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CALL LETTER

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the state of Oregon. Meetings of the Society are held on the second Saturday of each month, normally, at the Buena Vista clubhouse located at 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon. Meetings convene at 10 o'clock A. M.

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Feature articles are contributed by members under various by-lines. Please send all contributions to the editor.

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LETTERS

Dear Jim:

I've not been doing a lot this month, but I have a nice General Electric cathedral this week. I also got three bushel boxes of tubes out of an old house - nothing spectacular in them except 6 WD-11's, 7 199's and 3 201's, all good ones, all free.

As the year ends, I feel optimistic about next year. I'm hopeful that our far-off members can be persuaded to write us of their efforts and how their clubs operate.

Joey Tompkins

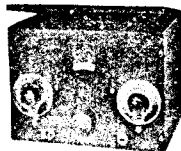
I surely concur with Joey's sentiments; we would like very much to hear from members of other radio clubs, their suggestions and comments, and, of course, local members also. Let's give Joey some help in maintaining this feature!

(Ed.)

The "EAGLE" Three-Tube Short Wave Receiver

"Band Spread" over any portion of the tuning range—only finest material used thruout. Employs one '32 R.F., one '32 detector and one '33 Pentode Audio — 15 to 200 meters — four coils, supplied. The "EAGLE" is economical — two dry cells will operate the filaments. See March or April 1933 QST for full description of this most excellent value in short wave receivers.

"Eagle" completely wired and tested. . \$11.95 Three tubes tested in your receiver. . \$3.00



20% deposit with all C.O.D. orders. Remit by M.O. Include postage

GROSS RADIO, INC., 51 VESEY STREET, NEW YORK CITY



The Silent Treatment

*A widow, with four daughters fair,
Lived in town beside the lake---
There were sly, cloudy whispers heard;
Were these rumors true or fake?*

*And then in the early thirties,
While "Depression" was the scare,
They left our little country town
To---the Lord knows only where.*

*The house was sold some years later;
Furniture and trivia all.
That's where I got this old speaker,
From a shelf along a wall.*

*The horn was dented and dirty,
There were cobwebs in the throat,
The driver was long since ruined
With a green corrosive coat.*

*I often stare at that relic
And roll back memories clock---
Golly, the tales that horn might tell,
If the thing would only talk!*

*** ** * ** * ** * ** * ***

Mamma Goose # 4

*Four and twenty stations,
Broadcasting on the air.
So Jack built a crystal set,
Mostly on a dare.*

*He got all the stations,
Proof he was no dunce,
But much to his chagrin*

They all came in at once!

DISPLAY news

I, on behalf of the society, would like to express my appreciation to those members and friends who assisted in getting the Georgia Pacific Display to the public*:

Ed Charman	Paula Phillips (GP)
Bill Hayes (friend)	Hugh & Virginia Ranken
Don Iverson	George Rudolph
Tom & Dorothy James	Jerry Talbott
Dorothy Karman (wife)	Bob Teague
Jerry Kubik	Dick Thompson (GP mngr)
Jim Mason	Joe Tompkins
John McConnell	Ron Whisman

Special thanks to those who helped me at all hours of the day and weekends to haul cases and radios to and fro.

Let me answer a few questions perhaps before they are asked. There are just under 40 radios in the display (the size was cut down by a mutual agreement with GP). We did not use the message repeater due to the reduction in floor space. The special display cases, i.e. just speakers, were used for console display instead, so that at least a few consoles could be displayed. I haven't found time to complete the video tape display (although I may be able to soon), so it is currently not available. Lastly, if you visited the museum in the first week you should return and see it now that the printed matter has come back from the ad agency and the slides are currently on display.

Let me encourage everyone to go see the display. I feel it represents the society admirably and it does credit to all those who's radios are being exhibit ed**. Please tell me if there's anything that I can do to upgrade the display or if there is anything you disagree with.

*forgive me if I've left out anyone, better yet tell me about it.

**there were several contributors who did not wish their name to be displayed- in the interest of consistency we did not publicize any names.

OUR PEOPLE

Have you seen the Georgia-Pacific display? I thought it was tastefully arranged and presented a good cross section of radios from the "golden years" of the 20's and 30's. The continuous slide show offers glimpses of some prominent radio personalities ... very youthful looking most of them appeared in those early day shots. Dick Karman did an excellent job of putting the display together ... a job that was time consuming and, at times, must have been arduous. Don't miss the display ... you'll enjoy.

* * *

In the early 1940's, chiseling on tube replacements had become a serious problem to radio parts distributors. Jobbers who investigated found that some customers had claimed replacements up to 150% of their purchases. To combat this growing problem the NRPDA (national dealers association) had some suggestions:

Make your most experienced counter man responsible for all replacements ... be sure that factory warranty and code dating information is available as a basis for discussion point out that no guarantee is perpetual; a six months guarantee does not mean that a replacement can be claimed every five months forever.

Dealers should be trained to sell replacements rather than give them away. When a tube is replaced instead of being sold, the customer gets something for nothing, the dealer and jobber both lose a sale and the cost must be borne by the manufacturer and ultimately reflected in higher prices.

Jobbers should bear in mind that some customers are always WRONG and the hassle

of trying to out-manuever them is not worth the effort. Better to close them out and let the competition have them.

Seeking a solution to the problem, some tube manufacturers were considering an across the board credit of 3½% for tube adjustments. They held that such credit would eliminate much record and bookkeeping and would easily pay for itself. Few distributors, however, had replacement records adequate to determine if such an allowance would be sufficient. Those who had maintained good service records and followed a sane replacement policy found the 3½% credit to be more than enough.

* * *

"This is for Graham McNamee and for those others who first went into a new land called radio, armed only with carbon microphones". (from "The Broadcasters" by Red Barber.) McNamee was probably the first to bring a professional quality to a struggling, haphazard business ... he set the pace for others to follow. He grew up in St. Paul, Minn. and blessed with a fine voice, came to New York to further his singing career. Successful concerts, solo engagements and a part in a Broadway show followed. Then, in May of 1923 he visited WEAf studios, spoke into a microphone and was hired on the spot. His favorite area was sports broadcasting, but he was equally proficient in doing special events, documentaries or any other assignment. His fine voice and magnetic personality made him as big an attraction as the program itself.

* * *

Entries in the home built radio contest will be judged at the November meeting Let's have a good turn-out.

By Hugh Ranken

S E R V I C E H I N T S

Motorola 44. Installing in 1933 Plymouth—by placing a Motorola Dome-light filter in series with the dome light lead which is on the left hand front post all interference is readily eliminated, and spark plug suppressors are not necessary. Distributor suppressor is needed, however.—Anthony R. Satullo, Cleveland, Ohio

Peerless Courier 65. Low volume and erratic performance may be caused by the blue and white resistors supplying screen grid voltage, shifting in value, permitting the screen voltage to rise to 160 volts. Replacing these resistors with two 5,000 ohm 5 watt wire wound resistors will cure this difficulty.—Thos. McClean, 66 St. Johns Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Philco. When "Shadowgraph" tuning indicators fail to indicate check up on the antenna. If it is too short, or so inefficient that it does not pick up strong signals this will happen.—Radio Retailing

Philco. High and low frequency trimmers can be adjusted without an output meter on sets equipped with Shadowgraph tuning indicators by first tuning a station operating on 1,400 kc. and adjusting for narrow shadow and then repeating the process on a low-frequency signal.—Radio Retailing

Philco. Where dial cables show a tendency to slip at several points smear the cable with rosin.—Radio Retailing

Philco. 5. No volume, eliminator output only 95 volts. Push down on upper vibrator contact so that spacing is equal between armature and both contacts. Erratic vibrator action. Make sure resistor across contacts is 50 ohms. Buzz, for which vibrator is not responsible. Replace 6A7.—Radio Retailing

Philco 5. Frying or crackling in early serial numbers. If not in eliminator remove grid clip from 6A7 cap and remove lead from clip. Using same size stranded wire with good insulation wind R. F. choke for five turns on clip, reconnect lead. For obstinate cases wind thirty turns number 16 solid, cc wire around pencil. Withdraw pencil and place choke so formed in A lead between low voltage R. F. choke and heater terminal of 8A. Keep choke in the vibrator section of base. Solder and tape splices. Late serial numbers have these chokes.—Radio Retailing

Wireless Quote Of The Month

David Sarnoff became famous as the operator of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. who picked up signals that the Titanic was sinking and stayed at his station for 72 hours, helping to direct ships to the ill-fated liner. He worked his way up to commercial manager of the American Marconi in 1917. To the vice president of the company, Sarnoff wrote the following memo in Nov., 1916 outlining his plan for the commercial development of radio:

"I have in mind a plan of development which would make radio a 'household utility' in the same sense as the piano or phonograph..."

"The receiver can be designed in the form of a simple 'Radio Music Box' and arranged for several different wave lengths, which would be changeable with the throwing of a single switch or pressing of a single button."

"The Radio Music Box can be supplied with amplifying tubes and a loudspeaking telephone, all of which can be neatly mounted in one box. The box can be placed in the parlor or living room, the switch set accordingly and the transmitted music received..."

"The same principle can be extended to numerous other fields- as for example- receiving lectures at home which can be made perfectly audible... This proposition would be interesting to farmers and others living in outlying districts removed from cities. By the purchase of a 'Radio Music Box' they could enjoy concerts, lectures, music, recitals, etc., which may be going on in the nearest city within their radius."

The vice president of American Marconi, Edward Nally, was cool towards Sarnoff's idea. After World War One and the formation of R.C.A. from the old American Marconi Co. Sarnoff re-submitted his plan. His estimates of the market for radio sets proved accurate. In the first 3 years of sales he said \$75 million

Wireless Quote Page 2.

dollars worth of radio receiving sets would be sold by R.C.A. on sets priced at an average of \$75 each. The actual figure was 83.5 million dollars.

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From the Library of Art Redman

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Through a generous gift from Mrs. Joe Robinson and some very good prices from Bob Campbell, the following have been added to the club library:

Motorola 1937 Combined Service Manual
Philco 1939 RMS Year Book
Philco 1940 RMS Year Book
Philco 1941 RMS Year Book
Philco 1942 RMS Year Book
Beitmn's 1947 FM & TV Servicing Info.

Nominations for officers for 1982 will be made at the November meeting. The Board of Directors has prepared a slate of candidates, and nominations will be welcomed from members. Come and participate in the selection of your club's officers for the coming year.

Your editor's collection was featured in a full page illustrated article in the November 3 issue of the Hillsboro "ARGUS" newspaper.

Old Time Radio

The Pacific Coast is "On the Air!"

by Wilbur Hall

Thirty years a Californian, I can remember three "crazes" that have swept the state and with it Oregon, Washington, and the contiguous mountain states, like measles in a boarding school.

Twenty years ago we went mad over Belgian hares. We paid as high as \$2,500 for a buck, and some of the gold cups presented to "best young does" and "best Imp. sires" were big enough to float a yacht in. Today the Belgian hare is worth just what he'll bring for frying, and no more.

Ten years ago (or such a matter) we went dippy over roller skating. It was being done and the liniment market was extremely bullish, while fortunes were made by the manufacturers of ball bearings, electric pianos, and court plaster. Today roller skating is practised exclusively on the front sidewalk, and the only doctor's bills are paid by stout gentlemen who can't get out of the way quickly enough!

The third period or era of the Far West may come to be called the "loose-coupler-detector-and-one-stage-of-amplification age". Instead of their symptoms, elderly women on our boats and trains and in our sewing societies discuss the number of stages of amplification necessary for DX reception. Women's clubs have abandoned the question of whether or not Bacon wrote Shakespeare, and are forming cliques over the dispute: "who should be eliminated from the short wave-lengths?" Business men ruin their digestions at noon, not with politics or financial news, but with deep discussions involving the Heising constant current system of modulating the oscillator tube output. As for the boys (and a good many of the girls) their cry is: "Hey, Skin-nay; c'mon over! I'm getting the band concert at Catalina!"

(continued on P. 12)

"concerts" played on the phonograph. The fact that every home that can have a radio receiving set can, and probably does, have a phonograph, seems to make no difference. People will sit for hours listening to Caruso sing or the Victor Band play through the air who wouldn't walk across a room and wind the old cabinet and get the same music home-grown. To this extent it is all a fad, and this phase of it will pass.

But the potentialities of the business are interesting. It is certain that, for one reason at least, the West will find greater use for radio than the East; said reason being that out here distances are greater. What does that mean? Simply this: that radio annihilates distance, and the more distance there is to overcome the greater and more important the feat.

Concretely I mean something like the following: along the Atlantic Coast I suppose there are comparatively few homes of the middle or better class without a telephone. No one is more than a few miles from a telegraph station. Few live outside the delivery zones of daily newspapers. You can reach every human being in New York, for example, within eight hours, if you have to and hump yourself sufficiently.

On this Coast, to the contrary, four fifths of our area and probably two fifths of our people live beyond the range of easy communication. Mountain ranges, unfordable and unbridged rivers and desert wastes intervene. If a political candidate, to take an example, wanted to communicate with every voter in the three Coast states, it would take him ten years to do it and by that time so many youngsters would have come to the voting age that some galoot in Woodland or Bellingham would probably have been elected by a plurality of thirty thousand and would have given away all the post offices and made himself solid with the constituency and good for four terms.

(to be continued)

From "RADIO BROADCAST", June, 1922

Olé! by T.J.

Gee Whiz, when I started this column for our Newsletter, I had no idea I'd have such a lot of hassle to get entries for it, however when you consider the number of radios I've reported finding a home during the years I've started the column, it's rewarding to see that so many sets are safe for a time at least.

Tom Huskins : Got a Peerless Radio in very good shape ; does anyone have a clue as to the origin of this set ?

Pat Stewart, our member from WallaWalla : Got a few DeForest tubes, an Atwater Kent three tube J A unit, an old double button broadcast type microphone. Nice stuff from a ham swap-meet !

Ron Whisman located and added to his stuff a 1930 8 tube Majestic console, and 1936 Zenith tombstone.

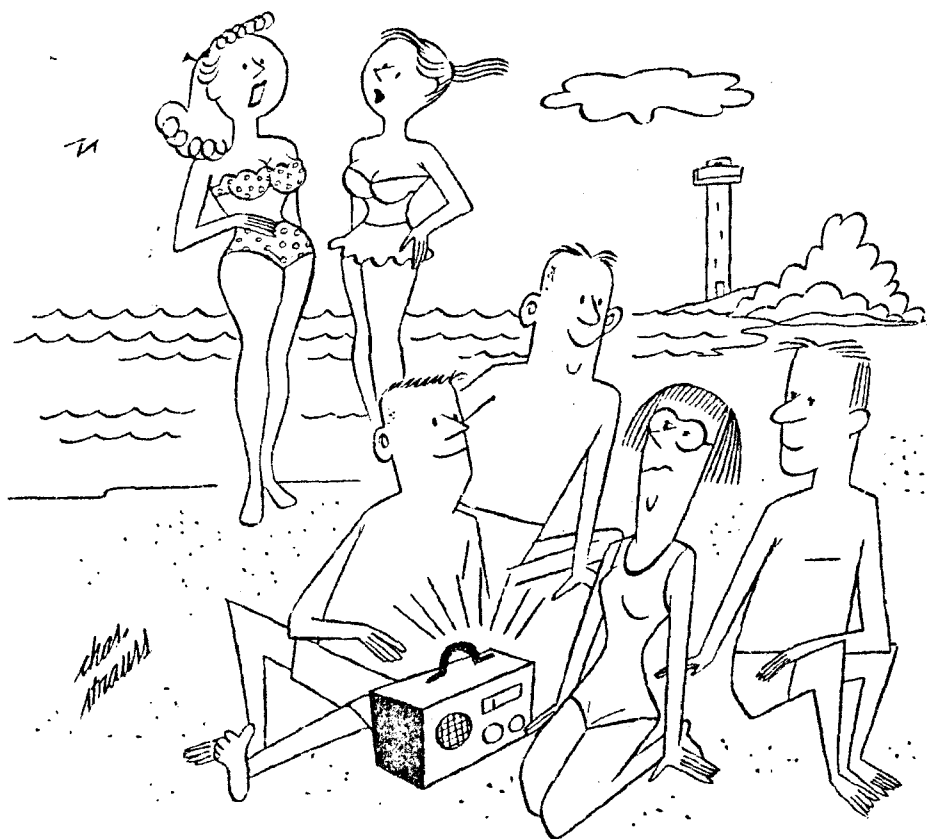
Dick Howard located a video-tape copy of the Radio Collection at Hornbrook. Could be available for club viewing later. Also he landed a DeForest D L 4 and D L 5, and a Daver tube, along with Kilbourne and Clarke parts. I am taking the liberty of dubbing Mr. Howard as our Mount Scott Accumulator !

Jerry Talbot seems to keep on making good finds in the field of novelties and consoles : A Kolster K-132 (1933) Stewart Warner table set R-119 (1934 ?) General Electric K-53m table set (1934), An Automatic 614X (1946), Westinghouse (lock radio H-48675 (1955), 8in. RCA portable TV (1956), Gould telephone radio (1956), Globe novelty radio, and a rather different picture radio which consists of a nice landscape about 18x24 with a radio included behind the frame; must be seen to be appreciated.

Thank all you members who keep me informed as to the state of the radio collecting in our fraternity. Let me be the judge as to the worthiness of that find you consider trivial.

tj/11/81

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



Strauss

Collier's

"I spend \$17.95 on a snappy new swim suit and she gets all the men just by tuning in on the ball game."

I Q Trimmer...

by THE PROF.

Unless members indicate otherwise, this will be the last Trimmer to appear in the Call Letter. I have had no feedback on the column since it's inception some years ago, so I conclude that it's of no interest to you members.

Here are the answers to last months I Q for those who might have been interested:

1. C. Brandes -----	9	
2. Cornish Wire Co -----	8	Well how did
3. Ferranti Inc. -----	1	you do? 80%
4. Polymet Mfg Co. -----	5	is pretty good,
5. Trimm Radio Mfg. Inc. -	10	but of course
6. Central Radio Labs. ----	3	
7. Electrad Inc. -----	7	100% is better!
8. Natl. Carbon Co. -----	6	
9. Mubilier Corp. -----	2	
10. Corning Glass Wks. ----	4	

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Out of the Past

50 years ago: 1931, right in the middle of the depression was the birth of a very collectible radio, the cathedral. Or maybe we should call it by it's proper name, Midget. Have you heard of one called the Dwarf? Maybe your favorite was the Radiette model Super, 50, or 60. Have you ever heard of the Cardinal, model 60? Did you see the Waltham Metropolitan? Do you have a Patterson model 90, or maybe a Waltham Midget, or a Tiffanytone Super, a Westerner Mighty Junior, Jackson Bell model 68, 50 or 62. Did you know, for example that all these radios were made in L.A.? How many of you club members have any of these sets today?

In this same era of depression there were Radiola 25 Super-hets selling for \$9.85. Atwater Kent 20 compact at \$9.85. Freshman Masterpiece A sets at \$6.50. Crosley bandbox Model 601 for \$13.95. All these and more were advertised in Radio Trading Co. catalogue----- These were new sets, what do we pay for used and abused sets like these today? Maybe we can persue this feature further, what say?

tj/11/81

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE

RCA chassis & speaker (used for "Magic Brain" demo). \$15.
A. K. ⁵⁵chassis & speaker. \$15.
Charts for pre-war Zenith Transoceanic (repro.) \$3.
Jerry Talbott. Ph. 649-6717.

FOR SALE

Majestic car radio with steering dial & controls, needs tubes but has schematic and sockets are marked. Control cable and plain metal lid (easily made) missing - needs a better grille cloth, altho the old one has the Majestic name. Asking \$35.
Joey Tompkins. Ph. 362-8071.

FOR SALE

Grebe Synchrophase MU-1; Rola horn speaker (Oakland model).
Jim Mason. Ph. 644-2343.

WANTED

Setchell-Carlson TV. Jerry Talbott. Ph. 649-6717.

WANTED

I am interested in a A. K. metal box model 40, 41, or 42. Prefer a 40, and want tuning bands on, working, or at least the power pack O. K. Also want a large slant front Philco case. Joey Tompkins. Ph. 362-8071.

WANTED

Old tubes, crystal sets. Don Iverson. Ph. 285-1144