tube and its coil assembly to or from the thrce-lens turret by means of gearing operated by an external knob.

The camera is entircly self-contained and includes ail the tube operating circuits, power supply, pulse generators for the 405 -line or $525 / 625-$ line standards (there are two models) and a v.h.f. oscillator which can be modulated by the picture and pulse signals.

Either a video, or a modulated v.h.f., output can be taken from the camera, the former for displaying on the companion picture monitor and the latter for feeding into one or more normal television receivers as required. Video signals can be taken up to $1,000 \mathrm{ft}$ and the r.f. signals very much further.

The picture monitor embodies a 14 -in tube with light filter and is a precision instrument designed to give a very high-quality picture.

Several of the special types of truck designed for mechanical handling of materials and the finished product were shown this year fitted with Pye v.h.f. radio telephone equipment. The set used is in most cases the "Reporter" which operates on 6 or 12 volts, gives an output of 1 to 3 watts according to which part of the $60-$ to $185-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ band it is operating in and employs amplitude modulation.

# Soumal Reproduction 

NEW PRODUCTS SHONN AT RECENT EXIIIBITIONS*

THOSE who are interested in audio matters and like to gain first-hand knowledge of new products by discussion with manufacturers have long been clamouring for a comprehensive Audio Fair in this country. Until this comes about, it is necessary for the enthusiast to attend at least three exhibitions, each with some restriction either of space or objective, to be sure of getting a reasonably broad view of what is new in sound reproduction.

Accordingly, in reporting these exhibitions we believe that a single review may be of more service than a series of restricted articles on the individual exhibitions, and we make no apology for laying the emphasis on the equipment rather than on the occasion on which it was shown.
Microphones.-A directional pressure-gradient moving coil microphone, Type DPA, has been developed by Reslosound. It is of all-metal construction and employs an aluminium-magnesium alloy diaphragm 0.0005 in thick with a self-supporting coil working in a 0.02 in air gap. Self-damped slit cavities provide the requisite phase differences between back and front of the diaphragm, and no absorbent material is used. A spring-loaded ball joint allows $22 \frac{1}{2}$ degrees of movement from the vertical.

In the ribbon (Type M8) and moving coil (Type M7) microphones recently introduced by Film Industries a semi-flexible metal tube gives instant adjustment to any required position without the necessity for clamped joints. The diameter of the ribbon microphone is only $1 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$.

A new "pencil" microphone has been developed by Lustraphone. This is a miniature moving-coil type for speech and is carried on a flexible tube which can be fitted to a stand or desk mount It is designed for speech with a frequency response from $150 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} \pm 4 \mathrm{db}$. The sensitivity referred to
$1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{dyne} / \mathrm{cm}^{2}$ is -86 db . Another interesting Lustraphone product is a moving-coil microphone insert (Type C151/HMF) designed to replace the carbon microphone in standard telephone handsets for use in v.h.f. communications where reduction of background noise is important.
The inexpensive Mic 36 series of crystal microphones introduced by Cosmocord (Acos) are of attractive appearance and can be adapted for stand or desk mounting. They have an omni-directional response substantially flat from 30 to $7,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ with a sensitivity of -55 db referred to 1 volt $/$ dyne $/ \mathrm{cm}^{2}$.
G.E.C. are now supplying an inexpensive counterbalanced boom for use with their ribbon microphone.
Pickups - A diamond stylus is standard in the latest moving-coil pickup developed by H. J. Leak. The response is claimed to be within $\pm 1 \mathrm{db}$ from 40 to $20,000 \mathrm{cs}$. On long-playing records the high-frequency resonance is $21 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} \pm 2 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ and, on the shellac, above $27 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The low frequency resonance is $20 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s} \pm 5 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. Output is 11 mV per $\mathrm{cm} / \mathrm{sec}$ recorded r.m.s. velocity. Playing weights are $5-6 \mathrm{gm}$ on 78 r.p.m. and $2-3 \mathrm{gm}$ on long-playing records.

A new super-lightweight (Mark II) pickup by A. R. Sugden (Connoisseur) works on the moving-iron principle and employs a diamond stylus. The mass of the armature is only 5 milligrams and the top resonance on vinylite is in the region of $20-21 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The stylus tip is constrained longitudinally but sufficient vertical compliance is provided to overcome pinch effect, and to prevent damage if the head is accidentally dropped on the record.
Goldring, who have for many years specialized in the design of electromagnetic pickups, have introduced a "variable reluctance" (moving iron) turnover head of small size in which exceptionally wide gaps reduce non-linearity distortion. The permanent


Goldring variable reluctance magnetic pickup.

[^0]magnet is placed between the sockets of the cantilever styli which form part of the magnetic circuit. The coil arrangement cancels any hum picked up from uniform external fields.
The HGP39/1 heads now available for the GP20 Cosmocord (Acos) pickup are designed to track any accelerations which can be cut on commercial records

with a playing weight not exceeding 8 gm . The sensitivity of the Rochelle salt crystal element gives an output of the order of 1 volt on standard and $1 / 3$ volt on microgroove records.
A piezoelectric pickup (GCE3) using ceramic (barium titanate) elements has been developed by Garrard and will be supplied if required for extreme tropical conditions. Acos also are actively interested in all applications of barium titanite materials and have produced a neat accelerometer unit, with this substance as the pressure element, for use in ballistics research and many other applications. It is capable of withstanding and recording accelerations up to at least $3,000 \mathrm{~g}$.

Gramophone Turntables. - The latest Plessey record changer will play $10-\mathrm{in}$ and 12 -in records


Collaro Model 2010 transcription unit and pickup.


Garrard Model 301 transcription motor.
mixed, and has three turntable speeds. Attention has been given to reducing the time of changing, and since the unit is designed to take long-playing records, a lightweight pickup is fitted.
For the reproduction of high-quality long-playing records a turntable mechanism of more than average quality is a necessity, and to meet this demand Collaro have introduced the Model 2010 which has a heavy turntable and large main bearing. Two types are available, one with a pickup arm capable of accommodating records up to 16 in diameter.

The Garrard Model 301 transcription turntable has been re-tooled and will be in quantity production soon. The main bearing is machined from cast phosphor bronze and is pressure grease lubricated. Spring mounting for all controls as well as for the induction motor itself has been adopted to ensure that vibration is not transmitted to the pickup. An interlock between the main switch and speed change control ensures that the intermediate friction drive wheel is not damaged by excessive slip. Another recent product of Garrard is the Type LRS2 large record spindle, designed for use on $\mathrm{RC110}$ and $\mathrm{RC11}$ record changers with 7 -in, 45 r.p.m. records with $1 \frac{1}{2}$-in centre holes.

The Swiss-made Thorens three-speed motor (E53PA) is now available in this country through the Lowther Manufacturing Company.

Amplifiers.-Many excellent new high-quality amplifiers have made their appearance, usually in conjunction with comprehensive tone-control units for the various recording characteristics used by record manufacturers.

In the Quad II amplifier made by the Acoustical Manufacturing Company, push-button selection of four main characteristics is provided, and other variants can be obtained by using permutations of two or more buttons. In addition, correct impedance matching for all types of pickup is obtained by changing plug-in units at the back of the unit. The system is fexible and will cope with future as well as existing developments.

Provision is made in the control unit of the Leak TL/10 amplifier for connection to a tape recordereither for recording or reproduction. This feature is in addition to the usual input connections for radio and records together with fixed compensating circuits for the principal disc recording characteristics and variable bass and treble controls.

Facilities for tape recording and playback are also included in the RD Senior amplifier and control unit. This amplifier, which is based on the Williamson circuit and uses a C-cored output transformer, is rated at 15 watts for 0.08 per cent distortion and 20 watts for 0.2 per cent. For 15 watts output the input required from a microphone is 3 mV , from a gramophone pickup, 6 to 8 mV , and from radio, 40 mV . An attractive feature is the translucent illuminated control panel.
For public address work and for use in hospitals and schools, G.E.C. have developed an "industrial" radio receiver/amplifier with an output of 15 watts. Connections are provided for microphone or gramophone and separate tone controls are included. There is a tuning indicator and a built-in $3 \frac{1}{2}$ in monitoring loudspeaker. Another new G.E.C. product is an inexpensive $8-10$ watt amplifier capable of giving full output from a ribbon microphone and with a fader control for microphone and radio or gramophone inputs.


N.S.R. 15-watt quality amplifier.


Quad II quality control unit.


Trix T635 amplifier for mains or battery.
Four KT66 valves in Class AB1 parallel push-pull give a rated output of 100 watts in the Grampian 531A combined amplifier and pre-amplifier. There are two 15!? microphone inputs, one 0.25 M ? gramophone and one 0.22 M !? radio input. The Grampian Type MS12 portable a.c./d.c. amplifier is also new. It gives 12 watts for 2 per cent distortion and has inputs for a moving-coil microphone and a magnetic type pickup. The weight is 131 b .
N.S.R. Manufacturing, Ltd., have introduced a 15 watt quality amplifier which is based on many years' experience of p.a. installation work. Compactness and reliability have been given priority and the controls and inputs have been reduced to the minimum essentials.

Neat workmanship and ready accessibility to components under the chassis are noteworthy features of the Trix T635 amplifier, which has been given a specification which meets the requirements of the majority of sound reinforcement systems. Normally it runs from a.c. mains and gives 30 watts output, but it can also be run from a 6 -volt converter unit, when the
power output available is 22 watts. The Trix T621 is a 25 (21) watt mains or battery operated amplifier with a somewhat simpler specification.
Loudspeakers.-Rather more activity than usual was evident among loudspeaker manufacturers represented at this ycar's exhibitions. Plessey have introduced a high-quality reproducer consisting of a 15 in low-frequency unit combined with an elliptical h.f. unit mounted coaxially on a bridge across the main cone-with the major axis vertical to give wide-angle distribution of high frequencies in a horizontal plane. This particular speaker will be sold through Amplion (1932), Ltd.

The cambric cone introduced by Whiteley Electrical Radio has proved so successful that it has been decided to fit it in their 10 in and 12 in concentric duplex speakers, as well as in many other units in the range. A new horn-loaded "tweeter" unit rated at 15 watts, is now available for use in conjunction with W.B., 12,15 and 18 in and similar moving-coil diaphragm types.

The Körting electrostatic tweeter (described in the March issue, p. 148) is now being supplied by C. T. Chapman (Reproducers). Also working on the electrostatic principle is the Type ESI tweeter recently introduced by Grundig (Great Britain). It is designed for frequencies above $5,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$, and for inputs up to 50 V (a.c.) with a polarizing voltage of 250 .

A horn-loaded twin-diaphragm moving coil unit


Plessey 15-in dual high-quality loudspeaker.


Rolo-Celestion reor-protected car rodio loudspeoker and (right) Grundig ESI electrostotic loudspeaker.


Elac 4 in. 7in elliptical loudspeaker and (right) Whorfedole 12-in Type 12/CS/AL Ioudspeoker.
(PM3) with a 21 -kilogauss flux density forms the basis of the latest Lowther corner reproducer (Type TP1). There is no electrical cross-over unit and a smooth transition between the loading of the horns at front and back of the diaphragm is effected acoustically by the design of the rear throat chamber. No bass resonance device is used.

Wharfedale, in addition to their three-speaker corner cabinct reproducer, were demonstrating a versatile single unit Type $12 / \mathrm{CS} / \mathrm{AL}$ with a wide frequency range and good power-handling capacity. It is fitted with an aluminium voice coil and a cloth surround provides an effective termination for the edge of the diaphragm. The flux density of the magnet is 17 kilogauss.

A new high-quality loudspeaker, the "Victor," has been introduced by Pamphonic Reproducers. It combines a 15 in unit with a 16-kilogauss magnet, operating in a vented chamber, with an elliptical highfrequency unit mounted to give wide-angle diffusion.

Many manufacturers are now producing small elliptical loudspeakers for television sets and car radios where space is restricted. Rola Celestion have a circular-diaphragm car-radio speaker with a protected back to minimize the possibility of accidental finger damage during installation or servicing. This combine was also showing an attractive range of shallow miniature moving-coil loudspeakers ranging from $2 \frac{1}{2}$ to 5 in diameter. The $2 \frac{1}{2}$ in unit has a depth of only $1 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$.

A new "pressure" driving unit (DC30, rated at 30 watts, has been developed by Truvox for use in conjunction with their exponential horns. Six units are combined in the LH100 projecto- loudspeaker which will handle 120 watts over a frequency of $125-7,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.

In addition to the omni-directional sound diffuser

Right: Sectional model of $12-\mathrm{in}$ W.B. concentric duplex loudspeaker with cambric cone.

(DC/77) Goodmans Industries now make a smaller version (CD/66) with an overall diameter of 12 in and a 6 in unit rated at 6 watts peak.

Richard Allan, hitherto known for their cabinet extension loudspeakers, have now entered the set manufacturers loudspeaker market with 5 -in ( 6,000 line) and 10 -in (8,000 and 10,000 line) dustproof and tropicalized units.

Tape Recorders.-In the Grundig TK9 recorder, which is smaller and lighter than the 700L" Reporter," separate fixed heads are used for top and bottom halftracks. The tape drive is reversible, and, in conjunction with switching of the heads, enables both tracks to be fully recorded without changing over the spools. With $850-\mathrm{ft}$ of tape the playing time at $3 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in} / \mathrm{sec}$ is 90 minutes with one break. An automatic brake stops the tape at the end of each track.

The professional magnetic recording equipment made by Leevers-Rich, and used by many of the leading film companies, can be obtained for a.c. mains operation as well as for use with batteries, and the Model D will accommodate spools of the N.A.B. or European standard types up to $11 \frac{1}{2}$ in in diameter. Detail improvements have been made in the amplifier layout, and the chassis can be hinged forward to give more ready access to the underside. There is a separate monitoring head, amplifier and loudspeaker, and in the Type A21B unit a built-in $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ oscillator and level meter are included for routine checking of optimum bias, amplifier gain and signal/noise ratio.

The tape mechanism used in M.S.S. recorders is now available separately as a unit (Model X). In addition to the normal functions of recording, replay, fast forward and fast rewind, the control knob has a fifth "cueing" position which simultaneously energizes the wind and re-wind motors to hold the tape at any predetermined place. M.S.S. are now producing their own tape and are paying special attention to the production of a highly finished working surface, for low background noise and reduced wear on the heads.

A new 7-in plastic tape spool for "Scotch Boy" tape has been introduced by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., with a $2 \frac{1}{4}$-in hub for quicker re-winding and with improved tape anchorage slots.

The "gear lever"-controlled tape mechanism used in the Simon Model SP/l portable recorder is now available as a separate unit. An interesting detail is the use of parallel-action push rods for actuating the tape pressure pads.

The design of the "Soundmirror" (Thermionic Products Model TP445), has been extensively revised and now includes twin tracks and alternative tape speeds of $3 \frac{3}{4}$ and $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} / \mathrm{sec}$. A separate mixer unit for two microphones, radio and crystal pickup is available. The new "Diplomat" office recording machine, like the earlier "Recordon" makes use of flexible magnetic coated discs. It is fitted with a built-in loudspeaker, but the microphone can also be used for low-level playback. Facilities are included for using the amplifier as part of an "intercom" system.

M.S.S. Model $X$ tape mechanism.


Wright and Weaire demonstrated the many forms in which their tape deck can be used for entertainment or research. A new version of the domestic model will be supplied with Noval valves and will be known as Model 2AN. The scientific and industrial Model YD has been completely redesigned in a more convenient and compact form and will be known as Model $Y \mathrm{D} / \mathrm{BF} / 2$.

Truvox gave a comprehensive display of the many portable recorders making use of their Mark III tape deck, and were also showing a neat "radio jack" incorporating a two-station tuner unit and germanium rectifier, which, under favourable conditions, enables broadcast programmes to be received by any audio amplifier fitted with a standard Post Office type input jack.


Thermionic Products " Diplomat " office recorder.


Underside of Simon tope recorder unit.

## Simplified Radio

## Teloproincer Temminaí

A NEW frequency-shift, dual-diversity, receiving equipment (generally called a terminal) has been introduced by International Aeradio for operating teleprinters over radio-communication circuits where a certain amount of manual control is acceptable. It should fill the need for a relatively simple installation for receiving meterological radio reports, press radio broadcasts and for point-to-point radio traffic not wholly automatic in operation.

The normal Type " A" terminal can be operated by switch selection on any one of five pre-set crystalcontrolled radio channels in the band 3 to $20 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Based on the IAL/Plessey " Radprint" equipment, it consists of two double superheterodyne receivers working in diversity with the first, or pre-selector as it is called, giving an output on $2.1 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ which is converted to $455 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ in the main receiver for amplification and demodulation.

The output from the two main receivers, which is in the form of an a.f. signal, is fed into an electronic diversity switch which selects the better of the two signals and completely rejects the weaker. The final amplifier gives an output sufficient to operate three teleprinters. A schematic drawing showing the


Schematic arrangement of the International Aeradio Type " A" dual-diversity teleprinter receiver.
arrangement of the main items of the equipment is reproduced here.

A feature of the electronic switch is that the changeover from one receiver to the other is effected so quickly that the "mark" signal might be received on one and the "space" on the other without interruption or distortion of the printed message.

All the equipment is assembled in a modern 19 -in rack-type cabinet standing 3 ft high and fitted with a hinged door at the front. The whole is fully tropicalized.

## METIL FMLIM RESMSTOHS

OUR report of the R.E.C.M.F. Exhibition (May issue) may have given a somewhat misleading impression about metallic film resistors. A sharp distinction should have been drawn between the metallic oxide type, like those that were shown by the Ministry of Supply, and the true metallic film.

On the face of it, the metallic film offers many attractions, especially in the matter of stability and low noise. Resistors consisting of metallic films deposited on glass rods were in fact made commercially in the 1920s, but the technique then in use did not lend itself to the production of high ohmic values. A new method, described in British Patent No. 689,795, is used by Painton and Company in the manufacture, under the trade name of "Metlohm," of true metallic film resistors in values up to 400,000 ohms.

The manufacturing process consists, briefly, in coating a glass base with an extremely thin layer of a platinumgold solution, firing to bond the metal firmly to the glass and burn away the unwanted ingredients in the solution, and then scribe the coated surface by a photo-etching process to produce a long, thin ribbon-like track.

The actual elements are cut from the parent sheet and for the $\frac{1}{}$-watt range (MF104) measure 1 in $\times \frac{1}{2}$ in $\times \frac{1}{10}$ in. A typical element, fitted with end-connecting wires, has the appearance shown in the drawing. For protection the resistors are given an overall coating of Silicone lacquer.
Resistance values range from 25 to 400,000 ohms with


A typical etched pattern used on the new metal film resistors made by Painton.
tolerances of $1 \%$ to $2 \%$ and a positive temperature coefficient of $0.025 \%$ to $0.027 \%$ per deg C. Over the normal audio range the noise level is said to be better than $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ per applied volt d.c. The shelf-life is good as after 12 months' storage the resistance change is less than $0.2 \%$.

An 1 -watt range (MF103) with resistance elements measuring $\frac{1}{2}$ in $\times \frac{1}{4}$ in $\times \frac{1}{32}$ in only is in course of preparation.

## Public Address Quality

THE Association of Public Address Engineers held its fifth annual luncheon and exhibition in London recently, at which the principal speakers were A. E. Mason of the B.B.C., L. W. Murkham, the president, and A. E. Buchan, the immediate past president. Mr. Buchan paid tribute to the standards of quality established by the B.B.C. over the past 25 years, and drew attention to the increasing public appreciation of high quality of reproduction in sound reinforcing systems. In his opinion the time had come for the establishment of standards of quality among responsible p.a. engineers; those who ignored this trend would find themselves left by the wayside. Mr. Murkham entered a strong plea for more active participation by users of p.a. equipment in the work of the Association, which had so far fallen principally on the manufacturer and founder members.

The exhibition, which was well attended, showed the products of seventeen firms, and details of some of the items of interest are included in the report on another page of this issue. Demonstrations of equipment were a much-appreciated feature of the exhibition.

After the luncheon, the annual general meeting was held, at which J. F. Doust was elected president for the coming year.

## EUROPEAN TELEVISION

## Some of the Engineering Problems

in International Exchanges

By J. TREEBY DICKINSON*

IT may be asked, what is the object of the present series of experimental television exchanges between cight countries organized by the European Broadcasting Union? First, to seek to determine, under reasonably representative operational conditions, the practical difficulties to be overcome, to establish a code of good engineering practice and to test draft specifications for the technical performances of the different kinds of links. It is also providing an opportunity for the concentrated training of operators and for enabling the officials responsible for programme production and presentation to obtain first-hand knowledge of the potentialities and limitations of the system.

There are, in effect, three phases in the development of a European television network. The first, the tinking of countries by temporary and often transportable radio links provided by the television authorities and set up for each individual operation; the second, when permanent interconnections between neighbouring countries are provided by the telecommunications administrations of the countries concerned; and the third, when each country has adequate facilities for the transit of exchange programmes over circuits quite separate from those provided for distributing its own domestic television programmes.

At present the establishment of a single vision channel across Western Europe involves the temporary installation of a very large quantity of equipment, often in locations which are difficult of access, and this material has in general to be temporarily released from its normal assignments.

The planning engineers would have preferred to carry out these tests in camera, but the very high costs involved and the necessity of diverting staff and equipment from normal programme operations virtually made it essential to broadcast the programmes relayed, and, in general, they are being transmitted by all the eight participating countries.

The operation is probably unique in the field of broadcasting for the amount of international collaboration which went into its organization. It has involved not only the television engineers and programme officials from the broadcasting organizations of the eight countries but also engineers of the national telecommunications administrations who were required to provide extremely elaborate telephone facilities for carrying the sound components of the programmes, for the norma'. engineering control and for programme and engincering co-ordination

[^1]

The paraboloid for the normal link with Paris can be seen at the top of the tower of the Lille town hall, which also houses the international co-ordination centres. The tower also carries the paroboloids for the links with Cassel (for London) and Flobecq (for Brussels).
purposes. One technical principle adopted was that, where a radio-link crosses an international frontier, the whole link, including both the transmitter and the receiver, should be the responsibility of one of the countries. Either the transmitter or the receiver would accordingly have to be installed and, in many cases, manned in a foreign country.

There are, in effect, three television networks in Europe:-The B.B.C. network of nine stations, operating on 405 lines; the composite chain consisting of four 819-line stations in France, two 625-line stations in Holland and two in Belgiumt; and the 625line network comprising 16 transmitting stations in Germany, two in Switzerland, nine in Italy and one in Denmark.

The ultimate object is to have available technical facilities for relaying television programmes from any one of the countries to any other, tut the object of the present series of exchanges is to determine the practicability of connecting up the existing national networks into a single entity, so that a television programme originating in any one of the countries could be radiated simultaneously in all the eight countries.

The problem in its simplest terms was to decide upon the most expedient means of interconnecting the countries and the most appropriate locations for
$\dagger$ The two Belgian stations use modified versions of the French 819 -line system and of the so-called "European" 625 -line system.
the equipment necessary for the conversion of the signals from one system to another. From the experience gained, it is hoped to prepare operating procedure and suitable performance specifications, applicable at any rate to the extremely heterogeneous circuits which will have to be used until permanent wide-band international interconnections are provided by the telephone administrations.
From the sketch map it will be seen that, in effect, England has to be connected to the Dutch-BelgianFrench group and that group to the German network, which itself has to be connected in the north to Denmark and in the south to Switzerland and Italy. Moreover, each of these connections has to be two-way.
On the firth floor of the campanile of the Town Hall at Lille, the Radiodiffusion-Télévision Francaise has temporarily converted its only large television studio in Lille into two International Co-ordination Centres, one for the programme and presentation aspects, the other for enginecring matters. The Technical Coordination Centre is equipped with picture monitors for the three different standards, waveform monitors and the like, together with direct telephone circuits to the Technical Control Centres in each of the eight countries, with a direct teleprinter service for exchanging reports and other information.
As the equipment available was all extremely diverse in design and performance and as there was very little accumulated experience upon which to draw, it was necessary to prepare first of all a provisional performance specification for this operation. This would, it was hoped, be adequate to ensure the transmission of acceptable pictures, but would at the same time not be beyond the capabilities of the large number of different links in tandem. The main requirements decided upon (principally from B.B.C. recommendations) included:-

Video pass-band.-The upper frequency response should be such that the time of rise, measured at any point of handing over responsibility, for a square wavefront amplitude representing peak white, does not exceed 0.3 microseconds, counted from 10 per cent to 90 per cent of the final amplitude.

Random noise.-Should not exceed 50 per cent of the sync. pulse amplitude.
Hum.-Should not exceed 15 per cent of the sync. pulse amplitude.

Synchronization amplitude variation with picture content.-Variation should not exceed $\pm 10$ per cent of synchronization amplitude, between white and black pictures.

Suppression periods.-The post-synchronization suppression period should be at least 5 microseconds. The tilt should not exceed $\pm 10$ per cent synchronization amplitude.

Overshoot.-Should not exceed 20 per cent of synchronization amplitude.
Gracation.-Should be linear within 30 per cent, measured as the difference between the slope at any point on the reproduced saw-tooth signal, and the slope of the straight line joining its extremities.
Pattern interference.-Should not be worse than -40 db in the lower half of the video spectrum or -30 db in the upper half.
Picture black level.-There should be a difference of at least 5 per cent of the synchronization amplitude between the picture black level and the suppression level, to allow deformed sync. pulses to be removed completely without risk of mutilating the picture signals, where it is necessary to provide entirely new sync. pulses to render the signals suitable for onward transmission. To permit these parameters to be observed and measured with the minimum of difficulty, the following three standardized test signals were used (see diagram).
Test Signal A.-This is a flat-topped pulse of the full length of the line, repeating at line frequency. After remaining at full-white amplitude for a minute or two, it is slowly reduced to picture black-level, where it also remains a little while. It is used to show up any change of synchronization amplitude with varying picture content, and also to measure the overshoot noise and interference.
Test Signal B.-This consists of one or more narrow pulses of full-white amplitude. It is used to show up the time of rise, the overshoot and the difference between picture-black and suppression levels.
Test Signal C.-This is a saw-tooth of full-line length rising uniformly from picture black-level to full-white level and is used to indicate the linearity of gradation.

In addition to these signals, test patterns of various kinds incorporating gratings for assessing the transmitted definition are used, together, of course, with "live" camera shots and films.

The problems on the sound side are too various to be discussed here, especially as they are organizational and programme problems rather than engineering ones.

Few of the engineers were quite prepared for the very satisfactory pictures which were transmitted from Rome and Montreaux to all the other countries on 6th June, the day when the series of programmes opened, though there were temporary breakdowns. The last few minutes of the transmission from the Vatican were marred by picture iumping caused by surges on the supply mains at Milan, which was then experiencing a severe thunderstorm.

It is, at the time of writing, too early to make any prediction, but it seems justifiable to say that, apart


Standardized test signals used during the experiment. More than one short pulse (B) may occur during the line period.
from unreliability due to the absence of reserve equipment on the various links, the transmission problem appears soluble along the lines that we have adopted. The weak points are certainly the standards
converters. The results that they are giving, however, justify the view that normal development will in due course enable results to be obtained of a quality acceptable to the great majority of viewers.


# Television I.F. Inquiry 

Aspects of Receiver Design in Varıous Countries

By G. II. RUSSEI.I, Assoc.Brit.I.R.E.

IN December, 1952, a questionnaire on television receiver problems was sent to manufacturers' organizations in a number of countries by the European Broadcasting Union's technical centre. Replies were received from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America at various dates during 1953 and 1954. These replies are given in a document recently published by the E.B.U.* This report deals mainly with intermediate frequency problems but also includes some interesting information on other aspects of receiver design in the various countries. The object of the questionnaire was to ascertain whether any measure of international agreement could be obtained on specific technical points, and on the basis of this inquiry the E.B.U. evidently intends to pursue this admirable objective.

On the subject of choosing intermediate frequencies, six major causes of interference were listed: second channel, i.f. breakthrough, oscillator second harmonic, i.f. harmonics, oscillator radiation from a nearby receiver, and harmonics of Band I transmitters appearing on Band III. Respondents were asked to say which of these they considered most important, and why. Each country was also required to give intermediate frequencies in general use and those that will be in general use in the near future, indication to be given in each case of whether the oscillator frequency is, or will be, above or below the signal frequency. The replies to these last questions are given in the table.

## Local Conditions

The replies on the question of interference are, as one would expect, very much conditioned by local considerations. For example, whereas Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Holland and the U.S.A. consider second channel interference as the most important, Italy places it about third on the list, claiming that the disposition of her transmitters effects a considerable alleviation of this problem. On the other hand, Italy is very worried about the effects of the harmonics of the f.m. sound broadcasting stations. Another example of local thinking occurs over the question of i.f. breakthrough, considered to be the most important source of interference in Sweden and the U.K. but the least important in Holland. The reason for Sweden's fears is that public-services transmitters operate in the recommended i.f. bands. France is very pessimistic about the whole problem of interference, stating, quite correctly, that no i.f. will give complete immunity and that the solution lies in that elusive talisman, inter-

[^2]national agreement. No opinions are expressed on the relative importance of the six sources of interference listed. There is a private contribution to the document from Britain and in this the analysis of the problem and the conclusions reached are similar to those published in Wireless World recently.* One of the more surprising results obtained from an examination of the answers is that oscillator radiation is considered of so little importance. No one, except the U.K., places it higher than fourth in importance, the majority rating it as fifth or sixth.

Some information is given on oscillator radiation in America and this country. The limits proposed by R.E.T.M.A. (Radio, Electronic and Television Manufacturers' Association) in the U.S.A. are $50 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre at a distance of 30 metres from the receiver for Band I. The corresponding figure for Band III is $150 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre. Elsewhere in America, a figure of $15 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre has been proposed as both desirable and practicable. The B.R.E.M.A. limits are also quoted. To show how far the industry is from achieving these limits, results of measurements of receivers are given. Receivers measured in America at various periods in 1950, 1952 and 1953 gave between 63 and $762 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre at a distance of 30 metres from the receivers on Bands II and III. A British receiver is quoted as having given $890 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre at a distance of 10 metres from the receiver instead of the recommended $20 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre. The American manufacturers, having placed oscillator radiation as fourth in order of importance, evidently do not see eye to eye with the F.C.C., as that body considers the radiation problem so serious that they have threatened legislation if manufacturers do not conform to the recommended limits.

It is only to be expected that at u.h.f. all forms of interference are intensified owing to the difficulty of providing adequate pre-selection at these frequencies. Representative oscillator radiation figures lie between 512 and $2,840 \mu \mathrm{~V} /$ metre at a distance of 30 metres from the receiver at frequencies between 375 and $810 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. The difficulties at u.h.f. of providing adequate protection at the receiver against interference have been recognized in the U.S.A. and a solution has been adopted which provides protection by frequency allocation. It is based upon the standard i.f. ( 41.25 and $45.75 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ sound and vision carriers respectively) and a standard channel separation of $6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. This frequency allocation system operates as follows:
(a) Protection against oscillator radiation: transmitters 7 channels apart ( $42 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) must be separated by at least 60 miles.
(b) Protection against second channel interference

[^3](sound and vision); transmitters 14 and 15 channels apart ( 84 and $90 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) must be separated by at least 60 and 75 miles respectively.
(c) Protection against i.f. beat interference: transmitters 8 channels apart ( $48 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) must be separated by at least 20 miles.
(d) Protection against intermodulation interference: transmitters 6 channels apart ( $36 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) must be separated by at least 20 miles.
I.F. beat interference refers to a situation where two signals beat together to produce an interfering signal whose frequency is equal, or close to, that of the intermediate frequency. For the parameters chosen this can occur with transmitters 7 or 8 channels apart. The former was covered in (a). Intermodulation interference occurs when two signals beat together to produce an interfering signal whose frequency is equal or close to that of the signal being received.

## Systems in Use

It may not be generally realized that five television systems exist in western Europe to-day. First of all there is our own 405 -line system. Next comes the C.C.I.R. system, used by all the countries of western Europe which have television except Belgium, France and ourselves. This operates with 625 lines, negative
picture modulation, f.m. sound, $5.5-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ spacing between sound and vision carriers and $7-\mathrm{Mc} /$ : channel width. Then there is the French system, operating with 819 lines, positive modulation, a.m. sound, $11.15-$ $\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ spacing between sound and vision carriers and $14-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ channel width. Lastly comes Belgium with two systems: a French service which operates with 819 lines and a Flemish service with 625 lines, both with positive modulation, a.m. sound, $5.5-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ spacing between sound and vision carriers and $7-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ channel width. A further complication lies in the fact that in the French system the relative positions of the sound and vision carriers are inverted as compared with the C.C.I.R. and Belgian systems.

This poses some rather pretty problems in the frontier regions of Europe and particularly in Belgium where, depending upon the geographical location, it is possible to receive alternative programmes from France, Germany or Holland. A demand for multi-standard receivers evidently exists in all these countries, but not in those which are separated from countries using other systems by long distance or by mountainous terrain. The provision of a multistandard receiver may testify to man's ingenuity, if not to his good sense, but the reader can judge for himself. Here are some of the replies, summarized, which were received in answer to the part of the

Table of intermediate frequencies in current use and those that it is expected will be in general use in the near future.

| Country |  |  | Intermediate Frequencies In Current Úse |  |  | Future Intermediate Frequencies |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Vision i.f. ( $\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) | Sound i.f. (Mc/s) | Position of Osc. relative to Signal Frequency | Vision i.f. (Mc/s) | Sound i.f. <br> (Mc/s) | Position of Osc. relative to Signal Frequency |
| Belgium .. | - | $\cdots$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.75 \\ & 25.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36.25 \\ & 20 \end{aligned}$ | Above and below | - | - | - |
| Denmark | . | . | $\begin{gathered} \text { Below } 25 \\ 41.75 \\ 39.75 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36.25 \\ & 34.25 \end{aligned}$ | Above Above | 39.75 | 34.25 | Above |
| France | . | . | $\begin{aligned} & 80 \\ & 40 \\ & 66 \\ & 24 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 66 \\ & 24 \\ & 80 \\ & 40 \end{aligned}$ | ( $\}$ Sound i.f. | ower than vi higher than | ion i.f. |  |
| Germany | . | . | About 25 | - | Above | 38.9 | 33.4 | Above |
| Holland | . | . | 23.5 | 18 | Above | 38.9 | 33.4 | Above |
| Italy | - | . | $\begin{aligned} & 25.75 \\ & 45.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20.25 \\ & 40.25 \end{aligned}$ | Above Above | 45.75 | 40.25 | Above |
| Sweden | - | . | $\begin{aligned} & 23.5 \\ & 39.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \\ & 34 \end{aligned}$ | Above Above | - | - | - |
| Switzerland | -. | - | $\begin{aligned} & 23.5 \\ & 39.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \\ & 34 \end{aligned}$ | 二 | 39.5 | 34 | - |
| United Kingdom | .. | . | $\begin{gathered} 12-13 \\ 16 \\ 34 \end{gathered}$ | 二 | Below Above Above | - | - | - |
| U.S.A. .. | . | - | $\underset{45.75}{25.75-26.4}$ | $\underset{41.25}{21.25-21.8}$ | Above <br> Above | 45.75 | 41.25 | Above |

questionnaire concerned with receiver design and performance.

Belgium.-Nine-channel receivers are being manufactured capable of operating on four systems. A 12 -position tuner is fitted but only nine positions are actually used. The tuner is provided with a fine tuning control. The wavechange switch automatically selects the system appropriate to the station being received; c.g., for German stations the receiver is automatically switched to negative picture modulation and f.m. sound. Only the line frequency is controlled independently. This must be so because Belgian transmitters are arranged to work with either line frequency in the event of relayed programmes. It is not clear how the differences in bandwidth requirements between the French systems and the rest are brought about, but it is mentioned that one Belgian manufacturer fits an extra switch which varies the i.f. pass band from 5.5 to $11.15 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Sensitivity is $10-15 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band I and $20-50 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band III. Input impedance is 751 .

Denmark.-In practice, there are no receivers available capable of receiving all the C.C.I.R. channels, but 50 per cent of Danish receivers are fitted with a turret tuner in which it is a fairly simple operation to insert coils corresponding to any of the channels. The majority of the other receivers in use are of the single-channel variety with space provided for a similar tuner. The insertion of new coils into an existing turret costs two to five per cent the initial cost of the recciver, and the fitting of a tuning unit 10 to 20 per cent. In either case it is necessary to return the receiver to the dealer or the manufacturer for the work to be carried out. It appears that the majority of customers prefer the singlechannel seceiver once they know that they can have the tuner fitted if required. One "straight" receiver was being made in Denmark in 1952: all others are superheterodynes with r.f. stages. The sensitivity of the single-channel receiver is $200-300 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ and the multi-channel $30-75 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ Most aerials are of the two-element variety with $70-1$ coaxial feeder.

France.-As at prescat only a one-programme television network is visualized for the whole of France, French manufacturers consider that the most useful recejver would be single-channel with easily interchangeable coil-deck. If the customer moves to an area which is served by a different transmitter from that to which the recejver is tuned, the coildeck can be changed in his home at an estimated cost of five per cent of the original cost of the receiver. Although it is possible that at some time in the future a second programme may be available, the public do not appear to be unduly worried about the prospect. For the frontier regions it has been suggested that a receiver similar to the Belgian might be an answer, but the matter is still under consideration. In the meantime, a receiver has been built for the Strasbourg region (where it is possible to receive German programmes) which employs two separate i.f. amplifier chains; one using 37.6 and $26.45 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ for vision and sound, the other with 28.5 and $23 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. The inversion of the vision and sound carricrs is presumably carried out by placing the oscillator above or below the carrier frequency. One or two r.f. stages are employed and a fine tuning control is provided on all receivers. Proposed sensitivities are, for Band III, better than $500 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for "standard". receivers and better than $50 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for "fringe" receivers (75! input impedance). These figures are quoted for 10 V peak-to-peak output at the tube when the signal is 30 per cent sine-wave modulared. Sensitivity requirements for Band I have yet to be determined.

Germany.-All receivers except one are multi-channel. All employ an r.f. stage and a fine tuning control. The majority are switch tuned. Some receivers are made for Band III only, but can be converted to Band I if returned to the factory. No provision is made for other systems of transmission, and it is not made clear whether a demand for such receivers exists. Average sensitivity for 30 db signal-to-noise ratio is $200-500 \mu \mathrm{~V}$. Input impedance is $240 \Omega$. The standard aerial is a half-wave folded dipole with reffector and director.

Holland.-Receivers actually on the market are of two types: a four-channel version for Band I only and a 10 channel version for Bands I and III. All have a tuned r.f. stage, and continuous tuning is provided in conjunction with a turret switch. Sensitivity figures are given for "regional" and "sensitive" models as follows: $500 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on Band I and $650 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on Band III for the first, and $50 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on Band I and $100 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on Band III for the second. It is proposed to improve the sensitivity of the "sensitive" receiver in the future to $15 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band I and $25 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band III.

Italy.-Receivers being made in Italy operate on five channels between 61 and $216 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. It is possible that when the final disposition of Italian transmitters is known, singlechannel receivers will be made on a limited scale for certain
areas. Most receivers are superheterodynes with r.f. stage, switch tuning and fine oscillator tuning control. Sensitivity figures are quoted for 20 db signal-to-noise ratio and 20 V peak-to-peak at the tube as follows: $150-200 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band I and $250-350 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band III. Input impedance is 300 ?. Nearly all receivers use the intercarrier-sound system.

Sweden.-As the Swedish television service is still experimental practically no receivers of Swedish manufacture exist. Imported models have a 10 -channel tuner. This is another country for which only one programme is visualized. Nevertheless, it is felt that many receivers will require at least two channels, as it may be possible in certain areas to receive foreign programmes; c.g., in the south from Denmark. To combat oscillator radiation an r.f. amplifier is considered necessary, even on a simple receiver. It is expected that the following will be the sensitivity requirements. Single-channel receivers: $200 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band I and $500 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band III. Tunable receivers: $30-60 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band I and $50-100 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for Band III. These figures are for 3 V output at the tube when the signal is modulated 30 per cent. Owing to the existence of large numbers of blocks of flats in the towns communal aerials will be largely used. It is intended to provide highpower transmitters for densely populated areas to permit the use of indoor aerials. Communal aerials erected on adjacent high ground are recommended for remote villages.

Switzerland.-The Swiss television service was still in the experimental stage when the replies to the questionnaire were sent. These are, therefore, rather in the nature of recommendations than an expression of fact or opinion. It is expected that single and multi-channel receivers will be in equal demand. Recommended acrials are similar to those in use in Germany, except that 601 l unbalanced feeder is given as an alternative to 240 : balanced.
U.S.A.-All v.h.f. receivers have 12 -channel tuners. Most employ switched channels as this is the method of tuning preferred by Americans. During the first six months of 1953, 15 per cent of all receivers manufactured had a u.h.f. band. By the end of the year this type of receiver had reached 40 per cent of total production. Tivo methods of u.h.f. operation are in use. One uses a tuner which converts directly to the receiver i.f.; the other has a converter which turns the receiver into a double superheterodyne, one of the v.h.f. channels being used as the first i.f. A large number of receivers are being used with separate tuners or converters which cost between $\$ 10$ and $\$ 50$. Two methods of u.h.f. tuning are in use. One employs a turret switch with a fixed number of positions; the other is a continuous tuning system. With the turret switch method, channels can be changed by changing the coils-an operation that can be carried out in the customer's home without the use of a soldering iron. As there are 70 u.h.f. channels, continuous tuning systems are favoured by the manufacturer, if not by the customer. R.F. amplifiers are always used at v.h.f. but rarely at u.h.f. Most receivers have a sensitivity of $70 \mu \mathrm{~V}$; the u.h.f. figure is a little higher than this. At this level noise is perceptible, but the picture is considered acceptable. The majority of the receivers are used with indoor aerials or with single-element dipole aerials mounted on the roof or in the attic. In fringe areas folded dipole aerials with reflectors mounted at a height of 50-100ft are usual.

The French reply also contains some interesting information on the aerial situation in that country. Until September, 1953, landlords had the right to oppose the erection of aerials on their premises and evidently used it, for on that date an edict was published decreeing that television and radio are, like the telephone, public services. As such, the landlord cannot (under certain conditions that have yet to be determined) object to the installation of an outdoor aerial. Nevertheless, this evidently does not solve the problem, as the French nation, being both practical and artistic, dislikes outdoor aerials, partly because of their cost and partly because of æsthetic considerations. Technical problems still to be solved are those relating to multi-channel, multi-directional aerials and communal outdoor aerials, which raise judicial and administrative problems as well. Some communal aerials already exist in Paris, but it is felt that television development in France will depend to a great extent on the ability of receivers to operate satisfactorily with indoor aerials.

On the question of whether any provision is being
made in receivers for the reception of colour television, all countries answered negatively except America and, surprisingly, Sweden. It appears that, as the start of a television service has been so long delayed in Sweden, it may well come about that monochrome and colour television will be introduced almost coincidentally. One of the modifications suggested is that the i.f. bandwidth be reduced by one megacycle to reduce the possibility of interference from the colour signal to monochrome receivers.

To the question of whether it would be possible to standardize the phase distortion in receivers so that a pre-correction could be made at the transmitter, answers ranged from a downright " no " from Belgium to an enthusiastic "yes" from Sweden. America considers it a possibility that such an arrangement might be introduced for colour television.

In the "conclusions" to the E.B.U. document, part of an editorial in Télévision by E. Aisberg is quoted: "A radio receiver can be used practically anywhere in the world. In revenge, a television recciver must be made, if not for each transmitter, at least for
each country." When it is remembered that one more television system exists in eastern Europe, making a total of six for Europe alone, for the present, one can only add that television's revenge has been remarkably complete. The situation may yet be saved when Europe embarks upon Band IV and colour television, and we must surely all hope that the efforts of organizations such as the E.B.U. will be crowned with success when they attempt to obtain international agreement on these matters. Unfortunately, while all countrics are in full support of international agreement, they are all very vague as to the method of attaining it. The situation is best summed up by Sweden's succinct observation that the possibility of such agreement "seems utopian."
In the meantime, perhaps the one redecming feature of the present diversity of systems is that it possibly makes engineers' lives more interesting. In conclusion, one cannot help remarking that it is a great pity that the mainland of Europe did not adopt a certain well-tried system which uses 405 lines, positive modulation, a.m. sound, etc., etc. . . .

## IETTEIE TO TIE EDITOI

The Fillior dors not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by his correspondents

## Transistor Symbols

WITH regard to letters in your March and April issues by F. Oakes and Henry Morgan on symbols for transistors, I enclose a copy of a DRTE/EL Memorandum* on the subject.

There is a small group at the Electronics Laboratory of the Canadian Defence Research Telecommunications Establishment, under N. F. Moody, which has been working on transistors for some time. We have adopted this convention for our own publications, particularly because it contributes to our understanding of the operation of circuits.

You will note that our convention has been developed from the electrical function of transistors rather than their mechanical form. Mr. Morgan's symbols represent the mechanical form of a diffused junction, or alloy transistor, and would not suggest a grown junction or surface barrier.

Since the enclosed memo. was written I have seen several other conventions used. Some of these use features of ours, and the trend seems to be towards one like we suggest.

I feel that the convention suggested in the memo. is a logical beginning from which symbols for new semi-conductor devices can grow.

## Ottawa, Canada.

P. M. Thompson.
[* The following is an extract of the relevant part of the memorandum.-ED. $]$
"A Logical Convention Based on p-n Junctions.
"It is well known that a junction rectifier or diode consists of a $p-n$ junction, a junction transistor of two such junctions, and compound transistors of several. Also the impedance characteristics of the emitter of a junction transistor are those of a diode polarized in the forward direction, and the collector of a diode polarized in the reverse direction.
" There is an accepted symbol for a rectifier, as shown in Fig. 2 (a). It is suggested, therefore, that they should be drawn as combinations of these rectifiers. This leads to a convention for drawing transistors as shown in Fig. 2. The $p-n$ junctions are shown as they are in the standard rectifier convention, and the emitters are shaded, or could be marked with a dot.
"A point transistor may be regarded functionally as a $p-n-p$ transistor with $\alpha>1$, and hence the base current flowing the opposite direction. It can also be considered as consisting of two point diodes.
"Diodes or rectifiers are commonly drawn either as shown in Fig. 2 (a) or in Fig. 3 (a). It is suggested that Fig. 2 (a) should represent a junction diode, while the
(a)

(b)
(c)
(d)
(e)
Fig. 2. A convention for junction transistors. (a) rectifier, (b) p-n-p transistor, (c) n-p-n transistor, (d) p-n-p-n compound tronsistor, (e) p-n-p symmetrical transistor.
Fig. 3. A convention for point transistors. (a) rectifier. (b) transistor.

(b)

use of Fig. 3 (a) should be confined to point diodes. The above convention for junction transistors can be modified for point transistors as shown in Fig. 3."

## British Colour Television

I THINK all engineers will agree that the Americans have earned the admiration of the technical world for the vast effort which has been put into their colour TV. And the result of all this effort has meant that a colour TV system has been evolved which can only be rivalled in complexity by those mysterious units installed in every automatic telephone exchange. In spite of this complexity, however, man's ingenuity has been stretched to a remarkable degree, and the system is capable of transmitting a colour picture from A to B. That is, of ceurse, if one has unlimited financial resources and one or two skilled engineers are supplied with each receiver.

At some time in the future we must make a decision in this country as to the exact colour TV system which we shall inflict on our children and grandchildren. Without a doubt, once the receivers are sold we cannot change the system. It must therefore be a good system. With no colour service in operation the way must surely be obvious. The engineering profession and the various technical committees must not be subject to pressure from anywhere during these early colour TV decisions. They must not be panicked into thinking that any colour picture is better than none.
Here is a chance that will not occur again. The scanning standards must be reviewed. The u.h.f. bands must be considered. Due consideration must be given to the wonderful work done by the N.T.S.C., but this must not be allowed to affect our own
approach to the problem. To make the system compatible may tie a weight round the necks of every receiver designer for the next century-so is it worth it?

The N.T.S.C. system has several disadvantages, all of which have been fairly stated in the published information. The one major handicap to my mind is that "it doesn't seem the way to do it." (I would hasten to add that I have no other workable solution!) In the past all major technical achievements have been finalized in a workable form in much the same way as had been predicted as a "dream solution" prior to the final realization. - Dare we also anticipate the way to do colour TV? With one pick-up tube and the c.r.t. of the future that changes its colour according to a potential applied to an electrode (see "The Chromoscope." Proceedings of the National Electronics Conference, 1947, p. 549).

The engineer who works all day at his bench and who specializes in one branch or another may tend to lose sight of the larger goal which must be sought. Colour TV is desirable because at present there is something missing. That in itself is a challenge. That something may or may not be worth while, and indeed the colour picture will not be worth while if the resulting receiver is not a practical proposition. After all, surely that is what we must keep in mind. Whether we like it or not the real reason why anybody buys a TV set is to have a box in the corner that gives pleasure and entertainment to those who watch the screen.

Television, we are always being told, is a family affair. There is little doubt that all colour TV designers should remember this. Receivers at $£ 250$ to $£ 300$ will not sell-not even in America.

Carshalton, Surrey. Charles A. Marshall.

## COMMERCDAL

Five-core Solder giving quick release of flus; brief technical details in the 2nd edition of "Modern Solders," an illustrated booklet from Multicore Solders, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
H.T. Transformers; a leaflet giving specifications with the unusual feature of listing d.c. output voltage with current and the d.c. regulation for a given transformer, valve and capacitor combination. From Radford Electronics, 149 Newfoundland Road, Bristol 2.

Record Storage Cabinets in polished walnut, with top large enough to take a receiver or record player. Leaflet from Whiteley Electrical Radio Co., Victoria Street, Mansfield, Notts.

Miniature Soldering Iron for $2.5-6 \mathrm{~V}$ supply a.c. of d.c. With + -V transformer (also available) the heating time is 6 seconds. Leaflet from Arthur Gray, Ltd., 150-152 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.

Marine Broadcast Receiver (Cameo Senior, model RM215); a 5 -valve superhet covering long, medium, trawler and short wavebands. Specification and descriptive leaflet from Kees Mace Marine, 11 Hinde Street, Manchester Square, London, W.1.

Vacuum Pumps (oif and mercury diffusion types), silicone pump fluids, leak detectors, ionization gauges and other vacuum equipment described in illustrated technical leaflets from W. Edwards \& Co., Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex.

Superhet Chassis with gramophone connection, bass and treble controls and push-pull output giving 8 watts. Specification on a leaflet from Tape Recorders (Electronics), 3 Fitzroy Street, London, W. 1.

## LITERATURE

Automatic Mains Voltage Regulator, using motor-driven variable auto-transformer, with stabilization of within $\pm 1 \%$ for input variation range of 50 V . Max. load current 22 amps. Illustrated leaflet from Airmec, High Wycombe, Bucks.

Digital Computor of plug-in unit construction with 550 valves, punched-tape input and typewriter output. The digit rate is 333,000 per second and the power consumption 6 kVA . Specification and brief description from Elliott Brothers (London), Century Works, London, S.E.13.

Anti-vibration Mounts for airborne equipment, with air damping and non-linear springs giving substantially constant natural frequency ( $8 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ ) with varying loads. Catalogues from Cementation (Muffelite), 39 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Power Rheostats, toroidal wound, in five sizes from 25 to 150 watts and interchangeable with certain American types. Illustrated brochure of technical data from the British Electric Resistance Co., Queensway, Enfield, Middlesex.

Marine Radar Operation; a brochure on the Marconi "Radiolocator IV" giving a pictorial explanation of the controls to avoid frequent reference to the detailed instruction manual. From Marconi Marine, Marconi House, Chelmsford, Essex, price 4s.

Government Surplus Equipment; a new illustrated catalogue from A. T. Sallis, 93 North Road, Brighton, Sussex, price (including postage) 1 s inland, or 2 s 6 d overseas by air mail.

Crystal Set, using germanium diode, mounted on standard two-pole telephone jack and intended to be plugged into any amplifier with a high-impedance microphone input. Selection of two preset-tuned m.w. stations by toggle switch. Leaflet from Truvox, 15 Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

# Vector Diagrams Again 

" CATIIODE RAY" Advocates a Less Confusing System

SDOME while ago an Australian reader sought an explanation of the phase shift between primary and secondary in r.f. transformers, which, he said, seemed to be taken for granted in the books. It is quite an important point, especially in connection with f.m. receivers. And it could hardly be answered properly without vector diagrams. The question was: What kind of vector diagrams? A few years earlier I had tried to show that vector diagrams as commonly seen are unsatisfactory, and explained a modified type of diagram that had just been described in Electrical Reviezw by M. G. Scroggie. But if now I adopted this type without warning it would probably find everyone in the state of having forgotten all about it, if indeed they had ever heard of it. On the other hand, could I go back to the bad old style?

While I was pondering this dilemma, more and better information on the revised diagram appeared in Electrical Review*. One distinct improvement was a new current notation to balance the already familiar subscript notation for voltages. Seeing that my previous exposition of vector diagrams had been unlucky in attracting the activities of an exceptional number of hostile gremlins, this seems to

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\text { * 1st, 15th and 22nd January, } 1954 .
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Fig. 1. Waveform presentation of alternating quantities.


Fig. 2. In the Fig. I type of diagram, relative magnitudes are compared by noting the dimensions marked-the peak values-and phose by the distance between (in this example) $I_{\max }$ and $V_{\text {max }}$, compared with one whole cycle.
be the time for a review. The transformer question can then come in nicely as an example.

The purpose of vector diagrams, of course, is to show the relative magnitudes and phases of alternating quantities, such as voltages and currents. One method of doing this is what might be called the oscillographic or waveform diagram, such as Fig. 1. Even with only two quantities, as here, it is quite troublesome to draw clearly, and with eight or nine is just a mess. Most of the effort goes in depicting the waveform, and instead of making the relative magnitudes and phases clearer it obscures them. To compare magnitudes one has to visualize dimensional lines joining the peaks of the waves with the base line, at right-angles, as in Fig. 2. The relative phase is judged by comparing the distance between the $\mathrm{V}_{\max }$ and $I_{m a x}$ lines with one whole cycle-the distance between two successive $\mathrm{V}_{\operatorname{m}_{4} x}$ lines.

But when, as fortunately is so often the case, all the waveforms are the same-sinusoidal-there is no need to waste time drawing them; only the peak dimensional lines need be shown. That being so, they can be rearranged to show phases more clearly, the standard method being to set them at different angles, as in Fig. 3, a whole cycle being represented by a complete turn of $360^{\circ}$. This scheme has the advantage,

Right:Fig. 3. When the waveforms are all the same and known, it is a waste of time drawing them, and all one needs are the peok dimension lines, which can be arranged to show phase much more clearly as angle. (Quarter of a cycle is much more easily recognized as a right angle than as quarter of the distance along a line.)

too, that as the whole diagram is supposed to be rotating anti-clockwise at one rev. per cycle the instantancous values of all the quantities shown are represented continuously by the vertical heights of the points of the vectors above the centre of rotation. When a point is below the centre, its height is of course negative. Thus in Fig. 3 V is at its positive maximum, and the instantaneous value of I (if it is, as it looks, $135^{\circ}$ ahead of V ) is $-\mathrm{I}_{\text {max }} / \sqrt{ } 2$. Still another-and very considerable-advantage of the vector form of diagram is the eas: of adding and subtracting magnitudes in different phase.

## Circuit and Vector Relationship

A vector diagram by itself is not much good, however; one would not know what the " $V$," " $I$," etc., stood for. They are voltages and currents in a circuit, so one should have a circuit diagram on which these things are marked. Now, this is where the trouble begins. The diagrams of even the most reputable and
eminent authorities often fail to provide an unmistakably clear tie-up between circuit diagram and vector diagram. The first book I looked at, written by the Principal of a technical college, was wholly devoted to electrical vector diagrams. As it was about 20 years old, however, I next looked up one of the most recent works by a progressive Professor of Electrical Engineering. Both these books agreed in marking voltages between points in circuits by two-way arrows as in Fig. 4(a). (The reference letters to mark the points are my own.) This scheme does at least show the points between which the voltages exist, and it does suggest that the voltage is alternating. But that is the utmost that can be said in its favour. Suppose the corresponding parts of the vector diagram were as in Fig. 4(b). This tells us that $V_{2}$ is exactly opposite in phase to $\mathrm{V}_{1}$. But when we try to apply this information to the circuit diagram we find two possible and exactly opposite interpretations. It is like the man who, when asked if Oxford or Cambridge would win the boat race, replied "Yes!" When point $b$ is maximum positive with respect to $a$, we can be sure that either $c$ or $d$ is maximum negative with respect to the other. It looks as if we shall have to toss for it, and have a fifty-fifty chance of being right. To so-called sportsmen that may be magnificent but it is not electrical engineering. The learned authors might perhaps reply that if we were to study the rest of the circuit and apply fundamental principles we ought to be able to work out the correct answer. But surely, gentlemen, that is not good enough! These diagrams are intended to save our brains, not to give them needless mysteries to solve!

Oddly enough, both these eminent authors marked currents in the circuit by one-way arrows, so their two-way voltage arrows are not even a consistent policy. Manchester has a reputation for ideas, and turning there $I$ found an instructional publication for teachers of electrical engineering, in which both currents and voltages are marked with one-way arrows. These do not quite so clearly indicate exactly the points between which voltages are reckoned, and might be rather confusing in circuits where d.c. also existed. If we were really critical we might also think it a little queer to mark alternating quantities as if they went in one direction only. But these are perhaps carping criticisms, and we ought to be thankful to find that there are authorities who advocate a system that does not leave one guessing. If Fig. 5 was their version of Fig. 4(a), then Fig. 4(b) would unmistakably mean that when $b$ was maximum positive to $a, c$ would be maximum negative to $d$, and so on around the cycle.

Other authorities, though strangely few in this country, label the points of the circuit with letters, as I have done. Then instead of having to use an arbitrary number to distinguish one V from another, the natural and obvious thing is to use letters$\mathrm{V}_{a b}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{cd}}$, etc.-which not only distinguish the voltages but also show definitely the points between which they exist and the relative directions in which they act. So this system combines the best features of the other two, and adds some that they lack. Using it, there is no need to mark the circuit diagram with any voltage labels or arrows; only to letter the points concerned. The vector diagram Fig. 6 provides the information of Figs. 4(b) and 5 combined. Obviously $\mathrm{V}_{d c}$ is the same thing as $-\mathrm{V}_{c d}$, so the same information would be given by a diagram consisting of two vectors, $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{c d}$ pointing in the same direction.

(d)

Fig. 4. (a) is a common method of marking voltages between two circuit points, in relation to a vector diagram (b), but it is ambiguous.


Fig. 5. This alternative to Fig. 4(a) removes the ambiguity, but suggests that the voltages are unidirectional, and is quite unnecessary.

Fig. 6. This alternative to Fig. 4(b) identifies the voltages on the circuit diagram unambiguously without any arrows at all.

Notice particularly that all this works quite smoothly without our having to decide whether positive $V_{a b}$ means $a$ more positive than $b$ or $b$ more positive than $a$. If the meaning is reversed, it is reversed for all the voltages in the diagram, and with a.c. that is all right. For if you and I were to give opposite meanings to $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$, and you were right during all the positive half-cycles, I would be right during all the negative half-cycles, so we would be quits! But this is because so far we have only considered voltages. In any real problems we have to consider currents too, and then it becomes necessary to know which convention has been adopted about the order in which the letters come in naming the voltages.

## Indicating Currents

Although this may seem quite a small point, it is vitally important and there will be endless misunderstanding if we don't get it clear now. Fig. 7 shows perhaps the simplest possible circuit-a source of e.m.f. driving current through resistance. Although it may be crazy (see "Alice in Solidconductorland," March issue, p. 152) it is nevertheless a universal custom to consider electrons as negative. The positive direction of current flow is therefore the direction of positive ion flow (if any) and opposite to the direction of electron flow. So we may say that current flows from the carbon electrode of a battery (which is conventionally called positive and marked red or " + ") through the external circuit to the zinc electrode. This is shown by the arrow's head in Fig. 7. In this diagram, therefore, $b$ is positive with respect to $a$. We have the choice of calling the positive voltage in this circuit $\mathrm{V}_{b a}$ or $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$. If we called it $\mathrm{V}_{b a}$, then this would mean $V_{b}-V_{a}$, or the voltage of the first-mentioned point with respect to that of the second. This is the "voltage-fall" convention, because whether one gees from $b$ to $a$ through the
battery or through the resistance (or through the surrounding space, for that matter) the potential is falling. If on the other hand we adopted the voltagerise convention we would call the positive voltage $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$, still meaning $\mathrm{V}_{b}-\mathrm{V}_{a}$, or the voltage change in the direction $a \rightarrow b$. (It is the principle of the thing that counts of course; if the top terminal had been labelled $a$ the positive voltage according to the potential-rise convention would have been $\mathrm{V}_{b a}$.)

So long as we make our choice clear at the start and stick to it, there is no excuse for misunderstanding. The majority of those who use a double-subscriptletter notation at all seem to favour the voltage-fall convention. So I only recommend the other because I am convinced that it is considerably better. Why is it? Look again at Fig. 7. The thing that is driving the current jclockwise round this circuit is the e.m.f. of the battery. It seems reasonable to say that the direction of e.m.f. in a source is the direction in which the e.m.f. tends to drive current. In Fig. 7 the battery tends to drive positive current (and is succeeding in doing so) through itself from $a$ to $b$, so I like to think that $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$ here is positive, not negative. Whatever we think, however, has to be in harmony with the principle that the current flowing through a pure resistance is (to use the a.c. term) in phase with the applied e.m.f. In Fig. 7 the current is flowing through the resistance from $b$ to $a$ and the applied e.m.f. (according to the voltage-rise convention) is $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$. This is probably why so many people prefer the opposite convention. It admittedly comes easier to say " Oh yes; current from $b$ to $a$, applied e.m.f. must be $\mathrm{V}_{b a}$." But it is very much a matter of viewpoint. The source of the e.m.f. may be in quite another part of the circuit; there may be several sources, in fact. With the voltage-rise convention there is no need to worry about that; the whole of the rest of the circuit connected to the resistance being considered is in effect the source of the e.m.f. driving current through that resistance, and is acting through itself from $a$ to $b$. If when considering a resistance one prefers to consider the voltage as acting through the resistance, then one's thinking can still be in harmony with the voltage-rise convention by regarding the resistance as a source of back voltage, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ab }}$, opposite to the direction of current; just as a box pushed across the floor is a source of pressure against the hand pushing it. Not everyone may take to this idea, but it is difficult to deny that inductance and capacitance in a circuit are sources of e.m.f. oppesing the applied e.m.f.

If most people do prefer to think of the direction in which an e.m.f. acts as being the direction through the external circuit rather than through the source of the e.m.f., and there were no more to it, I would readily give in for the sake of uniformity. But there is more to it.


Fig. 7. Very simple circuit as a basis for discussion of circuit conventions.

Fig. 8. Provided that the circuit conventions are known, this is the simples: and clearest type of vector for the voltage between two units.

Fig. 9. The $a b-$ sence of arrow heads in the Fig. 8 type of vector obviates this kind of thing.

$a$

In Fig. 6 we have a vector $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$. The same vector would represent $V_{b a}$ if the label were changed and the arrow-head transferred to the other end. But electrical vectors invariably represent alternating quantities, which are constantly reversing, so it seems silly to pick on one of the two alternate directions rather than the other. It is altogether more logical to abolish both the label " $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$ " and the arrow-head, and simply to mark the ends of the vector line as in Fig. 8 to correspond with the points in the circuit. We British are supposed not to be logical, so that particular argument may not carry much weight; but as a practical race we ought to appreciate two things. One is that in a complicated diagram it is difficult to write in all the voltages so that no mistake can be made about which vectors they all belong to. The other is that when two or more arrow-headed lines meet, as in Fig. 9, it makes a mess. And if in order to avoid this the heads are put elsewhere on the lines there is risk of a confusion that I will mention a little later.

## Seeing at a Glance

Fig. 8, then, is a neater (and more logical) job; but by far its most important advantage is still to come. It is, in fact, perhaps the outstanding advantage of the recommended type of vector diagrams. By marking all the voltage vectors in this way, we can see at a glance the instantaneous potential of every point in the circuit relative to every other point. Turning the diagram round clockwise, we can see how all these relative potentials vary as the cycle proceeds. With ordinary vector diagrams, this information has to be deduced laboriously, and unless one is exceptionally clever there are plenty of chances of going wrong. It is like the difference between seeing a working model and reading a specification of it-all the information may be in the specification, but it is difficult to visualize.
Before we go on to realize this by constructing a real vector diagram, we must just see how the idea of showing the vectors as in Fig. 8 affects our attitude to the potential-rise versus potential-fall question. One thing everybody will agree about is that in vector diagrams "up" means positive and "down" is negative. The natural meaning of the vector $a b$ as shown in Fig. 8 is that point $b$ in the circuit is maximum positive with respect to $a$. It is unthinkable that it should represent $b$ as being negative to $a$. Now, we have already seen that this kind of vector is really two in one, for it is both upward and downward. If you wanted to refer to it in its upward sense, what would you call it? Surely $a b!$ Again, it is unthinkable that $a b$ in Fig. 8 could mean the downward sense. And a third unthinkable thing is that the vector $a b$ should represent the voltage $\mathrm{V}_{b a}$. Unless therefore our brains are topsy-turvy, we are bound to take $a b$ in Fig. 8 to represent $\mathrm{V}_{a b}$ at its maximum positive value, $b$ being positive with respect to $a$.


Fig. 10. Simple o.c. circuit as an example for comparing different types of voltage vector diagram.

Fig. 11 . First stages of a general vector diogram for Fig. 10.


Fig. 12. A complete general vector diagram for Fig. 10.

Fig. 13. How Fig. 10 would be drown by some teachers.


In other words, we are bound to adopt the potentialrise convention. There is no way out that I can see !

Well, you may say, that is all very convincing and Q.E.D., but this new-fangled so-called vector is like the grand old Duke of York-neither up nor down; or, what is just as bad, both at once. If we had a pointing arrow we would know where we were ! The answer is that only this two-way kind of vector suitably represents the undeniable fact that if $b$ is positive with respect to $a, a$ must at the same time be negative with respect to $b$. All the usual arrowheaded vectors, on the contrary, prejudice the case by picking out one of these two inseparable conditions. Not that this is necessarily wrong. There is often a good reason for picking one out rather than the other. If we were told that $a$ in the circuit was earthed, then its potential would be fixed all the time at zero and it would be the potential of $b$ that alternated. The natural way to represent this is to make $a$ in the vector diagram the fixed point around which the whole diagram revolves. The usual method of showing this is to mark it with a dot or a small o. If you think this is not clear enough, then by all means mark the other end with an arrow-head. My point is this: until we know that $a$ is earthed, and not $b$, or some other point altogether, it is not really right
to assume that it is, by making all the vectors radiate from one particular point. And what about points $c$ and $d$, when $a$ is earthed? Since neither of these has any claim to priority, to mark the vector representing the voltage between them with an arrow at either one end or the other is arbitrary and meaningless, and may even be confusing. Everything in the perfect diagram has a logical meaning. The arrow-less vector, with the conventions I have just outlined, is so far as I know the only form that
(a) achieves a perfect tie-up between circuit and vector diagrams.
(b) is completely general, not assuming anything before it is known, and
(c) has one particular right form to represent a a given situation, and not a lot of confusing alternatives.

The best way of demonstrating these claims is to show some examples. We really ought to agree on a method of current notation first, but if we stopped to do that now we would come to the end of this month's allowance without a single real vector diagram, and that would be stretching patience too far. So just for now let us take an example with only a single current, shown in the usual way as in Fig. 7.

Fig. 10 is the circuit diagram. It represents a source of e.m.f. E with resistance $R_{1}$, feeding a load comprising inductance $L$ and resistance $R_{2}$. In accordance with the recommended system the junctions have been lettered. Let us make sure that we have ready for use the basic phase relationships of a.c. circuits, for it is with these that vector diagrams are constructed:
(1) Current through resistance is in phase with applied e.m.f.
(2) Current through inductance lags applied e.m.f. by a quarter of a cycle $\left(90^{\circ}\right)$.
(3) Current through capacitance leads applied e.m.f. by $90^{\circ}$.

And remember that with the potential-rise convention the direction of the applied e.m.f. is regarded as the same as the direction of current through the source of the e.m.f.

The first thing to do when starting a vector diagram is to decide on a reference vector-i.e., one to which everything else can be related. In a simple series circuit like this, the current makes a good reference, because it is common to all parts of the circuit. The reference vector can be laid down in any direction we please, but it is usual to draw it at " 3 o'clock," as in Fig. 11, that being the conventional zero of angular measure. If we had to construct the diagram to scale, in order to find, say, the actual magnitude and phase of current, given $E, R_{1}, R_{2}$ and $L$, then the $I$ vector would usually be made unit length, representing 1 amp , and the diagram would in due course tell us the e.m.f. required for that current. Then it would be simple proportion: if that number of volts caused 1 amp, how many would $E$ volts cause? Just now, however, let us draw an ordinary " qualitative" diagram, not bothering about particular numerical values.

At the moment we have no idea how the e.m.f. $\left(\mathrm{V}_{a b}\right)$ should be drawn, so we go on to something we do know, $\mathrm{V}_{n d}$. That is the e.m.f. the rest of the circuit is applying to $R_{2}$ to make I flow through it from $d$ to $a$. So we draw vector ad in the same direction as I (Fig. 11 again). Next comes $\mathrm{V}_{d c}$, which is the e.m.f. applied to L, and must be $90^{\circ}$ ahead of I if I is to be $90^{\circ}$ behind it. So we draw $d c$ accordingly, as in Fig. 12. Then $c b$ in the same direction as $a d$.

Now $a$ and $b$ are located, so the relative direction (phase) and magnitude of the e.m.f. is revealed. Since ad is in the same direction as I, the angle marked $\phi$ is the angle the current in this circuit lags behind the e.m.f. If $R_{1}$ is the generator resistance, then the terminal voltage is $\mathrm{V}_{n, \text {, }}$, and Fig. 12 shows us that the current lags this more than it does the e.m.f. The point $b$ is really fictitious, in the sense that it does not exist in the circuit represented by Fig. 10, for the e.m.f. is mixed up with $R_{1}$. But supposing now that $R_{1}$ did have a separate existence, Fig. 12 shows us without any effort the magnitude and phase of the voltage between $b$ and $d$, in either direction.

Notice, too, the complete information about relative potentials. We see that at the chosen instant, when I is just passing through zero, $b$ has recently started to be positive with respect to $a$. Point $d$ is maximum negative to $c$, and so on. If you are not a novice, all this may be obvious without any vector diagram at all, or with only the usual sort. But that is because we have taken a very simple example; in problems that are worth making a vector diagram for in earnest it is very often far from obvious what all the relative potentials are. Note that Fig. 12 not only shows the potentials between any of the points marked, but likewise points unmarked; for example, one third of the way down $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ from d. And it gives an instant answer to questions such as this: When the e.m.f. is at its positive peak, what is the potential of $c$ relative to $a$ ? All one need do is turn Fig. 12 until $b$ is vertically


Fig. 15. Example of a circuit in which the ambiguity of the two-way arrow shows up.
above $a$, and then note the vertical distance of $c$ above a. The phase angle is also clearly shown.

Now let us end this month's instalment by comparing the usua: kinds of vector diagram for Fig. 10 with Fig. 12. I am conscientiously going to follow the methods of eminent teachers. Their version of Fig. 10 would probably be something like Fig. 13. When it came to the vector diagram, however, there might well be considerable diversity. Fig. 14 (a) is a likely starter. It was commenced by drawing the I vector as before. The voltage drop in $R_{1}$ is of course $R_{1} I$, and is in phase with I. Invariably it would be drawn coinciding with the I vector. So would $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{I}$. This is where th.e confusion begins. Some authorities make every vector sprout from: one point, while others


Fig. 14. Some of the many ways in which the vector diogrom for Fig. 10 might be drown, occording to commonly tought methods. sometimes put them head to tail. Unless one happens to know the idiosyncrasies of the particular author of the diagram, there is a possibility of misunderstanding when, as here, there are several vectors in the same line. For your information, I and $R_{1} I$ here start from the same point, but $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ begins where $R_{1} I$ leaves off. Where $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ leaves off, the voltage across $L$, which is $j \omega$ LI, begins (the $j$ merely being an instruction to turn it $90^{\circ}$ clockwise). The line marked E clearly represents the voltage across all of them-the e.m.f. And the line V, being across the two load components, represents the terminal voltage V .

By now there is a nice mess of arrow-heads at the junction of the E and V vectors. If, to avoid this, the arrow-heads are drawn some way down the vectors, they might (in a less simple diagram) mislead one to suppose that they indicated part-way vectors like $\mathrm{R}_{1} \mathrm{I}$. It is, of course, standard practice to mix the current and voltage sectors up together, and often flux
vectors too. Some authorities use different types of arrow-heads to distinguish them, but not my learned mentors.

Altogether, then, one has to study this kind of diagram pretty closely to sort it out, even though this is such a simple example as to be almost trivial. And as for the information it supplies, one cannot even be certain, by looking at the vector diagram alone, which terminal is positive when the current is flowing as shown. In such a simple example it is easy enough to find out by looking at the circuit diagram, but if the circuit had been Fig. 15 would either the circuit diagram or a vector diagram drawn by the Fig. 14 method, or both combined, give a quick answer to the question : which is more positive, $a$ or $b$ ? With the Fig. 12 type of diagram, all one has to do is to put the diagram so that the current vector is pointing upwards and then see which of the two points in question is higher than the other. It is surely a bad policy to use a system which, while it may not let one down on many occasions, is liable to do so on others, seeing that there is an alternative system that is reliable every time.
Look again at Fig. 14(a) and use it to find the answers to the questions we solved so easily with Fig. 12, and then ask yourself why people use the Fig. 14(a) type, and whether you are going to continue to use it in preference to Fig. 12. And remember that the more complicated the problem the greater the contrast between the two types. I would not say that the Fig. 12 type is the easier to construct at first, if you have been used to the other, but even at first it reveals its information more quickly and clearly and unmistakably. Of course there is no reason why $j \omega$ LI should not be written alongside the vector $d c$ to save one having to look at the circuit diagram; and the same for any other notes that may be convenient.

Lastly, there was the point about Fig. 12 being the one and only correct diagram for the given circuit and component values. That, I think, is important, because it must be very confusing for students to see a number of quite different-looking vector diagrams for identically the same circuit. Of course the current
vector in Fig. 12 could be put elsewhere, so long as it was parallel to $c b$; and the diagram as a whole can be looked at from any angle. But it seems strong evidence of soundness in principle that no alternative shape can be arrived at, using the rules correctly. Contrast this with ordinary vector diagrams. Fig. 14(a) is a typical result, but we would have had an equal chance of full marks if we had drawn it in the other ways shown in Fig. 14. We might have taken the impedances in strict clockwise rotation, as at (b). Or we might have gone anti-clockwise, as at (c). Or we might have made $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ and $j \omega \mathrm{LI}$ sprout from the common centre and "completed the parallelogram" to find the resultant load, as at (d). Or we might have put the arrow-head at the other end of the vector $R_{1} I$, to show that V , the terminal voltage, is the resultant of $E$ and $R_{1} I$, as not shown separately. Or, following another school of thought, we could have drawn the V and E vectors in the opposite direction, to show they opposed the impedances, as at (e). Or we might have shown the same thing rather differently, as at ( $f$ ). And there are many other possible combinations; all correct according to the textbooks. In place of this multifarious confusion, would it not be better to adopt the simple and informative Fig. 12, where any variation or modification signifies some real change in the circuit; not merely a different person happening to be drawing the diagram ?

Seeing, then, that what is called the general type of vector diagram has so many and manifest advantages over other kinds, why is it not in common use? It may be that although I have been deriving great benefit for years from my own use of it there is some fatal flaw that I have been too blind to see. In which case you would be doing a great kindness by pointing it out to me. It may be that too few people have seen it for too short a time. If you do not see any fatal flaw and can not deny the advantages, you would be doing a kindness by pointing them out to others. It may be that people who use or teach vector diagrams are too firmly entrenched in their habits and can't be bothered to change them. But of course that wouldn't mean you !

## NOUEL CAIR ItAIIO RECEIVEIR

THE illustration shows the special radio receiver designed by Pye and now being installed in every "Merropolitan" motor car made by the Austin Company for the Nash Corporation of America.


An unorthodox form of construction is employed, for, as can be seen, the loudspeaker is mounted on a hinged cover enclosing the underside of the receiver chassis with the magnet protruding through the receiver section. This cover actually forms the front of the set, the spindles of the controls, one of which is dual concentric, being located on each side of the elliptical loudspeaker. The concentric pair actuate the combined volume/on-off and tone controls, while the single spindle is for tuning. This form of construction undoubtedly simplifies servicing and it is said that the set can be installed in a matter of minutes only. Some of its features have not so far been seen in car radio receivers produced for the home market.
Accessibility of oll components is the special feoture of the new Pye receiver, installed in the Nash "Metropoliton" motor cor.

# Wide-Hand Commanmicalion Recoiver 

DESIGNED TO ADMIRALTY SPECIFICATION

FOR USE IN NAVAL VESSEIS

Coverage: $60 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $31 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$

THE set to be described was designed to conform to a fairly rigid Admiralty specification for use in ships of the Royal Navy. Approval has been given also for it to be fitted in ships of the N.A.T.O. navies. Although primarily a naval receiver it is not restricted to use in ships and either the same model, or one closely resembling it, will be available for general use before long.

As at present produced, frequency coverage is continuous from $60 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $31 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, this band being covered in eight switched ranges; the actual extent of each is outlined in the wavelength table reproduced here.

In this table, mention is made of the use of either one or of two intermediate frequencies for the various ranges and this is brought about by the fact that whilst the receiver is basically a double superheterodyne, on certain ranges the first, or high i.f., is inconvenient to use or else it clashes with the signal. To overcome this trouble the expedient is adopted of switching from double to single superheterodyne as the need arises. These changes are effected by the waveband switch and all circuits are automatically aligned for whichever mode of operation is employed.

## WAVELENGTH TABLE

| Range | Coverage | 1.F.(s) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 60-125 kc/s | $3460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |
| 2 | $100-260 \mathrm{kc}, \mathrm{s}$ | $\}^{460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}}$ |
| 3 | $260-660 \mathrm{kc}_{\text {s }} \mathrm{s}$ | $1.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |
| 4 | $0.66-1.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $3460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |
| 5 | 1.5-3.4 Mc/s |  |
| 6 | $3.4-7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ $7-15 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ | \} 1.4 Mc 's and 460 kc 's |
| 8 | 15-31 Mc's |  |

I.F. SELECTIVITY TABLE
(as single superhet)

| Response <br> db | Wide | Interme- <br> diate | Narrow | Very <br> Narrow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -6 | 6.5 kc 's | $4.6 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ <br> -20 10 kcs <br> -60 20 kc s | 7.5 kc s <br> $15.5 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $3 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ <br> $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |



The double superheterodyne principle offers certain advantages on all but the longest wavelengths, but especially so on those below 100 metres ( $5 \mathrm{Mz} / \mathrm{s}$ ). The wider separation between the signal and the first mixer oscillator frequencies assists circuit alignment by minimizing "pulling" and, perhaps most important of all, it gives greater freedom from second-channel interference. As the table shows, the two i.f.s used in this set are $1.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ respectively.

As the single r.f. stage might not offer a good enough barrier to break-through of signals on the intermediate frequencies, two wavetraps are provided, one in the aerial circuit, tuned to $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$; the other in the intervalve coupling of the r.f. stage tuned to $1.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. They are brought in as required by the waveband switch.

The bandwidth of the i.f. amplifier can be adjusted over quite a wide range, but in four steps, not continuously. These steps are marked on the switch as " wide," "intermediate," "narrow" and "very narrow," their respective bandwidths depend on the


Chassis of the Rees Moce communications receiver, model CAT.
points on the response curve between which they are measured and these are given in the selectivity table. For the "wide" bandwidth, additional inductive coupling is switched in between the primary and secondary windings of the $460-\mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ i.f. transformers; when switched out it gives "intermediate"; interposing a double quartz crystal filter between valves $\mathrm{V}_{5}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {n }}$ gives "narrow"; tapping the filter across part of the $V_{s}-V_{0}$ i.f. transformer secondary provides "very narrow." Incidentally, tapping down $\mathrm{V}_{6}$ on the secondary of the preceding i.f. transformer obtains in all positions of the selectivity switch except the "narrow."

There are 12 valves in the receiver and the valve function table gives, in condensed form, the type of valve in each stage and its function on the various tuning ranges. Some of the valves perform more than one function at different times. The only comment required is perhaps on the use of the triode of $V_{2}$ as a crystal-controlled oscillator. It is not normally used, but when it is it replaces the tunable oscillator $\mathrm{V}_{3}$ in the first frequency-changer circuit.
The noise limiting function performed by $\mathrm{V}_{8}$ is for suppression of impulse noise. It is a series-parallel type in which one diode opens the a.f. signal path while the other short-circuits it. There is a threshold control to adjust the point at which suppression starts.

As a safeguard for the receiver when it is used in proximity to a transmitter, there is included a muting relay which can be operated by a subsidiary contact on the morse sending key. This applies a positive voltage to the cathodes of valves $\mathrm{V}_{1}, \mathrm{~V}_{2}, \mathrm{~V}_{4}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{5}$, thus effectively de-sensitizing the set.
So far as the a.f. stages are concerned it need only be said that negative feedback is applied from the anode of the output valve to the penultimate a.f. amplifier; and the output transformer provides two outputs, one at 500 ohms giving 2 W and the other at 100 ohms giving 60 mW .

The receiver, which is described as the Model CAT, is supplied by Rees Mace Marine, Oulton Works, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

VALVE FUNCTION TABLE

| Position | Type | Circuit Functions |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Ranges 1, 2, 4, 5 | Ranges 3, 6, 7, 8 |
| $\mathrm{V}_{1}$ | 6BA6 | R.F. Amplifier | R.F. Amplifier |
|  |  | Heptode: 1 lt mixer to $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ | 1st mixer to |
|  | ECH81 | mircer to 460 kc |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{2}$ |  | Triode: Crystal | Crystal circuit |
|  |  | circuit oscillator Range 5 only | oscillator Ranges 6, 7 and 8 |
|  | 6C4 |  | only |
| $\mathrm{V}_{3}$ |  | 1st Oscillator: signal $+460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ | 1st Oscillator: sig$\mathrm{nal}+1.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ |
|  |  | Heptode: I.F. | 2nd Mixer to 460 |
| $\mathrm{V}_{4}$ | ECH81 | amplifier |  |
|  |  |  | 2nd Oscillator at 1.86 Mc/s |
| $\mathrm{V}_{5}$ | EF92 | I.F. Amplifier at $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{6}$ | EF92 | I.F. Amplifier at $460 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{7}$ | EB91 | Signal detector and A.G.C. rectifier |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{8}$ | EB91 | Noise limiter |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{9}$ | EF92 | A.F. Amplifier |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{10}$ | 6CH6 | Output tetrode |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{13}$ | QS150'45 | Voltage stabilizer |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{12}$ | EF92 | Beat frequency oscillator |  |

## NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

Birkenhead.-Wirral Amateur Radio Society continues to meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7.30 at the Y.M.C.A., Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead. Sec.: C. Wattleworth, 17, Iris Avenue, Claughton, Birkenhead.

Liverpool.-The Liverpool \& District Amateur Radio Club (previously known as the Liverpool \& District Short Wave Club) meets on Tuesdays at 8.0 in St. Barnabas Hall, Penny Lane, Liverpool, 15. The club transmitter, G3AHD, can be heard most Tuesday evenings on 160 metres. Reports on the transmissions would be welcomed. Sec.: A. D. H. Looney, 81, Alstonfield Road, Knotty Ash, Liverpool, 14.

QRP.-The number of clubs which have become affiliated to the QRP Society is such that the society is planning inter-club QRP tests. It is also arranging its own exhibition for October. Sec.: J. Whitehead, 92, Rydens Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

## Short-wave Conditions

Predictions for July

THE full-line curves given here indicate the highest frequencies likely to be usable at any time of the day or night for reliable communications over four long-distance paths from this country during July.

Broken-line curves give the highest frequencies that will sustain a partial service throughout the same period.


# Negative Resistance 

Two Kinds - and How to Use Them

By TIIONAS RODDAM

THE idea of resistance is the starting point for most of our circuit theory: the idea of negative quantities is the starting point for an engineer's study of banking practice. If I had a copy of Pickwick Papers handy I would make a quick reference to Mr. Potts' assistant the Chinese metaphysician; but there, I have completely forgotten, though you no doubt know what I mean. Anyway, given the idea of resistance, and the idea of negative quantities, there is no difficulty at all in envisaging a negative resistance. So I used to think, until I started to construct a device called a negative impedance converter. My problems were recalled by "Cathode Ray" in the April issue of Wireless World, who wrote in a footnote (p. 195): "If you are sceptical about the sign of a parallel combination of positive and negative resistances being the same as that of the smaller


Fig. I. Two resistances, in series or in porallel? of the two, try using the
formula $\frac{R_{1} R_{2}}{R_{1}+R_{2}}$ to find the resistance when $R_{1}$ is, say, $-15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ is $+20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. (The answer should be -60 $k \Omega$.)"

Now, I do not come from Missouri, but you will have to show me, and in order to convince myself that "Cathode Ray" was right I drew Fig. 1. Two resistances in parallel, $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$, and the result, as "Cathode Ray" says, is $R_{1} R_{2} /\left(R_{1}+R_{2}\right)$, which, if $R_{1}=-15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $R_{2}=+20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, is just $-60 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. But are there two resistances in parallel, or are they in series? If they are in series, the total resistance of the loop is ( $R_{1}+R_{2}$ ), or $+5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. In one view we have the makings of instability, and in the other we have a perfectly stable system. Of course, if we make $\mathrm{R}_{1}=-20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}=+15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, the round-the-loop resistance is $-5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, and the parallel combination is $+60 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, so that the loop is the unstable view and the parallel arrangement the stable one.
It might be suggested that somehow this is just a bit of algebraic fiddling of no practical importance, intended merely to blind you with science and give me something to write about. In fact, the distinction is one of great practical value which must be understood if any use is to be made of negative resistance circuits. In the simplest possible problem, when we wish to make a negative resistance oscillator, we must decide whether to replace $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ by a parallel LC circuit, as in the dynatron oscillator, or by a series LC circuit, as in some of the transistor oscillators.

There are two quite independent approaches to this question of the two kinds of negative resistance, because it turns out that there are, in fact, two different sorts of negative resistance. Both these approaches depend on the fact that a practical negative resistance
is only negative over a limited range of working conditions and, as we shall see, there is no obvious connecting link between the two approaches.
First of all we may follow "Cathode Ray" and plot a graph showing the relation between the voltage and current. We shall be working with the incremental resistance, the value of $\mathrm{dV} / \mathrm{dI}$, and since this is most conveniently thought of as the slope of the graph we shall take the current axis as the horizontal axis and the voltage axis as the vertical one. This is not the way we plot valve characteristics, but it is the standard method for negative resistance studies, and we shall see in a moment why we must keep to this standard.
Fig. 2 is a typical negative resistance characteristic, which is easily produced with a point transistor. It is a plot of the emitter voltage-current characteristics in a circuit with a fairly large base resistance, and for reasons which are obvious it is called an N-type characteristic. In the neighbourhood of the point $P$ the resistance is negative, and has some value $-\mathrm{R}_{\ell}$. Across the curve, I have drawn a load line QPS intersecting the curve at three points, of which $P$ is unstable and $Q$ and $S$ are both stable. This load line corresponds to some resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{L},}$, which is less than $\mathrm{R}_{e}$. The other load line, dotted in through P , corresponds to a resistance $\mathrm{R}_{L}^{\prime}>\mathrm{R}_{e}$, and there is only one intersection, at P , which must therefore be stable. Two special cases of these load lines are important. The one through P parallel to the I-axis, the short-circuit case, has three intersections, so that $-\mathrm{R}_{e}$ is shortcircuit unstable: the one through P parallel to the V -axis has only one intersection and thus $-\mathrm{R}_{e}$ is open-circuit stable.
Now let us look at the base characteristic of a point transistor, shown in Fig. 3. Again we have a negative resistance region round P , and a load line QPS intersecting the curve at three points. This characteristic is that of an S-type negative resistance. You will see from the two figures why we must use the standard arrangement of axes if we want to have standard terminology. Q and S are stable intersections, while P is unstable, but this time the load resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{L}}>\mathrm{R}_{b}$.

Fig. 2. One type of negotive resistance characteristic, showing stable and unstable load lines through P.


The dotted load line, for $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{L}}{ }^{<}<\mathrm{R}_{b}$, has only a single stable intersection, at $P$. Quite clearly the $S$-type characteristic is short-circuit stable and open-circuit unstable.

It is, I think, fairly obvious that to produce an oscillator using an N-type negative resistance we should use a controlling circuit which drops to a low resistance at the frequency we want, while to produce an oscillator using an S-type characteristic we must use a controlling circuit which rises to a high resistance at the wanted frequency. In practice we use a series LC circuit for the N-type, and a parallel LC circuit for the S-type.

How do these two kinds of negative resistance come into existence? We know that in all the circuit forms -we do not want to talk about gas-discharge tubesthere is some positive feedback somewhere in the circuit. Let us assume that we have arranged matters so that we can control this feedback, and settle down to plot the voltage-current characteristics with different amounts, starting with no feedback at all. Our first graphs will be straight lines, corresponding to some value of positive resistance. As we turn up the feedback, we find a kink developing: in the region of this kink the resistance may be either greater or less than the initial value: with more feedback still, the curve actually bends back, as you can see from Fig. 4. The S-type characteristic in Fig. 4(a) is obtained from a circuit giving an increase in resistance for small positive feedback, so that the negative resistance has been reached through infinity. The N-type characteristics in Fig. 4(b) is obtained from a circuit giving a decrease of resistance for small positive feedback, so that the negative resistance is reached through zero. Those curves can easily be plotted on an oscilloscope, and the changing shape watched as the feed-


Fig. 3. The other type of negative resistance characteristic.
Fig. 4. A negative resistance can be developed by bending the $V$-l curve up through $R=\propto$ (a), or by bending it down through $R=O$ (b).

back is varied. To do this, though, you must drive the single-valued co-ordinate with a " stiff" source, which means that to plot Fig. 4(a) we apply a sweep voltage and pick off the current produced, while to plot Fig. 4(b) we apply a sweep current and pick off the voltage. If you sweep the emitter voltage in Fig. 2 the current will simply cut the corners and will never show you the negative resistance region at all.

This division of negative resistances into two kinds is enough to tell us how to use them, but it leaves one point completely unsettled. Suppose that we have a circuit known to be a negative resistance and that we plot a small section of the characteristics and apply a load line. All the information is given in Fig. 5: is this arrangement stable or unstable? How can the circuit know, if it is brought to the point $P$, whether this is an unstable condition or not? This problem seems to have been left without discussion for quite a long time. The idea that there are two types of negative resistance, the $N$-type and the $S$-type, was introduced by Crisson, who called them the series and shunt types, because this analysis was concerned with the use of negative resistance for telephone repeaters. In this application it is essential to know what happens when the repeater is not being used, which normally means that the line in which it is connected is open-circuited: a series type is perfectly safe in this condition, but a shunt type will oscillate and may disturb other equipment.

## Resistance + . . ?

The approach to negative resistance which tells us why one kind is short-circuit stable and the other short-circuit unstable depends on a hard physical fact: there is no such thing as a pure resistance. Any practical negative resistance must have some capacitance and will probably have some inductance associated with it. A theoretically pure negative resistance, of its very nature, cannot lead to instability, for reasons which are beyond our scope here, but which are discussed in a paper ${ }^{1}$ referred to at the end of this article. The stability of a negative resistance circuit is therefore determined by the actual impedance over the whole frequency range, from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$.

We can determine this impedance quite easily by using the circuit shown in Fig. 6. The variable resistance and capacitance (or inductance) elements are adjusted until the voltmeter shows a balance, when the total impedance ( $\mathrm{R}+j \omega \mathrm{~L}$ ) -Z , for the LR case, is zero. Obviously then $\mathrm{Z}=\mathrm{R}+j \omega \mathrm{~L}=\mathrm{R}+j \mathrm{X}$.

For each frequency we plot a point on the $\mathrm{R}, \mathrm{X}$

Below: Fig. 5. If this is all the information available, is the system stable or unstable?



Fig. 6. Test circuit for measuring negative impedance.


Fig. 7. The locus of the complex impedance $R+j X$ as the frequency is increased from $f_{1}$ to $f_{6}$. This particular example shows a negative resistance.
graph shown in Fig. 7, and join the points to give a curve. When we do this we find that the graphs look something like the lower ones of Fig. 8, in which the arrow shows the direction of increasing frequency. Over on the left the two graphs are very similar, so that at some frequency both correspond to, say, $-1,000$ ohms, non-reactive. In order to appreciate the difference between these two curves, let us look at Fig. 8(a) and (b). We can consider these curves as the boundarics, the cages, separating two regions of the plane RX. One of these regions is inside, the other outside, and we must use a consistent rule for deciding which is which. The rule is that the Right Bank is inside, left and right being distinguished by looking in the direction of increasing frequency. The origin is inside in Fig. 8(a), but in 8(b) the origin is outside the boundary. The origin, of course, corresponds to a short circuit, and as it can be shown that points inside the boundary are unstable loads for a negative impedance, Fig. 8(a) corresponds to a short-circuit unstable system, while Fig. 8(b) is unstable with high impedances connected to it. The loops of Figs. 8(c) and 8(d) are not quite so obvious. The easiest way to check inside and outside here is to see how the pattern changes if it is treated as a piece of string, marked with directional arrows, and with a stick at the origin to prevent any crossing of the origin. In Fig. 8(c) the little loop on the right can easily be collapsed to a knot, so the origin is inside, as it is in Fig. 8(a). In Fig. 8(d) the small loop round the origin must be enlarged until the big kidney-shaped loop on the left collapses to a knot; Fig. 8(d) is like 8(c), with the origin outside.

These diagrams, as you will have guessed, are related to the Nyquist diagrams used in feedback amplifier theory. There is, indeed, another way of treating feedback amplifiers, by breaking the feedback path and measuring the impedance at the break, which leads to exactly these curves. If you get a curve like Fig. 8(a) or 8(c) when the feedback path is closed, the amplifier will be unstable. What we are doing in this analysis is finding the frequencies at which oscillation can take place, if it can: the noise in the circuit will build up
(a)

(b)



Fig. 8. Typical plots of $R$ and $X$ for, ( 0 ) and (c), series type and, (b) and (d) shunt type negative impedances.
at those frequencies to allow the system to trigger over to the point $Q$ or $S$ in the earlier diagrams.

The reader may be tempted to think that this idea of negative resistance is all very academic. Useful for oscillators, perhaps, but of no other application is the view which most of us used to take. In recent years, however, a new idea has grown up and is likely to be of great importance. It begins, for our purposes, with a method of designing negative resistance circuits of very reliable characteristics. The dynatron circuit suffers from the disadvantage that it is really a "trick circuit " depending on valve characteristics which are not strictly controlled. It works well so long as you are prepared to adjust it carefully, but it cannot be designed, built and left alone. There is, however, a very interesting circuit based on the grounded-grid amplifier which will provide negative impedances that are almost independent of the valve characteristics. In an article on the grounded-grid amplifier (May issue, p. 214) I showed that the input and output impedances of a grounded-grid amplifier with feedback from anode to grid are:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { input impedance }=\frac{p}{1+\mu}+\frac{1+\mu k}{1+\mu} \mathbf{R}_{2} \\
& \text { output impedance }=\frac{(1+\mu) \mathrm{R}_{1}+\mu}{1+\mu k}
\end{aligned}
$$

Let us now take $k=-1$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{R}_{i n}=\frac{\mu}{1+\mu}-\frac{\mu-1}{\mu+1} \mathbf{R}_{2} \\
& \mathbf{R}_{v, \mu}=-\frac{\mu+1}{\mu-1} \mathbf{R}_{1}+\frac{\beta}{\mu-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

If we neglect the term $\rho^{\prime}\left(\mu{ }_{2}\right)$, which will be about 200 ohms, positive, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{R}=-\frac{\mu-1}{\mu+1} \mathbf{R}_{2} \\
& \mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{va}}=-\frac{\mu+1}{\mu-1} \mathbf{R}_{1}
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $\mu$ will be about 50 for a 12AT7, the term $(\mu-1) /$ $(\mu+1)$ is very close to unity, and both $R_{\text {th }}$ and $R_{i,}$ are approximarely equal to the negative of the im-


Fig. 9. Basic circuit of negative impedance converter. Across $A B$ the impedance is of series type, and is about $-R_{2}$ : across CD the impedance is of shunt type, and is about $-R_{1}$.
pedance at the other side of the valve. As you can see, if $\mu$ drops from 50 to 40 , the coefficient $(\mu-1)(\mu+1)$ changes only from 0.961 to 0.95 .

The actual circuit used to produce this highstability negative impedance (it is called, for obvious reasons, a negative impedance converter) is shown in Fig. 9. As you can see, it is a push-pull groundedgrid amplifier, with feedback to each grid directly from the opposite anode. The direct coupling makes $|k|=1$, and the cross connection gives the minus sign. We can remove $R_{1}$ and see $-R_{2}$ across terminals C and D. In practice it is just slightly more complicated, because to make the circuit work well we will try to keep $\mathbf{R}_{2}$ in the region of $10-30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, the sort of value which suits the valve, and if we want a low negative impedance at AB we must use an input transformer.

An interesting feature of this circuit is that it gives us a chance to work with either series or shunt types of reactive impedance. At AB the impedance is of the series type, while at $C D$ it is of the shunt type. This result was implicit in the discussion of the way the impedances varied with $k$ in the previous article. An amplifier of this kind, called an El repeater ${ }^{2}$, is being used in America in telephone circuits: the line is broken and connected through AB . The negative impedance acts as an amplifier in both directions, quite impartially. A corresponding circuit using transistors has been described by Linvill ${ }^{3}$, who has gone on to show ${ }^{4}$ how a device of this kind can be used together with RC circuits to produce some quite impressive filters. One of these basic circuits, with the response obtained, is shown in Fig. 10.

I do not propose to discuss these negative resistance circuits in any more detail here, because they are both complicated and rather specialized. They are examples of the trend of modern circuit design towards a form in which the valve is so controlled in the circuit that changes in its characteristics do not affect the operation of the system. The basic theory of negative resistance, too, shows an increasing concentration on the full story of a situation. Whether you look at the V-I characteristic, or at the impedance presented at the terminals, you must investigate conditions quite a long way from the actual working region. You must, indeed, search for

[^4]

Fig. 10. High pass filter using transistor negative impedance converter.

And then, having made your negative resistance, and decided how you are to use it,
" I feel it my duty to say,
Some are Boojums . . .'

## References

1 "Some Fundamental Properties of Transmission Circuits," by F. B. Llewellyn, Proc. I.R.E., Vol. 40, p. 271, March, 1952.
p. ${ }_{2}$ "Theory of the Negative Impedance Converter," by J. L. Merrill, Jr., B.S.T.Y. Vol. 30, p. 88, Jan, 1951;

3 "' Transistor Negative Impedance Converters" by J. G. Linvill, Proc. I.R.E., Vol. 41, p. 275, June, 1953.

4 "RC Active Filters" by J. G. Linvill, Proc. I.R.E., Vol. 42, p. 555, March, 1954.

## - 'The diveillocerpe at Wiork"•

ALTHOUGH the cathode-ray oscilloscope has become an everyday tool in radio, not everybody realizes its full potentialities. A new Wireless World book "The Oscilloscope at Work" by A. Haas and R. W. Hallows, M.A. (Cantab), M.I.E.E., is therefore likely to open a good many people's eyes to just what can be done with this versatile instrument. After a description of the c.r.o. itself the book starts with a general chapter on the investigation of electrical properties such as voltages, frequencies and phase relationships, also including such topics as Lissajous figures, circular time bases and hysteresis-loop traces. The remaining chapters deal with the use of the c.r.o. on amplifiers, oscillators, rectifiers and detectors, modulators, phase-shifting circuits and finally television receivers. Oscilloscope operating troubles are also discussed as are various refinements and accessories to the instrument.

The book is liberally illustrated with 217 oscillograms and 102 diagrams. It is available from booksellers at 15 s or direct from our Publishers at 15 s 6 d by post.

# The Diode Rectifier in Valve Voltmeters <br> (Concluded from p. 286 of the privious issue) 

Limitations of Lise Imposed by Specified Maximum Erroi

By M. G. SCROCGIE. f.s.. MIIE.E.

THE mathematical derivations of the results now to be given will be omitted; they have been submitted for publication in W'ireless Engineer. The basis of the calculations is the fact that under steady a.c. conditions the charge taken in by a capacitor during each whole cycle must be equal to the discharge. In circuits (a) and (b) of Fig. 2 the capacitor C is charged during the period when the diode conducts (which with our assumed diode is when the anode is more positive than the cathode). The resistance is then only the generator resistance $\mathrm{R}_{*}$ (including the forward resistance of the diode), and the charging voltage is the instantaneous voltage of E , minus the voltage to which C is charged. To exclude the complication of a simultaneous error due to C not being large enough in relation to the frequency, and also to make the calculations much easier, C is assumed to be so large that the cyclical variations of voltage across it are negligible. Circuits (c) and (d) are at best complicated enough, for in addition to $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ being charged by E there are some periods when it is being charged by $\mathrm{C}_{2}$. In circuit (a) C is discharging through R all the time. In (b) it is discharging through $R$ and the source impedance ( $\mathbf{R}_{s}$ ) in series when the diode is non-
angles are all reckoned in radians ( $\pi$ radians $=180$ degrees). This angle of conduction, $\theta$, is in every case the king pin of the whole calculation. Given $\theta$, the corresponding value of $\mathrm{R}_{s} / \mathrm{R}$ can be calculated; in the series circuit it is $(\tan \theta-\theta) / \pi$. And from Fig. 3 it is obvious that $\mathrm{V}_{r}=\mathrm{E}_{m a x} \cos \theta$. The graph of $\mathrm{V}_{r^{\prime}} \mathrm{E}_{\operatorname{man} x}$ against $\mathbf{R}_{s} / \mathbf{R}$ was ploted by calculating each of them for a number of assumed values of $\theta$.

In the shunt circuit $V_{p}$ is not a constant voltage; it is the average value of $\mathrm{V}_{n i t}$ (Fig. 4), which is a sine wave, $\mathrm{R}^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{s}\right)$ times the amplitude of that generated by E , and with the positive peak clipped short and pushed down to zero level. Seeing that in this and other ways the shunt circuit differs markedly from the series circuit, it is rather surprising that $R_{s} / R$ and $\mathrm{V}_{r} \mathrm{E}_{\text {mant }}$ in terms of $\theta$ turn out to be the same. Fig. 5, which except for changed symbols and experimental plots is a repetition of Fig. 6 in the March 1952 article, therefore serves for both circuits. Incidentally, with the diodes connected as in Fig. 2 the polarity of $\mathrm{V}_{r}$ in the shunt circuits is opposite to that in the series circuit. The values of $R_{s}$ used for plotting were the values actually inserted during the experimental readings, augmented by $450 \Omega$, - the estimated average forward

conducting. In (c) and (d) the equating of charge to discharge must be done for both $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{2}$.

Fig. 3 illustrates the comparatively simple operation of circuit (a). $\mathrm{V}_{r}$ being the practically constant voltage to which C is charged, it is only exceeded by the input voltage near the positive peak, from A to B. This is the period during which the diode conducts. It is best referred to in terms of angle; if the positive peak is taken as the starting point, the conducting period lasts from $-\theta$ to $+\theta$. This is the charging period for a whole cycle ; for half a cycle ( 0 to $\pi$ ) it is 0 to $\theta$. These



Fig. 5. (Left) Graph showing the efficiency of rectification $V_{r} E_{\text {max }}$ as a function of series resistance in the series-diode rectifier. It also opplies exoctly to the shunt-diode circuit if either $R_{s}$ or $r_{a}$ is zero, and nearly exactly for any values of $R_{a}$ and $r_{a}$ within the limits of the curve shown. The prints relate to experimental readings with the shunt and series circuits.
resistance $r_{\text {" }}$ of the diode used (EA50) plus the initial resistance of the $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ source. R was $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and $\mathrm{C}, 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. The theoretically calculated curve is well supported by the experimental readings.

As already mentioned, however, this graph does not show the 99 per cent region clearly, and Fig. 6 is an enlargement of this part, plotted as percentage error. Because the values of $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{a}\right) / \mathrm{R}$ are so small, a reciprocal scale of $\mathrm{R} /\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{n}\right)$ has been added as an alternative. This shows how many times bigger $R$ must be than $\mathbf{R}_{s}$ if the error due to $\mathbf{R}_{s}$ is to be as shown by the curve. The value of $\theta$ for 1 per cent error $\left(V_{r} / E_{m a x}=\cos \theta=0.99\right)$, is 8.1 deg., so the total conduction angle is 16.2 deg. out of the whole 360 -deg. cycle. R has to be over 3,000 times $\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{n}$, and the peak current taken from the source (at 0 deg.) is 30 times the average current in the load resistance $R$. Under these conditions, $\theta$ in radians is so nearly equal to $\tan \theta$ that four-figure tables are barely enough for calculating ( $\left.\mathbf{R}_{s}+r_{a}\right) / \mathbf{R}$, and at 2 deg. it is necessary to use seven-figure tables.

If, in order to minimize the effect of $\mathrm{R}_{s}, \mathrm{R}$ is made very large, there is likely to be trouble with grid current in the following amplifier ${ }^{3}$; even $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ calls for some care in that respect. And the value of $\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{\text {" }}$ for 1 per cent drop is even then only $3,100 \Omega$, which certainly gives no justification for regarding the instrument as an infinite-resistance voltmeter! At 0.5 per cent, $\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{a}$ is only $1,000 \Omega$. But the greater the drop allowed, the less sensitive the instrument is to $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}}$. If $r_{n}$ were $1,000 \Omega$, it would cause an initial drop of 0.5 per cent; but the next 0.5 per cent drop the resistance would have to be $2,100 \Omega$ greater. The point is that the first 0.5 per cent would be allowed for in the calibration. Following this idea, we find from Fig. 5 that to reduce $V_{\tau} / \mathrm{E}_{\max }$ to $1 / \sqrt{ } 2$, so that with a sinusoidal input $\mathrm{V}_{r}$ would be equal to $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{rm}}$, $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{n}\right) \mathrm{R}$ is 0.068 , so with $\mathrm{R}=10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and $\mathrm{R}_{s}=0$, $r_{a}$ would have to be $0.68 \mathrm{M} \Omega$; and to reduce $\mathrm{V}_{r}$ by 1 per cent from this level would necessitate an $\mathbf{R}_{\text {s }}$ of $31 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, so this dodge gives very nearly a ten-fold improvement. Carried to this length, however, it could not be expected to be satisfactory at radio frequencies, owing to stray capacitance shunting the comparatively large series resistance needed to augment $r_{a}$. Another objection is that whereas with low

[^5]

Fig. 6. Enlargement and extension of the top part of Fig. 5 to show small errors more clearly.
series resistance the diode voltmeter does read very nearly the peak voltage regardless of waveform, with large added resistance the waveform relationship is not at all clear. Nevertheless, for measuring sinusoidal low-frequency voltages in high-impedance circuits it is worth considering. Another advantage is that it greatly improves the linearity of the diode. As a compromise, for general purposes, enough resistance could be incorporated to cause a drop of a few per cent, to be absorbed in the calibration; even such a small resistance would materially reduce the sensitiveness to source resistance.

## Diode Resistance

In all this we have been tacitly assuming that diode forward resistance $\left(r_{a}\right)$ and source resistance ( $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ ) are indistinguishable in their effects. In Fig. 2(a) this is obviously true, but not necessarily in (b). Fig. 7 shows the diode resistance (with or without added series resistance) separately. The diode, while it is conducting, does not now completely short out $R$, as was assumed in the calculation for Fig. 2(b), and the total resistance is $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ in series with $r_{a}$ and R in parallel. In spite of this, $V_{r}$ still turns out to be $\mathrm{E}_{\text {max }} \cos \theta$, but $(\tan \theta-\theta) / \pi$ is no longer $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{a}\right) / \mathrm{R}$ but $\frac{\mathrm{R}_{s}+r^{\prime}}{\mathrm{R}-r_{a}^{\prime}}$, where $r_{a}^{\prime}$ is the resistance of $r_{a}$ and R
in parallel. If $\mathrm{R}_{s}=0$, this comes to $r_{n} / \mathrm{R}$, so $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ and $r_{i t}$ are interchangeable. The only difference is when both are present at once; and even in the worst case (when they are equal) the inaccuracy in using Fig. 5 with its $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+\boldsymbol{r}_{n}\right) / \mathrm{R}$ instead of $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}-\boldsymbol{r}_{n}^{\prime}\right)\left(\mathrm{R}-\boldsymbol{r}_{t \prime}{ }^{\prime}\right)$ is hardly perceptible, right down to $\mathrm{V}_{r} \mathrm{E}_{\text {mat }}^{a}=$ about 0.7 .

We now come to the filtered shunt circuits, Fig. 2(c) and (d). It would be pleasant if from the values of $R_{1}$ and $R_{2}$ an equivalent could be found to $R$ in the unfiltered circuits, so that the same $\mathrm{V}_{r} \mathrm{E}_{n, n r^{*}}$ curve could be used; but this does not seem to be possible. However, if $V_{r} / \mathrm{E}_{\text {mir }}$ is plotted against $\left(\mathrm{R}_{s}+r_{n}\right) \mathrm{R}_{1}$ in Fig. 2(c) and ( $\mathrm{R}_{3}+\boldsymbol{r}_{4}$ ) $/ \mathrm{R}_{1}+\mathrm{R}_{2}$ ) in (d), not only are these two curves identical for any given value of $R_{1} / R_{2}$, but for reasonable values of $R_{1} / R_{2}$ the curve begins by following the one in Fig. 5 so closely as to be hardly distinguishable from it, and only deviates seriously below it when the $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ error is more than about 10 per cent. Where with the unfiltered circuits $\mathrm{V}_{r} / \mathbf{E}_{\text {mar }}$ is 0.7 , with filtered circuits in which $\mathbf{R}_{1} / \mathbf{R}_{2}=1.85$ (for example) it is 0.64 . This curve also is confirmed by experiment.

The outstanding and convenient fact is that for all the circuits considered Fig. 6 is either correct or near enough, if for Fig. $2(\mathrm{c}$ ) and (d) $R$ is replaced by $R_{1}$ and $R_{1}+R_{2}$ respectively and $R_{1}$ is not large compared with $\mathrm{R}_{2}$.

The procedure for calculating the error in measuring the voltage across a resonant circuit when $r_{n}$ is not negligible, or there is other resistance ( $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ ) in series, or both, is first to reckon the drop of voltage across the resonant circuit due to the $R_{\text {; }}$ of the rectifier connected to it, and then, regarding this reduced value as $E$, to find the additional $R_{s}+\boldsymbol{r}_{6}$ error as has been shown.

## Filter Capacitor

The remaining question concerns the value of $C$ (or $C_{1}$ and $C_{2}$ ). It is sometimes supposed, or at least implied, that the principle at work is the same as in the ordinary valve coupling, Fig. 8. Here, to pass 99 per cent of the applied voltage to the valve, $f \mathrm{CR}$ must be 1.12 ; so at 50 cs CR must be 0.0224 megohm-microfarads. But in the diode rectifier this mode of calculation does not apply, even if $\mathbf{R}_{i}$ (or any other value of resistance) is substituted for R. The relationship is much more subtle. For one thing, it is bound up with what we have just been studying- $\mathbf{R}_{s}$.

The calculation of $f \mathrm{CR}$ error, even for the simple series-diode circuit and after making various simplifying assumptions, is more difficult. $\dagger$ On the assumption that $\mathrm{R}_{s}=0$, Bell's method leads to the simplified result:

$$
\frac{V_{r}}{E_{m+r}} \simeq \frac{1+\cos x}{2}
$$

where $\alpha$ is the conduction angle, given by

$$
\exp \cdot\left(\frac{x / 2 \pi-1}{f \mathrm{CR}}\right)=\cos x
$$

Fig. 9 is a graph of this, in the form of percentage error against $f \mathrm{CR}$. Owing to the simplifying assumptions, and the fact that series resistance never is entirely absent, it is not safe to regard this graph as giving more than a rough idea. It can, however,

[^6]continue to give a rough idea even when $R_{s}$ is not zero, for, as Bell has pointed out, $\mathbf{R}_{\text {s }}$ has little effect on the combined $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ and $f \mathrm{CR}$ error until the $\mathrm{R}_{s}-$ alone error curve overtakes the $f \mathrm{CR}$ error curve. In other words, one can adapt a $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ curve such as Fig. 5 to a finite value of C by plotting at its lefthand margin the level found from Fig. 9, and continuing this level as a horizontal line until it merges into the downward sweep of the original curve.

This result was obtained by Bell for the seriesdiode circuit only. The experience we have already obtained might lead us to expect that it would not be drastically different for the simple shunt circuit. And experiment confirms this, the readings with the shunt circuit being indistinguishable from those with the series circuit. Fig. 10 shows the infinite- $f$ CR curve of Fig. 5 with the addition of measured plots for a number of finite values of $f \mathrm{CR}$. They were actually read in the simple shunt circuit, but can be taken as applying to the series circuit. It is interesting to note that $f \mathrm{CR}=1$, which in Fig. 8 causes a loss of just over 1 per cent, in rectifier circuits causes a loss of 30 per cent.

How about the effect of the filters on $f \mathrm{CR}$ error ? There is, of course, the complication of the filter capacitor $C_{2}$. As it happens, its value has much less effect than that of $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ on the efficiency of rectification ; so long as $f \mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{R}_{2}$ is not less than about 2 it is practically the same as infinity. We have already seen that the addition of either type of filter to the simple shunt circuit causes the $\mathbf{R}_{\text {s }}$ error to increase somewhat, the increase being greater the greater the value of $R_{1} / R_{2}$,

Fig. 7. When the diode forward resistance $r_{a}$ is greatly augmented by series resistance, its effect is not precisely the same as that of the same amount of resistance added to $R_{R}$.


Left: Fig. 8. The voltage loss caused by $C$ in this type of circuit is far less than that in a diode circuit with equal $C R$.
and that for practical values of $R_{1} / R_{2}$ the increase is negligible if the original $R_{\text {s }}$ error is only a few per cent. The same can be said of the effect of the filter on errors caused by $f C_{1} R_{1}$ being too small. Actually, other things being equal, the increase of error is greater with $f \mathrm{C}_{1} \mathrm{R}_{1}$ error than with $\mathrm{R}_{s}$ error, but it is still negligible with small errors, unless $R_{1} R_{2}$ is exceptionally large.

Fig. 10 shows that, just as a little initial $r_{a}$ drop has the advantage of reducing errors due to $\mathrm{R}_{s}$, so does a $f \mathrm{CR}$ error. But whereas the $r_{n}$ drop can be absorbed into the calibration, the $f \mathrm{CR}$ drop depends on frequency, so eught to be avoided at all working
frequencies. However, as Fig. 10 again shows, the $r_{a}$ drop is not only beneficial in reducing liability to $R_{s}$ error, but also reduces $f \mathrm{CR}$ error, or (to put it another way) enables a smaller value of C to be used than would otherwise be necessary. The point of this is that even r.f. valve voltmeters usually have to be calibrated at $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$, and for a.f. purposes it may be desirable to go down to $20 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ without serious error. If the initial resistance drop is made negligible by using a low-resistance diode and no other internal series resistance, the minimum value of $C R$ (time constant) needed to restrict the $f \mathrm{CR}$ error at $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$

IABULATED SUMMARY OF FORMULAE

| CIRCUIT | $\frac{V_{F}}{E_{\text {max }}}$ | $\frac{\tan \hat{\theta}^{-\theta}}{\pi}$ | $\frac{V_{T}}{E_{\text {MAX }}}=0.98$ | $\underset{\text { (APPROX) }}{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{i}}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\cos \theta$ | $\frac{P_{s}+r_{e}}{R}$ | $\frac{R_{s}+r_{a}}{R}=0.00031$ | $\frac{R}{2}$ |
|  | $\cos \theta$ | $\frac{R_{s}+r_{e}}{R}$ | $\frac{R_{s}+r_{0}}{R}=0.0005 t$ | $\frac{R}{3}$ |
|  | $\cos \theta$ | $\frac{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}}+r_{i}^{\prime}}{\mathrm{R}-r_{\mathrm{a}}^{\prime}}$ <br> WHERE $r_{\mathrm{a}}^{\prime}=\frac{R r_{\mathrm{a}}}{R+r_{\mathrm{a}}}$ | $\frac{R_{s}+\Gamma_{B}}{R}=0.00031$ |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \cos \theta\left(1-\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}} \cdot \frac{\tan \theta-\theta}{\pi}\right) \\ = & \cos \theta\left(\frac{R_{2}}{R_{2}+R_{s}+r_{\mathrm{a}}}\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \frac{R_{s}+r_{\mathrm{a}}}{R_{1}+\left(R_{s}+r_{\mathrm{a}}\right) R_{1} / R_{2}} \\ {\left[\frac{R_{s}+r_{\mathrm{a}}}{R_{1}}=\frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{\operatorname{ton} \theta-\theta}-\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}}}\right]} \end{gathered}$ | $\frac{R_{s}+r_{1}}{R_{1}}=0.00031$ <br> IF $\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}}$ not large | $\frac{R_{1} R_{2}}{R_{1}+3 R_{2}}$ |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \cos \theta\left(1-\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}} \cdot \frac{\operatorname{ten} \theta-\theta}{\pi}\right) \\ =\cos \theta\left(\frac{R_{1}+R_{2}}{R_{1}+R_{2}+\left(R_{s}+r_{a}\right) R_{1} / R_{2}}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \frac{R_{s}+r_{\mathrm{a}}}{R_{1}+R_{2}+\left(R_{\mathrm{s}}+r_{\mathrm{a}}\right) R_{1} / R_{2}} \\ {\left[\frac{R_{\mathrm{s}}+r_{\mathrm{a}}}{R_{1}+R_{2}}=\frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{\tan \theta-\theta}-\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}}}\right]} \end{gathered}$ | $\frac{R_{s}+r_{a}}{R_{1}+R_{2}}=0.00031$ <br> If $\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}}$ not large | $\frac{\left(R_{1}+R_{2}\right) R_{2}}{R_{1}+3 R_{2}}$ |

* Indicates an approximation with negligible error.

It is assumed that $f C R, f C_{1} R_{1}$ and $f C_{2} R_{2}$ are large enough to keep voltage across $C, C_{1}$ and $C_{2}$ constant (formulae given are practically correct if $f C R$ and $f C_{1} R_{1}$ are over 100 and $f C_{2} R_{2}$ over 2). $V_{r}$ is the mean rectified voltage. $\theta$ is half the angle of diode conduction, in radians. The values given for $R_{i}$ are those to which $R_{i}$ tends as $V_{r} / E_{m a x}$ tends to 1 . In the second circuit the diode resistance $r_{a}$ is assumed to be much less (not more than a fevv per cent) of $R$, but the third case covers augmented values. Plotting $\cos \theta$ against $(\tan \theta-\theta)^{\prime} \pi$ gives a graph of $V_{r} / E_{\max }$ in terms of $R_{s}$, etc., as in Figs. 5 and 6.
to 1 per cent and at $20 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to 2 per cent is about 1 (e.g. $R=10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and $C=$ $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) and that is so large as to make the response of the instrument to changes of voltage rather sluggish. Also the capacitor is inclined to be rather bulkier than one cares for use at high r.f. One solution for a general-purpose diode voltmeter is to use a small C in a probe head for r.f. and to augment it by a large $C$ when measuring at low frequencies. But for a purely a.f. instrument the sluggish action can be avoided by augmenting the resistance of the diode. As Fig. 10 shows, if $r_{\mu} \mathbf{R}$ at $\mathbf{R}_{s}=0$ is made 0.03, the $f$ CR error is less even when $f \mathrm{CR}$ is as low as 5 than it is with $f \mathrm{CR}=50$ when $r_{n}$ is small.

Summing up, one can hardly avoid the conclusion that for measurements at a.f. only, in circuits that may have high impedance, one would be well advised to consider the type in which a stabilized pre-amplifier is used, not only to extend the linear ranges to low characteristic as in Fig. 5.


Fig. 10. The dotted curves are measured characteristics of a shunt-diode circuit, but may be taken as applying also to the series circuit. The full-line curve is the theoretical

# Long-distance V.H.F. Reception 

APHENOMENON which is associated with clectrical discharges in the lower atmosphere has been recently encountered in the long-distance reception of v.h.f. signals, and is described by G. A. Isted in the current issuc of The Marconi Review.

During some experiments which involved the automatic recording, in great detail, of the Kirk o' Shotts ( $53.25 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and Wenvoe ( $63.25 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) sound channels at Great Baddow, Essex, it was observed that the signals often arrived in a succession of impulsive bursts, having a duration between 0.1 sec and 1.0 sec , and varying in amplitude between 5 and at least 20 db above the very weak background signal. The distances involved are 330 miles to Kirk o Shotts and 180 miles to Wenvoe. It was found that the signal bursts often took the form of trains, consisting of bursts equally spaced in time, and that, apart from single bursts, there were many such trains consisting of from two bursts up to six or seven in number. The burst activity on the Wenvoe signals was much less than on those from Kirk o' Shotts, but at times there was strong evidence that a certain arrangement of signal bursts from Kirk o' Shotts occurred on the Wenvoe signals at a slightly different time.
By arranging one receiving channel to record the Kirk o' Shotts signal (and also the radio energy from a lightning flash) and another to record the lightning energy only (by detuning it from the Kirk o' Shotts frequency), a simultaneous recording system was set up which permitted identification of the signal bursts
and lightning tlashes. It was found that the trains of signal bursts were very often associated with a lightning flash, the bursts sometimes preceding, sometimes occurring simultancously with, and sometimes following the lightning flash.

By the use of a "static receiver" connected to a recorder, the electrostatic clicks which it received, and which indicate rapid changes of an electric field in the atmosphere not necessarily due to lightning flashes, were also found to be closely associated with the trains of signal bursts.
Vertical incidence inospheric recordings of pulsesignals on $10.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ were then examined, and these showed the presence of sporadic scatter points of high ionization density at heights corresponding roughly to that of the E layer, and having durations and time spacings similar to those of the signal bursts. These ionospheric echoes also often occurred in trains and it was found that they were often associated with lightning flashes.

It was concluded that the r.h.f. signal bursts (such signals would not normally be reflected from the ionosphere) were due to reflection from these shortlived localized patches of high ionization in the $E$ layer. They are attributed to recurrent electrical discharges from clouds in the lower atmosphere, these discharges not necessarily amounting to lightning.

After an examination of the relevant metcorological information a theory is put forward to account for this. It is suggested that certain types of cloud in the lower atmosphere become charged until, the
charge reaching a critical striking potential (dependent upon the electrical characteristics of the air above the cloud), it discharges in the form of a current flowing upwards to the E layer; and then, recharging, reaches the critical striking potential at regular time intervals. (The relaxation time connected with charging and discharging clouds would seem to be in close correspondence with that for triple and quadruple trains of bursts, which has an average value of 4.0 sec .) The energy flowing from the clouds to the E layer causes the short-lived patches of high ionization, which, in turn, give rise to the signal bursts. The energy is then conducted along the E layer to fine weather regions, where it leaks by conduction through the air to the earth. (Lightning flashes between cloud and earth complete the circuit.) It is also suggested that more continuous ionization in the E layer (apart from that due to solar radiation) may be set up in this way, and that it may account in part for the Sporadic E phenomenon.

Whether or not these theories are proved to be correct, the experimental evidence is extremely interesting, and the author is to be congratulated upon the very lucid and painstaking way in which he has presented it. A lot of work must have gone into this project, as a result of which our knowledge of radio propagation and related phenomena cannot fail to be enhanced.
T. W. B.

## SOLNDS—PAST AND PRESENT

AS a prelude to the British Sound Recording Association's annual convention and exhibition, held recently at the Waldorf Hotel, London, W.C.2, Brian George, of the central programme department of the B.B.C., gave a talk on "Voices and Sounds from History," illustrated by examples from the B.B.C.'s record archives. These included the voices of Alfred Lord Tennyson and Gladstone-transcribed from phonograph cylinders, the "home recording" of that dayand Mr. George spoke of the difficulties of authenticating early records of celebrities in view of the many examples of amateur mimicry which still survive and are discovered from time to time. Not all the records are of the great; the B.B.C. archives contain specimens of contemporary wit and dialect, from people in all walks of life. Much effort is being expended to trace among the older generations the rich dialects that are in some danger of losing their edge as the result of the tendency towards standardization in the accents of B.B.C. announcers.
Guests at the annual dinner included Sir Noel Ashbridge and Harold Bishop.

After two years' service H. Davies is retiring as president and will be succeeded by Norman Leevers.
Both Saturday and Sunday attendances at the exhibition were high, and on both days visitors were able to hear demonstrations of high-quality commercial reproducers.
This year's compctition for amateur constructors showed a wide range of interests and no falling off in enthusiasm. The President's Trophy and the Wireless World prize were won by G. M. Simpson for his cathode-ray oscilloscope, designed for work on wide-frequency-range sound recording and reproduction. Made from surplus parts and incorporating a $2_{4}^{3}$ in VCR139A tube, this instrument was notable for the very high standard of workmanship and finish. The Committee prize went to A. G. Tucker for an experi-
menter's console giving quick access to the undersides of the various chassis for modifications, while presenting a permanently neat appearance when closed. Irrincipal sections included a three-speed record turntable, a tape deck, a radio feeder unit and a control panel.

Notes on the commercial exhibits are included in the review of audio developments elsewhere in this issue.

## sMALL-CRAF"T RADIO INSTALLATION

A RADIO installation intended for the smaller and "middle-water" type of fishing craft and providing for reception over the ranges 45 to $131 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $375 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $3.4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$; radio telephone transmission on any of six crystal-controlled spot frequencies in the band 1.6 to $2.85 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and direction-finding facilities has been introduced by the Marconi International Marine Communication Company, Chelmsford, Essex.

Controls are reduced to a minimum while retaining full flexibility to meet widely different conditions of operation and all are fitted with knobs that can be handled while wearing gloves.

The aerial is a single loop in a rotating frame controlled by a large handwheel from below and it is intended to be mounted above a wheelhouse or chartroom housing the radio equipment.

The receiver, known as the "Renown," and the transmitter ("Guillemot") are approximately the same size and can be mounted very conveniently one above the other in a recess as shown in the illustration. "Seapilot" is the direction-finding equipment.
The equipment is designed for operation from 24 -volt batterics.


Renown-Guillemot-Seapilot radio-telephone and directionfinding equipment introduced by Marconi Marine.

# Pictoctectric Crystals 

(Concluded from page 280 of the previous issue)

# Suriey of Physical Properties 

and
Their Practical Exploitation

By S. KELLILI*

THE analogue of the crystal transducer is shown in Fig. 9, in which $\mathrm{C}_{8}$ is the electrical capacitance, $\mathrm{C}_{m}$ is the effective compliance, M is the effective mass and $1: \mathrm{N}$ is the "transformer" converting electrical to mechanical energy and vice versa. The capacity presented to the electrical terminals, the compliance $\mathrm{C}_{m}$, and M , will all be a function of the mounting of the crystal, together with any mechanical appendages such as stylus, reed, etc. The " mechanical" terminals are open-circuited when the crystal is clamped (zero velocity) and short-circuited when completely free: under working conditions some form of complex impedance will normally be connected to them. In these analogues the following relations hold:-

| Electrical | Mechanical |
| :--- | :--- |
| E.m.f. | Force |
| Current | Velocity |
| Inductance | Mass |
| Capacitance | Compliance |

Although crystals are anisotropic, when one is investigating a particular cut it is admissible to treat the crystal constants as isotropic using the values obtained experimentally for that particular cut.

In the elementary theory of elasticity the three elastic constants of an isotropic solid are Young's modulus $Y$, the rigidity or shear modulus $n$, and the bulk modulus or volume elasticity E. Any one of the three can be expressed in terms of the other two by the relations given below, which also involves Poisson's ratio $a$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathrm{Y} & =2 n(1-\sigma)  \tag{1a}\\
n & =\frac{\mathrm{Y}}{2(1+\sigma)}  \tag{1b}\\
\mathrm{E} & =\frac{\mathrm{Y}}{3(1+20)}  \tag{1c}\\
\sigma & =\frac{\mathrm{Y}-2 n}{2 n} \tag{1d}
\end{align*}
$$

These various factors all enter into the mechanical design equations of the working transducer, and to obtain some insight into their application we shall consider one or two hypothetical examples.

The maximum displacement of a gramophone record groove is of the order of 0.01 cm . Assume for the sake of argument a crystal expander plate of $1 \mathrm{~cm} \times 0.5 \mathrm{~cm} \times 0.07 \mathrm{~cm}$, which is a normal size for crystals used in pickups, the Young's modulus being $2 \times 10^{11}$. The crystal (Fig. 10) is firmly fixed at one end and is driven by the stylus at the other. At low frequencies where compliance is dominant the
minimum playing weight necessary to keep the stylus in the groove when driven in compression and tension, (1) in Fig. 10, would be:-

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{W}=\frac{\mathrm{D}}{981 . \overline{\mathrm{C}_{m}}} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{W}=$ playing weight, $\mathrm{D}=$ displacement of stylus in $\mathrm{cm}, \mathrm{C}_{m}=$ compliance in $\mathrm{cm} /$ dyne.

The compliance of the crystal as an expander is:-

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{m}=\frac{l}{Y \cdot w \cdot l} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $Y=$ Young's modulus, $l=$ length in cm , $t=$ thickness in $\mathrm{cm}, w=$ width in cm .

From (2) and (3):

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{W}=\frac{\text { D.Y.w.t }}{981 . l} \\
&=\frac{10^{-2} 2}{981} 1 \\
&=7.14 \therefore 10^{11} \times 0.5 \times 0.07 \\
& \mathrm{gm}(71.4 \text { kilograms }) .
\end{aligned}
$$

This value is somewhat high even for pre-war crystal


Fig. 9. Analogue of electro-mechanical relations in a crystal iransducer.


Fig. 10. Elementary crystal transducer illustrating the modes of upplying stress open to the pickup designer: (1) compression. (2) contilever. (3) torsion.
pickups! Let us therefore use the crystal as a cantilever, Fig. 10 (2), in which the direction of vibration will be at right-angles to the case cited above.

The compliance $C_{m}$ of the crystal as a cantilever is:-

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{m}=\frac{4 l^{3}}{\mathrm{Y} . w_{\cdot 1} t^{3}} \ldots \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $\mathrm{W}=\frac{\mathrm{D} . \mathrm{Y} \cdot w \cdot t^{3}}{4 l^{3} \cdot 981}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
=\frac{10^{-2} \times 2 \times 10^{11} \times 0.5<0.34310^{-3}}{4 \times 1} 981 \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
=82.5 \mathrm{gm} .
$$

This value is still much too high for modern pickups, but is within striking distance of the optimum and represents about the average for pre-war pickups. The third alternative is to use the crystal in torsion (Fig. 10 (C)), by supporting the front end in a bearing and using a stylus, say, 1 cm long.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{u}=\frac{3 l}{n . w . t^{3}\left(1-0.63 \frac{t}{w}\right)} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $n$ is the modulus of rigidity and is obtained from equation (lb).

The assumption of a Poisson's ratio of 0.1 results in a rigidity modulus of $9.1,10^{10}$, and

This is somewhat better and in actual practice the extra compliance required for a practical pickup would be obtained by using an elastic type of material for a support (such as rubber or p.v.c.) together with a cantilever stylus. At the high-frequency end of the band, mass impedance rather than compliance is the controlling factor and this is where the torsional crystal scores with the materially reduced effective mass and increased voltage force sensitivity.

The effective mass of a cantilever is:-

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\text { l.w.t.p }}{3} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\rho=$ density.
The moment of inertia of the same plate in torsion is:-

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{I}_{U}=\frac{\rho . l . w^{3} \cdot t}{36}-\left(1+\frac{t^{2}}{w^{2}}\right) \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

If a stylus of 1 cm length is used the effective mass at the stylus tip will be the numerical value given by equation (10) in grams. Assuming $p=2$, and using the same sizes as before for the cantilever:-

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{e} & =\frac{1 \times 0.5 \times 0.07}{36}=0.0233 \mathrm{gm} \\
& =23.3 \text { milligrams }
\end{aligned}
$$

where $M_{c}=$ effective mass referred to the stylus point,
and for the torsional unit:-

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{e} & =\frac{2 \lambda 1 \cdot 0.125 \times 0.07,(1.02)}{36} \\
& =0.000495 \mathrm{gm}=0.495 \text { milligram } .
\end{aligned}
$$

In other words, a greatly reduced effective mass compared to the cantilever crystal.

$$
\begin{align*}
& \text { W -- D.n.w.t }{ }^{:}\left(1-\perp 0.63{ }^{t} w^{t}\right. \\
& \text { W -- —— } 31.981  \tag{8}\\
& \begin{array}{l}
=10^{-2} \cdot 9.1 \quad 10^{10} \cdot 0.343 \cdot 10^{-3} \\
=48 \mathrm{gm} .
\end{array} \tag{0.91}
\end{align*}
$$

Practical crystals of the cantilever or torsional type consist of two correctly oriented plates cemented together with electrodes, connecting leads, and some form of protective coating, and are usually named "bimorphs." These units then behave as a homogeneous whole and the foregoing philosophy can be successfully applied.

It is now standard practice to specify crystal constants in M.K.S. units, and these can easily be converted to c.g.s. units if one remembers that the M.K.S. unit of force is the newton and is equal to $10^{5}$ dynes; the accompanying table gives multiplying factors for both systems. Because most engineers still use the foot rule (and the majority of machine tools in this country are calibrated in inches) the physical dimensions of the crystals listed in Table 2 are given in inches and the other parameters are in the standard electrical nomenclature.

Table 2 shows the various constants of the equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 9. It should be noted that the torsional coupling coefficient is given in volts newton. metre or volts'dyne.cm. The torsional compliance is given in radians newton.metre or radians'dyne.cm. The effective moment of inertia is given in kgm.m² or gm.cm. $丷$.

Practical crystal stoday are usually between 0.5 in and lin long, 0.25 in to 0.375 in wide and 0.015 in to 0.06 in thick. In the case of barium titanate the length varies between 0.5 in and 1 in , width 0.06 in to 0.1 in and the thickness is usually $0.03 i n$. Because of the low transducer ratio ( N ) and very high dielectric constant of barium titanate, the two elements are usually connected in serics, giving twice the output voltage for a quarter of the parallel capacity. In the case of Rochelle salt units, where the reverse conditions hold, the parallel connections are used. The nominal value of capacity is usually set at a minimum $1,000 \mathrm{pF}$. In each case the compliance of the crystal is of the order of 10 times lower than that required for present-day pickups. The additional compliance is obtained by supporting the crystal on resilient rubber pads or using some other form of compliant coupling.

The resonant frequency of the system can be obtained from:-

$$
f_{r}=\frac{1}{2 \pi,} \overline{\mathrm{M} \cdot \mathrm{C}_{m}^{-}}
$$

where $M$ is the effective mass, or the moment of inertia, and $\mathrm{C}_{m}$ is the effective compliance.

From the values given in Table 2, it will be seen that the resonant frequency for bimorphs of identical size will be lower for cantilever units than for torsional units and the effective transducer ratio is also lower. It is important to use either M.K.S. or c.g.s. units throughout otherwise the resonant frequency of a pickup may appear to be in the megacycle band! If we compare a Rochelle salt bimorph of $0.5 \mathrm{in} \wedge 0.25 \mathrm{in}$ $\times 0.03$ in a torsional and a bender unit, together with a barium titanate bimorph $0.7 \mathrm{in}, 0.1$ in $\times 0.03$ in (these are the normal sizes commercially available today) the following results are obtained:-
Rochelle salt
(Torsional parallel)
$\mathrm{C}=1.25 \times 10^{-9}$ farad
$\mathrm{N}_{\theta}=2.93 \times 10^{\prime}$ volt 'newton.
$\mathrm{C}_{\theta}=1.3$ radians'newton.metre
$\mathrm{I}_{\theta}=1.64 \times 10^{-10} \mathrm{kgm} . \mathrm{metre}$
$f_{r}=11,000 \mathrm{c}$ 's.

Rochelle salt
(Cantilever parallel) $\mathrm{C}=1.25 \times 10^{-9}$ farad $\mathrm{N}=2.0 \times 10^{2}$ volt/newton $\mathrm{C}_{m}=1.3 \times 10^{-4}$ metre/newton $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{m}}=25 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{kgm}$ $f_{\mathrm{r}}=2,800 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.
Ceramic
(Cantilever series)
$C=7.6 \times 10^{-10}$ farad
$\mathrm{N}=63$ volt/ncwton
$\mathrm{C}_{m}=2 \times 10^{-4}$ metre'newton
$M=52.5 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{kgm}$ $f_{r}=1,550 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.
To bring these values down to the familiar c.g.s. units and assuming a stylus length of 1 cm for the torsional unit (a normal practical value), we get the following:-

Rochelle salt
(Parallel torsional) 1250 2.93
1.6411 .0

Rochelle salt (Parallel cantilever) 1250
Barium titanate
$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { (Cantilever) } & 760 & 0.63 & 0.20 & 52.5 & 1.55\end{array}$
2.0
0.13
$25.0 \quad 2.8$

It will be seen that a torsional unit of the same size and material gives a superior performance for both the voltage sensitivity and resonant frequency, and that the sensitivity of the ceramic element is considerably lower than either of the two Rochelle salt units. The sensitivity of the titanate can be imnroved by decreasing the thickness, width, or increasing the length; the thickness of 0.03 in is the present commercial minimum, this value being dictated by fragility in handling, warping during firing, etc. Increasing the length will decrease the resonant frequency and decreasing the width will reduce the capacity (but will not affect the resonant frequency) although the compliance will be inversely proportional to it. The same remarks in general apply to Rochelle salt, except that the minimum commercial thickness is 0.015 in and the minimum width is about 0.2 in , but in view of the higher coupling coefficient more liberties may be taken with the Rochelle salt than with the titanate.

Conclusions.-Of the three possible sources of transducer material at present available, A.D.P can be counted out for most pickup applications by virtue of the extremely low dielectric constant, although it is used to some extent for microphones. Rochelle

TABLE 2.
(Dimensions of crystals in inches)

|  | $\mathrm{C}_{e}$ Parallel | Ce Series | Twister " Bimorph " |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Linear Three-Corner |  |  |  | Torsional |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Parallel | $\underset{\text { Series }}{\mathbf{N}}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{\text {m }}$ | M | Ne <br> Parallel | $\mathrm{N}_{*}$ Scries | Cer | $\mathrm{I}_{\theta}$ |
| Multiply fi Mures by | Farads $10^{-12}$ | Farads $10^{12}$ | 1 | 1 | $10^{-9}$ | $\underset{10^{-3}}{\mathrm{kgm}}$ | 10 ${ }^{2}$ | $10^{2}$ | $10^{-4}$ | $10^{-i}$ |
| Multiply figures by | $\underset{1}{\mu \mu} \mathrm{~F}$ | ${ }_{1}^{\mu \mu} \mathrm{F}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{-6}$ | $10^{-12}$ | $\underset{1}{\mathrm{gm}}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{-13}$ | 1 |
| Rochelle salt ( $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) | $300 \frac{l w}{t}$ | $75 \frac{l v}{t}$ | $\frac{5.65}{t}$ | $\frac{11.3}{t}$ | $11.3 \frac{\mathrm{lw}}{\mathrm{t}^{3}}$ | 4.28/w | 2.2 $\% u t$ | $\frac{4.4}{9 v t}$ | $17.5 \frac{\mathrm{l}}{2 t^{3}}$ | 6.98 lvit |
| A.D.P. | $12.9 \frac{\mathrm{lv}}{\mathrm{t}}$ | $3.23 \frac{l w}{t}$ | $\frac{99}{t}$ | $\frac{19.7}{t}$ | $17.5 \frac{l w}{t^{3}}$ | 3.74 lwt | $\frac{3.9}{w t}$ | $\frac{78}{w t}$ | $271 \frac{l}{w t^{3}}$ | $6.05 \operatorname{lw}^{3} t$ |
|  | C Parallel | $\underset{\text { Series }}{\mathrm{C}_{e}}$ | Bender " Bimorph " |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Cantilever |  |  |  | Centre |  | Drive |  |
|  |  |  | N <br> Parallel | N Series | $\mathrm{C}_{m}$ | M | N <br> Parallel | N Series | $\mathrm{C}_{\text {m }}$ | M |
| M.K.S. <br> Multiply figures by | Farads $10^{12}$ | Farads $10^{-12}$ | 1 | 1 | $10^{-9}$ | $\operatorname{kgm}_{10}$ | 1 | 1 | $10^{-9}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{kgm} \\ 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ |
| Mulitiply figures by | ${ }_{1}^{\mu \mu} \mathrm{F}$ | ${ }_{1}^{\mu \mu} \mathrm{F}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{12}$ | $\underset{1}{\mathrm{gm}}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $\mathrm{ll}^{-5}$ | $10^{-12}$ | $\underset{1}{\mathrm{gm}}$ |
| Rochelle salt ( $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) | $300 \frac{l w}{t}$ | $75 \frac{l w}{t}$ | $2.9 \frac{1}{v o t}$ | $5.8 \frac{1}{w t}$ | $7.04 \frac{l^{3}}{w t^{3}}$ | 6.68 lw! | $0.73 \stackrel{l}{\text { wt }}$ | $1.45 \frac{l}{w t}$ | $044 \frac{l^{3}}{w t^{3}}$ | 13.35 lwt |
| A.D.P. | $12.9 \frac{l w}{t}$ | $3.23 \frac{1 w}{t}$ | $6.0 \frac{l}{v v_{t}}$ | $12.0 \frac{\mathrm{l}}{\mathrm{wmt}}$ | $7.84 \frac{l^{3}}{v v^{3}}$ | 7.15 lwt | $1.5 \frac{\mathrm{l}}{\mathrm{wmt}}$ | $3.0 \frac{1}{v v t}$ | $0.49 \frac{l^{3}}{w t^{3}}$ | 14.3 /wt |
| Ceramic | $1300 \frac{l v}{t}$ | $325 \frac{l v}{t}$ | $0.135 \frac{l}{w t}$ | $0.27 \frac{l}{w t}$ | $1.6 \frac{l^{3}}{w v^{3}}$ | 25 lwt | $0.034 \frac{\square}{\text { wi }}$ | $0.068 \frac{l}{v v t}$ | $0.1 \frac{l^{3}}{w t^{3}}$ | 50 lwt |

salt, when correctly used, can result in highly efficient, consistent and cheap mass-produced gramophone pickups. It should not be used at temperatures above $45^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and it must not be subjected to temperatures in excess of $55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. In general, it is wise not to use Rochelle salt units within $\pm 20$ degrees of latitude of the equator.

Barium titanate units have the advantage over Rochelle salt that they can be made completely tropical proof, although due allowance must be made for possible variation in sensitivity with temperature on zirconium-loaded elements. The capacity is virtually independent of temperature, but the voltage sensitivity is about - 20 db compared with Rochelle salt for the same needle-tip compliance. Because of the cantilever construction, the effective mass is considerably greater than that of a torsional unit,
and if the needle tip impedance is to be kept within reasonable values at high frequencies some form of mechanical decoupling must be introduced between the stylus and the crystal element, and considerable high-frequency attenuation must be expected in the pickup.

From the foregoing it will be appreciated that the final solution of a particular pickup design problem is governed by many factors, and at present there is no one ideal solution for a crystal cartridge with a wide frequency range, of high compliance, which is completely tropical proof and has a high sensitivity; although each new development and improvement in technique brings the goal appreciably nearer.

Acknowledgment is made to Mr. A. C. Dobelli, of the Brush Crystal Co. Ltd., for information on fundamental crystal parameters.

# Congress on Sound Recording-Paris 1954 

Some Points from the Discussions and Items of Interest

in the Exhibition

FROM April 5th to 10th, 1954, an International Congress on Sound Recording was held in Paris. It was organized by the Société des Radioélectriciens, under the direction of G. Rabuteau, the President of the Society.

During the week of the Congress some 64 papers were read, and six visits to technical or industrial organizations were arranged.

An exhibition of everything appertaining to recording was open for the whole week, including Sunday, April llth. In addition to this very full programme, evening engagements included a symphony concert, and a demonstration of synthetic music (including "Musique Concrete") arranged by RadiodiffusionTélévision Française (R.T.F.).

The Congress was opened at a ceremony at which speeches were made by the President and by the distinguished physicist Louis de Broglie.

## Technical Papers

The papers covered the whole field of the art and science of recording and were divided into five sections. Section 1 covered the history of recording, common problems, and measurements. Section 2 dealt entirely with magnetic recording and reproduction, including its future application in the television field. Recording for the cinema in all its aspects was dealt with in Section 3, whilst Section 4 was devoted to disc recording including the special problems of microgroove and factory production of gramophone records. Section 5 included papers on many applications of recording in industry and science, covering the recording and storage of pulses, cathode-ray memory systems, long-duration data recording, and the generation of synthetic music.

By H. J. HOLLCATE, A.M.I.E.E.

An account of the measurement of "wow" and "flutter" and its subjective effect, by M. Caciotti, of the Italian Broadcasting Organization, was read by his colleague Signorina Bordone. For testing magnetic recorders having had very little speed fluctuation, the following method was suggested. A continuous loop of tape, lasting some seconds, is used, and the output of the machine is connected to its input after the loop has been recorded with tone. Each "pass" of the loop through the machine then reproduces and re-records the tone, a process which results in an increase in the "wow" content of the recording. It was shown that if the "wow" and "flutter" are of a random nature, as is often the case in first-class machines, then the final speed fluctuation is equal to $h \sqrt{n}$, where $h$ is the original fluctuation and $n$ is the number of dubbings. Such a method is also applicable to measurements on disc recorders. Subjective tests led to the statement that speed fluctuations at the rate of 15 per second were the most objectionable to the ear. Reference was also made to the fact that the frictional forces on the tape can result in longitudinal vibrations, which in their turn give rise to frequency modulation of the recorded signal. This effect produces high-frequency flutter, which although at much too high a rate to be noticed as a variation in pitch, results in the generation of objectionable sidebands.
F. Gallet, an engineer on the staff of R.T.F., discussed in detail the causes of noise in magnetic recording systems. He gave the signal/noise ratio for a typical machine as 50 db when measured by a "flat" voltmeter, and 65 db if an aural simulation network were used. It was pointed out that, although these figures were acceptable for a recording system, an amplifier to be used in a broadcasting chain would have a much better signal/noise ratio, and that every effort
should be made to improve the performance of magnetic recorders in this respect. Some considerable attention was given to modulation noise, which was shown to be due to two distinct causes. The variations in the magnetic properties of the tape and the imperfect contact it made with the head resulted in amplitude modulation of the programme by signals of a random nature, whilst longitudinal vibration of the tape gave rise to frequency modulation of the programme, the modulation being in general random, but being "coloured" by the natural longitudinal resonance of the tape in the region of the heads. Such a frequency modulation causes the noise spectrum accompanying a tone to include sidebands. It is, of course, desirable to give a measure in terms of signal/ noise ratio to the modulation noise. This is not easy to do since the noise is always accompanied by the signal, which is of much higher amplitude, and must be removed, together with its harmonics, by very sharp filters. It was shown, however, that the spectrum produced by amplitude modulation of the signal was independent of the signal frequency, and so could be measured using a signal of zero frequency, i.e., d.c. Such a measurement is not all that could be desired, but it is of use in assessing the properties of the tape, since the components which are ignored by this method are those duc to frequency modulation and these are as much a function of the recorder as of the tape itself.

## Testing Magnetic Tape

A second paper by F. Gallet was devoted to the problems involved in testing tape received from the manufacturers. He described a machine for testing nine tapes at once, which was on show in the exhibition. It consisted of nine channels of recording and reproducing heads together with feed and take-up spools, and a common capstan shaft, driven by motors on the bedplate of the machine. Each of the nine tapes was tested for sensitivity at $800 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ throughout its length under standardized conditions. The output from each tape was recorded by a recording volimeter on a strip of paper about 10 in long. In addition to the sensitivity tests, two of the tapes on the machine were given a modulation noise test and the resulting noise output was recorded on further charts.

It is well known that in the manufacture of recording tape the support material is coated with the oxide in fairly large widths, and each batch is subsequently slit into the $\frac{1}{4}$ in tape used on the machines. The lecturer stated that it was desirable that more stringent tests be performed on at least one tape from each batch. Special equipment is therefore used to plot graphs of frequency response, output $v$. bias, distortion $v$. output, and, after a 24 -hour delay, to record the "print" level. All these tests are recorded on one strip of paper, which, in common with the sheet recording sensitivity, carries a code number identifying the tape completely, both as to batch, and the position the particular tape occupied in the original wide sheet. This equipment is of particular interest, since a controlling amplifier connected between the output of the system and the input to the recorder is used to keep the output of the system constant. The actual output from the reproducing amplifier is then determined by a variable attenuator connected between its output and the control point. Thus the signal applied to the harmonic analyser can be taken from the constant level
control point and the recording meter has only to measure the harmonic output, and not, as would be more difficult, the harmonic to total signal ratio.

Maurice Soubrier had been concerned with the problem of correcting a recording, such as that on a magnetic dictating machine, either by the deletion of undesired matter or by the addition of new material. He described a method of doing this without cutting the tape, or re-dictating the matter coming after the additions. He proposed using two or more coupled recorders capable of recording or reproducing in either direction of travel of the tape, and so arranged that subject matter could be transferred from one tape to another at will. To save time the re-recording could be carried out whilst the machine was running backwards. An apparatus could certainly be made to do this, but the present writer fears that it would be rather complicated for office use, but might have applications in broadcasting when much editing is necessary.

Dr. Schiesser, of Rundfunk-Technisches Institute G.m.b.H., discussed the magnetic recorders and ancillary equipment which have been developed for use in the German Federal Broadcasting System. Of special interest was the small portable recorder, Type R85, which records at $7 \frac{1}{2}$ in per sec. using $1,200 \mathrm{ft}$ spools. The motor system is fed by batteries. A separate reproducing head and amplifier are fitted for monitoring and subsequent reproduction, and the overall response was stated to be flat to $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. The recorder measures approximately $10 \mathrm{in} \times 15 \mathrm{in} \times 5 \mathrm{in}$ and weighs 22lb. Dr. Schiesser referred amongst other things to the work done by N.W.D.R. on artificial reverberation, and mentioned work of a similar nature which had already been carried out by Dr. Axon at the B.B.C. Research Department.

## Recording Television Signals

One afternoon was devoted to the application of the magnetic system to television recording. J. T. Mullin, of Bing Crosby Enterprises, described the multi-track system developed by his company, and Commander C. G. Mayer gave an account of the system developed by R.C.A. This latter system uses $\frac{1}{2}$ in-wide tape to record both sound and colour television signals and is capable of recording black and white television and sound on normal $\frac{1}{4}$ in-wide tape. The tape speed is about 30 ft per sec and special measures are taken to maintain the tape tension constant at all times. Commander Mayer pointed out that the speed constancy requirements were extremely stringent for this work and stated that constancy in excess of 1 part in $10^{\circ}$ was nceded. The recording and reproducing heads present unusual problems, since the recorded wavelength at $4 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ is only about $2 \frac{1}{2}$ microns. A further trouble occurs in the sound channel and indeed at the l.f. end of the video channel, because the tape speed is so high that the wavelength becomes large compared with the head dimensions and results in a low-frequency loss in addition to that normally encountered in the magnetic system.
J. Borne, of the Laboratories d'Electronique de Physique Appliquée, discussed the influence of the physical and magnetic characteristic of the recording head upon the response at high frequencies, whilst his colleague, J. Perilhou, discussed, in addition, some of the mechanical problems involved. He endorsed the statement already made by others, that separating a reproducing head from the tape by one wavelength results in 55 db loss of output.

The last item on the afternoon's agenda was a demonstration by Prof. Boutry, from the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, of television recording on a magnetically coated drum. "The programme radiated by R.T.F. was recorded, immediately reproduced, and shown on a projection receiver screen. The bandwidth in use was only about one megacycle, so the results were not perfect, but for most people present it was the first time they had seen such a demonstration. It was stated that the clearance between the heads and the drum, necessary to eliminate wear, was about $0.00004 i n$. Such a fine clearance necessitated great precision in the drum bearings.

Several papers were devoted to the use of magnetic recording as a memory for calculating machines. One interesting application was that of recording teleprinter signals. It was stated that one character could be recorded, on a multi-track system, in 0.0005 in length of tape. Thus much more information could be stored in a given space with the magnetic system than was possible on the normal perforated paper tape. In fact a foot or two of tape could contain the equivalent of many pages of typescript.

In the section on disc recording an interesting paper was read by P. Meunier, of R.T.F. He and his colleagues have been concerned at the difficulty of cutting microgrooves on lacquer recording blanks. He has noted that the degree of flatness required for this purpose is very high, and showed that a re-design of the usual cutter head mounting is of considerable help. Briefly he established that the head must be pivoted so as to possess minimum inertia and minimum friction. The head, with a minimum of added mass, is mounted on a pivoted arm with no counterbalance. A second arm, separately pivoted, projects beyond the pivots and carries a counterbalance weight. It is coupled to the head by a spring and dashpot system. In the published paper* the simplified equivalent electrical circuits of the mechanical system are analysed. Considerable improvement was claimed, not only in the reduction of effects due to lack of disc flatness, but also in those caused by motor vibrations.

## Exhibition

As might be expected, a large proportion of the forty-nine exhibitors were showing magnetic recorders of one type or another. Studio machines were represented by E.M.I. of England, Tolana and Bordereau of France, A.E.G. and Vollmer of Germany, and Ampex of U.S.A. Some of these machines were provided with push-button operated shears to cut the tape adjacent to the reproducing head when editing.

On the N.W.D.R. stand an interesting midget tape recorder made by Maihak was shown. It operated at $7 \frac{1}{2}$ in per sec and would record for $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{mins}$ on one winding of its spring motor. The recording or reproducing amplifier was battery operated. The complete instrument was about $9 \frac{1}{2}$ in $\times 12 \frac{1}{2}$ in $\times 4 \frac{1}{2}$ in in -size, and weighed 16 lb . It was stated that a second head could be fitted to record timing signals from a film camera so that the tape could subsequently be synchronized with the film. In another version of this recorder the spring motor gave a constant-speed drive for 12 minutes.

A somewhat larger and heavier battery and springoperated recorder was shown by Acémaphone.
Another spring-driven recorder was shown by Rocke International on behalf of the Amplifier Corporation of America. Called the "Magnemite," it was available
with tape speeds ranging from $\frac{1}{16}$ in per sec to 15 in per sec. The slow-speed machine was stated to record from 200 to $2,500 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ and to run for 30 minutes on one winding. An unusual feature of some of these models was an external flywheel mounted on top of the capstan. The smallest and lightest of the range, operating at $1 \frac{7}{5}$ in per sec , was $11 \mathrm{in} \times 8 \mathrm{in} \times 5 \mathrm{in}$ in size and weighed 10lb. A portable battery-driven recorder intended for professional use and of similar dimensions and weight to the above instruments is available from E.M.I.
Domestic tape recorders were on many stands, but only two will be referred to. The A.E.G. model KL25 operates at $3 \frac{3}{3}$ in per sec and has a counter operated by one spool to facilitate "place finding." A response to $10 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ was claimed and a separate reproducing head and amplifier is included.

Radio Star were showing a very small domestic recorder, including amplifier and oscillator, which could be stood complete on any turntable or clockwork gramophone to provide the tape drive. The amplifier would function on a.c. or d.c. mains.

A device of great interest to film enthusiasts was a stabilized, film-pulled, magnetic sound attachment which could be mounted between the arm carrying the feed spool and the body of almost any projector. The unit, which is reminiscent of some of the units fitted to professional projectors for stereophonic sound in cinemas, is marketed by Fred. Jeannot.

One of those things which had to be produced sooner or later was a simple but satisfactory clip for holding the free end of a reel of tape firmly to one cheek of the spool. It is made by H. Gravillon, Paris.

A machine for making welded joints in p.v.c. tape was being demonstrated by Sonocolor. A joint could be made in about 10 seconds, including trimming the ends of the tape and loading and unloading the machine.

Two gramophone turntable units are worthy of mention. Thorens of Switzerland were showing a three-speed motor, governor controlled, which used a gear change to go from 78 to 33$\}$ r.p.m. 45 r.p.m. was obtained by using the governor. Thus all three speeds were adjustable. The pickup fitted to the model on show was an American G.E. variable reluctance unit, which could be lowered by push-button at any of the three usual record diameters.

A high-grade, three-speed, 17 in diameter turntable was being exhibited and demonstrated by E.M.T. of Germany. This incorporated many refinements, including an optical device for locating the pickup on the disc and a remotely controlled rapidly starting turntable.

A most unusual-looking loudspeaker was exhibited by Elipson and was used in the demonstrations of "Musique Concrete." The unit is conventional, but the enclosure appears to be cast in plaster and is ported in the normal way. Over the cone, which faces upwards, is a large, shell-like elliptical reflector, also of plaster, which gives the unit its name-"La Conque." The reflector is so placed that the loudspeaker unit is at one focus of the ellipse, and hence an image source appears at the second focus. The result is claimed to be a uniform sound distribution over a fairly wide angle down to $800 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$, but outside this angle the sound is attenuated and hence undesirable building echoes are not excited.

[^7]
# Integrated Microwave Test Bench 

## Losses and Reflections Due to Imperfect Assembly Aroided

1N interesting and original exnibat at the recent R.E.C.M.F. show was the Ferranti X-Band Test Bench, referred to briefly in last month's report. It appears to be a distinct step forward in microwave technique.

Ordinarily, the outfit needed for microwave tests and measurements comprises a number of separate waveguide instruments-wavemeter, attenuator, slotted line, matched loads, etc.-bolted together to form a rather lengthy and untidy looking set-up. The essence of the Ferranti development is that instead of being built up of separate lengths of "pipe" it is milled out of one solid block of light alloy. One result, at least as regards the components thus "integrated," is that the circuit

Right: Section through the Ferronti X-Bond Test Bench showing positions of the items mentioned in the text.

Below: The block of the unit provides a convenient mount for additional items of test equipment.

is fixed. This may be a disadvantage for general experimental purposes requiring flexibility of apparatus. But for carrying out standard tests it is an immense advantage to have equipment that can be relied upon to be always the same; that is to say, with no alterations or borrowing of essential parts by

The black areas in the drawing indicate matched terminations. From the klystrons the main waveguide leads in turn to:-
(a) a micrometer-controlled wavemeter, operating in the $\mathrm{H}_{112}$ mode,
(b) a crystal detector for monitoring the output power,
(c) a micrometer-controlled nichrome-film glass-
vane attenuator with a range of $0-30 \mathrm{db}$, accurate to $\pm 0.1 \mathrm{db}$, and
(d) the slotted line, with probe insertion controllable up to 2 mm , and longitudinal position variable over 90 mm to an accuracy of 0.02 mm , providing voltage standing-wave ratio discrimination down to 1.01. The frequency range of the whole unit is $9-10 \mathrm{kMc} / \mathrm{s}$ ( $3.00-3.33 \mathrm{~cm}$ wavelength).

## Manuiacturers’ Products

NEW EOUIPMENT ANH ACCESSORIES FOR RADIO ANH EIEECRONICS

## High-Ratio Tuning Drire

A GEARED drive with a reduction ratio of 56.25 to 1 intended primarily for bandspread or precision tuning over shortwave bands in a


> Jockson high-rotio geared drive Type Gl.
receiver has been introduced by Jackson Bros., Kingsway, Waddon, Surrey.

It is fitted with spring-loaded gears and self-aligning ball bearings to ensure a smooth action free of backlash at all shaft loads up to $24 \mathrm{oz} / \mathrm{in}$. Stops are included to prevent overdriving at the limits of rotation as a safeguard against damage to the gears.

High- and low-speed shafts (driving and driven respectively) project back and front of the casing, thus permitting the addition of a driving motor if required and providing facilities for a pointer or scale on the front extension of the capacitor shaft.

At present the drive is available to equipment makers only and without dial, knob or other accessories.

## Industrial P..A. Amplifiers

POWER outputs up to 2.4 kW for large factories, railway stations and wire relay systems are provided by parallel connection of unit 100 -watt
amplifiers recently introduced by the General Electric Company, Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Two DA100 valves in push-pull may be operated to give 100 W with 3 per cent distortion under Class A conditions, or 175 W under Class AB2 with 6 per cent total harmonic. The output transformers have divided secondaries with impedances suitable for series or parallel connected loads, and the l.t. and h.t. supplies are derived from separate transformers to simplify stand-by running of heaters. Four bridgeconnected directly heated vacuum rectifier valves are used for h.t. supply with a choke input smoothing system employing paper dielectric condensers.

The panels, which are $15 \frac{3}{3}$ in high, fit racks of the standard 19 in width.

## F. M. Feeder Unit

DESIGNED specifically for the B.B.C. experimental transmissions from Wrotham, this unit covers 87.5 to $100 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and comprises an r.f. stage, self-oscillating triode frequency changer, two i.f. amplifiers with a.v.c. to prevent overloading and to minimize aircraft flutter, and a ratio-type discriminator. A cathoderay tuning indicator occupies the centre of the horizontal tuning dial.

The unit has been designed to have good frequency stability after the initial warming up period, and with a field strength of $3 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{m}$ gives an average of 40 mV audio output into 100 k ! !

Wher, required for use in conjunction with existing high-quality amplifiers, such as the Leak TL/ 10 or


Choprnon FM8I feeder unit.

Quad I or II, appropriate power supply and output plugs can be supplied and suitable h.t. dropper resistors included in the set.

The price is $£ 1810 \mathrm{~s}$, and a halfwave dipole aerial with window sill fitting can be supplied for $£ 118 \mathrm{~s} 6 \mathrm{~d}$. If necessary a horizontal $H$ aerial with 5 ft chimney mast and fittings costs $£ 4$ 15s 6 d .

The makers are C. T. Chapman (Reproducers), Lid., Riley Street, London, S.W. 10.

## Minialure Soldering Iron

AN overall length of only 6 in and a weight of only $\frac{1}{2}$ oz are features of a new miniature soldering iron which can be supplied with bits ranging in diameter from in to tin. The loading of the smallest size ( $\frac{1}{8}$-in bit) is 12 watts, while that of the largest is 40 watts. Working voltages range from 6 to 250 V , a.c. or d.c.

Despite their small size it is claimed that the mains element irons can be left switched on while not in actual use for very long periods without coming to harm.

The "Litesold," as the iron is known, is made by Light Soldering Developments, Lid., 106, George Street, Croydon, Surrey, and the

price is 19 s 6d with a fixed -in diameter bit and 21 s 6 d with a replaceable bit. A protecting cap for the bit and element is included.

## Lilliput Lampholders

A RANGE of sub-miniature lampholders described as the Type LES (lilliput Edison screw) conforming to Section E of BS98 as regards lampholder dimensions, has been introduced by A. F. Bulgin and Company. They are available with fixing brackets of five different shapes; one is the baseboard model shown here in its actual size, while the others are shaped for securing to various types of scale and other devices for which illumination is required. Other types of bracket can be supplied by special arrangement.


Bulgin lilliput lampholder Type LES4 shown actual size.

The list price of each of the five normal types is 9 d . The maker's address is Bye lass Road, Barking, Essex.

## Precision Potentiometer

WIRE-WOUND precision potentiometers with linear or graded windings, accurate to one part in $10^{1}$ of a given law, are now obtainable from Salford Electrical Instruments. These find applications in radio compasses, altimeters, prediction and computor equipments as well as in many types of industrial electronic apparatus.
They are made with either toroidal or card windings of from 300 to 50,000 ohms resistance and with a normal rotation of 340 deg , but a full $360-\mathrm{deg}$ movement can be supplied for special purposes.

In the toroidal types the windings range from 1 to $3 \frac{1}{2}$ in in diameter and while these generally fottow a linear law, slight deviations from the linear can be embodied in the winding if necessary.

The strip type, on the other hand, can be supplied with linear or nonlinear windings and made to incorporate functions such as sine-cosine relationships, these being achieved by suitably shaping the winding card and fitting special wiper contacts.

Machines have been developed which will cut several cards at a time to an accuracy of robo in of a


Special sine-cosine potentiometer made by Salford Electrical Instruments.
calculated shape, while other machines wind wire as fine as 0.0006 in in the case of toroids and 0.0008 in for strips.

Tappings are fitted wherever required by a brazing process specially developed to permit attachment of wires to within 0.5 deg of a calculated position.

The maker's address is Peel Works, Silk Strect, Salford 3, Lancs.

## Migh-quality Amplifier

THE Type PF91 amplifier and remote control unit recently introduced by Pye, Cambridge, is designed for high-quality reproduction from gramophone records and radio. It incorporates four alternative equalizer circuits, to compensate for most recording and pickup characteristics in addition to continuously variable bass and treble tone controls and a steep-cut filter for 4,7 and $12 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$.

The power output for less than 0.1 per cent distortion at $1 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ is stated to be 12 watts and hum and noise level -90 db relative to 15 watts.

An interesting feature of the design is the provision of adjustable positive feedback (in addition to the main negative feedback) in order that the effective output impedance may be reduced to zero to improve loudspeaker damping.

The price of the main amplifier (PF91) will be £29 8s and of the pre-amplifier (PF91A) £12 12s.


Pye Type FF9I amplifier and PF9IA pre-amplifier and control unit.

Progress in SOUND

TRIX equipment maintains a long-established tradition of progressive design and high-grade workmanship. There are standard units for every requirement. each a masterly expression of sound-reproduction technique. For large or small installations, our catalogue and expert advice are freely at your disposal.


An economical general purpose amplifier designed for both AC and Battery operation with a simple plug-in adaptor unit, and providing 25 watts output, ample for most general Public Address uses.
Two inputs, for pick-up and microphone, low and high impedance, with mixing controls. Output connections for 8 and 15 ohm speakers, also high impedance 100 volt line. Quality of reproduction is ensured by the incorporation of an adequate output transformer in the push-pull output stage with inverse feedback over 3 stages.
ILIN

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# random radiations 

By "IDALLIST"

## Peace, Perfect Peace

WHAT a joy it is to have two simultaneous f.m. transmissions from Wrotham on most days of the week. The programmes certainly come in free from interference of any kind. That, I'm afraid, is a lot more than can be said for the same programmes as transmitted on the medium or the long waves. With $90-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ f.m., fading, sideband splash, heterodynes, atmospherics and re-radiated interference just don't happen. "Sporadic E" may, I suppose, have dire effects; but I've never experienced them. For some reason that I can't make out I've never yet been able to pick up any of the Continental f.m. broadcasts, though a good many other people have reported them. I should be pretty well placed too. My f.m. dipole is 550 feet above sea-level and it "points" almost straight at Paris. I've tried the $96-\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ neighbourhood time and again during the station's advertised working periods; but not a sniff of a signal can I"get.

## A Wonderful Chance

IT is reported that receivers for the frequency-modulated transmissions on Band II are to be a feature of this year's National Radio Show. I trust that they will include highgrade models, able to do full justice to the quality of these signals with their wide range of modulation frequencies. With a really good receiver, the quality of both speech and music is something of a revelation. To begin with, you have an absolutely silent background, which means that how sound levels in the transmission can be allowed to be really low. In fact, the volume contrasts when an orchestra is playing can be given their full value, with no nced for "compression." And the designers of a.f. circuits and of loudspeakers can let themselves go, knowing that they are dealing with signals worthy of their best. For the first time since broadcasting began, genuine high-fidelity radio has become possible. Let's hope the manufacturers will rise to the occasion by producing reccivers of the luxury class which are real musical instruments. Recalling, though, what the urge for "cheapness first" has done to the sound accompanying
television in so many table model sets, one isn't too optimistic.

## Simple—But it Works

IN the ordinary way I'm not fond of indoor TV aerials; they're too prone to pick up any interference that's going. Still, they come in handy at times. You may, for example, want for one reason or another to use the receiver in a room in which there is no connection to the outdoor aerial. Well, provided that you've an adequate signal, here's a cheap and simple way of rigging up an indoor dipole that will do the trick. The ingredients needed are a length of single flex, p.v.c. covered for choice; an old 4-pin valveholder; a suitable length of the right feeder for the set, with connector; and a pair of battery wander plugs. Cut two lengths of flex, using the formula $\mathrm{L}=$ $231 / f(\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s})$, where $L$ is the length of each piece. Bare one end of each piece, fixing one to the grid terminal and the other to a filament terminal of the valveholder. Connect one wander plug to the inner, and the other to the outer, of the feeder, which we'll suppose to be co-axial cable. And that is practically thar.

To "erect " the aerial, drive a small nail into the picture rail and fasten the end of the flex connected to the filament terminal of the valveholder to it with a piece of string. Fix the valveholder to the wall so that this bit of flex is vertical. Run the other piece of flex along the wall at rightangles to the first and anchor to a nail as before. Stick the wander plug connected to the inner into the socket in the valveholder corresponding to the vertical leg of the dipole and t'other into that corresponding to the horizontal. I trust you'll find, as I do, that you get remarkably good results from this simple arrangement.

## Proof by Nine

MY very best thanks to the army of readers in this country, on the Continent, in the U.S.A. and elsewhere who have sent (and are still sending) me proofs of the Proof by Ninc. It appears that my vague recollection of "casting out the nines" rang the bell. There are many ways of proving the Proof by Nine algebraically: some readers did it in one page; some needed from two to ten pages before they could write Q.E.D. Various proofs appear in a number of published works on arithmetic, or on mathematical curiosities. The basic fact is that if you take any complete number of units, tens, hundreds, thousands . . . the initial digit gives the remainder when that number is divided by nine. Thus: $5 \div 9, R=5 ; 10 \div 9$,

$R=1 ; 200 \div 9, R=2 ; 6,000 \div 9, R=6$. Now $6,215=6,000+200+10+5$; and the remainder when it is divided by 9 must be $6+2+1+5=14$. But 14 divided by 9 gives the remainder $1+4=5$. Hence the continuous addition. We could also work: $6+2+$ $1=9$; cast out the nine; $\mathrm{R}=5$.

## Multiplication

This first step shows that the continuous addition of the digits of any number gives the remainder $R$ when it is divided by 9. Now take two numbers $a$ and $b$ and suppose that $\mathbf{R}_{t}$ is $x$ and $\mathrm{R}_{b}$ is $y$. Then it isn't difficult to prove algebraically that for the product $a b, \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{ab}}=x y$. The Proof by Nine, then, amounts
to this:


Unless the continuous addition of the product of multiplying $a$ by $b$ is equal to $x y$, the answer is wrong; if the two are equal, the answer is right-provided, as I mentioned originally, several "bloomers" are not involved. The Proof by Nine, then, is a quick and sound method of checking multiplications. Even more can be done by casting out the elevens (not the elevenses!) and I leave it to readers to chew that one over for themselves.

## Television in Colour

FROM friends in the U.S.A. I gather that colour television is far from going with the expected bang. There are regular transmissions and receivers are on sale; but buyers are proving coy and their sales resistance high. I'm not surprised at that myself, for the present price of a colour receiver is three to four times that of a monochrome set. The B.B.C. is, I am sure, taking the right line by deciding not to launch colour TV in this country until it is completely satisfied that reliable systems of transmission and reception have been evolved. Nor, I imagine, would the radio industry be greatly interested in the manufacture of domestic receivers unless they could be turned out at not more than double the price of similar black-and-white models. A problem that will take a bit of solving when the time comes is that of servicing the colour sets. There are far too few first-rate servicemen as it is; and jobs such as alignment and fault finding in colour receivers are likely to call for considerably more knowledge and skill than is needed for dealing with the monochrome sets of to-day.


NOT that we neec to blow our own trumper ; indeed, our customers do that for us. But we would like to extol the virtues of these New Universal Multiple Strip Connectors. ...Manufactured from the finest-grade Bakelite Sheet, with rolled buttjointed hollow pins for tip-soldering, and with fully floating self-aligning sockets with integral solder-tags. Both Pins and Sockets are Electrolytically tinned for reliable soldering. Designed for use in electronic equipment requiring multiple connections, and available in 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12 way models. Most competitively priced.


## UNBIASED

## Somnidicta

IT HAS BEEN said that a specialist is one who knows more and more about less and less. This appears to apply with peculiar force to the "big shots" of the medical profession, some of whom seem quite ignorant of the ways in which other branches of science could help them. A leading psychiatrist, who has just published a weighty volume on his own particular subject, does not seem to have heard even of the existence of such very ordinary things as microphones and tape recorders, the use of which would solve at least one difficulty for which he sees no immediate solution.

It appears from his book that a lot could be learned of the causes of a patient's nervous or mental troubles if a careful record could be kept over a long period of the remarks he makes when he talks in his sleep, especially after he has been given a drug to loosen his tongue when in the arms of Morpheus. But it would be very wrong for a wife, for instance, to take a note of the morphic mutterings of her husband and attempt to base a home-made diagnosis upon them, for such "somnidicta" are symbolic rather than factual.

Thus if a man raves in his sleep of the charms of winsome Winnie or gladsome Gladys he is not talking about a contemporary blonde but of something quite different and it takes a specially trained medico to interpret his cryptic utterances. Strangely enough, I can personally confirm this, as a friend of Mrs. Free Grid once confided to her that she was much worried by her sleeping husband's references to Maggic, whom she gathered from his "somnidicta" was very reliable and amenable if you kept her well oiled.

I was fortunately able to save this marriage from disaster by pointing out that a "well-oiled Maggie" re-
ferred to the Marconi magnetic detector of which her husband would have had considerable experience as he was an ex-wireless operator of pre-1920 vintage. The excessive humidity of the tropics was apt to cause the clockwork spring of this famous old detector to rust and break unless a drop or two of the correct grade of oil was applied in due season.

In his book the good doctor bewails the fact that it is obviously impossible for him or any other expert to sit by the patient's bedside night after night to listen to his "symbolic ramblings." Has this scion of a famous medical school never heard of a tape recorder and the "Vogad" principle (used on the transatlantic telephone) whereby the patient's voice could close the switch of the recorder motor and hold it closed so long as he was speaking? Perhaps some manufacturer will market a specially designed somnigraph or somnidictaphone for the use of the medical profession.

## Blind Broadcasting

MANY PEOPLE are of the opinion that ordinary sightless broadcasting will one day disappear and television will reign supreme. I don't agree with this, although I do think that eventually most of us will have TV sets, using the sound channel part of them to listen to those items which do not need a visual accompaniment. All this business of separate wavelengths for "sound-only" sets will eventually die out.

Evidently, however. the Government does not agree with me in this and is of the opinion that "soundonly" broadcasting is doomed to early extinction. If this were nor so I think that the powers-that-be would have made up their minds to break the B.B.C. monopoly of sound broadcasting as well as to remove its stranglehold on TV. The fact that the panjandrums of Parliament are leaving the B.B.C. in undisputed possession of "soundonly "can only mean that they think that the days of this form of broadcasting are numbered and, therefore, it is not worth bothering about.

Such is my opinion, and if I am wrong I think that the Government ought to dispel my illusion, if illusion it be. I do know that many people share my opinion
and when commercial TV gers going I do not think it will take the new Authority long to disparage the B.B.C.'s efforts by taking advantage of its initiais to dub it the Blind Broadcasting Corporation. The younger generation will soon cotton on to this idea and will become firmly convinced that this is indeed what the initials B.B.C. really stand for.

## Wireless for the Deaf

THOSE who have the misfortune to be blind are always sure of receiving the maximum of sympathy and practical help from all classes of the community, but those who are hard-of-hearing are in a far less fortunate position.

It has been my experience that this lack of sympathy with-or at any rate indifference to-the plight of the partially deaf is very real. I little thought, however, that I should read a newspaper report, as I did recently, that a responsible person like a County Court judge had said that the deaf should not be allowed to have a wireless ser. His Honour was dealing with a case in which possession of some roums was sought because the tenan!s, being deaf, operated their set so loudly as to cause disturbance to others in the house.

The fact that deaf people are apt to cause annoyance to others by using their sets at full blast is the fault of all of us who are radio listeners, because we do not help them with their broadcast listening as we do blind people. There are specially designed sets for the blind and an appeal is made every year on Christmas day for money to supply these sets to those who need them. Yet, so far as I am aware, there is no similar fund for supplying special sets for the deaf or to enable them to have their existing sets specially adapred.

It is not sufficient to tell deaf people to connect up a pair of headphones in place of the loudspeaker or to sit with their hearing aid near the loudspeaker. Several manufacturers do market special devices, complete with refinements like a.v.c., for installing in any sound or television set, but such things cannot be cheap while the demand for them remains so limited.

I do wonder, therefore, whether something cannot be done to help deaf listeners in the same way as the blind are assisted There may be organizations which are doing something,* but they do not seem to get much publicity as is obvious from the fact that so many deaf people seem to know of no way to listen to broadcast programmes but the one which called forth the judge's irresponsible remark.

[^8]

THE AUTOMATIC COIL WINDER \& ELECTRICAG EQUIPMENT CO. LTD. A WINDER HOUSE DOUGLAS STREEE TONOON 'SWU!

## Q measurement by Marconi

Famous for years in the field of communication measurement, Marconi Instruments offer TF 329G for determinations in frequency range $50 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $50 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, and TF 886A for the range $15-170 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. While both instruments are primarily designed as direct reading $Q$ meters, either may, of course, be employed for a variety of indirect measurements - such as the capacitance and phase defect of condensers - carried out by the normal reasonance methods. In addition, special jigs are available for TF 329G for the investigation of dielectrics.

TF 329G ; $50 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}-50 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$; $10-500 \mathrm{Q}$; $40-450 \mu \mu \mathrm{~F}$. TF 886A; $15-170 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} ; 60-1200 \mathrm{Q} ; 12-85 \mu \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

May we send you our 44-page booklet
" Measurements by Q Meter"?

## MARCONI <br> INSTRUMENTS

SIGNAL GENERATORS - BRIDGES - VALVE VOLTMETERS FREQUENCY STANDARDS WAVEMETERS • WAVE ANALYSERS - bEAT FREQUENCY OSCILLATORS • Q METERS


In order to meet the requirements of designers for stabilisers with very low regulation voltages, Mullard have added to their range two new tubes, the 108 C 1 and 150 C 2 . They are particularly suitable for simple stabiliser circuits in which a constant output voltage is required over wide variations in input voltage and load current.
The burning voltages of these new stabilisers are 108 V and 150 V as indicated by their respective type numbers, while the current range is 5 to 30 mA in both cases. As shown in the table they are directly interchangeable with American stabilisers OB2 and OA2.
For applications in which long term stability of burning voltage is paramount, designers are, of course, recommended to continue using the well-known stabilisers 90 C 1 and 150 B 2 .
Brief technical details of preferred Mullard voltage stabilisers are shown on this page. Particulars of voltage reference tubes and more comprehensive information on the full range of voltage stabilisers will be gladly supplied on request.

| Mullard Type No. | American Type No. | British Services Type No. | Burning <br> Voltage (V) | Burning Current Range (mA) | Max. <br> Igrition <br> Voltage (V) | Maximus <br> Regulation <br> Voltage (V) | Max. Variation of burning voltage during 1,000 hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 90 Cl | - | - | 90 | 1 to 40 | 128 | 14 | 1\% |
| 108 Cl | OB2 | CV1833 | 108 | 5 to 30 | 130 | 3.5 | 2\% |
| 15082 | - | CV2225 | 150 | 5 to 15 | 180 | 5.0 | $1 \%$ |
| 150C2 | OA2 | CV1832 | 150 | 8 to 30 | 180 | 8.0 | 2\% |

## Mullard



Illustrations by courtesy of Standard Telephones and Cables Limited who say, "These vibrators have been chosen as they give a faithful reproduction of the input wave form and enable high accelerations at any frequency to be obtained."

## with coommans

 RESONANCE NOISE describes a particular factor in a valve which can very seriously impair its otherwise good characteristics. Only when "R.N." is negligible can a valve operate strictly according to its published "curve" and data.Complete investigation of this phenomenon is only possible by subjecting the valve to controlled vibration throughout a wide frequency range. If the valve is operated in a Class A circuit, and the A.C. noise voltage appearing at the anode of the valve is presented on an oscilloscope, a resonance diagram against input frequency can be obtained. By this means it is possible to excite the valve in the range of frequencies 20 to $10,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$, and the resonance noise p erformance checked. By the use of a twin mounting as illustrated, comparisons of valves can be made under identical conditions.

## THERRATOIRS

Just another of the wide applications of Goodmans Vibration Generators. Perhaps "controlled vibration" can serve you also.

The range includes models developing a force of $\pm 300 \mathrm{lbs}$. to the midget model with a force output of $\pm 2 \mathrm{lbs}$. for optical-cell research and hairspring torque testing etc. Full technical data available from " Vibration Division W "



## A COMMON factor

 in UNCOMMON PERFORMANCE
## THE

## wearite TAPEDECK

The reputation of the 'Tapedeck' is so well-known and so firmly established as to call for no extravagance in describing its many virtues. Indeed, it forms the basis of the recorder instruments in common use in the Defence Services of the United Kingdom and many other countries, as well as being the choice of broadcasting Authorities throughout the World.

FERROGRAPH 2A A reasonably inexpensive instrument approaching professional standards with a specification commending it to those engaged in educational and cultural pursuits.

FERROGRAPH MODEL YD A triple-speed instrument designed mainly for use in the scientific and industrial fields. Principally intended for operation from and into 600 ohm lines, a high gain stage has been provided, however, to allow for recording direct from normal microphones.

EQUIPMENT YDC A simultaneous dual-channel RecorderReproducer offering special facilities for analytical research into medical, aeronautical and scientific problems. Any two activities capable of translation into electrical phenomena within the frequency and phase shift limitations can be recorded and replayed simultaneously.

Originators of Tapedecks

 <br> \title{
PR
} <br> \title{
PR
}


## by EXPERIENCE

Your dealer's experience tells him that a satisfied customer is a profitable customer. That is why all dealers naturally prefer to sell products of high performance and reliability. And that is why they use mullard valves for replacement. Backed by over 30 years of valve making experience, Mullard Valves have the finest reputation for consistent quality and performance.

## there is over 30 years' experience behind the Mullard PL81.

## PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF THIS SERVICE ENGINEER

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An extremely sturdy general purpose relay, which is available in a range of contact combinations from I pole normally open to 4 pole changeover, and 6 pole normally open, with a maximum contact rating of ro amps 250 v A.C. Normal power consumption is 3 watts, which can be reduced for the smaller contact assemblies if required. Vacuum impregnated coils can be supplied for tropical or humid conditions.



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by G. A. Briggs \& H. H. Garner. First Edition 10,000 copies now sold out.


## April 1, 1954

## Dear Mr. Briggs,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { From . . . C.H.S., } \\
\text { Palo Alto, } \\
\text { California, }
\end{gathered}
$$ product to write its manufacturer by the purchase of a new for a few weeks after enjoying soon thereafter, offering many times felt for the cannot repress the Super 12/CS/AL into your product. I listened, in speaker made, in fact, to virtually every are very limiteder here; though, sincery 12 and 15 inch comparisons, bed out this way, had to $A-B$ test facilities of "live" symphween concerts, with make most of my For less than douny performances, and that I could recall whose accuracy tortion, appeared farly reduction, and freedd find no one

Because I am inty comparable with the wrom disformance, your little interested in reasons behind warfedale. were of considerably book, and articles in "High such perany other source

I have learned that your prod contributions from somewhat more limited. Which production, from choice, is Why it took me over eight months explains, in great part,
a Super-12. I am San Francisco areas, and by, through the
The only possible crit that I waited. pered by realisassible criticism that
America-stems from that there are other offer-temlocations. I was from the English standard forkets than enclosure to get the spared for this, had to for bolt-hole worth it.

My thanks and warm. But again, it was well
your associates, for taking time to do a job so well. Sir, and Sincerely yours,
C.H.S.

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HSM63 (Midget). Output $250-0-250$ v. $60 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. at 3 amps .,
HS63. Output $250-0-250$ v. $60 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. at 3 amps., 5 v . at

HS40. Windings as above, 4 v . at 4 amps., 4 v . at 2 amps......... Outpue
HS2. $250-0-250$ v. $80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$........................................................ 19
HS3. $350-0-350$ v. $80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 19 / \mathrm{m}$. HS30. $300-0-300 \mathrm{v} .80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$. 19/HS2X. 250-0-250 v. $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 21 /$. HS75. 275-0-275 v. 100 Hs30x. $300-0-300$ v. $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$, , $21 / \mathrm{m} . \mathrm{HS3x} .350-0-350 \mathrm{v}$ $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$.

## Fully Shrouded

FSM63 (Midget). Output 250-0-250 v. $60 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. at 3 amps . 5 v. 2 amps. Output
FS2. $250-0-250$ v. $80 \mathrm{~m} /$
FS30. $300-0-300$ v. $80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}, 21 / \mathrm{FS} 3.350-0-350 \mathrm{v}, 80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$ FS2X. 250-0-250 v. $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$, , 23/\%. FS75. 275-0-275 v. 100 FS30X. $300-0-300$ v, $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}, 23 / \%$, FS3x, $350-0-350$ v, 100
$\qquad$ All the above have $6.34-0$ v. at 4 amps., $5-4-0 \mathrm{v}$. at 2 amps.
FS43. Output $425-0-425 \mathrm{v} .200 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$., $6.3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{amps}$. . C.T. 6.3 v . 4 amps., C.T. 5 v .3 amps. Fully shrouded
FS50. Output $450-0-450$ v. $250 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$., 6.3 v. 2 amps., C.T. 6.3 v 4 amps., C.T. 5 v. 3 amps. Fully shrouded
F35X. Output $350-0-350$ v. $250 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v} .6 \mathrm{amps} ., 4 \mathrm{v} .8 \mathrm{amps}$, $4 \mathrm{v}, 3 \mathrm{amps} ., 0-2-6.3 \mathrm{v}, 2 \mathrm{amps}$. Fuily shrouded
FSI 60 X . Output $350-0-350 \mathrm{v} .160 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} .6 .3 \mathrm{v} .6 \mathrm{amps}, 6.3 \mathrm{v}$ 3 amps., 5 v. 3 amps. Fully shrouded
FS43X. Output 425-0-425 v. $250 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}_{\text {, }} 6.3 \mathrm{v}, 6$ amps,, 6.3 v 6 amps., 5 v. 3 amps. Fully shrouded
HS6. Output $250-0-250$ v. $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. 6 amps., C.................................. 3 amps. For receiver R1355. Half shroyded
HSI50. Output $350-0-350$ v. $150 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}, 6.3 \mathrm{v} .3$ amps., C.T........
 F36. Output $250-0-250$ v. $100 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}, 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. 6 amps., C.T. 5 v 3 amps. Fully shrouded .......................................................................... FSI20. Output $350-0-350$ v. $120 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$, , $6.3 \mathrm{v} .2 \mathrm{amps} .$, C.T. 6.3 v 2 amps., C.T. 5 v. 3 amps. Fully shrouded ............................ FS256. Output $250-0-250$ v. $80 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$., 6.3 v . at $6 \mathrm{amps}, \mathrm{f}$ v. at 3 amps. Fully shrouded
PRI/I. Output 230 v. at $30 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}, 6.3$ v. at $1.5 / 2 \mathrm{amps}$..
FSIS0. $350-0-350$ v. $150 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$, , 6.3 v. $4 \mathrm{amps} ., 5 \mathrm{v} .3$ amps.
FSI50X. Output $350-0-350 \mathrm{v}$, at $150 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$., 6.3 v , at 2 amps. C.T. 6.3 v . at 2 amps ., C.T. 5 v . at 3 amps . Fully shrouded.. The above have inputs of $200 / 250 \mathrm{v}$.

## OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

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FU24, 0-12-24 v. @) amp
F5. 6.3 v . @ 10 amps or 5 v . @ 10 amps ., or 12.6 v . @ 5 amps ., or 10 v .@ 5 amps.
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| MA5 |
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| Lowther AM/FM Tuner |
| Leak |
| TLl0 Amp. \& Pre-amp. Tuner Unit |
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| RD Junior Corner Horn . . . . Junfor Tuner Unit |
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| Ra1 8.valve Superiet |
| RFi TRF Tuner |
| A8 Amplider |
| Chapman |
| AM/FM Tuner |
| S4 Tuner ... |
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Axiom 22 :

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W12CS
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Golden 10
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$\begin{array}{lllllllll}£ 33 & 10 & 0 & 90 /- & £ 11 & 3 & 4 & 42 / 5 & 28 / 6 \\ £ 27 & 10 & 0 & 73 / 6 & £ 8 & 3 & 4 & 36 /- & 25 /=\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{rrrrlrlll}£ 9 & 15 & 0 & 26 / 9 & £ 3 & 5 & 0 & 14 / 2 & 9 / 8 \\ 212 & 6 & 6 & 33 / 6 & £ 4 & 2 & 6 & 16 / 11 & 12 / 6 \\ £ 6 & 13 & 3 & 1819 & £ 2 & 4 & 5 & 10 / 9 & 7 / 8 \\ £ 7 & 13 & 3 & 21 / 6 & £ 2 & 11 & 1 & 11 / 10 & 8 / 3 \\ £ 4 & 12 & 8 & 14 / / & £ 1 & 10 & 11 & 8 / 2 & 5 / 9 \\ & & & & & & & \\ £ 2 & 10 & 6 & 8 / 6 & & 16 & 10 & 6 /- & 4 / 2 \\ £ 3 & 0 & 6 & 9 / 8 & £ 1 & 0 & 2 & 6 / 6 & 4 / 6 \\ £ 3 & 7 & 0 & 10 / 8 & £ 1 & 2 & 4 & 66 / 1 & 4 / 10 \\ £ 3 & 13 & 6 & 11 / 6 & £ 1 & 4 & 6 & 7 / 3 & 5 / 2\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrr}£ 13 & 9 & 6 & 36 / 3 & £ 4 & 10 & 0 & 18 /- & 12 / i \\ £ 23 & 8 & 11 & 64 /- & £ 7 & 16 & 4 & 30 /- & 21 / / \\ £ 10 & 6 & 1 & 27 / 6 & 23 & 8 & 9 & 14 / 9 & 10 / 3 \\ £ 16 & 10 & 0 & 43 / 9 & £ 5 & 10 & 0 & 21 / 8 & 15 / / \\ £ 9 & 4 & 11 & 25 / 6 & £ 3 & 1 & 4 & 13 / 3 & 9 / 2 \\ 212 & 18 & 0 & 34 / 8 & £ 4 & 6 & 0 & 17 / 8 & 12 / 4 \\ £ 2 & 11 & 1 & 21 /- & £ 2 & 10 & 4 & 11 / 8 & 8 / 1 \\ £ 9 & 9 & 6 & 26 / 2 & £ 3 & 3 & 2 & 14 /- & 9 / 6 \\ £ 32 & 0 & 0 & 85 / 6 & £ 10 & 13 & 4 & 42 /- & 29 /-\end{array}$

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# 25th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE BRITISH PLASTICS July 19.54 

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...that we reproduce all the letters of appreciation we receive. But when one like this turns up what can we do?

> 261 Heather Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

Dear Sir,
I do a great deal of record reproducing as a pastime I have already made a corner cabinet for the Audiom 60 and the sound production is simply marvellous, and in my honest opinion I think it is superb.

I have had all different types but never have I found anything to equal the Audiom type of reproducer.

What other loudspeaker could bring forth greater genuine praise? -except, perhaps, another Goodmans' High Quality reproducer. What immense versatility this high-powered, single cone AUDIOM 60 has! The secret?fine sensitivity plus robust construction. The AUDIOM 60 will work as well from a domestic radio receiver as it does in an Electronic organ. For radio and record reproduction of varied input, it will reduce background noise encountered in the playing of vintage recordings-and morebecause of its low harmonic and intermodulation distortion the AUDIOM 60 is extensively used as a bass unit in cross over networks, whilst its success as a P.A. unit is widely acclaimed.

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THE PF9I amplifier, with its PFgrA remote control unit, is the culmination of many years of research into the problem of Hi Fi reproduction. Its performance will astound the ordinary listener and critical engineer alike. Record players, tape recorders, microphones or radio tuners can be used with the PFgI-a versatile and practical unit for those who demand perfect sound reproduction in the home, the school, the broadcasting studio or the social club.

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If you would like a demonstration at a Pye Dealer's in your area, please place a tick in this box $\qquad$

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POWER AMPLIFIER PF9I.
26 db negative feedback and an ouput from 2 c.p.s. to 160,000 c.p.s. (over I6 octaves).
A combination of negative and positive feedback raises the damping factor of the amplifier to infinity thereby ensuring full control of loudspeaker speech coil movement.

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The output transformer is a specially designed component to meet the exacting specification of the amplifier.

The Power Amplifier is capable of handling peak power pulses in excess of the maximum rating without noticeable distortion.

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This unit allows remote control of the amplifier up to a distance of 20 ft . ( 6 m ).

Cathode follower output from the Remote Control unit reduces cable losses when the Power Amplifier is remotely controlled.

Four switched inputs and the choice of three equalisation networks for L.P., N.A.B, and 78 recording characteristics.

Continuously variable lift and cut controls for bass and treble with clearly marked level positions.

Incorporates a treble filter control, giving three sharp cut-off trequencies and an unrestricted response position.

The Pre-Amplifier incorporated ensures sufficient gain on all inputs for the full loading of the Power Amplifier.

## incorporating the outstanding PYE PF91 amplifier

## the Layton Trolleygram <br> registered trade mark

We have been so impressed with the Pye PF91 Amplifier that we have decided to make it the nucleus of a new high fidelity service. The first in this range is the Layton Trolleygram designed specially to house this remarkable Amplifier together with its associated equipment. Ask us to send you details if you are at all interested or, better by far, visit us and see and hear it in our showrooms.

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This preamplifier is eminently suitable for use with all high-grade amplifiers, pick-ups and tape recorders. Built with engineering precision, employing sub-miniature valves and components of the highest quality it represents the best value obtainable to-day.


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Less than 3 ohms.
Approximately 2 mV R.M.S.
All circuits isolated from earth. Heater supply can be operated at up to 500 volts from earth.
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Special features of the GFR 552 include a high order of oscillator stability and freedom from cross-modulation through which cross-talk between channels or intermodulation between wanted and unwanted signals might occur. A brief technical summary is given below. More detailed information supplied on request.
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SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO- $25 d B$ for 4 microvolts peak sideband indut over the band.
SELECTIVITY-The response is flat within $2 d B$ for sideband frequencies between $100 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ and $6000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. At Io $\mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ from the carrier frequency the response is -60 dB relative to the pass band. A.F.C.-The a.f.c. system operates effectively with a pilot carrier level of -26 dB relative to $I$ microvolt (which corresponds to a peak sideband level of I microvolt and a signal to noise ratio of $I 5 \mathrm{~dB}$ ).
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OUTPUT-Variable up to +14 dB relative to I mW into 600 ohms.



# Output Level Stabilised to $\pm \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{db}$ 

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Frequency Range :
Frequency Stability:
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Stabilisation:
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1 part in 400 for $\pm 10 \%$ mains
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3 ohms.
Source Impedance:
Hum Level:
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$\mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$.
Price $£ 30$


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© D.C. Output Series Condition: $0-1000,0-300 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$.
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Designed to meet the demand for an efficlent variable ratio Output Transformer. 11 ratios from 13:1 to $80: 1$ all centre tapped and can be uned to match any output valves either single. or push-pull Class "A A AB1 Abbluatlon thereot. Primary Inductance 00 hearies 15 watts andio 100 mA . Price $45 /-$.

## LOUDSPEAKERS

ELAC-2 $\ddagger$ in, dia., Moving Coil, 15 ohm imp PLESSEY $\rightarrow$ 3ia. dla., Moving Coil, 3 obms imp ELAC- $3 \frac{1}{2}$ in. dia., Moving Coil, 3 ohms Imp. . GOODMANS - - 5 in . dia., Moving Coll, 3 ohms imp. ELAC-Sin. dia. , Moving Coti, 3 ohms imp. PLESSEY-8in. dia., Mains Energhed, 3 ohm PLESSEY-8in. dia., Maing Energised, 3 ohme
imp. ( 600 obme deld) with Pentode Transformer PLESSEY-8in. dia., Mains Energised, 8 ohms PLESSEY ( 600 othas diaid $)$
imp.
PESSEY -PLESSEY-bola. dia. Moving Coll, 3 ohms imp. . GOODMANS-121n. dia., Moving Coil, 15 ohms VITAVOX-K12/20 121n. dia., Moving Coll
 Plus $5 /$ packing and carriage

## SPECIAL OFFER

A 12in. TRUVOX P.M. SPEAKER (2-3 ohm Voice Coil)
new in Maker's Cartons

47/6
15/-
$9 / 11$
15/$15 / 6$ 19/6 22/6 $19 / 6$ 16 £8/8


CRYSTAL HAND MICROPHONE
High Impedance. Excellent frequency response, light weight. Gives very high quality resulte when used with tape recorder, amplifed for any type of P.A. equipment. Complete
Price $22 / 6$.

## CRYSTAL MICROPHONE

An ontirely insulatod crystal microphone which can be safely used on A.C.fD.C. ampilferw. High Impedarice. No background nolse, really natural tone. The Ideal

## PREMIER RADIO COMPANY




GRAMOPHONE CABINETS - Portable By famous mamuracturere Rexine covered, including Rexine
wooden movered board.
macluating
cutide dimens.: Hgtt. (When olosed) 5 in.,1ength 15 in , depth $18 \frac{1}{2}$., Clearance space, undermotor board when closed 24 in.

Carrying handle and clip supplied free. SPECIAL OFFER
PREMIER MAINS TRANSFORMERS
All primarles are tapped for $200.230-250$ v. naing $40-100$ All primarles are tapped for $200 \cdot 230$
eycles. Alf primaries are sereened SP175B, $175-0-175,50 \mathrm{~mA}$. 4 v . @. 1
2-3 a. ................................. 4 v. (B SP350A, 250-0-250, 100 mA , $\overline{0}$ v. (3) $2-3 \mathrm{a} ., 6.3$ v. (@P 2 2-3 a
SP351, $350-0.550,150 \mathrm{~mA}, 4$ v. (a) $1-2$ a., 4 ซ. (3)
$2-3 \mathrm{a}, 4$. $2-3 \mathrm{a},{ }^{4}$ r. @ ${ }^{2-6} \mathrm{a}$.
SP352, $350 \cdot 0 \cdot 350,150$. SP352, 3 र0-0.35
6.3 v. 2-4 a.

 SP501A, $500-0-500,150 \mathrm{~mA}$., 5 v. (ac 2-3 a.......... v . (a) $2 \cdot 3 \mathrm{a} .6 .3 \mathrm{v}$, (9) $2-3 \mathrm{a}$.

SP425A, $425-0-425,200 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v. (a) $2-3$ a., $B .3 \mathrm{v}$ @ $3.5 \mathrm{a}, 5$
$250-0-250,80$. @ 2.5 a . $2500-0-130,80$ ma., 6.3 v. @ 4 a., 5 v. ब 2 a.


RECTIFIERS

A.C.R.I. C.R. TUBES
${ }_{5}+1 \mathrm{In}$. screen. 4 volt Heater. This Electrostatic Tube ${ }_{10}^{18}$ recommended as eminently suitable for Televislon., $15 /$ - plus $2 / 6$ Pkg., carr. and Ins. Datà eheets supplied.


## "MASTERADIO" VIBRATOR PACK

6 v . input 180 v .35 mA . output com. plete with valve rectlier and leads, 39/6. Plus $5 /$ - pkg., carr.

## ALUMINIUM CHASSIS 18 s.w.g.

| abstantiall | 4/- | $10 \times 8 \times 31 \mathrm{n}$. | . .... |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\times 31 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$ |  |  |  |
| $7 \times 3 \pm \times 2 \mathrm{im}$ | 318 | $12 \times 10 \times 31 \mathrm{n}$ | $7 / 8$ |
| 9\% $\times 4.8$ |  | $14 \times 10 \times 3$ in | . .. \%/11 |
| $12 \times 8 \times 2$ | 7. | $16 \times 10 \times 31 \mathrm{n}$ | 2. ${ }^{\text {d/3 }}$ |
| $14 \times 9 \times 2$ 洔. | 716 | $16 \times 8 \times 21 \mathrm{n}$ | . .. 8/= |
| ALUMINIUM |  | PANELS 18 s.w.g. |  |
| $7 \times 8 \mathrm{in}$. | 1/3 | $7 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. | 1/- |
| $91 \times 6 \mathrm{mp}$. | 1/8 | $91 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$, | 1/5 |
| $10 \times 9 \mathrm{in}$. | $2 / 2$ | $10 \times 7 \mathrm{in}$. | $1 / 11$ |
| $12 \times 91 \mathrm{n}$. | $2 / 8$ | $12 \times 7 \mathrm{ln}$. | $2 / 5$ |
| $14 \times 818$. | 3/2 | $14 \times 7 \mathrm{ln}$. | $2 / 11$ |
| $16 \times 9$ in. | 318 | $16 \times 7 \mathrm{in}$. | $3 / 5$ |
| $20 \times 91 \mathrm{n}$. | 418 | $20 \times 7 \mathrm{n}$. | 41 |
| $28 \times 91 \mathrm{n}$. | 5/2 | $22 \times 7 \mathrm{in}$. | 4/11 |

## H.T. ELIMINATOR AND <br> TRICKLE CHARGER KIT

All parts to conatruct an elluminator to give an oot put of 1220 volta at 20 mA ., and 2 volts to charyo an accumulator. Uses metal rectifier, $37 / 6$.

Famous Manufacturer's Surplus of ANTI-INTERFERENCE AERIALS
offered at a fraction of original cost


The aerial is designed for reception of long, medium and short waves, with any ordlanry or communications recelver, having an Input impedance greater than 1,000 ohms long/medium waves and 180 ohms short wsives. The Installation discriminates against locally genernted electrical isterference, especially on the short wave bands. The equipment enables the Iastallation of an
$8.3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ flativ-tuned dipole which $8.3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ flatiy-tuned dipole which operates as a '"T' aerial on morivmer are with a 70 ohma co-axial cable.

COMPONENT PARTS
Aluminium Aerlal Transformer Assembly. Comprising one each; Aluminlum transformer, Transformer clip Rubber sucker, bolt, 4BA nut.
etc.; Porcelain Insul. Complete with Insulators, clipe Wire, 60 ft . Screened Co-Axial Down lead.
Instailation instruction leafictincluded.
LESS CO-AXIAL CABLE \& AERIAL WIRE, 15/-, plus $1 / 6 \mathrm{pkg}$, and carr
COMPLETE 35/-, plus $1 / 6$ pkg. and carr.
GARRARD Rim Drive 78 r.p.m., complete
with magnetic plck-up and turntable
Packing and carriage on the above unit $2 / 6$

## MAINS NOISE ELIMINATOR KIT

 Two specially designed chokes with three smoothing conde. Can be agsembled inglde eristiag receiver a/11 plus \&d. pkg. nad carr.Germanium Crystal Dlodes. G.E.C. wire ended, $\overline{2 / 6}$ 24/-doz.

## Announcing the Premier Personal Payment plans!

## CASH, CREDIT OR HIRE PURCHASE

CREDIT
A deposit of $\frac{1}{8}$ of cash price secures the equipment, and the balance plus charges is spread over 9 equal payments.

## HIRE PURCHASE <br> A deposit of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the cash price secures the equipment, and the balance plus charges is spread over 12 monthly payments.

A selection of recommended items is detailed below.


## Its the MAG that does it!



Automatically handling 10 Records $7^{\prime \prime}, 10^{\prime \prime}$ and $12^{\prime \prime}$, with 3 seconds changeover, providing uninterrupted armchair entertainment for up to 5 hours-that's the Monarch 'Magidisk' performance! Tested and proved reliable by radiogram manufacturers, applauded by gramophone experts, this unique feature is only one of the many attributes for enthusiasts in the Monarch Record Changer. It is the leading automatic electrical high fidelity record reproducer which is giving pleasure to millions all over the world.

10 IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES
*Plays 10 mixed diameter records at 33 \&. 45 or 78 r.p.m.

* "Magidisk" automatically selects $7^{\prime \prime}$, $10^{\circ}$ and $12^{*}$ discs.
*Pick Up returned and motor switched off after last record.
*Extended frequency range dual sapphire styli Pick Up.
*Simple unit control 'ON'. 'OFF'. 'REJECT' and speed switch.
$\star$ Fitted anti-acoustic feed back suspension springs.
\$Compact overall dimensions ideal for radiogram. T.V. console and portable player.
*Turntable rim driven by vibration damped induction motor eliminating rumble and "wow'.
$\star 10^{*}$ diameter heavy steel recessed turntable with rubber mat.
$\star$ Beautifully styled smooth, modern lines: faultless finish.


## Wirpeless World

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RADIO, T ELEEVISION
AND ELECTRONICS
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44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Managing Editor : HUGH S. POCOCK, M.I.E.E.
Editor: H. F. SMITH
JULY 1954

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## VALVES, THBES \& CHRCUIT"S

## 19. ECC85: COMBINED R.F. AMPLIFIER AND MIXER FOR BAND II F.M. RECEPTION

Preliminary Valve Data

| HEATER |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $V_{h}$ | 6.3 V |
| in | 0.435 A |
| CAPACITANCES |  |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Ca}-\mathrm{B}$ | 1.5 pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Cg}$-( $\mathrm{k}+\mathrm{h}+\mathrm{s}$ ) | 3.0 pF |
| * $\mathrm{ca}_{\text {a-k }}$ | 0.17 pF |
| ${ }^{*} \mathrm{c}_{\text {a }}-(\mathrm{k}+\mathrm{h}+\mathrm{s}$ ) | 1.2 pF |
| ${ }^{*}{ }^{*} x^{\prime}-\left(k^{\prime}+h+s\right)$ | 1.9 pF |
| ${ }^{*}{ }^{*} \mathrm{a}^{*}{ }^{*}-\left(k^{*}+h+s\right)$ | 1.8 pF |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime}-\mathrm{a}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.04 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| - "Ca'-a" | $<0.008 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{ca}^{\prime}-\mathrm{k}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.008 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cg}^{\prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.003 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.008$ pF |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime \prime}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime}$ | $<0.008 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{Ca}^{\prime \prime}{ }^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{k}^{\prime}$ | $<0.008 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cag}^{\prime}$ - $\mathrm{k}^{\prime \prime}$ | $<0.003 \mathrm{pF}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cg}^{\prime \prime}$ - $\mathbf{k}^{\prime}$ | $<0.003 \mathrm{pF}$ |

$\mathrm{Cg}^{\prime \prime}$ - $\mathbf{k}^{\prime}$ $<0.003$ pF
*Each section
**Measured with an external shield

## CHARACTERISTICS

| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 250 | V |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{l}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 10 | mA |
| $\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{g}}$ | -2.3 | V |
| gm | $6.0 \mathrm{~mA} / \mathrm{V}$ |  |
| $\mu$ | 57 |  |

OPERATING CONDITIONS
R.F. Amplifier

| $\mathrm{Vb}_{\mathrm{b}}$ | 250 | V |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{Va}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 230 | V |
| $\mathrm{l}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 10 | mA |
| $\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{g}}$ | -2.0 | V |
| gm | $6.0 \mathrm{~mA} / \mathrm{V}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{ra}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 9.0 | $\mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
|  | Self-Oscillating | Mixer |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{b}}$ | 250 | V |
| $\mathrm{Ra}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 12 | $\mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{g}}-\mathrm{k}$ | 1.0 | $\mathrm{M} \Omega$ |
| $\mathrm{l}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 5.2 | mA |
| $\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{osc}(\mathrm{r}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{s} .)}$ | 3.0 | V |
| ge | $2.3 \mathrm{~mA} / \mathrm{V}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{ra}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | 20 | $\mathrm{k} \Omega$ |


| LIMITING VALUES (each section) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $V_{\text {a }}(\mathrm{b})$ max. | 550 | $\checkmark$ |
| $V \mathrm{tax}$ ma | 300 | V |
| pa max. | 2.5 | W |
| $\mathrm{pa}^{\prime}+\mathrm{pa}^{\prime \prime}$ max. | 4.5 | W |
| Ik max. | 15 | mA |
| $-V_{g}$ max. | 100 | $\checkmark$ |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{g}-\mathrm{k}}$ max. | 1.0 | $M \Omega$ |
| Vh-k max. | 90 | V |
| Rh-k max. | 20 | k $\Omega$ |
| BASE | B9A |  |

It is essential when designing F.M. receivers for operation at V.H.F. to reduce noise in the input stages and radiation from the local oscillator by including an R.F. amplifier before the frequency changer. A triode is preferred for the R.F. stage because it has better noise properties than a pentode. The Mullard double triode type ECC85 has been specially designed for the 'front-end" stages in F.M. reception. One triode section is used as the low-noise amplifier and the other triode section follows it as a self-oscillating additive mixer. With this arrangement both oscillator radiation and noise are reduced by feeding the signal from the R.F. stage to a null point on the oscillator coil.

The outstanding feature of the ECC85 is that extensive internal sereening has been provided to reduce the capacitance between the anodes to less than 0.04 pF , so that in a suitable circuit the oscillator radiation can be made lower than with any double triode previously available. This capacitance can be reduced to less than 0.008 pF by surrounding the valve with a screening can 22.5 mm in diameter. The front-end stages are thus separated effectively without the cost of using two separatc triodes. These measures are completely satisfactory in reducing oscillator radiation to an acceptable value, since only a relatively low oscillator voltage is required to drive the mixer. In addition to having high slope and input resistance, the ECC85 has an amplification factor of 57.
A typical circuit for the ECC85 is given below in which the R.F. section is operated with a grounded grid and the mixer with a grounded cathode. A grounded-grid circuit has the advantage of being more easily adjusted than one which requires special measures to neutralise the anode-to-grid capacitance. Any additional gain which might be obtained from more complex circuits is not necessary, and in fact the input coils L1, L2 can be matched for minimum noise rather than maximum power. The frequency changer input is taken from a tap on the R.F. coil, L4, in order to increase the R.F. gain and also to ensure that the required frequency range is covered by the $2-12 \mathrm{pF}$ tuning capacitor. The oscillator circuit is anode-tuned and is coupled to the anode by a 17 pF capacitor which because it presents a low impedance to an intermediate frequency of, say, $10.7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ also tunes the I.F. transformer. Internal anode-togrid capacitance in the mixer triode, which might reduce the amplification, is neutralised by applying an I.F. feedback voltage to the grid.


Reprints of this advertisement together with additional data may be obtained free of charge from the address below:


| BRIMAR | MULLARD | MARCONI <br> OSRAM | COSSOR <br> EMITRON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $12 A T 7$ | ECC8I | B152 \& B309 | 12AT7 |

Standard Telephones and Cables Linited FOOTSCRAY, KENT. FOOtscray 3333

## Use the BRIMAR 12AT7

with improved performance
at
NO EXTRA COST


## SPECIFICATION

Output level: - 55 db . ref. I volt/dyne/ $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$.
Nominal capacity: 002 mfd .
Ommi-directional frequency response: Substantially flat from 30-7,000 c/s.
Recommended load resistance : Not less than I megohm dependent on the low frequency response required.
always well ahead


## "BELLING-LEE" NOTES

## Band III Television Aerials

There is no problem in producing Band III aerials as such. With our associates overseas we have in fact made comparable aerials in considerable numbers. We were the first to show a production model at the Radio Show two years ago, incidentally the first Band III aerial to be shown at any British Radio Exhibition.

Before we feel that we can offer Band III aerials for sale, we must have certain confirmed details of the transmitters (1) siting (2) polarisation (3) power and (4) mast height.

Our development policy is quite clear: we have in fact made every type of aerial that will be required, but it would be wrong of us to guess what type of aerial to sell for use in any particular locality.

As the acknowledged leaders in technical development, our services are more and more called upon by the highest possible authorities in the country. We can assure everyone that we will make Band III aerials available in sufficient quantities and in plenty of time to meet requirements.

It would be very easy to sell Band III aerials for use in say, London, Birmingham and Manchester but we would be unable to give any assurance that we were selling the correct type.

## Designed for a purpose

In the March issue of the " Wireless World," we told readers of the varying results that were obtainable from aerials fairly close to each other. We showed how it was that a lower gain aerial could provide better results than a more sensitive aerial, due to standing waves. The result of these effects sometimes gave users the impression that there were better aerials than those manufactured by "Belling-Lee," but on investigation, almost invariably the alleged improvement was due, either to the faulty erection or to the bad sitin? of our product. Quite recently $x$ most interesting case of this type came to our notice. We heard of a 3-element array with a folded dipole giving better

## COAXIAL OUTLET SOCKETS for TV installations <br>  <br> L 735 OUTLET SOCKET <br> BOX A new, improved single outlet box in an attractive bronze finish for neat termination at the skirting board. Accommodates $\frac{5}{16}$ in. dia. feeder. Designed for use with the range of plugs L734/P, L78I, etc., and also the "Belling-Lee" line attenuator. <br> L 763 DOUBLE OUTLET SOCKET BOX Has two standard outlet sockets and a " star " matching network which provides the coupling. When two receivers are connected, the input to each is 6 dB down on the input to box. For demonstration rooms, workshops and laboratories, etc., or where neighbours wish to share an aerial installation. <br> L 742 6-WAY DISTRIBUTION SOCKET BOX For use in demonstration rooms, workshops, etc., where up to six television receivers are required to operate at the same time without interaction. As the insertion loss at each outlet is considerable ( 25 dB ), it should only be used where a high signal level is available. <br> BEMNNG C LEE HD <br> great cambridge rd., enfield, middx., encland <br> 

results than a "Belling-Lee" "Junior Multirod." Now we knew this could not be, so we set out to investigate the matter. The situation was a bad one, on the wrong side of a hill and the results were very poor. The first thing we looked at was the connection to the matching transformer. The entire transformer had been removed and nobody would accept the responsibility for the missing part. When a transformer was sonnected as laid down in the instructions, up came the signal, very much better both on sound and vision than the other array. Admittedly the picture had a lot of grain, as the situation was a very bad one and the available signal was weak, but no better
signal could be found with any other aerial.
We have mentioned the question of the matching unit before. If only people would read instructions; we can just see a not very technical rigger looking at a stub transformer, wondering what it is, and removing it. The only time you remove the built-in matching stub is when the aerial is being used with a mast head pre-amplifier. But we repeat, do read the instructions, if only to make sure that there has not been some modification since the last one you saw or used.

## Advertisement of

belling \& Lee ltd.
Great Cambridge Rd., Enfield, Middx. Written 24th May, 1954.

## Clearly-you get better pictures with this ALUMINIZED cathode ray tube

You cannot beat the new Ediswan Mazda Aluminized Cathode Ray Tubes for picture quality or length of life. Ediswan Aluminizing gives $60 \%$ brighter pictures with greater depth of contrast. The improved ion trap tetrode electron gun effectively traps harmful ions within the tube. Ediswan production methods, including the special in-line exhausting process, guarantee a higher, more uniform standard of efficiency. For complete satisfaction recommend Ediswan Mazda cathode ray tubes.


## Quicker Service

Ediswan are the only company to have 6 fully equipped cathode ray tube service Depots throughout Great Britain, thus providing better, quicker tube testing should the need arise. Also, 18 Ediswan District Offices carry stocks of tubes.

## EDISWAN <br> MAZDA ALUMINIZED CATHODE RAY TUBES

THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED 155 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, and branches Member of the A.E.I. Group of Companies

## Frequency-Shift

## Diplex Drive and <br> Keying Equipment

## TYPE HD 61

Diplex or twin-channel Frequency-Shift Keying is a development of the singlechannel FSK system which has proved its advantages in recent years. Diplex FSK enables two simultaneous frequency-shift telegraph channels to be operated on a single CW transmission. The Type HD 61 equipment illustrated is designed for keying most class C transmitters, including the Marconi ${ }^{\circ}$ S.W.B. series, by the diplex frequency-shift system. It also provides single-channel FSK for telegraphy and on-off keying of CW. Any one of six pre-set crystal controlled frequencies may be instantaneously selected.


COMPLETE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
Surveyed, planned, installed, maintained

## As One Man

## VORTEXION



TAPE RECORDER

* The noise levei is extremely low and audibly the hum level and Johnson noise of the amplifier and deck are approximately equal. Only $25 \%$ of this small amount of hum is given by the amplifier alone.
* Extremely low distortion and background noise, with a frequency response of $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. $-10 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$., plus or minus 1.5 db . A meter is fitted for the measurement of signal level and bias level.
* Sufficient power is available for recording on disc, either direct or from the tape, without additional amplifiers.
* A heavy mu-metal shielded microphone transformer is built in for $15-30$ ohms balanced and screened line, and requires only 7 micro-volts approximately to fully load.
* The .5 megohm input is fully loaded by 18 millivolts and is suitable for crystal P.U.s, microphone or radio inputs.
* A power plug is provided for a radio feeder unit, etc. Variable bass and treble controls are fitted for control of the play back signal.
* The power output is 3.5 watts heavily damped by negative feedback and an oval internal speaker

The amplifier, speaker and case, with detachable lid, measures $8 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in} . \times 22 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . \times 15 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in}$. and weighs 30 lb .

PRICE, complete with WEARITE TAPE DECK ......................................... $£ 8400$
is built in for monitoring purposes.

* Facilities are provided for using the amplifier alone and using power output or headphones while recording or to drive additional amplifiers.
* The unit may be left running on record or play back even with $1,750 \mathrm{ft}$. reels with the lid closed.

POWER SUPPLY UNIT to work from 12 volk Bateryy with an output of 230 v ., 120 watts , 50 cycles within $1 \%$. Suppressed for use with Tape Recorder. PRICE f 18000 .

## TYPE C.P.20A AMPLIFIER

For A.C. Mains and 12 volt working giving 15 watts output, has switch change-over from A.C. to D.C. and "Stand-by" positions. Consumes only $5 \frac{1}{2}$ amperes from 12 volt battery. Fitted with mu-metal shielded microphone transformer for 15 ohm microphone, provision for crystal or moving iron pick-up with tone control for bass and top. Outputs for 7.5 and 15 ohms. Complete in steel case with valves. PRICE $£ 30160$.


Manufactured by


The equipment provides a television picture of exceptionally high quality from 16 mm . films and $2 \times 2$ in. miniature film slides. A 'fast pull down' type of film projector is used and a similar mechanism serves for television systems having field repetition rates of either 50 or 60 fields per second. Thus any type of fixed or moving prism system is obviated.

The 16 mm . Projector, Turret Slide Scanner, Optical Change-over Assembly, Flying Spot Scanning Unit and the PEC Amplifier are mounted on top of the steel cabinet which houses the auxiliary units and power units.

The equipment can be fully controlled locally and remote controlled for stopping and starting of the film projector, change-over from film to slides and selection of any one of eight slides.

Editions of the BD 678 are available for 405, 525 , or 625 line systems

## MARCONI

## Complete Broadcasting and Television Systems

Marconi Equipment has been installed in every one of the B.B.C. Television transmitter stations and in the U.S.A., South America, Canada, Italy and Thailand

# MODERN TELEVISION TECHNIQUE FHINGEAREA RECEPTION 

Before setting out to design a receiver for Fringe Areas, a number of tests were made to determine the requirements. The first showed that increased gain, whilst essential, was not in itself enough and that a reduction in the bandwidth was detrimental.

Under these severe conditions the noise grain produced by a high gain wide band vision receiver consists of a very fine dot structure which disappears when viewed at the correct distance, i.e. when the lines are not noticeable. The narrow band receiver on the other hand produces a much coarser grain, and this is far more visible and objectionable.
The limit of gain is set at some point where the amplified signal is considerably less than the aggregate of noise due to cosmic radiation, man-made static and receiver noise. A picture under these conditions has but two tones, grey, and noise modulated by whiter than grey signals. Its entertainment value over long periods may be doubtful, but it is still possible to derive information from it and many viewers in remote areas are prepared to accept pictures of this standard pending increased coverage by the B.B.C. The experiments showed that careful attention to the aerial, feeders, input valve and mixer circuits enable signals as low as two or three micro-volts on Band 1 to be considered in this category and displayed in a worthwhile form.

Also present with noise of low amplitude is a snowstorm of man-made and natural static impulses, capable of overloading the cathode ray tube. It is, therefore, essential not only to limit these impulses but to reduce their intensity so that they merge with the grey tone. The "His Master's Voice" impulse inverter circuit behaves admirably under these conditions discriminating easily between the low amplitude wanted signals and the high amplitude noise.

Experiments conducted by "His Master's Voice" have shown that the entertainment value from a noisy signal is greatly enhanced when viewed on a receiver controlled by clean synchronizing pulses, and that by averaging the synch. information over a period of at least ten frames, ragging or wobble of the picture is eliminated.

To obtain full value from a noisy signal entails the use of synchronizing circuits fundamentally improved in design over conventional ones. Such a circuit requires to be of extremely high stability yet sensitive to control so that, providing an occasional burst of synchronizing information is received within the ten frame period, an unbroken picture is maintained.

A schematic diagram showing a flywheel scanning arrangement which meets this requirement is shown in figure 1. Circuits, which do not employ highly stable oscillators, and hence which have to average the synch. information over a much shorter period give markedly inferior performance and

were therefore discarded by "His Master's Voice" engineers, when designing Model 1828.

Experience in the field has shown that in areas where the mean signal level is less than 25 micro-volts the slow fades that occur, say, between daylight ànd darkness, can vary the signal down to below 5 micro-volts and above 50 .

In addition, certain weather conditions, and cloud reflections produce signal cancellation and signal addition resulting in variations from one to a hundred micro-volts. Furthermore, the sound and vision signals do not vary in sympathy. It is, therefore, essential that a fringe model should be equipped with two highly efficient AGC systems operating independently on sound and vision, capable of maintaining the output appreciably constant with variations of input ranging from five micro-volts to at least 200. AGC systems which are designed ostensibly to deal with aircraft flutter and which begin to operate only at twenty-five to fifty micro-volts are obviously useless for fringe area reception. Furthermore, the AGC circuit must not be dependent on the line output circuit, since transmission phase shifts and variable delays produce objectionable gain fluctuation.

The specification of the "His Master's Voice" Fringe Area Model 1828 (given in brief below) incorporates all the essential and desirable fringe features outlined above.

## SPECIFICATION

Vsion Sensitivity for full modulation 5 micro-volts Sound Sensitivity 1 micro-volt.
I.F. Bandwidth $3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.

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trol of base and treble in conjunction with a main Volume/Mixer Control It can bo used with any amplifier and with any prequency control provided by the unit aftording ample compensation for all types of recordings, l.e., Engltsh, American and long-playing, without recourse to
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The DENCO M.T.O.I. Modulated Test Oscillator $£ 3 / 15 /$ (Plus $2 /$ - carr, and ins.) Has Frequency range continuously variable fom $170-475 \mathrm{Ko} / \mathrm{s}$.
and $550-1,800 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Battery operated rand thereby completely self contained.
which are all avallable for separate purchase.


## "ITS STILLTHE BEST MAINS SET" <br> -7) CONSTRUCTORS say BATERY PORTABLE E

 Coverng mediumerhat Portabe lone long wavebands.
Deeilgmed A.C. malne Defigned to ore rate on A.C. malno $200 / 240$ volte or by on "Alldry" battery. The set is designed so that the mainsectlon can be supplied as a separate unit, and can
be added at any time. The Set suppiled as an "Alldry battery guperhet can be accommodated in the attache case illustrated (size $9 \$ 1 \mathrm{n} . \times 4 \mathrm{y}^{2} \mathrm{in}$. $\times 7 \mathrm{in}$.). Thla is attractively finlahed in lizard, maroon, dark green of blue rexine. As a combined Mains/Battery Superbet
Portable a polished cabinet Is avallable to accommodate Portable a pollshed cabinet is avallable to accommodate
both Maina Unit and Batteries. Cincuitincorporates delayed A.V.C. and pre-selective Audio Feedback. The Set ts complete in every detailand neludes ready-wound frame aerials, fully allgned I.F. transf. and drilied chassis etc. Overailsize of assembled chassis8in, $x$ in. $x 2 \mathrm{in}$. This recelver, as illustrated can be completely built for $48 / 10 / 3$, Book which includes Practical Layouts and complete Price list of Components. Attache case available separately, $37 / 6$.
A COMPLETE KIT OF PARTS TO BUILD A 3-4 WATT HIGH GAIN AMPLIFIER
A.C. or D.C. Mains, $200-250$ volt

This ampllfier will give 3 watte outpnt for the small input oltage of only $7 \overline{5}$ millivolts, and is therefore sultable for miulature $\bar{H} / F$ Magnetic type
A tone control is Incorporated and tbe quality produced in excellent. The overall alze of chasais is 9 in Price of complete kit, Including drilled chassia Fnd valves, 189 , plis 61 n . 15 (which fits on chrests 16/=, or $8 / \mathrm{n}$. P.M., $18 / 9$.
Price of fully assembled chassis
Price of fully assembled chassi
E5/5)- (phus cost of speaker).
ready for use, opy of aselions and components price list available for $1 / 3$


the "mini two-three" An "Alldry" Battery Portable of midget size, $6 \| 1 \mathrm{n} . \times 4 \mathrm{in} . \times 3$ in designed to cover medium wave band 190 -abs metres, with use of hort trailer recial. The simple design of this Recelver inso arranged that either a 3 -valve converted to the 3 -valve) can be made. Consists of a T.R.F. cliccult using a regenerative detector with H.F. stage and a high gain outpuit
pentode. Valve line up IT4-IT4-DL94. The 2 -valve set can be completely
built for $£ 4 / 3 / 6$ (less case), and the 3 -valve for $85 / 3 /$ - (less case). Each priceincludes valves, speaker and drlled chassis.
Send $2 /$ fo: the assembly Instructions: they include simple and completo paactical onmpozent layouts and dlagrams which ensble Ali oomponents are available for separate sale, a price list being suplled with asembly fustructlons.

 $\times 6$ in. for use on 6 or 12 volt D.C. supplies We can supply all components to build thls complete Recelver and Vibrator Pack (Cart, and ing, $5 / 6$ extra.) Or the recelver Comand 5in. P.M. Speaker for £12/19/6. Components for E3. Send 28 for the GOVI. Receiver, it is a new desien employing new Components Send 28 for the complote set of ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONG, CIRCUITS and
PRACTICAL LAYOUTE, Including a complete Indjvidual Component Price List.

## THIS IS A STERN'S ADVERTISEMENT

## . Constructors everywhere are amazed!

## t" "TELE-VIEWER"

DESIGN OF A COMPLETE $12^{*}$ SUPERHET T.V. RECEIVER


The Superhet circuit easily tuned to any of the five channels, i.e., LONDON,
SUTTON COLDFIELD. HOLME MOSS. WENVOE and KIRK-O-SHOTTS (The extreme ease of tuning is accomplished by the provision of pre-aligned I.F.T.S.)

- Alifelike, almosestercoscopic, picture quality made possible by the following factors
a. Excellent band width of I.F. circuits
b. A really efficient video amplifier.
c. C.R.T. Grid modulated from low impedance source.
d. High E.H.T. voltage (approx. 10 kV .).

The picture brilliance is also much above the average and enables comfortable viewit, with normal room lighting or daylight.
FIRM picture " HOLD" eircuits (Frame-Line) ensures a steady picture. free from bounce or flicker even under the most adverse conditions met with in fringe areas and excellent interlace ensures the absence of " liney effect.

- Negative feedback is used in the audio frequency circuits whleh provide $2 / 3$ wates of High Qualicy Sound.
Entire receiver built on two chassis units each measuring $14 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{} \times 6 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{} \times 3 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$,

CRT mounting enables entire receiverco be safely handled witheube in position

 | $\begin{array}{l}\text { be builr for only } \\ \text { Plus eoss of } \\ \text { O.RT })\end{array}$ |
| :--- |

All pre-set controls are mounted on side of chassis enabling all adjustments to be carried out whilst facing the C.R. Tube. As no hire purchase terms are available the receiver can be bought in five separate stages (practical diagrams and circuirs are provided or each stage) thus enabling hire purchase interest rates to be voided. The complete set of ASSEMBLY INSTRUCYONS is aval LAYOUTS. WIRING DATA AND COMPONENT PRICE LIST ALL COMPONENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUAL PURCHASE


## NOW available at Stern's

## The "WIDE ANGLE" TELE-VIEWER

- A design that retains all the diatinctive fatures of the 12 la . Televisor but with increased Time Base eficiency, producing 15 to 16 kV . E.H.T., with ample scanning powerfor C.R. Tubes up to 171 in .

```
- It can be completely built to- cluding supply of all values for
£33
(plus cost of C.R.T.) and is as simple
to construct an the \(12 i \mathrm{u}\), model.
```

This is the mont effclent "WIDE ANGLE. large screen
Complete assembly instructions, diagram, etc., available


VARLEY HEATER TRANSFORMER
rolts (tapped volts output is 14/9

FILAMENT TRANSFORMER 6.3 v. 11
4 v. 11

| 519 |
| :--- |
| 518 |

## SPECIAL OFFER

## NEW C.R.T.s.

Unused 12in. AR.T. by one of the leading manufac turere. 60s volt heiter,
(Plus 15/-Carr. \& Ins)
£12/19/6
BRAND NEW C.R.T. MASKS
Latest aspect ratio for 12 in . "Round (Plus $1 /$ - postage.)

12/6
HALF WAVE
MAINS TRANSFORMERS
Primary 200/220, 220/240 voit Secondary 250 voltes 50 mA .
(Slus $1 /-$ postage.)
16/9

## SPEAKER BARGAINS

PLESSEX, 10in. 3 ohm V/coil
TRUVOX, 12 in .3 ohm V/co
BAKAERS, I2in. 15 Ohm V/coil
BAKERS, 2 in .15 ohm $/ \mathrm{coil}$
GOODMANS, 12 in . 15 ohm V/co
1150
8319
5415
$\boxed{5} 5$

THE NEW W. B. "STENTORIAN"
HI FI SPEAKERS ARE IN STOCK
Model H.F. 6-inch
${ }^{2} 210$
Model H.F. 9 -Inch
Model H.F. 8-inch
Model H.F. 10-inch
These speakers are of the very latent deain $£ 313$ Thasity reproduction tor the lower-price range 3 or 15 ohe modele are available.

## RECEIVER <br> CHASSIS <br> Modernise youn old Radiognam RECORD PLAYERS

## COMPLETE RADIOGRAM EQUIPMENT-QUALITY AT LOW COST

## THREE COMPLETELY ASSEMBLED ALL-WAVE SUPERHET CHASSIS

8
Model B.3 A 5-valve 3-waveband Receiver,
Model B.3.P.P. A 6-valve 3-waveband Receiver with PUSH-PULL OUTPUT.

- Model B.3.P.P./R.F. A 7-valve 3-waveband Receiver incorporating an R.F. stage with PUSH.PULL OUTPUT.

The three Recelvers are for operation on A.C. matns $100 / 110$ volts and $200 / 250$ volts, and employ the very latest miniature valves. They are designed to the most modern ppeclication, great attentiou having bee n given to the quabity of reproduction whieb gives excellent clarity
 Brief specifcations: Model B.3.-Valve line-up, 6BE6, 6BA6, 6AT6, $6 \mathrm{BW} 6,6 \mathrm{X} 4$-wave-
 band coverage short $18-50$, medium
$187-550$, long $900-2,000$ metres. Controte: (1) volume with on/ort; (2) tuding (flywheel type): (3) wavechavge and kram.: (4) tone (33-position switch operative on gram. and radio). Negative leedhack is employed over the entire
 ${ }^{8}$ ifn. high. Dial size $8 \frac{1}{2} \times 44 \mathrm{n}$. Price excluding speaker, $£ 12 / 12$ /- (carr. and ing. $7 / 0$ extra).
H.P. Terms: $84 / 4 /-$ deposht. 12 months at $15 / 9$. Model S.3.P.P. This model to the B. 3 Recelver but incorporates two 6BW6 VALVEES In PUSH-PULL, resulting
 Model B.3. P.P./R.F. This model is similar in appearance and hate same wavetand coverage as the Model B.3, but in addition it incorporates an R.F. STAGE together with PUBE-PULL OUTPUT, employing a total of 7 valves with two type 6 BW 6 in Push-Pull. This makes for a really sensitive receiver wilh genuine quality reproduction. Price $£ 18 / 18 /-$ (plus $7 / 6$ carr. and Ins.) or $£ 6 / 6 /$-deposit, 12 months at 23/7.

## A NEW DESIGN FOR HOME CONSTRUCTORS The STERNS "SUPSR SM"" <br> 

Is offered for $810 / 10 / 0$ (Plus $7 / 6$ carr. and Ins.) Hire Purchase Terms $£ 3 / 10 / 0$ Dep. and 10 Months at $15 / 9$. (Normal price ie E16/10/..)

- These units will autochange on all inree speeds, Tin., 101 in . and 12 in .
- They play MIXed 7in.. 101n. and 12 in. records.
- They bave separate sapphires for L. and 78 r.p.m., which are switch.
- Minimum baseboard size re quired $141 \mathrm{n}, \times 1211 \mathrm{n} .0$ with helght quired Stin . and height below baseboard 24 hn . A bulk purchase enablea us to oner these BRAND NEW UNITS at this exceptiona price.
The COLLARO 3RC/521 3-SPEED AUTO CHANGE UNIT \&9/19/6 (Plus $7 / 6$ Carr. and Ins) H.P. Terms £3/6/0 Deposil Normal price $818 / 10 /$-.
- Complete with High Fidelity Crystal "Turnover

Head which incorporates separate estylue for L.P. and 78 r.p.ma Records.

- Wil autochange on 7 in ., 10in. and 12 in . records not lutermired.
- Minimum Base plate size 15ln. $\times 12$ inn., with height above 4 fin. and below haseplate 3 im . - Brand new in Maker's Cartons. complete with Mounting instruc. tions.


SPECIAL REDUCTIONS FOR COMPLETE EQUPMENT
SUMMARY
Select a RECORD PLAYER and CHASSIS, and we will supply it TOGETHER WITH AN sinch or loinch P.M. SPEAKER as follows
THE \&10/10/-AUTOCEANGER WITH A SPEAKER AND:- CASE: PRICE


TEE COLLARO AUTOCHANGER MODEL 3RC/521 WITH A SPEAKER (a) with Model B3 chassis
B3PP B3PP
B3PP/RF
" Buper Bix., (Assembied chassis only.)

£26/9/=
SPEAKER AND
THE COLLARO 3-SPEED UNIT MODEL $3 / 514$ WITE A SPEAKER AND
(a) With Model


$\begin{array}{ll}824 / 9 /- & 88 / 3 / 6 \\ \text { 219/4/- } & \text { £6/81/ }\end{array}$
(e) $\because$ AWs-s ... .................................

An Additional Charge of 20/- In made in each ease to cover Carriage an

The COLLARO MODEL $3 / 514$ 3-Speed Non-Auto Change Unit
27/19/6 (Plus 6/. Cnirr. and Inear - Complete with Hiqh Fidelity Crystr orates soparate stylus for $P$ froo Standard Records.

- Will play 7 inch. 10 inch and 12 inch Records.
- Brand New and Complete with mountiny inetructions.


> When submitting orders please include post and packing STERN RADIO Ltd. 109 \& 115, FLEET STREET,E.C. 4 $13 \mathrm{hn} . \times 71 \mathrm{n}$. high $\times 6 \mathrm{in}$. deep. Dial aperture $10 \mathrm{in} . \times 4 / \mathrm{in}$.

B
A Replacement RADIORADIOGRAM CHASSIS - MODEL AW3-5. A 5 -Vialve Superhe ${ }^{t}$ Receiver covering the standard 3 wave PRICE COMPLETELY AB\&EMBLED AND READY FOR USE
(plus $7 / 6$ carr. and ion.).

reproduction on both Gram, and Badio and gives an ezeeptionally good range of station selection. Overall slze G.R. Terme £ $3 / 10 /$ - Deposit in 110 Months at $15 / 8$. This receiver is for operation on A.C. Mrids $200-250$ voits. being ECH42 (Freq. Ch.), EF41 (I.F.), EBC41 (Det. 1st Audio), EL41 (Output) and EZ41 (Rect.). It incorporates Negative Feedback and delayed A.V.C., the four controls being (1) Tuning, (2) Wavechange and Gram. Switch, (3) TONE, (4) VOLUME-OFF, It provides really good


AMPLIFIER OR CHARGER CASES. Size 14$\}$ $5 \frac{1}{6} \times$ tins. high. Strongly made in perforated steel. Grey enamel finish. Only $9 / 8$.

## R.S.C. TRANSFORMERS

FULLY GUARANTEED, INTERLEAVED AND IMPREGNATED
MAINS TRANSFORMERS
Primaries $200-230-250 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.
FULLY SHROUDED UPRIGHT MOUNTING
$250-0-250$ v. 60 mA .6 .3 v. 2 a., 5 y 2 a
Midget type 2 $2 \mathrm{-3}$-3in
$350-0-350$ v. 70 mA ., 6.3 v. 2 a., 5 v. 2 a
$300-0-300$ v. $60 \mathrm{~mA} ., 12$ v. 1.5 a., c.t
$250-0-250$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. -4 v. 4 a. c.t.,
$0-4-5$ v. 3 a
$250-0-250$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 6 a., 5 v. 3 a. for R1355 conversion
$300-0-300$ v. 100 mA ., 6.3 v. -4 v. 4 a. c.t.
$0-4-5$ v. 3 a.
$350-0-350$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 0.3$ v. -4 v. 4 a. c.t. 0-4-5 v. 3 a.
$350-0-350$ v. $150 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 4 a., 5 v. 3 a. .
$350-0-350 \mathrm{v} .150 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v} .2 \mathrm{a} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v} .2 \mathrm{a}$.
5 v .3 a .
$350-0-350$ v. 250 mA., 6.3 v. 6 a., 4 v. 8 a.,
0-2-6 v. 2 a., 4 v. 3 a., for Electronic Eng Televisor
$425-0-425$ v. $200 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 4 a., c.t., 6.3 v $69 / 6$
4 a., c.t., 5 v. 3 a., suitable Williamson Amplifier, etc.
$425-0-425$ v. $250 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 6 a., 6.3 v. 6 a., 5 v. 3 a,

TOP SHROUDED DROP THROUGH TYPE
$250-0-250$ v. $70 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. $2.5 \mathrm{a} . \ldots . . . .$.
$260-0-260$ v. $70 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v. 3 a., 5 v. 2 a.
$260-0-260$ v. $70 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v. 3 a., 5 v. 2 a...
$350-0-350$ v. $80 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 2 a., 5 v. 2 a..
$350-0-350$ v. $80 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 2 a., 5 v. 2 a. ..
$350-0-350$ v. 80 mA .6 .3 v. 3 a., 4 v. 2.5 a. ..
$350-0-350$ v. $80 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 3 a., 4 v. 2.5 a...
$250.0-250$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 4 a., 5 v. 3 a. .
$300-0-300$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. -4 v. 4 a., c.t.
$0-4.5 \mathrm{v} .3 \mathrm{a}$
$350-0-350$ v. $100 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 4 a., c.t., 5 v.
$350-0.350$ v, $150 \mathrm{~mA} .$, . 6.3 v. 2 a., 6.3 v . 2 a.,
5 v. 3 a. ..........................................
$350-0-350$ v. $150 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 4 a., 5 v. 3 a. $27 / 9$
E.H.T. TRANSFORMERS, $2,500 \mathrm{v} .5 \mathrm{~mA}$.,

2-0-2 v. 1.1 a., $2-0-2$ v. 1.1 a., for VCR07,
VCR517 or ACR2X
36/6

VOLUME CONTROLS with long spindles, all values less switch, 2/9; with S. P. switch, $3 / 9$.

WIRE WOUND POTS: 20 ohms, 500 ohms, 1,000 ohms, $5 \mathrm{~K}, 20 \mathrm{~K}, 50 \mathrm{~K}$ (medium length spindles), $2 / 9$. 220 ohms, $2 \mathrm{~K}, 10 \mathrm{~K}, 20 \mathrm{~K}, 50 \mathrm{~K}$ Preset type, $1 / 9$ ea.
AMMETERS. Moving coil. G.E.C. $0-5 \mathrm{amps}, 2 \mathrm{in}$. scale, $11 / 9$.
EX-GOVT. E.H.T. SMOOTHING CONDENSERS
$.02 \mathrm{mfd} .8,000$ v. Cans.
$.25 \mathrm{mfd} .4,000$ v. Blocks
.5 mfd 2,500 v. Blocks
$.5 \mathrm{mfd}$. 3,500 v. Cans
.1 mfd. plus .1 mfd. 8,000 v., large blocks
(common negative isolated)
, large blocks
$1.5 \mathrm{mfd} .4,000 \mathrm{v}$. hlocks.........
EX-GOVT. ACCUMULATORS with non-spill vents. Unused and guaranteed. 2 v. 16 A.H., $5 / 9$ each or 3 in wood carrying case $9-7-5 i n ., 14 / 9$, plus 2/6 Carr.
EX-GOVT. BLOCK PAPER CONDENSERS
$4 \mathrm{mfd} 500 \mathrm{v} . \ldots 2 / 9 \quad 4 \mathrm{mfd} .2000 \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{r}}$
$4 \mathrm{mfd} .1500 \mathrm{v} .4 / 9 \quad 11.7 \mathrm{mfd} .500 \mathrm{v} . \quad 8 / 9$
4 mfd .400 v . plus $2 \mathrm{mfd} .250 \mathrm{v} ., 1 / 11$.
EX-GOVT. TRANSMITTER-RECEIVER TYPE
TR9D, complete with all valves, only $47 / 9$, plus carr. 5/-.
EX-GOVT. AUTO TRANSFORMERS $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.
Double Wound $10-0-200-220-240 \mathrm{v}$. to $10-0-270-200-310 \mathrm{v} .200$ watts
Double Wound 100 watts, $5-0-115-125$ v. to
10-0-10-210-230 v. or reverse
15-10-5-0-195-215-235 v. 200 watts
$0-110-190-230$ v. 400 watts
Double Wound $220 / 240 \mathrm{v}$. input. Output
55 v to 230 v .21 amps in steps of $11 \mathrm{v} . .$.
Double Wound 10-0-200-220-240 v. to
10-0-275-295-315 v. 500 watts
M.E, SPEAKERS, All $2-3$ ohms, 6 1in Rola field 700 ohms, $11 / 9.10 \mathrm{in}$. R.A. field 600 ohms, $23 / 9$. 10 in . R.A. field 1,500 ohms, $23 / 9$. 10 in . R.A. field 1,000 ohms, $23 / 9$.


89/6
THE SKY CHIEF T.R.F. RECEIVER


A design of a 4 -stage, 3 valve $200-250$ v. A.C. Mains receiver with selenium rectifier. For inclusion in any of cabinets illustrated above. It consists of a variable Mu high gain H.F. stage followed by a low distortion grid detector triode. The next stage iss a further triode amplifier with tone correction by negative feedback. Finally comes the output stage consisting of a parallel connected double triode giving ample output at an extraordinary low level of distortion. Point to point wiring diagrams, instructions, and parts list, 2/6. This receiver can be built for a maximum of $\varepsilon 4 / 16 /$ - including cabinet.
P.M. SPEAKERS. All $2-3$ ohms. $2 \frac{1}{2}$ in. Celestion, 14/9. 312in. Goodmans (Ex New Units), 10/9. 4in. Goodmans, 14/11. 5in. Goodmans, 15/6. $6 \frac{1}{2}$ in. Goodmans, 16/9. 8in. Plessey, 15/9, 10 in. Rola, 27/9. 10in. Plessey, 18/6. 10in. Rola with Trans., 29/6. 12in. Truvox, 49/9.
R.S.C. BATTERY CHARGER KITS. For mains input $200-250 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. To charge 6 v . accumulator at 2 amps,, 25/9. To charge 6 v . or 12 v . hattery at 2 a., $31 / 6$. To charge 6 v . or 12 v . battery at 4 a., 49/9. ABOVE KITS CONSIST OF BLACK CRACKLE LOUVRED STEEL CASE, MAINS TRANSFORMER, FULL WAVE METAL RECTIFIER, FUSES, FUSE-HOLDERS AND CIRCUIT. Any type assembled and tested for 6/8 extra. H.T. ELIMINATOR AND TRIGKLE CHARGER KIT with case, Mains input $200-250$ v. Output 120 v. 40 mA . and 2 v . $\frac{1}{2}$ a. Price with circuit
29/6.


Or in working order, 37/6.


## CHARGER TRANSFORMERS

All with 200-230-250 v. $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ Primaries: 0-9-15 $\mathrm{\nabla}$. 1.5 a., $12 / 9 ; 0-9-15$ v. 3 a., $16 / 8 ; 0-9.15$ v. 6 a., $22 / 9 ; 0-9-15-30$ v. 3 а., 23/9.

## ELIMINATOR TRANSFORMERS

Primaries $200-250 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s} .120 \mathrm{v} .40 \mathrm{~mA} . \quad 7 / 11$
120 v. $40 \mathrm{~mA} .5-0-5$ v. 1 a.

## OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

Midget Battery Pentode 66: 1 for 3S4, etc. $3 / 6$
Small Pentode 50000 to 30
Standard Pentode $5,000 \Omega$ to $3 \Omega$
Standard Pentode, $8,000 \Omega$ to $3 \Omega$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Standard Pentode, } 10,000 \text { ohms to } 3 \text { ohms } & 4 / 9\end{array}$
Multi-ratio $40 \mathrm{~mA} .30: 1,45: 1,60: 1,90: 1$,
Class B Push-Pull
Push-Pull 8 Watts 6 V6 to 3 ohms
Push-Pull 10-12 Watts 6 V6 to $3 \Omega$ or $15 \Omega \ldots$... $15 / 8$
Push-Pull 10-12 Watts to match 6V0 to $16 / 9$
$3-5-8$ or $15 \Omega$...........................
Push-Pull 15 Watt 6 L 6 s , KT66s, etc. to
Push-Pull 16 watt 6Los, KTo6s, etc. to
3 or 15 ohms ................................................
Push-Pull 20 Watts high-quality sectionally
wound 6L6, KT66, etc., to 3 or $15 \Omega \ldots . . .47 / 8$
SMOOTHING CHOKES
$250 \mathrm{~mA} ., 3$ H. 50 ohms ......................... $11 / 8$
$100 \mathrm{~mA}, 10 \mathrm{H}$.200 ohms, Potted ............ $8 / 8$
80 mA .10 H .350 ohms
60 mA 10 H 400 obm
$50 \mathrm{~mA} ., 40 \mathrm{H} 1,$.000 ohms Potted
$20 \mathrm{~mA}, 30 \mathrm{H} 1,$.000 ohms ..
... $4 / 8$

MICROPHONE TRANSFORMERS
100:1

EX GOVT. MAINS TRANSFORMERS All $230 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ input.
$250-0-250$ v. $40 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v. 2 a., 5 v.

## 8.8 v. 4 a <br> 48 v. 1 a.

175 v. 200 mA .
$0-11-22$ v. 15 a.
$0-11-22$ v. 30 a.
$16 / 20 \mathrm{v} .35 \mathrm{a}$.
7.7 v. C.T. 7 amps 4 times
$300-0-300 \mathrm{v} .150 \mathrm{~mA} ., 610-0-610 \mathrm{v} .150 \mathrm{~mA}$.
1,220 v. 350 mA .

EX-GOVT. SMOOTHING CHOKES
$250 \mathrm{~mA}, 10 \mathrm{H} .50$ ohms
$250 \mathrm{~mA} 10 \mathrm{H}, 100 \mathrm{ohms}$
250 mA .8 H .50 ohms. Potted
150 mA .10 H .50 ohms
100 mA .10 H .100 ohms. Tropicalised
100 mA .5 H .100 ohms. Tropicalised
$90 / 100 \mathrm{~mA} .10 \mathrm{H} .100$ ohms. Potted
$50 \mathrm{~mA} .5-10 \mathrm{H}$.
L. T. type 1 amp.

EX-GOVT. T.V. TYPE TRANSFORMERS. Al $230 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ input.
$1100-0-1100 \mathrm{v}$. 250 mA
251-
2800 y 30 mA .
22/8
400 v. C.T. $150 \mathrm{mA}$..4 v. 6 a., 6.3 v. 6 a.,
6.3 v. $0-6$ a., 4 v. 6 a., 4 v. 3 a., 4 v. 3 a.,

4 v. 3 a., 5 v. 2 a.
22/9

## CHASSIS

18 s.w.g. undrilled alu- 16 s.w.g. aluminium, reminimum amplifier type ceiver type.

## (4-sided).

$12 \mathrm{in} . \times 9$ in. $\times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ in. $.66 / 1112 \mathrm{in} . \times \sin . \times 2 \frac{1 \mathrm{in} .}{} . .5 / 3$ $14 \mathrm{in} . \times 91 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \overline{2} \mathrm{in} . \ldots 6 / 1118 \mathrm{in} . \times 8 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . . .7 / 6$ $14 \mathrm{in} . \times 10 \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \mathrm{in}$. ...7/11 $20 \mathrm{in} . \times 8 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \frac{1 \mathrm{in} .}{} . .8 / 11$ $16 \mathrm{in} . \times 10 \mathrm{in} . \times 3$ in $\ldots . .8 / 3$
$18 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . \mathrm{g}$. aluminium re- $16 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . \mathrm{g}$. aluminium, am
18 s.w.g. aluminium re- 16 s.w.g. aluminium,
ceiver type.
plifier type, 4 -sided.
ceiver type.
$6 \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \mathrm{in} . \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} \ldots 1 / 11$ 12in. $\times 8 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \mathrm{in} . \ldots 7 / 1$ $7 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in} . \times 4$ isin. $\times 2 \mathrm{in} \ldots 2 / 916 \mathrm{in} . \times 8 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} .{ }^{2} 10 / 11$ $10 \mathrm{in}, \times 5 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \mathrm{in} \ldots 3 / 320 \mathrm{in} \times 8 \mathrm{in}, \times 2 \mathrm{in} . \quad 13 / 6$ $\begin{array}{ll}11 \mathrm{in} .\end{array} \times 6 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \frac{1}{\mathrm{in}} \ldots 3 / 11 / 14 \mathrm{in} . \times 10 \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \mathrm{in} . \quad 13 / 6$

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TWO MODELS AVAILABLE
For operation on $100-110$ A.C.-D.C. For operation on $200 \cdot 250$ A.C.-D.C. mortel 3/6.

## $65^{\prime}=$ <br> $69^{\prime} 6$



4 watt ANEPLIFIER KIT Thisis a 3-valve 3.atage Ampliffer for use with Gramophone. Microphone or Radio. Valve line-up is as follows: 6SL7. 6VB, 524. Negative feed-bick. Tone control, Voltage operation on A.C. Mains $200 / 250$ volts The complete Kit, which includes ever
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 The ontput Transformer supplied is for use with a loudspeaker of 3 ohms impedance, and we would suggest that the output of the eompleted smplifler justifies the use of one of the tatest B. a . as follows: 8 in., 60/6; 9in., 67/-: 10in., 73/6. All plus Circuit Dingram only, available separately at $1 /-$ To those who require this Amplifier ready-built we can supply it at $55 / 1 /$, plus $3 / 6$ pkg., carr., Ins.

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flament wladings tapped flament windings tapped
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MT3
20 volt
it
Mollows: $3,4,5,6,8,4,10,12,25$, 18 \{ollows: $3,4,5,6,8,9$,
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16 mfd .450 v .
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1/8 еа
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Coverage； $120 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ． $320 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．， $300 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．－ $900 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s} ., 900 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．－ 2．75 Mc／s．，2．75 Mc／s． 8．5 Mc／s．，8．5 Mc／s．－ $25 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. ， $17 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ． $50 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．， $25.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ． $75 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Metal case $10 \times 6 \frac{3}{4} \times 4 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$ ．Síze of scale $6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$ ．， 2 valves and rectifier． A．C．mains $230 / 250 \mathrm{v}$ Internal modulation 400 c．p．s．to a depth of 30 per cent．，modulated or un－ modulated．R．F．output continuously variable 100 millivolts．C．W．and mod．switch，variable A．F． output and moving coil output meter．Black crackle finished case and white panel，$£ 4 / 19 / 6$ ．Or 34／－deposit and 3 monthly payments of $25 /-$ P．\＆P． $4 /$－extra．


Mne and E．H．T．Trandormer， 14 KY ．， ding ferrocart core，complete with line and witith contra，and corona shields， U37 rectifier wiading， 35 ／

Line and E．E．T．Transtomer， 9 Kva， using ferrocart core complete with bulli－in line and width control，Mounted $4 \frac{1}{2} \times 1!\mathrm{ma}$ ，EY51 rec．winding， $27 / 6$ ．
Seau Colls，low line．low impedance seau cois，low line． ormer，to match above $27 / 6$.

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32 mid．， 850 wkg
medr， 200 wkg
$40 \mathrm{rafd} ., 450 \mathrm{wk}$
$16 \times 8$ mid． 500 wkg
$6 \times 16$ mid．， 500 wk
$16 \times 16 \mathrm{mfd}$ ．， 450 wkg
$32 \times 32 \mathrm{mtd}$ ．， 350 wkg
$2 \times 32$ mld．， 850 wkg．，and
25 mid．， 25 wkg．
$250 \mathrm{mfd}, 12 \mathrm{v}$ ． wkg
16 mfd．， 500 whg．o wime end
8 mid．， 500 v．wkg．，wire end
1 mfd ．， 350 v．wkg．，tare ends
50 mid． 25 v．wikg．，wire end
$100 \mathrm{mfd} ., 350 \mathrm{wk}$ ．
$00+200 \mathrm{mid}{ }_{2}, 350$ wikg
0 mfd． 180 wko $w \mathrm{k}$
0 mfd .180 wkg
． 220 Wk
$60+100$ mfd．， 280 wkg．
0 mid．， 12 wkg ．
$32+32$ mfd．，mio．， 275 wikg．
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Minlature wire ends ．．．．．．．．．．．． $1 / 9$
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Combined 12in，mask and escatcheon in lightly tinted Perspez．New arpect． edged in brown．Fits on tront of cabinet， $17 / 6$.
Frame Oscillator Blocking Trans．，4／6 Tube Mounting Brachet，size oi $\times$ 4 418 12 im ，tube clampa，2／－．

## CHOKES：

－20 Hen．， 150 mA －，15／ F ．P．\＆$\dot{\mathrm{P}} .8 i$ 6 Hen．， $275 \mathrm{~mA}, 15 /-$ P．\＆P． 3 － 100 Fen．， $40 \mathrm{~mA}, 15 /-$ P．\＆P． $3 / \%$ 3／6； 250 mu ． 10 henry， $10 / 6$ ； 5 henry $350 \mathrm{~mA}, 60$ ohms， $8 / 6$ ．
P．M．Foous Unit for any 9 or 1 이n． ube except Maxda 121 n ．，with Vernier djugtment，15／
P．M．Focus Unil for Mazda，121n．，with ernier adjustment， $17 / 6$ ．
Wlde Anrle P．M．Focus Units，Vernier
dj．state tube， 25 ） dJ．，state tube，25
Energised Focas Coil，low ${ }^{1}$ resistance nounting bracket，17／6．
Ton Traps for Mullard or English Eiectric nbea．5／w，post paid．

65 Kc ．IF．s，size $2 \frac{3}{3} \times 11 \mathrm{in}$ ．Q． 110 emoved 1 rom American equipment， 5／－per pair．$\quad$ gtandard 465 Kc ．iron－ cored I．F．s． $4 \times 1 \neq 1 \geqslant 1 \mathrm{ln}$ ．，per pr．
 $8 / 6$.

Iron－eored 485 Kc ．Whistle Filter， $2 / 6$.
OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS，8tandard ype 5,000 ohros imp．，4／8：42－1 with extri feed－back windinge，4／3．Minia． are $42.1,3 / 3$ Multi ratlo $3_{0} 500$ ， pull fV66 140， $5 / 6$ ． 10 －watt puen sperch coll，6／6．
PUSE－BACX CONNECTING WIRE． Doz．yde．， $1 / 6$ ，post paid
STANDARD WAVE－0HANGE SWITCHES， 4 －pole 3－way，1／9；5－pole 3－way，1／9；9－pole 3－way，1／9；9－pole 3 way， $3 / 6$ ；Miniature type，long spindle －pole 4 －way， 4 －pole 3 oway and 4 －pole 2 －way， $2 / 6$ each．P．\＆P．3d．
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T．V．Width Controls．3／6．
T．V．Sub Assembly；all－chassis， 121 D X
$31 \mathrm{In}_{\text {e，}}$ with frame osc．，Hne oac．， 12 mfd ． 278 wikg．Metroall， 8 condensert

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[^0]:    * Radio and Electronic Component Manufacturers Federation, April 6th to 8th; Association of Public Address Engineers, April 28th and 29th; British Sound Recording Association, May 22nd and 23 rd.

[^1]:    * European Broadcasting Union.

[^2]:    * Document Tech. 3062. "Enquête de l'U.E.R. sur le choix des fréquences intermédiaires dans les récepteurs de télevision (et questions connexes)." Not available to the general public.

[^3]:    * "Two-band Television Receivers," by G. H. Russe Il, April, 1954

[^4]:    ". .. The five unmistakable marks
    By which you may know, wheresoever you go
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[^5]:    3 "Valve Voltmeter without Calibration Drift." Wireless World, Jan. 1952, p. 14.

[^6]:    t See reference (2) (1. A. Bell) and also J. Marique, W'ireless Engineer, Jan. 1935 pp. 17-22.

[^7]:    * The original text (in French) of some of the papers read at the Congess, and a summary of others, can be consulted in the March 1954 issue of L'Onde Electrique (Vol. 34, No. 324).

[^8]:    *The Nationai Institute for the Deaf issues a leaflet giving instructions for firting headphones to television and sound receivers.-ED.

[^9]:    Sales Office : IS Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex. Telephone: Horrow 9282 Technical \& Service Depts. : 328 The Broadway, Station Road, Harrow.

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