

# Radio-Electronics

JUNE

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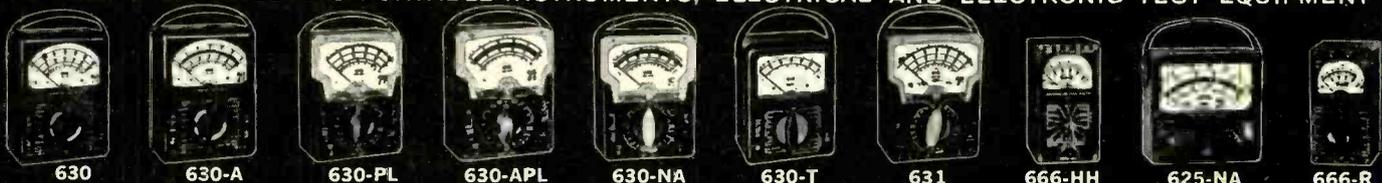
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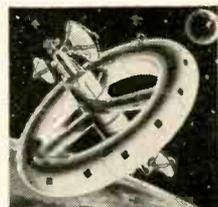
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# Radio-Electronics

JUNE 1961  
VOL. XXXII No. 6

Formerly RADIO CRAFT — Incorporating SHORT WAVE CRAFT — TELEVISION NEWS — RADIO & TELEVISION\*

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(Story on page 40)

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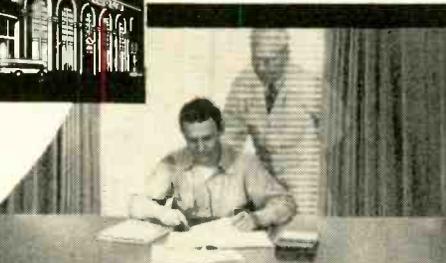
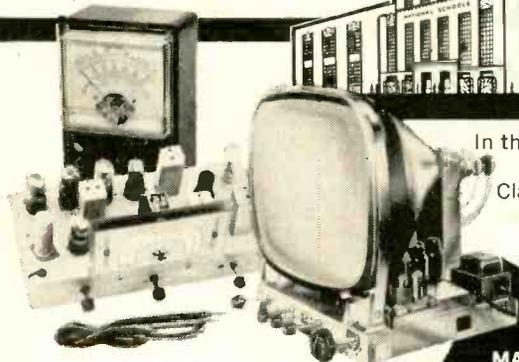
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# News Briefs

## Electronic Aid for Blind and Deaf

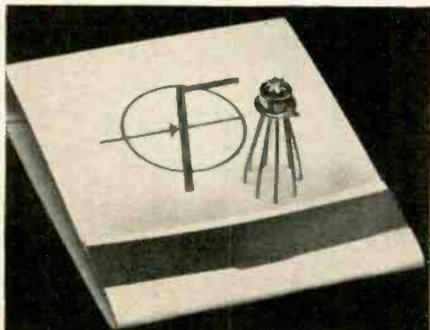
Electronics may in the future assist the blind to see at least in part, and aid the deaf in a new way, stated IRE vice president Prof. Franz Ollendorf at the Institute of Radio Engineers international convention held in March. He told of work done by his colleagues and himself, aimed at helping the blind and deaf with sight and hearing aids that would be connected direct to the brain. This might not come in the near future, he warned, and would not give full vision to the blind. However, if the blind person could see something coming toward him, he could act to avoid it, even though he might not know what it was.

Better results might be expected with electronic aids for the deaf, Professor Ollendorf believes, but the sounds that will reach the brain may not be the same as those received by normal hearing. Deaf persons who have heard in the past would have to learn a new language.

Another aid for the blind was discussed by Prof. Thomas A. Benham of Haverford College, Pa., and his associate Malvern Benjamin. Dr. Benham's device, on which he has worked for some years, uses infrared light in a radarlike device. Obstacles reflect the light to the instrument, which detects the infrared rays and amplifies the signal to a vibrator in the handle. (The general principles of an early form of the instrument were described in Professor Benham's article in the October 1955 issue of RADIO-ELECTRONICS.)

The instrument is being field-tested its developers state, and a curb detector is being developed for use with it. Its greatest use is expected to be

A Micrologic Flipflop photographed on a standard match book. This is the larger of the two Micrologic packages.



in semi-familiar surroundings, where it would indicate the presence of new and unexpected obstacles.

## Color TV Accelerates

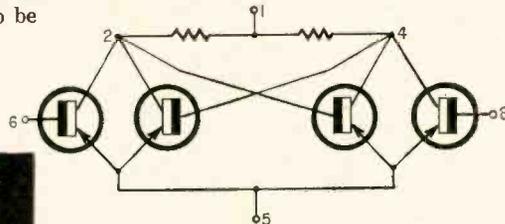
Every indication is that all or most major TV manufacturers will be on the market with a color set next winter, reports *Television Digest*. Though all will be using the new RCA shadow-mask tube, there is renewed activity in the search for a good single-gun tube. General Electric is stepping up its engineering activities with its post-acceleration tube (RADIO-ELECTRONICS, December 1955) and Philco is reported to be working again on the Apple tube and receiver (RADIO-ELECTRONICS, January 1957). Autometric Corp., the Paramount subsidiary now handling the Lawrence tube, is said to be making several developmental receivers a week, and is understood to be almost technically ready to go into production.

"Every indication" is that color TV sales and service will be an extremely important factor in late 1961 and 1962.

## "Micrologic" Elements Cut Digital Circuit Size

A new departure in integrated microminiature circuit design may soon lead to a "90% reduction in size and a 70% reduction in the cost of the logic section of a computer," according to Dr. Robert Noyce of Fairchild Semiconductors, who demonstrated the first of a new series of devices in New York City recently.

Called a Micrologic Flipflop, the element looks exactly like an ordinary transistor except that it has then deposited on top of the slab,



eight leads. As the sketch indicates, it actually contains four direct-coupled transistors, with two load resistors. Terminals 1 and 5 are battery supply and ground; 2 and 4 are outputs, and 6 and 8 are inputs. The Flipflop is made by diffusing the transistors and resistors for many units into a single slab of silicon. The metallic intraconnections are

which is then cut into the individual Micrologic elements. Each of these is mounted in a standard TO-5 or TO-18 transistor case.

The Micrologic Flipflop is the first of a family of six. Five other devices—Micrologic gate, half-shift register, buffer, half adder and counter adapter—will be made available during the year. The six elements can be used to build the complete logic or arithmetic section of a computer. The new Flipflop is priced at \$120, a price which is comparable to the equivalent conventional circuit. "This price will be markedly reduced as production volume and sales increase," Dr. Noyce believes.

## FM STEREO MULTIPLEX AUTHORIZED JUNE 1

Many FM stations begin stereo broadcasting on or shortly after June 1, under an FCC ruling opening the FM broadcast band to stereo on that date. The system used is a modification of that proposed to the commission by General Electric and Zenith. Standards had not been issued at date of writing, but modifications were expected to be minor.

Several companies state that prototype receivers and equipment for converting stations are ready, and that receivers and adapters will be available to the public on or shortly after June 1.

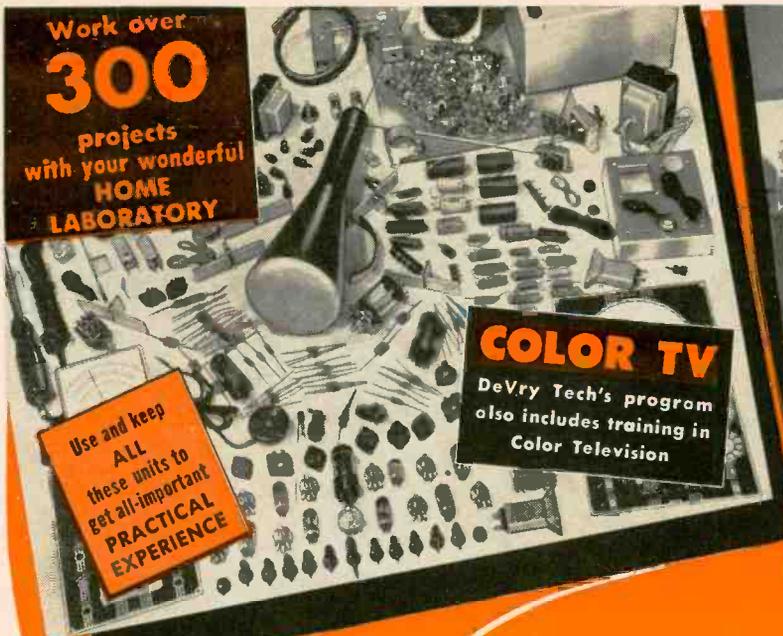
The Zenith-GE system was selected from a group including the Halstead, Crosby, Calbest and Percival systems as one that "will produce stereophonic transmission of good technical quality with only negligible effects on the monophonic main-channel listener", according to the FCC. It uses an AM subcarrier on the main FM carrier, and therefore has the further advantages that adapters or multiplex receivers will be simpler and cheaper, and that a second subchannel can be used for commercial "storecasting", restaurant music and similar services.

Radio-Electronics will describe

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# ACRO SOUNDINGS



## A QUESTION FROM MR. GMAXKLT

It was a balmy June day, just six years ago, when we found our morning mail swollen by a postcard from a Mr. W. D. Gmxklt. (At least that's how an archeologist friend of ours deciphered his sanskrit signature.) No offense intended, especially since the zealous Mr. Gmxklt had been kind enough to take the time to write to us as a demonstration of his unbridled enthusiasm for the (then) new Acro UL-1 amplifier he had just assembled.

Since that first welcome communique the irrepressible Mr. Gmxklt has dispatched exactly one postcard per 8.2 months. We've heard his comments, suggestions, news about his own "technical advances" and a request for 4 3/4 inches of a type of wire used in our Ultra-Linear Circuitry. Today Mr. Gmxklt asked his first question.

It seems that news of Acro's Stereo 120 amplifier had just reached him. Now, bewildered, befuddled and apparently bothered, Mr. Gmxklt wants some clear and simple answers.

"If," Mr. Gmxklt wants to know, "you say I need 60 watts per channel for *my* kind of hi-fi, why do other makers hither with a 'measley' 30-watter? On the other hand," he asks, "if less power *will* do the job, why do you bother with that 120 watt block rocker of yours?"

Here, Friend Gmxklt, is your answer: The Acro Stereo 120 is especially designed to wake up any half-decent, low efficiency speaker on the market... to wring out clarity, crispness and quality even the maker may not've realized his speaker capable of... and still have enough reserve power to do some serious roof-raising from time to time—necessary or otherwise.

Gather 'round, and we'll tell you the "inside" secret of this phenomenon. We've discovered a fantastic new European tube that can put out as high as 100 watts in our Ultra-Linear circuit. Since all we need is 60 watts maximum per channel, this amazing development means that the Acro Stereo 120 can run at full power output *continuously*, with rock-solid stability, unmeasurable distortion—and without the slightest hint of strain or pain.

It's that simple, Mr. Gmxklt. When do you want your dealer to deliver?

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410 Shurs Lane, Phila. 28, Pa.

the accepted system fully in the next issue, and will follow with information on stereo adapters, tuners and receivers.

## Ultrasonics "Sews" Plastics

An ultrasonic device that bonds films of plastic together without heat has been announced by International Ultrasonics Inc., Cranford, N. J. The machine will make perfect, hermetic, noncontaminated seals on many types of plastic that cannot be sealed by dielectric or resistance "heat-sewing" methods.

The device looks much like older plastic "sewing machines," but the head or "welding tip" applies ultrasonic energy to the material, causing the molecules of the interface layers to bond together and making an exceptionally tough seam. The ultra-



sonic generator has an output of about 100 watts and the frequency is in the order of 40 kc.

## Long Waves Do Get Through

Radio propagation theory has been upset by a runaway satellite that is picking up low-frequency signals that should have been absorbed by the ionosphere according to all present beliefs.

Lofti, a small piggyback satellite, failed to separate from its carrier (Transit III-B) and the two went into an unplanned orbit ranging from 100 to 600 miles from the earth. The unplanned orbit caused the satellite to pass in and out of the ionosphere, which permitted scientists of the Naval Research Laboratory to learn some unexpected things. First was the fact that a substantial portion of the very-low-frequency signals (3 to 30 kc) pass through the ionosphere into space. Second and more puzzling was that the velocity of these signals is noticeably reduced when traveling through the ionosphere.

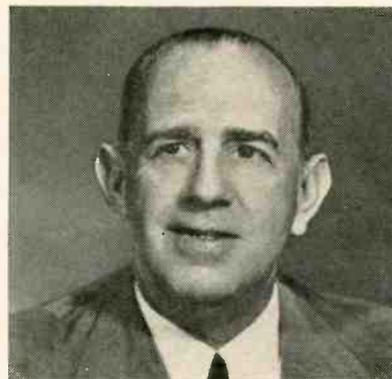
Several practical applications of the new discoveries appear possible. One is the possibility of a global system for communications with submerged submarines, which can communicate only on vlf when under water. Another possibility is a network of vlf stations as navigation radio beacons for manned or unmanned space vehicles.

## Powel Crosley Dead at 74

Powel Crosley, Jr., one of the earliest large manufacturers of radio sets, died in Cincinnati March 28. He was 74 years old.

Crosley first became interested in radio when his son asked him for one, in the early days of broadcasting. When he discovered that the cheapest one on the market cost \$119, he produced his own, and in 1922 was mass-producing the one-tube Harko radio for \$20. Shortly after that he came out with the famous Trirdyn, a three-tube reflex set with a stage of rf, regenerative detector and two stages of audio amplification. It used the book type tuning condenser invented by Hugo Gernsback. For some time Crosley was the world's largest radio manufacturer. Another "largest" was superpower station WLW, which operated at 500 kilowatts till complaints of blanketing over wide areas forced the FCC to cut his power to the present 50 kw.

Powel Crosley expanded his operations into the appliance field, and introduced the shelf-in-door feature now found in all refrigerators, sell-



ing it as the Shelvador. He also experimented with small, low-priced cars for a number of years, but admitted later that he was "10 years too early" with the compact car. At the time of his death, he was the principal owner of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team, in which he had a controlling interest since 1936.

## Ultrasonics at Uhf

A new, efficient device for converting electrical energy into ultrasonic energy and vice versa at microwave frequencies was described by D. L. White of Bell Telephone Laboratories at the recent Institute of Radio Engineers international convention. The new device is a piezoelectric transducer using a semiconductor depletion layer. It will probably find its greatest use in ultrasonic delay lines, where its operation at high frequencies and wide bandwidths will make it possible to store large amounts of information.

The new transducer consists of a plate of piezoelectric semiconductor (such as gallium arsenide) on which a thin metal film is deposited (see illustration). The film constitutes a nonohmic rectifying contact which causes a depletion layer to form. The thickness of the depletion layer can be controlled with a negative bias voltage across the interface. When an ac voltage is applied, most of the

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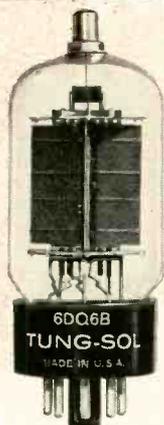
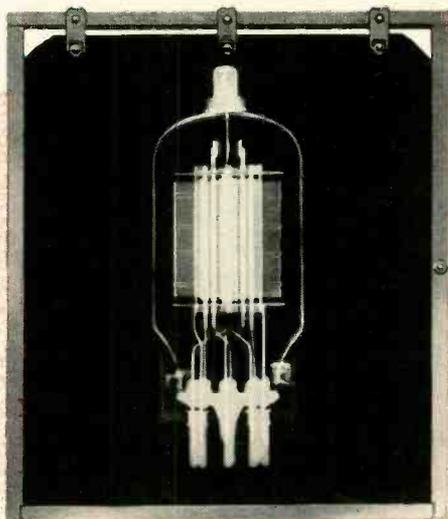
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### HORIZONTAL DEFLECTION TUBE PROGNOSIS INDICATES STABLE EMISSION OVER LONG LIFE SPAN

Prolonged observation of Tung-Sol horizontal deflection tubes indicates a consistent behavior pattern: virtual immunity to chronic deflection tube illnesses. They exhibit a remarkable ability to withstand the high temperatures and high pulse voltages encountered in TV deflection service, which too frequently have a fatal effect on tubes of less hardy ancestry. Diagnosis shows unusual physical fortitude. The plate design, with special large area cooling fins

plus high conductivity core aluminum-clad steel material, is a combination of ingredients that safeguards against "hot-spotitis".

Tung-Sol "circuit design"\* approach has eliminated Barkhausen oscillations and snivets.

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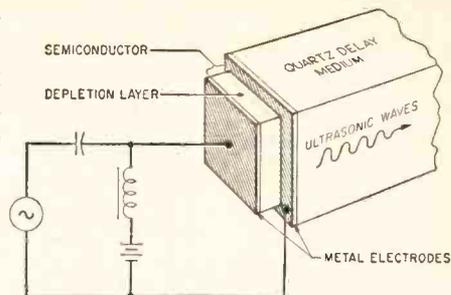
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voltage drop occurs across the layer, which then behaves like a very thin piezoelectric crystal bonded to a solid. Since the layer is thin,  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-6}$  cm, the electric field is very large and considerable piezoelectric stress can be produced in the layer.

The depletion-layer transducer has several advantages over an ordinary transducer:

Because the layer is so thin, the greatest efficiency of the transducer is at very high frequencies. Current models operate at under 1,000 mc but the frequency range is expected to be extended to above 10,000 mc. In this high-frequency range, this transducer should be as much as 100 times more efficient than any other known transducer.

The thickness of the layer, hence the resonant frequency of the transducer, can be varied by varying the dc bias voltage. This adds great flexibility to its use.

Present models measured at 600 mc have a bandwidth of 5% (30 mc), an order of magnitude larger than that of typical ceramic transducers operating at frequencies below 10 mc. This means that a comparable increase should be expected in the amount of information which can be transmitted.

### New Flat TV Tube?

A new flat display device described by General Telephone & Electronics (Sylvania) laboratory head Stephen Yando may be a step toward a solid-state TV tube. Yando, speaking at the IRE convention, said that work starting as a minor project had become one of the laboratory's major projects. It is "an entirely new combination of electrical phenomena that have been in general use for some years—piezoelectricity and luminescence." Luminescent panels that could show crude moving pictures have been displayed in the past. Apparently the new combination of techniques speeds the process. The final objective—a TV display tube—still remains in the future, and Yando states that "it should be emphasized that much work remains to be done *in the years ahead* [italics ours] before the commercial feasibility of piezoelectric-electroluminescent display can be fully established."

### Radio Scope to Study Jupiter

Yale University has just announced completion of the largest radio telescope on the East Coast,

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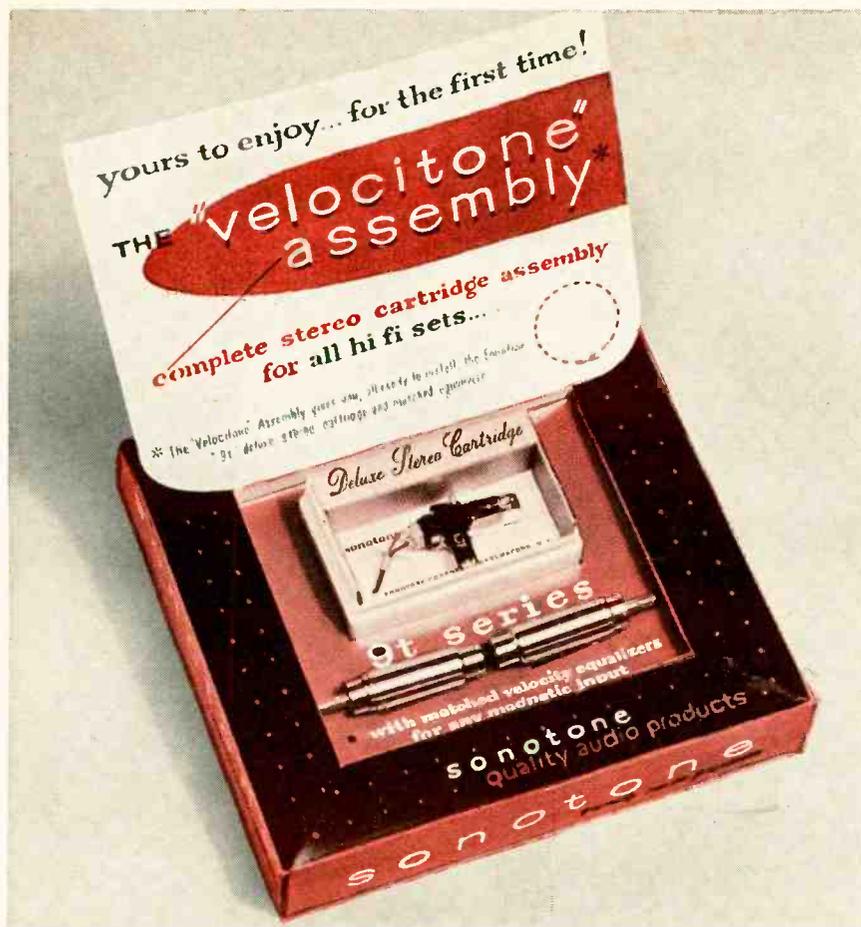
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built to study the long-wave radiations from Jupiter. It consists of two wire grids  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile apart. Each grid is 110 feet wide, 100 feet high and 200 feet long. The telescope was constructed as a result of the accidental discovery 6 years ago of signals from Jupiter that were of much lower frequency than any that might have been expected from the planet. They indicated either that Jupiter was much hotter than either theory or observation would indicate, or that there was some as yet unknown force behind the radiations. Since the "hotter" theory would have made Jupiter brighter than the sun to observers on the earth, work was started on equipment that could search for the unknown causes.

### Calendar of Events

**IRE-AIEE Global Communications Symposium**, May 22-24, Hotel Sherman, Chicago, Ill.

**IRE-AIEE National Telemetering Conference**, May 22-24, Sheraton Towers Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

**1961 Electronic Parts Distributor Show**, May 22-24, Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Ill. (Attendance limited to manufacturers and their advertising agencies, representatives and distributors) **Radio-Electronics** will exhibit in room 610.

**EIA Annual Convention**, May 24-26, Pick-Congress Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

**British Radio and Electronic Component Manufacturers' Federation Show**, May 30-June 2, Olympia, London, England.

**Instrument Society of America Conference and Exhibit**, June 5-8, Royal York Hotel and Queen Elizabeth Hall, Toronto, Canada.

**IRE National Symposium on Radio-Frequency Interference**, June 12-13, Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.

**IRE Conference on Product Engineering and Production**, June 14-15, Hotel Sheraton, Philadelphia.

**IRE National Conference on Broadcast & Television Receivers**, June 19-20, O'Hare's Inn, Des Plaines, Ill.

**IRE National Convention on Military Electronics**, June 26-28, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

**ISA-IRE-AIEE Joint Automatic Control Conference**, June 28-30, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.

**British IRE Convention**, July 5-9, Christ Church, University of Oxford, England.

**International Conference on Medical Electronics**, July 16-21, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

### Wireless Power Transmission

New tubes and new techniques are ushering in a new technology that may permit sending huge amounts of power to areas where wires cannot be strung. W. C. Brown of Raytheon told the international IRE convention.

Key to the expected new technique are new tubes like the Raytheon-developed amplatron. This tube, no larger than an automobile cylinder, can produce over 1,000 kw of radio-frequency power at microwave frequencies—100 kw for each square inch of cathode area. Problems still in various stages of progress are economical generation of the large amounts of power, antennas for efficient transmission and reception, and conversion of the microwave power into more usable forms of electrical or mechanical energy. **END**

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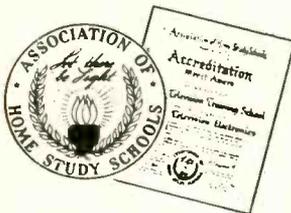
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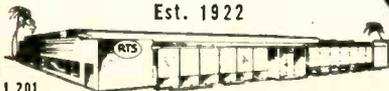
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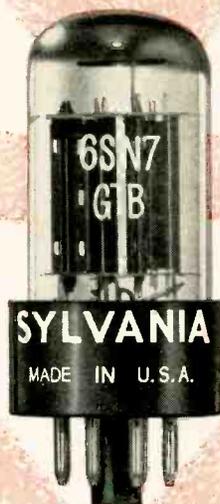
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111 Roosevelt Ave., Mineola, N. Y.

manufacturers of quality electronic products

CANADA: Wm. Cohen Ltd., 8900 Park Ave., Montreal • EXPORT: Terminal Radio Int., 240 W. 14 St., N.Y., N.Y.

## Correspondence



### KIT AD

Dear Editor:

I must protest the Paco ad on pages 16 and 17 of the April issue. It is outrageously unfair, untrue and damaging to the kit industry as a whole.

The left page states—not in effect but in so many words—that a kit builder (a) can expect a great deal of trouble sorting out the parts he gets, (b) that it is common to find parts mislabeled, (c) that kit manufacturers usually print instructions and illustrations in such a way that they cannot practicably be used, and (d) that when the kit is finished the constructor may expect it to start a fire.

If these complaints were true of kits at large—or even of any significant number of kits—the kit business would have died long ago. But even though the kit business is very healthy indeed (due to generally high quality, conservatism of manufacturer advertising in adhering strictly to the truth, and extremely gratifying acceptance by that section of the public which has actually built kits), we are constantly striving to convince new people that kit building is what it is cracked up to be. This kind of unethical, false and misleading advertising appeals directly to the fears which we, Heath, Scott, Eico, Dyna and many others have been seeking to allay—the fear that it is too hard to build a kit and that, once constructed, it will not work. Through long, hard, years of sincere persuasion and because of the many thousands of nontechnical people who have been successful with kits, we are succeeding. But I do not propose to stand by while one manufacturer tears down the confidence so hard-earned by the kit industry (of which Heath is the pioneer and we are modest late-comers with only 6 years under our belt).

The facts: Undoubtedly errors occur in identifying parts and a few faulty parts do go to customers. But the incidence of these troubles is tiny and insignificant, and is, if anything, less than one would expect from ordinary human frailty. If you searched our files, you would find an extraordinary number of spontaneous congratulations on the completeness and quality of the parts we furnish—and very, very few remarks in the other direction. I would willingly bet that every other reputable kit maker can say the same!

I have no quarrel with the quality of

# Do you WISH you were EMPLOYED in ELECTRONICS?

## F.C.C. LICENSE—THE KEY TO BETTER JOBS

An F.C.C. *commercial* (not amateur) license is your ticket to higher pay and more interesting employment. This license is Federal Government evidence of your qualifications in electronics. Employers are eager to hire *licensed* technicians.

## WHICH LICENSE FOR WHICH JOB?

The **THIRD CLASS** radiotelephone license is of value primarily in that it qualifies you to take the second class examination. The scope of authority covered by a third class license is extremely limited.

The **SECOND CLASS** radiotelephone license qualifies you to install, maintain and operate most all radiotelephone equipment except commercial broadcast station equipment.

The **FIRST CLASS** radio telephone license qualifies you to install, maintain and operate every type of radiotelephone equipment (except amateur) including all radio and television stations in the United States, its territories and possessions. This is the highest class of radiotelephone license available.

## GRANTHAM TRAINING PREPARES YOU

The Grantham course covers the required subject matter completely. Even though it is planned primarily to lead directly to a first class FCC license, it does this by **TEACHING** you electronics. Some of the subjects covered in detail are: Basic Electricity for Beginners, Basic Mathematics, Ohm's and Kirchoff's Laws, Alternating Current, Frequency and Wavelength, Inductance, Capacitance, Impedance, Resonance, Vacuum Tubes, Transistors, Basic Principles of Amplification, Classes of Amplifiers, Oscillators, Power Supplies, AM Transmitters and Receivers, FM Transmitters and Receivers, Antennas and Transmission Lines, Measuring Instruments, FCC Rules and Regulations, and extensive theory and mathematical calculations associated with all the above subjects explained simply and in detail.

## OUR GUARANTEE

If you should fail the F. C. C. exam after finishing our course, we guarantee to give additional training at **NO ADDITIONAL COST**. Read details in our free booklet.

Get  
Your First Class Commercial

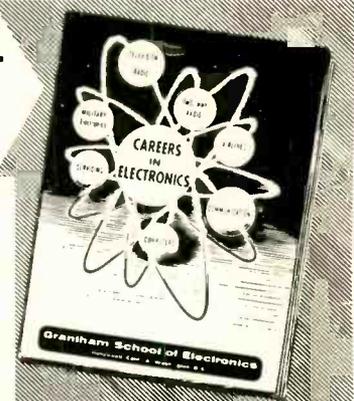
# F.C.C. LICENSE QUICKLY!

## Learn by Correspondence or in Resident Classes

Grantham training is offered by correspondence or in resident classes. Either way, we train you quickly and thoroughly---teach you a great deal of electronics and prepare you to pass the F.C.C. examination for a first class license. Get details now. Mail coupon below.

This booklet  
**FREE!**

This free booklet gives details of our training and explains what an F.C.C. license can do for your future. Send for your copy today.



To get ahead in electronics—first, you need the proper training; then, you need “proof” of your knowledge. Your first class commercial F. C. C. license is a “diploma” in communications electronics, awarded by the U. S. Government when you pass certain examinations. This diploma is recognized by employers. Grantham School of Electronics specializes in preparing you to **earn** this diploma.

Grantham training is offered in resident classes or by correspondence. Our **free** booklet gives complete details. If you are interested in preparing for your F. C. C. license, mail the coupon below to the School's **home office** at 1505 N. Western Ave., Hollywood 27, California—the address given in the coupon—and our free booklet will be mailed to you promptly. No charge—no obligation.

# Grantham School of Electronics

HOLLYWOOD  
CALIF.

SEATTLE  
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MO.

WASHINGTON  
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RESIDENT CLASSES  
HELD IN FOUR CITIES

If you are interested in attending day or evening classes mail the coupon for free information to our home office in Hollywood, Calif.



(Mail in envelope or paste on postal card)

To: **GRANTHAM SCHOOL OF ELECTRONICS**  
1505 N. Western Ave., Hollywood, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Please send me your free booklet telling how I can get my commercial F.C.C. license quickly. I understand there is no obligation and no salesman will call.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in:**  Home Study;  Seattle classes

Hollywood classes,  Kansas City classes,  Washington classes

14F

MAIL COUPON NOW—NO SALESMAN WILL CALL →



on the  
**CITIZENS BAND-**  
**LESS SIGNAL LOSS WITH**



**polyfoam**<sup>®</sup>

As serious operators are fast discovering, AMPHENOL Polyfoam cable is the very best choice for citizens band antenna systems. Compared to RG-8/U, AMPHENOL's 621-111 Polyfoam equivalent has up to 35% less signal loss. For the low power citizens band, Polyfoam's low loss is a vital factor in increased signal strength.

Polyfoam has other advantages. It's lightweight and easy to handle. It assembles quickly to coaxial terminations such as AMPHENOL 83-1SP. And its cost is surprisingly low. You can buy all this in low-loss AMPHENOL Polyfoam 621-111 for a mere 3¢ more a foot than RG-8/U!

*Insist upon genuine AMPHENOL Polyfoam cable, available through your Authorized AMPHENOL Distributor.*



**AMPHENOL DISTRIBUTOR DIVISION**  
**BROADVIEW, ILLINOIS**  
*Amphenol-Borg Electronics Corporation*

Paco kits, nor even with their saying they avoid the possible problems detailed so luridly in the ad. If they strive for superior quality and more expensive and better packaging, so much the better and good luck to them! Scott, too, in the ad on page 71 of the same issue, and in many other very good ads, is selling the public their idea of quality in kits—and with a truthful, sincere, convincing story told honestly and well. But in telling us about their kit quality, Scott does not find it necessary to say everyone else's kits are hard to build and dangerous!

The public has found over the past few years that building kits is not difficult, is fun, can be done by people without technical training, and saves a good deal of money while yielding first-rate quality. Paco's approach is calculated to destroy confidence in kits and thus deprive the public of these enormous benefits.

RICHARD H. DORF

*Schober Organ Corp.*  
*New York, N.Y.*

**PATENT WON'T WORK**

*Dear Editor:*

I wish to comment on the "Ignition System" patent (No. 2,955,248) which was described in the New Patents section, pages 90-91 of the April issue. This system will not work as designed. Diode D is presumably intended to isolate the ignition-coil voltage spike from the transistor, but it will not do this. To see why, refer to the basic physical law that an inductance will tend to resist any changes in the current flowing in it. Thus, when the current is switched off, the inductance will cause a voltage spike across the switch which is much greater than the normal drop, in an effort to maintain the current. This means that, in the circuit shown, the end of the coil primary connected to the diode will go strongly negative when the transistor is cut off. This voltage spike will be applied to the transistor through the forward direction of the diode, and the diode will not protect the transistor against this spike.

In addition, the base circuit shown is much more elaborate than need be. All that is required is a resistor connected from base to -12 volts. It should have a value that will pass enough base current to saturate the transistor on the coil current. The contact points would be connected in series with this resistor, cutting off the transistor when open.

CHARLES ERWIN COHN

*Chicago, Ill.*

[The patent may have been intentionally wrong. Some people, in "revealing" their inventions, slip in a gimmick. In this case it may be a backwards diode. The added complexity in the base circuit may have been necessary to avoid infringing on an existing patent.—Editor]

**FLASH COMMENT**

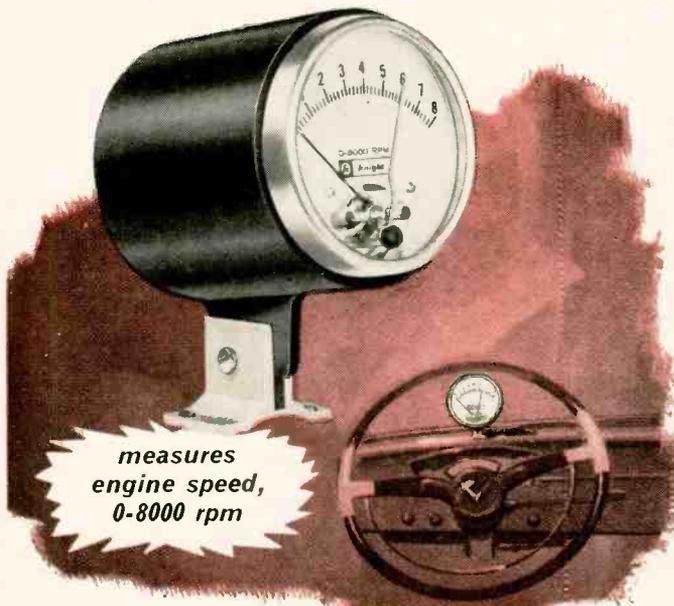
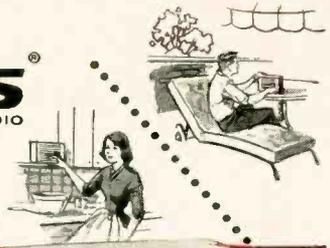
*Dear Editor:*

I was interested in the article "Inside the Electronic Photoflash," in the March (Continued on page 22)

# NEW—simply great **knight-kits**<sup>®</sup>

A PRODUCT OF ALLIED RADIO

talk of the kit world...only at **ALLIED**



measures  
engine speed,  
0-8000 rpm



it's **WIRELESS**—  
just plug in  
and **TALK!**

## New Money-Saving Electronic Tachometer Kit

3% Accuracy Regardless of Temperature or Voltage Variations

Until Aug. 1 **\$19.95**  
No Money Down  
Another KNIGHT-KIT first—a precision tachometer in money-saving, easy-to-build form. Helps you drive at your best engine speed efficiency, like the professionals. Transistor switching and Zener diode regulator contribute to exceptional 3%-of-full-scale accuracy, regardless of voltage or temperature changes. Operates with 4, 6 or 8 cylinder automotive engines; simple installation. Ideal also for outboard marine engines using battery or magneto ignition system from 2 cycle 2 cylinder and up. Big illuminated D'Arsonval meter; 0-8000 rpm scale; separate reference pointer may be preset to any desired speed. For 12-volt systems only. With cables, mounting hardware, wire and solder. Shpg. wt., 2 lbs.

83 Y 944. For negative ground systems (American cars).

83 Y 980. For positive ground systems (Foreign cars).

No Money Down. INTRODUCTORY PRICE EITHER TYPE... **\$19.95**

## Deluxe Wireless Intercom System Kit at Lowest Cost

Works Anywhere Without Wires — No Installation!

This easy-to-assemble intercom operates without installation or wiring—just plug into any AC or DC wall outlet for step-saving communication! Change locations easily—anywhere. Ideal for home, office or store. In the home, you can communicate with nursery, garage, basement or patio. In office or shop, provides time-saving communication. Will operate between adjacent buildings that are on same electric-company line transformer. Perfect for baby sitting. Features power-line noise silencing circuit for absolutely quiet "standby"; premium quality throughout. Has Talk-Listen switch, with lock-on feature for constant listening. Handsome cream-toned plastic cabinet, 9 x 5½ x 5½". Can be used in systems consisting of 2 or more units, as desired. Shpg. wt., 3½ lbs.

PAIR  
**\$37.90**  
No Money Down

20 YX 272-2. Complete 2-Station System. NET... **\$37.90**  
83 Y 941. Additional Station. NET EACH... **\$18.95**

SEE DOZENS OF GREAT  
**knight-kit** BUYS in  
**Allied's Summer Sale Book!**

Make your money-saving selections from page after page of great KNIGHT-KIT values and special offers! Save most on the best in build-your-own Stereo, hobby, instrument and Ham kits. Also see terrific closeouts on tape recorders, phonos, records and tape; specials in radios, cameras, TV accessories, Citizens Band radio, amateur gear, P.A., test instruments, tools and electronic parts. Send coupon today!



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NOW!

**SAVE AS NEVER BEFORE**  
on everything in Electronics—  
hundreds of special bargains—  
dozens of new products! Write  
for this big value-packed Sale  
Book today!

**free**

**ALLIED RADIO, Dept. 34-F1**  
100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, Ill.

Send **FREE** Allied Sale Book No. 205

Ship me the following:

- 83 Y 944 Tachometer Kit.  20 YX 272-2 Intercom System  
 83 Y 980 Tachometer Kit.  83 Y 941 Intercom Station

\$..... enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**ALLIED RADIO**

# NEW BELL LABORATORIES RESEARCH FORESHADOWS COMMUNICATIONS AT OPTICAL FREQUENCIES

A revolutionary new device, the continuously operating Optical Gas Maser, now under investigation at Bell Telephone Laboratories, foreshadows a whole new medium for communications: light.

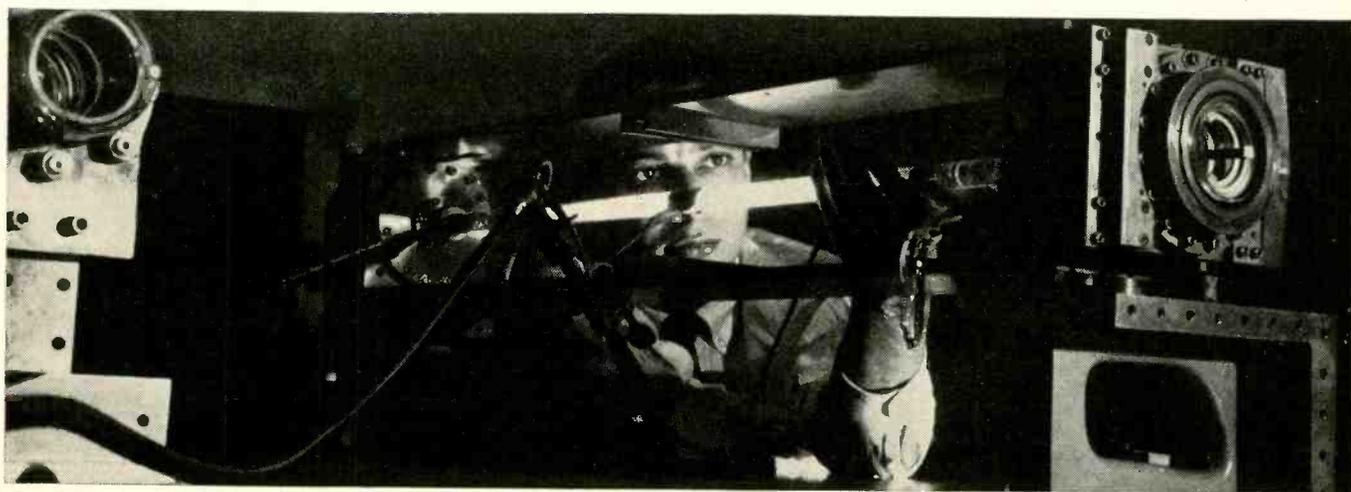
Light waves vibrate at frequencies tens of millions of times higher than broadcast radio waves. Because of these high frequencies, a beam of light has exciting potentialities for handling enormous amounts of information.

Now for the first time, Bell Laboratories' new Optical Gas Maser continuously generates light

waves that are "coherent." That is, the light waves move in phase as seen looking across the beam.

With further research, it is expected that such beams can be made to carry large amounts of information. The beams can be transmitted through long pipes. They can be projected very precisely through space, and might be used for communications between space vehicles.

Research with coherent light is another example of how Bell Laboratories prepares ahead for communications needs.



The Optical Gas Maser (above) was first demonstrated at Bell Telephone Laboratories. Heart of unit is a 40-inch tube containing helium and neon. Interaction between gas atoms produces a continuous, coherent beam of infrared light that may one day be used in communications.



**BELL TELEPHONE LABORATORIES**

WORLD CENTER OF COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



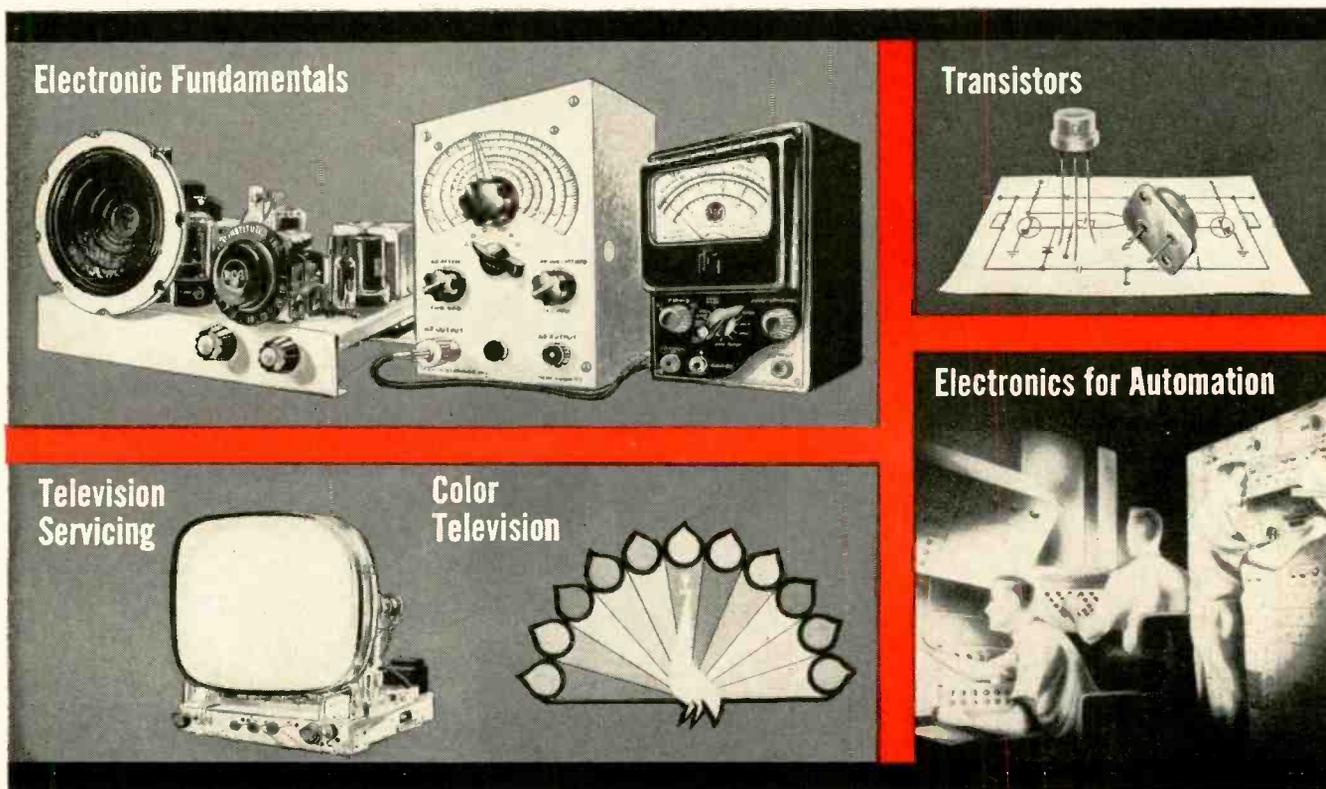
# LET RCA TRAIN YOU IN ELECTRONICS

RCA Institutes, one of the world's leading electronic technical schools, offers Home Study Courses in . . .

## RADIO, TV, TRANSISTORS, AUTOMATION

. . . Now you have five comprehensive courses for your electronic training. Practical work with the very first lesson. With the new Voluntary Tuition Plan, you pay for each study group only when you order it. If you interrupt the course at any time, for any reason, you don't pay until you resume the course.

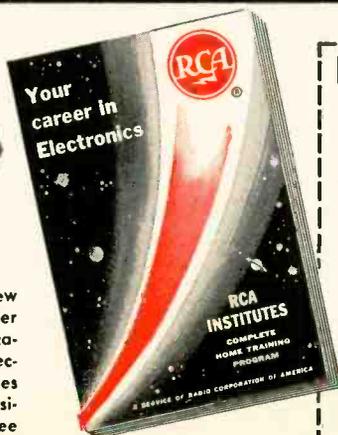
Even if you have not completed high school, you can begin your electronic career training at RCA Institutes. Choose from any of these courses.



Send for our 64 page Home Study Catalog

**FREE!**

RESIDENT SCHOOLS in New York City and Los Angeles offer Technical Institute and Vocational School Courses in Electronics. Day and Evening classes start 4 times each year. Resident School Catalog sent free on request.



**RCA INSTITUTES, Inc.** Home Study School, Dept. ZRE-61  
A Service of Radio Corporation of America  
350 West Fourth Street, New York 14, N. Y.

Please rush me your FREE illustrated 64-page book "Your Career in Electronics," describing your home training programs. No obligation. No salesman will call.

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# FIELD ENGINEERS

For Univac  
Missile-Guidance  
Computers & Tactical  
Data Systems

Field engineers are now being selected for maintenance assignments on ultra-reliable Univac missile-guidance computers and other military electronic data processing systems.

Openings involve maintenance of the Univac ICBM guidance computer, first of its size to be completely transistorized.

Applicants must have at least 2 years of formal education in Electronics with 3 or more years in maintenance or maintenance-instruction. Experience should be associated with complex electronic equipment such as TV, radar, sonar or digital computing systems.

Before assignment, you receive 2 to 6 months training at full pay in our St. Paul, Minnesota, laboratories. Benefits include company paid life insurance, hospitalization, medical and surgical benefits, relocation expenses and living allowances at field sites.

Openings also for qualified instructors with backgrounds similar to above.

Send complete resume of education and experience to:

R. K. PATTERSON, Dept. Q-6

**Remington Rand**  
**Univac**

Division of Sperry Rand Corporation  
2750 West 7th St., St. Paul 16, Minn.



(Continued from page 18)

issue (page 36), since our organization does a fair amount of this work. I was glad to get the schematics on the Braun Hobby units which E. Leitz, Inc. had refused to part with for love or money although I have been able to get parts from Leitz with no trouble. The European transistors shown in the schematics can all be replaced with the 2N265 or equivalent, with the exception of the TF 80/30 which can be replaced with the 2N555.

At numerous points in the article, it became apparent that Mr. Henry had not serviced these units to any extent. The most outstanding instance was where he suggests that you get a roll of film and shoot pictures with the flash unit you just repaired. E. Leitz Inc. pays \$4.50 for the warranty repair of any Braun Hobby. Can you imagine taking a Braun Hobby down, troubleshooting it, making the repair, reassembling the unit, paying for a roll of film, taking the time to shoot eight pictures, paying for the development and still trying to show a profit? If you insist on making light-intensity checks, use a light-intensity meter.

THOMAS L. BARTHOLOMEW  
Washington 10, D.C.

[What is apparent is that Mr. Henry has not been doing *warranty* servicing to any extent. Our correspondent has pointed up a weakness of much warranty servicing—you cannot afford to do a good job. For regular service work, shooting a roll of film would be amply justified and is a service that many professional photographers would be delighted to pay for—at industrial rates.—*Editor*]

## OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

Dear Editor:

I get a little annoyed when I read letters and articles in your publication that continually growl about part-time and/or amateur technicians. The writers seem to think that distributor's parts houses are a private domain for the exclusive use of the "full-time" technician, yet most refuse to stock even the most common items for sale to others.

After having had the opportunity to examine the work done by many repair shops, I have concluded that **the only thing that shop owners have to fear is their own incompetence.** I had hoped that the electronics repair business would not fall into the same class as many other so-called "professional" areas.

Medical doctors have had laws passed to protect them from the public, resulting in mediocrity instead of medicine. The farmers have a lobby whose sole responsibility is to demand that government reward them for their own inefficiency. Trade unions have forced business to retain the incompetent along with the craftsman. And so it goes, carpenters can't build a well constructed house, teachers can't teach and preachers are dull beyond belief. We are becoming a country of mediocrity turning out mediocre products.

There are still a few craftsmen, but

they never need to fear competition from the tyro. So if you want to eliminate amateur competition, for the sake of heaven, don't try to do it by legislative decree, do it by your own greater knowledge, ability and professional work. You want to be called "professional" technicians but you must be professional to earn the title.

K. E. ROMBOUGH  
APO 953, San Francisco, Calif.

## DEAR MR. FIPS

Most Revered and Esteemed Fips:

Again I must congratulate you. I refer to your 30-day LP record described in the April issue. Once again, you have anticipated me, but perhaps I have managed to discover a facet of this device not yet mentioned.

The recording device you have produced can play back records at normal speed, it is true, but, if we speed up the turntable, it would be possible to increase greatly the upper frequency response of the recording. This would decrease the available playing time but would make it possible to record a few hours of television on the disc. This would enable a small TV station to keep a complete record of important shows on a small bookshelf. It would also enable the family to record one TV program while watching another.

Of course, for the economical, it would be possible to record a separate musical program along with the TV material. As the video signal would be in the rf, and the af of the music would not modulate it, you would have two discrete signals, both on the same recording! Using this system, the music could be recorded for the audiophile in the listening room (see "A Proposed Listening Area," *Institute of Synergistic Statics Proceedings*, Vol. XL, No. 2), while the other members of the family re-view their favorite program.

And there it is, not only will we still have hi-fi records, but in addition we will have video recorders for home use. And do you, most learned Fips, believe that this will cause a reduction in electronic equipment sales? Hardly.

So tell that mean old boss of yours that you have discovered a revitalizing force for the already booming electronic industry!

STEPHEN A. KALLIS, JR.  
Buffalo 26, N. Y.

[Thanks ever so much for your fine letter. Yet, in all modesty, I must tell you that your suggestions had, of course, not only been anticipated, but are all in my Patent Application.

There was not sufficient space to publish all of them. Here are a few more you did not think of.

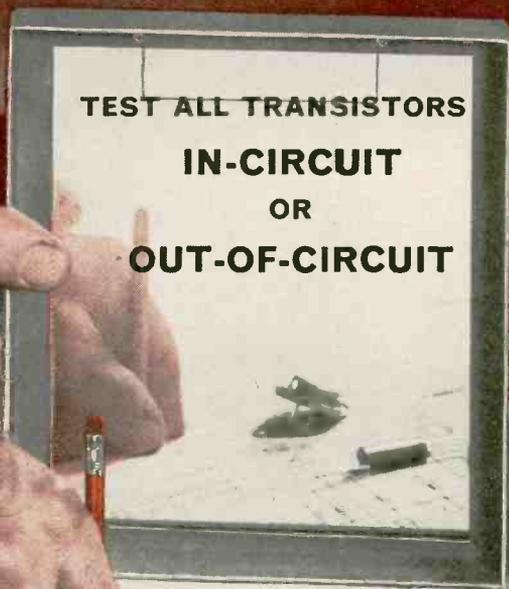
By running *two* separate paths together (parallel), I got almost any conceivable stereo effect desired. The same technique is used to record video and its sound channel, using parallel paths.

I can increase the capacity of the disc 40% or more by making the "disc" into an elevated cone, like a low hill.

There are several more ideas, but the bugs have not been (magnetically) ironed out.—*Fips*]

END

# Analyze Every Transistor Circuit Trouble in Minutes!



Now you can...

It's a... **COMPLETE TRANSISTOR TESTER • SIGNAL TRACER  
VOLTMETER • BATTERY TESTER • MILLIAMETER**

Transistors are tested in-circuit with a new unique AC GAIN check and out of circuit with an accurate DC GAIN and LEAKAGE check. Set-up chart included for reference only.

- Test all transistors in-circuit with a new unique AC GAIN check. It works every time and without the use of the set-up booklet.
- Test all transistors out of circuit with the AC GAIN check or with a more accurate DC current gain and leakage check.
- Read current gain (beta) direct for experimental, engineering work or for matching transistors.
- Check diodes simply and accurately with a forward to backward ratio check.
- Signal trace from speaker to antenna with a special low impedance generator. No tuning, adjustments, or indicating device needed for transistor radio trouble shooting. Just touch output leads to transistor inputs and outputs until 2000 cycle note is no longer heard from speaker. (Generator output monitored by meter.) It's a harmonic generator for RF-IF trouble shooting and a sine wave generator for audio amplifier trouble shooting.
- Check batteries under operating conditions as well as the voltage dividers with a special 12 volt scale.
- Monitor current drawn by the entire transistor circuit or by individual stages with a 0 to 50 Ma current scale. A must for alignment and trouble shooting cracked boards.

## Benefit from these Sencore extras

- Lists Japanese equivalents.
- Automatically determines NPN or PNP.
- Mirror in detachable cover to reflect opposite side of printed board.
- Special clip to fit between batteries for current check.
- Transi-probe for making in-circuit transistor checks.

Color.....modern two tone gray  
Size.....8" x 7½" x 3"  
Weight.....only 5 lbs.  
Meter.....0 to 3 Ma, 3½", 5% tolerance,  
modern plastic  
Batteries.....two size "C" cells

Model TR-110 ONLY **49<sup>50</sup>**

ALL PARTS ARE **SENCORE** MADE IN AMERICA

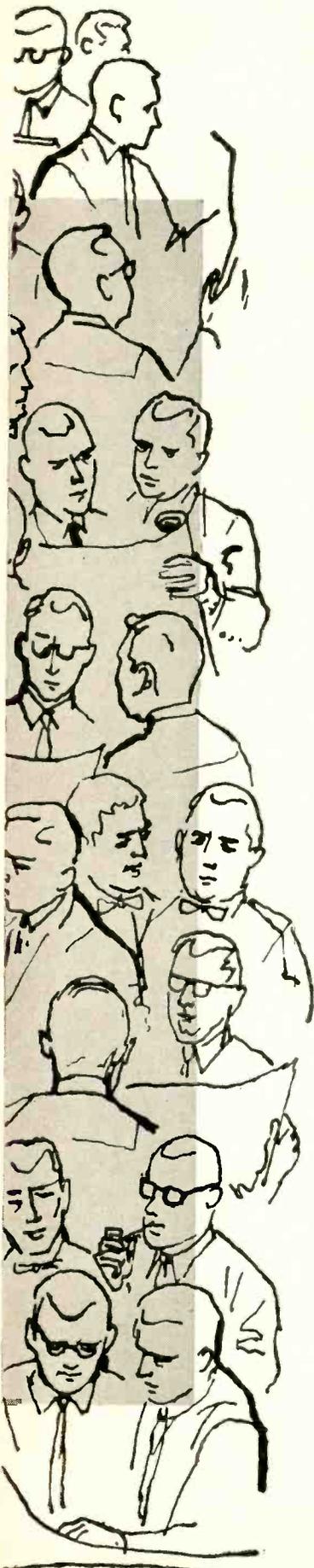
# SENCORE

ADDISON, ILLINOIS



Sencore Sam says, "If you'd like to get rid of those batteries during repair time, get the Sencore PS103 Battery Eliminator. It's the best and it's only \$19.95."

Another outstanding product by the **HIDDEN 500\*** who plan for your future:



## TYPE TE LITTL-LYTIC® CAPACITORS



Transistors revolutionized the industry. And to make the most of their inherent advantages, they called for an entirely new group of components. Here, Sprague Research was the first to answer the call with the smallest truly reliable dry electrolytic made for transistor circuits—the Littl-Lytic. This reasonably priced capacitor is the most reliable subminiature you can buy for transistorized radios, hearing aids, wireless microphones, pocket wire recorders, and other miniature electronic equipment.

The remarkable reliability of Littl-Lytic is the result of a new manufacturing technique in which *all the terminal connections are welded*. Units are hermetically sealed and metal encased . . . *with no pressure joints* . . . there are no "open circuits" with the passage of time. Leakage current is extremely low as the result of the use of high purity foil and ultra-stable formation techniques. Sprague's catalog replacement ratings are the most comprehensive in the industry. They assure you of exact replacements to meet your day-to-day service requirements.

Littl-Lytic is a typical example of how Sprague Research keeps its products up-to-the-minute. Reliable components mean reliable service work—your business keeps pace with the electronic industry when you use Sprague.

\*The "Hidden 500" are Sprague's 500 experienced researchers who staff the largest research organization in the electronic component industry and who back up the efforts of some 6,000 Sprague employees working in 14 manufacturing operations—four at North Adams, Mass.; Bennington and Barre, Vt.; Concord and Nashua, N.H.; Lansing, N.C.; Grafton, Wis.; Visalia, Calif.; two at Ponce, Puerto Rico; and Milan, Italy.

don't be vague . . . insist on

# SPRAGUE®

world's largest capacitor manufacturer

# LAFAYETTE is America's Citizens Band Headquarters

Complete Portable Communications for Everyone

**NO LICENSES,  
TESTS OR  
AGE LIMITS**



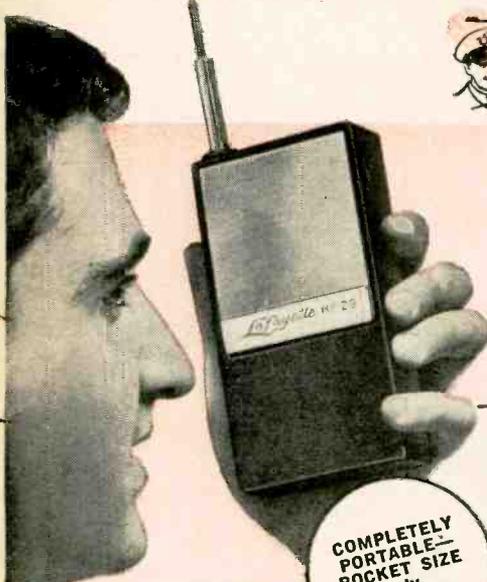
Ship  
to  
Shore



For  
Farming



Construction  
Work



HE-29

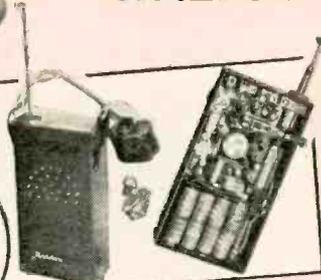
COMPLETELY  
PORTABLE—  
POCKET SIZE  
Only  
6 3/8 x 3 1/4 x 1 5/8"

## LAFAYETTE 9-TRANSISTOR CITIZENS BAND "WALKIE TALKIE"

**49.95**  
2.00 Down  
**2 for 96.50**

- Completely Wired—Ready to Operate
- Fully Transistorized — 9 Transistors plus 1 Diode
- Uses Inexpensive Penlight Batteries • No License, Tests or Age Limits • Comes with Leather Carrying Case, Earphone, Antenna, Batteries and Crystals

As simple and easy to use as the telephone—and twice as handy. Receives and transmits up to 7 miles under favorable conditions, or 1.5 miles under average conditions. Weighs only 18-oz. and slips into your pocket. Push-to-talk button operates built-in speaker as sensitive microphone.



Complete with Leather Carrying Case, Earphone, Antenna, Batteries, and Crystal

## LAFAYETTE HE-20A Deluxe CITIZENS BAND TRANSCEIVER

ONLY  
**109.50**  
5.00 Down



MADE IN U.S.A.

Now With Added Deluxe Features—

- Pi-Network for Greater Power Output • Calibrated "S" Meter
- 14 Tube Performance, 3 Diodes • Built-in 12 Volt Power Supply for Mobile Use • Complete with Matched Crystals for Channel 9

A highly efficient 2-way communications system operating over a distance of up to 20 miles or more depending on terrain. Features 4 crystal-controlled transmit positions and 4 crystal-controlled receive positions. Tuneable superhet receiver covers all 23 assigned channels. Other highlights include dependable push-to-talk ceramic mike & relay, adjustable squelch control, automatic series gate noise limiter and illuminated dial.



## LAFAYETTE HE-15A

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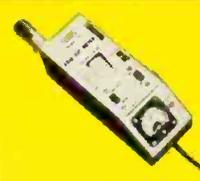
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# MAN INTO SPACE?

... *Electronic Robot into Space More Realistic* ...

FOR a number of years, the phrase *man into space* has been firing the public's imagination in a constantly accelerating tempo. Yet what does it mean?

Does it refer to an experimental rocket shot 50 to 100 miles up with a human passenger, then parachuting back to earth? Or does "man into space" go into orbit *above* the atmosphere, circle the earth once or a few times, then return to *terra firma*? Or does he circumnavigate the moon and perhaps land on it? The public does not differentiate between these steps; all it wants to know is *when* and *if* man does it.

As one who has constantly publicized spaceflight in his various magazines since 1911, the present writer must deplore the present wholly unscientific, costly uselessness of today's so-called "spaceflights."

For more than 50 years, practically every possible angle of mechanical flight into space has been studied and well understood—very little that is new has been added since Sputnik I.\* Rockets, their orbits, survival in the vacuum of space, weightlessness and its effects on man, rocket flight trajectories between other worlds—all were known and had been charted exactly by scientists. For nearly 50 years, most scientists have known that man would probably not be affected adversely by conditions found in space, including meteoroids, radiation and weightlessness. Since then, test animals have been shot above our atmosphere into space and returned unharmed.

Hence the totally unscientific present-day man-into-space propaganda-publicity has been deplored by many responsible scientists. Furthermore, practically all forward-looking Western spaceflight authorities know that today's rockets certainly will not be in use when regular interplanetary trips begin. Something much better will be used. It seems that the Russians have already made a start in that direction. Nuclear or similar power certainly will be the energy in use in all scheduled future spaceflights. With an abundance of power, landing on the moon (or other planets) and returning to the earth will present no problems—the "entry" difficulties now so much in the news will disappear, chiefly on account of adequate "retro-power."

The crying need today for the coming serious exploration of the moon is, not an unrealistic man-into-space experiment, but a full-scale expendable electronic auto-robot which will be an all-out pilot pioneer project. It will do far more than a man could ever hope to do, yet accomplish it much better, faster and over a much longer period.

A number of such automated machines have been described in space literature, but to the best of our knowledge none is sufficiently comprehensive in scope. Practically all recently proposed mechanical moon surveyors feature some solar cells, lunar drills, radio and TV camera and other

#### \*References

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(This article was written a month before April 12, the date of the first man into space event.)

elementary probes. Some proposed models are also mobile.

But far more is needed. Scientists, for instance, require *months-long* temperature records, radioed to earth every hour during all the phases of the moon. They have, from actual astronomical tele-bolometer observations, concluded that the moon's surface temperature varies between 220° F above and 250° F below zero. Careful and accurate measures over long intervals are necessary to give precise records to check the theoretical conclusions.

This in turn poses the question of power for the moon robot, once it starts functioning. Batteries alone are useless because they are too short-lived. We need *real* electrical power for our lunar drills, radio transmitter, TV camera and other instrumentation. We propose a reasonably large parabolic reflector, say 15 to 25 feet in diameter. Constructed like a folding umbrella, it takes little room in transit via rocket from earth to moon. On landing, it opens automatically, ready for work. *Half the inside of the reflector is polished aluminum, the other half covered with solar cells.* The solar cells give electrical current immediately when the reflector has turned automatically toward the sun. They then start charging the storage batteries. The reflector also focuses itself automatically into the best angle of the available sun's rays.

In the meantime, the heat rays of the reflector are concentrated on the focus that contains a mercury boiler. The resulting energy runs a high-efficiency electrical generator which also charges the storage batteries, giving sufficient electric power to tide over the electronic robot during the long lunar night. Thus we have two distinct sources of power.

There will also be an astronomical telescope which can be trained by telemetric control from earth toward many parts of the heavens. *Yes, it can be used day and night*, because even in daytime much of the lunar sky is black. A special TV camera sends the telescopic pictures earthward.

Aside from several dozen other necessary research instruments, we will mention only one, *a most important tool*, particularly for earth-weather research: One of the new supersensitive infrared detectors that can scan the slowly rotating earth constantly during our day and night, and will transmit at the same time an uninterrupted stream of vital cloud and heat information to our meteorologists.

Another innovation is necessary to safeguard the very important "soft" landing of the electronic robot. Retro-rockets alone, in our opinion, are not sufficient to soft-land such a heavy instrument-laden machine. Under each of the three large, padded feet of the robot there would be an automatic inflatable polystyrene balloon about 6 to 10 feet in diameter. A minute prior to landing, water (or other liquid) is injected into the folded balloons. Under the sun's fierce heat, the liquid evaporates quickly, fully inflating the tough 1/16-inch-thick walled balloons. This in addition to retro-rockets, will make a really soft landing possible. After the robot has settled on the moon, the balloons deflate automatically.

The weight of such a robot, despite its load of instruments, can be kept to under 500 lb. On the moon, this is only a sixth as much, or 83 lb.

Such an electronic explorer can be built today. It should be possible to rocket it to the moon within 3 years. It will be the most realistically needed "*yeoman into space.*"—H.G.

# YOU AND THE CB CITIZENS BAND

By **ROBERT F. SCOTT**  
TECHNICAL EDITOR

## What is the Citizens band?

The Citizens Radio Service, covered in Part 19 of FCC Rules and Regulations, provides for two bands of radio-frequency communications channels set aside to provide for personal short-distance communications, radio signaling and control of devices or models by radio.

Class-A Citizens radio stations operate on an assigned frequency in the 460-470-mc band with a maximum plate power input of 60 watts. They are authorized to operate as radiotelephone land stations, mobile stations or as base stations in a mobile network. Tone signals may be transmitted as aids to establishing or maintaining voice communications.

Class-A Citizens-band stations are not very popular because of the limited useful range, high cost and complexity of equipment.

Class-B stations in the Citizens radio service are mobile stations operating on the spot frequency of 465.00 mc with maximum plate power input of 5 watts. They may use AM, FM, or on-off unmodulated carrier for remote control and for radiotelephony.

Class-C stations are mobile units authorized for radio control of remote objects such as models, garage doors, electric water pumps, heaters, etc. or for remote operation of devices used solely as a method of attracting attention. They operate on 26.995, 27.045, 27.095, 27.145 and 27.195 mc with a maximum power input of 5 watts and on 27.255 mc with power input up to 30 watts. Operation is by tone modulation or on-off keying only.

The inauguration of class-D Citizens radio made the Citizens band what it is today. Frequency allocations in the vhf range of 26.965 to 27.255 mc provide greater communications range and simpler, more stable and less expensive equipment than the uhf class-A and -B authorizations.

Class-D stations are permitted to use amplitude voice modulation for radiotelephone communications only. Tone signals are permitted as aids to estab-

lishing and maintaining voice communications. (For example, see the detailed description of the signaling circuits used in Radson transceivers on page 54 of the September, 1960, issue.)

The following channels are available for class-D stations on a shared basis with no protection from interference from medical, scientific or industrial devices operating on 27.12 mc:

26.965 mc	27.065 mc	27.165 mc
26.975	27.075	27.175
26.985	27.085	27.185
27.005	27.105	27.205
27.015	27.115	27.215
27.025	27.125	27.225
27.035	27.135	27.235*
27.055	27.155	

\*Shared with stations in other services.

## Who can operate a Citizens-band receiver?

Any citizen of the United States who is 18 years old or older is eligible for a Citizens-band license. Persons under 18 may operate class-A, -B or -D Citizens-band equipment under the supervision of the licensee. For class-C stations (remote control) the licensee must be at least 12 years old.

## How can I get a Citizen-band license?

No test or examination is required for a license. Application is made by filling out FCC Form 505, available from the Federal Communications Commission, Washington 25, D.C., or from any one of the FCC Field Offices listed below:

Alabama, Mobile  
Alaska, PO Box 644, Anchorage  
PO Box 1421, Juneau  
California, Los Angeles 14  
San Diego 1  
San Francisco 26  
San Pedro  
Colorado, Denver 2  
District of Columbia, Washington 25  
Florida, PO Box 150, Miami 1  
Georgia, Atlanta 3  
PO Box 77, Savannah  
Hawaii, Honolulu 13  
Illinois, Chicago 4  
Louisiana, New Orleans 12  
Maryland, Baltimore 2  
Massachusetts, Boston 9  
Michigan, Detroit 26  
Minnesota, St. Paul 2  
Missouri, Kansas City 6  
New York, Buffalo 3  
New York 14  
Oregon, Portland 5  
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 6  
Puerto Rico, PO Box 2987, San Juan  
Texas, PO Box 1527, Beaumont  
Dallas 2  
Houston 11  
Virginia, Norfolk 10  
Washington, Seattle 4

*Friends, students and experimenters have bombarded me with such questions as "How can I get a Citizens-band license?" "What is type approval?" "Can I build my own rig? What about this license-free Citizens band we hear so much about?" So I have tried to cover the pertinent points of CB and license-free radio in a question-and-answer style. I hope you like it and that I've answered the questions that have been puzzling you.*

## What is the difference between type-accepted and type-approved equipment?

Type acceptance and type approval are two classes of FCC certification specifying that the equipment so rated meets minimum technical specifications. Type approval is issued on the basis of tests performed in the commission's laboratory in Laurel, Md. Type acceptance is issued on the basis of technical specifications supplied to the FCC by the manufacturer or prospective licensee.

Type-acceptable equipment is listed in *Radio Equipment List, Part C*, available from the FCC in Washington, D.C., or from any of its field offices. Detailed specifications need not be submitted on crystal-controlled class-C or class-D equipment, provided the frequency stability is within FCC tolerances.

## Can I construct my own Citizens-band rig?

You may not construct your own class-A or -B equipment. You can construct class-D equipment from a kit supplied by a manufacturer who supplies all frequency-determining components prewired, aligned and sealed so that no frequency-determining component may be replaced nor any setting of any adjustment that may cause off-frequency operation be made without breaking the seal. Furthermore, the kit shall be designed so that excessive plate power input, overmodulation, excessive harmonic radiation or spurious signals are not possible with normal operation and adjustments. Manufacturers of kits or partially assembled units must certify to the purchaser (in writing) that the equipment has been designed, manufactured and furnished in accordance with FCC regulations.

You don't need a kit or prewired sub-assembly to construct class-C equipment for radio control only. Specifying crystal control on application Form 505 generally leads to automatic type acceptance. However, the commission may require you to certify that the frequency stability and tolerance of the crystal-controlled equipment are within 0.01% for 3 watts or less plate power input and .005% for higher plate power input.

## Can class-C radio control equipment be used in a class-D station?

Yes. Class-C equipment can be used



Four typical low-power Citizens band transceivers. From left to right: Heathkit GW-30; Ross Pocket Talkie; Globe Pocket phone; WE Phone.

to throw a relay or ring a bell to call you to the class-D transmitter or receiver. For example, assume that you have a class-C installation on a large ranch or similar area where signals are generally weak and may not be strong enough to be heard easily or strong enough to open the receiver's squelch circuit. In this case, you can use a 30-watt (maximum power permitted only on 27.255 mc) class-C rig to call attention to the fact that you want to contact the class-D station.

**Who can service CB transceivers?**

Any qualified radio service technician can service and adjust the receiver portions of a CB transceiver. When transmitting circuits affecting frequency stability or tolerance, harmonic radiation or modulation percentage are operating contrary to technical regulations, any repairs and adjustments must be made by, or under the immediate supervision of, a first- or second-class radiotelephone licensee. The operator making the repairs or adjustments shall be responsible for proper functioning of the equipment.

**Can I install Citizens-band radio in my power boat?**

Yes, you can use CB radio sets on

boats. Note well that Citizens radio does not replace, and is not a substitute for, regular marine radio equipment. Its range is generally shorter, interference is likely to be greater, and there are no continuously monitored distress or emergency channels.

**Can I talk to any station that I can hear?**

Citizens radio communications are generally restricted to contacts between two stations or units under the same license. You are authorized to talk to other stations only to exchange messages relating to personal or business affairs of the parties concerned. For example, you may contact another station to report an automobile accident in a remote area, make reservations at a motel or ask directions while motoring around the country.

Except when the communication involves immediate safety of life or property or civil defense, the exchange of communication between two stations (two licensees) shall not exceed 5 consecutive minutes and shall be followed by a silent period of at least 2 minutes. This gives other stations a chance to use the channel. During and after each silent period, both stations must moni-

tor the channel to make sure that it is not in use.

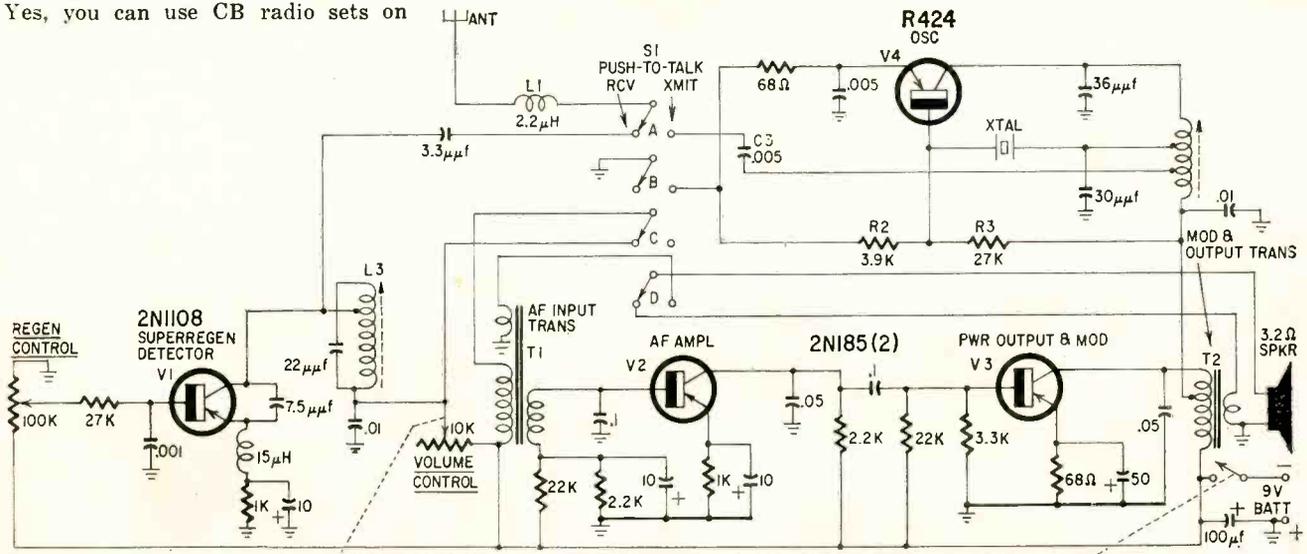
**I've seen ads of Citizens-band transceivers that do not require a license of any kind. What is the story here?**

Several manufacturers have developed transistorized radiotelephone transceivers for low-power class-D Citizens radio service. By limiting output to 100 milliwatts, and the maximum antenna length to 60 inches, they have certified their transceivers for use without license under the low-power rules.

You may use any number of these units in a net around the home, farm or business. However, you cannot contact licensed Citizens-band stations and you must not cause interference to any licensed radio service. On the other hand, you can use one of these 100-mw rigs on the Citizens band if it is included as one of the units listed on your CB license.

**Just what are the "low-power" rules and how do they affect the experimenter?**

"Subpart E—Low Power Communications Devices" of Part 15 of the FCC Rules provides for operation of wireless microphones, phono oscillators, garage-



Circuit of the Heathkit GW-30

door operators and remote control of models. Bands available for this purpose are 10 to 490 kc, 510 to 1600 kc, 26.97 to 27.27 mc and frequencies above 70 mc. Below 1600 kc and above 70 mc, there are strict restrictions on radiated field strength.

From 10 to 490 kc, the field strength in microvolts per meter shall not exceed a figure equal to 2,400 divided by the operating frequency in kc at a distance of 1,000 feet. In lieu of meeting this radiation limitation, low-power communications equipment operating between 160 and 190 kc must (a) not exceed 1 watt plate power input to the final stage, (b) have an antenna whose total length (including transmission line) does not exceed 50 feet, (c) suppress all emissions outside this band at least 20 db below the unmodulated carrier.

In the broadcast band (510 to 1600 kc), field strength in microvolts per meter at 100 feet shall not exceed 24,000/F (kc). As an alternative, the plate power input to the final stage shall not exceed 100 mw, the total length of the antenna shall not exceed 10 feet, and emissions outside the band must be suppressed at least 20 db below the unmodulated carrier. Furthermore, if the device operates from a public-utility power source, the rf voltage measured from each side of the power line to ground shall not exceed 200 microvolts, both with the equipment grounded and ungrounded.

Between 26.97 and 27.27 mc—this range covers channels 2 through 23 of the class-D Citizens band—power input to the final rf stage shall not exceed 100 mw, the antenna must not be longer than 60 inches, and all emissions, including modulation products, must be at least 20 db below the unmodulated carrier.

Unlicensed low-power operation above 70 mc is permitted when operation is limited to 1-second duration and not more than once in 30 seconds. The equipment must be fitted with a device that automatically limits operation within these time restrictions. Maximum radiated field strength ranges from 50 to 500 microvolts per meter at 100 feet, depending on the exact frequency.

Note that any low-power communication device made after June 30, 1958, shall bear a certificate indicating that it meets FCC specification. The certificate may be prepared by the manufacturer or a technician skilled in making and interpreting the measurements that are required for compliance with FCC regulations. It shall state the operating conditions under which the equipment is to be used, the type and length of antenna and shall certify that the equipment complies with FCC requirements.

Briefly, as we see it, operating a home-constructed wireless microphone, phono oscillator, radio-controlled model, garage-door operator or other similar device is now illegal unless it has been certificated by the holder of a first- or second-class radiotelephone or radiotelegraph operator's license. Fees for performing the measurements required

for certification are likely to far exceed the saving realized in building your own equipment rather than purchasing it fully assembled and certificated.

Authorization to use a low-power communications device is given on the assumption that you will not cause interference to any licensed radio service. Your wireless mike or phono oscillator shall not interfere with reception of any licensed radio station. For example, if you are using the 27-mc band for remote control of a model plane or boat under the low-power rules, and a licensed Citizens-band operator starts to work with a model boat or plane in the same lake or field, you must stop operating if your signals interfere with his operation.

### **What are these low-power units like? Are they cheaper than regular Citizens-band equipment?**

Low-power transceivers range from a \$32.95 four-transistor kit with a superregenerative detector, to \$150 for 10- and 12-transistor types with superhet receiver circuits featuring adjustable squelch, noise limiters and other extras.

The diagram and photo show the Heathkit GW-30 certificated for use under Parts 15 and 19 of *FCC Rules and Regulations*. The GW-30—a four-transistor unit purchasable in kit form—is controlled by a combination ON-OFF switch and volume control on the front panel and a push-to-talk switch on the side. With normal intermittent use, it operates approximately 75 hours from its 9-volt NEDA type 1602 battery. Battery drain is approximately 12 ma when receiving and 22 ma when transmitting. Case dimensions are 6½ x 3¼ x 2¾ inches. Weight is 2 pounds. The transceiver uses a 40-inch whip antenna that telescopes to 6 inches.

The receiver—a three-transistor superregenerator—is fixed-tuned—by internal adjustment—to any one of 23 Citizens-band channels. The transmitter is crystal-controlled on CB channels 2

through 23 for unlicensed operation under the low-power rules and on CB channels 1 through 23 for licensed operation.

### **Circuit analysis**

The diagram is shown with the PUSH-TO-TALK SWITCH (S1) in the receive position. The antenna and loading coil L1 are coupled to receiver coil L3 through a 3.3- $\mu$ f capacitor that minimizes capacitive loading of the antenna and reduces radiation from the detector. The receiver is tuned to the desired channel by adjusting the slug in L3. The af output of the detector is fed through the high-impedance primary of the input transformer (T1) and audio amplifier V2 and V3 to the speaker.

When transmitting, S1-c opens the circuit between T1's high-impedance primary and the end of L3 to disconnect the detector from the audio amplifier. The transmitter's rf section consists of a R424 (Heath type number) transistor in a modulated oscillator circuit, with V2 & V3 acting as speech amplifier and modulator. S1-a switches the antenna to a tap on the transmitter tank coil through blocking capacitor C3. S1-b grounds the emitter and end of the base-bias voltage divider (R2-R3) so V4 operates as a class-C oscillator. S1-d switches the speaker from the secondary of T2 to the 3.2-ohm primary of input transformer T1.

Sounds picked up by the microphone are amplified by V2 and V3 to develop an audio voltage across T2's primary. This varying audio voltage is taken off a tap on T2 and used to modulate V4. The tap is set so modulation cannot exceed 100%.

More detailed information and answers to other questions on low-power communications and Citizens-band equipment is contained in Parts 15 and 19 in Vols. II and VI of *Rules and Regulations*, available from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., for \$2 and \$1.25, respectively. END



The 5-watt Morrow radio phone.

Four ranges measure capacitances between 0 and 0.1  $\mu\text{f}$  accurately

**BUILD**

2 transistor direct-reading

# CAPACITANCE METER

By RUFUS P. TURNER



**Q**UICK, direct reading of capacitance is a great convenience. A number of microfarad meters have been designed for this purpose, one of the most popular and foolproof of the recent ones being the multivibrator type (example, Heathkit CM-1).

Transistorizing this kind of capacitance meter gives us several advantages. The most important is complete portability (no power-line connection). Others are instant operation (no warm-up), power economy, cool operation and lighter weight than vacuum-tube instruments.

The instrument described in this article has four direct-reading capacitance ranges: 0–200  $\mu\text{f}$ , 0–1,000  $\mu\text{f}$ , 0–0.1  $\mu\text{f}$  and 0–0.1  $\mu\text{f}$ . The lowest capacitance which may be accurately read, on the lowest range, is 4  $\mu\text{f}$  (2  $\mu\text{f}$  may be estimated).

Any type of nonelectrolytic capacitor can be checked. No null balance or adjustments of any kind (other than setting the range switch) are required: simply connect the capacitor to the input terminals and read the capacitance from the meter. The instrument checks variables as well as fixed capacitors; the meter deflection will follow the capacitance change as you tune a variable unit.

The unit's maximum battery drain is 9.5 ma on the two high-capacitance ranges, and 3.2 ma on the two low-capacitance ranges, from four 1.5-volt size-D flashlight cells connected in series. At the highest current drain, the instrument could be used 8 hours a day for more than a month before a battery change would be needed.

## How it works

Fig. 1 is the basic circuit of the capacitance meter. In this arrangement, the two transistors (V1 and V2) are connected in a conventional cross-coupled multivibrator circuit. The multivibrator output taken from V2's collector is a constant-amplitude square wave whose frequency is determined principally by the values of C1 and C2 (which are identical) and R2 and R3 (also identical).

The square-wave output is coupled through the unknown capacitor,  $C_x$ , to the meter circuit consisting of diode D, rheostat R5, and dc microammeter M. For a given square-wave frequency, the microammeter deflection is directly proportional to capacitance  $C_x$ . Thus, if an accurately known capacitance (say  $C_s$   $\mu\text{f}$ ) is connected temporarily to terminals X–X and R5 is set for full-scale deflection, the meter will then have a range of 0 to  $C_s$  microfarads. Response is linear, so half-scale deflection indicates a capacitance of  $\frac{1}{2}C_s$ , one-tenth of full scale 0.1 $C_s$ , and so on. To change capacitance range, the multivibrator frequency must be changed (by switching in new values of C1, C2, R2 and R3) and resetting CALIBRATION control R5. The higher the frequency, the lower the capacitance range, and vice versa.

## Final circuit design

Fig. 2 is the complete circuit diagram for the instrument.

In this arrangement, the approximate operating frequencies are 50 kc for range A (0–200  $\mu\text{f}$ ), 5 kc for range B (0–1000  $\mu\text{f}$ ), 1,000 cycles for range C (0–0.1  $\mu\text{f}$ ) and 100 cycles for range

D (0–0.1  $\mu\text{f}$ ). To switch frequency, the values of the cross-coupling capacitors (C1 to C4 and C5 to C8), base resistors (R2, R3 and R4, R5) and CALIBRATION controls (R7, R9, R11 and R13) are changed simultaneously. Experiment showed that the battery voltage must be increased to 6 volts when going to the .01- and 0.1- $\mu\text{f}$  ranges.

No zero adjustment is required. Even when the instrument is on, the pointer of the meter rests on zero until a capacitor is connected across J1 and J2. The CALIBRATION controls are set once and need not be touched again unless the instrument is being recalibrated.

## Construction and wiring

There is no best way to build the capacitance meter. The instrument design is straightforward and the circuit operation is reasonably free of bugs, therefore the reader may suit himself as to layout.

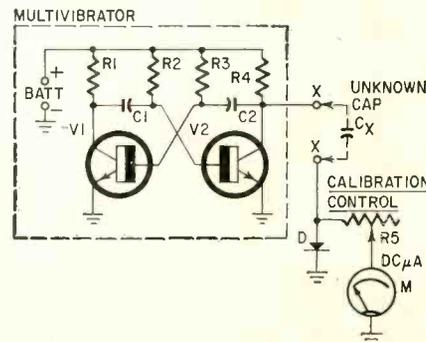
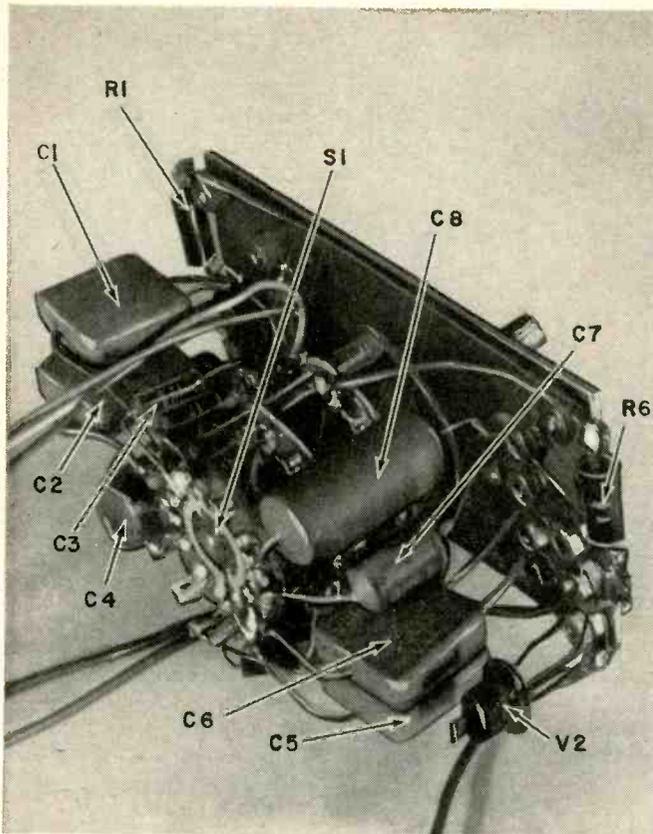
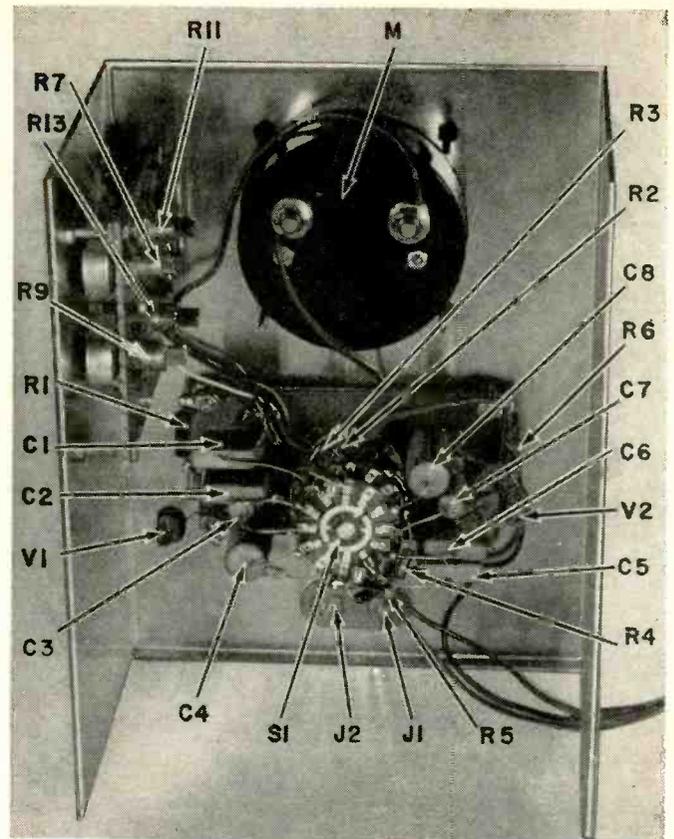


Fig. 1—Basic capacitance-meter circuit.



Most components are mounted on the perforated board that mounts the range switch.



Inside the case. Note how the range-switch board is mounted. Also the calibration pots on the left.

A lot of wiring simply consists of connecting the capacitors and resistors to the range switch. First, fasten the switch to a 4 x 2 x 1/16-inch phenolic subpanel. Bolt solder lugs (with 1/4-inch 6-32 screws and nuts) at various points for connecting component leads.

After wiring is completed, mounting the range switch to the front panel fastens the circuit board to the latter. Mount the four calibration controls (R7, R9, R11 and R13) next, with their limiting resistors (R8, R10 and R12), on a 3 x 3-inch phenolic subpanel held by four 1-inch 6-32 screws to one side

wall of the box. Their shafts must be slotted for screwdriver adjustment. Clip the four flashlight cells into two battery holders bolted to the floor of the box.

Keep the capacitance between the capacitor test terminals low, or the meter will indicate this capacitance on its low range. I used a National type FWH terminal strip. This unit spaces the two binding posts 3/4 inch apart and requires a 5/8-inch diameter clearance hole for each screw. If you use regular insulated binding posts, mount them at least 3/4 inch apart on a plastic strip, and cut 5/8-inch diameter clear-

ance holes for their screws in the metal panel.

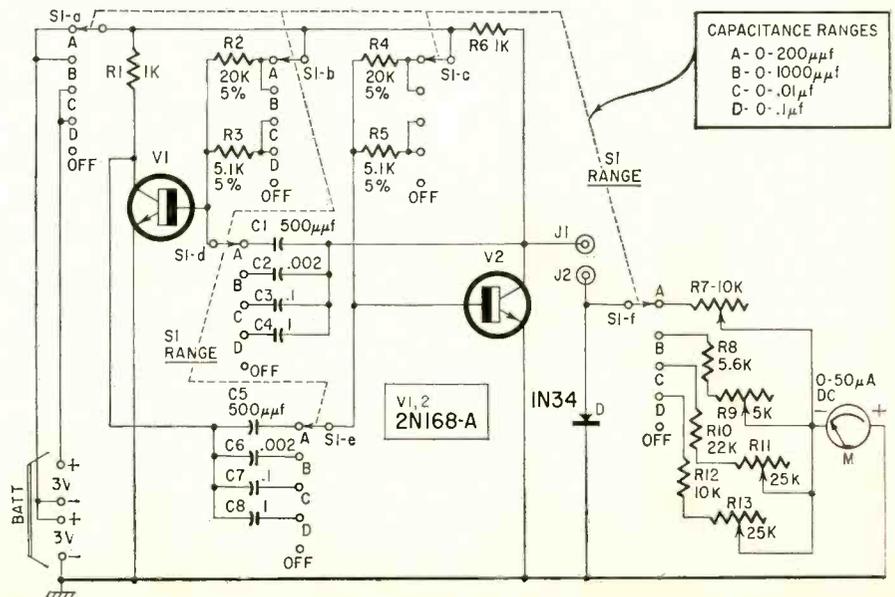
The meter scale may be used as is (few mental gymnastics are required to convert its deflections into microfarads on sight, even on the 0-200- $\mu$ f range) or a new scale may be drawn, reading directly in  $\mu$ f and  $\mu$ mF.

### Calibration

To calibrate the instrument you will need four accurately known capacitors—0.1  $\mu$ f, .01  $\mu$ f, 1,000  $\mu$ mF and 200  $\mu$ mF. You can use any capacitors having these values but the accuracy of the instru-

Fig. 2—The completed instrument. Note, the basic multivibrator circuit is still used.

- R1, R6—1,000 ohms
- R2, R4—20,000 ohms, 5%
- R3, R5—5,100 ohms, 5%
- R7—pot, 10,000 ohms, miniature (Centralab B-14 or equivalent)
- R8—5,600 ohms
- R9—pot, 5,000 ohms, miniature (Centralab B-10 or equivalent)
- R10—22,000 ohms
- R11, R13—pot, 25,000 ohms, miniature (Centralab B-26 or equivalent)
- R12—10,000 ohms
- All resistors 1/2-watt 10% unless noted
- C1, C5—500  $\mu$ mF, mica
- C2, C6—.002  $\mu$ f, mica
- C3, C7—0.1  $\mu$ f, 200 volts, miniature metallized tubular
- C4, C8—1  $\mu$ f, 200 volts, miniature metallized tubular
- BATT—6 volts, 4 1.5-volt D-cells in series with tap at 3 volts
- D—IN34
- M—0-50  $\mu$ a, dc
- S—6-pole, 3-deck, 5-position, nonshorting, rotary selector switch (Centralab PA-1021 or equivalent)
- V1, V2—2N168-A
- Case, 8 x 6 x 4 1/2 inches
- Battery holders
- Miscellaneous hardware



ment depends upon the tolerance of these calibration capacitors. In addition to having close tolerance in capacitance, they must not be leaky.

Follow this procedure: (1) With the range switch in its OFF position, connect the 0.1- $\mu\text{f}$  calibration capacitor to the test jacks, using the shortest possible leads. (2) Throw the range switch to range D. (3) Adjust R13 for full-scale deflection of meter M. (4) Disconnect the 0.1- $\mu\text{f}$  calibration capacitor. (5) Connect the .01- $\mu\text{f}$  calibration capacitor to terminals J1, J2, using the shortest possible leads. (6) Throw the range switch to its range C and continue as in steps (3) and (4), adjusting the appropriate calibration control. Continue through all other ranges in the same way.

### Use of instrument

The instrument has been protected against damage by arranging the sequence of range-switch positions so the first position after the instrument has been switched on is the highest-capacitance range. When the instrument is switched off from any of its lower ranges, the switch must be rotated through the high-capacitance ranges.

Electrolytic capacitors cannot be checked. The instrument will check all other types.

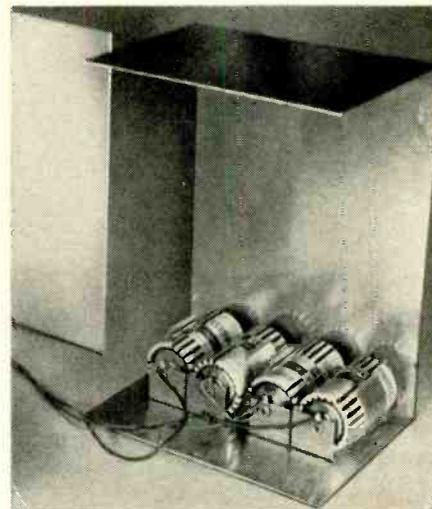
To use the instrument: With the range switch in its OFF position, connect the test capacitor to the test terminals using the shortest possible leads. Throw S1 to range D and read the capacitance from the meter. If the indication is too low on the scale for accurate reading, switch to range C. If it is still too low, switch to range B or A. Throw S1 to OFF. Disconnect the capacitor.

When a large number of capacitors must be checked, the instrument may be left switched on and the capacitors checked by touching their pigtailed to the terminals.

Most continuously variable capacitors have their maximum capacitance in either range A or range B. To check a variable capacitor, set the capacitor to its maximum capacitance. With S1 in its OFF position, connect the capacitor to the test terminals, using the shortest possible leads. Set S1 to range B. Read the capacitance from the meter. If the indication is too low on the scale for accurate reading, switch to range A. Tune the capacitor through its range, noting that meter deflection follows the tuning and shows the capacitance at each setting of the variable capacitor. Throw S1 to OFF. Disconnect the variable capacitor.

If a capacitor is open, there will be no deflection on any range. If a capac-

itor is leaky or shorted, the meter will deflect sharply down from zero. *Disconnect a leaky or shorted capacitor immediately, since it connects the meter circuit of the instrument to the positive collector voltage of transistor V2, and may damage the diode or microammeter.* END



Detailed look at the battery mounting.

# Stacked-B Trouble

By LAWRENCE SHAW

Many TV sets have a stacked-B supply. The audio output tube acts as a voltage dropping resistor for the low B-plus. Tubes used in the audio output stages have had the bad habit of short-circuiting ever since radio started. In a simple circuit, we just replace the tube when this happens. Or, maybe, afterward we find that a new output transformer is needed also.

In the stacked-B system, simple tube replacement may cause still more damage if defects caused by the prior short have not been corrected. We can dam-

age or destroy the new tube, a capacitor, power supply, or parts associated with it.

For example, Fig. 1 is the partial schematic of a stacked-B circuit. Here we have a 12C5 serving as the audio output as well as the dropping resistor from 255 to 135 volts. A 100- $\mu\text{f}$  150-volt electrolytic (C1) bypasses screen and plate supply to the cathode, which is the 135-volt line. Another 100- $\mu\text{f}$  150-volt unit (C2-a) bypasses the 135-volt line to ground. In the same can is C2-b, a 150- $\mu\text{f}$  300-volt unit that bypasses the 255-volt line to ground.

In normal operation, we have what we see in Fig. 2-a. Screen and plate of the output tube act as a resistor dropping 215 to 135 volts. If the output tube develops a plate-to-cathode short as in Fig. 2-b, the 135-volt bypass C2-a will probably blow because of the 215 volts impressed on it.

C2-b is in the same can and, when C2-a goes, it may blow too. If the set is turned on again with C2-b shorted, the power supply may give up the ghost. The probable component to go is the choke (see Fig. 2-c). So check

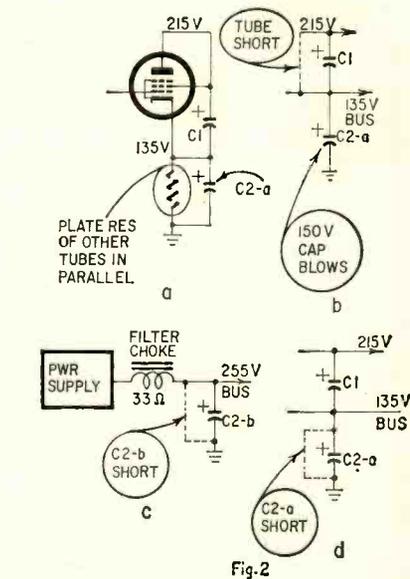


Fig. 2

for a possible short or low resistance from the 255-volt line to ground across C2-b.

Inserting a new tube and turning the set on without checking for a possible short in C2-a may result in the situation shown in Fig. 2-d. The minus side of C1 will be at ground potential if C2-a shorts. It is a 150-volt unit and will not take 250 volts very long. So check for a short across C2-a before inserting the new tube. And check C2-b if C2-a is shorted. END

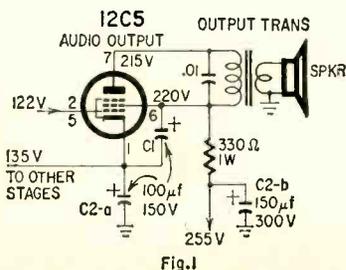


Fig. 1

# don't forget the ANTENNA

*Check it on every call.*

*It may be causing that snowy picture*

By **ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM**

**O**NE important item too often overlooked when checking a TV set for snow, poor pictures or almost everything else is the antenna. After all, a Jaguar won't run very far nor very fast without "petrol," and you can't expect even the most sensitive TV set to make much of a picture without an input signal.

So check the antenna as a matter of course on every service job. See that it's aimed at the station, that the lead-in's OK, all connections are tight and most important of all, that it's the proper kind of antenna for the area.

Once a familiar item, the TV field-strength meter seems to have about disappeared, and it sure shouldn't have! You can make some awfully quick and

useful checks with one. For instance, if the picture is snowy, before tearing up the tuner, hook the lead-in to the field-strength meter. A reading of about 40 to 50  $\mu\text{v}$  means that the tuner is OK. (In fact, it's darn good if it makes a picture at all with such a low input.)

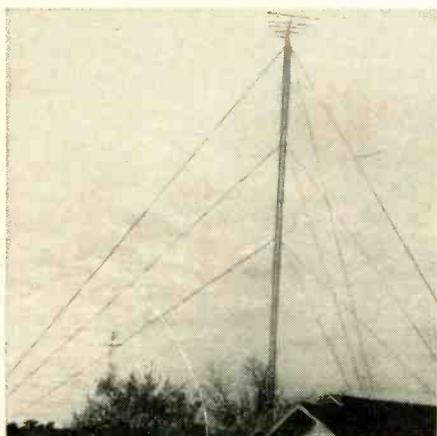
After a few tests, you'll know what the average signal strength from each station in your area should be, on any given type of antenna. You'll be able to tell pretty quickly whether the set or the antenna is at fault. For instance, if there's a Yagi on the roof and the signal reads only about 30  $\mu\text{v}$  where it should normally read 200  $\mu\text{v}$ , you can usually bet that the lead-in's open somewhere. Other tests are just as simple.

### Signal areas

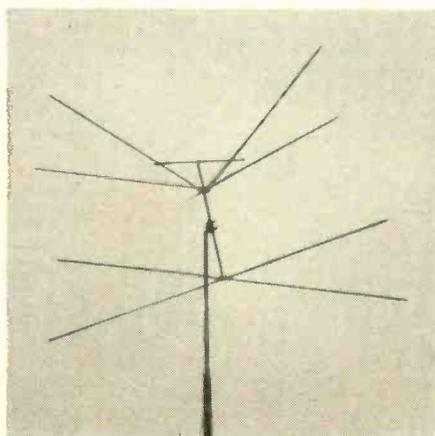
The area where the antenna is used

is most important. Fig. 1 shows the general classifications of TV antennas suitable for use at varying distances from the transmitter. However, like all others, this rule will not hold true at all times. Now and then you'll find a simple conical sitting on a chimney and calmly delivering excellent pictures 40 or 50 miles from a transmitter. This is due to some freak of reception. The signal field at this one particular point is far above the norm for the area. For a practical example, the range of high-channel stations is considered shorter than for low channels, but one location picks up very good signals from a channel 8 station over 200 miles away. Impossible? Certainly it's impossible, but don't mention it to my antenna, because it's the one that's doing it!

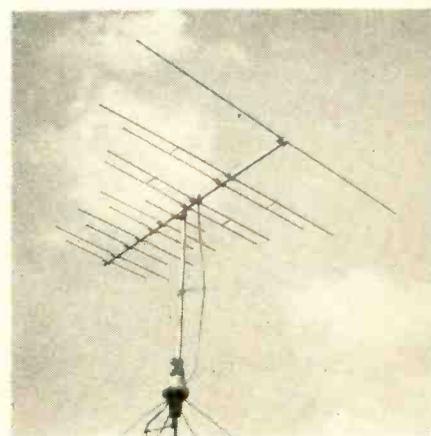
One major source of trouble shows



Towers as high as this one (90-footer) are not needed, except in very special cases.



The conical. Perhaps the most popular antenna in numbers because of its broad-band characteristics. Not recommended for fringe use.



A highly efficient all-channel antenna suitable for fringe use. Gain from 9 to 12 db and excellent front-to-back ratio.

up when a family moves from a metropolitan area to a fringe. Almost invariably they lug their city antenna with them, install it and start complaining. "Why can't we get good TV here? Must be something wrong with the set!"

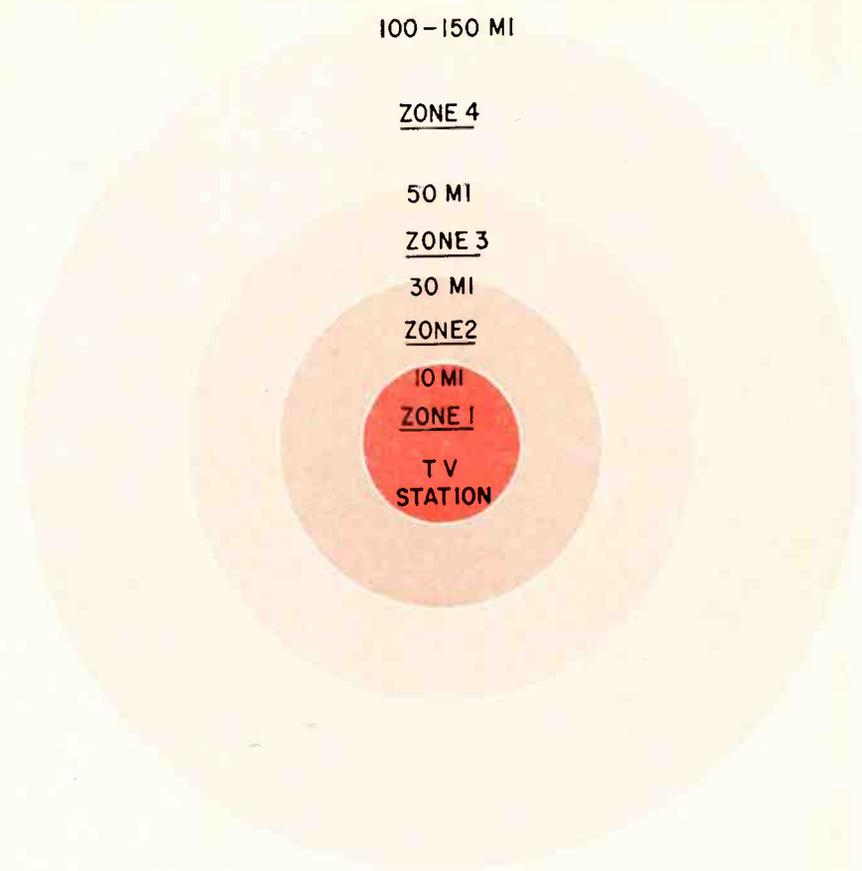
There is actually one more factor in this situation. In very-strong-signal areas it is possible for the operating condition of the TV set to deteriorate quite badly before it shows up in the picture. A set which has been used for 2 or 3 years and is moved to a weak-signal area will often require as many as seven or eight new tubes, much to the owner's dismay and disbelief. They have gone weak with age but, due to the high signal level in the original location, actually did not affect reception perceptibly. Out in the fringe, everything must be up to par. Any weakness shows up immediately as poor reception.

Also, radiation patterns of TV transmitters are far from being the neat round circles usually drawn on a map. Fig. 2 is the actual pattern of one station. Originally, with about 27-kw ERP, it came into City D with excellent pictures. However, the station increased its power and the signal vanished. The explanation is shown. The antenna was retuned to concentrate the maximum signal on Cities B and C, both large population centers where the station derived a great deal of advertising revenue. This left D out in the cold, with a large group of angry viewers giving the local TV technicians a very thin time! "It increased power, didn't it? Well, then, why can't we get it?"

#### Antennas and gain

Antenna gain figures vary widely but generally you can expect something like this: conicals and dipoles, 2-3 db; conicals with reflectors, single-bay, 3-5 db; these antennas stacked, gain increased by about 1 db; Yagis, 5-element, 7 to 9 db.

In the last few years, some excellent fringe-area antennas have been designed, mostly using the Yagi configuration, which covers all channels from 2 through 13 and have very good pat-



- ZONE 1—Rabbit ears, single-bay conicals, dipoles, built-in antennas
- ZONE 2—Dipole-reflector, 2-bay conicals
- ZONE 3—Dipole-reflector-director, 2- and 4-bay conicals with reflectors, 5-element Yagis, all-channel Yagis, dipole with director and screen-reflector combinations.
- ZONE 4—5- and 8-element Yagis, 8-element all-channel Yagis with antenna boosters

Fig. 1—TV reception area and suggested antenna types.

tern shapes. Most of them have a frontal lobe almost as narrow as the single-channel Yagi, which is very helpful in areas with co-channel interference.

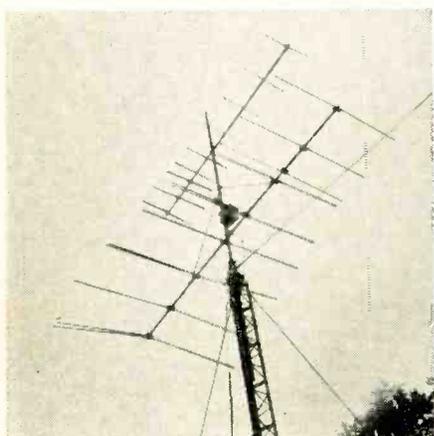
To keep on generalizing, actual field tests have shown that the antennas which most closely resemble their parent Yagis seem to give the best results.

Another recent development is the traveling-wave antenna. This is an excellent type for very deep-fringe use,

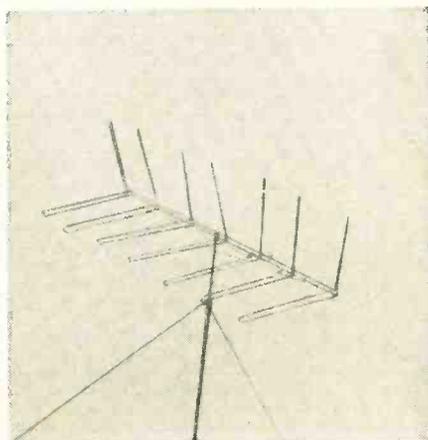
especially when combined with a good antenna booster delivering about 20-25-db gain.

#### How high?

The height of a TV antenna above ground has been the subject of bitter controversy ever since the beginning. Unfortunately, many of the arguers have depended upon quoting from textbooks instead of going out and finding out for themselves!



Author's own antenna. Longer lower unit covers low channels, small upper unit for highs. Note antenna booster mounted between the bays.



Latest version of the traveling-wave antenna. This 7-element type is very good for deep fringe-area work.

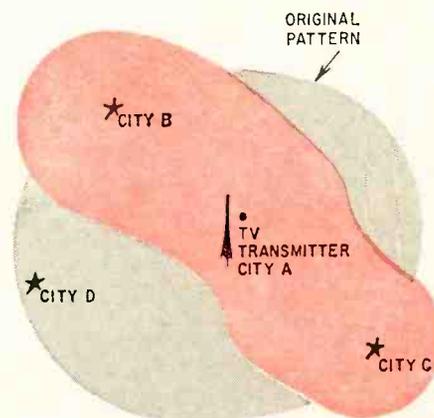


Fig. 2—Station increased power, but changed its antenna system. Put City D out of the TV picture.

# WHAT'S YOUR EQ?

Here we go again with a new group of three stimulating electronic problems. The first, like all service problems, may have more than one answer. The last one may also have more than one solution. But there is only one correct answer to the Voltage Jungle. Can you find the right solution to all three?

Answers to last month's problems are on page 104. We are using the author's solution for the photo-relay circuit as we received nothing in time to print here.

Send in your own original brain-teasers. We pay \$10 for each one published. Address Puzzle Editor, RADIO-ELECTRONICS, 154 W. 14 St., New York 11, N.Y.

We spent one very hot summer cranking antennas up and down on an adjustable tower to find the optimum height for TV reception in our area. The results were mildly astonishing. Contrary to the past dictum of "the higher the antenna the better the signal," we found that, above a maximum height of 30 feet, there was no perceptible increase in field strength! The minimum was 20 feet. Our nearest TV transmitter is 78 airline miles away. Other stations at 93 miles and 82 miles have since been added. Repeating the tests gave the same results. Of course, every area is different and there are exceptions.

For example, we are in a mountainous area and find some locations where we must go higher and others where we go lower. One location, directly behind a large mountain, gets very good pictures by pointing the antenna straight at the mountain. This is probably an extreme case of obstacle gain caused by the signal bending over the top of the mountain. Some TV viewers in this area have gone to extreme heights, but the results often won't justify the very high cost.

Incidentally, when pointing the antenna at the station, one rule always applies. The little end of an all-channel antenna is always the front; they're roughly triangular in shape. One little old lady among our customers bought a new TV set. The dealer's salesman installed it, put up an all-channel antenna and told her to point the antenna at whatever station she wanted. A week or so later, we got a hurry-up call—the new TV wasn't working right! Too much snow.

Rushing out to the house, we found out that once again the customer was right. Lots of snow! From force of habit we looked at the antenna and found it pointed directly away from the station (the big end toward the station). After we reversed the antenna and cleaned up the snow, we explained this to the customer. She said, "Oh my! I thought it was like a funnel and you had to point the big end at whatever you wanted to catch."

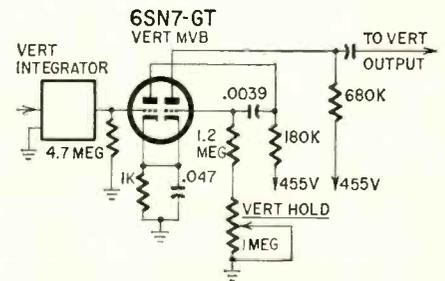
Incidentally, don't forget to check that lead-in with an ohmmeter, especially after a period of high winds. One conductor may have broken inside the insulation. All modern antennas, except the conicals, have continuity across the antenna element itself, due to the folded-dipole construction. A conical may be foxed up for this by connecting a 10,000-ohm resistor across the elements when installing the antenna. This will allow continuity readings to be made without lowering the antenna. As a final hint, if you find a broken lead-in, don't bother hunting for the break. Replace the whole line without further ado. Reason? If the line has been flexed by wind to the point where one conductor has parted completely, there are quite a few other places where the strands are almost broken and held by only a single wire. To avoid callbacks, replace the entire lead-in. It costs the customer only a couple of dollars.

END

## Service Stinker No. 2

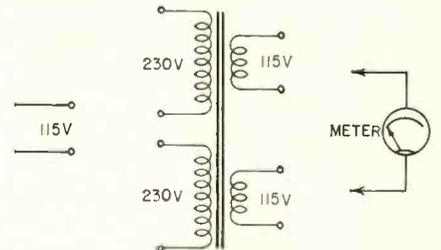
**Symptoms:** Picture covers about three-quarters screen; very heavy vertical retrace lines. Vertical blanking bar locks firmly in center of screen. Vertical hold control has absolutely no effect at all on picture!

**Question:** Is the trouble in vertical hold control? Vertical retrace eliminator network? Vertical sync?—*Jack Darr*



## Voltage Jungle

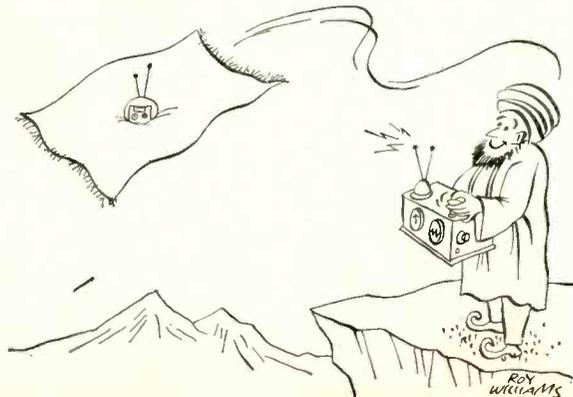
**W**ITH the supply voltage shown (115 volts), how many different voltages can you get with the transformer in the drawing? The voltages indicated for each winding would, of course, be the manufacturer's rating. The transformer windings can be connected any way you like (series aiding, opposing, etc.)—*Dellroye D. Darling*



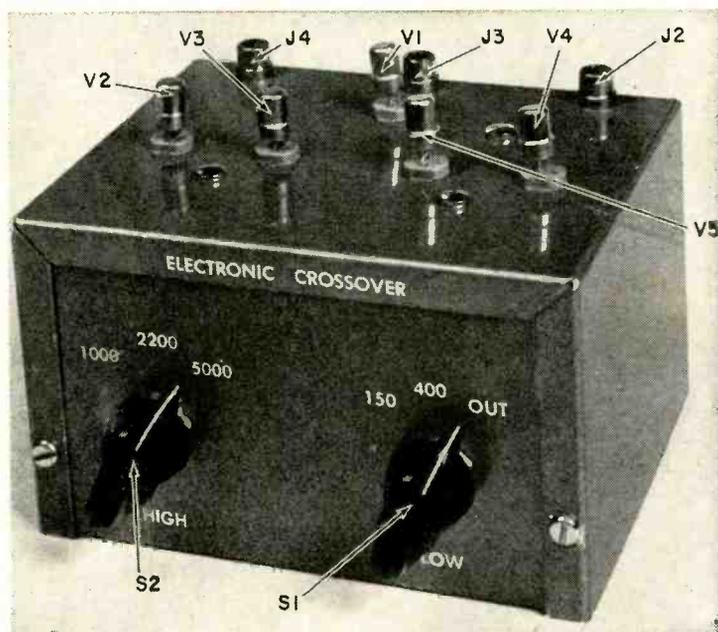
## Frequency-divider Puzzle

**A** 12-to-1 frequency divider is required to produce one output pulse for each dozen objects moving by on a conveyor belt. The objects on the conveyor are sensed by a phototube. A four-stage binary counter is available

and is to be modified so that it will produce an output pulse for every 12 input pulses (instead of every 16 input pulses as it normally would). What modification should be made in the binary counter?—*Ed Bukstein* END



# build an ALL-TRANSISTOR ELECTRONIC CROSSOVER



Front view of the completed crossover.

By DANIEL MEYER

Improve your stereo system; add a crossover that uses active filters and get more realistic sound

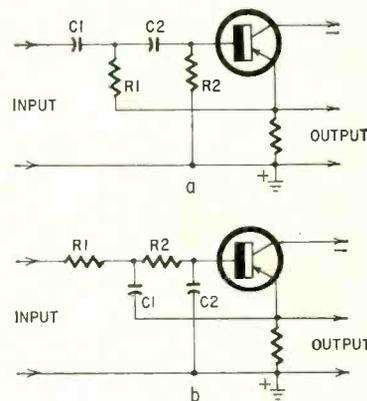


Fig. 1—Basic filter circuits: a—high pass, b—low pass.

frequency and the shape of the response curve at the corner frequency.\* An emitter-follower circuit was used to minimize temperature-sensitivity problems with the transistors. This circuit also has very low distortion due to the large amount of degeneration in each stage. In the basic high-pass circuit shown, R2 is equal to the resistance of three parallel resistors. These are the two bias resistors and the input resistance of the transistor. In the low-pass circuit, R1, R2 and the input resistance of the transistor form a voltage-divider network. For this reason, R1 and R2 must not have too high a value, or circuit losses will be excessive.

The complete circuit shown in Fig. 2 consists of an emitter follower driving

\*R. P. Sallen and E. L. Key, "A Practical Method of Designing R-C Active Filters," *IRE Transactions—Circuit Theory*, March 1959.

**E**VEN though the electronic crossover offers a definite improvement in high-fidelity installations, it has become a stepchild since the coming of stereo. This is without a doubt due to the number of amplifiers required in a stereo installation using this system, since an electronic crossover divides the frequency spectrum to be reproduced by each speaker *before* the power amplifier. However, there are several advantages:

► By eliminating the reactances used in conventional crossovers between the speaker and the amplifier, we greatly improve the amplifiers' control over the speakers' motions.

► Intermodulation distortion is reduced due to the narrower range of frequencies amplified by each amplifier.

► Less powerful amplifiers, and amplifiers most suitable for each speaker, may be used.

The last point is especially important in systems using electrostatic tweeters since these speakers present a capacitive load to the power amplifier. This can cause instability and in severe cases

even oscillation in amplifiers not designed to drive a capacitive load.

This circuit uses four feedback type filters to produce the attenuation past the crossover points. They are called active filters because amplification is needed for the filters to operate. The switching arrangement selects the desired crossover frequency and allows the circuit to be used with either a two- or three-way system. Crossovers at 1,000, 2,200 or 5,000 cycles can be selected with the two-way system. In addition, crossovers at 150 and 400 cycles are available if a three-way speaker system is to be used. The crossover points are selected with the two switches shown on the front of the unit. The basic high- and low-pass transistor active filter circuits shown in Fig. 1 are used to separate the various frequencies. These filters give 12-db-per-octave attenuation on each side of the crossover frequency. In each filter, the values of the four components shown in Fig. 1 (R1, R2, C1, C2) and the gain of the emitter follower all play a part in determining the corner

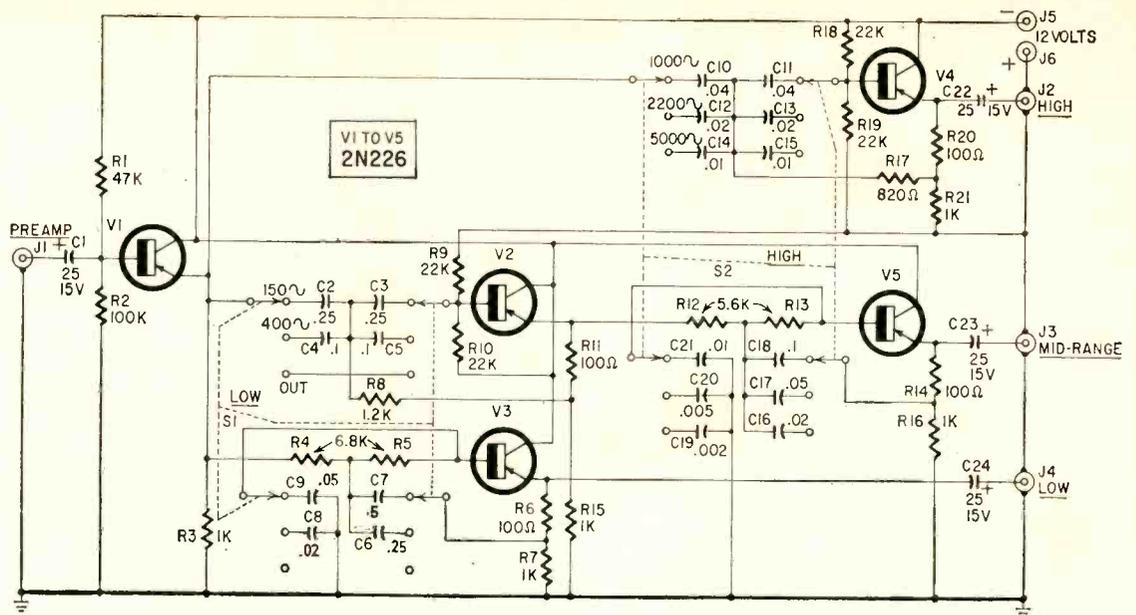


Fig. 2—The complete 5-transistor crossover circuit.

- R1—47,000 ohms
- R2—100,000 ohms
- R3, 7, 15, 16, 21—1,000 ohms
- R4, 5—6,800 ohms
- R6, 11, 14, 20—100 ohms
- R8—1,200 ohms
- R9, 10, 18, 19—22,000 ohms
- R12, 13—5,400 ohms
- R17—820 ohms
- All resistors 1/2-watt 10%
- C1, 22, 23, 24—25  $\mu$ f volts, electrolytic
- C2, 3, 6—0.25  $\mu$ f
- C4, 5, 18—0.1  $\mu$ f
- C7—0.5  $\mu$ f
- C8, 12, 13, 16—0.02  $\mu$ f
- C9, 17—0.05  $\mu$ f
- C10, 11—0.04  $\mu$ f
- C14, 15, 21—0.01  $\mu$ f
- C19—0.002  $\mu$ f
- C20—0.005  $\mu$ f

All capacitors 15 volts or higher, any type. All except electrolytics 10% tolerance  
 J1, 2, 3, 4—phono jacks  
 J5, 6—3-way binding posts  
 S1, 2—4-pole 3-position rotary switches (see text)  
 V1, 2, 3, 4, 5—2N226 (see text)  
 Case: 3 x 4 x 5 inches  
 Transistor sockets (5)  
 Miscellaneous hardware

a low-pass filter for the low range, a bandpass filter for the mid-range, and a high-pass filter for the high. The various crossover frequencies are produced by switching different-size capacitors into the circuits (C1 and C2 in the basic circuits). In the OUT position of the LOW selector switch, the circuit is converted into a two-way filter system in which the MID-RANGE output jack is used for the woofer portion of the speaker system, and the HIGH output jack for the tweeter portion.

### Construction

The crossover is built into a 5 x 4 x 3-inch aluminum utility box. The parts arrangement shown in the photographs is not critical, and almost any desired

layout or location may be used. It is important that 10% tolerance capacitors and resistors be used in the frequency-determining circuits. As can be seen in the photographs, various types of capacitors were used in the original unit. These were all checked for capacitance before they were installed. The selector switches are four-pole five-position types with an adjustable stop set to limit rotation to three positions. Use the switch lugs on the unused positions to mount components and as tie points. The transistors specified were selected on the basis of price and availability. Any audio-frequency transistor with a beta between 20 and 100 and reasonably low leakage should work equally well.

A battery power supply was used with the original crossover, but an ac supply would do just as well. Such a supply is shown in Fig. 3. It will deliver a low-ripple -9 to -12 volts suitable for powering the electronic crossover.

### Testing the equipment

Make sure you check the complete crossover for proper operation. Response at the various crossover points should follow the curves in Fig. 4. It is important that the -3-db points for the high- and low-pass filters coincide as closely as possible at each crossover point. If they do not, there will be holes or peaks in the speaker output, depending on whether the crossover was above or below the -3-db point.

If all the HIGH crossover points are slightly off, a variation in the value of R17 will shift them all slightly. Similarly, a variation in the value of R4 will shift the two LOW crossover points.

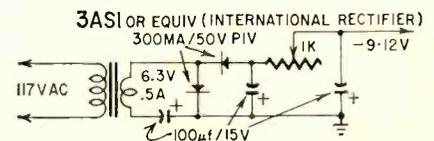


Fig. 3—This ac power supply can be used to power the crossover.

**BENCH**



**TESTED**

<b>Frequency Response</b>	$\pm 1$ db over any selected range (20-cycle lower and 20,000-cycle upper limits)
<b>Power Consumption</b>	9-volt supply: 18 ma 12-volt supply: 25 ma
<b>Maximum input signal</b>	9-volt supply: 2 volts rms 12-volt supply: 3 volts rms
<b>Gain</b>	Measured with 12-volt supply. Source impedance 500 ohms; works into 500,000-ohm load. Input of 1-volt rms = 0 db.
Low Channel (measured at 100 cycles):	-1.8 db
Mid Channel (measured at 1,000 cycles):	-0.5 db
High Channel (measured at 10,000 cycles):	0.0 db
<b>Input Impedance</b>	See Fig. 5
<b>Output Impedance</b>	Less than 500 ohms on any channel
<b>Distortion</b>	Measured with a 12-volt supply. Output level of 1 volt.
Low Channel (Measured at 100 cycles):	.10% 2nd harmonic .02% 3rd harmonic
Mid Channel (Measured at 1,000 cycles):	.05% 2nd harmonic .02% 3rd harmonic
High Channel (Measured at 10,000 cycles):	.16% 2nd harmonic .02% 3rd harmonic
<b>Hum and Noise</b>	Measured with 9-volt supply. Crossover selector switches in 400- and 5,000-cycle positions. Figures are in db below 1-volt output on each channel
Low Channel:	-82 db
Mid Channel:	-80 db
High Channel:	-85 db

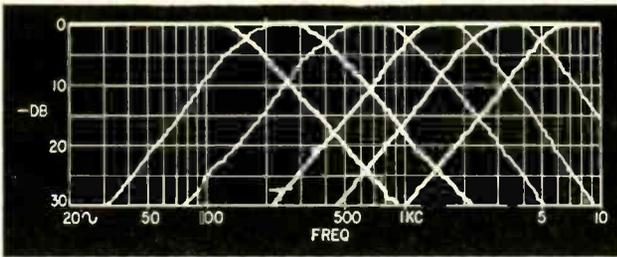


Fig. 4—Response of crossover unit for the various settings of the selector switches. Input was adjusted to give equal 1-volt outputs (0 db) on all three channels.

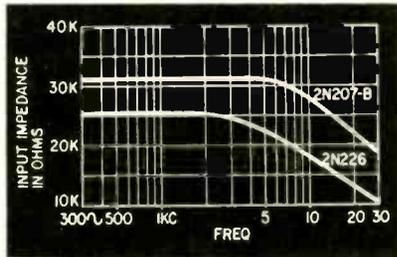


Fig. 5—Crossover input impedance vs frequency for two different transistors.

If only one crossover point is incorrect, other capacitors should be tried for this position—the original ones probably were not close enough to the correct value. The crossover points may be changed by using different value capacitors than the ones shown, as long as the 10-to-1 ratio between C1 and C2 (Fig. 1-b) is maintained (C6 and C8 in Fig. 2, for example).

Connect the input of the crossover to the *cathode-follower* output of a preamp. This is necessary to keep the crossover from loading the preamp. The input impedance of the crossover is dependent on the beta and the cutoff frequency of the transistor used in the emitter-follower first stage. Fig. 5 shows the input impedance vs frequency of the circuit for two types of transistors. Note that even with the worst condition shown, the crossover would not excessively load a cathode follower with an output impedance of 500 to 600 ohms. Most preamp cathode-follower outputs are in this range. The output impedance of the electronic crossover

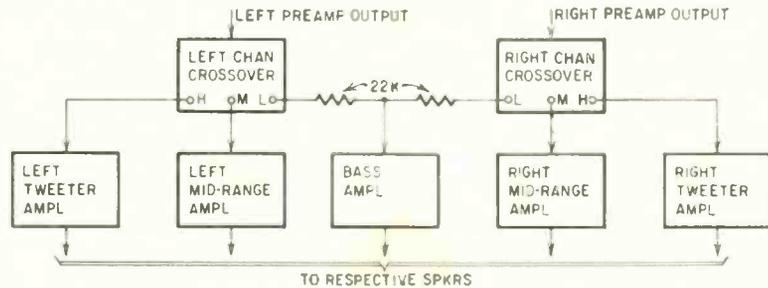


Fig. 6—Stereo system using a single bass speaker.

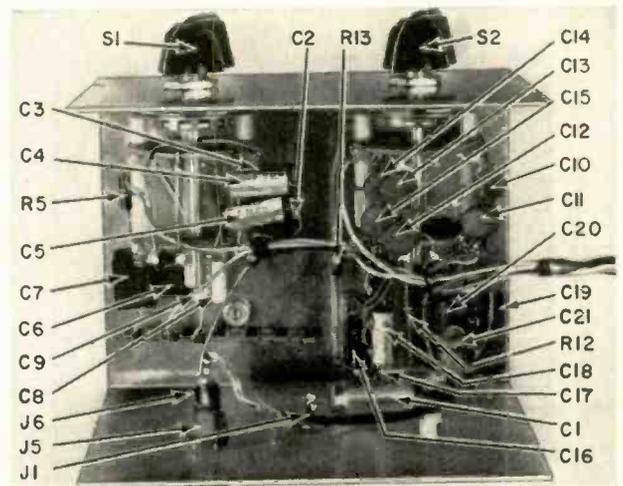
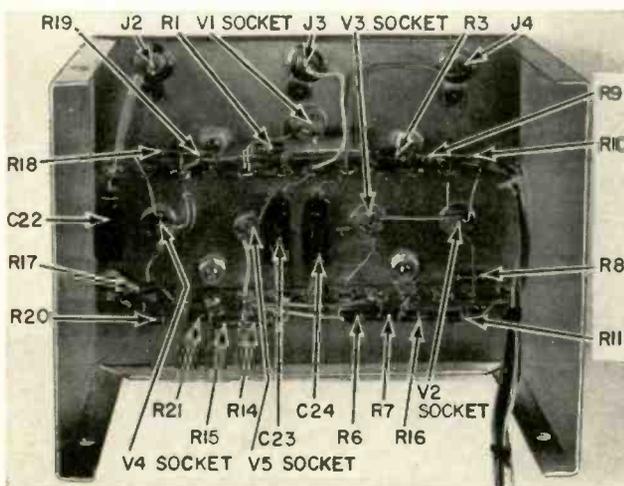
is low enough to permit cable runs of up to 100 feet to the power amplifiers if necessary.

#### Using the electronic crossover

Connect the electronic-crossover outputs to the power amplifier inputs. Adjust the speakers for equal output levels by varying the sensitivity controls on the inputs of each amplifier. If your amplifiers do not have such controls, add them either to the amplifiers or to the electronic crossover. Use a 500,000-ohm potentiometer connected as a volume control. The controls should be balanced at the loudest level desired

from the system.

Stereo systems could be set up with two electronic three-way crossovers and only one woofer. The Low outputs from the two electronic crossovers could be mixed and fed to the same amplifier and speaker. The mixing is easily done with a resistor network as in Fig. 6. This would make it possible to use two small mid-range speakers and tweeters on each side of the woofer to create the stereo illusion. A 20-watt amplifier in the Low channel and a 10-watt amplifier in both the MID-RANGE and HIGH channels should be more than adequate for the largest rooms. END



(Left) Parts layout. Cabled wiring goes to other half of case. (Right) Inside bottom half of case.

**COVER  
STORY**

# KITS TEACH ELECTRONICS



Learn electronic fundamentals the do-it-yourself way

By **LARRY STECKLER**  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

"HOW CAN I PREPARE MY CHILD FOR TODAY'S ELECTRONIC world?" The answer isn't simple. You just don't make a youngster into an electronic genius overnight. He may not even care for the subject. But, thanks to a number of electronic kit manufacturers, you can find out if your child has an interest in, and aptitude for, electronics. If he is interested, these kits indicate and develop that interest.

What are these kits? They're new and different. When one is completed, you don't end up with a high-fidelity amplifier or tuner. You don't end up with a tube tester or signal generator either. Instead, the finished kit teaches a lesson in the form of a simple operating electronic device. And at the same time it tells the builder something about how the device operates.

To see how this is done, let's examine some available kits, see what they offer and how they are made up.

The kit shown on this month's cover is a Heathkit Electronic Workshop model SK-50 (Heath Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.). With it, you can build 19 electronic devices—five transistor radios, code flasher, public-address system, wire-

less voice and code transmitters, electronic timer and many more projects. Special solderless spring-type connectors make setting up the various circuits easy. Flashlight batteries form a safe power source.

Heath offers several other educational electronics kits, each a part of their Electronic Workshop series. Among them are two simpler sets. The simplest one, the SK-30, allows for 6 projects, the next for 11.

Another kit (SK-20) turns out a two-station intercom system. Solderless connections and battery power again make construction safe and simple.

In another educational series, Heath offers three more educational kits. The first, EK-1, is a combination kit and workbook that teaches and demonstrates fundamental principles of electronics. And best of all, when the kit is completed, your "student" ends up with his first piece of electronic test equipment, a basic dc volt-ohm-milliammeter.

The next kit in this series is a two-section job, the EK-2. In the first half, EK-2A, the user is introduced to radio and how it works. A crystal receiver is built as you go

along and improved upon as more topics are covered, until you have a regenerative receiver. The second part, EK-2B, continues the instruction to radio by explaining local oscillators, mixers and other stages of a superhet receiver. The construction section of this kit turns out a two-band superhet receiver that picks up broadcast and short-wave stations.

For the toy market Heath has a Science Explorer Series. It includes a group of three Electronics Experiments Labs that are similar to the Electronic Workshop Series. Also in this group are an intercom kit, a transistor radio broadcast station and three radio kits.

Lafayette Radio's entry into the educational kit field is their KT-173 Twenty-in-One Electronic Experimenters Kit (Lafayette Electronics Manufacturing Corp., 165-08 Liberty Ave., Jamaica 33, N.Y.). With it all kinds of devices can be assembled—a photoelectric relay, electronic game, Citizens-

Inc., 1186 Broadway, Hewlett, N. Y.). With it you can build 20 radio circuits—12 receivers, 3 transmitters, a square-wave generator, amplifier, signal tracer, signal injector and code oscillator. All circuits are built on standard metal chassis, and wiring techniques are the same as those for commercial equipment. All the projects operate on house current.

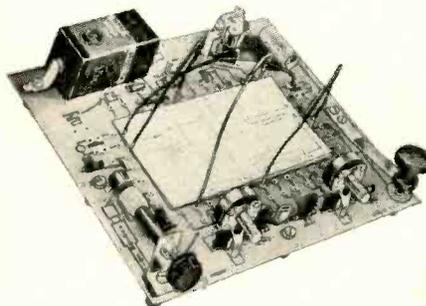
Eighteen electronic projects can be built with the Electronic Laboratory made by Superex (Superex Electronics Corp., 4 Radford Place, Yonkers, N. Y.). Simplified templates and solderless screw terminals make it possible to build all 18 with only a screwdriver. No soldering is needed and battery operation insures safety against shocks.

General Electric has also entered the educational electronic kit field (G-E, Radio Receiver Dept., Utica, N. Y.). Its contribution is labeled Educational Projects. There are seven kits in the

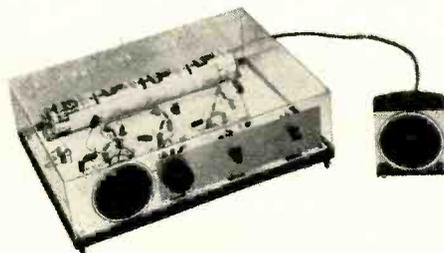
and all kits include all necessary tools and a detailed instruction manual.

Lionel, known for electric trains, has also entered the scientific kit field (Lionel Corp., 15 E. 26 St., New York 10, N. Y.). Among its selection of Science Project kits is a line of four Electronics Engineering Labs. The Mark I is a basic set that introduces the beginner to electricity through some 25 experiments such as assembling a rheostat, electromagnet and electric bell. Plug-in connections, which are used in all four sets, simplify wiring.

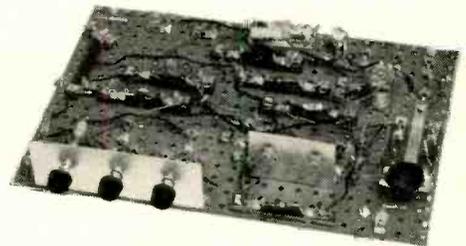
The Mark II is an intermediate set that includes everything the Mark I has to offer, plus instruction and experiments on switching devices. Also it shows how to build and use moisture-sensing devices. The next set in the series, the Mark III, is still more advanced and reaches into the principles of the sensitive relay. It also includes a light-sensing unit and a thermostatic



**Knight-Kit 10-Circuit Transistor Lab Kit.**



**G-E turns out this battery-powered intercom.**



**Lafayette's Twenty-in-One Electronic Experimenters Kit, model KT-173.**

band monitor, wireless mike, transistor tester, and many other similar electronic projects. A road-mapped, perforated board forms the chassis for this kit. Parts are fastened to the chassis with nuts and bolts, and components are wired with Fahenstock clips for easy solderless connections. Like the Heathkits, it is battery-powered for safe operation.

Knight-kit is the first educational kit manufacturer to introduce a printed-circuit board (Allied Radio, 100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, Ill.). It is part of their 10-Circuit Transistor Lab Kit. All components are soldered to the printed-circuit board. To set up the various projects, a cardboard circuit diagram is laid down on the board and plug-in wires are used to complete the circuit. Among the 10 projects that can be built with this kit are a two-transistor radio, audio amplifier, wireless broadcaster and voice-operated relay.

Accompanying each project is a complete description of how the particular device works.

Another electronics laboratory is made by Edu-Kit (Progressive Edu-Kits

current series. Each is packaged and sold separately. A basic transistor lab teaches the fundamentals of modern transistor and diode circuits. Ten laboratory projects can be performed with this kit. Among them are a series-tuned radio, transistor detector radio, tuned circuits and an audio amplifier. In these, as in all G-E kits, no soldering is required and all necessary tools are supplied. Components are mounted on a Masonite board, and spring connectors eliminate the need for soldering.

The Basic Electricity Lab allows for 23 experiments including such things as magnetic fields, polarity of magnets, static electricity, magnetic conduction or permeability, the galvanometer, parallel resistance and electrolytic solutions. Next is an advanced Electronics Lab that includes a wide array of experiments (59) designed to teach the basic principles of modern electronic technology.

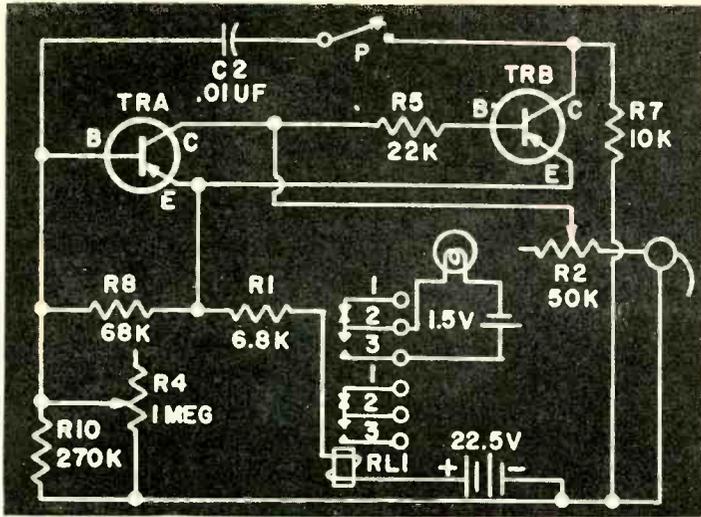
Also in G-E's bag of tricks are a two-transistor radio and a three-transistor transmitter. An intercom and a basic analog computer round out the line. None of the kits calls for soldering,

control.

The most complex series in the set is the Mark IV. It includes everything offered by the other units plus devices that allow for remote control over lamps, TV sets, electric trains, air conditioners and other electrical appliances. Like most of the other educational kits, all of these are battery-powered for safe operation.

Among the many kits sold by the Science Materials Center are some electronic versions (Science Materials Center Inc., 59 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.). One is a pre-electricity physics lab that includes 125 experiments on electricity, magnetism and static electricity. A Geiger counter lab supplies all the components for assembling an operating Geiger counter. Safe radioactive samples are included for experiments. All tools are supplied and no soldering is necessary.

Two computer kits round out this firm's offering. One, the Brainiac K-30 Computer Circuits Lab, lets you build 50 different battery-operated logic and reasoning machines. The second is a Calculo Analog Computer Lab that dem-



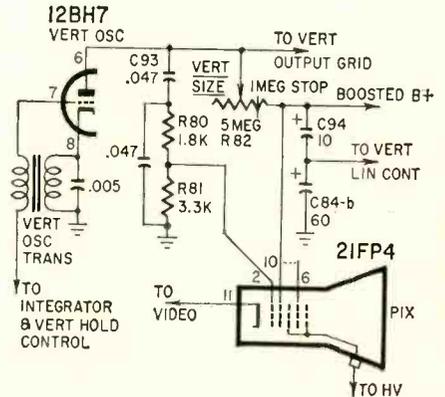
Circuit of the code practice oscillator that can be made with the Lafayette Electronic Experimenters Kit.

# Another Weird one

By H. R. HOLTZ

THE set was a Motorola TS-502; the complaint was vertical roll. The first malfunction detected, B-plus weak. The cure, new seleniums.

Now we could stop the picture, but the vertical circuits were still far from being right. For one thing, the vertical linearity control rolled up the bottom of the picture, rather than extending the upper half, as it should. Also, there was a curious instability about the foldover; it varied in degree, slowly.



Hum, we decided, an open and shut case.

It looked like a case of waveform. We warmed up the oscilloscope.

Touché! Hum all over the oscillator end of the 12BH7. A hum voltage could be plainly seen, modulating the output (pin 6) of the oscillator. We traced back along the plate circuit to C94. Here we stopped and tried filter substitution. Zounds! Foiled! Hair-pulling, chin-stroking, checking and rechecking. No help, same results.

Obviously, we had one of those odd-balls where anything goes. The junction of C94 and R82 goes to the screen grid, pin 10, of the CRT. We disconnected the CRT by pulling off the socket. The hum disappeared. Obviously a shorted pix tube. We checked the CRT. No evidence of trouble here.

Now we decided to use our eyes (and head) for the first time. Pins 10 and 6 (focusing grid) should be shorted together (see dotted line in the diagram). They were not. Instead, the little shorting link was connecting the control grid, pin 2, to the focusing grid. Normally, at the control grid there is a retrace (vertical) blanking pulse, taken from the junction of R80 and R81 in the plate circuit of the vertical oscillator. This pulse is phase-shifted across the R-C combination. Applied to the focusing grid, it was picked up by the screen and fed back out of phase to provide us with a skull-scratcher.

Of course, the customer had changed his picture tube as instructed in the do-it-yourself manual. END

This meter is the interesting project offered by Heath in their EK-1.

Calculo is an analog computer kit that solves problems in arithmetic, horsepower and kinetic energy.

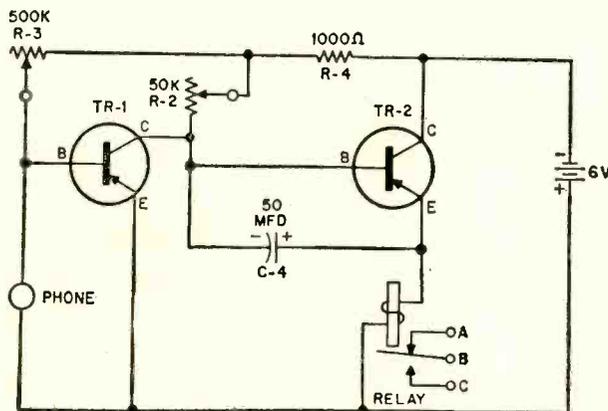


onstrates how computers use electrical analogies to represent physical and mathematical quantities.

All the kits described have only one purpose—to teach fundamentals of electronics in a pleasant, interesting manner and to give the user an insight into what the electronics field may hold

for him. They also enable parents to find out whether their child is really interested in electronics and whether he has the necessary aptitudes for this ever growing field.

For further information on any of these kits, write directly to the manufacturer. END



RESISTORS INDICATED IN OHMS  
K=1,000 OHMS

Circuit of the voice-operated relay project in the 10-Circuit Transistor Lab Kit by Allied Knight Kit.

# How relays work

Part I—A close look at clapper, solenoid, induction, thermal, stepping and reed type relays

**T**HE electronic technician who plans to go into industrial electronics should put relays high on his list of must-know subjects. In industry, all control was handled by relays before electronics came along. Even now the majority of industrial control circuits use relays in many forms. With electronic controls, many relays have to be used, and often the technician meets strange-looking devices that don't appear to be relays but are.

Let's see how relays began. In 1824, an Englishman named Sturgeon invented the electromagnet. In 1829, Joseph Henry, professor of mathematics and natural science at Albany Academy, added an armature which carried contacts, and thus the relay was born. In dc circuits, relay design has changed, mostly because of the necessity for mass production and adaptability. But Henry's principle has never been improved upon very much.

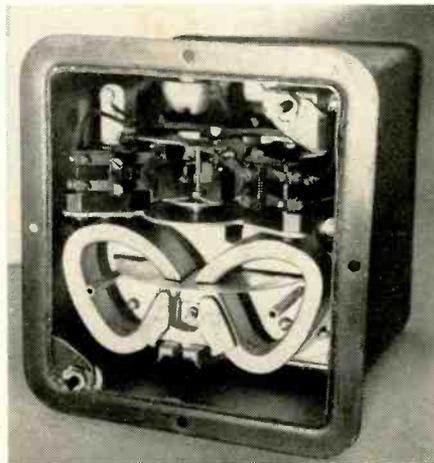
In 1886, alternating-current transmission was inaugurated. Where relays were needed, modified dc units served. Then development of special ac relays began, and there were so many contributions in that period that most contributors will probably not get credit for their work. In 1901, Westinghouse introduced the induction relay. These are very common, and are very important in our giant power distribution and transmission systems.

Only in the last few years have new principles been applied to relay service. These principles were made available by materials technology in the elec-

tronics industry. One such development is the Mullenbach Capaswitch, which uses piezoelectric characteristics of artificial materials to obtain mechanical motion. But in contrast to switching by nonmoving devices, such as magnetic amplifiers, vacuum tubes and transistors, relays as discussed here still depend on mechanical motion for their function.

## Classes of relays

Relays can be classified by the method used to translate electrical power into mechanical motion. Thus for dc there are the clapper (the most common)



G-E induction relay.

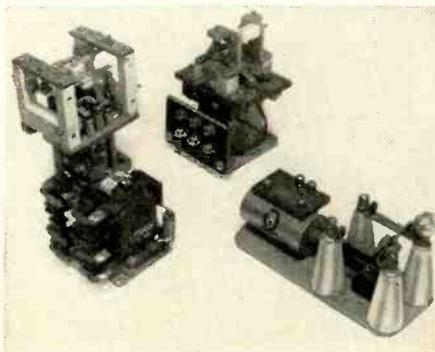
and the solenoid type. Clapper relays are most familiar in the form of telephone relays, small control relays used in model control and similar applications. Fig. 1 shows the basic construction of a clapper relay. Another clapper relay, not as common, is the horseshoe type used in pipe-organ construction. This one is reminiscent of the early Henry relays, except for refinements in construction and materials.

The solenoid relay, in which a movable core is used to open or close contacts, is used where we must take advantage of the greater travel and force available in them, and where the linear motion is particularly suitable for control of the relay characteristics. For example, it is very simple to make

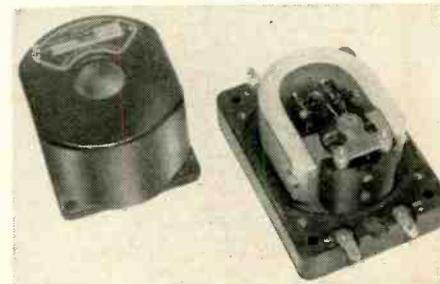
a time-delay relay from a solenoid type by adding a dashpot—a cylinder with a piston. The amount of force it requires for motion depends on what the piston moves. Sometimes this is air, which is allowed to leak out through a small hole controlled by a needle valve. With a steady force on the piston it takes time to move it, and a time delay is obtained. Initially, the air in the cylinder can be compressed somewhat, and the time characteristic of an air dashpot is not linear. To make it nearly so, a noncompressible resisting medium such as oil must be used.

Ac relays also appear in the basic clapper and solenoid types, but their magnetic structure must be laminated, as in Figs. 2 and 3. The laminations prevent the creation of a great deal of heat in the iron due to eddy currents. A shading coil prevents armature chattering. It is a single turn of copper around a part of the armature or core. This single turn acts like a shorted secondary on a transformer. The current in it is approximately 90° out of phase from the current in the coil. When the magnetic field of the main coil goes through zero, the shaded portion of the core still has some magnetic field, keeping the armature in place against the spring force trying to remove it.

The next most prevalent ac relay (although not used in communications) is the induction type. Many of them appear in industry where they protect large generators and motors, compare the current in the three lines of a 3-phase system, and determine whether it is flowing in the proper direction. Practically all types of induction relays



Solenoids are a special class of relays.



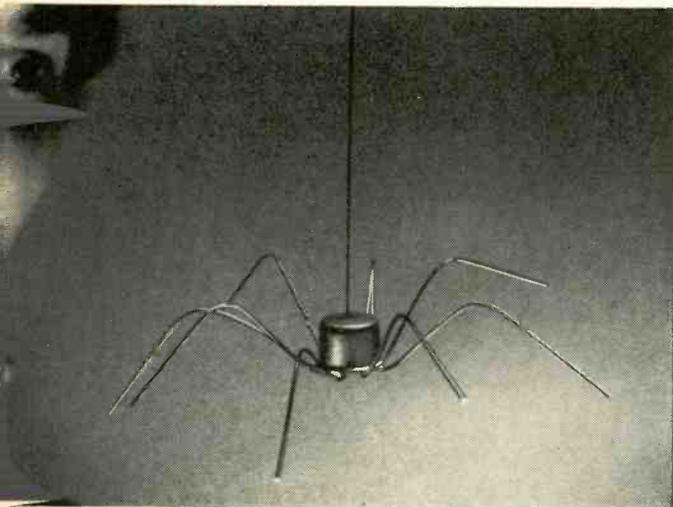
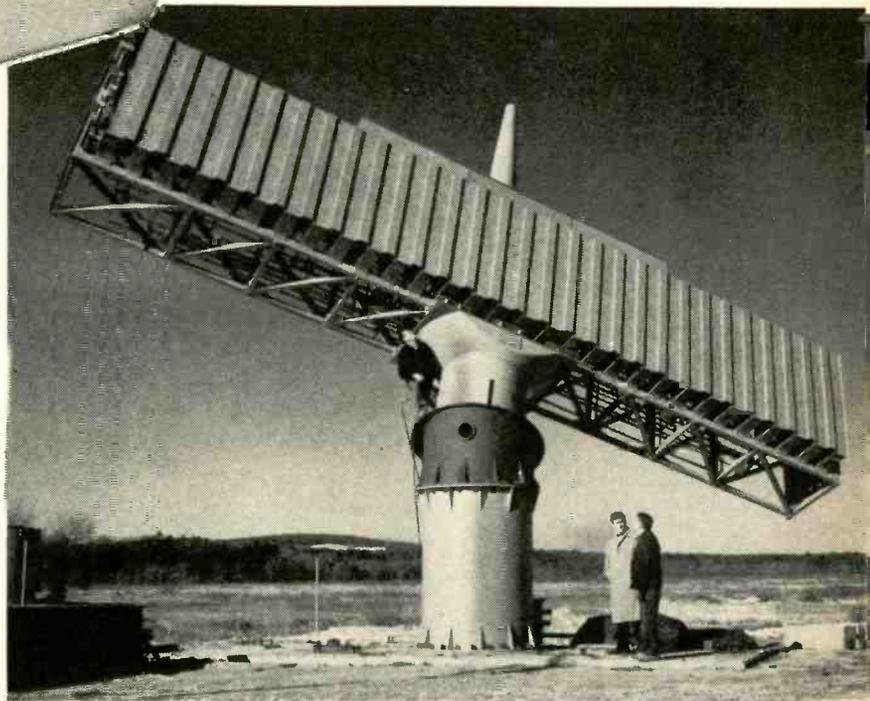
Early Weston meter relay.

# What's New



**FOUR HOURS OF MUSIC** can be placed on the grooved-tape cartridge this device plays. Made in Germany, the player is sold by Westrex, Alpine. It is available as separate unit or in combination with a multi-band radio receiver (AM-FM-SW).

**JAMPROOF RADAR** is run through final tests at Raytheon proving grounds. The 10-ton system and its 40-foot antenna were designed to baffle enemy attempts at jamming and give early warning of possible air attack.



**ELECTRONIC SPIDER** may frighten little Miss Muffet but will be highly sought after by computer engineers. The little device is a logic circuit, containing three diodes, a coupling network, a transistor and two resistors, that fits into a transistor case. It is made by Raytheon.

**THERMOELEMENT PRODUCTION LINE** where final assembly and tests are performed on several thousand Westinghouse thermoelectric elements which will line the walls of an experimental 5,000-watt power plant being built for the Navy.



A LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICER—AN agent of the FBI, Treasury Department or border patrol or a member of a local police department—learns the proper use of his firearm as a defense weapon simultaneously with learning how to wear it. Little time is spent studying how to wear it, but a great deal of time, effort, concentration and ammunition go into learning how to use it. Electronics helps the officer while he is learning.

One of the ways electronics helps is by measuring how fast the officer reacts to danger. Precision electronic timers have been developed to guide and train law-enforcement officers and are in use throughout the country. Many are used by more than 250,000 amateur "fast-draw" artists in the US. There is a national association of fast-draw clubs. Each year 10,000 spectators attend a national fast-draw competition at which the fastest "amateur" gun-slinger becomes the national fast-draw champion. There are many competitions among law-enforcement officers too.

By **LEON A. WORTMAN**

## Quick-draw fans, measure your speed to the nearest 1/100 second with this electronic timer

Speed is also important when hunting with a rifle. If you are out for game, big or small, you've got to be able to see, identify, raise and cock the rifle, aim and fire with split-second accuracy. A rabbit moves at about 25 miles an hour, for example. He appears suddenly under your feet, darts across your field of view and disappears in a flash. Takes a good man, even with a shotgun, to bring him to a halt. This holds for larger game too. Few of the millions who hunt see a deer during the season. Fewer get within shooting range. And still fewer can react fast and accurately enough to take the game. Takes lots of practice.

### A timing device

But how can you practice? How can you prove that you are becoming faster? If you want an accurate figure of

speed, a quantitative measure of your merit with a handgun or rifle, make electronics your "shooting mate." Here is an electronically operated timing device very much like those used by law-enforcement agencies. It can measure your speed of reaction and the time it takes to get the shot off, within 1/100 second. It can also measure your ability to sustain rapid fire up to five rounds. That is, from a given signal, how long it takes you to fire five shots.

Two interconnected units are used. One, shown mounted on a tripod, contains the go light, the stop light, and the acoustic pickup. The other contains all controls, electronic components and the precision clock. Both fit into a single small overnight traveling case for easy transportability to and from the shooting ranges. The circuitry (Fig. 1) may be divided into five basic sections: acoustic pickup and amplifier, relay control, switching, clock, and power supplies.

The acoustic pickup is a small speaker mounted behind a cutout in the 4 x 4 x 2-inch box attached to the table-top tripod. The tripod was purchased at a photo-supply store. The speaker acts as a dynamic microphone. Its voice coil connects through a long cable to the control unit in the carrying case. An intercom transformer, T1, couples the voice coil



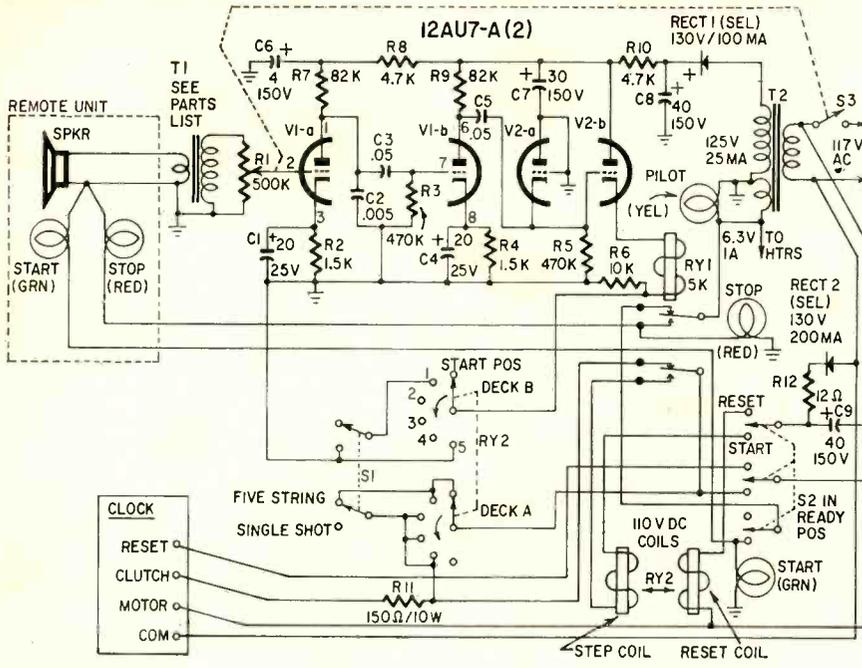


Fig. 1—Circuit of the complete timer.

- R1—pot, 500,000 ohms, with spst switch S3
- R2, 4—1,500 ohms
- R3, 5—470,000 ohms
- R6—10,000 ohms
- R7, 9—32,000 ohms
- R8, 10—4,700 ohms
- R11—150 ohms, 10 watts
- R12—12 ohms
- All resistors 1/2-watt 10% unless noted
- C1, 4, 7, 8—20–20–30–40  $\mu$ f, 25–25–150–150 volts, electrolytic
- C2—.005  $\mu$ f, molded tubular
- C3, 5—.05  $\mu$ f, molded tubular
- C6—4  $\mu$ f, 150 volts, electrolytic
- C9—40  $\mu$ f, 150 volts, electrolytic
- RECT 1—100 ma, 130 volts, selenium
- RECT 2—200 ma, 130 volts, selenium
- RY1—dpdt sensitive relay, 5,000-ohm coil
- RY2—stepping relay (minor switch), 2 poles, 6 positions (minimum) 110 volts dc coils (Relay Sales, Inc., Box 186, West Chicago, Ill. Model R-6175 \$14.85. Or Universal Relay R644 \$13.50 or equivalent)
- S1—dpdt rotary
- S2—3 pdt normally open, lever switch, spring return
- S3—spst on R1
- T1—voice-coil-to-grid transformer
- T2—power transformer: primary, 117 volts; secondary, 125 volts, 25 ma; 6.3 volts, 1 amp
- V1, 2—12AU7-A
- Clock—precision time clock calibrated to 1/100 second (model S-1, Standard Electric Time Co., 89 Logan St., Springfield, Mass.) (\$72 with 117-volt ac clutch. \$78 with 24-volt dc clutch. Electric reset adds \$22 to cost) (Universal Relay Corp., 42 White Street, New York 13, N. Y. sells a similar straight 24-volt unit for \$39.50. They have only a limited number on hand. Ask for MST 360.)
- Pilot-light assembly with No. 47 lamp and yellow jewel
- Pilot-light assemblies with No. 47 lamp and red jewel (2)
- Pilot-light assembly with No. 47 lamp and green jewel (2)
- Chassis to suit
- Miscellaneous hardware

to the grid of one section of a dual triode (V1-a) which is R-C-coupled to the second section (V1-b). This amplifies the low-voltage output of the acoustic pickup.

The relay control section is actuated by V1's output. Because of the relatively high values of cathode resistors used to self-bias V2-b, the static plate current of V2-b is so low that sensitive relay RY1 is not energized. One triode section of V2 is diode-connected to rectify V1's signal output. Thus any output from V1-b is applied as a dc voltage to the grid of V2-b. The method of connecting V2-a across V2-b's grid decreases the bias and increases the plate current to energize RY1. When S2 is depressed, RY1 actuates stepping relay RY2, which in turn locks the action and stops the clock at either the single-shot or the five-string interval (selected by switch S1).

Clocks such as the one used here are manufactured by several companies. They have a mechanical reset, or at extra cost an electrical reset. The clock shown was obtained from a surplus electronics supplier. It is a 117-volt ac unit with a 24-volt dc clutch. However, because of the intermittent and short-run application the clock can be used on 117 volts ac by inserting a 150-ohm 10-

watt resistor (R11) in series with the power line. This clutch-brake mechanism in the clock, electrically actuated, provides instant start without time drag, and instant stop without time coasting. Thus, time intervals in the order of 1/100 second can be measured precisely.

The stepping relay (RY2) has two coils, one for stepping, the other for electrical reset. It requires 117 volts dc for its operation. This is delivered by one of the two power supplies in the circuit. The components are RECT2, R12 and C9. The other supply powers the tubes.

Circuits can be greatly simplified by eliminating the five-string timing feature. Most practice requirements for either hand guns or shoulder guns, for either fast-draw or snap-shooting as in hunting, are satisfied by the single-shot function. Fig. 2 shows how to wire the clock control, relay and switching circuits for single-shot only.

#### How it works

Let's look at Fig. 2, the simplified diagram for single-shot operation. The triode section of V2-b is biased for low idling cathode current by the high series resistance of RY1's coil and R6. This current is not large enough to energize RY1, and its contacts stay in their normally closed position. The clock motor is running at all times, but its hands are set in motion only when the clutch is actuated. Depressing lever switch S2 completes the start signal circuit (lights the START indicator lamp) and applies power to the clutch to start the clock hands.

Now the shooter draws his weapon and fires. The sharp sound of the gunshot is picked up by a loudspeaker. It is

amplified and fed to V2-b's grid, increasing current through V2-b. This increase energizes RY1 and three things happen simultaneously: power is removed from the clutch to stop the clock's hands instantly; R6 is shorted out to lock the contacts of RY1 in their normally opened position, and the START light is extinguished. To reset the circuit, raise lever switch S2 for an instant.

In Fig. 1, S1 lets the operator time either a single shot or a string of five shots. Five shots are the standard string used all over the world in official handgun competitions. In Fig. 1, S1 is shown in the five-string setting. V2-b is self-biased as previously described and operates in exactly the same way. One set of RY1's contacts actuate the START and STOP signals. The other set of contacts actuates the step coil of RY2, and the clock clutch. RY1 is no longer self-locking. Deck B of RY2 does that job.

Note, that with S1 in the five-string position, R6 is not short-circuited until RY2 has been stepped five times. With S1 in the single-shot position, R6 is short-circuited after RY2 has been stepped once. Each time a shot is fired, RY1 energizes momentarily. Note that Deck A is wired in parallel with the clutch-actuating contacts of RY1. If this were not done, the motion of the clock hands would be interrupted each time RY1 energized and would cause serious inaccuracies in timing. The reset actions of S2 are the same as before with the additional function of applying power to the reset coil of RY2.

#### Using the timer

To use the equipment, place the tripod-mounted box on the ground about 10 feet forward of the shooting position. The control box can be placed at any

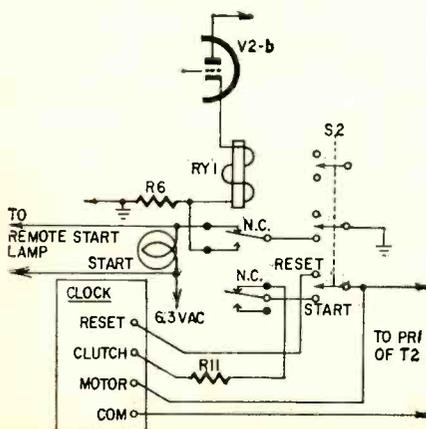
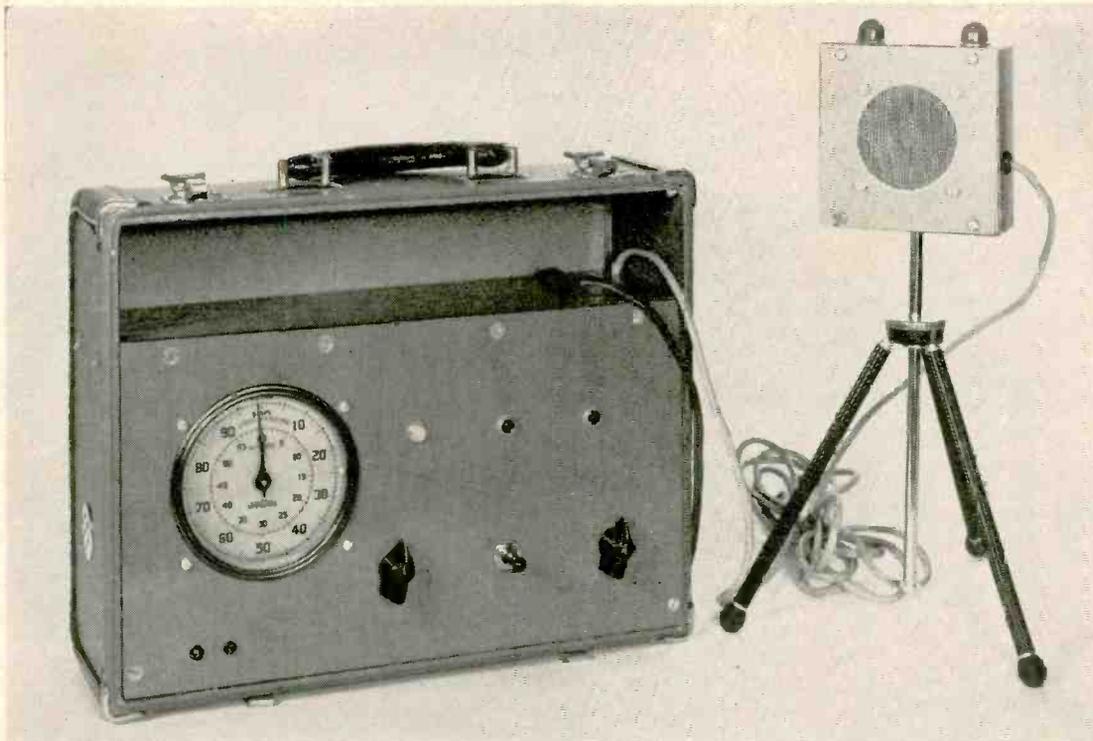


Fig. 2—Simplified circuit for single-shot-only operation. RY2, S1 and stop lights are eliminated. Green light goes on for start and off for stop.



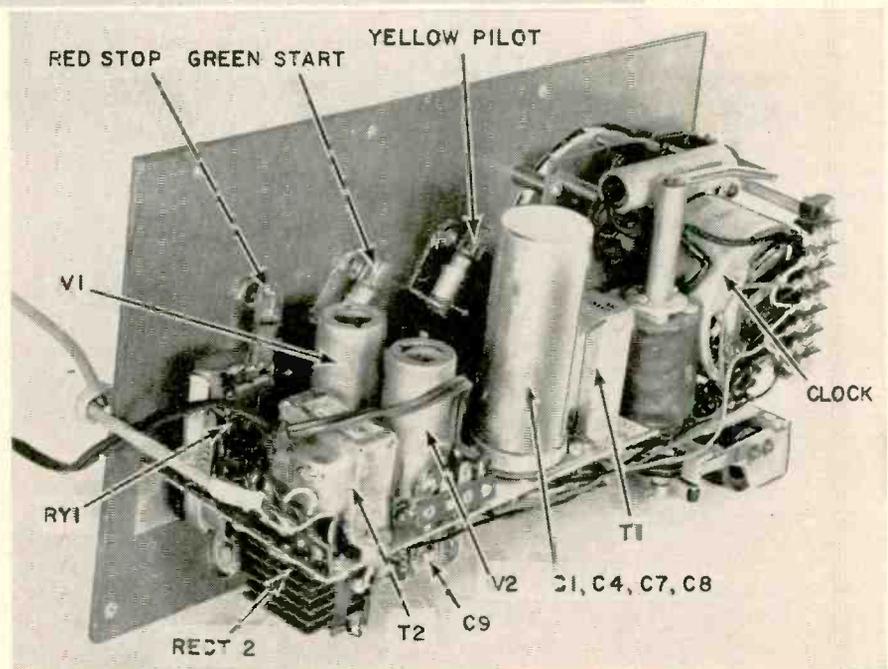
The complete two-piece setup.

convenient position behind the shooter. Plug the power cord into a 117-volt ac power source and make sure the lever switch is in its neutral position. Next, set the sensitivity control. This setting depends on the ammunition being fired but is not critical. It is quickly found by experiment. As a general guide, use a setting approximately one-third of full on with a cap pistol fired indoors. In the open field with a .30-.30 rifle or .38-special revolver the setting can be at approximately one-half. A .22 long-rifle cartridge actuates the mechanism reliably from 10 yards with the setting at two-thirds full on.

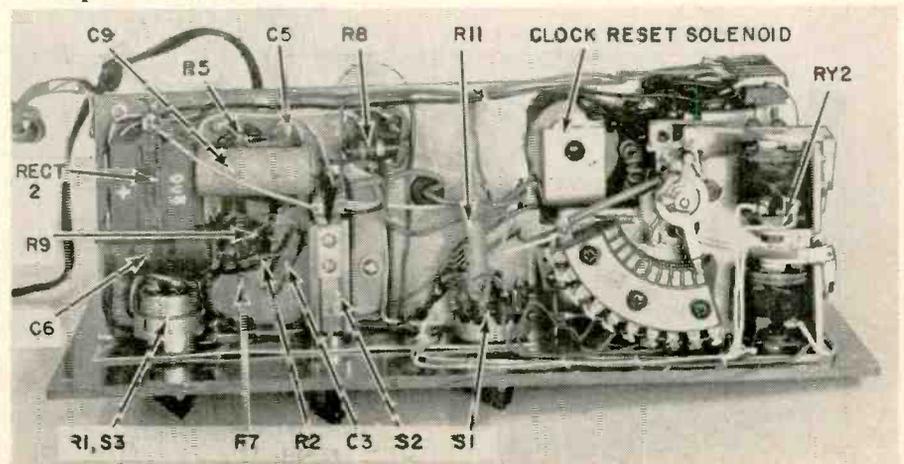
Now, select the single-shot or five-string timing action with the rotary switch. With the lever switch at neutral, neither the green START nor the red STOP light is illuminated. The operator selects the starting time, usually without a ready warning to the shooter. He does so by depressing and holding the lever switch down. The clock starts and the green lights go on in front of the shooter and the operator. The shooter goes into action and, on completion of either the single-shot or five-string firings, the clock automatically stops, the green lights go out and the red lights go on. The total time from start to finish is read directly from the face of the clock. The relays and the clock are automatically reset by moving the lever switch to the up position for an instant. The entire unit is then ready for the next timing sequence.

Extraordinary precaution is urged in using the timer. If you use live ammunition, recognize the potential dangers involved to others and to yourself. Shoot into a safe backstop. If you swing your gun as though following running game, make certain the entire backstop is safe and that no one can possibly come into the line of fire.

END



The top of the main chassis.



Careful parts arrangement avoids excessive crowding under the chassis.

# INS and

# OUTS

## of WIRELESS INTERCOMS

**These simple radio transceivers are easy to service**

By **ROBERT S. FISHER\***

**T**HOUSANDS of wireless intercoms are in use, and they all require servicing from time to time. They are simple radio transceivers operating on the carrier-current principle. Since they transmit and receive over the power lines, we can set up party-line type intercom systems that don't need interconnecting wires. All the user does is plug the intercom into an electrical outlet. In most cases all the wireless intercom units of a system are in the same building. However, they are working out satisfactorily in some systems where the units are in different buildings and are as far as 2 miles apart. Limiting factors such as meters, line transformers and underground lines can keep the range down as they stop the rf signal.

A wireless intercom operates sequentially. To transmit, you press a switch lever and talk. You release the switch to listen. Unlike the typical wired intercom, there is no master unit. All units are the same. Eavesdropping is not possible—the mike is dead until the transmit switch is closed.

For continuous monitoring, some units have a transmit-receive switch that can be locked in the transmit position.

Wireless intercom systems may be operated without a radio-station license provided they conform with Part 15 of *FCC Rules and Regulations*. Part 15 stipulates that, at a distance of 1,000 feet, electromagnetic radiation from the transmitter or power lines shall not exceed a field strength of  $2,400/f$  microvolts per meter when operating between 10 and 490 kc (f is stated in kc). When operating between 510 kc and 1600 kc, the same field-strength limit applies, but at a distance of only 100 feet. This means radiation through space, not the strength of the signal transmitted over the power lines.

The Bennett model 101 wireless intercom, a typical piece of this type of equipment, operates on 175 kc. It consists of a 2-watt AM transmitter, and a receiver which employs a modified grid-leak detector followed by a two-stage audio amplifier. The audio amplifier doubles as the modulator when transmitting.

### Receiver circuit

A simplified circuit of the receiver is shown in Fig. 1. The signal from the ac line is fed to a tap on L1 through C1, which isolates the line. The other side of the ac line feeds the bottom of L1 through L2, which is the transmitting-coil output link.

The grid leak does not return to ground, but instead is returned to V1's plate. This biases the grid slightly positive, making the detector more sensitive to weak signals. R1, across grid and plate, also provides degenerative feedback which reduces distortion.

The set's audio output remains fairly constant because of detector avc action. On very small signals, the detector acts like a grid-leak detector in which grid and cathode function as a diode shunted across the signal, and the grid and plate function as an audio amplifier. On strong signals, the detector acts like a combination grid-leak detector

and plate or power detector. In a grid-leak detector, which is very sensitive on weak signals, the plate current is decreased by negative excursions of the applied rf voltage. In a plate detector, negative excursions have little or no effect since the tube is already cut off or almost so, and the plate current is increased by the positive excursions.

When the detector functions as both a grid-leak detector and a plate detector, the positive and negative excursions of a strong input signal each cause opposing effects on plate current at the same time. Of course, these effects are not equal or the signal would cancel. But, they oppose each other enough to limit the amplitude of the resulting audio input signal. Hence, avc action is obtained.

As shown in Fig. 1, the audio signal is passed through an rf filter, consisting of R2 and C6, and is fed to audio amplifier V2 through the volume control R4.

Squelch action is provided by a unique circuit. When no signal is being received, line noise is not heard because the audio amplifier is disabled. It is biased to cutoff by R6 and R7, which make the cathode highly positive with respect to the grid. Hence, the grid is negative with respect to the cathode.

When a signal is received, it is fed through C4 to shunt rectifier D, from

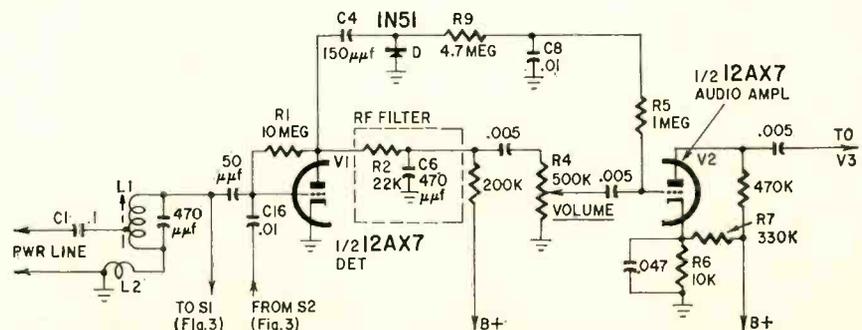


Fig. 1—Basic receiver circuit.

\*President, Bennett Laboratories, Inc.

a point just ahead of the rf filter, producing a dc voltage across D. This positive voltage is fed through R9 and R5 to V2's grid. When it is high enough to offset the bias on V2, the audio amplifier is turned on and the received signal is heard through the loudspeaker. C8 filters out the audio component in the voltage from D and provides sufficient time delay to prevent the audio amplifier from being unquenched by noise pulses.

### Transmitter

In the transmitter, a single beam-power tube functions as both a modulator and a self-excited oscillator. As shown in Fig. 2, the screen grid of the beam tube is used as the oscillator control grid. The screen and plate are used in a series-fed Hartley oscillator. The audio modulating signal from V2 is fed to the control grid which amplitude-modulates the rf signal generated by the oscillator.

The intercom is switched from re-

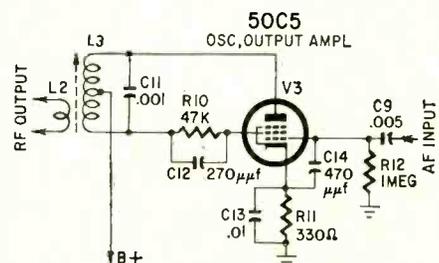


Fig. 2—Simplified transmitter circuit. It is shown integrated in fig. 3 below.

ceive to transmit with a three-position, four-section wafer switch. The center position is for listening, the other two for sending. One transmitting position has a spring return, the other is a locked position.

A simplified diagram of the transmit-receive circuitry is shown in Fig. 3. The four sections of the wafer switch are shown as simple three-position switches, S1, S2, S3 and S4, all set to receive.

In the receive position, the bottom end of the volume control is grounded but in transmit position the ground is lifted by S1 so the volume control is ineffective.

S2 connects R7 to B-plus to bias V2 so it will be cut off when the audio amplifier is squelched. In the transmit

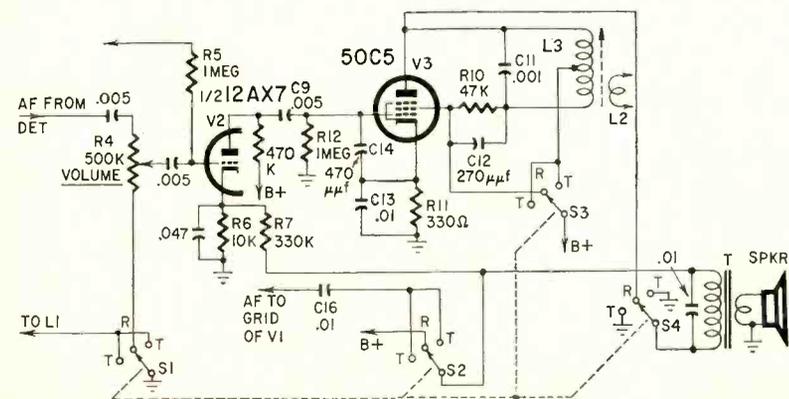
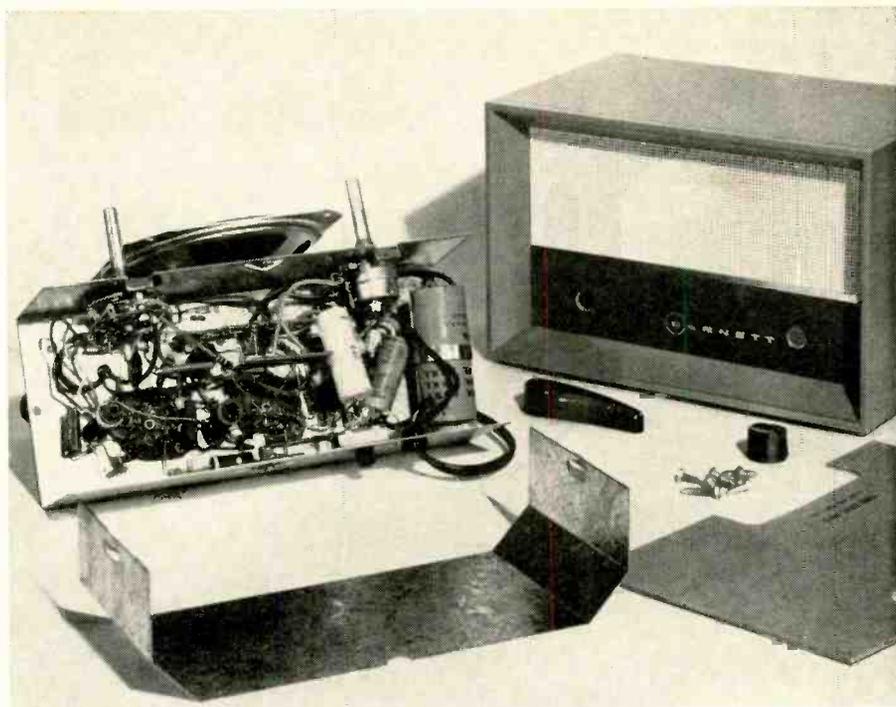


Fig. 3—Transmit-receive switching looks like this.



Interior view of typical wireless intercom.

Bennett Laboratories

position S2 connects one end of the secondary of the output transformer T (now acting as a microphone transformer) to V1's grid through C16. V1 then acts as a microphone preamplifier.

When S3 and S4 are set to the receive position, V3's screen is connected to B-plus and its plate to one end of the output transformer primary. In the transmit position, the same end of the output transformer primary is grounded and B-plus is fed to the tap on L3. The screen is no longer at full B-plus potential.

Therefore, when set to transmit, the switch sections simultaneously ground receiver coil L1 to disable the detector action, make the volume control and squelch ineffective, disconnect the output transformer from V3's plate circuit and connect it to V1's input, and feed B-plus through the transmitter tank coil to V3's plate and screen.

As shown in Fig. 4, the rf input-output circuits are not switched except for grounding the grid end of the receiver coil L1 through S1 when transmitting.

When receiving, the rf signal from

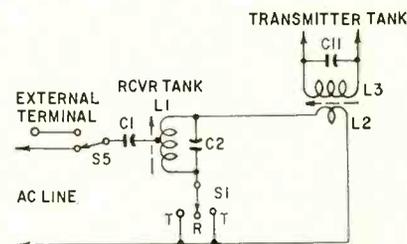


Fig. 4—Details of the rf input-output network.

the ac line is developed across a part of L1, an autotransformer, which steps up the voltage before it is applied to V1's grid. A very small part of the signal is also developed across L2. Because L3 is shunted by the audio power-amplifier circuit components, it is not now resonance at the operating frequency and cannot increase L2's impedance.

When transmitting, the rf signal is coupled from L3 (now resonant at the operating frequency) to L2 and is fed to the ac line through L1 and C1. Since L1 is now detuned because it is grounded by S1, L2 serves as an impedance-matching device.

The circuits shown are not exactly as they are in the equipment, but make it easier to analyze the circuit than when looking at the full schematic, which is printed here for comparison. In the actual equipment, one side of the line is not connected to the chassis, and the grounds shown in the diagrams indicate a common ground bus, not chassis ground.

### Installation and alignment

In most cases a switch on the rear of the chassis (S5 in Fig. 4) is set to the two-wire position as shown in the diagram. The signal is then transmitted and received over the power line. In some locations better results can be

obtained by grounding the "external" terminal at the back of the chassis and setting S5 to the three-wire position. In some cases an improvement may be made by interconnecting the external terminal of all units by a single wire.

Receiver alignment is extremely simple. Merely feed an unmodulated 175-kc signal to the external terminal and set S5 to the three-wire position. Connect the ground lead of the signal generator to the intercom chassis. Connect a dc vtvm across diode D. With the vtvm set to a low-voltage scale (around 0-3 volts), adjust L1's slug for maximum vtvm reading. The signal generator output must be kept very low to avoid AVC action.

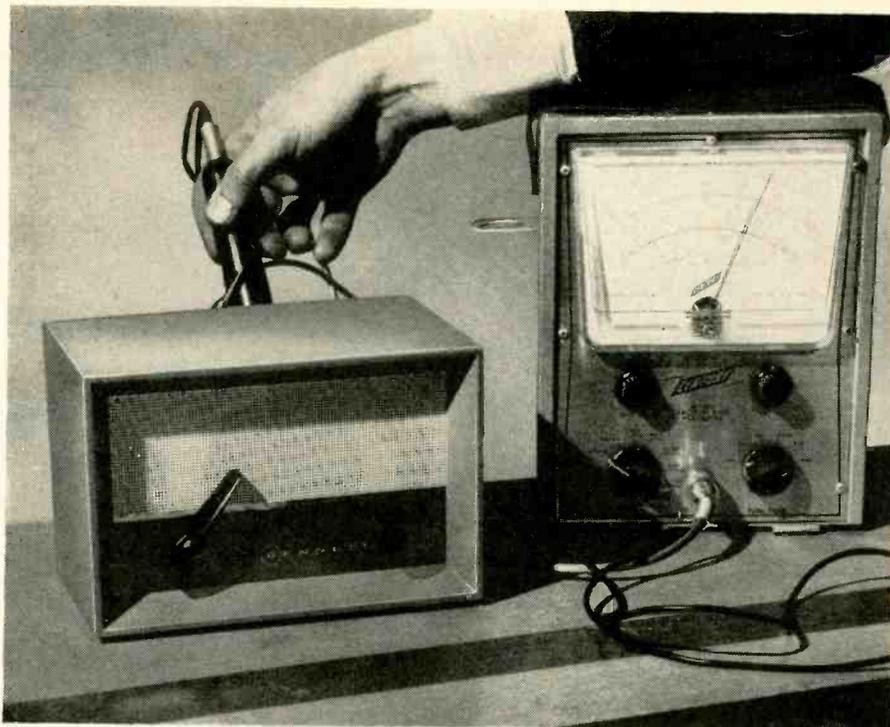
Setting the transmitter on frequency is equally easy. Connect a signal generator and an ac vtvm or oscilloscope to the external terminal (switch S5 set to three-wire position) and the chassis. Tune the signal generator to 175 kc and turn up its output control to apply a 1-volt signal to the intercom.

With the intercom set to transmit, adjust L3's slug until zero beat is obtained. This falls between two maximum voltage points you will find when tuning L3. When using a scope, zero beat is the point where the two signals coincide. It is also possible to use a second intercom unit (set to receive) as an audible monitor.

### Field adjustment

Out in the field if no signal generator is available, the receiver can be aligned with the signal from a distant intercom unit while monitoring the voltage across diode D with a vtvm. All transmitters may be set to the same frequency by turning them on in pairs while monitoring with a third unit. One transmitter is tuned until a zero-beat indication is obtained. One of the units of the matched pair is then used as the standard to which other units are tuned.

Experience shows that no unusual service problems are caused by the intercom units themselves. Normal component failures, after extended use, are the same as those encountered with any type of electronic equipment.



Output is checked with ac vtvm connected to external terminal with talk-listen switch locked in talk position.

Jacques Saphier

Power consumption is only 18 watts so the units may be left on continuously without heat problems as long as they get a reasonable amount of ventilation.

If a customer complains of excessive distortion, it is usually caused by his speaking too loudly, too close to the speaker-microphone. Advise him to talk in a normal voice 2 or more feet away for clean and crisp voice reception.

Except in rare instances, there is no background noise because of the squelch circuit. Even the noise that accompanies a very weak signal is seldom objectionable because of the detector's limiting action, which inherently discriminates against noise pulses.

Noisy reception can often be alleviated by reversing the position of the power plug in the outlet.

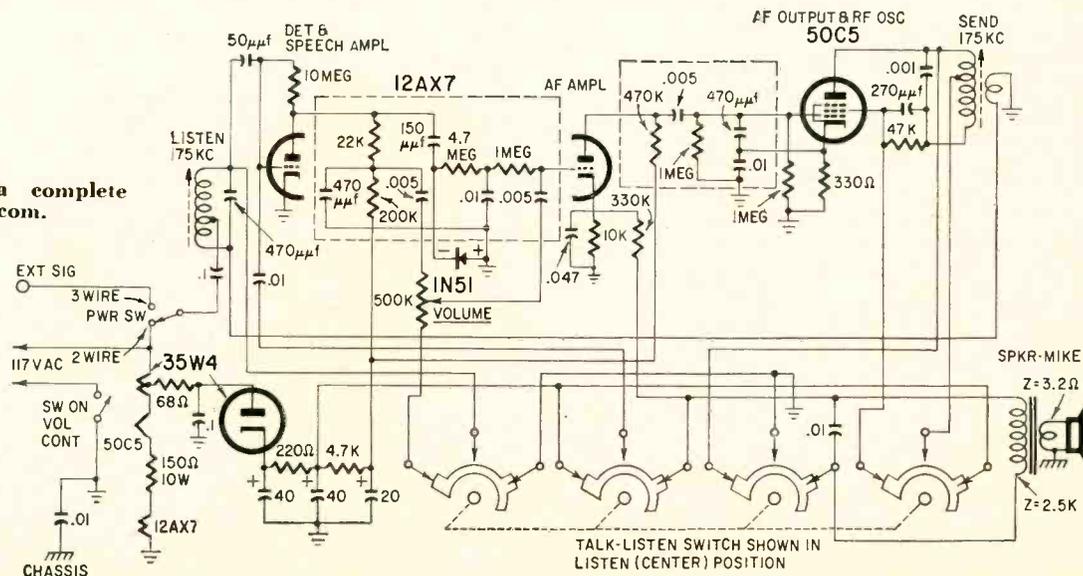
Where unwanted radio signals are heard, check the house wiring. In one case we found that a steam pipe touch-

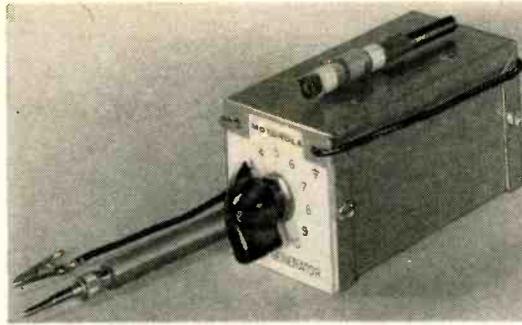
ing a water pipe, but not making a good electrical contact, acted as a rectifier. Various strong radio signals picked up by the pipes were mixed by the rectifier, and many new composite signals were created. The temporary cure was to place a piece of cardboard between the pipes at the point where they crossed. A permanent cure was made by bonding the pipes. A ground clamp was attached to each pipe, and the clamps connected to each other with a braided strap.

The same basic circuits, installation techniques and servicing procedures apply to most modern wireless intercoms. Equipment differs among manufacturers in features and circuit techniques. Including squelch and AVC has eliminated the objections many had to earlier wireless intercoms. When intelligently installed, they do a fine job.

END

Circuit of a complete wireless intercom.





The completed signal generator. Note mounting of coil L on top of unit.

## Service aids for transistor radios

*Two service gadgets cut transistor radio repair time drastically*

By **CARL FINZER\***

**R**ADIO servicing techniques are second nature to today's highly skilled service technicians. They have to be so he can make a profit on the repair of units which cost less, brand-new, than the cost of a single TV or hi-fi repair. In recent years, however, radio has taken on a new look. On the outside, all types of radios are smaller, slimmer, lighter and more portable. On the inside they are often transistorized.

Few technicians have any difficulty in following the schematic diagram of a transistor set. But the troubleshooting and repair of transistor receivers involve some special considerations which have caused many technicians and dealers to turn down such jobs. To reduce some of these problems to a minimum, Motorola has introduced three inexpensive service aids which are available through the company's nation-wide distributor network.

They include a simple signal injector, a unique transistor tester and a universal replacement transistor substitution kit. The two test instruments are designed to make the job of transistor radio servicing as easy and as fast as possible. They are so simple that the average technician with a couple of hours of spare time can build them himself. Described in widely distributed Motorola service publications, they have been thoroughly field-tested by hundreds of technicians.

The substitution kit is intended to eliminate the need for a large, costly and slow-moving stock of replacement transistors ordinarily required to do an efficient job of servicing.

### The signal injector

There is nothing so unresponsive as a dead transistor radio. Tube substitution, which uncovers the majority of troubles in conventional sets, has no

counterpart in transistor servicing, since transistors, unlike tubes, are the least likely suspects in a malfunctioning receiver.

The well practiced techniques of shorting grids or components to produce clicks or some other indication of an operative vacuum-tube stage must be avoided in transistor sets to prevent possible damage to the circuit and transistor. The quickest, surest and most effective way of localizing a defective transistor stage is by signal injection.

Conventional signal generators, of course, are perfectly suitable for this

purpose. More convenient, however, and equally efficient for most purposes, are the simple noise generators which have been gaining increasing favor for rapid troubleshooting. The unit shown here (Fig. 1) is a simple battery-powered multivibrator operating at a fundamental frequency of about 400 cycles. The waveshape is rich in harmonics, covering the if and rf bands, so signals in those regions are readily available in a single palm-sized instrument without any bandswitching.

There are two types of output: a direct output at the test leads, and a radiated signal from the antenna.

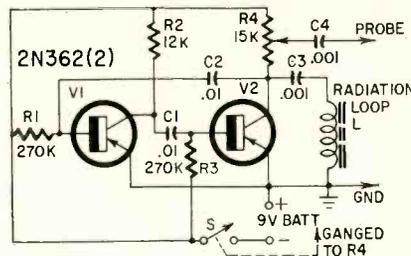


Fig. 1—Two-transistor signal injector for audio and rf circuits without switching.

### PARTS LIST (Fig. 1)

- R1, R3—270,000 ohms, 1/2 watt
- R2—12,000 ohms, 1/2 watt
- R4—pot, 15,000 ohms with spst switch S
- C1, C2—.01  $\mu$ f, ceramic
- C3, C4—.001  $\mu$ f, ceramic
- BATT—9 volts
- L—radiation loop (ferrite core antenna)
- S—spst on R4
- V1, V2—2N362
- Test probe
- Alligator clip, miniature
- Chassis box, 4 x 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 inches
- Miscellaneous hardware

### TRANSISTOR KIT CONTENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Number	Manufacturer	Application	Type	Construction
2N544	RCA	RF	P-n-p	Diffused Junction
2SA52	TOSHIBA	Converter	P-n-p	Diffused Junction
2N1108	T.I.	Converter	P-n-p	Grown Junction
2N1086	G-E	Converter	N-p-n	Grown Junction
2SA49	TOSHIBA	IF	P-n-p	Diffused Junction
2N1110	T.I.	IF	P-n-p	Grown Junction
2N169	G-E	IF	N-p-n	Grown Junction
2SB54	TOSHIBA	Audio Amplifier/Audio Driver	P-n-p	Diffused Junction
2N1274	T.I.	Audio Driver/Audio Output	P-n-p	Grown Junction
2SB56	TOSHIBA	Audio Driver/Audio Output	P-n-p	Diffused Junction
1N295	SYLVANIA	Diode	—	—

\*Motorola field service specialist.

In signal injection for transistor radios, the direct signal is applied to the transistor bases, starting with the audio driver transistor. In all cases, the generator common or ground lead is connected to the ground or "common" point in the radio. If an output is heard in the radio speaker, proceed to the next transistor base toward the radio antenna. If no output is heard, try the bases of the output transistors. Very little output will result if the generator is applied to the base of one transistor in a push-pull output circuit; so we start signal tracing at the base of the audio driver transistor.

The amplitude of the direct output from the generator is controlled by an attenuator so the operator can determine the relative gain of various stages. The signal fed into the ferrite antenna radiator is not controlled by this attenuator.

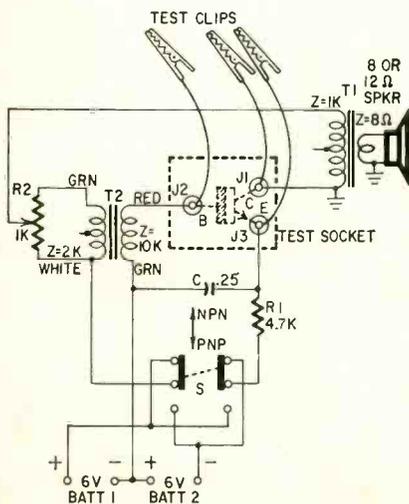
The ferrite antenna provides a radiated signal. If this signal is picked up by the radio, but stations are not received, the oscillator is probably dead.

Construction of the signal injector is simple. Because of the low fundamental frequency, parts layout is not at all critical. Only standard construction precautions need be observed.

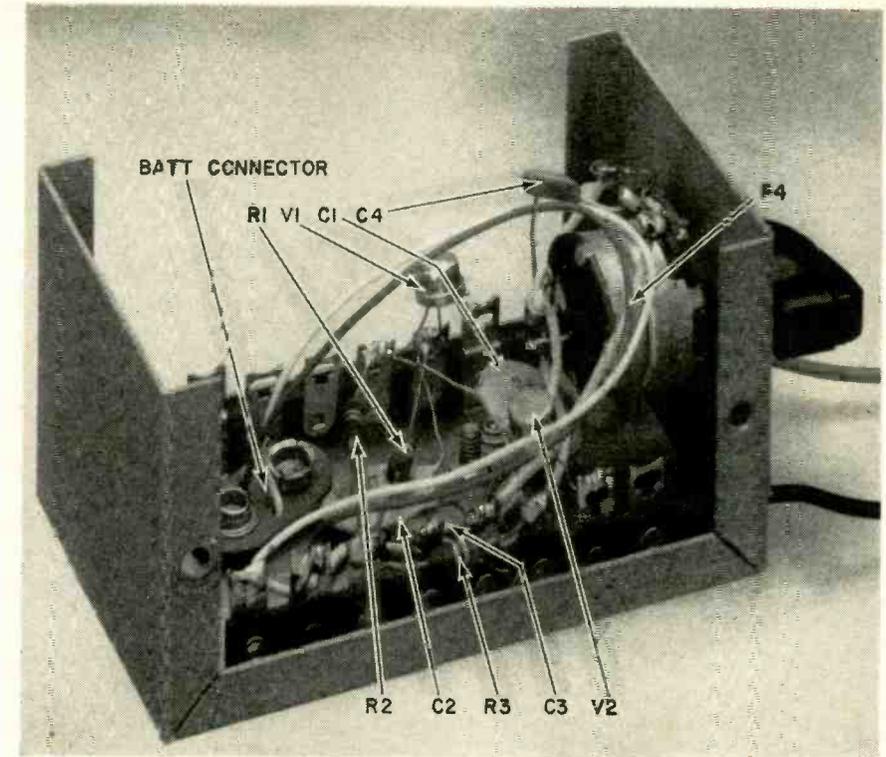
### The transistor tester

While transistors seldom fail during normal operation of a radio, they can be damaged by other receiver defects. A shorted or leaky coupling capacitor, for example, or a short circuit between closely spaced foils of a printed circuit can result in a bias change which, in turn, could increase base or collector current beyond the maximum for which the transistor is rated. Defective transistors, although sometimes encountered, occur much less frequently than their tube counterparts in radio circuits.

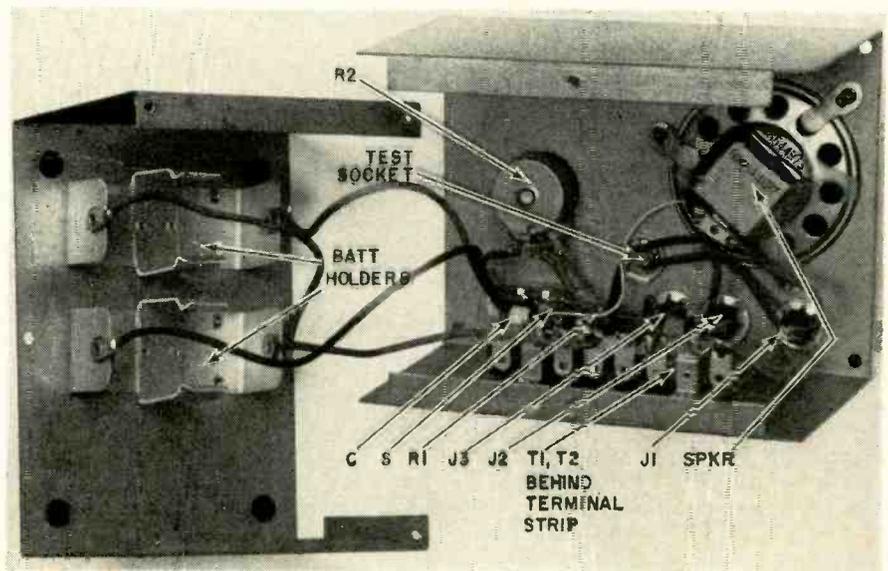
The recommended procedure for servicing transistor radios consists of first localizing the defective stage by the signal-injection method and then



**Fig. 2 — Simple transistor checker.** There is a transistor socket for direct testing and three alligator clip leads that plug into J1, J2, and J3 for testing transistors that won't fit the test socket.



Parts layout inside the signal generator.



The few components fit easily into the small case.

- PARTS LIST (Fig. 2)**  
 R1—4,700 ohms, 1/2 watt  
 R2—pot, 1,000 ohms, 1/2 watt, linear taper  
 C—0.25  $\mu$ f, 100 volts, molded paper  
 BATT 1, BATT 2—6 volts (Eveready 724 or equivalent)  
 J1, J2, J3—Pin jacks  
 S—dpdt slide switch  
 T1—audio output transformer, miniature; primary, 1,000 ohms; secondary, 8 ohms  
 T2—audio driver transformer, miniature; primary, 2,000 ohms; secondary, 10,000 ohms (Motorola 25K644695 or equivalent)  
 Speaker, 2 or 3-inch, 8 or 12/ohms  
 Chassis box, 5 x 4 x 3 inches  
 Transistor socket  
 Alligator clips, miniature (3)  
 Miscellaneous hardware

locating the faulty part or parts within the stage. The second part of this procedure is complicated by the low interelectrode resistance of transistors which, shunting the various circuit elements, often makes a resistance check with an ohmmeter entirely inconclusive. An emitter-voltage check will very often localize a defective stage in a radio circuit, but does not necessarily pinpoint the faulty part. Often, normal measuring techniques can be effectively employed only by removing the transistor from the circuit. And, because a circuit defect can damage a

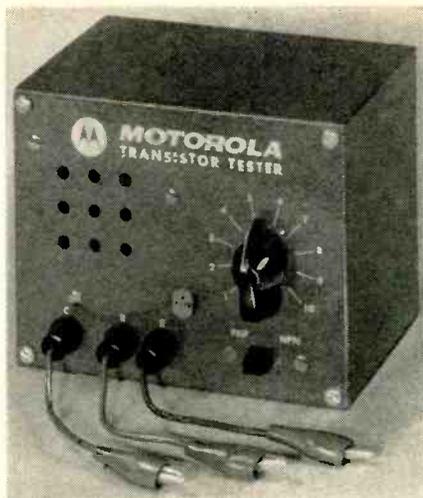
transistor, it is always good practice to check the transistor as well as the other parts of the defective stage. A transistor checker, therefore, is a valuable asset to any service shop. The one shown in Fig. 2 employs no expensive meters or cumbersome roll charts, yet will check *any* transistor rapidly, safely and without ambiguity.

Its circuit is that of an audio oscillator which is completed when a transistor is plugged into the test socket or connected across the clip leads. The unit has only a single control, a feedback adjustment. It can be set to cause any good transistor to oscillate and produce an audible tone through the built-in speaker. Since the power gain of a transistor is directly related to the amount of feedback required to sustain oscillation, the relative gain of various transistors can easily be determined from the setting of this feedback control. Gain is indicated by the point at which the tone ceases as the control is rotated in a clockwise direction. The higher the control setting, the higher the gain. Thus, the tester can be used to:

- ▶ Detect shorted or open transistors.
- ▶ Detect high leakage currents in all transistors.
- ▶ Match transistor gain, as required for push-pull or other critical circuits.
- ▶ Determine whether an unknown transistor is a p-n-p or n-p-n type without danger of damaging the unit.

All this can actually be done in less time than it takes to describe the operation.

To check a transistor, merely set the NPN-PNP switch to the proper position



The finished transistor checker.

(if known), plug the unit into the test socket and rotate the control counter-clockwise. If the transistor type is not known, repeat this procedure with the switch in the opposite position. If the transistor is good, an audio tone will be heard at some setting of the control.

A low-gain transistor, one which oscillates only with a large amount of feedback, is not necessarily defective. To hold transistor yield within economical limits, manufacturers accept a considerably greater range in gain than would be tolerated in vacuum tubes. Usually a low-gain transistor can be compensated for by using a higher-gain unit in some other part of the circuit.

Replacement transistors for push-pull circuits may be matched by simply selecting two replacement transistors with the same relative gain, as indi-

cated by the position of the control at the point where oscillations cease.

Leakage may be checked by first setting the feedback control to the maximum position still producing oscillations. Next, throw the NPN-PNP switch to the opposite position for approximately ten seconds. Returning the switch to the proper position should cause no change in pitch. If there is a change, or if the transistor no longer oscillates at the same control setting, it can be considered defective.

Construction, like that of the signal injector, is completely noncritical because of the low frequency of the oscillator.

### Transistor substitution kit

One of the most vexing problems of transistor radio servicing is caused by the industry's failure, as yet, to standardize transistor types. As a result, literally hundreds of transistors with different numbers appear in portable transistor radios of various manufacturers. Few service shops are inclined to stock even a single unit of each of the many transistor types because it would mean investing a considerable sum of money in a relatively slow-moving inventory. The fact that exactly equivalent replacement transistors are not immediately on hand often causes considerable confusion, not to mention the long delay in returning the repaired unit to an understandably impatient customer.

Cognizant of this problem, Motorola field engineers have investigated the possibility of selecting a small number of transistors which would satisfactorily replace the multitude of units in current use. The resultant kit, consisting of 12 transistors (including two matched pairs) and one diode, provides a satisfactory solution. While we suggest that an exactly equivalent transistor be used to replace a defective one wherever possible, the units in the kit can be employed with excellent results in servicing the vast majority of transistor radios on the market today.

The transistors included in the kit (see the table) were selected on the basis of type (p-n-p or n-p-n), biasing configuration, construction (diffused junction or grown junction) and function (rf, converter, if or audio). The instruction booklet that accompanies the kit points out that an rf or converter transistor of a particular type and construction can usually replace any if and audio transistor of the same type and construction without any ill effects. While the slightly greater cost of high-frequency transistors prohibits production applications in an audio circuit, the fact is that they will work. A consumer couldn't be concerned less over the slight difference in cost when the alternative would be to wait until the exact replacement could be obtained on special order. The kit surmounts the economic problem by supplying a minimum required number of types which will adequately replace units in each circuit at the lowest cost. END

## Transistor handling hints

Avoid bending transistor leads, especially near the base. The wires of some makes of transistors break off near the glass seal very easily.

When trimming leads for a socket fit, use tin cutting shears rather than wire cutters; this results in an even cut without burrs or sharp edges.

Avoid soldering leads into a circuit as much as possible; but, if you must, hold the leads with long-nosed pliers between the iron and the transistor to conduct the heat away.

Use some form of insulation such as spaghetti sleeving or appropriate tape on the base connection of the socket.

Before soldering connections to a socket, insert a discarded transistor. It will set the spring tension contacts in place and at the same time help carry away some of the heat.

Always handle flat shaped transistors

by their ends. This insures against smudging or obliterating the identifying numbers, which may come in mighty handy later.

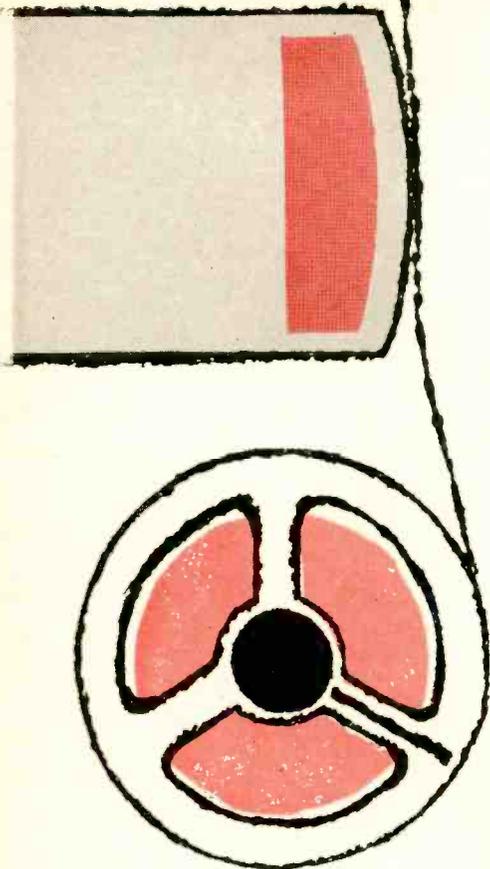
Avoid subjecting a transistor to an overload by first familiarizing yourself with the manufacturer's specifications.

When changing from an n-p-n to a p-n-p type in the same circuit, triple-check for correct polarity of power source and all associated capacitors and meters.

Become familiar with the specific use to which a transistor is to be put. Avoid using it for another purpose unless all load conditions meet the manufacturer's specifications.

In breadboard style of experimenting, avoid loose or dangling wires which might accidentally damage a good transistor.—*Martin H. Patrick*

# ALL ABOUT TAPE RECORDERS



## PART II—LEVEL INDICATORS AND TAPE ERASING

*This section will examine the many types of level indicators used in modern tape recorders. Then we will go on to see how tapes can be erased.*

By **JACK DARR**  
SERVICE EDITOR

EACH MACHINE NEEDS AN INDICATOR TO tell the operator when he is running the amplifier at the correct level for best recordings. It prevents overloading which causes distortion and can cause print-through (the transferral of magnetic fields from one turn of tape to the next) on the reel. This is heard as faint echoes in the playback. Underloading, of course, just produces a weak recording.

There are three major types of indicators: the neon lamp, the electron-ray tuning indicator tube, and, on elaborate home type and all professional machines, a VU meter. (This is not a true VU meter, but usually is driven by an amplifier tube. Hence, when a meter is inoperative, it can be a meter fault or failure of its amplifier tube.)

But no matter what type indicator is used, the purpose is the same—to indicate the amount of audio signal being applied to the recording head.

Neon-lamp indicators are very simple. The lamp is coupled to a source of audio signal with suitable resistors, as in Fig. 1. The amount of resistance determines the amount of audio signal voltage across the combination required to fire the neon lamp. This also depends on the type and size of the lamp itself. For

instance, on the most popular type, the NE-51 or NE-2 (they are similar electronically), let's assume that we want the lamp to fire at a signal voltage of 150. We ought to have about 300,000 ohms in series with it. By altering the value of the series resistance, we can make the lamp fire at any voltage we want, down to its actual firing voltage. Fig. 2 is an actual circuit complete with parts values.

Notice that the two input resistors are variable. In this arrangement we have an extra lamp marked OVERLOAD. It is adjusted to fire only when the applied signal is strong enough to overload the tape.

The actual signal level varies with different machines and with the point from which it is taken off—first audio amplifier, audio output, etc. If the signal is taken from the plate of the first audio amplifier, it is low and additional dc bias must be applied to the lamp to make it fire at the proper level (Fig. 3).

In most commercial circuits, the indicator circuit resistors are fixed. Only the more elaborate machines have provisions for varying this resistance and it is always a factory adjustment. Normally, they should never be reset. If the lamps do not fire as they should or do not fire at all, measure resistances around the circuit, and check the signal voltage applied to them. **Don't change those adjustments except as a last resort!** They will always be screwdriver type pots, mounted underneath the chas-

sis, but can usually be reached from the top or back. In machines using fixed resistors, disconnect and check them very

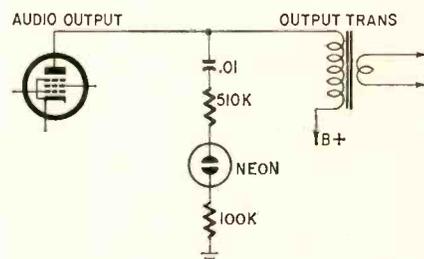


Fig. 1—Basic neon lamp level-indicator circuit.

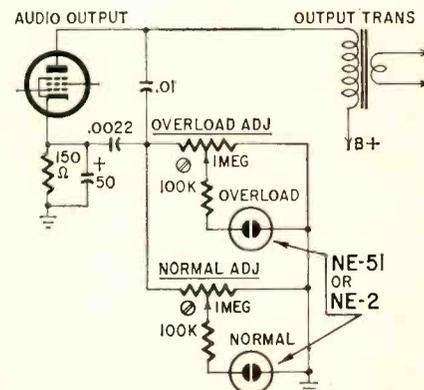


Fig. 2—Two-lamp indicator circuit shows normal and overload operation.

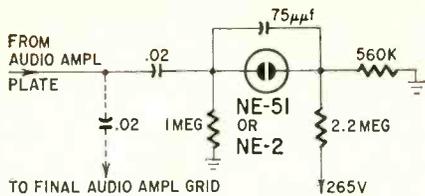


Fig. 3—Dc bias is applied to the neon so a small signal voltage will cause the lamp to fire.

carefully for changes in resistance and drift, especially under heat. Apply the tip of a soldering iron to the resistor and see if it changes in value. Changes in the resistance will upset the operation of the circuit, as will changes in the ionizing voltage of the neon lamps. Therefore, before changing adjustments or checking components, try several other bulbs.

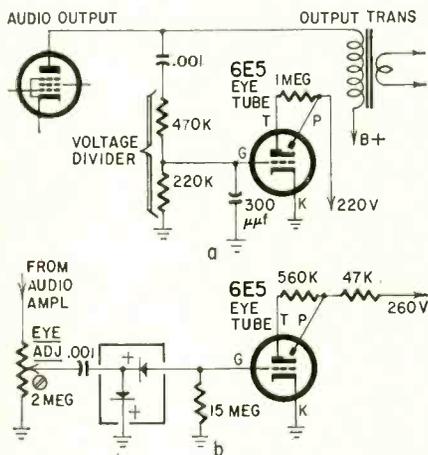


Fig. 4-a—Standard tube-type circuit. b—Variation of same circuit. Voltage is rectified for applying it to the grid.

### Cathode-ray indicators

The tubes used here are very familiar to many old-timers. They were widely used in radios as tuning indicators back in the 1930's. Such types as 6E5, 6U5 are found, with the later EM84's, DM70's, DM71's, etc. They differ from the older ones only in the shape of the fluorescent pattern on the target. The circuit action is the same.

The width of the eye-shaped shadow on the fluorescent screen of the tube varies with changing grid voltages. Therefore, we can connect one of these tubes to a source of signal voltage in the amplifier, and set it up so that the eye just closes when the signal level is correct (Fig. 4-a). Notice the voltage divider formed by the resistors in the grid circuit. By changing the ratio of these resistors, we can make the eye close at any level we want.

A variation of this is seen in Fig. 4-b. Here the designer has placed a small rectifier in the grid circuit. The signal is fed to it through a 2-megohm potentiometer in the grid circuit, marked EYE ADJ. This is another factory adjustment that shouldn't be moved in the field.

If trouble shows up in the eye circuit, first check the signal applied to it, then check the parts in the circuit. In this very-high-resistance circuit, even the

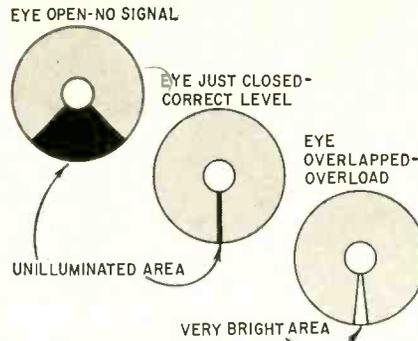


Fig. 5—Typical electron-ray tube indications.

smallest dc leakage in the coupling capacitor will upset the bias on the eye tube. Check that 15-megohm resistor, too! These very large resistors are often overlooked in servicing.

Note the 300- $\mu$ f capacitor in Fig. 4-a. If open it will allow the bias signal to leak into the eye and cause a continuous indication without audio signal.



Fig. 6—Bottom view of 6E5 socket on tape recorder. Note position of 1-megohm resistor.

Fig. 5 shows characteristic eye patterns seen under operating conditions. It would be a good idea to measure the peak-to-peak voltage of the signal on the grid or on the EYE-ADJUST control on every recorder that comes in, while they are in good operating condition. Note this value on the schematic; it is seldom given. Then if you have trouble in the future, you'll know what voltage you should find at the various points. In the machines we checked, it ran around 8–10 volts peak to peak for minimum eye closure, and from 40–50 volts during overload (maximum eye closure).

One final hint about eye tubes: If the eye does not move at all, even with a good tube and enough signal, replace the 1-megohm resistor between plate and target. If it has opened or changed in value, the tube will not work. This is usually a very tiny resistor, often mounted on the tube socket, especially if the tube has a socket connected to the

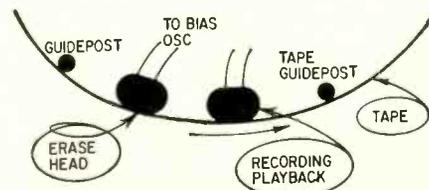


Fig. 7—Tape goes past erase head, then record head.

amplifier by a multi-conductor cable to allow mounting on the upper deck. A typical installation is Fig. 6. The 1-megohm resistor is between pins 2 and 4. (This is a 6E5.)

### Erasing

To make a recording, all material previously recorded on the tape must be removed. The recording is "erased" by passing it through a magnetic field. Early machines used permanent-magnet erasure, but this left noise on the tape. However, some low-cost machines and many miniature transistor units still use dc erase. Later models use ultrasonic bias for erasing. The bias current is fed to a separate erase head mounted so the tape passes over it just before it goes by the recording head (Fig. 7). The ac erase method leaves the magnetic domains of the tape in an almost completely random alignment, ready for whatever new material is to be recorded.

The erase heads are similar to the recording heads. When the tape machine is set to record, the tape is held against the head by a special pressure pad. When permanent-magnet erase is used, the erase head is moved back out of the way during playback. With electronic erase, the power source is disconnected when playing back so there is no chance of accidentally erasing a recording while playing it. Quite a few machines use a "foolproof" method. Some of the numerous contacts on the play-record switch disconnect the plate voltage from the bias oscillator on playback, making it impossible to erase a recording. Most machines have an interlock so that two separate switches must be actuated simultaneously to get into record position.

Fig. 8 shows a closeup of the recording and erase heads on a modern tape recorder. Note the Mumetal shielding over the head. It prevents accidental pickup of stray magnetic fields.

Now and then you'll run into a machine which will not completely erase a previous recording. In most cases this is caused by an overrecorded tape—one that has been recorded at too high a

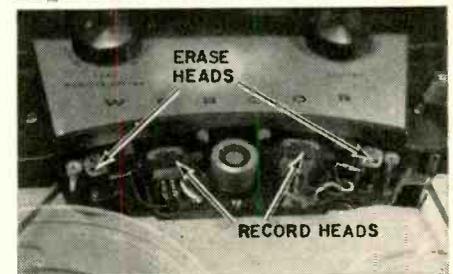


Fig. 8—Two closeups of recording and erase heads.



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level. To make a valid test, use a brand-new tape, if obtainable, or one which has nothing on it at all. Make a short test recording, being sure that the indicators show that it is being recorded at the proper level. Now play it back, for test, then run it back through the machine.

To erase a recording, set the controls to record, turn the gain all the way down and run the tape through. This should erase all material on the tape, if the erase is working properly. If it does not, check the bias oscillator. Weak tubes, low plate voltage or switching troubles can cause weakness here. Incorrect erase-head alignment, trouble with the pressure pad, or a dirty or badly worn erase head can also cause this symptom. If the machine will not erase at all and there is bias voltage, check the erase head for continuity. The average head can read from 6 to 500 ohms dc resistance, although this is another value seldom found in service data. In general, heads usually fail by opening, not by shorting under load.

#### Bulk erasers

Radio stations and other users of large quantities of tape use bulk erasers to make sure that a tape is completely clean before an important program is recorded. They consist of a large coil with an iron core, in a housing with a handle on it. It is plugged into 117-volt ac. To erase a reel of tape (or several reels, if necessary) the eraser is plugged in and held over the reel, moving it in circles. It is then slowly taken 2 or 3 feet away before disconnecting it. This avoids remagnetizing the tape with the sudden pulse due to collapse of the magnetic field.

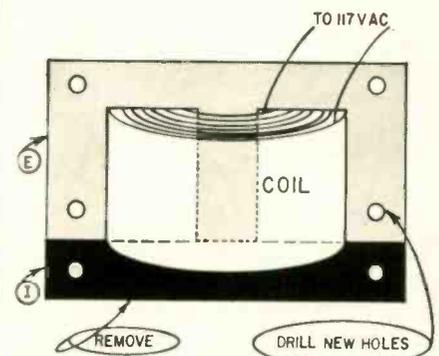


Fig. 9—Home-made bulk eraser for tape. All you need is an old filter choke and a length of line cord.

Incidentally, if you have a filter choke of several henries, such as the ones used in old radio sets, you can make your own bulk eraser easily (Fig. 9). The choke coil must have enough inductance to allow connecting it directly across the ac line without drawing too much current. Take the choke apart and remove all the I laminations, leaving the E's. Replace the bolts, drawing them down tightly. It is used exactly the same as commercial bulk erasers.

Next month we will continue our study of tape recorders with a discussion of record heads and how they work.

# New transistor has gain of 30,000

The amazing composite is the equivalent of a multi-stage cascaded amplifier. Here are some facts about it and some circuits using it

By LOUIS E. GARNER, JR.

**R**OUGHLY analogous to the amplification factor or mu of a vacuum tube, a transistor's beta is its current gain in the common-emitter configuration. By definition, beta is the ratio of the change in collector current corresponding to a given small change in base current at a constant collector voltage.

Sometimes called forward current-transfer ratio ( $h_{fe}$ ), a transistor's beta is directly proportional to the gain that can be obtained when it is used as an amplifier. The higher the beta, the greater the gain the transistor can deliver. For example, if we use a transistor with a beta of 20 as a common-emitter current amplifier, a 50- $\mu$ a change in base current will cause a change in collector current of  $50 \times 20$ , or 1,000  $\mu$ a (1 ma). A similar change in base current in a transistor with a beta of 40 would result in a 2-ma change in collector current.

As a general rule, standard production transistors have betas of less than 100. The popular low-cost experimenter's transistors, for example, have betas between 5 and 30. If we go to premium high-gain units, we find a few types with betas as high as 300, although betas as high as 400 or 500 may be obtained on special order.

There is, as you might expect, an exception to this general rule. One firm, Advanced Research Associates Inc. (PO Box 68, Kensington, Md.), is now producing a line of transistors with betas ranging from—don't faint—10,000 to 30,000. With a beta of, say 20,000, a 50- $\mu$ a current change in the transistor's base circuit can result in a 1-ampere collector-current change. With such high beta values, a single unit can supply as much gain as a multi-stage cascaded amplifier.

## The composite transistor

ARA's high-beta transistors are composite units—essentially multi-element semiconductor devices using a number of p-n junctions. A conventional transistor has two p-n junctions—base-emitter and base-collector. The net effect, then, is to cascade the gain of several devices, much as if individual transistors were connected together in a direct-coupled amplifier (Fig. 1).

Referring to the diagram and, for the moment, ignoring diodes D1 and D2, we see that p-n-p transistors V1, V2 and V3 are direct-coupled through their base-emitter circuits. Thus, V1's emitter current becomes V2's base current, with V2's emitter current, in turn, serving as V3's base current. Since the emitter current of each stage approximates its base current multiplied by the transistor's beta, the overall circuit beta more or less equals the product of individual stage betas. For example, if V1 has a beta of 20, then its emitter current will be 20 times its base current. If we call V1's base current  $I_{in}$ , then V2's base current will become 20  $I_{in}$ . Going a step further, let us assume that V2 has a beta of 30. V2's emitter current will be 30 times its base current, or 600  $I_{in}$ , and this becomes V3's base current.

*AUTHOR'S NOTE: Currently, the ARA composite transistor sells for something over \$40 each in small quantities, making it a relatively expensive component. However, its fantastic gain makes a single composite the equivalent of a multi-stage cascaded amplifier, saving the cost of resistors, capacitors, several transistors, interstage transformers and, in control circuits, sensitive relays. This offsets, to a large degree, its high initial cost and permits the assembly of practical circuits at a total cost roughly approximating that entailed when conventional transistors are used. The manufacturer indicates he is in the process of developing a lower-cost experimenter's version of the composite transistor.*

If V3, in turn, has a beta of 30, its output current will be 30 times its base current, or 18,000  $I_{in}$ —an effective gain or beta of 18,000!

These calculations, of course, are only approximations to show how high gains may be achieved by multi-element devices, for we have failed to take into account the degenerative effect of unby-passed emitter loads and the fact that the output current represents the sum of all three collector currents rather than V3's collector current alone.

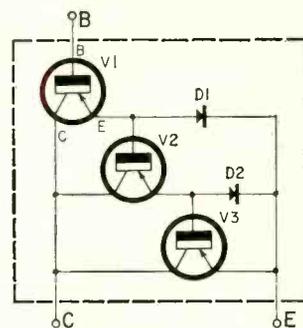


Fig. 1—Equivalent circuit of the composite transistor.

Unfortunately, a three-stage direct-coupled amplifier of the type outlined, while feasible from a theoretical viewpoint, cannot be built for the leakage currents as well as the signal currents are amplified by each stage. If V1 has an emitter-collector leakage of, say 200  $\mu$ a, this will be multiplied by both V2 and V3, even if these transistors have zero leakage of their own. The output leakage current would be  $30 \times 30 \times 200$ , or 180,000  $\mu$ a (180 ma)!

Obviously, an emitter-collector "leakage" on this order would be intolerable in a practical device.

We find another fly in the ointment when we consider temperature effects.

As temperature increases, the resistance of common semiconductor junctions decreases, leading to an increase in leakage currents. In a cascaded amplifier, this effect is multiplied and can lead, in a short time, to thermal runaway.

In the ARA composite transistor, leakage currents are minimized by using a semiconductor element (as V1) with extremely low—virtually “zero”—internal leakage. Temperature effects are minimized and any tendency toward thermal runaway eliminated by connecting semiconductor junctions in parallel with and thermally coupled to the base-emitter junctions of each “stage.” In Fig. 1, diodes D1 and D2 do this and are electrically and thermally matched to their respective “transistors,” V2 and V3.

Referring again to the diagram, D1 shunts part of V1's emitter current around V2's base-emitter circuit. Similarly, D2 is a shunt across V3's base-emitter junction. Any increase in temperature which results in a decrease of the transistors' internal resistance causes a corresponding decrease in diode resistance, thus making the diodes more effective “shunts” and reducing base current to compensate for increases caused by temperature.

Typically, the ARA composite transistor has the input characteristics of a small-signal or low-power transistor. Its input impedance is around 2,000 ohms, and base-bias currents are on the order of a few microamperes. Its output characteristics, on the other hand, are more like those of a conventional power transistor for its collector current is generally between a few hundred milliamperes and several amperes in typical circuits, with its output impedance measured in ohms.

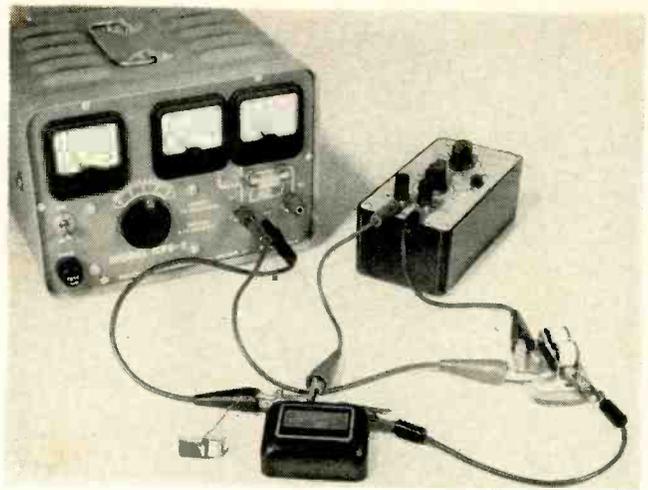
Currently, five basic types are in production. Of these, four are germanium and one is silicon. All have extremely high betas. The basic characteristics of available units are summarized in the table.

Since the composite transistor is a multi-element device, it can be manufactured with special characteristics not found in conventional units. For example, ARA is producing two units analogous to the experimentally developed hook collector transistor in addition to more familiar p-n-p and n-p-n types. These are ARA types 25N-H (2N1019) and 25P-H (2N1020). Using conventional designations, the type 25N-H might be called a p-n-n transistor, for it has the input characteristics of a p-n-p and the output characteristics of an n-p-n unit. The 25P-H, by the same token, is an n-p-p transistor for it has the input characteristics of an n-p-n and the output characteristics of a p-n-p type.

### Basic circuit

The composite transistor's fantastically high gain and unique input and output characteristics permit its use in circuits which are extremely simple when compared to those using conventional transistors. A typical supersensitive relay circuit having a variety of

**Breadboarded experimental circuit using a composite transistor as a light-controlled relay.**

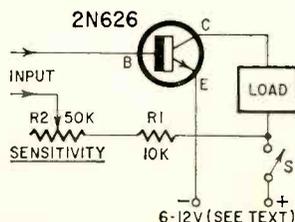


practical applications is shown in Fig. 2. Here, a 2N626 n-p-n composite is used as a common-emitter dc amplifier that actuates a suitable load device when the circuit's input terminals are shorted.

In practice, the power source can be a line-operated power pack supplying 2 or 3 amperes or, if preferred, a 6- or 12-volt battery. A ½-watt resistor may be used for R1, a standard potentiometer for R2 and a conventional toggle or slide switch for S. The load may be any one of a variety of electrical or electromechanical devices, including a lamp bulb, buzzer, bell, dc motor or power solenoid. The sensor connected to the circuit's input terminals may be a snap-action switch, thermistor or thermostat, depending on the job to be done. A variety of 6-volt lamps and buzzers can be used since the arrangement is the same as connecting the lamps or buzzers in series with a 6-volt battery. The only limiting factor is the maximum current that can be handled by the composite transistor. In my circuits, I used automobile bulbs (they draw about ½ ampere) and a standard 6-volt buzzer. Of course, I used a 6-volt battery. With a 12-volt battery, 12-volt lamps and buzzers are used.

For example, this circuit may be used to assemble an automatic control which closes a window and sounds an alarm whenever it starts raining. To do this, simply connect a buzzer and window-closing motor in parallel as the transistor's load. Then connect a moisture-sensitive sensor across the input terminals and adjust R2 so the motor and buzzer operate when a few drops of water fall on the sensor.

A suitable moisture sensor is illus-



**Fig. 2—Basic circuit of composite transistor in a common-emitter amplifier. Current gains of 10,000 or more are possible.**

trated in one of the photographs. It is made of two metal combs mounted on a small plastic base so the teeth interleave but do not touch. A drop of water bridges adjoining teeth, closing the circuit.

The transistor normally operates without base-bias current and little or no collector current flows through the load. When the input terminals are closed by the sensor, base bias is applied through R1 and R2, permitting collector current to flow and actuating the load devices. In a typical circuit, a base current of as little as 60 μa will result in a collector current flow of over ½ ampere.

### Practical applications

A variety of composite transistor circuit applications are shown in Figs. 3 through 8. In each one, standard, readily available components are specified, with circuit polarities set up for a type 2N626 n-p-n transistor. If preferred, the 2N676 p-n-p type may be used. Simply reverse all dc polarities. The common-emitter configuration is used in all the circuits shown and all have been bench-checked. In practical assemblies, neither layout nor lead dress should be especially critical. If the transistor is used on a continuous basis, mount it on a metal chassis or similar heat sink.

Available from Allied Radio (100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, Ill.) as well as direct from the manufacturer, the composite transistor is a relatively expensive component. However, in a practical control or amplifier circuit, the high cost is offset by the circuit simplicity which results from its use and by its superior temperature characteristics. In an amplifier, for example, the composite transistor can deliver a gain comparable to that of a three-stage circuit, and its cost can be compared realistically only to the total cost of assembling such an amplifier.

When used in the assembly of control equipment, composite transistor circuits may even compete with those using conventional transistors. The ability to handle relatively large output currents often eliminates an expensive sensitive relay. Here, the transistor drives the output load directly.

Let's take a look at a few easily duplicated circuits.

### Burglar alarm

The control circuit shown in Fig. 3 may be used in a burglar-alarm installation which will protect a home, office, store or even a small manufacturing plant. If an intruder breaks into the premises, a buzzer sounds and a warning lamp is turned on.

The entire circuit can be assembled on a small metal chassis or inside a

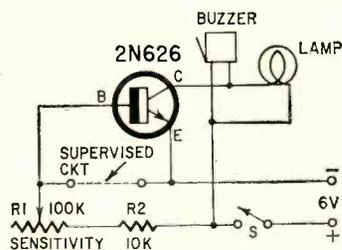


Fig. 3—Burglar alarm using the composite transistor.

standard Minibox. R1 is a small potentiometer, R2 a 1/2-watt resistor. The buzzer and lamp are 6-volt types, readily available through hardware and electrical supply stores. A lock type spst power switch is used. The power source can be any standard 6-volt dc source, including a battery eliminator, built-up power supply, heavy-duty dry battery or storage battery. The only criteria is that it be able to supply several milliamperes indefinitely and 2 or 3 amperes for short periods. Once assembled and checked, mount the control circuit in a heavy-duty metal wall cabinet which can be locked.

The supervised circuit connected to the control's input terminals encloses the protected premises and is made up of a closed series circuit which includes foil tape on large window areas and closed-circuit contacts on doors, windows, vents and other openings.

In operation, the transistor's base-bias current, supplied through R1 and R2, is shorted by the supervised circuit. A break in this circuit, caused by a broken window or jimmied door, removes the short, restores base bias, increases collector-current flow and operates the buzzer and lamp. In practice, R1 is adjusted so the buzzer and lamp operate with the circuit terminals open.

### Sound relay

To sound-trigger and actuate a lamp, buzzer, solenoid or motor, use the circuit shown in Fig. 4. As before, use any suitable 6-volt power source (a 12-volt source may be desirable with some types of loads). A toggle, slide or rotary power switch may be used. R1 is a 1/2-watt resistor. Its value is chosen experimentally for optimum performance with the type of load used, but generally will fall between 100,000 and 500,000 ohms. C is a 100- $\mu$ f 12-volt electrolytic capacitor, but its value is not too critical—values from 50 to 200  $\mu$ f will give good results.

A loud sound near the microphone produces an ac signal which, after being rectified by D1 and filtered by C,

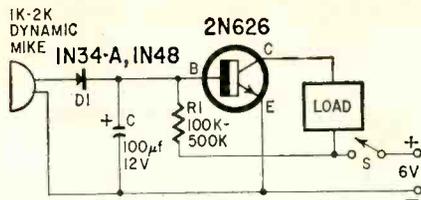


Fig. 4—Sound-actuated relay circuit.

increases the transistor's base-bias current, causing a corresponding increase in collector current which actuates the output load. The steady base bias supplied through R1 also biases the diode, making the device relatively insensitive to lower-level background noise. Overall circuit sensitivity depends on the current required to operate the load device and on the mike's characteristics.

### Light-controlled relay

Sounding a buzzer when a light beam is broken, the circuit in Fig. 5 may be used for a doorway annunciator, an electric-eye burglar alarm or similar light-controlled devices. The photosensitive unit is an International Rectifier type B2M selenium cell. A 6-volt buzzer

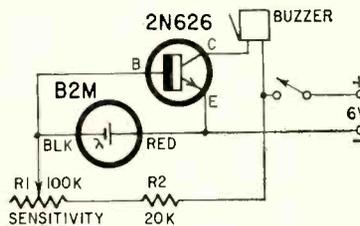


Fig. 5—Light-controlled relay circuit.

or bell serves as a signal device.

When not illuminated, the selenium photocell has a relatively high resistance. This permits the base-bias current furnished through current-limiting resistor R2 and SENSITIVITY control R1 to control collector current. In practice, R1 is adjusted with the photocell dark until the buzzer (or other signal device) is actuated. With a light beam focused on the cell, its dc resistance drops and a small dc voltage is developed which opposes the bias applied through R1 and R2. The net effect is to reduce severely or to cancel the transistor's base bias, causing a large drop in collector current and silencing the signal. Thereafter, any interruption in the light beam will cause the buzzer to sound.

In a practical device, the builder often can use the special characteristics of electromechanical devices for different modes of operation. Most buzzers and bells, for example, require a higher current to initiate than is needed to maintain operation. So careful adjustment of R1 will permit a self-latching action. Once the beam is interrupted, the buzzer continues to sound, even after the light beam is restored. This type of operation is preferred for burglar alarm installations. The system is reset by restoring the light beam and interrupting the power momentarily.

The effective range of the device depends on a number of factors, including ambient light conditions, whether a lens is used ahead of the photocell, and the

intensity and sharpness of focus of the light source. In an experimental circuit, I got good operation at distances of up

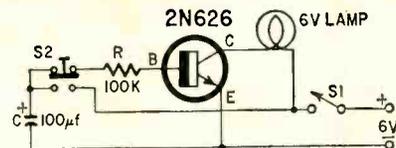


Fig. 6—Composite transistor in a time-delay relay.

to 20 feet using a heavy-duty flashlight as a light source; no lens was provided for the photocell.

### Time-delay relay

An instrument based on the circuit given in Fig. 6 may be used to turn a lamp bulb on for a predetermined period of time after a pushbutton is released. One typical application is as an automatic control for a photographic enlarger. For other applications, the lamp might be replaced by a buzzer, bell, motor or solenoid.

In operation, the transistor normally has no effective base bias and collector current is virtually nil. The lamp remains dark. When S2 is depressed, C is connected directly across the power supply and receives a full charge. Now when S2 is released, C is reconnected to R and serves as a source of base bias as it discharges through R and the transistor's base-emitter circuit. This, in turn, permits a corresponding, but much greater, flow of collector current, lighting the lamp. The lamp stays on for a period determined by the R-C time constant of C, R and the transistor's base-emitter resistance, finally dimming and going dark as C is discharged. Afterward, the entire cycle may be repeated simply by depressing and releasing S2.

Several modifications in the basic circuit are possible. A vernier control over time delay may be added by replacing R with a 100,000-ohm potentiometer and adding a 10,000-ohm series resistor to limit base current. Several ranges may be provided by adding a rotary selector switch and using several capacitors in place of C. Depending on the time-delay ranges needed, capacitor values from 50 to 1,000  $\mu$ f may be used.

### Slave photoflash

An interesting application for the composite transistor is shown in Fig. 7. Here, the transistor fires a remote or slave photographic flashbulb when triggered by light from the main flash. A unit of this type provides additional light when photographing large areas or supplies back and side lighting similar to that used in photoflood photog-

(Continued on page 64)

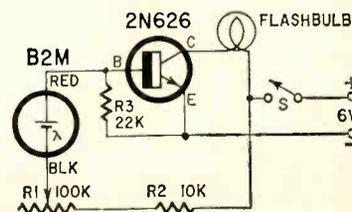


Fig. 7—Slave photoflash circuit.

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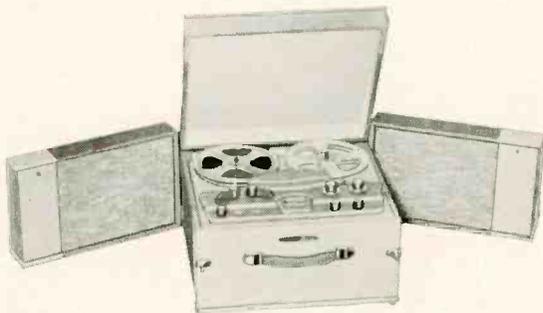
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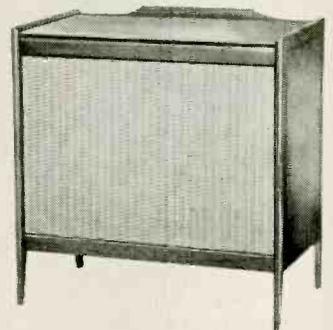
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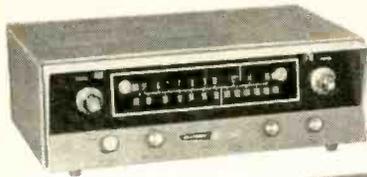
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(Continued from page 61)

SPECIFICATIONS OF COMPOSITE TRANSISTORS

TYPE NUMBER	TYPE	V <sub>CE</sub>	I <sub>CE</sub>	P <sub>CAV</sub>	f <sub>ae</sub>	CURRENT GAIN, h <sub>fe</sub>	MATERIAL
2N626 (ARA-25-N)	NPN	30	3 A	10W	4 KC	18,000 TO 30,000	GERMANIUM
2N676 (ARA-25-P)	PNP	-30	3 A	10W	4 KC	15,000	GERMANIUM
2N1019 (ARA-25N-H)	PNN	30	3 A	10W	4 KC	15,000	GERMANIUM
2N1020 (ARA-25P-H)	NPP	-30	3 A	10W	4 KC	15,000	GERMANIUM
2N1161 (ARA-46P)	PNP	-40	3 A	40W		10,000	SILICON

raphy, while retaining the advantages of flash techniques.

The power supply is made up of four standard flashlight cells in series to supply 6 volts. In a practical assembly, a suitable reflector must be placed behind the flashbulb and a lens and hood used to concentrate light on the photocell while minimizing the effects of background light. Also, the flashbulb-reflector assembly and photocell lens should be independently adjustable, so the photocell can be aimed at the triggering light source and the flash pointed toward the subject.

In operation, base bias is established by a voltage divider made up of R1, R2, the resistance of the photocell, and base resistor R3. With the photocell dark, it has a high resistance and a low bias current is supplied, thus keeping the transistor's collector current below the value needed to fire the flashbulb which serves as a collector load. A sudden increase in the light on the photocell (when the main flash is fired)

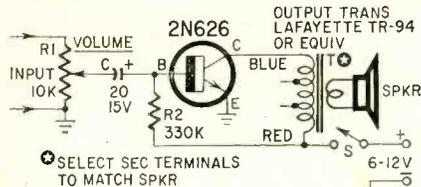


Fig. 8—One-stage audio amplifier can replace an entire audio system.

causes a corresponding drop in its internal resistance and the generation of a small voltage which aids the bias applied through R1 and R2. The net result is a sudden increase in base-bias current, a corresponding increase in collector current and a fired flashbulb. R1 is variable so circuit sensitivity can be varied for different field conditions.

General-purpose amplifier

The circuit of an audio amplifier using a single composite transistor is given in Fig. 8. Featuring moderately high gain and a power output ranging upward from several hundred milliwatts, it may be used for assembling a test amplifier for the lab, as a phonograph amplifier, as the complete audio section of a receiver or in similar applications. The limited high-frequency response of

the composite transistor prohibits the circuit's use in hi-fi applications, however.

A 6- to 12-volt power supply can be used. The 12-volt supply gives somewhat greater power output. C's voltage rating should be higher than the voltage delivered by the power supply. A universal 10-watt output transformer couples the circuit to a PM loudspeaker. I used a Lafayette type TR-94.

In operation, base bias for class-A operation is supplied through base resistor R2. A portion of the audio signal applied to VOLUME control R1, depending on the control's setting, is applied through dc blocking capacitor C to the transistor's base-emitter circuit. The amplified signal developed across the transistor's collector load, the transformer's primary winding, is coupled by the transformer to the speaker. In some cases, the output transformer may be omitted, and the speaker's voice coil used as the transistor's collector load. This arrangement saves a transformer, but limits the circuit's power output, for a steady dc flows through the coil.

Other applications

The circuit applications described were chosen with an eye toward their appeal to the experimenter and hobbyist. At the military-industrial level, the composite transistor is used in many other applications, some of which are classified for security reasons. In general, however, this unique transistor is used in control devices, regulated power supplies and servo systems. In a servo amplifier, for example, the composite transistor permits a great simplification of circuitry since the transistor can be

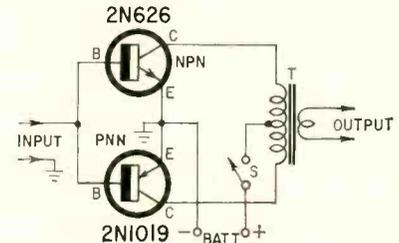


Fig. 9—Push-pull amplifier using conventional and hook type composite transistors to eliminate the need for a phase inverter.

used to furnish direct drive to many types of servo motors while, at the same time, providing an overall gain equal to that of multi-stage circuits.

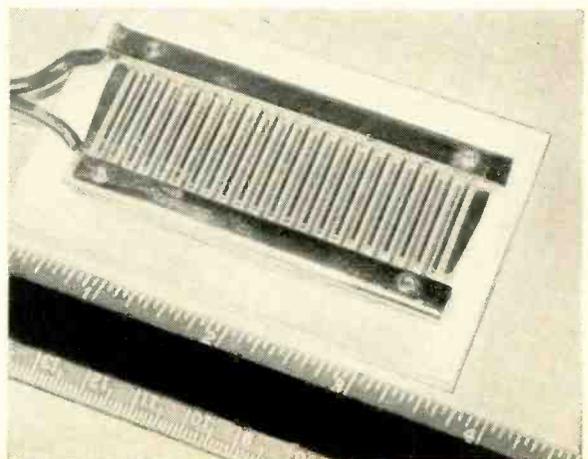
One interesting application is illustrated in Fig. 9. Here, n-p-n and p-n-p composites are used in a class-B push-pull amplifier. While retaining the advantages of balanced push-pull operation in the output circuit, permitting the use of a conventional center-tapped output transformer, the circuit requires a single-ended input signal, eliminating the need for a phase inverter or center-tapped input transformer. Thus, the circuit combines the efficiency of class-B operation with the high gain of a multi-stage amplifier, while requiring but a single input signal. While the same job could be accomplished with conventional transistors, the resulting circuit would be quite complex.

Late word from the manufacturer shows he is developing a lower-priced "experimenter's" version of the composite transistor. It will sell for less than half the price of currently available units, but will retain most of the desirable characteristics, except for a lower maximum voltage rating. END



Type 2N626, a germanium n-p-n composite transistor.

Easily assembled moisture sensor. Used with the basic circuit of Fig. 2, this unit forms part of a sensitive moisture or rain alarm.



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The front panel of the B&K model 600.



The Mighty Mite can be removed from its carrying case and installed in a panel, on a counter or in a tube caddy.

# 2 MINIATURE TUBE CHECKERS

New, smaller tube checkers combine the convenience of the multiple-socket tester with small size for easy handling. Tests are made for shorts, gas and cathode emission, and what the manufacturers feel is the best approach to these is revealed in a look at two representative types.

By WAYNE LEMONS

Our first impression of the Sencore model TC109 Mighty Mite was that it was a "mite" too small to be much more than a gadget. We were in for a pleasant surprise. In the "gas" or grid leakage test it excelled more expensive checkers. This test spots those slightly leaky tubes that so often cause age and sync troubles.

The TC109 makes the grid-leakage test by tying all tube elements except the grid to a positive 45-volt source. The grid is then connected to a built-in 6C4 vtvm circuit. Any leakage from the grid to any element(s) of the tube being tested results in a meter reading. To prevent damaging the meter, a 10-megohm resistor is wired in series with the 6C4 grid. Thus high positive voltages tend to be nullified due to grid-current flow in the resistor. The circuit

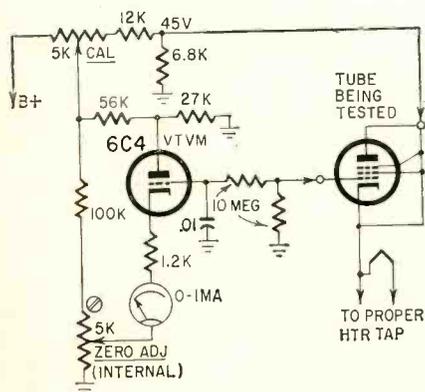


Fig. 1—Grid-leakage test circuit of the Sencore TC109.

action broadens the response of the meter so as little as a 100-megohm leakage (approximately) causes the meter to read 50% of full scale. A dead short produces only a full-scale reading.

Fig. 1 is a simplified circuit of the leakage test. The same circuit protects the meter against burnouts since the meter is never inserted directly into the

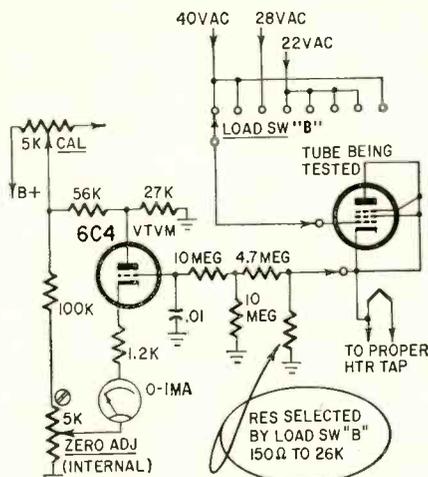


Fig. 2—Emission test circuit of the Mighty Mite.

tested tube's circuit.

The Mighty Mite does not check tube gain. Tubes are checked for cathode emission which, along with leakage and short tests, generally gives ample information for judging tube quality, except for the fairly remote possibility of open elements.

During the emission check, all tube elements are tied to the cathode except the grid (plate in diodes). Depending on the position of LOAD switch B, either

22, 28 or 40 volts ac is applied to the grid (plate in diodes) of the tube being tested. LOAD switch B also selects a cathode resistor of 150 to 26,000 ohms. The voltage drop across this resistor (which represents cathode emission) is applied to the internal 6C4 vtvm circuit and the meter is deflected accordingly (Fig. 2). Rectifier tubes such as 5U4's are checked using a low-value cathode resistor so that up to 150 ma is passed through the tube during test. This produces a much more accurate indication of quality.

In addition to the sensitive grid-leakage test and the emission test, the Mighty Mite also has a conventional short-circuit test circuit consisting of a neon bulb in series with an ac voltage. By rotating setup switch D, each individual element can be checked against all others for shorts up to 50,000 ohms. An H-K position lets you identify a heater-cathode short. Fig. 3 is a simplified diagram of the short-test circuit.

We found the Mighty Mite a useful checker. Its small size makes it the ideal "carry" tester. The setup procedure is simple and comparatively fast.

The TC109 also checks picture-tube emission as well as 12-volt hybrid auto

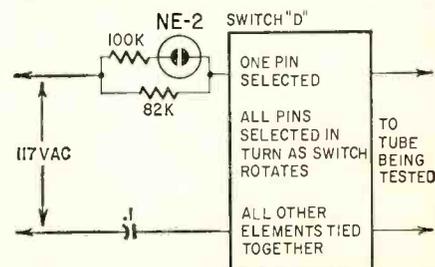


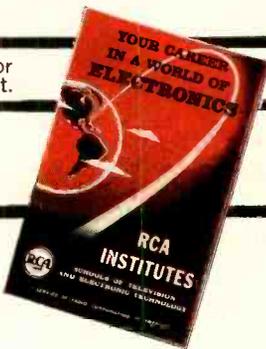
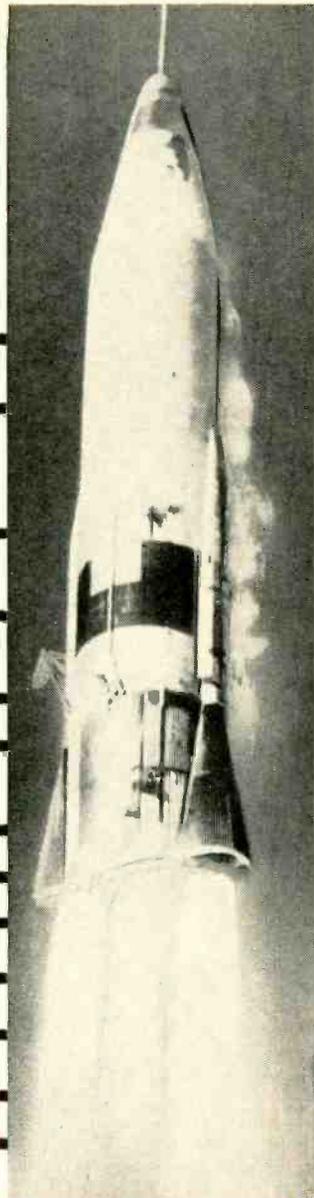
Fig. 3—This basic tube-element short test is built into the Sencore tester.



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F. Color Television	Television background	Eve. only	3 months
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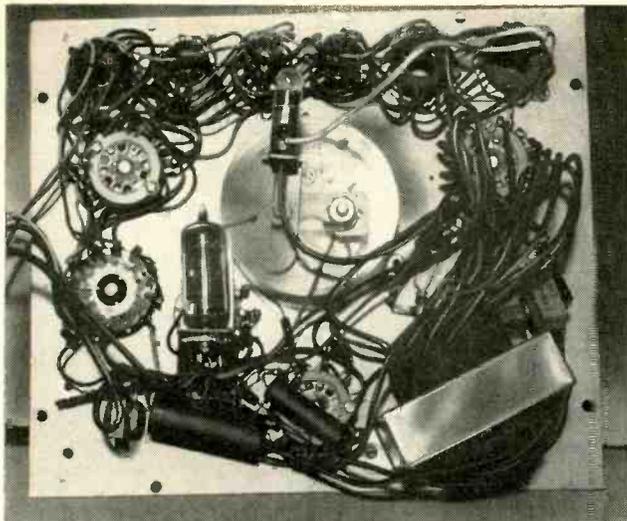
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Inside view shows the TC109's works.

tubes, battery and foreign types. Dual tubes are checked independently both for emission and grid leakage.

#### B&K model 600

This is a recent addition to the B&K line. It features an adjustable metered grid-emission check similar to previous B&K checkers. The adjustment is factory-set for 25 megohms leakage but may be reset by the user to over 100-megohm sensitivity. Simplified circuitry of this test is shown in Fig. 4. The meter is in the plate circuit of the triode section of the 6BN8 dc amplifier (vtvm) when the grid emission button is depressed. The 6BN8 is biased just at cutoff so that there is normally no meter

reading. However, leakage from any elements to the grid of the tube being tested lowers the bias on the 6BN8, and it conducts, producing a deflection on the meter. A separate grid-emission test must be made for each section of multi-section tubes.

A simplified schematic of the short test is shown in Fig. 5. Short tests between the grid and all other tube elements are made as soon as the tube is inserted. By rotating switch C you check each element of the tube against all other elements with a leakage sensitivity to approximately 1 megohm.

After making both the grid-leakage and short checks, you test cathode emis-

sion by depressing the quality button. This ties all the elements of the tube, except the grid, to ground (Fig. 6). The grid is tied to a 60-volt tap on the power transformer. The tested tube acts as a half-wave rectifier (the grid acting as the anode) and the current output, corresponding to cathode emission, is measured by the meter. Control A is a shunt across the meter so that the tester may be set up for the many tube types tested.

The B&K tester does not test picture tubes but it does provide for testing the recently released "nonstandard" socket tubes: nuvistors, Compactrons and 10-pin types. It also tests local tubes. END

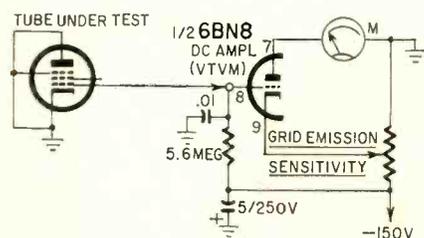


Fig. 4—Simplified circuit of the grid-emission test used in the B&K model 600.

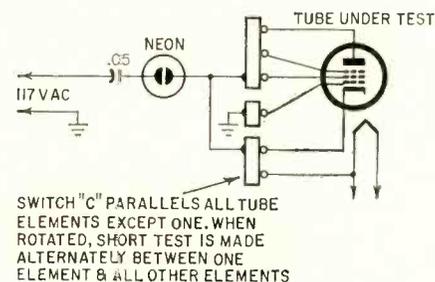


Fig. 5—B&K uses this arrangement to check for interelement shorts.

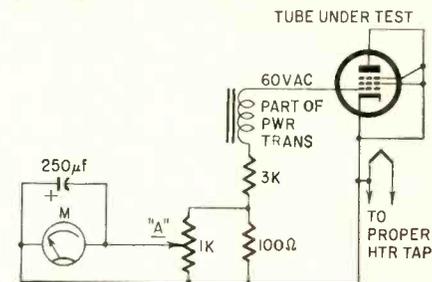
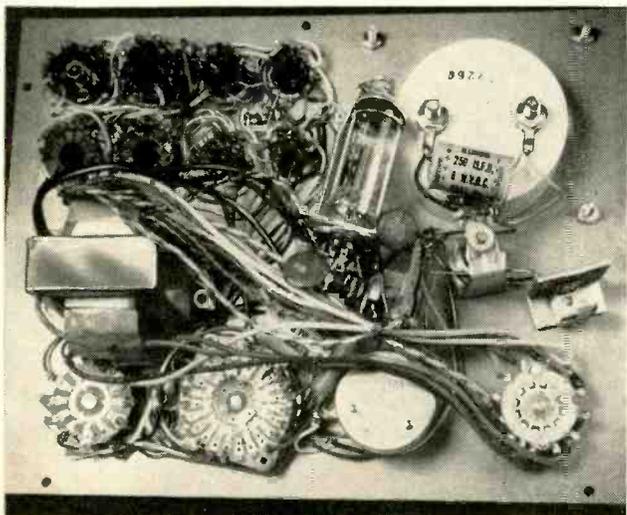


Fig. 6—Tube quality is checked with this circuit in the model 600.



A lot of good things are packed into the 600's chassis.

#### VITAL STATISTICS B&K Model 600 Dyna-Quik Tube Tester

PRICE—\$69.95

**ELECTRICAL FEATURES**—Emission quality check, neon short check, adjustable metered grid-emission check. Four setup controls.

**CABINET**—Covered wood and Masonite construction. Lid not removable. 8½ x 11 x 4½ inches lid closed.

**TUBE TYPES TESTED**—Radio and TV types using octal, loctal, 7-, 9- and 10-pin sockets; miniature; 12-pin Compactron and nuvistor. Many foreign and industrial types.

**METER SIZE**—3½ x 4½ inches.

**SPECIAL FEATURES**—Pin straighteners, carrying handle. Checks shorts between all elements by rotating setup switch.

Never before so much performance, versatility and styling in a speaker as small in size as it is in price!

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Model PA15T (70.7-volt transformer) \$36.00 List

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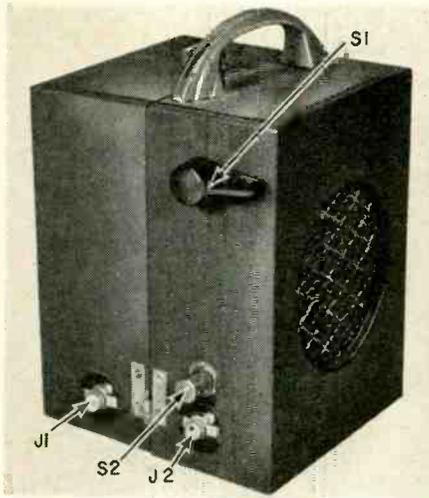
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# Electro-Voice®

# Transistor intercom fills many needs

Lightweight portable unit is useful for antenna installations, keeps tabs on the baby, connects office to office, or shop to house



Slip hinges hold the master and remote units together to make one easy-to-carry package.

By HOMER L. DAVIDSON

HERE is a compact transistor intercom that can be used in the home, office or shop. The unit will listen in on the baby, provide communications between home and the shop or from office to office. It can also be used in TV antenna installations, for which it was originally intended.

The unit is battery-powered, making it completely portable, and as transistors are used there is no wait for it to warm up. The master and remote units are equipped with slip hinges to hold them together and form one easy-to-carry unit, complete with handle.

The intercom's circuit (see diagram) is very simple. Two GT-81 transistors with a capacitance input and transformer coupling make up the works. The output of a 4-inch 45-ohm speaker, also used as a microphone, is fed directly through a dpdt momentary contact

switch (S1) to V1's base. The base resistor (R1) is returned to -15 volts. A miniature SO-3 interstage transformer couples the two transistor stages. V2's output is connected to a universal output transformer. The proper primary taps are determined by experimenting with various combinations and selecting the taps that provide the clearest and loudest output. The output transformer's secondary is matched to another 45-ohm speaker and connected to it through the dpdt switch.

Both transistors have grounded emitters. V1 draws about 0.3 ma and V2 about 4 ma when no signal is present. Adjust the base-return resistors for best signal quality and clarity as well as current drain. As the transistors are wired directly into the circuit, their leads are not cut, but are covered with fine spaghetti to protect against possible shorts.

Placement of parts is not critical, although they should be mounted in a way that will keep wiring simple. A small sheet of aluminum is bolted to the speaker frame and is used as a chassis. The output transformer is mounted on top of this chassis. All small components, including the transistors, are placed under the chassis as they are soldered into the circuit. A

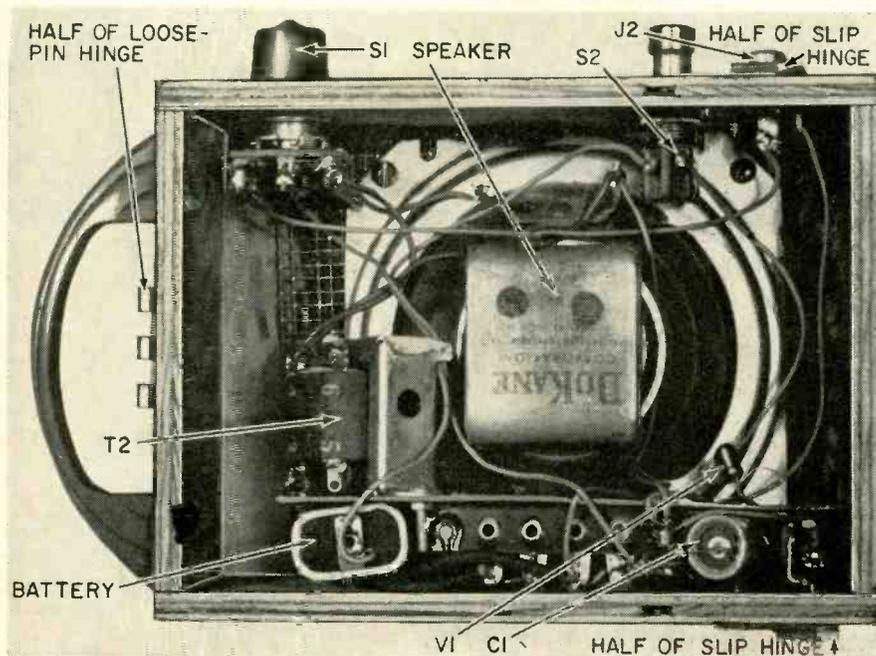
perforated bakelite board could also be used for the chassis.

The switches are mounted on the side of the case along with the connecting jack. I used phono jacks to provide convenient connections. The cords can be rolled up and carried separately and there is no danger of breaking or twisting the leads where they come out of the intercom box.

The intercom cases are made from 1/4-inch plywood held together with glue and wire brads. Pick up a handle at any dime or hardware store.

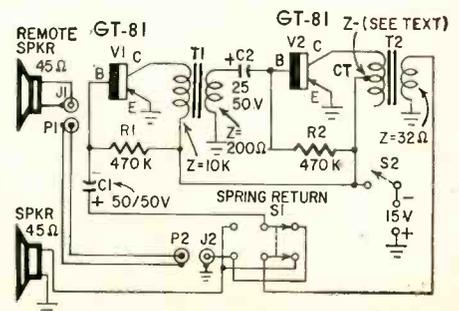
Both units are equipped with small slip hinges at each side so they slip together for easy carrying. A loose-pin hinge was added across the top of the two cases as a catch to prevent them from slipping apart. The pin is removed when fastening or disconnecting the cases. A short length of thin chain or flexible wire may be soldered to the pin to prevent it from being mislaid.

The intercom is easy to use. Simply connect the master and remote together, and turn the master unit on. If they are working properly and set close together, a feedback whistle will be heard. There is no volume control since gain is not too high, although a person can be heard within 10 feet of either unit. END



Back view of master-unit case shows parts layout.

- R1, 2—470,000 ohms, 1/2 watt, 10%
- C1—50  $\mu$ f, 50 volts, electrolytic
- C2—25  $\mu$ f, 50 volts, electrolytic
- J1, 2—phono jacks
- P1, 2—phono plugs
- S1—dpdt, spring return, rotary
- S2—sps, pushbutton or toggle
- T1—interstage transformer: primary, 10,000 ohms; secondary, 200 ohms (UTC SO-3 or equivalent)
- T2—universal output transformer (Merit A-2900 or equivalent)
- V1, 2—GT-81
- Battery, 15 volts
- Speakers, 45 ohms, 4 inches (2)
- Chassis
- Cabinets (2)
- Handle
- Slip hinges (2)
- Miscellaneous hardware



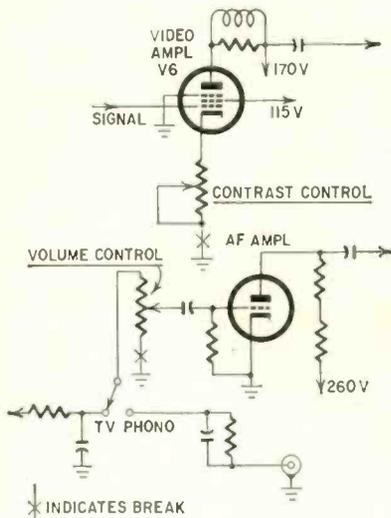
Circuit of 2-transistor unit.

## A curious trouble

THE complaint on a Hoffman Chassis 175 was no sound or picture. The rectifier was good, so I checked tuner and video if tubes—all were good. I connected the signal generator to the control grid of the first video if amplifier, injected signal and tried to get modulation bars in the picture tube. It didn't work.

I noticed that with a low-amplitude signal, the audio portion of a broadcast could be heard, though very distorted. The set has a TV-PHONO SWITCH and with the switch in its PHONO position, the audio was much louder!

On a hunch, I checked the agc voltage. Sure enough, instead of the -0.1 volt called for at the control grid of the first video if, there was -10 volts. All resistance values were OK. I disconnected the agc line, and substituted a variable negative voltage, but even with the correct negative voltage I still had no picture, and best audio with the phono switch in.



All voltages in the video string were OK with the exception of the agc. I continued injecting signals till I passed the sound takeoff, with no sign of modulation bars on the CRT screen.

The next day I tackled the monster again. While waiting for the set to warm up, I noticed that the volume control had a loose mounting nut, after tightening the nut, I wriggled the shaft around to make sure the pot was tight. Simultaneously, the raster showed some video. The pot was similar to that used on many TV sets—a combination of contrast, volume and on-off switch. Then I noticed a break in the ground wire.

Sure enough, restoring the ground connection cleared up all the troubles! Even the phono switch worked OK. Before, the audio had a partial ground in the PHONO position. The agc had been loaded down enough when the signal generator was hooked on it to remove the cutoff bias and allow the tubes to conduct.—Wendell Titmus

JUNE, 1961

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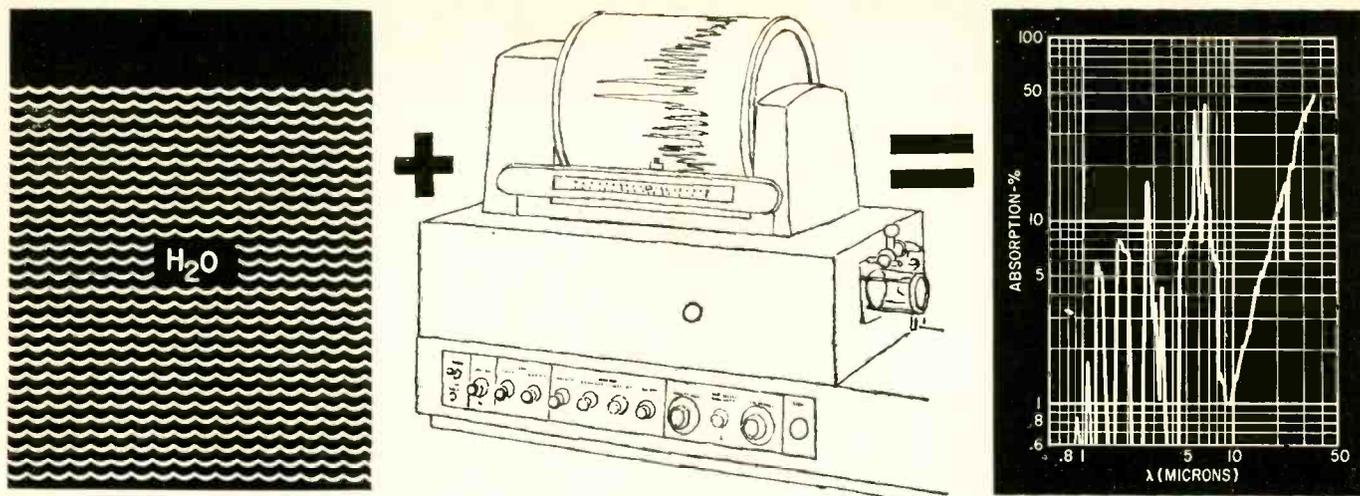


Fig. 1—Absorption spectrum of water vapor.

# INFRARED *spectroscopy*

**Accurate chemical analysis uses infrared rays**

By **BARRON KEMP**

**S**PECTROSCOPY is the oldest and most common industrial application of infrared energy. Infrared-absorption spectroscopy takes advantage of the fact that molecules of all substances vibrate at frequencies which are set by their atomic mass, type of chemical bond and molecular geometry. Most of these frequencies are in the infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Therefore, infrared energy can be used to determine quickly the type of organic chemicals in a sample of material to provide means for controlling chemical reactions and to discover new substances. Because of these qualities, infrared is vital to many phases of industry.

## The molecule

A molecule is the smallest particle of any substance that can exist alone and have all the chemical properties of the substance. All molecules are composed of atoms connected by electrostatic forces called "chemical bonds." These atoms are in continuous motion with respect to each other because of the thermal agitation in any substance whose temperature is above absolute zero ( $-273^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). This motion of the atoms changes abruptly from one energy level to another. Such changes cause absorption or radiation of energy, most of which is in the infrared portion of the spectrum. Each molecule of a sub-

stance generates specific frequencies for the atomic motion within it. Two identical molecules have the same atomic structure and generate the same frequencies. Two different molecules have different atomic structures and generate (or absorb) different frequencies.

The radiation absorbed or emitted because of these molecular vibrations is called "molecular spectra." Such spectra are characterized by specific wavelengths representing radiation of definite energy values. When the molecular spectra are measured, they appear as well defined values that follow a definite order for each type of molecule. The study of these wavelengths and their order or grouping furnishes much information on the structure and internal mechanics of molecules (Fig. 1).

## Infrared and the molecule

An energy exchange occurs when infrared energy is transmitted through a thin sample of a material. Molecules of the material absorb, in varying degrees, the infrared frequencies which are characteristic of the material. Only those frequencies of the transmitted infrared energy that are similar to the characteristic frequencies of the molecular bonds (chemical bonds) of the material are absorbed. The rest are unaffected.

This effect of energy absorption by molecules makes it possible to plot curves which are characteristic of the material being irradiated; their exact location in the electromagnetic spectrum

can be measured for positive identification of the material.

The infrared spectra of two types of chloroform solution are given in Fig. 2. Examination shows certain definite similarities and differences between them. Both show energy absorption at 3.4 microns, indicating that both solutions have common molecules. Also, both show absorption in varying degrees between 7.8 and 10 microns, also indicating the presence of similar molecular structure.

Infrared analysis of any sample of a solution will always show the same spectra, no matter how many times the measurements are made. However, whenever the composition of a solution differs because of the presence or absence of any chemical, infrared analysis will indicate the difference.

Since the infrared spectrum of a material is its most characteristic physical property, infrared analysis finds extensive application in identifying unknown materials. By matching the infrared spectra of an unknown material with that of a known one, the identity of the unknown material is proved. Similar materials have the same vibrational frequencies, therefore, similar spectra. Different materials have different vibrational frequencies, so yield different spectra.

From this simple comparison of known and unknown spectra comes the usefulness of infrared to the chemist. Matching the infrared spectra of an unknown with that of a known material is accepted as chemical proof



there are trumpets



## and there are trumpets!

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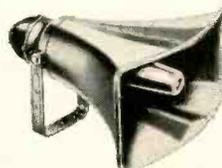
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of the identity of an unknown material.

The spectra of a mixture of several types of molecules is essentially the superposition of the spectra of the different molecules. Not only can the components of a mixture be identified, but their concentrations can be quickly and accurately determined as well.

### The infrared spectroscope

No single analytical tool has had a more dramatic impact upon organic chemistry than infrared measurement. The development of many types of instruments for producing and viewing infrared spectra permits a degree of analysis and control that was impossible just a few years ago.

The earliest and simplest infrared instrument is the spectroscope (Fig. 3). The earliest ones were adaptations of Newton's discovery of the dispersion of the short wavelengths of electromagnetic radiation by a prism. This simple device has been improved and modified by modern industry so that many types of instruments are now available for viewing infrared spectra. However, the most modern of them still operate according to Newton's principles of the dispersion of radiation by a prism.

The spectroscope consists of a source of radiant energy (a rod heated electrically to about 1,200°C which emits all infrared frequencies), a prism that disperses these frequencies in space, a slit system to isolate each frequency, a detector to measure the amount or

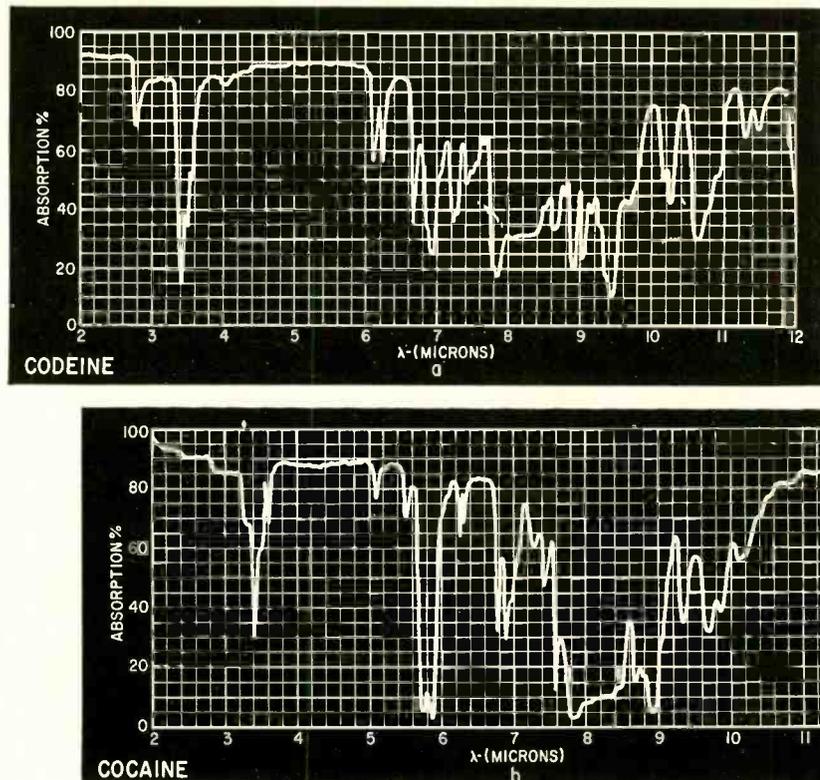


Fig. 2—Absorption spectra of two chloroform solutions: a—codeine; b—cocaine.

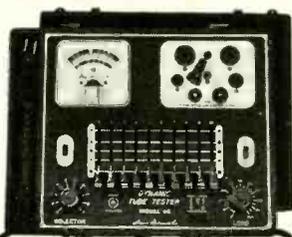
intensity of the radiation, an amplifier to increase the magnitude of the output signal of the detector, and a method of recording the output of the amplifier.

Infrared radiation automatically passes through the components in the order named. The dispersed radiation passes from the source through the

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• FREE FIVE (5) YEAR CHART DATA SERVICE. Revised up-to-date subsequent charts will be mailed to all Model 85 purchasers at no charge for a period of five years after date of purchase.

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• Employs latest improved TRANS-CONDUCTANCE circuit. Test tubes under "dynamic" (simulated) operating conditions. An in-phase signal is impressed on the input section of a tube and the resultant plate current change is measured as a function of tube quality. This provides the most suitable method of simulating the manner in which tubes actually operate in radio, TV receivers, amplifiers and other circuits. Amplification factor, plate resistance and cathode emission are all correlated in one meter reading.

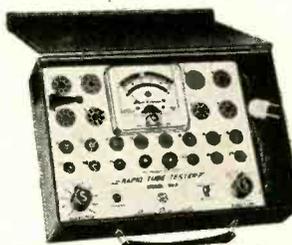
• SYMBOL REFERENCES: Model 85 employs time-saving symbols (•, +, •, ▲, ■) in place of difficult-to-remember letters previously used. Repeated time-studies proved to us that use of these scientifically selected symbols speeded up the element switching step. As the tube manufacturers increase the release of new tube types, this time-saving feature becomes necessary and advantageous.

• "FREE-POINT" LEVER TYPE ELEMENT SWITCH ASSEMBLY marked according to RETMA basing, permits application of test voltages to any of the elements of a tube.

SUPERIOR'S NEW MODEL 82A

Multi-Socket Type

### TUBE TESTER



Model 82A—TUBE TESTER  
Total Price .....\$36.50  
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Don't let the low price mislead you! We claim Model 82A will outperform similar looking units which sell for much more — and as proof, we offer to ship it on our examine before you buy policy.

Model 82A comes housed in handsome, portable Saddle-**\$36.50** Stitched Texon case. Only

**TEST ANY TUBE IN 10 SECONDS FLAT!**

- 1 Turn the filament selector switch to position specified.
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- 3 Press down the quality button—

**THAT'S ALL! Read emission quality direct on bad-good meter scale.**

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- Tests over 600 tube types
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prism and across the slit. The detector absorbs each wavelength of radiation, producing an electrical output signal proportional to the intensity of radiation from the source. The electrical signal is amplified and operates a viewing or recording device to permit visual observation of the spectra.

Characteristic frequencies of a material are measured by passing all frequencies of the infrared spectrum through it—scanning the spectrum. This is done with a slit or grating which permits only one frequency at a time to reach the detector. The output of the detector varies in amplitude according to the absorption of the molecules of the material. The recorded output of the detector indicates the absorption and transmission properties of the material at all infrared frequencies.

A reference graph may be plotted by recording the infrared energy transmitted from the source with no sample between the source and prism. This graph then represents the total energy radiated at all wavelengths of the infrared spectrum.

If a sample of material is then introduced and this process repeated, a spectrum is produced which is the same as the reference spectrum except at those frequencies where molecules of the sample are vibrating. The detected signal is weakened by the absorption of the sample at these characteristic frequencies. Comparison of the reference and sample spectra reveals ampli-

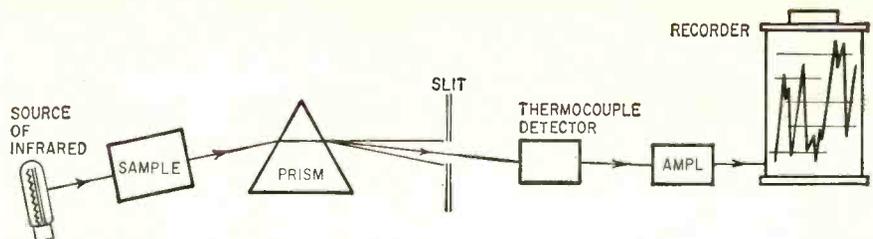


Fig. 3—Operating principle of a basic spectroscope.

Perkin-Elmer Corp.

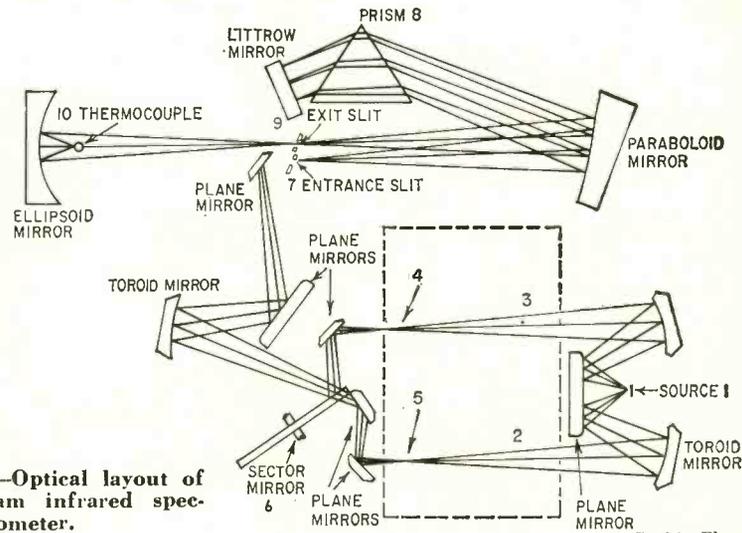


Fig. 4—Optical layout of dual-beam infrared spectrophotometer.

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**ALL BLACK AND WHITE TUBES**

From 50 degree to 110 degree types —from 8" to 30" types.

**ALL COLOR TUBES**

Test ALL picture tubes—in the carton—out of the carton—in the set!

Model 83A provides separate filament operating voltages for the older 6.3 types and the newer 8.4 types.

Model 83A properly tests the red, green and blue sections of color tubes individually — for each section of a color tube contains its own filament, plate, grid and cathode. Model 83A will detect tubes which are apparently good but require rejuvenation. Such tubes will provide a picture seemingly good but lacking in proper definition, contrast and focus.

Rejuvenation of picture tubes is not simply a matter of applying a high voltage to the filament. Such voltages improperly applied can strip the cathode of the oxide coating essential for proper emission. The Model 83A applies a selective low voltage uniformly to assure increased life with no danger of cathode damage.

Comes housed in handsome portable Saddle Stitched Texon case —complete with sockets for all black and white tubes and all color tubes. Only... **\$38.50**

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**AS A TRANSISTOR TESTER**

The Model 88 will test all transistors including NPN and PNP, silicon, germanium and the new gallium arsenide types, without referring to characteristic data sheets. The time-saving advantage of this technique is self-evident. A further benefit of this service is that it will enable you to test new transistors as they are released!

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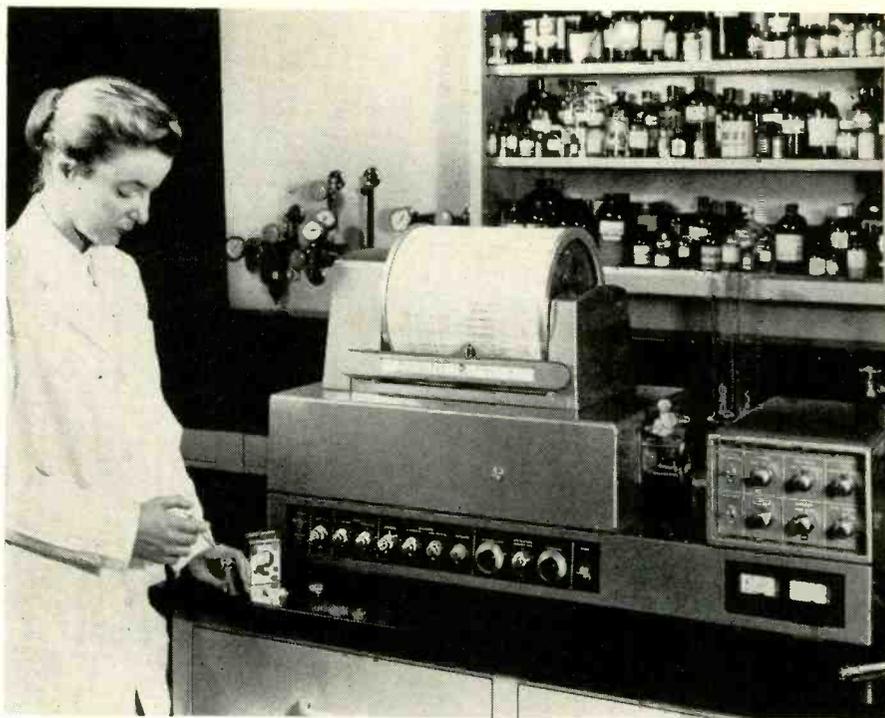
tude differences at these points. With point-to-point division of the two spectra, the result is a spectrum analysis of the sample—a comparison of the frequency (or wavelength) and intensity of the sample plotted against the frequency (or wavelength) and intensity of the infrared radiation originating from the source.

### The spectrophotometer

Most infrared instruments used for spectroanalysis eliminate the two-step process by using a double infrared beam. Two beams of radiation are transmitted from the source. The sample is placed in one and the other becomes the reference beam. This instrument is called a double-beam spectrophotometer (Fig. 4).

The spectrophotometer measures both beams, automatically divides the value of the sample-beam intensity by that of the reference beam, and plots the ratio of these two beams versus frequency (or wavelength). The electrical output drives a stylus that plots a graph of frequency (or wavelength) along the abscissa and intensity along the ordinate axis.

A typical double-beam spectrophotometer (Fig. 4) radiates energy from a source 1. The energy is divided into two beams; the sample 2 and the reference 3. The source is focused at points 4 and 5. A sample is placed at point 5. An optical attenuator at point 4 modifies the intensity of the reference beam to correspond to that transmitted



Perkin-Elmer Corp. model 221 infrared spectrophotometer.

through the sample. These beams are combined by a rotating sector mirror through the prism 8, is dispersed, reflected back

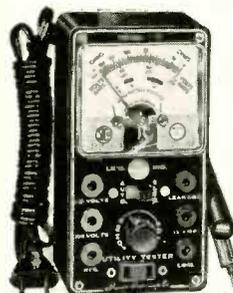
through the prism by a Littrow mirror (a mirror so placed as to reflect the light through the prism again) and emerges from the exit slit 9 to be condensed on a thermocouple detector 10.

The presence of a sample of material at position (5) may cause a difference

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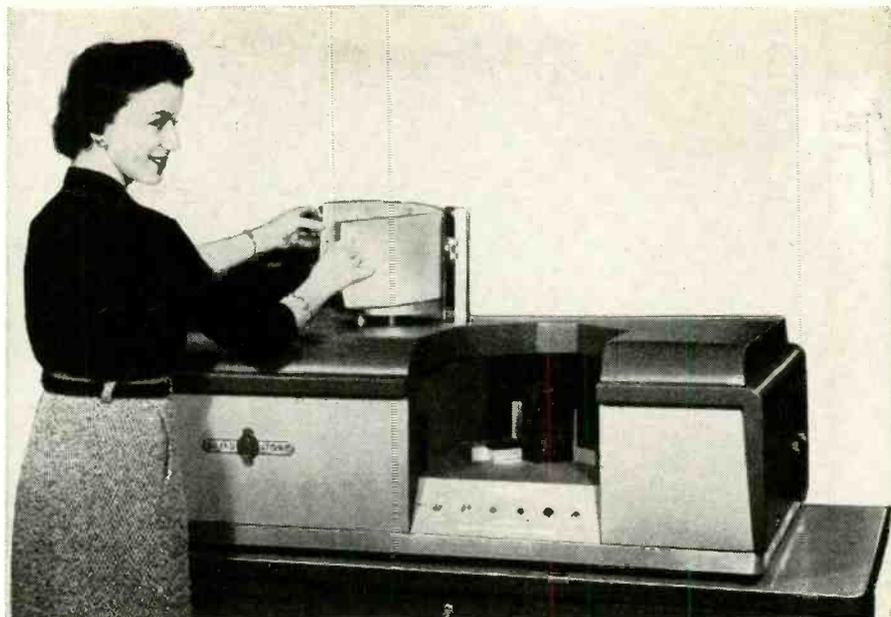


between the amount of energy transmitted by the sample and reference beams, at one or more wavelengths of the infrared spectrum. Any difference between the two beams produces an alternating signal from the thermocouple (10) corresponding in frequency to the rotational frequency of the sector mirror (6) and in amplitude to the amount of radiation falling upon the detector (10). This signal is amplified and used to control a servo motor. The motor moves an optical attenuator (4) which so attenuates the reference beam that its energy equals the energy of the sample beam. The position of this optical attenuator (4) is thereby a measure of the sample transmission of infrared energy at a particular wavelength (or frequency). A spectrum is recorded automatically when the entire band of the infrared region is transmitted through the system; that is, all wavelengths of the infrared region have been transmitted through the sample.

### Uses of infrared spectroscopy

Infrared spectroanalysis gives the chemist a permanent step-by-step record of his work. It provides evidence of dates on which various stages are reached in chemical processes, a record which can be invaluable in patent applications. Furthermore, there is no danger of having too small a sample to process during the next step since infrared analysis is nondestructive and the sample is reusable.

Infrared spectroscopy is widely used



Baird-Atomic model KM-1 infrared double-beam recording spectrophotometer.

in the control of product purity. The infrared spectroscope plays an important role through all processing stages from raw-material checks through the process of chemical reaction to analysis of the finished product. It is used to establish limits of material acceptance and as a specification of the purity of a product for manufacture.

The chemical, petro-chemical, petroleum and pharmaceutical industries,

universities and hospitals, are placing an increased reliance upon infrared analysis. Simple easy-to-operate instruments bring the tool of infrared within easy reach of the one-man-analyst company and small university. With these instruments available, the infrared-absorption technique can reach its full potential value as the most useful of all methods of general chemical analysis. END

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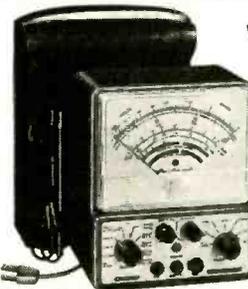
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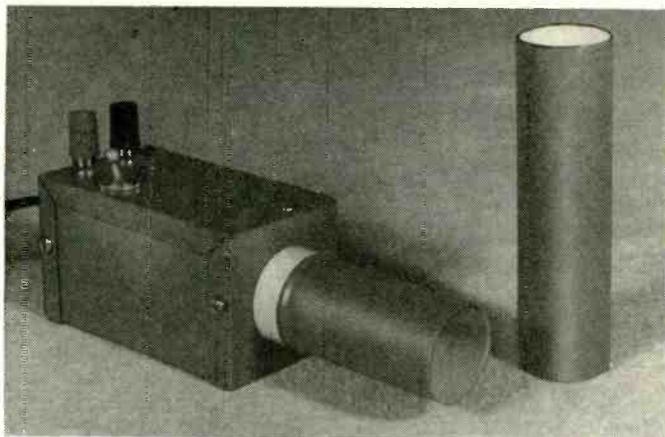
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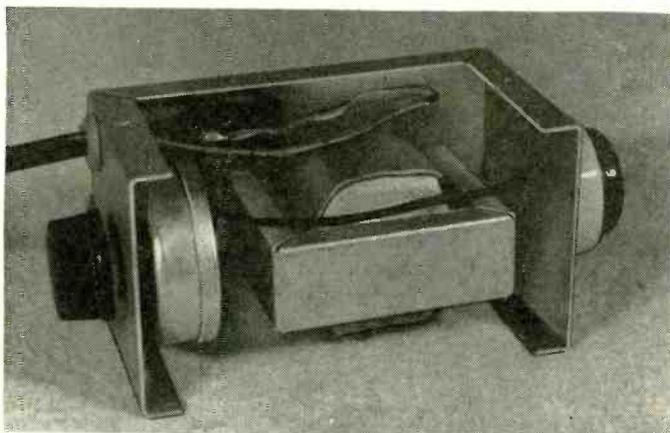
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# Light-Level indicator



The light-level indicator with its two light shields. The 3-inch shield is in place over the photocell.



Inside the unit. The transformer, power switch and sensitivity control can be seen.

By HAROLD REED

**W**ITH this light-level indicator you can read varying light intensities on the scale of an audio vtm. Several useful applications are suggested here. The experimenter will no doubt think of more uses for the device.

For instance, variations in light levels in a room may be noted. You can check light reflections from painted surfaces of different colors or shades. Car headlight balance can also be checked. Even the light intensity from transmitter tuning indicators—such as the No. 47 panel lamp so commonly used to tune amateur and Citizens-band transmitters and antennas—may be observed on an audio vtm, eliminating the guesswork of watching varying lamp illumination while tuning. Measuring the brightness of TV raster's will aid in making correct adjustment for maximum brightness of raster. Still other uses will

be found in photographic work.

Relatively small amounts of incident light will cause large currents to flow through the cadmium sulphide photoconductive cell when connected in the circuit, as shown in the diagram. Current flow is high enough to make an amplifier unnecessary in many applications, even with small values of incident light. This makes it easy to measure varying light intensities with a standard audio vtm. The cell is a type NSL-5 produced by National Semiconductors, Ltd., of Canada. It is available from Harvey Radio Co., 103 W. 43rd St., New York 36, N. Y., and probably other sources.

## Circuit data

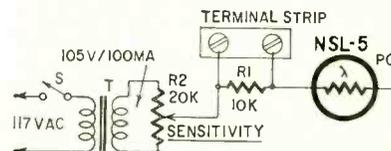
The internal resistance of the cell varies inversely with the intensity of the light striking its sensitive surface. The circuit is shown in the diagram.

Isolation transformer T is connected to the 117-volt ac supply.

Potentiometer R2, across the secondary of the transformer, acts as a sensitivity control. The variable voltage from this control is impressed across the series-connected photocell and resistor R1. We can read the voltage drop across R1, which varies with incident light intensity, with an audio vtm. The transformer is included expressly to isolate the line and prevent dangerous shocks.

The light-level indicator is easy to assemble and wire. The few parts are mounted in a 4 x 2 1/4 x 2 1/4-inch case. The photoconductive cell is attached to one end of the box. Drill two small holes for the photocell leads. Slip spaghetti over these leads to prevent shorting to the box. Insulated binding posts are provided for the vtm connection. The sensitivity control is located on the end of the box opposite the photocell. The ac power switch is above the sensitivity control.

The light shields shown in the photo are useful when observing light from tiny sources. These shields shade the



A vtm connected across resistor R1 reads the light level.

- R1—10,000 ohms, 1/2 watt
- R2—pot, 20,000 ohms
- PC—photocell, cadmium sulphide, NSL-5 (see text)
- S—spst toggle
- T— isolation transformer: primary 117 volts; secondary 105 volts, 100 ma (Lafayette TR-91 or other low-power isolation transformer)
- Terminal strip, 2 lugs
- Case, 4 x 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 inches
- Miscellaneous hardware

cell from unwanted light. They are convenient, too, for probing purposes, since the open end of the shield may be thrust right up to a minute light source. Also, small indicator lamps may be placed inside the shield and at various distances from the cell window.

These shields are made from a 1 3/8-inch diameter container cut to 3- and 5-inch lengths. The photocell is mounted in the cover of this container and the assembly attached to the end of the Minibox as shown in the photos. The tubular shields slip easily into the cell-cover assembly when required. It would be preferable to use nonmetallic material for this purpose to avoid possible short circuits or shock hazard when checking light sources.

A 60-watt light bulb, with no reflector, gives a 40-volt reading on the vtm at a distance of 16 feet. A No. 47 pilot lamp placed near the opening of the 3-inch light shield gave a 100-volt reading. With just 1 volt across the No. 47 lamp (the lamp is barely lit, appearing as just a small red dot about the size of a pinhead), I got a reading of 1.5 volts with the 3-inch light shield. A paper match held to the opening of the 5-inch light shield gave a vtm indication of 90 volts.

END

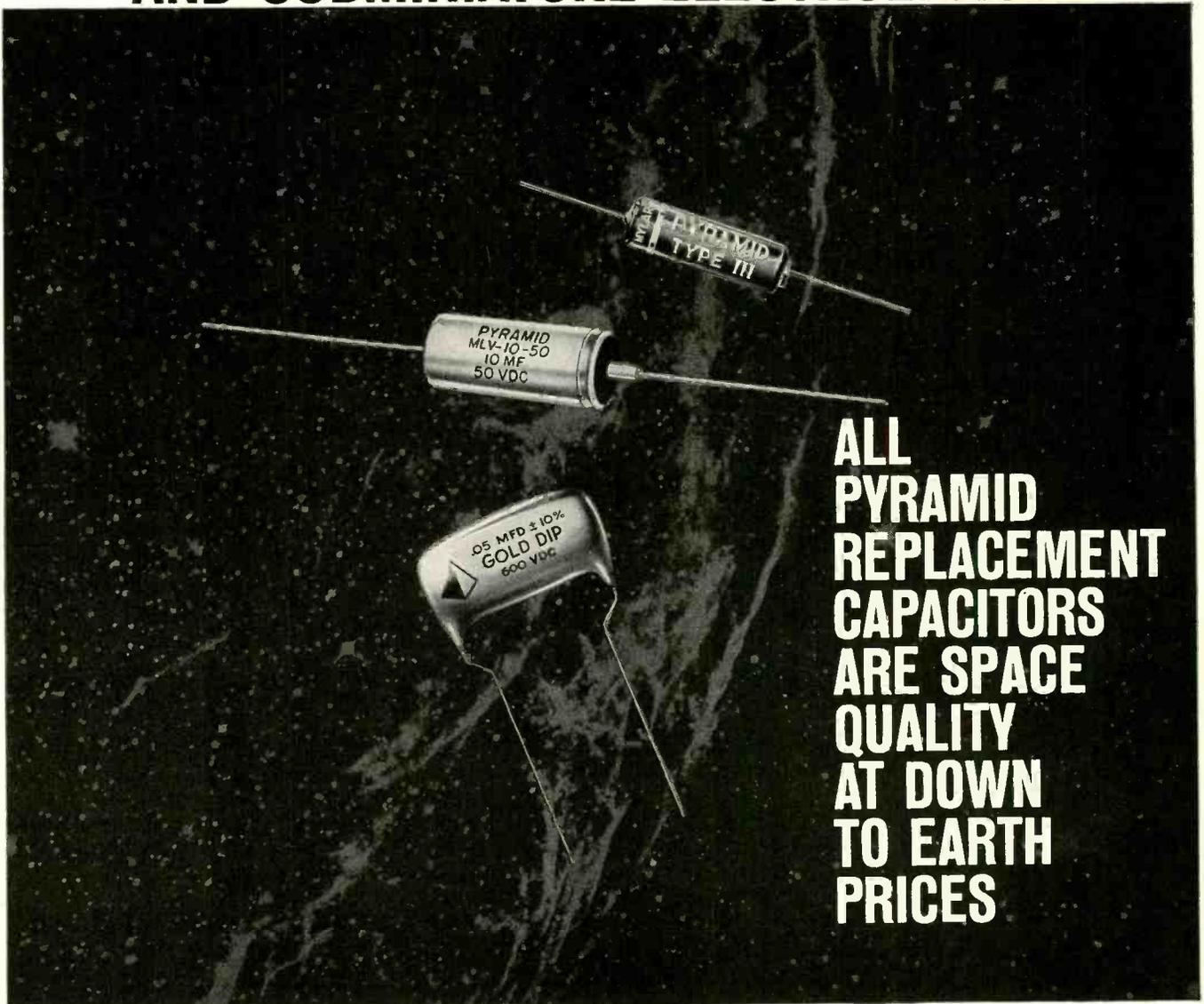
## BENCH



## TESTED

This unit turned out to be even more sensitive than expected. For example, it gives a good reading even on a No. 47 pilot lamp behind a red jewel. It also detects small changes in brightness that the human eye (the tester's) cannot notice.

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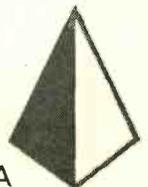
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# TV Service CLINIC

conducted by  
**JACK DARR**  
 SERVICE EDITOR

This is your column in the magazine: the service is absolutely free; there is no charge for answering your questions, and your name and address will be kept confidential if you so wish. The main purpose is to help everyone working in electronics with their unusual problems. Send in your questions; each one gets an immediate personal answer. Later, the more interesting cases are published in the Clinic columns.

Due to the many peculiarities found in commercial TV circuits, you might find a different answer to a question than the one we give, even though the "conductor" of this column is himself a full-time professional TV technician. We would be interested to hear of such cases, as we feel that the more widespread the knowledge of such peculiarities, the better off we'll all be! So, if you have an unusual service job, or one which is giving you trouble from an obscure cause, send in a question on it; we'll answer it promptly and to the best of our ability.

**A**BOUT as puzzling a case as you'll find anywhere is the TV set which is "almost all right." It's performing pretty good, but you have that sneaky feeling that it just isn't doing all the things it ought to do!

A great deal of this "marginal performance" can be traced to components which are not completely defective, but which are just enough off value to affect the performance of the set. Not much off, perhaps only 10%, but enough to give a barely noticeable loss in the picture—just a wee bit too much snow, a little bit of distortion in the sound, picture not quite bright enough, and so on.

These are not "bad" parts. They're not shorted, for instance, but they definitely aren't up to what they should be. And, the worst part of it, they must be hunted out one at a time! It takes a lot of effort to dig them out, for they've got to be disconnected and tested individually.

Capacitors, for example, must be disconnected and checked on a good capacitor tester, not only for capacitance, but for very small values of leakage as well. If you own a unit that applies operating voltages to capacitors, you're lucky, for it is a great help in this kind of work. If you don't have such an instrument, here's one simple test that can pick up leaky capacitors. Connect one end of the capacitor to a source of dc voltage, say 200 volts. Connect a vtvm to the open end, and see how much dc voltage appears across the capacitor!

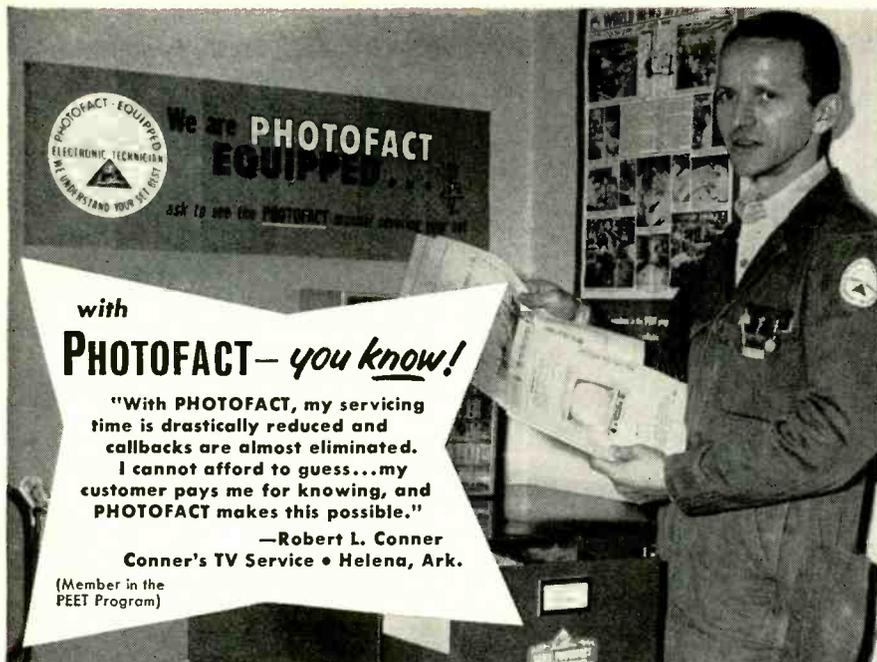
If the reading rises to a fairly high value, ground the probe end and see if the charge reappears. If it comes back

up pretty quickly, the capacitor is leaking and should not be used in sensitive circuits such as the very high resistance networks found in certain types of age systems, where it must work among 4- and 5-megohm resistors, etc. Video coupling capacitors, sync coupling capacitors, audio couplers and tuning capacitors across horizontal oscillator ringing coils are a few of the sensitive applications which demand absolutely perfect capacitors. Even a fraction of a volt leakage in most of these circuits can cause obscure troubles. You'll even find certain bypass applications where minute leakage is a headache. For example, in one color TV set, leakage in the screen bypass capacitor of the bandpass amplifier causes mysterious oscillations and beats on the screen. The reason for this is that the screen circuit happens to be a part of a tuned circuit in this application! Upsetting this causes trouble.

Resistors, too, come in for their share as troublemakers. For instance, if the plate load resistor in the output section of the horizontal multivibrator drifts off value, it will not upset the plate voltage to any measurable extent, but it will play hob with the time constant of that circuit! (The load resistor and coupling capacitor to the output stage form an R-C network.)

So, what have you here? The horizontal oscillator may stay on frequency, but it refuses to like it! Actually, it is trying to drift off frequency *all the time* and is restrained from doing so only by the action of the horizontal afc. This puts the afc circuit in the position of the man who is trying to lead a





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**NEWS**

### PROBLEM OF LICENSING

*Kansas City, Mo.*—Judge Ben Terte issued a temporary injunction against the city, members of the Examining Board, the Mayor and the police, restraining them from enforcing the existing Kansas City TV Service License Law. The injunction also sought to have existing licenses suspended. This the judge did not grant.

As it now stands, firms that are licensed may advertise and display the license. No arrests may be made because the provisions of the ordinance do not make licensing mandatory.

This status is to stand until revoked by the courts. Trial date for the permanent injunction has not been set.

### WELCOME ABOARD

*Allentown, Pa.*—A new technician's association publication is out, and we are happy to add it to our thriving list of service association publications. Anyone else we don't know about yet?

**Lehigh Valley Electronics Association Newsletter**  
P. O. Box 731  
Allentown, Pa.

### WHO'S ON TOP

*Fort Worth, Tex.*—The six top officers of the Texas Electronics Associations are members of the executive council. There is also a board of directors made up of one director from each local, who represents the local at board meetings.

Members of these two groups are:

Executive council: Marvin F. Tappe, Julius Burke, G. M. Bettis, Thomas Boyd, Norris Brown and T. B. Drisdale.

Directors: Ray Burdette, Lindy Temple, Herb Kent, J. B. Penney, James Johnson, Louie Thrall, Don Chambers, Tom Boyd and Robert Greenlee.

### TV SERVICE PANEL

*Mobile, Ala.*—Thirty-three service companies and the Better Business Bureau have set up a TV Service Panel to help boost public confidence in local TV repair companies. The panel, made up of a service technician, a member of the BBB and a representative of the general public, will arbitrate unsettled complaints about TV repairs.

### TESA—CLEVELAND NOTES

*Cleveland, Ohio*—Hire only qualified personnel to repair sets; explain all charges to the customers; do not exceed cost estimates; present itemized bills for every job! These are the four main points of a code of ethics adopted by the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the Television & Electronics Service Association. The code is designed to improve the standing of the electronics technician in Cleveland.

The chapter has also elected its new officers. Edward Mato is president; Ray Kacprzak, vice president; Gus Mirsalis, recording secretary; Gene Kotrba, corresponding secretary; Harry Bertack, treasurer, and Levi Mosley, sergeant-at-arms.

### LICENSE BILL DIES

*Indianapolis, Ind.*—A proposed state bill for the licensing of radio and TV service technicians died in the State House of Representatives. The House adjourned without acting on the measure. The failure to put the bill through was caused by a general lack of interest among legislators to further licensing of industry, according to a spokesman for the sponsoring Indiana service technicians association.

### ELECTION IN FLORIDA

*Miami, Fla.*—New officers of TESA-Miami chapter are Daniel Prowler, president; Charles D. Pierce, first vice president; James P. Cresswell, Jr., second vice president; Samuel Kessler, recording secretary; Maxwell Reiser, corresponding secretary, and Charles W. Minter, treasurer.

The terms of all seven members of the board of directors ran out at the same time so this year there is a complete new slate. Elected for two-year terms were Austin Hearell, Joseph Merlin, Roger J. Mistleh and Robert Seymour. One-year terms went to George J. Clair, George Klele, Jr., and Don Powley.

### TESA-SPRINGFIELD MEETS

*Springfield, Ohio*—Bad checks and forgeries were the topics of a recent Television & Electronic Service Association meeting. The subject was presented by Sergeant Rader of the Springfield Police Div. Using actual case histories and exhibits, he showed how to spot and avoid bad checks—useful information for any businessman.

### NO PROBLEMS HERE

*New York, N.Y.*—A recent article on transistor radio servicing stirred up a bit of discussion among the readers of *Home Furnishings Daily*. The Associated Radio-Television Servicemen of New York (City) in reply pointed out that they found three major bugaboos in servicing these sets: lack of replacement parts, nonstandardization of transistors and parts, and lack of accurate technical information.

A reply from the Sampson Co. (they import Hitachi radios) affirmed that, in the case of one imported brand at least, these difficulties do not exist. They have, they say, a complete stock of all replacement parts for Hitachi radios, the sets use transistors with American type numbers and a complete service manual is available for every model Hitachi radio they distribute.

### Tip to Technicians:

They go on to state that "Upon receipt of a request for information by any service technician, under his letterhead, we immediately ship him a com-

plete set of service guides for all Hitachi radios at no charge." Write the Sampson Co., Electronics Div., 2244 South Western Ave., Chicago 8, Ill.

### SERVICE CLINIC EVENTS

Technicians got sneak previews on color and black-and-white TV service techniques at service clinics held in New Jersey and Delaware. The Radio Service Association of Trenton (N. J.) attended a color TV lecture and demonstration staged by Bob Lord of RCA. The clinic was sponsored by Jackson Distributors, a local parts dealer.

Also in New Jersey, 50 members of the Allied Electronics Technicians Association met at the Plaza Hotel in Camden to sit in on a Westinghouse service clinic. Members who attended report that it was the best ever held.

Over the border in Wilmington, Del., another Westinghouse clinic was held, this one for the Television Service Dealers Association. Problems in servicing the new sets and service hints on all Westinghouse receivers were presented and discussed.

### FRAUD CHARGES DISMISSED

Mr. Ellis Haddad of Jackson, Miss., operates a TV repair shop. A short while ago, one of his technicians worked on a rigged set—a deliberately blown fuse. The technician replaced four tubes and the fuse, and billed the customer \$17.95. Mr. Haddad was taken to court, charged with fraud. However, the charges against him were dismissed by the Judge on the grounds that "the master is not responsible for the act of a servant" and Mr. Haddad did not personally touch the TV set.

[The above may be justice, but if this editor ran into a TV receiver with a blown high-voltage fuse and a check with his milliammeter across the fuse showed normal operation he would feel obligated to replace, in addition to the fuse, the damper tube and the horizontal output tube. Other technicians might wish to replace the high-voltage rectifier and horizontal oscillator as well. Such steps will keep the technician from seeing the set again before the week is out for the same trouble. It is seldom indeed that a high-voltage fuse just gives up and a new fuse is the only replacement needed.—Editor]

END



"Oh there's the picture now—it's 'You Asked for It!' "

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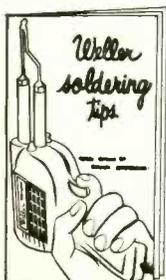
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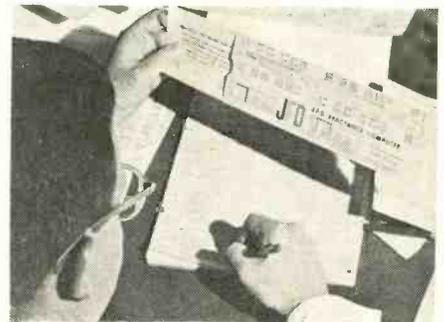
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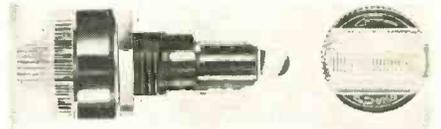


**REACTANCE COMPUTER SLIDE RULE** determines resonant frequency from inductance and capacitance or selects various inductances and capacitances for desired frequency. Computes



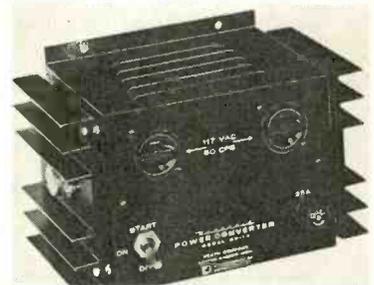
inductive and capacitive reactance as well as inductance and capacitance of resonant circuits from 1 to 1,000 mc. Plastic.—JFD Electronics Corp., 6101 16th Ave., Brooklyn 4, N. Y.

**FUSE POSTS, Model 3AG**, glow when fuse blows. Maximum current rating 20 amps. Over-



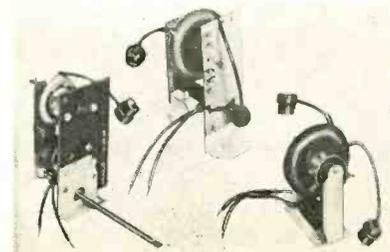
all length 2 3/8 in with fuse inserted. Mounting hole 3/8-in diameter flat at one side.—Littelfuse, Des Plaines, Ill.

**TRANSISTOR POWER CONVERTER, model MB-10**, in kit form. Converts power from either 6- or 12-volt storage batteries to regular house-

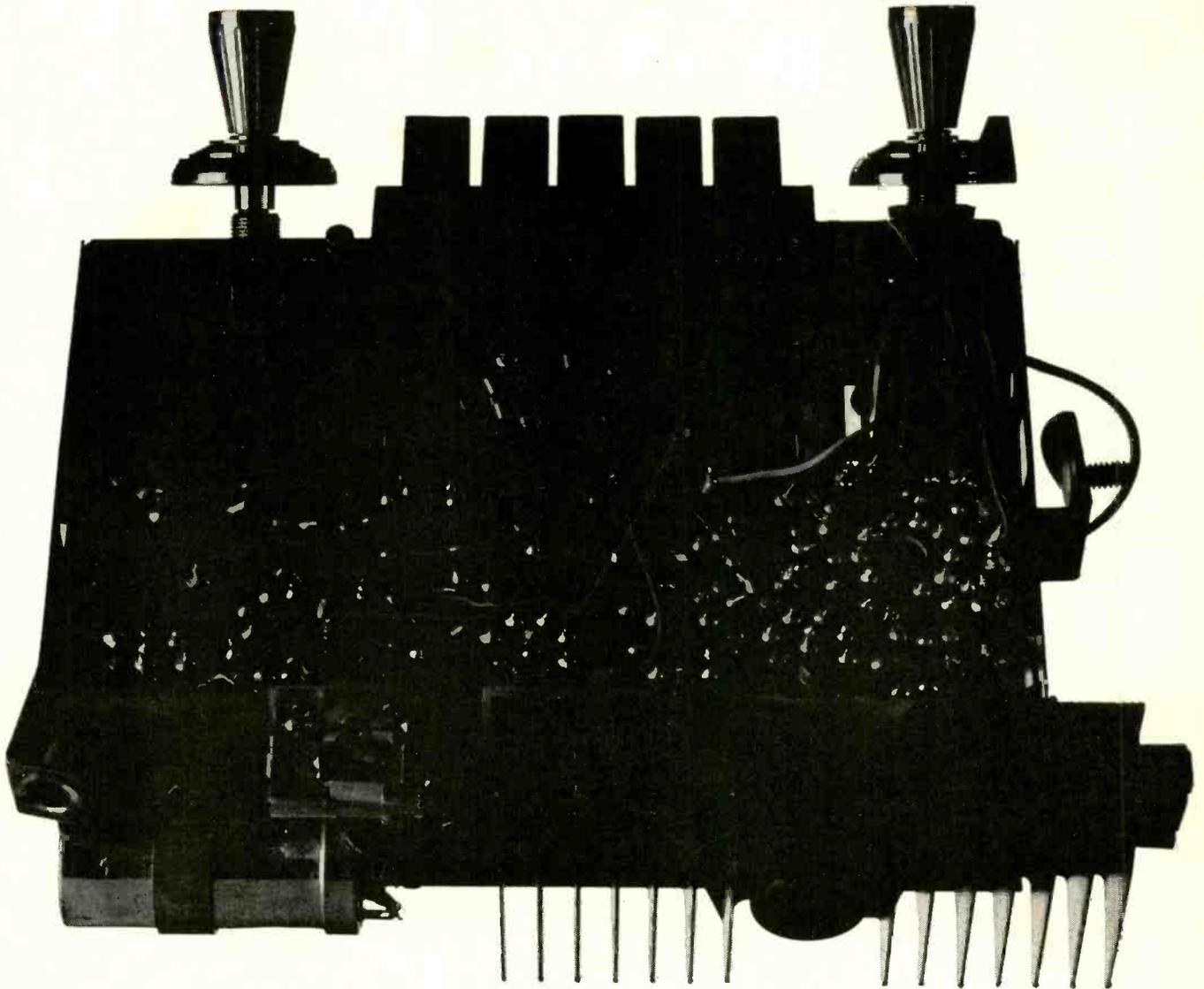


hold 117-volt 60-cycle ac. 2 ac receptacles. Power output 175 watts continuous, 240 watts maximum with 12 volts input; 120 watts at 6 volts input.—Heath Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.

**FLYBACK TRANSFORMERS, HO-321** replaces RCA parts 104876 (972942-1) and 106063 (972942-2); **HO-322** replaces RCA parts 104309



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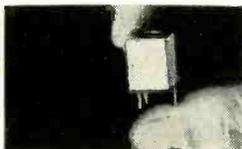
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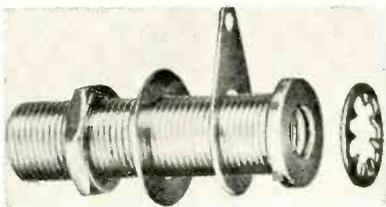
(972401-3) and 106533 (973908-1); HO-336 replaces Motorola part 24C739283.—Chicago Standard Transformer Corp., 3501 W. Addison St., Chicago 18, Ill.

**SUBMINIATURE VARIABLE INDUCTORS**, for printed circuits or breadboards. Series 387: 10 units cover range of 1.5  $\mu$ h to 3 mh. Custom-



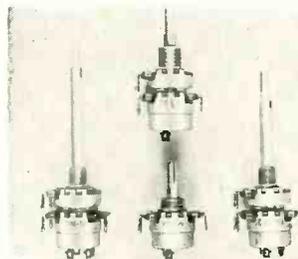
designed inductors with maximum inductance to 72 mh and MIL-grade units available.  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{3}{8}$  in.—Wells Electronics, 1701 S. Main St., South Bend, Ind.

**PHONO JACK ADAPTER, No. 371.** Adapter (shown) mounts in panels up to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in thick.



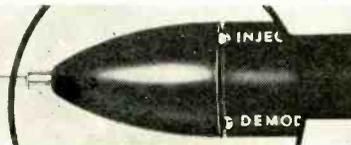
Mounting diagram; nut, lock and lug washers. —Switchcraft Inc., 5555 N. Elston Ave., Chicago 30, Ill.

**AUTO RADIO CONTROL REPLACEMENTS, 5 units.** Part Nos. PP-58 and PP-59 replace Philco original part No. 33-5580-21 and 33-5580-27 used in 1958 and 1959 Plymouths. Part Nos. DEM-59,



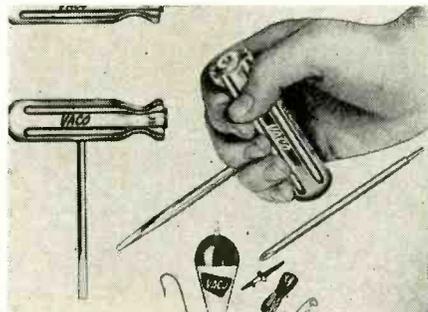
DOM-58 and DOM-59 replace Motorola original part Nos. 18K561733, 18K560417 and 18B561732 used in 1959 DeSotos, 1958 and 1959 Dodges.—Centralab, Div. of Globe-Union, 900 E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee 1, Wis.

**SERVICE AID, model MT-1 Multi-Tracer**, combines signal injector, demodulator and signal



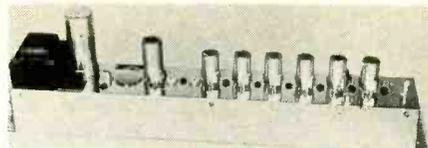
and voltage tracer. Rotating head with detent action for selection of required instrument position permits troubleshooting any electronic equipment.—Mercury Electronics Corp., 77 Searing Ave., Mineola, N. Y.

**SCREW DRIVER SET** converts into high-torque driver with side-arm T-handle. 2 interchangeable



blades and free bonus fishing kit.—Vaco Products Co., 317 E. Ontario St., Chicago 11, Ill.

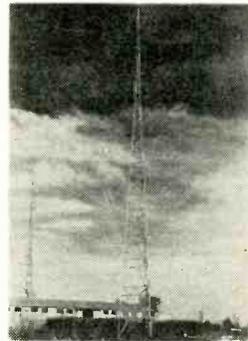
**LOW-NOISE PREAMP, model PA-LN**, for channels 2-13. Uses G-E 7077 ceramic triode, one 6DJ8 and five EF96's. Bandwidth  $\pm 0.75$  db 6 mc. Input 50 to 1,000  $\mu$ v. Gain 66 db minimum. Input



and output impedance 75 ohms. Supply 117 volts, 60 cycles, 30 watts.—Benco Television Associates Ltd., 27 Taber Rd., Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

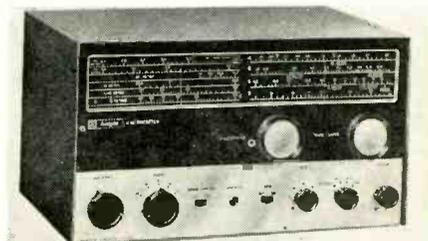
**TV TRANSLATOR TRANSMITTER.** Signals received directly with outside antenna from translator station which rebroadcasts signals received from originating station into shadowed areas. Installation either on cooperative basis or by tax district.—Industrial Television, 7270 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 36, Calif.

**COMMUNICATION TOWER**, measures 170 ft with addition of 3 heavy-duty 20-ft sections to



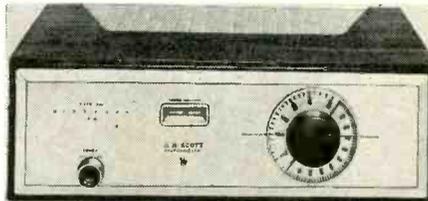
basic, self-supporting design.—Rohn Manufacturing Co., Box 200, Peoria, Ill.

**RECEIVER KIT, R-55.** Coverage from 530 kc to 36 mc in 4 bands, plus special range from 47 to 54 mc for tuning 6-meter amateur band.



Complete with metal cabinet, tubes, all parts, wire and solder.—Allied Radio Corp., 100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, Ill.

**FM TUNER, model 314.** Usable sensitivity 2.5  $\mu$ v by IHFM standards. Silverplated front end for minimum circuit losses on weakest signals. Copper-bonded to aluminum chassis for high signal-to-noise ratio. Multiplex output for multiplex-type stereo and multiplex-controlled com-



mercial installations. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  x 13 $\frac{1}{4}$  in.—H. H. Scott Inc., Dept. P, 111 Powdermill Rd., Maynard, Mass.

**FM TUNER, model KN-111.** 2-stage, grounded-grid rf amplifier and ratio detector. Sensitivity 4  $\mu$ v for 20 db of quieting. Audio output ap-

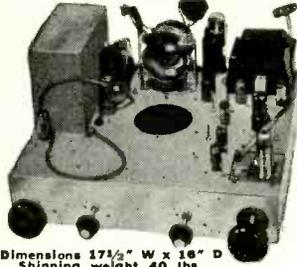


proximately 0.55 volt. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$  x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  in.—Allied Radio Corp., 100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, Ill.

**FM/AM 50-WATT STEREO RECEIVER, model S-7000.** 19 front-panel controls and switches; 9 inputs. Continuous power output 24 watts per channel. Hum and noise 80 db below 24 watts (radio) and -80 db (phono). Frequency re-

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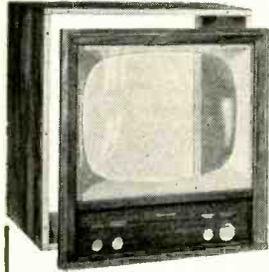
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- 3 - AUDIO OUTPUT TRANS. 50L6 type. . . . . \$1
- 2 - AUDIO OUTPUT TRANS. 50L6 push-pull. . . \$1
- 3 - AUDIO OUTPUT TRANS. 6K6 or 6V6 type. . \$1
- 3 - I.F. COIL TRANSFORMERS 456 kc . . . . . \$1
- 3 - I.F. COIL TRANSFORMERS 10.7 mc. FM . . \$1
- 3 - I.F. COIL TRANSFORMERS 282 kc (auto). . \$1
- 40 - ASST. PRECISION RESISTORS best sizes . . \$1
- 2 - SELENIUM RECTIFIERS 65ma list \$1.50 ea. \$1
- 4 - SELENIUM RECTIFIERS 75ma . . . . . \$1
- 2 - SELENIUM RECTIFIERS 300ma . . . . . \$1
- 2 - SELENIUM RECTIFIERS 1-500ma 1-85 ma. \$1
- 1 - TV RATIO DETECTOR COIL 4.5mc . . . . . \$1
- 1 - TV RATIO DETECTOR COIL 10.7mc . . . . \$1
- 1 - TV SOUND I.F. COIL 4.5mc . . . . . \$1
- 3 - HV RECTIFIER SOCKETS 1B3 mounted . . . \$1
- 3 - HV RECTIFIER SOCKETS 1X2 mounted . . . \$1

- \$15 - "JACKPOT" TELEVISION PARTS . . . \$1
- 10 - ELECTROLYTIC CONDENSERS 1200 mfd-25v. \$1
- 50 - ASSORTED MOLDED COND. short leads. . \$1
- 2 - SILICON RECTIFIERS 500ma . . . . . \$1
- 1 - SILICON RECTIFIER 750ma . . . . . \$1
- 1 - LB. SPOOL ROSIN CORE SOLDER . . . . \$1
- 4 - 50' SPOOLS HOOK-UP WIRE 4 colors . . \$1
- 10 - 6' ELECTRIC LINE CORDS with plugs . \$1
- 50' - 2-CONDUCTOR ZIP CORD No. 18 . . . \$1
- 5 - TV CHEATER CORDS with both plugs . . \$1
- 5 - TV CRT. SOCKETS with 18" leads . . . \$1
- 5 - HI-VOLT. ANODE LEADS with 18" leads . \$1
- 50 - STRIPS ASST. SPAGHETTI best sizes . . \$1
- 100 - ASST. RUBBER GROMMETS best sizes \$1
- 100' - TWIN LEAD-IN WIRE 300Ω heavy duty \$1
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- 25' - INSULATED SHIELDED WIRE . . . . . \$1
- 32' - TEST PROD WIRE deluxe (red or black) \$1
- 1 - \$7 INDOOR TV ANTENNA hi-gain 3 section \$1
- 20 - ASST. TV KNOBS, ESCUTCHEONS, Etc. \$1
- 1 - RCA 70' FLYBACK TRANS. #75240. . . \$1
- 1 - TV VERT. OUTPUT TRANS. 10 to 1 ratio. . \$1
- 15 - ASST. TV COILS sync. peaking, width, etc. \$1
- 15 - ASST. STANDARD TUNER UHF STRIPS. \$1
- 6 - ASST. STANDARD TUNER VHF STRIPS. \$1

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- 4 - DIODE CRYSTALS 1N64 . . . . . \$1
- 4 - DIODE CRYSTALS 1N80 . . . . . \$1
- 100 - ASST. CERAMIC CONDENSERS. . . . \$1
- 35 - ASST. DISC CERAMICS best numbers. . \$1
- 50 - ASST. MICA CONDENSERS some in 5% . \$1
- 6 - ASST. SLIDE SWITCHES asst. dpdt, etc. . \$1
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- 100' - FINEST NYLON DIAL CORD best size . . \$1
- 200 - SELF TAPPING SCREWS #8 x 1/2" . . \$1
- 35 - ASST. RADIO KNOBS screw and push-on. \$1
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- 25 - ASSORTED CLOCK RADIO KNOBS . . . \$1
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- 35 - ASST. SOCKETS octal, novel and miniature. \$1
- 25 - ASST. PRINTED CIRCUIT SOCKETS . . \$1
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- 35 - DISC. CERAMIC CONDENSERS 5000mmf . \$1
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- 8 - ASST. LUCITE CASES handy for parts. . . \$1
- 100 - MICA CONDENSERS 820 mmf-500v . . \$1
- 3 - ASST. SIZES RADIO CHASSIS PANS. . . \$1
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- 5 - 1 or 2 MEG VOLUME CONTROLS \$1/switch. \$1
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- 1 - GOLD GRILLE CLOTH 14"x14" or 12"x18". \$1
- 10 - SETS PHONO PLUGS and PIN JACKS. . . \$1
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- 35 - MICA COND. 20-180 mmf & 15-270 mmf . . \$1
- 35 - MICA COND. 20-470 mmf & 15-680 mmf . . \$1
- 35 - MICA COND. 20-820 mmf & 15-1000 mmf . \$1
- 35 - MICA COND. 20-2200 mmf & 15-2400 mmf . \$1
- 35 - MICA COND. 20-6800 mmf & 15-10000 mmf . \$1
- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-5 mmf & 15-10 mmf . . \$1
- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-25 mmf & 15-47 mmf . . \$1
- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-56 mmf & 15-82 mmf . . \$1
- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-100 mmf & 15-150 mmf . \$1
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- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-1000 mmf & 15-1500 mm \$1
- 35 - CERAMIC COND. 20-2000 mmf & 15-5000 mmf \$1
- 4 - KENRAD TUBES 65H7 . . . . . \$1
- 2 - TOP NAME 125K7 TUBES . . . . . \$1
- 2 - TOP BRAND TUBES 35W4 . . . . . \$1
- TOP NAME TUBES 024, 1B3, 1X2B, 5U4, 6AC7, 6AX4, 6CB6, 6J6, 6K6, 6U8, 6V6, 6SN7, 6X8, 12AU7, 12AX7, 50L6 . . . . . Each \$1
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Orders \$10 or more, Receiving types only ppd, 48 states

0A2	.80	6B16	.69	12AT6	.59	18S1	1.00
0B2	.65	6BK7	.99	12AT7	.84	117Z6	1.10
0C3	.69	6BL7	1.25	12AU6	.69	4-65A	16.00
0D3	.39	6BW6	.69	12A7	.69	6X4	2.81
0Z4	.59	6BQ6	1.19	12AX7	.79	3D23	3.85
1A7	.89	6BZ7	1.25	12BA6	.65	717A	5/81
1B3	.78	6C4	.43	12BA7	.99	4-125	29.00
1B5	.78	6C5	.69	12BE6	.59	1-250	3.00
1S4	.78	6CB6	.80	12BE6	.59	4P27	7.00
1T4	.78	6CD6	1.49	12BF6	.59	4P280	29.50

3/511 6H6 \$15  
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Wanted Surplus Electronics from schools & U  
5V3 .59 6SC7 .80 198G6 2.15 450T 42.00  
6A84 .55 6SQ7 .79 19T 1.16 80T 1.00  
6AC7 .70 6SH7 .69 258G6 1.39 809 3.00  
6AG7 .89 6SJ7 .79 25L6 .69 811 4.40  
6AH6 .89 6SK7 .72 25W4 .77 812 3.00  
6AK5 .89 6SL7 .89 25Z5 .69 813 3.00  
6AL5 2/81 6SN7 2/81 25Z6 .75 814 3.45  
6AG5 .83 6SQ7 .74 EL34 3.49 815 2.75  
6AS7 3.00 6SR7 .79 K766 3.29 824 2.00  
6AT6 .49 6T8 .98 35L6 .69 829B 8.00

Wanted 811, 818, 818 and 504 TL tubes! Top \$\$\$ Paid  
6AU4 1.10 6U8 .98 35W4 .49 832A 7.00  
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6AX4 .79 6W6 .89 50A5 .69 6146 4.00  
6A6 2/81 6X4 2/81 6K4 .69 58T9 9.98  
6BA7 1.00 6X5 .49 50C5 .69 5881 2.70  
6BD6 .89 6Y6 .97 50L6 .69 6550 3.00  
6BE6 .59 7M7 .89 K766 3.29 824 2.00  
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**NEW SILICON 750MA\* DIODES TOP HATS**  
GENERAL PURPOSE 400 PIV at 300 MA  
SPECIAL 2 FOR \$1 20 for \$7

rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv
17/25	35/50	70/100	140/200
14c	19c	29c	34c
rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv
210/300	280/400	350/500	420/600
43c	55c	70c	\$1.00
rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv	rms/piv
490/700	590/900	630/900	700/1000
\$1.25	\$1.50	\$1.70	\$2.00

**Low Priced \* T200 SILICON DIODES**  
rated 380piv/266rms @ 200Ma @ 100°C  
36¢ each; 10 for \$3.25; 100 for \$27; 1000 for \$230

\* CAPACITOR INPUT DERATE 20%  
(\$5 or more this item we pay P.P./U.S.A.)

**"TAB" SPECIAL! TRANSISTORS DIODES!!!**  
FULL LENGTH LEADS

Factory Tested & Guaranteed! U.S.A. Mfgd!  
PNP HIPOWER 15 Amp Max 25°C  
2N441, 2N277 \$1.80 @ 6/59, 25/535  
100/5130, 2N442, 2N278 \$3.5 @ 6/59, 25/535  
4/512, 25/565, 100/\$225, 3 Amp.  
2N155, 2N156, 2N255, 2N256, 2N307,  
2N554, TO3GP €80 @ 20/\$15, 100/\$65.

2N123 PNP €45 @ 12 for \$5, 100/\$37  
2N292, 2N293 PNP €45 @ 12 for \$5, 100/\$37  
2N223 PNP \$10€ @ 12 for \$9, 100 for \$65  
2N597, 2N598 PNP \$1.90 ea. @ 6 for \$10  
2N598 PNP \$1.90, @ 6 for \$10  
2N599 PNP \$3.50 @ 6 for \$10  
2N670 PNP 300MW 95¢ @ 8 for \$5, 100 for \$48  
2N671 PNP/1W \$1.15, @ 5 for \$4, 100 for \$69

**GENERAL PURPOSE-PNP-COMPUTER GRADE!**  
Use as Amplifier-Oscillator-HEF  
Logic-Nervoamp-Power Supply  
Pulse Amplifier or High Current Switch  
Vcb, Vce, Vcb Approx 40V  
GP 3C rated 300mw €65 @ 10 for \$5, 100/\$39  
GP10C one watt 90¢ @ 6 for \$5, 100 for \$63.

2N176 \$1.80, 2N177 \$1, 2N178 \$1.75, 2N247  
\$1.50, 2N270 95¢, 2N274 \$1.25, 2N408 80¢,  
2N544 \$1.20, 2N578 \$1.80, 2N579 \$2.20,  
2N581 \$1.25, 2N582 \$2.10, 2N670 \$1.60,  
2N671 \$2. KIT TRANSISTORS PNP 39¢ ea.,  
3 for \$1. KIT TRANSISTOR PNP 39¢ ea., 3 for  
\$1. ROUND or DIAMOND BASE MICA Mid Kit  
30: POWER HEAT SINK WITH FINS 80 Sq.  
\$1.25, KIT GLASS DIODES COMPUTER 20¢  
ea., 8 for \$1.

**TOP HAT SILICON DIODE EXPERIMENTERS KIT.**  
USE AS STABILIZERS, ZENER DIODES & METER  
PROTECTION DIODES. CLIPPER & RECTIFIER  
DIODES! A \$10 VALUE, 8 for \$1, 50 for \$5/Ppd.

Qty Discounts to Volume Buyers  
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**★ NEW "TEKSEL" SELENIUM RECTIFIERS**  
FULL WAVE BRIDGE RECTIFIERS. ONE YEAR GTD!  
AMP. 18VAC 36VAC 72VAC 144VAC  
CONT. 14VDC 28VDC 56VDC 112VDC

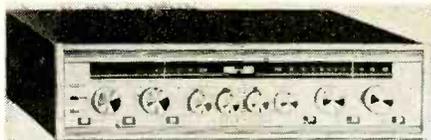
1AMP	\$ 1.30	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.90	\$ 8.50
2AMP	2.15	3.00	6.25	12.30
3AMP	2.90	4.00	8.60	16.75
6AMP	4.15	6.00	18.75	36.15
10AMP	6.10	12.15	26.30	48.90

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**"SUNTAB" @ BATTERY-SELENIUM PHOTOCCELL**  
2BP 75Mu 3/4x5/8" 40c @ 11  
for \$4; 5AP/1" Rd. 58P/5q &  
Rect 220Mu 55c @ 12 for \$6;  
15 AP 750Mu 1 1/2" Dia. \$1.45  
@ 4 for \$5; 10BP 350Mu,  
11-1/16" Rect. 75c @ 10 for  
\$7; 10CP 750 Mu. 1 7/8x1 3/8"  
\$1.45, @ 4 for \$5; Kit Self  
Generating Photocells 4 for \$1

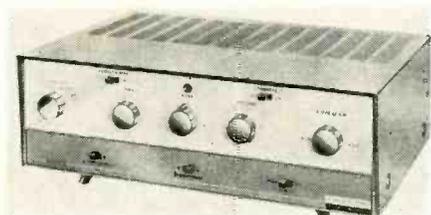
**SILICON POWER DIODE STUDS!**  
50Piv/35rms Factory Tested Gtd.  
35 Amp. \$2.75 @ 2 for \$5.50, 25/550  
70 Amp \$4.45 @ 2 for \$8.15/545  
240 Amp \$9.45 @ 2 for \$18. 8/548

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or for C.O.D. 25¢ dep. Prices  
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sponse ±1 db 20-40,000 cycles. IM distortion 1 1/2%; harmonic distortion 1/2% at 24 watts continuous power output. Damping factor 5.—Sherwood Electronics Laboratories Inc., 4300 N. California, Chicago 18, Ill.

**STEREO AMPLIFIER AND PREAMP, LA-240.**  
40 watts; terminations for 8- or 16-ohm speakers. Frequency response 12 to 100,000 cycles ±1 db at 1 watt; 50 to 70,000 cycles per second ±1 db at full output. Sensitivity at high level input 0.75 volt; magnetic phono inputs 5.5 mv



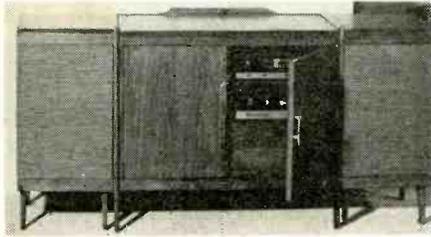
at 1 kc.—Lafayette Radio Corp., 165-08 Liberty Ave., Jamaica 33, N. Y.

**STEREO POWER AMPLIFIER, model 290,** with meter-monitored output circuits. At maximum output, harmonic distortion 0.5%; first-order in-



termodulation distortion 0.1%. Aluminum chassis.—H. H. Scott, Inc., Dept. P, 111 Powdermill Rd., Maynard, Mass.

**STEREO CONSOLE, HFS-26,** 28 watts. AJ-10 stereo AM-FM tuner, SA-2 stereo amplifier, AD-50A stereo changer, with G-E VR-227 cartridge, 2 WS-3 coax speakers, Equipment cabi-



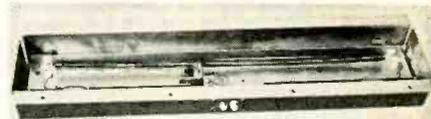
net, two 12-in speaker cabinets. Walnut or mahogany.—Heath Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.

**STEREO TAPE RECORDER, Continental 200** (model EL3541), operates at 7 1/2 in per sec. 4 tracks. Frequency response 50-14,000 cycles per second. Wow and flutter less than ±0.3% (peak to peak). Line input 117 volts ac, 60 cycle.



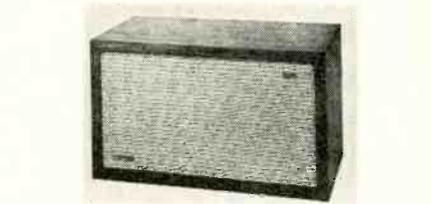
13" x 11" x 6" in.—North American Philips Co. Inc., High-Fidelity Products Div., 230 Duffy Ave., Hicksville, N. Y.

**REVERBERATION UNIT, model 8-1-C.** Magnetic driver, 2 ceramic pickup transducers and coiled-spring delay line. Produces short delay in audio signal which causes spatial effect upon repro-



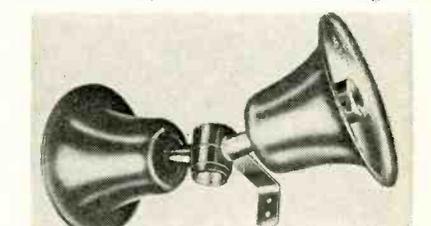
duced signal.—CBS Electronics, Information Services, 100 Endicott St., Danvers, Mass.

**SPEAKER SYSTEM, Realistic Electrostat-2.** 8-inch woofer and 4-element electrostat tweeter. Sensitive frequency response 30-25,000 cycle system. 8 ohms impedance. 20-watt power capacity. Network crossover at 7,500 cycles. Resonant fre-



quency of 45 cycles.—Radio Shack Corp., 730 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 17, Mass.

**BI-DIRECTIONAL SPEAKER, model RL-10B,** for sound paging and public address. Acoustic sound chamber divides sound equally from single standard driver; reinforces low and high fre-



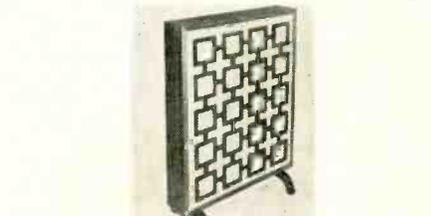
quencies.—Racon Electric Co. Inc., 1261 Broadway, New York 1, N. Y.

**12-INCH WOOFER, model No. W12J616,** for totally enclosed cabinets. Voice-coil impedance



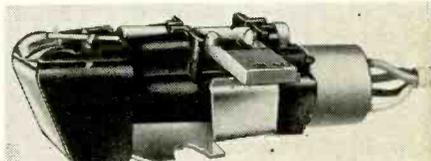
16 ohms with frequency range from 20 to 4,500 cycles.—Oxford Electric Corp., 3911 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 53, Ill.

**LOUDSPEAKER SYSTEM, Sonoteer,** employs 5 speakers. 4 x 21 x 25 in. Oil-rubbed walnut



frame. 18 lb.—Rek-O-Kut Co. Inc., 38-19 108th St., Corona 68, N. Y.

**CERAMIC PHONO CARTRIDGES, 16T (shown)** 18T, 16T channels separated by full 22 decibels. Flat response, ±1 db from 20 to 10,000 cycles



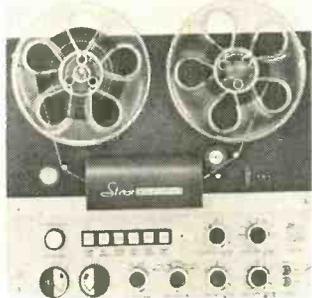
with smooth rolloff to 12,000 cycles. Compliance figure 2.4 x 10^-6 cm/dyne. Voltage output 0.50. 18T provides 0.70 volt with channel separation 20 db and compliance 1.5 x 10^-6 cm/dyne.—Sonotone Corp., Elmsford, N. Y.

**BACKGROUND-MUSIC AMPLIFIER, model G22,** for music and voice announcements. 20 watts. Program selector permits choice of tuner, tape, phono or 600-ohm telephone line. Separate volume controls to mix microphone with music. Protective caps on base and treble controls.—



Grommes Div. of Precision Electronics Inc., 9101 King St., Franklin Park, Ill.

**4-TRACK TAPE DECK**, for stereo or mono, RP-100. 14 transistors, separate push-pull bias-erase oscillator, full-wave rectifier, hysteresis



synchronous capstan drive motor and 2 heavy-duty 4-pole induction reel motors. At 7½ ips, frequency response 30-15,000 ±2db, noise 55 db below maximum recording level, wow and flutter 0.2%. At 3¾ ips, frequency response 30-10,000 cycles ±2 db, wow and flutter 0.25%.—EICO (Electronic Instrument Co. Inc.), 33-00 Northern Blvd., Long Island City 1, N. Y.

**TAPE-TO-SLIDE SYNCHRONIZER**, Mark-Q-Matic model MQM-1, records and cues to slides



with pencil mark. Self-contained, needing no installation onto or into tape recorder or projector.—General Techniques Inc., Dept. MP, 1270 Broadway, New York 1, N. Y.

**DELAY-DISTORTIONLESS FILTERS**, PPC Series, for high-reliability missile use. Available



in low, high and bandpass versions with wide band width and sharp rolloffs.—SEG Electronics Co. Inc., 12 Hinsdale St., Bklyn. 7, N. Y. END

All specifications from manufacturers' data.

### CORRECTIONS

The base and emitter terminals are transposed in the base diagram of the 2N207 transistor in the Mini-Pack amplifier schematic on page 51 of the April issue. Our thanks to Robert Thompson of Riverside, R. I.

Sharp-eyed Paulo Andersen of Blumenau, S. C., Brazil, spotted the shorted heater circuit in the preamplifier diagram on page 46 of the March issue. Naturally, the vertical line to the left of pins 4 and 9 of V3 should be removed.

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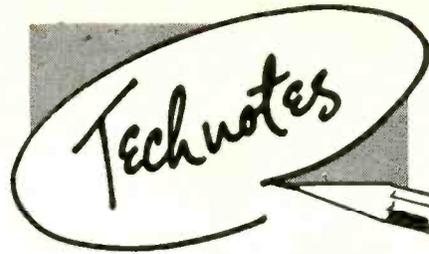
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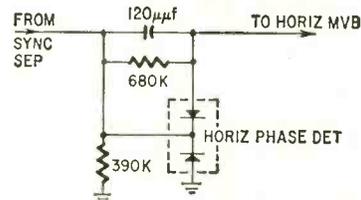


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### PHILCO TV 7L40

When horizontal sync goes out on these and similar models using selenium rectifiers for horizontal afc, first try adjusting the auxiliary horizontal hold control (reached from the front of the set through the hollow shaft of the horizontal hold control). Next try horizontal phasing (the screwdriver adjustment on the chassis near the 12AU7 horizontal oscillator tube). If these adjustments are too critical or the sync drifts off after a short while, replace the selenium double-diode unit (located on the top right



corner of the printed-circuit strip, near the horizontal phasing coil).

**CAUTION:** Use only a small soldering pencil to install a new diode. Do not use a soldering gun—the ac field around it can damage or ruin the diode. Avoid overheating or excessive pressure on the printed circuit too. Installation time and possible damage to the printed circuit can be reduced by clipping the old diode leads above the strip and soldering the new diode leads to these instead of to the printed-circuit foil itself.—John B. Ledbetter

### MOTOROLA CHASSIS TS-542

The raster would bloom when the set was first turned on. After operating for a while, raster became normal. A check of the high-voltage circuit revealed no defects. As a last possibility, we replaced the 3A3 high-voltage rectifier. Receiver operation returned to normal.—M. L. Leonard

### TELEFUNKEN STEREO 5083-WK

A common fault with these models is blowing the 1-amp fuse when the set is first turned on or when the ac off-on switch is turned on and off several times in succession.

To cure the problem, insert a 2-amp slow-blow fuse. The 1-amp fuse supplied works OK on 230 volts but, when used with 117-volt 60-cycle current, the inductance of the set's power transformer kicks back enough current to blow it.—George P. Oberto

### CLUES FOR CHECKING CAPACITORS

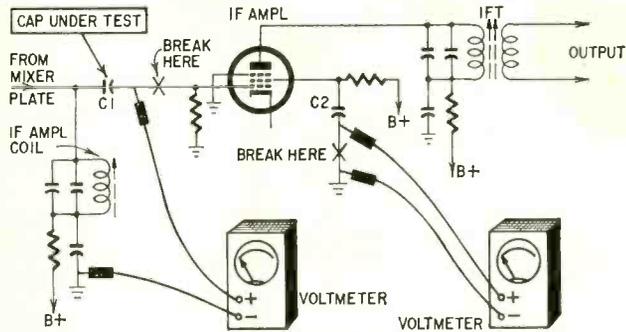
A capacitor can fail in several ways. It may short, develop leakage or open, or its capacitance may change. To determine whether the capacitor is leaky or shorted, don't disconnect it from the circuit and test it with an ohmmeter. Often, leakage will not show up unless the capacitor is subjected to the voltage that is normally across it, and an ohmmeter test will not indicate the defect. Instead, disconnect the capacitor (C1 in the diagram, for example) at the low-voltage side. Connect a voltmeter between the free end of the capacitor and ground. If C1 is shorted or leaky, part of the voltage applied to the other side of it will be indicated on the voltmeter.

When checking a suspected bypass or filter capacitor, disconnect it at the ground side and connect the voltmeter between the low side of the capacitor and ground (C2 in the diagram). With the set turned on, the meter will show part or all of the screen-grid voltage if C2 is leaky or shorted.

To test a high-capacitance unit (1 µf or more), connect it

across a source of dc power where the voltage is equal to, or less than, the dc voltage rating of the capacitor. If the capacitor is polarized, be sure to connect the positive terminal to the positive side of the power source. After power is applied for a few minutes, remove the capacitor and bring the terminals close together. If you see a spark, the capacitor is not completely shorted or open.

A variable tuning capacitor or air trimmer can become shorted or leaky. To test for either condition, disconnect one end from the circuit and then test in the same manner as for other capacitors. Check for bent plates and for foreign matter between the plates. Then, while observing the



needle of an ohmmeter, move the rotor plates through their complete range. If the abnormal condition has been remedied, the ohmmeter will read infinity over the complete range of rotation.—*Barron Kemp*

### SYLVANIA CHASSIS 1-544-3

A couple of these sets were pulled to the shop for excessive hum. A careful check showed no circuit faults, and scope tracing revealed the hum was caused by a ground loop on the printed-circuit board. To repair this trouble, we removed the ground between the volume control and the tuner leads. Now the control was grounded only through the shield on

## WE BUY TECHNOTES

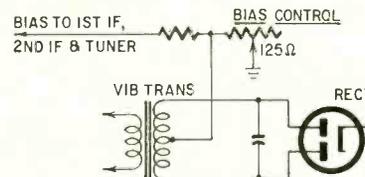
Attention all service technicians! RADIO-ELECTRONICS will pay you \$5 for each acceptable item you send us for the Technote column. Acceptable circuit diagrams used to illustrate the item raise the basic price to \$9. Acceptable photos are worth \$7 each. We especially want Technotes on specific models (see the Ford M-4 and Philco TV 7L40 here). So write up that tricky or interesting service job and rush it to: Technotes Editor, RADIO-ELECTRONICS, 154 W. 14 St., New York 11, N. Y.

the audio cable. Near the 5T8 on the set's chassis is the shielded cable feeding audio to the 5T8. The cable's shield is grounded to a lug. We removed the shield from this lug and regrounded it to the ground lead of the 2- $\mu$ f 50-volt discriminator capacitor. Such a procedure, grounding the volume control at the discriminator, is a handy hum-reducing method in hi-fi FM tuners too.—*Warren Roy*

### FORD AUTO RADIO—M-4

The complaint was intermittent cutting out with operation restored by kicking.

After much testing, the bias to the mixer and two if stages was monitored while the set was bounced gently on the



bench. The bias changed sharply with some bounces. Trouble was due to a bad contact on the bias supply resistor, a 125-ohm potentiometer. The pot was cleaned and lubricated. The trouble was cured.—*A. R. Clawson* END



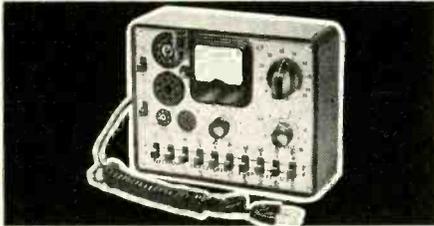
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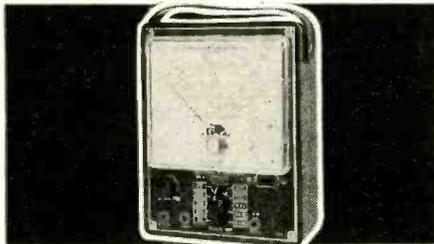
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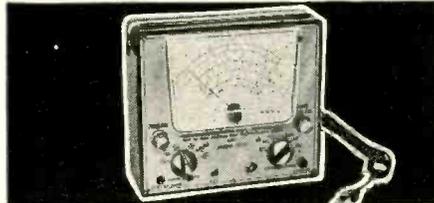
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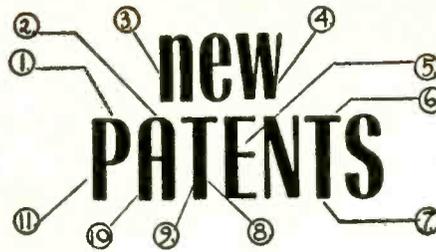


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### AUTOMATIC FEED CONTROL

Patent No. 2,962,630

Robert S. Webb, Franklin, Mich. (Assigned to Elox Corp., Royal Oak, Mich.)

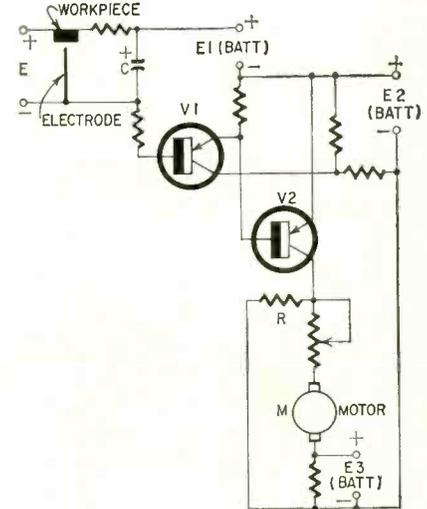
This invention controls the gap between a movable electrode and a fixed workpiece being machined in electrical discharge or electrochemical machining equipment. A dc or pulsating voltage across the gap erodes or removes stock from the workpiece. This gap must be maintained at optimum length.

Gap voltage varies with gap width. The voltage charges C, part of the V1 bias network. The gain of the two-stage amplifier V1-V2 is adjusted as follows: When the gap is optimum and C is charged 0.1 volt more positive than E1, the drop across R should equal E3. Since R opposes E3, motor M remains de-energized.

If for any reason the gap becomes greater, C biases V1 to greater conduction, V2 passes more current through R, and the drop exceeds E3. M rotates in a direction that moves the electrode closer to reduce the gap.

If the gap is too short, the drop across R is smaller than E3. M reverses and moves the electrode back, increasing the gap.

Sensitivity is very high. A change of 1 volt across the gap is enough to reverse the motor from maximum speed in one direction to maximum speed in the other.



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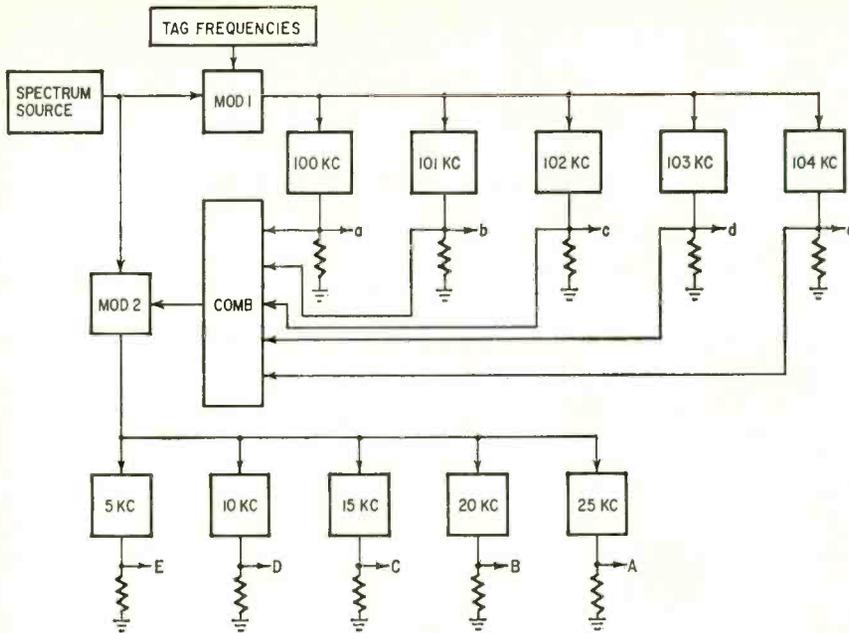


Fig. 1

## FREQUENCY METER

Patent No. 2,952,808

Hyman Hurvitz, Warner Bldg., Washington, D.C.

This instrument measures any integral frequency from 75 to 99 kc. A spectrum source, providing any frequency in the range, feeds modulator 1 (Fig. 1). The signal is mixed with (added to) one of the following "tag" frequencies: 25, 20, 15, 10 or 5 kc. These are labeled from A to E.

A group of filters, tuned respectively to 100, 101, 102, 103, 104 kc, passes output to a combining network and on to a second modulator. The filter frequencies are labeled a to e. MOD 2 output is the difference between its inputs, and equals one of the tag frequencies.

As an example, assume a 76-kc signal. Signal plus tag frequencies must add up to a filter frequency. Obviously, for 76 kc, the tag must be 25 kc and the filter frequency 101 kc. Corresponding to these frequencies is the letter pair Ab. Likewise, for any other frequency from 76-99 kc, there is a different letter pair.

To indicate the correct frequency, the inventor proposes the array of Fig. 2. Each intersection (for example, between A and b) is coated with an electroluminescent phosphor. When a given frequency appears, it causes a glow at the corresponding intersection. END

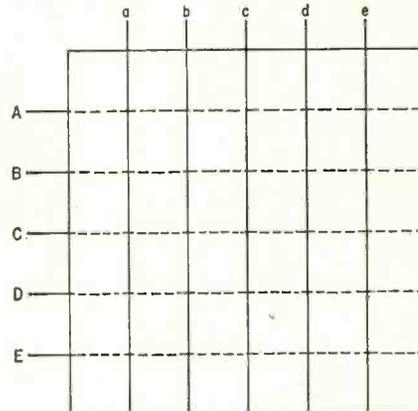


Fig. 2

## INDIVIDUAL TV VIEWER

Patent No. 2,955,156

Morton L. Heilig, New York, N.Y.

This inventor discloses his idea for 3D TV. He suggests a viewer like that used for 3D film viewing. It would be fitted with separate optical systems for each eye. These would focus onto small kinescopes fitted inside the viewer. The device would also be fitted with headphones with separate inputs for stereophonic reproduction. As another aid to give the viewer a sensation of reality, an air nozzle for each nostril would be provided. Scents, warm air, breezes, etc. could be driven through it, as desired. All this would

be combined into one piece to be worn on the head.

## PICK FOR ELECTRONIC MUSIC

Patent No. 2,961,912

Edward F. Meola, Palisades Park, N. J.

This relates to a magnetic pick for use with an electronic stringed instrument. The pick sets the steel strings into vibration, inducing an ac signal in the magnet windings, to be amplified as desired. The pick contains a permanent magnet which modulates the tone. The inventor claims only the magnetized pick.

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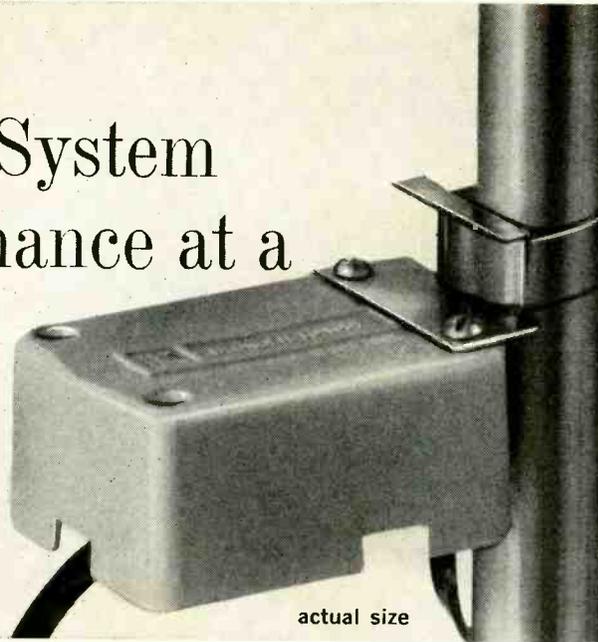
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- ✓ Eliminates costly installation of giant antenna arrays in most fringe areas.
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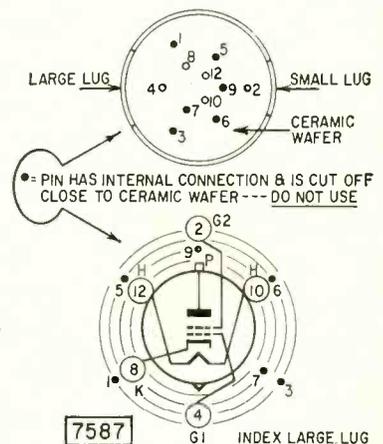
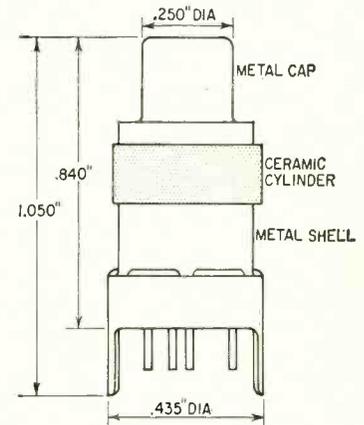
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A sharp-cutoff general-purpose tetrode of the nuvistor type. It is designed for use in a wide variety of industrial and military small-signal applications requiring compactness, low current drain, relatively low-voltage operation, exceptional uniformity of characteristics from tube to tube, and



ability to withstand severe mechanical shock and vibration. These features plus its small size and light weight make it particularly suitable for rf-if, video amplifier and mixer service.

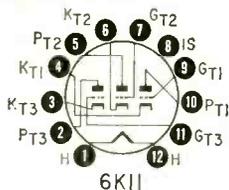
Characteristics of the RCA 7587 when

used as a class-A1 amplifier are:

$V_H$	6.3
$I_H$ (ma)	150
$V_P$ supply	125
$V_{G2}$ supply	50
$R_K$ (k ohms)	200
$g_m$ ( $\mu$ mhos)	10,600
$I_P$ (ma)	10
$I_{G2}$ (ma)	2.7
$V_{G1}$ (for 10- $\mu$ a $I_P$ )	-4.5

### 6K11

A Compactron device containing two high-mu triodes and one medium-mu triode. There are separate pin connections for all three cathodes, grids, and plates and an internal shield between sections 1 and 3. The 6.3-volt heater is rated at 600 ma and has controlled warmup time.



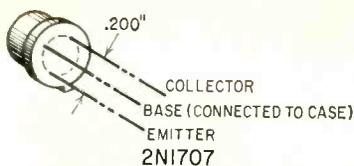
6K11

Typical operating characteristics of the G-E 6K11 Compactron are:

	Sec. 1	Sec. 2 & 3
$V_P$	250	250
$V_G$	-8.5	-2
$\mu$	17	100
$R_P$ (k ohms)	7.7	62.5
$g_m$ ( $\mu$ mhos)	2,200	1,600
$I_P$ (ma)	10.5	1.2

### 2N1707

A p-n-p germanium alloy junction transistor intended for use as an auto-



radio driver and Class A audio output amplifier. It features high reliability and excellent life characteristics. The base lead is connected to the case.

Maximum ratings of this Tung-Sol transistor are:

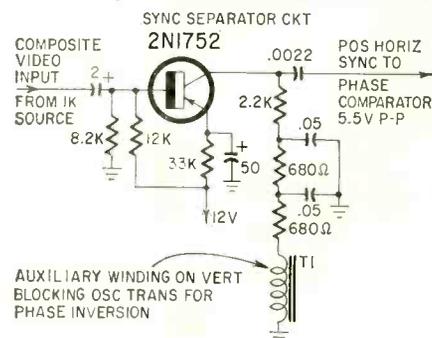
$V_{CBO}$	30
$V_{EBO}$	10
$V_{CE}$ ( $R_{BE}=1$ K ohm)	25
$P_C$ (mw)	200
$I_C$ (ma)	400

Electrical characteristics are:

$h_{fe}$ ( $I_C=10$ ma, $V_C=-5$ v, $f=1$ kc) (min)	40
$f_{\beta}$ ( $V_C=6$ v, $I_C=1$ ma) (typical) (mc)	3

### 2N1752

A hermetically sealed germanium micro-alloy diffused-base transistor de-



# WEAK

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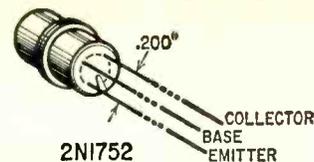
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signed for use as a sync separator in TV receivers. In the circuit shown it will provide a horizontal sync pulse at the output of approximately 5.5 volts amplitude when driven from a composite video signal at the input whose amplitude is 0.7 volts, peak to peak, or higher.

Maximum ratings of the Philco 2N1752 at 25°C are:

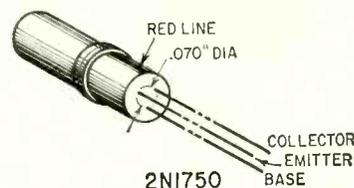
V <sub>CB</sub>	12
V <sub>CE</sub>	12
V <sub>EB</sub>	2
I <sub>c</sub> (ma)	50
P <sub>total</sub> (mw)	60

Typical electrical characteristics are:

h <sub>fe</sub> (current amplification factor)	250
f <sub>max</sub> (max freq of oscillation) (mc)	106

## 2N1750

A germanium surface-barrier transistor for use as a horizontal oscillator in TV receivers. It features a low I<sub>OBO</sub> and, when used with low-impedance phase comparator networks, stable oscillator operation at temperatures to 55°C can be expected.



Maximum ratings of the Philco 2N1750 are:

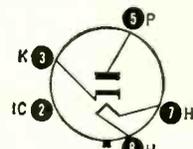
V <sub>CB</sub>	14
V <sub>CE</sub>	6
I <sub>c</sub> (ma)	5
P <sub>total</sub> (mw)	15

Electrical characteristics are:

I <sub>CBO</sub> (collector cutoff current)	(μa)	2
(V <sub>CB</sub> = -1 v)	(μa)	50
(V <sub>CB</sub> = -14 v)	(μa)	40
h <sub>FE</sub> (current amplification factor)	(V <sub>CE</sub> = -3 V, I <sub>C</sub> = -0.5 ma)	40

## 6DM4, 12DM4, 17DM4

A group of half-wave vacuum rectifiers designed for use as damper diodes in horizontal deflection circuits of black-and-white TV receivers. All three tubes have identical ratings except for their heaters. The 6DM4 heater is rated at 6.3 volts, 1.2 amperes; the 12DM4—12.6 volts, 600 ma; the 17DM4 16.8 volts, 450 ma. The 12DM4 and the



## 6DM4, 12DM4, 17DM4

17DM4 have an 11-second controlled-warmup time.

Maximum ratings in damper service for the RCA 'DM4 series are:

V <sub>p</sub> (peak inverse)	5.000
I <sub>p</sub> (peak) (amps)	1.1
I <sub>p</sub> (ma)	175
P <sub>p</sub> (watts)	6.5 END



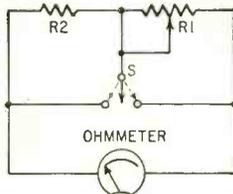
### SILICON REPLACES SELENIUM

In the Try This One column on page 133 of the March 1960 issue, there is an item by Albert J. Krukowski on replacing selenium rectifiers in three-way portable radios with silicon diodes. This is a good idea, but an important point was not mentioned. The silicon diodes give higher output voltage than the seleniums because of their lower internal voltage drop. Therefore, this replacement may develop excessive voltages in the set which might damage the tubes. Carefully check voltages after switching rectifiers. It may be necessary to increase the value of the filament dropping resistor.—*Charles Erwin Cohn*

### POTENTIOMETER CALIBRATION

To calibrate a potentiometer (R1 in the figure) in terms of a low fixed

resistor (R2), connect them in series across a voltmeter and use a spdt switch to short either of them (as shown) or simply shift the meter leads. For the first calibration point, short the pot (R1) and note the ohmmeter

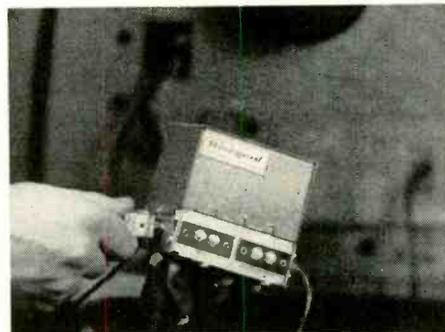


reading for R2, then short R2 and set R1 to the same reading. For the second point, open S and measure R2 plus R1. Then short R2 and increase R1 until it gives this same reading by itself. By repeating this process, you get a series of points R2 ohms apart, without ever depending on the calibration of the ohmmeter, and can plot a curve or mark a dial. The precision decreases as R1 becomes many times R2, but you can help it some by working from both ends, and still more by having several identical resistors in series for R2 (or using fixed multiples of R2).—*A. H. Taylor*

### HAND COUNTERSINK SAVES TIME

Almost daily I have some reason to countersink holes in wood to install flat-head wood screws. This means getting out the drill, inserting a countersink, connecting the tool (if it's electrical) for a simple task that takes

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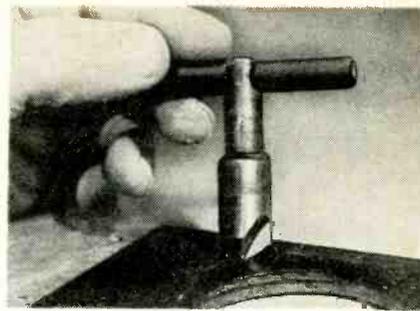
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only seconds to perform. To end this nuisance, a hand-operated countersinking tool can be devised from a discarded drill bit that will handle most of this work easily. Drill a small hole for a pin in the shank of the drill bit as shown in the photo. Insert the pin—it should be a tight fit—and add two pieces of rubber tubing for a more comfortable grip. A quick turn or two of this tool in any wood will countersink the hole for the screw and there is no need for chucking and rechucking drill or auger.—*Glen F. Stillwell*

### LOANER BUILDS BUSINESS

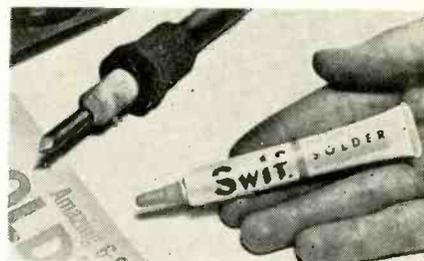
Whenever a TV set conks out in a motel or hotel, we pull the chassis, leave the cabinet and place a loaner set atop the cabinet, along with a card reading "This set loaned by Advance Television Radio Service."

Since this is a resort town peopled by tourists and others who stay at a motel or hotel while they shop to buy a home for permanent residence, they see our ad, and this often results in that all-important first contact.

These people figure if our service is good enough for the motel or hotel, it is good for them to give us the first try.—*Harry J. Miller*

### TRY 6-SECOND SOLDER

Electronic service technicians who haven't yet tried the new 6-second solder should do so. The 50/50 tin-lead solder in paste form comes in very



handy for delicate "closeup" soldering jobs where only a small amount of heat is permissible—soldering transistor leads and such. Your distributor can probably pick up a 1½-oz tube of the solder for you for less than 70¢. A little goes a long way.—*John A. Comstock*

### CLEAN PRESSURE ROLLERS

I have found an ink eraser excellent for cleaning the glaze from the pinch or pressure roller of tape recorders. It appears better than using liquid cleaners since it does not damage the rubber. And, of course, there's no chance of the remaining fluid damaging the tape should the recorder be used right away.—*W. A. Banton* END

RADIO-ELECTRONICS

# NOTEWORTHY CIRCUITS

## SIMPLIFIED REMO NEMO

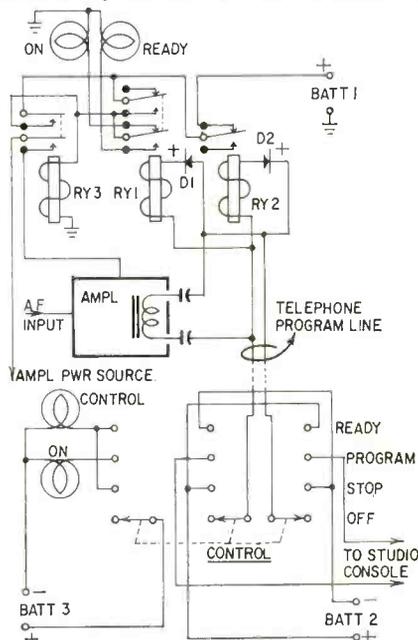
The article "Remo Nemo" in the December (1960) issue intrigued me and started my relay-operated brain working on some improvements in the control circuits. The diagram shows my version. It has the advantages of simplified control switching, more positive operation of remote relays and the addition of a remote READY light and studio indicator lamps.

When the CONTROL switch is turned from OFF to READY, the CONTROL light in the studio lights to show that the control battery (BATT2) is in use. BATT2 is connected to the program line so RY1 operates through diode D1. (RY2 does not operate because D2 is blocked by reverse bias.) When RY1 operates, RY3 is energized from BATT1 and remote READY lamp is turned on through RY1's normally open contacts.

When the program material is to start, the operator in the studio turns

the switch to PROGRAM. The ON light in the studio indicates that the program line is connected to the studio console. The control battery has been removed from the line, causing RY1 to drop out, disconnecting the READY lamp and lighting the remote ON lamp.

At the end of the program, the control switch is thrown to STOP. The studio ON lamp goes out, indicating that the program line has been disconnected from the console. The CONTROL lamp indicates that BATT2 is



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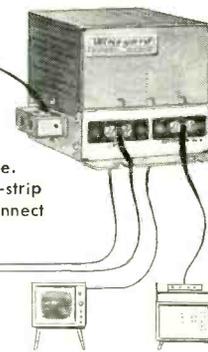
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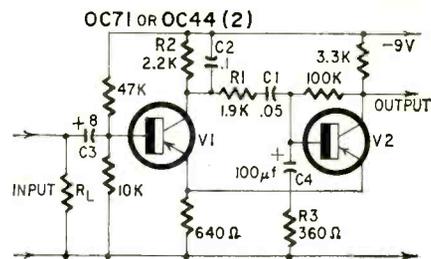


Fig. 1

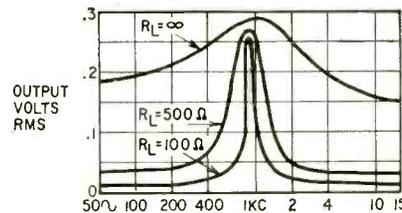


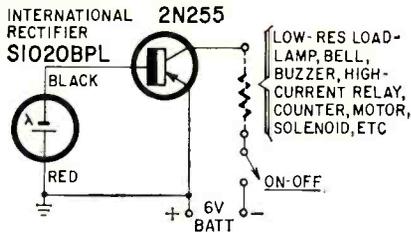
Fig. 2

The frequency selected is determined by a modified Wien bridge with a shunt arm consisting of R2 and C2 and a series arm composed of R1 and C1. RL is the collector load resistor of the preceding stage. The selectivity of the circuit increases as RL decreases. See Fig. 2.

The input coupling capacitor (C3) causes an error in the operating frequency. A capacitor (C4) in series with R3 compensates for low-frequency error. An inductance is used in place of C4 to correct for error at the high end.

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At higher illumination levels, the output current is 1 ampere or more. Up to 0.25 ampere can be handled by the transistor in still, free air. Above this level, a heat sink must be provided. To keep within the maximum power dissipation ratings of the transistor (1.5 watt in free air, 6.25 watts with heat sink), the collector output current under illumination must not exceed 0.25 amp at 6 volts and 125 ma at 12 volts in free air, or 1 amp at 6 volts and 520 ma at 12 volts with a heat sink.

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Short-Wave Craft	1930
Television News	1931

Some larger libraries still have copies of Modern Electrics on file for interested readers.

#### In June, 1911, Modern Electrics

The Rosing Telephot. (This historical article is possibly the first showing the use of a cathode-ray tube in connection with television. Professor Rosing was with the Technical Institute of St. Petersburg, now Leningrad.)  
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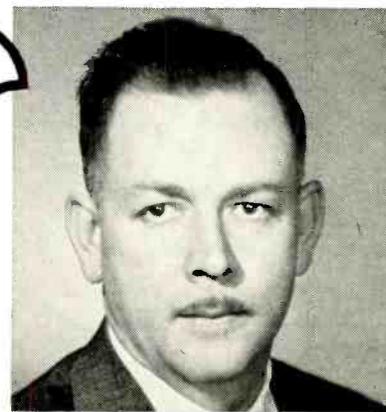
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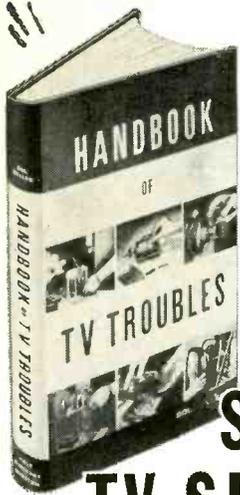
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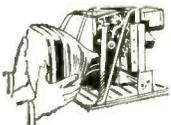
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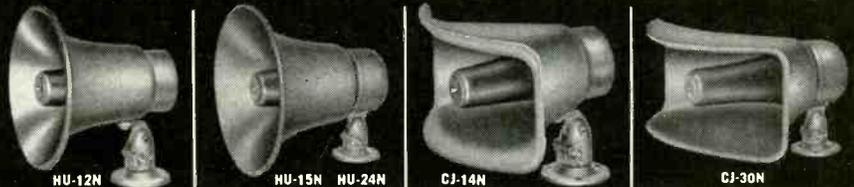
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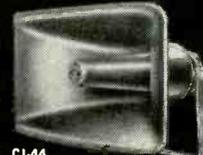
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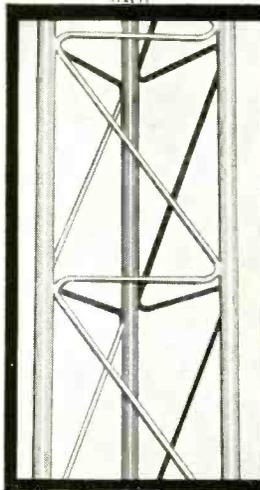
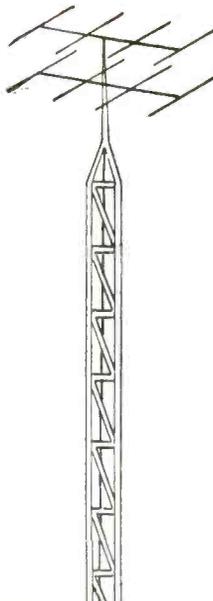
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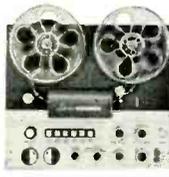
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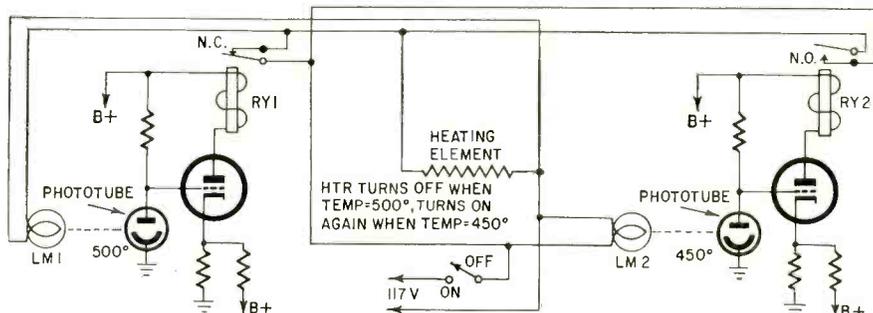
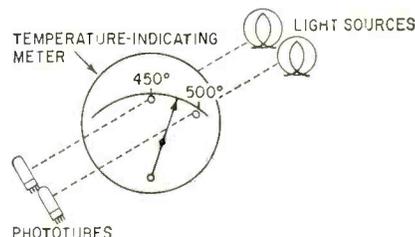
# What's Your EQ?

Here are the answers to last month's questions. We have not been able to print any answers from readers due to time squeeze, but, if any outstanding solutions come in, we will run them next month.

## Photo-relay Circuit

### Knowns:

1. Both relays are actuated by a decrease in light.
2. RY1—in 500° circuit—has normally closed contacts.
3. RY2—in 450° circuit—has normally open contacts.
4. When RY1 opens, voltage is removed from the heater and from LM1.



5. When RY2 closes, voltage is applied to the heater and to LM1.

RY1 is blocked. RY1 opens, removing voltage from the heater and LM1.

### Operation:

Assume temperature is between 450° and 500°.

1. The heater and LM1 are on.
2. Light falls on both phototubes.
3. When the temperature reaches 500°, light to the phototube controlling

RY1 is blocked. RY1 opens, removing voltage from the heater and LM1.

4. The heater and LM1 remain off because RY1 is operated by a decrease in light level.
5. As the temperature reaches 450°, the hole is blocked, RY2 pulls in and the normally open contacts close, applying power to the heater and LM1.

## Service Stinker No. 1

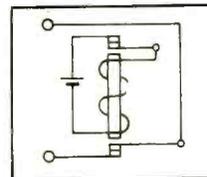
Although voltage measurements and current measurements show everything to be lovely as far as dc is concerned, a scope reading taken across R1 shows something like 300 volts peak-to-peak ripple! The exceedingly low-impedance path to ground provided by the 10- $\mu$ f capacitor causes a tremendous pulse current to flow through the little re-

sistor, burning it out very rapidly. Cause: completely open input filter capacitor in the power supply! Both in fact. The negative connection had opened. This would have been cleared quickly had a scope been used on the B-plus, instead of relying solely on dc voltage measurements.

## Black Box

The black box must obviously contain an intermittent contact—a chopper or vibrator, represented in this case by an ordinary buzzer operated from its own dry-cell power supply. In such a circuit, voltage is that of the supply when the contacts are open and zero when it is closed. Current is, of course, zero when the contacts are open and rises to a value limited only by the resistance of the meters in series and the internal impedance of the source when the contacts close.

But the contacts open and close in such rapid sequence that conventional meters cannot follow the voltage and



current patterns, so take up positions between zero and the peak values. Since the wattmeter needs both voltage and current to show any indication, and since there is no voltage when there is current and no current when there is voltage, it remains at zero. END

# BUSINESS and PEOPLE

Robert F. Halligan (l.) was elected president of Hallicrafters Co., Chicago. Stanley E. Rendell was elected vice president. Halligan, formerly executive vice president and general manager,



succeeds his father, William J. Halligan, Sr., who continues as chairman of the board and chief executive officer. Rendell was formerly vice president for operations and assistant general manager.

Arde O. Laulainen (l.) joined Radio Shack Corp., Boston, Mass., as vice president in charge of retail sales oper-



ations. He comes from Montgomery Ward. Gaylord Russell joined Radio Shack as director of engineering. He had been with Heath Co. as senior audio engineer.

Hartley Bond (l.) was appointed marketing manager for the New Bedford, Mass., plant of Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Div., Federal Pacific Electric Co., Newark, N.J., in charge of market-



ing capacitors, pulse networks and delay lines and filters. He had been marketing manager for semiconductors and tantalum capacitors. Robert J. Reigel succeeds him in this position. Reigel had been distributor sales manager.

Frank Pyle, Jr., (l.) was appointed vice president, and Robert L. Webster, treasurer, of Utah Radio Products Corp.,



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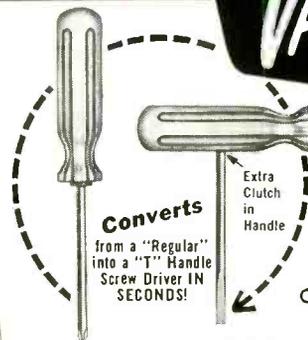
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# SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Huntington, Ind. Pyle was formerly general manager and Webster assistant treasurer.

William W. Garstang is the new manager, special products, for the Centralab Div. of Globe-Union, Inc., Milwaukee, Wis. He comes to the company from the Electronics Div. of Allen-Bradley, where he had been chief engineer for 7 years. Prior to that he was with Raytheon, P. R. Mallory and other electronic companies.



John J. Pacconi, Jr., Audio Empire, Garden City, N.Y., was named national field sales manager. He was formerly district sales manager for Glaser-Steers Corp.



Douglas Battin joined American Microphone Manufacturing Co., Rockford, Ill., as sales manager. He comes to the company from another microphone manufacturer where he was distributor sales manager.



Sencore, Inc., was officially selected as the new name of Service Instruments Corp., Addison, Ill., at the company's



annual sales meeting. The company's representatives are shown at a technical refresher course given at the company's new plant during the meeting.

Perma-Power Co., Chicago, is offering an assembled tool kit free, for a limited time, with the purchase of 12 Vu-Brites.



Sarkes Tarzian Magnetic Tape Div., Bloomington, Ind., is using a new Six-



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Switchcraft, Inc., Chicago, celebrates its 15th anniversary this year. F. O. Dumke, secretary-treasurer; Wilfred Larson, president, and W. E. Dumke,



vice president, engineering (left to right), are shown at the official celebration.

Jensen Industries, Forest Park, Ill., designed a new merchandiser display for its needles. It may be used as a wall hanger, counter display or as a book to stock merchandise under the counter.

**Obituary**

Irving Sarnoff, a pioneer in radio sales and a brother of Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, chairman of the board of RCA, died at the age of 60 in New York City. He was executive vice president of Bruno-New York, Inc., distributor of RCA Victor radios, TV sets and other electrical equipment. END

**Edison in Hall of Fame**

Thomas Alva Edison was one of three persons chosen to be enshrined in the Hall of Fame for Great Americans in the 1960 election. Elections to the Hall of Fame are held every five years, and a person must have been dead for at least 25 years to be selected.

The 1960 Hall of Fame ballot contained the names of 242 persons who had contributed to the nation's history or culture. They were placed in nomination by the public during the past year. The College of Electors, which includes prominent persons from each of the 50 states, made the final selections. A total of 142 electors voted. A majority, or 72 votes, was required for election.

Edison, known in the electrical field as the inventor of the first commercially practical incandescent electric lamp and many other electrical devices, and in the electronic field as discoverer of the Edison effect and patentee of an early electrostatic induction wireless telegraph, received 108 votes. Henry David Thoreau, poet, essayist, and philosopher, had 83 and Edward Alexander MacDowell, composer and music educator, had 72.

The selectees are enshrined in bronze busts in the open-air colonnade of the Hall of Fame, which is located on high ground on the University Heights (Bronx) campus of New York University. The shrine overlooks the Harlem and Hudson River valleys and the New Jersey Palisades.

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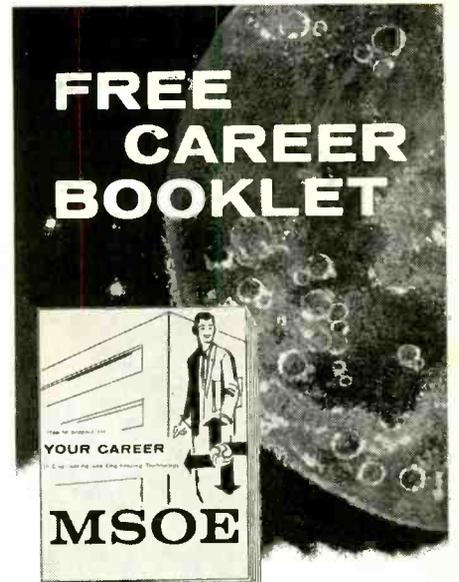
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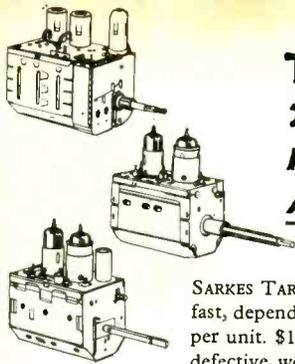
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**R/C PRIMER—Radio Control for All**, by Howard G. McEntee. Kalmbach Publishing Co., 1027 N. Seventh St., Milwaukee, Wis. 8 x 11 in. 66 pp. \$2.

Aimed at the beginner, the book starts with information on obtaining a Citizens-band license, describes and explains the various control devices, components and linkages, then tells the reader how to install his equipment. The electronics of the equipment is covered only generally, the reader being advised to build his receivers and transmitters from kits or buy them complete. Field testing and maintenance are given considerable space. The book is well printed on excellent paper, and the interesting illustrations are superlative, both as to line drawings and photographs.—*FS*

**TRANSISTOR CIRCUIT ANALYSIS AND DESIGN**, by Franklin C. Fitchen. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 120 Alexander St., Princeton, N. J. 6 x 9 in. 356 pp. \$9.

This text is based on a one-semester course for electrical engineering students at junior or senior level. No prior knowledge of transistors is assumed. The first chapters are a good introduction to transistor physics and circuits. Thereafter the book goes into the design of amplifiers, receivers, multivibrators, etc. Attention is focused on the hybrid equivalent circuit, and hybrid parameters are used often.

Complete design examples are worked out throughout the text. Problems and references are found after most chapters.—*IQ*

**TROCKEN-BATTERIEN (Dry Batteries)**, by Richard Huber. Verlag R. Oldenburg, Rosenheimer Strasse 145, Munich, Germany. 6 x 8 1/2 inches. 111 pp. DM 5.80.

A very complete little treatise in German on Leclanché cells, covering fundamentals and theory, raw materials, fabrication, and special types. Also includes a chapter on cells with an electrochemical composition differing from the Leclanché (magnesium, copper or mercury oxide, etc.). A chapter of technical tips and tables wraps up the work.—*FS*

**DIGITAL COMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS**, by Thomas C. Bartee. McGraw-Hill Book Co. Inc., 330 W. 42 St., New York 36, N. Y. 9 x 6 in. 342 pp. \$6.50.

The book starts with a discussion of the difference between desk calculators and computers and carries on through the use of digital computers in business, science and control systems. It has a chapter on programming, and further chapters on number systems, basic logical circuits, logical designs, arithmetic, memory and control elements. The language is simple and easily understood by persons outside the computer field. Illustration tends toward the sparse. END

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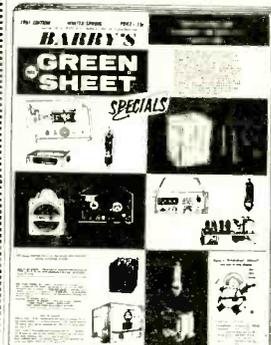
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BUY DIRECT FROM RAD-TEL! YOU'LL SAVE PLENTY. YOUR ORDER SHIPPED WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER RECEIVING AND PROCESSING. RAD-TEL SELLS ONLY BRAND NEW TUBES, NOT USED.

### 1st TIME OFFERED

NOW! RAD-TEL'S "SET TESTED" TRANSISTORS ...  
AT FABULOUS LOW PRICES

A Rad-Tel "general purpose transistor" for each class. Similar to 100's specified in many projects. All transistors are grouped into 4 general classes:

THE SIGN OF  
RAD-TEL'S  
RELIABILITY

LOW POWER AF TYPE  
DRIVER AND OUTPUT



39¢ ea.



LOW POWER RF  
MIXER AND IF



49¢ ea.

79¢  
ea.



HI POWER AF UNITS

CAR RADIO TYPE  
POWER OUTPUT



POWER SUPPLY TYPE

HI POWER \$1.39  
ea.

SPECIAL PURPOSE

TETRODES, ETC.

(Not available at this time)

YOU CAN SUBSTITUTE AND replace with Rad-Tel transistors when working with transistor projects. Transistor substitutions are based on "similar operating characteristics." All Rad-Tel transistors have expensive features, broad tolerances and are tested in AM radio, as radio frequency converter at 1.5 KC and 450 KC intermediate frequency, AF as audio frequency driver. You're safe building numerous projects when you use Rad-Tel's "set tested" transistors. Each Rad-Tel Transistor is fully tested and guaranteed to give sound operating performance without confusing you with COMPLICATED NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS. Here are just a few suggested transistor projects:

Solar Powered Radio,  
Shirt Pocket Radio,  
Carrier Power Receiver,  
Sine, Square-Wave Generator,  
Transistor Preamp for VTVM,  
Regulated Power Supply,  
Meter Sensitivity Multiplier,  
Oscillator Audio & RF  
Electronic Counters.  
(Please note: Most projects,  
including diagrams, are  
appearing in current  
magazines. We don't  
have diagrams.)

59¢  
ea.

LOTS OF 5

RAD-TEL'S  
SELECTED  
KITS ...

UNBELIEVABLY  
LOW PRICED!  
WHILE THEY  
LAST!

79¢  
ea.

50 ASST'D TIE LUGS, NO. 1

10 ASST'D F.P. CONDENSERS, NO. 6

50 ASST'D RADIO KNOBS, NO. 8

15 ASST'D T.V. COILS, NO. 13

20 ASST'D MOLDING SOCKETS, NO. 5

50 ASST'D BRACKETS & HARDWARE, NO. 17

15 SETS ASST'D CONNECTORS, NO. 15

10 ASST'D T.V. SLUG TUNED COILS, NO. 25

10 ASST'D VOLUME CONTROLS, LG & SH SHAFT, NO. 2

8 ASST'D T.V. CONTROLS, SHORT SHAFT, NO. 21

8 ASST'D VOLUME CONTROLS, LONG SHAFT, NO. 22

10 ASST'D SWITCHES, DOUBLES, LONG & SHORT SHAFT, NO. 23

10 ASST'D T.V. PEAKING COILS, NO. 24

25 ASST'D TRIMMERS, NO. 7

10 ASST'D TUBE SHIELDS, NO. 26

1 LB. PROX. NUTS & BOLTS, NO. 20

4 ASST'D SOUND COILS, NO. 18

20 ASST'D HI-WATT RESISTORS, NO. 3

7 ASST'D HORIZONTAL COILS, NO. 19

15 ASST'D BINDING POST TERMINALS, NO. 16

**RAD-TEL TUBE CO. NOT  
AFFILIATED WITH ANY  
OTHER MAIL ORDER  
TUBE COMPANY**



SEND FOR FREE TROUBLE SHOOTER  
GUIDE AND NEW TUBE & PARTS CATALOG

# RAD-TEL TUBE CO.

DEPT. REG61 55 CHAMBERS STREET, NEWARK 5, N. J.

TERMS: 25% deposit must accompany all orders, balance COD. Orders under \$5: add \$1 handling charge plus postage. Orders over \$5: plus postage. Approx. 8 tubes per 1 lb. Subject to prior sale. Prices subject to change. No COD's outside continental USA.

Qty.	Type	Price	Qty.	Type	Price	Qty.	Type	Price
	QZ4M	.79		6AX7	.64		12AF6	.49
	1AX2	.62		6BA6	.50		12AJ6	.46
	1B3GT	.79		6BC5	.61		12AL5	.45
	1DN5	.55		6BC7	.94		12AL8	.95
	1G3	.79		6BC8	.97		12AQ5	.52
	1J3	.79		6BD6	.51		12AT6	.43
	1K3	.79		6BE6	.55		12AT7	.76
	1LN5	.59		6BF6	.44		12AU6	.50
	1R5	.62		6BG6	1.66		12AU7	.61
	1S5	.51		6BH6	.65		12AV5	.97
	1T4	.58		6BH8	.87		12AV6	.41
	1U4	.57		6BJ6	.62		12AV7	.75
	1U5	.50		6BK7	.85		12AX4	.67
	1X2B	.82		6BL7	1.00		12AX7	.63
	2AF4	.96		6BN4	.57		12AZ7	.86
	3AL5	.42		6BN6	.74		12B4	.63
	3AU6	.51		6BQ5	.65		12BA6	.50
	3AV6	.41		6BQ6GT	1.05		12BD6	.50
	3BA6	.51		6BQ7	1.00		12BE6	.53
	3BC5	.54		6BR8	.78		12BF6	.44
	3BE6	.52		6BU8	.70		12BH7	.77
	3BN6	.76		6BY6	.54		12BL6	.56
	3BU8	.78		6BZ6	.55		12BQ6	1.06
	3BY6	.55		6BZ7	1.01		12BY7	.77
	3BZ6	.55		6C4	.43		12BZ7	.75
	3CB6	.54		6CB6	.55		12C5	.56
	3CF6	.60		6CD6	1.42		12CN5	.56
	3CS6	.52		6CF6	.64		12CR6	.54
	3DK6	.60		6CG7	.61		12CU5	.58
	3DT6	.50		6CG8	.77		12CU6	1.06
	3Q5	.80		6CM7	.66		12CX6	.54
	3S4	.61		6CN7	.65		12DB5	.69
	3V4	.58		6CR6	.51		12DE8	.75
	4BC8	.96		6CS6	.57		12DL8	.85
EACH TUBE INDIVIDUALLY & ATTRACTIVELY BOXED								
	4BN6	.75		6CJ5	.58		12DM7	.67
	4BQ7	1.01		6CU6	1.08		12DO6	1.04
	4BS8	.98		6CY7	.71		12DS7	.79
	4BU8	.71		6DA4	.68		12DZ6	.56
	4BZ6	.58		6DB5	.69		12EL6	.50
	4BZ7	.96		6DE6	.58		12EG6	.54
	4CS6	.61		6DG6	.59		12EZ6	.53
	4DE6	.62		6DQ6	1.10		12F8	.66
	4DK6	.60		6DT5	.76		12FM6	.45
	4DT6	.55		6DT6	.53		12K5	.65
	5AM8	.79		6EJ8	.79		12SA7M	.92
	5AN8	.86		6EA8	.79		12SK7GT	.74
	5AQ5	.52		6H6GT	.58		12SN7	.67
	5AT8	.80		6J5GT	.51		12SQ7M	.78
	5BK7A	.82		6J6	.67		12U7	.62
	5BQ7	.97		6K6	.63		12V6GT	.53
	5BR8	.79		6S4	.51		12W6	.69
	5CG8	.76		6SA7GT	.76		12X4	.38
	5CL8	.76		6SK7	.74		17AX4	.67
	5EA8	.80		6SL7	.80		17BQ6	1.09
	5EU8	.80		6SN7	.65		17C5	.58
	5J6	.68		6SQ7	.73		17CA5	.62
	5T8	.81		6T4	.99		17D4	.69
	5U4	.60		6U8	.83		17DQ6	1.06
	5U8	.81		6V6GT	.54		17L6	.58
	5V6	.56		6W4	.60		17W6	.70
	5X8	.78		6W6	.71		19AU4	.83
	5Y3	.46		6X4	.39		19BG6	1.39
	6AB4	.46		6X5GT	.53		19T8	.80
	6AC7	.96		6X8	.80		21EX6	1.49
	6AF3	.73		7AU7	.61		25BQ6	1.11
	6AF4	.97		7A8	.68		25C5	.53
	6AG5	.68		7B6	.69		25CA5	.59
	6AH6	.99		7Y4	.69		25CD6	1.44
	6AK5	.95		8AU8	.83		25CU6	1.11
	6AL5	.47		8AW8	.93		25DN6	1.42
	6AM8	.78		8BQ5	.60		25EH5	.55
	6AQ5	.53		8CG7	.62		25L6	.57
	6AR5	.55		8CM7	.68		25W4	.68
	6AS5	.60		8CN7	.97		25Z6	.66
	6AT6	.43		8CX8	.93		35C5	.51
	6AT8	.79		8EB8	.94		35L6	.57
	6AU4	.82		11CY7	.75		35W4	.42
	6AD6	.52		12A4	.60		35Z5GT	.60
	6AU7	.61		12AB5	.55		50B5	.60
	6AU8	.87		12AC6	.49		50C5	.53
	6AV6	.41		12AD6	.57		50DC4	.37
	6AW8	.90		12AE6	.43		50EH5	.55
	6AX4	.66		12AF3	.73		50L6	.61
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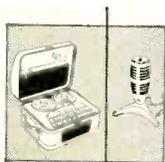


World's Only 'Portable Recording Studio...'  
the all-in-one

# Norelco®

## CONTINENTAL '400'

### 4-Track Stereo Tape Recorder



A recording studio in a suitcase — that's how Norelco '400' owners describe this most advanced (and most popular) self-contained stereo tape recorder. **VERSATILITY:** 4-track stereo recording and playback, as well as 4-track monophonic recording and playback, at any of its 3 speeds. **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** at 7½ ips, 50-18,000 cps; at 3¾ ips, 50-14,000 cps; at 1½ ips, 60-7000 cps (yes, its response at 3¾ ips is actually equal to or wider than the response of most other machines at 7½ ips)! **PROFESSIONAL EXTRAS** (at no extra cost): mixing, monitoring, sound-on-sound facilities and the Norelco stereo dynamic microphone. **SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO:** 48 db or better. **WOW AND FLUTTER:** less than .15% at 7½ ips. **CROSSTALK:** 55 db. **HEAD GAP:** .00012". **AUDIO FACILITIES:** completely self-contained, including dual recording and playback pre-amplifiers, dual power amplifiers and two Norelco wide-range, stereo-matched speakers (one in the detachable lid). For complete specifications, write to Norelco. In the meantime, see and hear the '400'. The recording studio you can carry is now available for immediate delivery.

High Fidelity Products Division

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## TV TUNER OVERHAUL

ALL MAKES  
ONE PRICE  
**\$9.95**

**VHF TUNERS • UHF TUNERS • UV Combinations\***

Castle overhaul charge includes all labor and minor parts and written 90 day warranty. Tubes and major parts are extra at net prices. Tuner to be overhauled should be shipped complete; include tubes, shield cover and any damaged parts. Write down model number and state complaint. Pack well and insure.

Castle, pioneers of TV Tuner overhauling, assure the best service available. Remember, Castle has a decade of experience and overhauling tuners is our only business.

\*UV combination tuner must be of one piece construction. Separate UHF and VHF tuners must be dismantled and the defective unit only sent in.

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48 Hours most others

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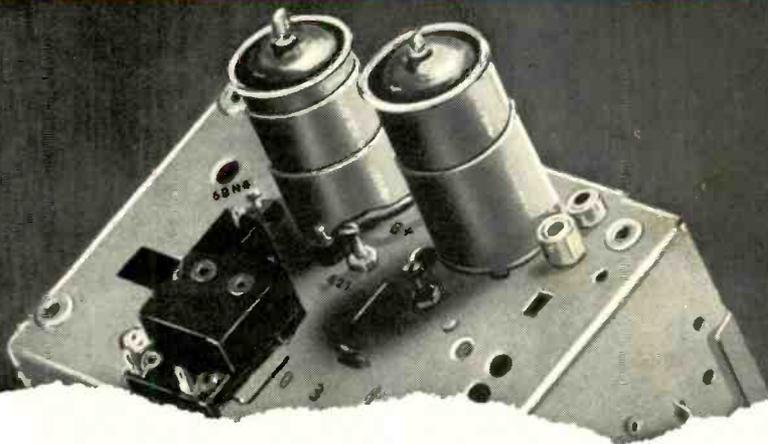
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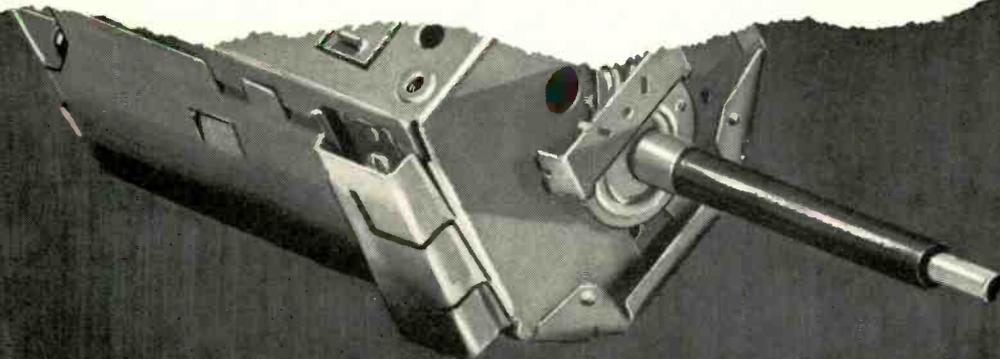
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International Correspondence School  
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*Standard Made It...*



**STANDARD CAN FIX IT BEST**



**\$11.50** Plus Parts . . . **\$13.50 Maximum Total Cost**

**FREE** Specially designed shipping cartons to prevent damage in transit

6 Months  
**GUARANTEE**

Only BRAND NEW PARTS Used • 48 Hour  
Service on All STANDARD Tuners • Latest  
Testing Techniques Assure Proper Alignment •  
\$3.00 Defective Tuner Trade-in Allowance  
Against a New STANDARD Replacement Tuner  
Carrying a 12 MONTH GUARANTEE

IN TV IT'S *Standard*

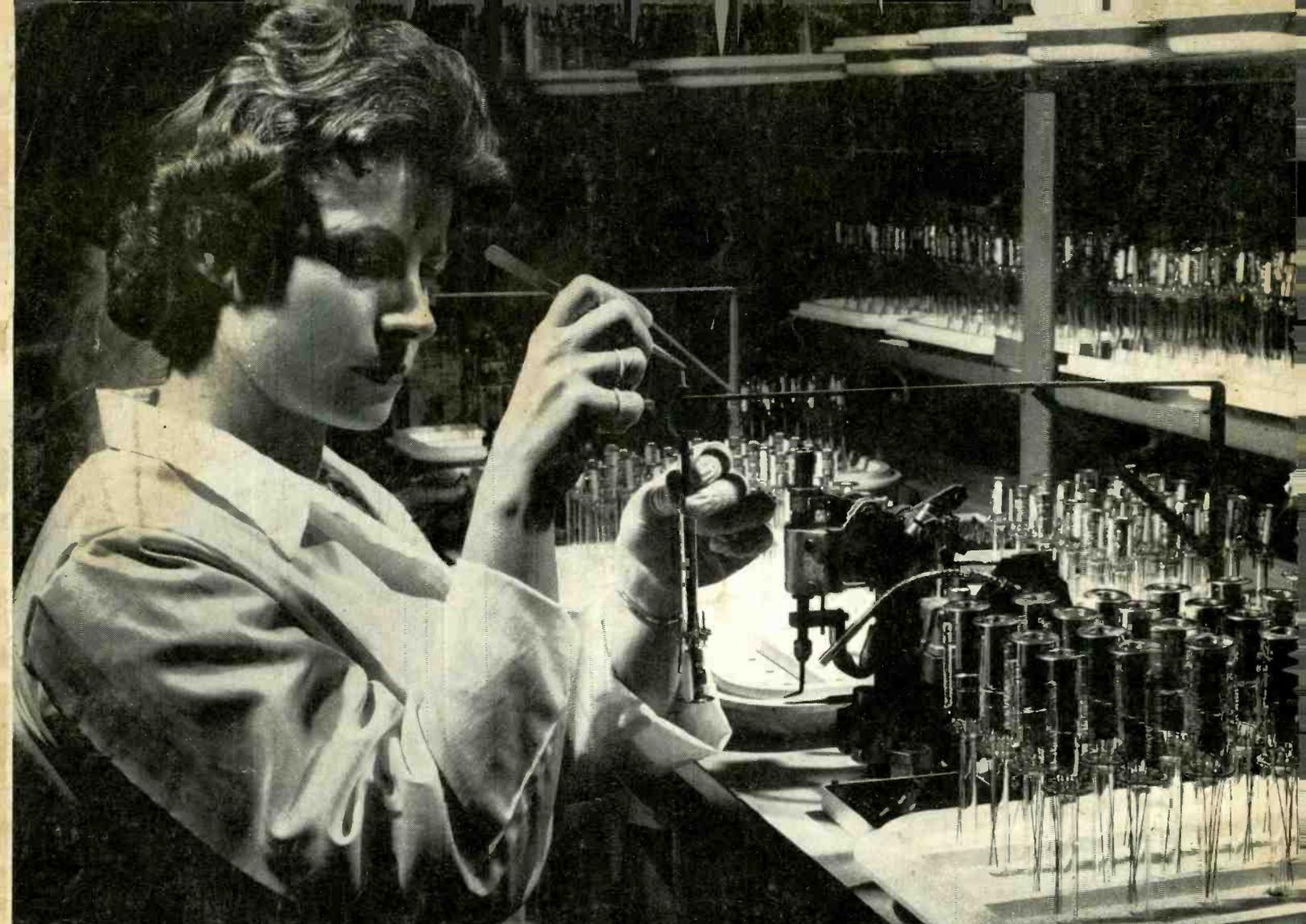
STANDARD has maintained uniform mounting centers for the last 13 years. Over 50% of the TV sets in existence today have STANDARD tuners—in the case of most other tuners one of the 8 STANDARD replacement models can be easily adapted or will fit directly in place of these units. All STANDARD replacement tuners carry a 12 Month Guarantee.

**SEE YOUR AUTHORIZED  
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MORE PROFIT FOR THE SERVICE DEALER • GREATER CUSTOMER SATISFACTION  
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**standard kollman INDUSTRIES INC.**

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# RCA STICKS TO ITS GUNS

## The life of RCA Picture Tubes depends on it

The electron gun, heart of every TV picture tube, is a precision instrument. A speck of dust in the wrong place can mean the difference between poor and outstanding performance in a picture tube.

RCA assures outstanding performance in Silverama Picture Tubes by assembling every electron gun in the super-clean, dust-free atmosphere of the "White Room" at RCA's modern plant in Marion, Indiana.

Measured in terms of your business—this extra precaution helps to substantially reduce troublesome "in-warranty failures" and costly call-backs. Sell the finest name brand picture tube—RCA Silverama.

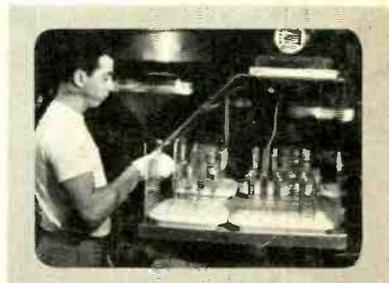
Silverama contains all-new electron gun, all-new parts and materials except for the envelope which is used. See your Authorized RCA Distributor today.



Workers wearing lint-free smocks, must enter "White Room" through an airlock. Room is kept under constant pressure to force any air-borne dust out when a door is opened.



Finished guns after ultrasonic cleaning in a super wetting agent are carried to the assembly line in these covered plastic cases—further protection against contamination.



Guns await final assembly in this pressurized plastic housing. Blower at top maintains pressure, prevents dust from entering housing.

RCA ELECTRON TUBE DIVISION, HARRISON, N. J.



The Most Trusted Name in Television  
RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA