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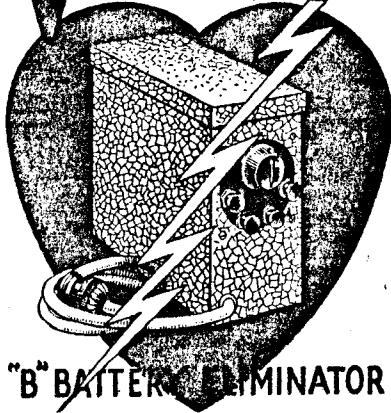


FEB.
1982

CALL LETTERS



VELVETONE
THE HEART OF THE RADIO



"B" BATTERY ELIMINATOR



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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.

** ** * * * * *

Call Letter address: P.O. Box 02379
Portland, Oregon 97202

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 1982 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Don Iverson. The minutes of the October and December meetings and the treasurer's report were given and approved. There was no report of Good and Welfare.

Old business: We were reminded that the club dues are now due. Tom James said that he has the club radio project circuit drawn and a list of materials should be ready for the next meeting. Dick Karman volunteered to head the cabinet construction work. The 1982 officers were elected. They are: President-Bill DeVey, Vice President-Tom James, Treasurer-Ed Charman, Recording Secretary-Hugh Ranken and Corresponding Secretary-Don Iverson.

New business: Jerry Talbot has sent copies of our newsletter and membership list to two radio clubs in the Seattle area. It is hoped that, with a newsletter exchange, we will have better chances for swaps and leads. Jerry has also been in contact with a local ham radio club, which often have old radios and related equipment in their swap meets, with the idea that we may someday have a joint swap meet.

Joc reminded us that the annual Salem Flea Market featuring old radios, phonographs and related items will be held February 14th. He also would like to have some of us help in putting together a club display at the flea market.

Dick Karman has obtained some of the slides that were used at the Georgia Pacific display and Jerry Talbot has a lead on some audio - visual equipment that may be useful for future club displays.

A round of applause was given Dick for his efforts in setting up the Georgia Pacific display. He and Ed Charman will be joined by Tom James as members of the 1982 Display Committee.

The gavel was passed to the incoming president by the outgoing president. A round of applause was given last years board members, the newsletter editor and contributors and the Power Supply for their services to the club.

Jim Mason asked us to get items for the newsletter to him by the 25th of the month. A motion was made and carried to have the minutes of the meetings published in the newsletter. This will give those not able to attend meetings and those who missed the previous meeting, an opportunity to know what topics were discussed and what the agenda will be for the next meeting.

The theme for the February meeting is earphones. The meeting was adjourned and the judging for the one-tube radio contest began. The winner of the contest was Don Iverson.

Charles R. Kibler, Secretary

Good Rheostats Make Tuning Easy

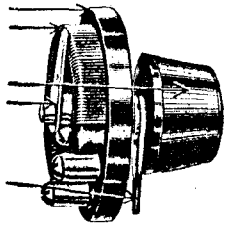
The newcomer in the radio game is likely to become confused when he starts to order the parts for his set. Just what to select for his new set without spending an unnecessary amount of money is always a problem. One of these problems will be solved right here. When you order your Rheostats you can save money and at the same time buy quality merchandise by ordering these high grade rheostats. They are arranged for panel mounting and are fitted with an attractive knob and pointer. Resistance element is wound on a heat resisting composition base with connections brought out to binding posts. From the various rheostats listed below you can easily select the type best suited to your set and the type vacuum tube used. When using storage battery equipment with C-300 or UV-200 tubes, it is always best to select one of the Vernier Rheostats for the detector circuit. This is not necessary with dry cell tubes.

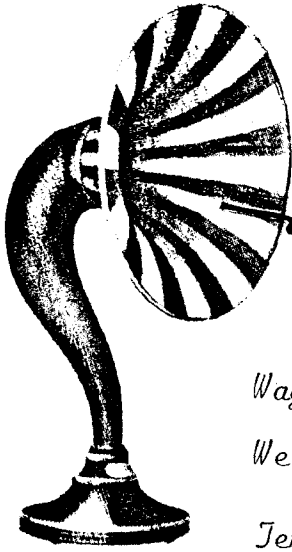
48¢

3	W 6401	—Resistance, 0 ohms. For C-300, UV-200, C-301 and UV-201	48¢
3	W 6400	—Resistance, 10 ohms. For two or more C-301A tubes	53¢
3	W 6406	—Resistance, 20 ohms. For single C-301A or UV-201A	53¢
3	W 6403	—Resistance, 30 ohms. For C-299 and UV-199 tubes	61¢
3	W 6415	—Resistance, 50 ohms. For C-299 and UV-199 tubes	61¢

Postage, 5¢ extra

- Molded Composition
- Wire Wound on Heat Resisting Form
- Attractive Knob
- Spring Arm Gives Perfect Contact at all Times
- Nickel Plated Pointer Makes Neat Appearance





ATMOSPHERICA

By J

Strangers in the Nite

*Way back in nineteen-twenty-four,
When radio first came thru the door,
We'd hunt those stations far away--
X-E-N-J - - - - , K-D-K-A .*

*Ten watt "peanuts" in Iowa
Could be logged from Spariway;
New Orleans came booming thru;
Dallas, Memphis, Chicago too .*

*The biggest thrill in store for all
Was to log some foreign call,
And beat the neighbors to the punch.
('Twould boost our ego quite a bunch!)*

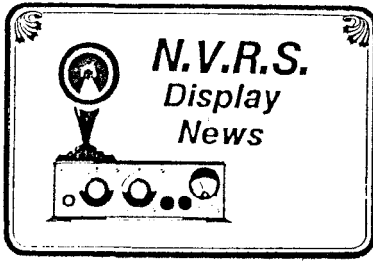
*It used to be, in days gone by,
Radio was for you and I,
To pick and choose among the lot ;
Such priveleged choice has gone to pot !*

*I guess it's true with many things--
We're told what's good. How clear it rings !
We're regimented to conform,
It looks as tho that is the norm.*

*The F.C.C. is losing touch,
Does 'nt amount to very much.
The stations multiply with ease,
Deregulated, as they please.*

*Time has shifted, that's sure enough,
Most programs tuned is talk-show stuff,
News, and records from local towns,
Announced, no less, by would-be clowns !*

--- good nite all ---



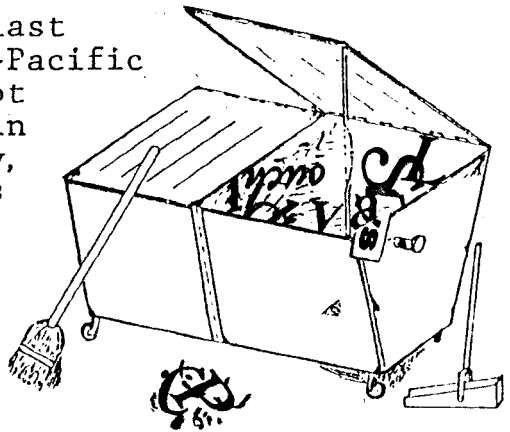
DK

A NEW DISPLAY !!! Our next display is scheduled in the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, opening on June 6th. Plans are progressing well. Dean Ivey from OMSI, during our last meeting, suggested some interesting leads which, when developed, will prove advantageous to our society and our display. Many of these will be detailed in the display proposal which will be available for inspection at the February membership meeting.

Mr Ivey has made tentative plans to order some broadcast material from the National Archives which will be used in our display.

A NEW COMMITTEE !! Actually, a new member. Tom James answered the call for volunteers during the January meeting. Tom, Ed Charman and I would be glad to have your company if you'd like to help us put together some future displays. We are looking for new ideas in the display area all the time.

OLD BUSINESS ... The last details of the Georgia-Pacific display have been "swept up" and put away. I, in the name of the society, wrote thank you letters to G-P and Mr. Dick Thompson. I hope we'll be able to go back in '83 !



See you Feb 13th !!

OUR PEOPLE

The weather had moderated somewhat, it was election day and who could resist the home baked treats of the Power Supply. All of this made for a fair attendance at the January 1982 meeting. Bill DeVey became our President, with Tom James, Vice President; Ed Charman, Treasurer; Hugh Ranken, Recording Secretary and Don Iverson, Corresponding Secretary.

Judging of the home built radios took place after the meeting. Three of the one tube sets were entered - all well done. The judges selected Don Iverson's entry as the winner.

Thanks to Jim Mason, Bill Baker, Andy Bell and others who brought sets for display. Andy showed a vintage set that must have been in use prior to WWI - quite a collectors item.

* * *

During the "radio years" newspapers presented articles, programs and commentaries much the same as TV coverage today. Here are some items and ads appearing in September 1925.

From the Oregonian, Tuesday 9-8-25, Washington D.C., "The recent increase in power in many broadcasting stations throughout the country has been greeted gleefully by crystal set users. It is predicted that this power increase will bring about a revival of the humble crystal set in spite of the great strides in tube set development. There are crystal set users who declare they prefer the crystal to a tube set. The program director of one of the best known stations in the country, when asked what he had for his personal use, replied: 'I use a crystal; when I want to listen to an orches-

tra or singer there is never the static or covering up of defects. For work of that kind the crystal is the thing."

Again in September 1925 -- The Keeps Growing Wiser Order of Hoot Owls" is being sued on name infringement charges by the "Order of the Owls" in South Bend, Indiana. Attorney Barnett H. Goldstein, who holds the title of "Grand Schmoose" in the Hoot Owls answered the charge on behalf of Chas. F. Berg, Frank Sardam, Dean Collins, Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner and others and asked dismissal of the charge, contending the Hoot Owls were primarily a fun organization designed to spread cheer. (Apparently an amicable agreement must have been reached for the Hoot Owls retained their name and continued their good work for many years.)

Some ads for the same period-- Sherman-Clay & Co., ran the following: Radiola III-A \$67.50 with 4 tubes and loud speaker (batteries extra). Radiola III \$24.50 with 2 tubes and headphones (batteries extra). Without accessories Radiola III-A \$35.00 and Radiola III \$15.00. (Sherman-Clay at that time was in a quarter block, brownstone building at 6th & Morrison, adjacent to Meier & Frank. This corner was later developed by M & F to match the rest of their store building.)

Powers Furniture at 3rd & Yamhill featured the Radiola Super Hetrodyne at \$116.00 or complete with 6 tubes, batteries and RCA speaker for \$160.10. "Powers credit plan will enable you to enjoy while paying for it". (A pioneer firm since 1866, Powers was at 3rd & Yamhill from 1912 to about 1956).

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

Columbia S. G. 8 (nickname Temple) Fading or intermittent operation is often due to an open R. F. choke in the first R. F. stage. It is a good policy to check all chokes in this set, as this trouble is quite often encountered.

When reception performs O. K., but very loud crackling noise takes place during operation, check the lugs and connections on the three R. F. chokes, an open will cause much of this annoyance.—Carl H. Ramm, 5409 Agatite Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Crosley (All models with Crosley's own dynamic speaker) Rattling sound as if the tube is working at wrong c-bias may be caused by a loose voice coil winding. To cure, remove diaphragm assembly and dip voice coil winding in thinned shellac (good grade). Thin sufficiently so that shellac will penetrate into the bottom layer of winding. Allow to harden completely, then repeat for second coat.—Vincent J. Cortese, Jr., Hazelton, Pa.

Crosley 40S—3. Cut off when shaken by passing traffic. Set checked O. K. Shaking the bathtub, tuning condensers caused the set to stop. On second check, touching the control grid bias resistor of the screen grid tubes caused set to resume playing. Further tests showed the trouble to lie in this resistor, which is wound on a bakelite strip, with resistance wire clamped to soldering lug by rivets. Loosening two turns of this wire and soldering the ends directly to the lugs remedied the trouble.—Wm. Buescher, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Crosley 40S. When tone is bad, pep lacking and an analyzer check shows positive bias on the first audio tube, replace the by-pass condenser connected between the detector and the first audio grid.—Radio Retailing

Crosley 42S and 33S. Excessive hum is due to defective Mershon Condenser.—H. E. Massie, Stephens City, Va.

Crosley 42 and 33. Low volume and poor quality reception is often caused by defective coupling condensers between detectors and first audio tube. This condenser develops a high resistance when in operation, and will invariably test O. K. when removed from the chassis.—George E. Hohman, Baltimore, Md.

Crosley Model 120 8-tube super. A very loud cracking similar to static, and a building up of volume, then cutting off sharp and clearing up, can be traced to a small midget .02 condenser placed between the 24 and 27 tubes, shoved under the resistor strip. This trouble is quite frequent in these models, and hard to find.—M. S. Benson, Thornton, Ill.

Wireless Quote of the Month

The Boer War in South Africa was the first war where radio was used. The following short article, 'Wireless Telegraphy In South Africa,' appeared in the Scientific American of July 7, 1900.

"The recent visit of Marconi to this country has, in some measure, revived the interest in his system of wireless telegraphy which was aroused during the memorable international yacht races of last (1899) summer. We learn that at the outbreak of the South African war an opportunity was presented for dispatching several of Marconi's assistants, and that they took with them complete outfits of wireless telegraphy instruments. It seems that at the outset of hostilities, that the capabilities of wireless telegraphy which were so readily appreciated by the naval authorities, did not seem to commend themselves to the commanders in the field. Instruments had been sent to Generals Buller, White, and Methuen; but they failed to develop the plant, and seemed to have looked askance at the new invention, preferring to rely upon the old time heliograph and searchlight signals. In besieged Ladysmith communication was established by means of balloon, by electric signals thrown on the clouds, by heliograph, and even by homing pigeons; but no mention is made at any time of the use of wireless telegraphy, either by the forces in Ladysmith, or by the relief columns under Buller.

"There were some generals, however, who gave the system a fair test, and it is characteristic of Lord Roberts that immediately upon assuming command in South Africa he appointed several experts in wireless telegraphy to accompany him. There have been ten instruments in Lord Robert's army, and the operators have been given every facility to test the system. Little is known as to their practical working,

except that it has been in the main satisfactory. The report which will ultimately be given will, no doubt, throw favorable light upon the practical value of wireless telegraphy in land operations. It is worthy of note that the difficulty of providing the necessary elevation for the vertical wire was met by making use of the form of kite designed by Baden-Powell, the brother of the defender of Mafeking."

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Art Redman

The Pacific Coast is "On the Air"
(continued from P. 12)

"I was mistaken. When the blaze flared up it took six months to reach greater proportions than I had ever dreamed it would reach under five years. Now the company employs sixty-five people and is putting on more every day. We are seven months behind our orders, which come from all over the world, but in a few weeks we hope to have our facilities increased to the point where we can catch up to within three months, at least.

The growth of the business has not been even like a mushroom's development--it has been like the bursting of a shell."

It seems not too much to hope that, within a year or so, the Pacific Coast will hear faint rumblings of the news about radio. Not too much if you are a hopeful person.

(concluded)

From "Radio Broadcast", June, 1922

Old Time Radio

The Pacific Coast is "On the Air"

by Wilbur Hall

The friendly rivalry that exists between operators of radio outfits has done more, as Mr. Herbert Hoover has observed, to hasten the perfecting of the new practice than fifty years of laboratory work would have done under normal and non-competitive conditions.

The first successful station on the Pacific Coast, both for broadcasting and receiving, was the Army one, established at the Presidio in San Francisco, at about the time of the close of the war. This is one of the best-equipped stations here still, and has done a lot for radio on the Coast. There are now at least two broadcasting stations in Seattle, one large one about to be completed in Portland, if not one in Reno, Nevada, and possibly scattering ones in the other states hereabouts. They go in so fast that no one pretends to be able to keep track of them and there is, of course, nothing as yet that is official. In California the bay region about San Francisco is far ahead, with approximately twenty broadcasting stations, several of them finely equipped and with a great range. Los Angeles has caught the craze now and several installations are being made.

One interesting possibility just hinted at to may be unique. California has, I believe, more long-distance automobile stage lines than any other state. At present the State Railroad Commission is working very hard to make these lines a real public utility and as dependable as to running time, stops, number of cars operated, and routes followed as it has already made them standardized as to rates charged. The principal difficulty has been to maintain a fixed schedule or time-table. But already one of the largest of

the companies operating in this field, itself new, is making plans to equip each of its stages with a small receiving set and to dispatch its drivers and keep in touch with them on the road by radio. Here, again, the West has a use for the radio that may never be so acutely felt, if felt at all, in the East.

All the San Francisco newspapers and several in other cities are now publishing a radio page. This all in the last few weeks. The university of California has extension course lectures on practical radio-telephony and the classes are overcrowded. A tight organization, known as the Pacific Radio Trade Association, is functioning fully and trying intelligently, and already with some success, to bring order out of the present chaos of broadcasting. The Association has already issued a schedule of hours when the air can be grabbed by the many who want it, and its officers--sound men in the business--are now looking forward to the time when one central broadcasting station will be erected. If this is not done soon by the government or one of the powerful companies or combinations, the Trade Association will undoubtedly take the bull by the horns and do it itself. It means business.

Much of my information comes from an amiable young gentleman named Rathbun associated with the Colin B. Kennedy Laboratories of San Francisco, and I want to quote him a little to make clear how radio has developed here.

"When I left the army," Mr. Rathbun said; "I had two or three business propositions made me, but I took the one that paid the least, and, to my friends, seemed to have the poorest future--a position with this company. It was organized by Mr. Kennedy in June, 1919, and he had one office boy and a mechanic. I took the work up because I felt pretty certain that within ten years, and perhaps within five, there would be a general and widespread interest in radio telephony."

(continued on P. 10)

Ole!

by

T.J.

Sometimes letters containing finds etc. are sent to other members than your Ole' editor, and thusly don't reach me until too late for deadline. My address is J.W. James, 5024 S.E. Clay St. Portland, Or. 97215.

Erik Lofquist, Seattle member, writes that in 1981, he acquired a 7 tube Apex Neutrodyne (1928), A Crosley Super Trirdyne; and his favorite, a Stewart Warner 300 with the original Stewart-Warner tubes, and the two "Nymph" speaker. Nice going Capt.

In the May/1978 issue of the Call Letter appeared a bad Xerox pictorial of a one tube radio, plus an article on the construction of same. Our member in Brownsville, Te. Joe Warburton, has built this model and to my knowledge is the only one to have used the Call Letter for such a project. He furnished pictures of the finished product and they were great. Willbring to meeting next time. this sort of thing makes a good Ole'. Hats off to Joe W.!

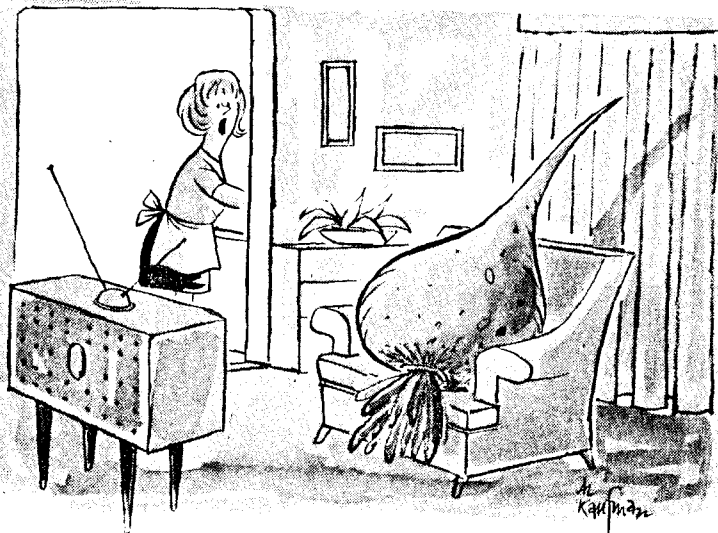
From Ed Charman, Treas. of Nuvsr.: An Electron "Super Six" made by Feldstern and McCusker, Phila., Pa. complete with W.E. type horn speaker and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ high quality X99 tubes in it's sockets.

Jerry Talbott: 1920's radio ads from newspaper clips, '33 Philco 57C; '35 Remler "Scottie"; '40 Philco 40-216. "remote control"; '40 G.E. #52; '40 Zen. 59401; 42 Crosley 52JP; '46 Echophone EC-113, made by Hallicrafters; '49 Emerson 561A; '51 Hallicrafters 5F10A; '56 Zen. 4832, AM-FM, blond ash table set. If you want to see Jerry's house, just drive around the Hillsboro area until you see a house with the walls bulging out--that's his!

Jim Mason got a Moorhead and an Audiotron tube for his antique valve collection and a large Kaar radio, communication type. A May 1933 Richfield REporter Program Selector for Oreg./Wash. Anyone remember the Richfield Reporter?

Your Ole' Ed.: Beautiful Kolster 6D and a Silvertone model 90, all with 9 201As and 2 112As test like new!

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



"One of these days, George, you'll turn into a vegetable!"

Yesterday

London, 18/ May/ 1929

Philip Paddon, an amateur, invited some friends over to his home to prove his proud boast that he receives the United States regularly on short waves. He tuned in the program of W G Y, Schenectady, N.Y., being broadcast on the short wave transmitter of the General Electric Co.

It was just before midnite. Paddon felt that a time signal was due. "Listen and you'll hear the Americans announce it is exactly 7 o'clock, although it will be midnight here," said Paddon, who lives only twenty-five miles from the famous Big Ben clock.

His friends listened carefully and all they heard was the stiking of Big Ben. His friends thought he was teasing them with local reception. They pointed in the direction of Big Ben and smiled. In fact the short wave station of the British Broadcasting Co. was being picked up by W2XAF in the U.S., and was being rebroadcast, so that the radio waves crossed the Atlantic on a round trip before reaching Phil's receiver.

The signals faded and Paddon's friends left his home, still as doubtful as when they had entered it!

** ** *

This bit of information leads me to another situation which can be equally humorous to those of us who went through this time period with a very intimate association with radio in this period. that deals with the claims of many persons that they heard far off stations with crystal sets. Most of these (honest beliefs) were due to network signoffs as New York or Los Angeles, or wherever the past program originated. The reception of programs one hundred miles or more distant, on crystal sets were so rare as to be virtually non-existent. Of course reception of super power C.W. spark stations is not in the same category. I'm not sure what some of the professional receivers could have done with this sort of broadcast. One tube regenerative jobs could get transcontinental reception, however from the 550-1500 kc broadcast stations, under ideal conditions.

tj/2/82

WANTED 5" Crosley electrodynamic speaker
Bill DeVey. Ph. 635-6746.

WANTED McElroy "tear drop" telegraph
key. Bob Becker, Box 355, Kent,
Wash. 98031.

WANTED Zenith AM-FM 10-tube chassis
(10A3), fits a0H551 console.
Jerry Talbott, Ph. 649-7617.

FOR SALE Grebe Synchrophase
Philco Model 511 "Tin Box"
Philco All-wave console, model
37-10.
Remler Model 11 tombstone
Rola Horn speaker
Victor VV-VI phonograph
Jim Mason, Ph. 644-2343



JA MAC PRODUCTS

Speaker Re-Coning
All Makes

8600 N.E. Sandy Blvd
Portland, Oregon 97220
252-2929

The advertisement is framed by a border of various speaker models, including a large horn speaker at the top center, several smaller circular speakers, and a rectangular speaker at the bottom right.