

CALL LETTERS

NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADIO
SOCIETY



ANNIVERSARY
ISSUE

VOL. 2, No. 1

JAN. 1976

Here it is . . .

Well, as we promised, here is your BIG newsletter, and under a new name, the Call Letter is filled with all sorts of good things pertaining to that which we love most dearly—antique radios! As you all realize by now we are one year old and hasn't it been a fine one? Our first year has seen us grow at an astounding rate, picking up members not only from our good ol' home state of Oregon, but other states as well, and even Canada. If our second year is as good as the first we shall indeed be a solid organization, the only club of this type in the Northwest, and looking forward to any new challenge that may confront us! So fellows and gals, our hats are off to you for all of the cooperation that you have extended to us throughout the year. Without you all of this would have been for nil. Thanks for a helluva good job!!

Mark Moore, our new secretary, is to be congratulated for the fine printing job done on this one special issue of the Call Letter. We gave Marilyn Sebens a deserved rest from her printing chore when Mark volunteered for this one issue and we all want to thank you, Mark, for all the hard work you have undertaken on this!

And now the time you have all been waiting for . . .

The Tom James Poetry Hour

(Boy! Can Tom knock out these beauties, you'll love 'em!)

A Doff of the Hat

There are notes of thanks, which sound so flat and trite,
That the message there intended, has vanished quite from sight,
But those who prize our "letter", there's a worker hid from view,
Who takes the Bilbie manuscript, and prints hundreds from the few,
She's been a faithful member, of our little "vintage" band,
She hasn't called for accolades . . . or yet a helping hand,
So here's a toast to Marilyn Sebens, may our thanks be loud and clear,
From all the Vintage Members, throughout the coming year!
and this echoes our heartfelt and sincere thanks, Marilyn.....

Shades of 1928

My neighbor bought a Crosley, on the easy payment way,
Such a simple business deal; and with music everyday,
One thing got his goat though, this fact is sure concrete,
By the time he had it paid for—the set was obsolete!

Women's Lib

Now what can I do for you, Ms.?
Asked the radio repairman of Liz,
"One valve doesn't function,
My tuner needs unction,
And my HERcules warbles like HIS!"

Station break—The second half of the Tom James Poetry Hour continues on page 3

Unusual finds

Magnavox horn, Model A-Type A2R, amplifier-reproducer, has large base with two 201-A tubes sticking up out of it, 3 rheostats, and two control switches all in excellent condition! (Horn itself is enormous!) 18 inch bell, 30½ inches tall.

Federal Battery Radio, five tubes, no model number visible, barn-type condition.

Crosley Battery Radio, three tubes—01-A's, little plate on sub-chassis says "3 tubes do the work 5", possibly Model 52, no cabinet.


Bosworth Receiver, very early AC type—around 1926 or '27, six tubes, very unusual tuning set-up, very good condition and works, but needs about 75 miles of antenna wire!

1922 RCA authorized dealer sign which says RCA—Radiolas, Radiotrons, and Loud Speakers, black, green, and silver, in perfect condition. Very neat old piece.

Ten different interstage transformers, includes Crosleys, Grebe, Thordarson, and Modern Symphony, all good and like new.

Also to take delivery on Eveready six tube battery set, Atwater Kent Model 61 as well as a Crosley battery set, four tubes; and an unusual Emerson BIG AC set in a Treasure Chest type cabinet; none of these are restored and don't work. Some of this will be for sale, so if you are interested in something, please let the editor know.

JIM LETTENMIER stopped by the other day and we had a good time chewing the fat about old radio. He just found a neat little PHILCO Cathedral Model 84, his first one of that type. Congrats, Jim!



NORTHWEST
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CALL LETTERS

Editor Bob Bilbie
Graphics Mark Moore

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society which meets the second Saturday of each month at the Buena Vista Club House, Sixteenth and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon.

A Line From the Ol' Cracker Barrel

Xmas time has come and gone,
Saint Nick has left his mark.
We'll gather forces and regroup
From that wild spending lark.

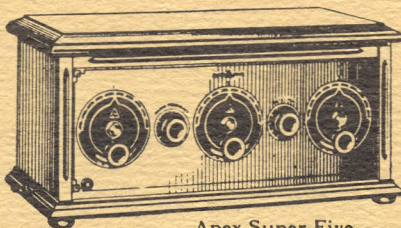
We drank a toast to the old year's ghost,
Another to the new.
We wished each other the very best,
As many people do.

And here and there we hear a gripe
For some quasi-valid reasons,
But all in all, most look ahead
To future Christmas seasons.

So here's to a year of hapiness,
Good hunting one and all,
To the Northwest Vintage Radio crowd:
I HOPE YOU HAVE A BALL!
t/james 1/75

DID YOU KNOW?

The first Hallicrafters radio was made by Silver-Marshall in 1933.



Apex Super Five
Price \$95
without accessories

Handy Dandy Glossary Additions

- Escutcheon: very bad to leave a blot on this
- Dielectric: early form of electrocution
- Stranded Conductors: they missed the train
- Vernier Dial: calibrated soap
- B Eliminator: DDT
- B Supply: see hives
- @\$%† [&*/+!] =,;:t: a form of static
- Trickle Charger: drinks on BankAmericard
- Wave Trap: naval recruiting office
- Tube Rejuvenator: same as Roto-Rooter
- Coherer: early radio cement

Hints from Bilbie

Don't forget to turn the rheostat down or completely off before you connect a newly charged battery, or goodbye tube!
from RADIO, July 1923

Incidentally, the "book type" variable condenser used in some ancient Crosley battery radios was invented by the famous Hugo Gernsback, former publisher of Radio News, Radio Craft, etc. He held many patents and was one of radio's real pioneers. His ability to predict the future of radio was uncanny.

If you have an old radio that uses a PZH tube in the output, and cannot find a replacement for it, use instead a no. 59 which is basically the same tube, providing you can find a "59" however this is one of the problems with our hobby—hard to find parts!

HOW TO PREVENT TUBE BLOWOUTS

The most common cause of accidental burning out of tubes is letting the "B" battery voltage get across the tube—filament terminals. When testing a "new" set it is an excellent idea to connect the 6 volt "A" battery to the "B" terminal plug in all the tubes, and make sure that no filament lights. If a filament does light, it is an indication that the "B" lines are crossed with the "A" wiring somewhere in the set, and this fault must be located and remedied. If no filament lights, it is quite safe to connect the "B" battery to its terminals.
from POPULAR MECHANICS, 1928

Joe Sullivan, of Toledo, Ohio, made a "home grown" loudspeaker. He collects gourds, removes the seeds, and then thoroughly dries the gourd, after which a loudspeaker unit is fastened to the small end. (There is no end to Yankee know-how!) Attention Farmers of America—can you help us???
"GOURDADYNE 6"
from POPULAR MECHANICS, 1928

Answer to last month's question about power tubes:
WRONG—no tube is a power tube because no power is put into it. Every tube is a voltage amplifier, but the so-called power tubes are designed so that the volt-ampere output is large.
from RADIO WORLD, June 1, 1929



Here is a picture from QST Magazine of 1925, showing that Pop had as much trouble in those days with daughters' beau as we have today. Only the music and method of delivery are different. Only times change, not people!

His Honor, the Editor

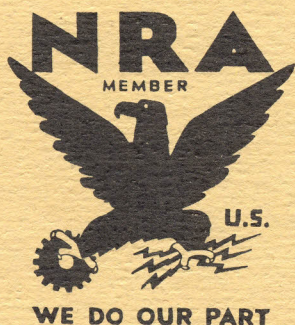
Say, have you noticed lately that radios are getting very hard to find? Your editor and Mark Moore spent one whole day covering an area of 120 miles, and our total find was one neat little "tombstone" and an Atwater Kent speaker, but I guess that this particular time of year has something to do with it, though. Many stores were visited and lots of questions were asked, but alas, to no avail. How has your luck been? Better I hope.

Bowl games, bowl games, why they're not with the program. They should hold that Super Super Bowl of Super Bowls—the RADIO BOWL! Think of it folks—pitting Atwater Kent, the nation's no. one against say Ozarka, the nation's underdog radio. After a thousand yards in penalties for AK's weird construction, Ozarka comes out at half time and kicks an 01A over the antenna for the winning margin!

Our new and energetic young secretary, Mark Moore, is to be congratulated by all of us for the superb job he has done this month on our Special Issue and also for coming up with the name that your newsletter will carry from now on. It will be known as the Call Letter. Pretty neat to come up with two good deals in one good issue, huh?

After the BIG meeting this January we will know who this year's members will be and we will get out a new list of names for your own personal reference as we did last year. Those of you planning to join up again, please advise us as to whether or not you wish to be included on this list, so we'll know how to make it out. Your urgency in this matter will help us get it out sooner. Thank you.

Since seeing the energy of the new officers, your editor cannot see anything but good happening to our club in this new year! You good folks will see many neat things already being planned for us this year and we are already wanted by several of the big shopping centers for other shows this spring. Hang in there gang, you won't be disappointed!



NATIONAL UNION OFFERS

You can get an Oscillator and Output Meter, Four Service Manuals, Unameter (Tube Tester), Supreme Model Readrite Tube Tester, Bench Kit-box, Hickok Ohm-Capacity-Volmeter. Equip your shop the easy National Union way. Small deposit on some items.

Note: All offers subject to withdrawal without notice. Send coupon NOW!

National Union Radio Corp. of N. Y.
400 Madison Avenue, New York City

Sirs: I am interested in following equipment: Supreme 333 Unameter Readrite Tube Tester Oscillator & Output Meter Service Manuals Ohm Capacity Bench Kit

NAME

ADDRESS


CITY STATE

Restoration hints

For those of you out there that are interested in restoring an old radio cabinet, and are not sure that the stain you plan to use will match the original color, here is a hint that may help. Strip out a small area about two square inches or so, then after it dries, sand it with fine sandpaper, then apply your stain so that you can check out the color fidelity or difference as the case may be. After years of experimenting, your editor has found that to get the truest walnut finish, don't use walnut on previously finished wood, instead use Varathane brand Teak. It will give the most accurate rendition of the original color of walnut.

How many times have you had a little radio where the escutcheon is held on with those miserable little brads (shades of the ORIGINAL depression) and you find that the thing keeps loosening up? This is very easy to remedy by simply drilling out the dial plate to accept some really tiny brass wood screws, which are still available at most GOOD hardware stores. Besides looking better, you will have a dial plate that can't be ripped off at one of our shows!

RADIO TUBE EXCHANGE



SAVE 50%

We Repair All Makes of Tubes

WD11—VT1
UV201A—VT2

Dry Cell Filament Put in Any Tube.

RADIO TUBE EXCHANGE
453 Washington St., Boston Mass.

Radio report

Did you know that BARNEY KEEP over at KEX has been on the same shift, at the same station, on the same job for over 31 years? As far as anyone knows this is the longest time for any announcer in the whole United States! KEX has issued a challenge throughout the land for anyone who can prove that there is anyone else in the country who has been in broadcasting under this same set of circumstances for a longer period of time. So far no one has challenged Barney's longevity! KEX is not only Portland's most popular station, but it is one of the best in the nation! They were the top news station in the country for the year from '74 to '75. Not only is Barney well known and liked in Portland, but he was one of a handful of finalists for the on-the-air personality of the year award for 1975. Right on, Barney!

Another Portland Radio Great in the national spotlight is KXL's JOHN SALISBURY, who was recently elected PRESIDENT of the Radio and Television News Directors Association for the U.S. over the coming year.

While mentioning several well known men in Portland Radio we want to bring up the fact that we are privileged to have as a member of NWVRS, KOIN's AL BLAKE. Although he is currently not on the air, many of you will remember hearing him as A.B. in the A.M. or possibly on his afternoon show which he did before moving to the early morning slot. It is your editor's opinion that he was one of KOIN's best. Too bad we can't hear him anymore! Also on his morning show he was pitted against Barney in competition and we couldn't listen to both, at the same time.

The Romance of NWVRS

Folks, as you know it is written into our constitution that the January meeting is the ONE MEETING THAT IS MANDATORY TO ATTEND! Those who do not attend this meeting will be considered as not wanting to become a member for the year 1976. There will be exceptions of course for out of state members but at least take a few seconds to drop a line informing us of your intentions to lighten the load on an already overworked board of officers, after all we do this newsletter every month for you. We ask your cooperation in letting us know where you stand in our organization. Thank you. Editor.

What very famous member of ours is known all over the State of Oregon, for his very familiar trademark—"the white cap?" It is very disheartening to be told, "You missed the crystal set I had, some guy in a white cap beat you to it, but maybe I'll have something else for you next time!!" Yes members, you got it right if you said DON IVERSON, one of our really SUPER COLLECTORS! Competition is what we should all thrive on!

Here's one for ya . . . Bob Campbell, our new president, needs for a Clarion Model 80: a 3-gang Variable Condenser, 30-34 Superhet, 450-500 MMFB, 3/8 inch shaft, one inch long minimum. See what you can do! Bob's Phone no. is 648-7331.

DICK HOWARD called and informed us of a neat find he made recently. It is a Western Electric, Model 7A Amplifier, in a cherry wood cabinet, using 3 baseball tubes. (The tubes were buried inside wrapped in confetti!) *Neat, huh?* Dick also needs these items so if you can help please call him as he would really appreciate it: Both knobs and the light shield for a Radiola 18, volume control for an Atwater Kent Model 37 (or Models 40 or 42, which are the same), horn driver for an Atwater Kent speaker, Model L or M (same) Call him at 775-6697.

HARLEY PERKINS took delivery of a neat old 1923 Packard which has 23,000 ORIGINAL miles on it and looks it!! What has this got to do with radio, you ask, well . . . it does have an Atwater Kent starter and generator!! Harley, how about bringing this neat old girl to the next meeting so everyone can see her!

Hey fellas, don't be shy about letting your fellow club members in on what you've come up with each month, that's half the fun of this goofy hobby of ours, sharing each other's good fortune! We could even have a monthly contest for the most unusual find in old radio. This aspect is really interesting, so stay in touch with your editor, and it will be in the next issue of the Call Letter. (Now if I could find a propane operated bread-board I could win hands down!!)

ANDY BELL has been down in Houston, Texas, visiting his folks for the Christmas holidays, and I understand that he found a nice cache' of the things dear to our hearts. You might say he "struck coil down there!!" Gawd—what a horrible attempt at humor! Anyway Andy we will see you when you get back with your load of goodies. Amen!

While there . . .

I think BILL BAKER finally located that Freed-Eisman Model 45, that he has been looking for years. It was located down in Houston, by our new V.P., Andy Bell. Grab it, Bill!!

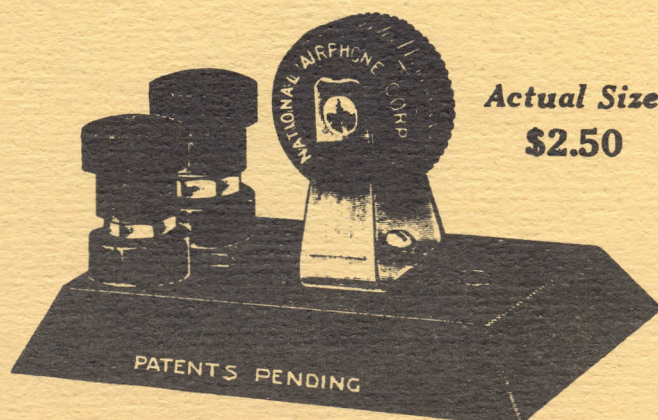
Our new officers

To those who did not show up at the last meeting, our new officers are:

BOB CAMPBELL	PRESIDENT
ANDY BELL	VICE PRESIDENT
JIM MASON	TREASURER
MARK MOORE	SECRETARY
HARLEY PERKINS	FIFTH BOARD MEMBER
BOB BILBIE	EDITOR, NEWSLETTER

Come on folks, lets help the ones who are willing to work at making our nice little club a further success, get behind the new officers and help them "kick off" a new and successful year! I know you can do it!!

Those wishing to join up for another year can pay their dues at the January meeting at which time new membership cards (green) will be issued.



YOU ARE PROTECTED BY THIS GUARANTEE:
Should any National Airphone or "Gold-Grain" Detector not be in first-class condition when purchased and within 10 days you return it to us unbroken, or unopened, we will refund your money or give you another one as you may prefer.

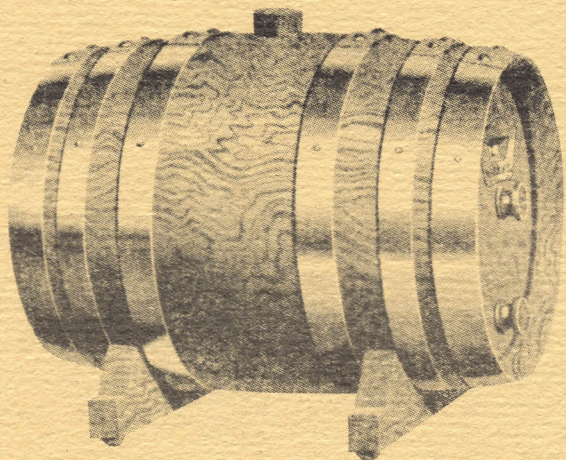
**"IT HAD TO BE GOOD—
TO GET WHERE IT IS!"**

RADIO KEG

within two months has become the sensational sales success of the national market. Not merely a novelty, its sensitive, resonant musical performance delights the hearer like its original appearance tickles his humor. Thousands upon thousands of parched families who have been saying "HERE'S HOW!" in temperate good cheer since April seventh say "THAT'S IT!" as soon as they glimpse RADIO KEG.

R. K. RADIO TONE QUALITY—

Surpassing anything else in radio!



**THERE'S A RADIO KEG DISTRIBUTOR
NEAR YOU—WRITE US FOR HIS
NAME AND ADDRESS**

DON'T FORGET THESE POINTS, MR. DEALER:

- (1) RADIO KEG is the only thing of its kind; you have no competition, no counterfeits, no price cutting.
- (2) RADIO KEG is out-of-the-ordinary in sales appeal and usually sells for cash, no terms, instead of the other way around.
- (3) RADIO KEG represents a decent unit of sale, on which you make a sweet profit.
- (4) RADIO KEG makes a hit not only with the family but opens wide immense sales possibilities to breweries, rathskellers, gardens, clubs, hotels and restaurants.
- (5) RADIO KEG is the first he-man's radio item that has been put on the market to sell on sight, since the head-phone sets that you listened to Al Smith with at Madison Square Garden in 1924.

R. K. RADIO LABORATORIES INCORPORATED

**World's Largest Makers of Unique Radio Apparatus
Licensed Under RCA and All Other Essential Patents**

6306 Northwest Highway

Chicago, Illinois

From the TALKING MACHINE AND RADIO WEEKLY, August 23, 1933

On the last page of this newsletter you will find an advertisement for the famous little Crosley Pup that speaks for itself. I hope everyone has enjoyed this issue, it has presented many challenges, especially for Mark.

NATIONAL AIRPHONE PRODUCTS

NOTES ON THE REFLEX CIRCUIT

WITH the reflex circuit illustrated, and with the values as given, it is now possible, with a single tube and a NATIONAL AIRPHONE GOLD-GRAIN DETECTOR, to receive distances over 1500 miles on a small aerial.

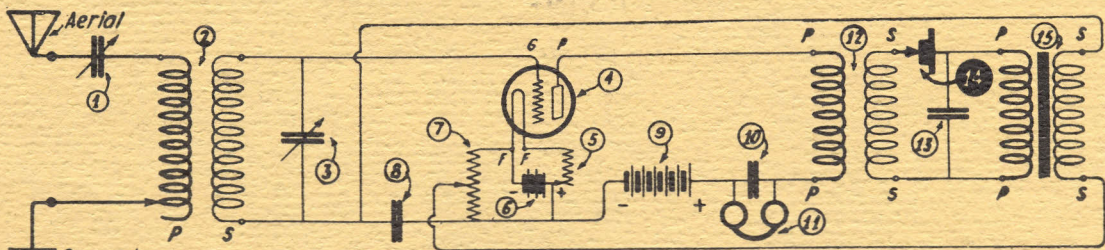
The price of the parts as shown in the illustrations should not come higher than from \$20.00 to \$22.00 (excluding Vacuum tube and phones).

The results are really remarkable, and by using a WD-11 Tube it is not even necessary to use a storage battery. A small "B" Battery and a dry cell can be used.

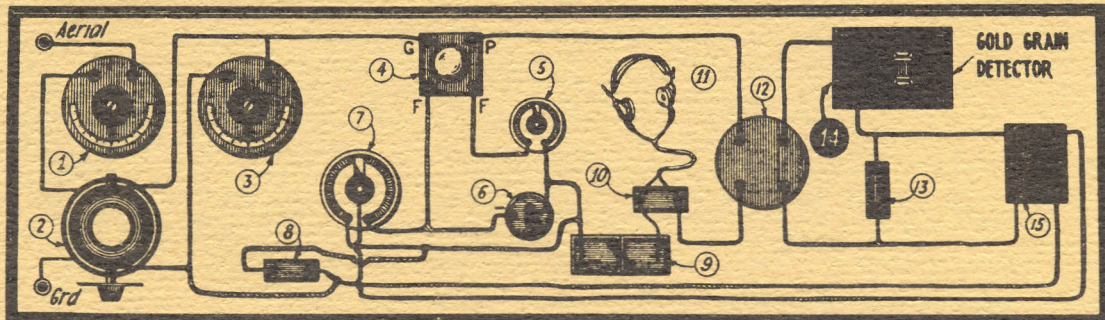
An ideal portable outfit can be constructed quite readily with

the Reflex, and for local stations, within a radius of 50 miles, an outdoor aerial is not required. A small two-foot loop may be used, and it becomes then possible to obtain a moderate volume of sound on a loud speaker.

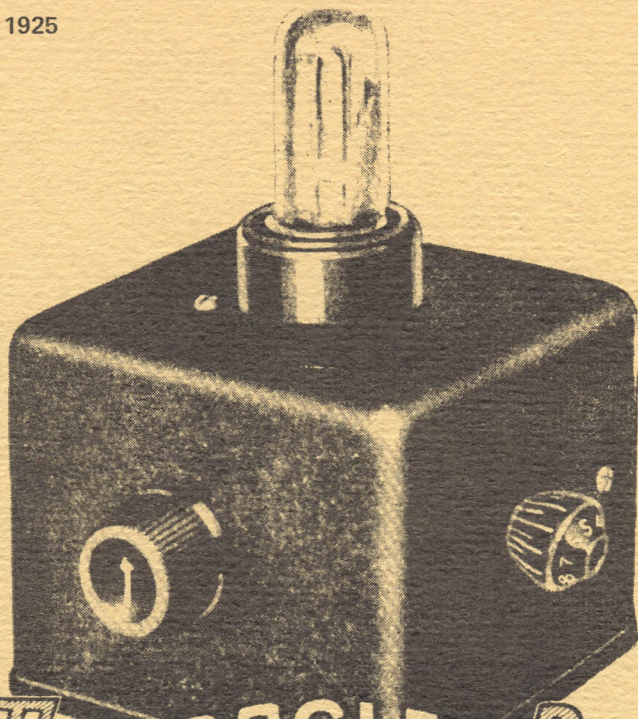
The Reflex outfit as shown in the circuit herewith has been constructed by our engineering department and we shall be glad to demonstrate it to the radio fraternity. The extraordinary results obtained with this circuit are in part due to the NATIONAL AIRPHONE GOLD-GRAIN DETECTOR. Recent changes made in this Detector have improved it to such an extent that it is now entirely automatic and will stay put with only occasional adjustments.



1- var. cond. .001 mfd., 43 plates. 2- variocoupler. 3- var. cond. .0005 mfd. 23 plates. 4- vacuum tube (WD-11) 5- rheostat. 6- "A" batt. (DRY CELL FOR WD-11) 7- 200-400 Ohm potentiometer. 8- fixed mica cond. .001 mfd. 9- batt. 45v. GOLD GRAIN DETECTOR 10- fixed mica cond. .001 mfd. 11- phones. 12- mu rad. radio freq. transf. 13- .001 mfd. F.C. 14- federal audio freq. transf.



Well, there you have it . . . an attempt to produce an issue that you can save for a souvenir. If you are disappointed, remember that we are still just an amateur outfit and cannot compete with Playboy or Time. We get no revenue from advertising, and we also lack a \$200,000 printing press, but we involved in this issue hope that you can see the work involved here for the edification and enjoyment of the finest club members in the world—ours!!



Crosley is the world's largest builder of radio sets and has built up a tremendous volume by offering the highest quality receiving sets at the lowest prices. More than a million satisfied users is the strongest testimonial of Crosley quality, simplicity, durability and value.

\$1000

Grand Prize!

Pedigreed Puppies and Larger Crosley Radios as Monthly Awards.

Who will send Crosley the best verified report of reception with a one-tube radio between September 1st and March 1st of next year?

Who will send the best report each month?

\$1000 prize for the best report for the entire period. A real live pedigreed puppy each month as first monthly prize and larger Crosley radio sets as other prizes. Contest open to all, except Crosley employees, no matter where you are or what set you own or use, factory or home built. Reports of reception must be verified. Judges may ask for affidavits.

Full details of the contest and entry cards are packed with each Crosley Pup or may be obtained from any Crosley dealer or upon application to The Crosley Radio Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio. Try for the prizes as many times and as often as you like. Remember! The Crosley "Pup" is offered as a real selective, long range receiving set. It requires one dry cell, one B battery block, one WD 12 tube, a pair of head phones and antenna. Other similar one-tube Crosley receivers bring in stations from coast to coast, with frequent reports of trans-Atlantic reception in the United States.

The CROSLLEY Pup

A Genuine Armstrong Regenerative double circuit receiver



Radio, with all its romance, knows no more magic name than Crosley.

From the time that Powel Crosley, Jr., first enabled millions to build their own sets by offering parts at a fraction of existing prices—down to the present day, radio progress and Crosley achievements have gone hand in hand. Now Crosley announces not only vital improvements in radio performance—but in the Crosley "PUP" offers this finer performance at the lowest price in radio history.

This compact, efficient receiver is a development of the famous Crosley one tube set, with which Leonard Weeks, of Minot, N. D., heard the MacMillan Polar expedition while the rest of America listened in vain.

The employment of the double circuit not only reduces radiation to a minimum, but radically improves selectivity. It can be tuned through local stations more readily.

Under average conditions, its radius, with head phones, is 1500 miles or more.

You can use the "PUP" to check the performance of your larger set; to entertain the youngster whose curious fingers cannot resist the lure of dials and switches; to install in the maid's room, or even in your office—for the air is full each day. You can take it on canoe trips, picnics, outings, and on your business journeys—for it's only half the size of a shoe box. Engineered and built to the strictest standards of Crosley Quality, this genuine long distance set can be offered at the phenomenal price of \$9.75 only because of its simplicity and Crosley's tremendous manufacturing facilities.

\$9.75
WITHOUT ACCESSORIES

ADD 10% TO ALL PRICES WEST OF ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Crosley manufactures receiving sets which are licensed under Armstrong U. S. Patent No. 1,113,149 and priced from \$9.75 to \$60.00 without accessories.

Crosley owns and operates WLW, first remote control super-power broadcasting station.

CROSLLEY

**THE CROSLLEY RADIO CORPORATION
CINCINNATI**

Tell them that you saw it in RADIO