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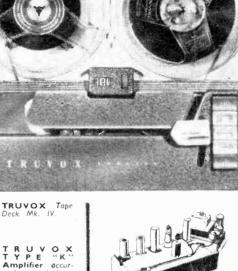
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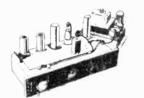
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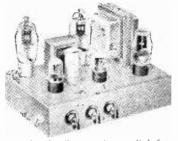
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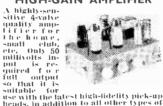
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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

December, 1958



December, 1958



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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

THE PEMBRIDGE College of Electronics

34A Hereford Road, London, W.2.

Mr. J. B. McMillan, M.A., B.Sc., who will remain as the Director of studies of the E.M.I. College of Electronics until August 1959, is founding the new Pembridge College and is taking over from E.M.I. the above premises specially built in 1956 for College purposes.

The new College will conduct from September 1959 as one of its activities full-time One-Year courses in Radio and Television similar to those at present run by the E.M.I. College. Courses will commence in January, April and September of each year, the first course commencing on 8th September 1959.

Students wishing to commence this type of course in January or April 1959, should enrol now with the E.M.I. College of Electronics, 10 Pembridge Square, London, W.2. and transfer for the completion of their course to the Pembridge College of Electronics at the end of July 1959, when the E.M.I. College of Electronics will cease to exist.

Details of the Pembridge College courses and admission forms may be obtained from:

The Principal

THE PEMBRIDGE COLLEGE OF ELECTRONICS 34A HEREFORD ROAD, LONDON, W.2.

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ONE-YEAR COURSES IN THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF RADIO AND TELEVISION

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Any student wishing to continue his course after 29th July 1959, will be offered the opportunity of so doing at a new College which is being created by the present Director of Studies of the E.M.I. College and other members of the present staff. The intended name of the new College is the Pembridge College of Electronics with premises at 34A Hereford Road, London, W.2.

Details and enrolment forms may be obtained from:

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- number of stations I could get, with a clear performance. The price was a real bargain. Have you lists to other bargains ? If so, please send them
- Sens (und) = [1 MUST SAY 1 AM VERY PLEASED ["] J. W. S., of Scarborough, Yorks, withs, " ] feel 1 must say 1 am very pleased in the way you do business and if at any time 1 require any-thing, or can recommend you to any any 1 will not hesitate to help iρ**ζ**
- I'VE HEARD MUCH PRAISE OF THEM
- J. E., of Hilton, Nr. Derby, writes, "I would be to kits as I've heard much praise of them uld like one of your portable
- THIRTY-TWO STATIONS RECEIVED-"

**J. N., of Oxted**, writes, "- Vesterday evening on the Medoum Wave-band, between 10 p.m. and 10,30 p.m., 1 counted 02 distinguishable stations.] I am very pleased with the set, which is well worth the nones

- MΥ
- W DEEPEST ADMIRATION " R., of North Shields, Northumberland, writes, " The honest and red dealing of your firm has earlied from me my deepest. direct admiration-
- ITS PERFORMANCE IS ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE
- (1) FERCORMANDE IS ADMOST UNDELLEVABLE E. F. of IDswich, writes," For so-small a set 1 think it is a wonderful statum getter with ample volume on all. Its performance is almost undelivable, and it's a very convenient little set giving me sections. on a larger





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EXPRESS DESPATCH SERVICE Phone to confirm tube in stock. Send Telegraph Money Order. On receipt of same, tube despatched Passenger Train same day.



Our 12 months' guarantee (6 months' full replacement, 6 months' progressive) illustrates our wholehearted confidence in the tubes we offer. We sell many hundreds a week throughout the country and have done so for the past 7 years. Many of them go to the Trade, i.e. to Insurance Companies, Renters and Retailers who are thoroughly satisfied with our supplies. Remember they also hold a 10 days' money back guarantee.

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#### Sound and Vision Strip, 25/6

Superhet. Tested I.F.s 10.5 Mc/s sound, 15 Mc/s vision. Eight valve bases (6-6F1s and 2-6D2s not included). Size 83in. x 5in. x 43in. high. Post & packing 2/6. The Turret Tuner plugs directly into this chassis. (State channel required.)

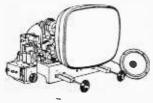
SOUND AND VISION STRIP, 10/6. Superhet. Complete vision strip. Less valves. Not tested, drawings free. Postage 2/6.

POWER PACK AND AMPLIFIER, 19/6. Output stage 6V6 with O.P. trans. Smoothed H.T. 350 v. 250 mA., 6.3 v. at 5 A., 22 v. at 3 A., 6.3 v. at 4 A., centre tapped. Less valves. Free drawings. Ins. carr. 5/6.

POWER PACK AND AMPLIFIER, 19/6. Output stage PEN 45, O.P. trans. choke. Smoothed H.T. 325 v. at 250 mA.. 4 v. at 5 A., 6.3 v. at 5 A., 4 v. at 5 A.,centre tapped. Less valves. Carr. 5/6.

TIMEBASE, 4/9. Complete, including scanning coils, focus unit, etc. Less valves. Post and packing 2/6.

### 17in. T.V. CHASSIS, TUBE & SPEAKER, £19.19.6



17in. Rectangular Tube on modified chassis. Supplied as single channel chassis covering B.B.C. channels 1-5, or incorporating Turret Tuner which can be added as an extra. at our special price to chassis purchasers 50/-, giving choice of any 2 channels (B.B.C. and I.T.A.). Extra channels can be supplied at 7/6 each. Chassis size 12in.

x 141in. x 11in. less valves. Similar chassis are used by well-known companies because of their stability and reliability With tube and speaker, £19,19,6. With all valves, £25,19,6. Complete and working with Turret Tuner, £28,9,6. 12 months' guarantee on the tube, 3 months' guarantee on the valves and chassis. Ins. carr. (incl. tube), 25/-

## T.V. and Radio Components

#### Super Chassis, 99/6

5-valve superhet chassis including Bin. P.M. speaker and valves. Four control knobs (tone, volume, tuning, w/change switch). Four w/bands with position for gram.. p.u. and extension speaker. A.C. Ins. carr. 5/6.





Ins. carr. 10/6.

#### Extension Speakers, 29/9

Fitted with Bin. P.M. speaker W.B. or Goodmans of the highest quality. Standard matching to any receiver (2-5 ohms). Switch and flex included. Unrepeatable at this price. Money back if not completely satisfied. Ins. carr. 3/6.

The evenings are short and dark but there are still jobs which must be done. No reason why you shouldn't continue to enjoy that radio programme if you fit up one of our **Bin. P.M. Speakers**, **8**/9. With O.P. Transformer fitted, **10**(-. Post 2/9.

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is your house warm enough ? A convector heater will eliminate those cold spots, and at an economical price too ! A,C,/D,C. Switched for 1 or 2 kW. Illuminated grille. Size 26in. x 18in. x 7 in. deep.



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**HEATER TRANSFORMERS, 3/9.** I-2 Ratio auto trans. 2 v. at 1.4 amp. primary, 4 v. secondary. Post and packing 1/9.

MAINS TRANSFORMERS, 12/9. 350-0-350 v. 250 mA. 6v. at 5 amp., 6 v. at 5 amp. 4 v. at 4 amp. 22 v. at 6 amp. extra winding for 2 v. or 4 v. tubes. Prim. 200-250 v. 50 cycles. Postage and packing 3/9.

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MAINS TRANS., 5/9. 280-0-280 v. 80 mA. 6 v. 4 v. heaters. 200-250 v. prim. Post 2/3.

MAINS TRANSFORMERS, 12 9. 425 v. 300 mA. single secondary. 6.3 v. at 12 amp. 6.3 v. at 0.6 amp. 200-250 v. screened primary. Post and packing 3/6.

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110 v. or 6 v. (special adaptor for 200/240 v. 10/- extra). Automatic solder feed. Including a 20ft. reel of Ersin 60/40 solder and spare parts. It is a tool for electronic soldering or car wiring. Revolutionary in



or car wiring. Revolutionary in design. Instantly ready for use and cannot burn. In light metal case with full instructions for use. Post 2/9



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12/6

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A portable self-contained Trans-mitter/Receiver for Telephone and C.W. Range approx. 10 miles. Frequency 6-9 Mc/s (50-33.3 metres). Valve line-up : 3 ARP-12, I AR-8, I ATP4. Complete with aerial, H.T. and L.T. meter. Weight 20 lb., size 8  $\times$  10 x 17 in. Only 69/-, Carr. 10/-,

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BUILD A POCKET RADIO with this latest deaf aid complete with crystal

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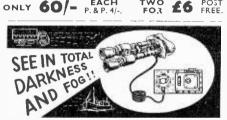
styled, offered complete with pocket radio conversion details at the ridiculous price of 80/-.

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With circuit diagram.

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Used for alignment, and calibration of Altimeters. Has internal vibrator supply, Audio Generator 62-1,200 cycles, cavity tuned wavemeter 400-460 Mc/s. Complete with 6 valves. I mA. Meter and all cables. la wooden case.

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16/APN

PORTABLE AMPLIFIER button zomboni PRINTED CIRCUIT. Size 61in. wide, 21in. deep, 3in. high. Will suit all crystal pick-ups. Output 3 watts. Uses UCL82 output, UY85 rectifier. Volume and tone controls. ONLY



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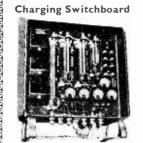
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XX









#### Making a Solder Gun



A 7-second sol-der gun of the type costing

der gun of the type costing 23-64 was des-cribed in "Pratical Mechanics". Only two cs-sential parts are re-guirsd-(a) the 'trans-former and (b) the push switch. These we can supply at 13(6, plus 2)- post. The rest of the parts you will have in your own "unk" box. Copy of the article concerned given tree with the kit.

500 Watt Step Down Transformer



With output tapped from 110 v.-155 v with output supper recent to (150 v. in 3 volt steps, massive transformer which will withstand considerable overloading. Price 45-, plus 5-carriage (up to 250 m.es).

#### Morganite Potentiometers



A merican made Dynamic type, rea bargain at 16.

**Cabinet Snip** 



This fine cabinet as illustrated but less control knobs is available this month at special snip price of 12 6, plus 3.6 post and insurance. Size is 13{in. x 9in. x 4m and t is nicely covered in two tone I.C.I. fabric.

Electronics (Ruislip) Ltd., 42-46. Windmill Hill, Ruislin, Middx, Phone : RUISLIP 5780 Half day, Wednesday,

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Electronics (Finsbury Parlo Ltd., 29, Stroud Green Rd., Finsbury Park, N.4. Phone : ARChway 1049

#### Build this 17in. T.V. in an evening

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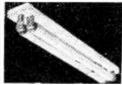
- All miniature valves, and metal rectifier.
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- Multivibrator time bases.
- · Ferrox cube E.H.T. and scan coils.

The building cost (less tube) is only £29.10.0. plus 10 - carriage and insurance. Or £5 down and 28 weekly payments of £1. All parts guaranteed twelve months

Full information and data free with parts or available separately, price 3/6,

#### This Month's Snip

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Complete 1 i g h t -i n g f i t t i n g s. Built-in ballest and starters-stove cn-amelled white and ready to work. Ideal kitchen, workshop anywhere, Twin

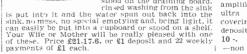
#### Adapt Your Gram for Stereo

Cartridges for adapting existing record players for stereo-available £2,15.0 each-please state make or player when ordering.

**Portable Stereo** Amplifier.—7 watts (3) watts each channel) with four controls as follows: Ganeed tone control, ganged volume control, balance control and operational switch giving one amplifier for monaural records, both amplifiers for monaural records, i.e., increased output, and both amplifiers for stereo. For A.C. mans only, chassis size 12in. x 3in. x 5in. Price **85**, plus 36 post and ins. Contemporary designed fabric covered portable cabinet to hold this amplifier, speaker and motor or records **\$4.10.0**, plus 3.6 post & tostrance. & msurance.

#### Saturn Spin Drier

A Spin Drier will not only make Washing Day much less of a burden but will also prevent that damp atmo-sphere created by wet clothes drying indoors. The Spin Drier illustrated is the burden Saturn which Hamous Saturn which although quite small actually holds as much washing as the larger floor standing type. The big advantage of the Saturn is that it can be stood on the draining board.



catte the new X catte the new X amplifice with three controls-ultra modern cabinets with I.C.I. coverings. Price £17.17.0. or price deposit and 32 weekly utra modern cabinets with I.C.I. a coverings. Price £17.17.0. or £3 deposit and 32 weekly payments of 10 -. Carriage and insurance 7'6 --non auto models from £10.10.0. ĥ NH HA Half day, Thursday

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Details from : P. A. THOROGOOD, G4KD. 35 Gibbs Green, Edgware, Middx. Telephone : MUSeum 3450 December, 1958

PRACTICAL WIRELESS



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**Just Right** 

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### **19 Ranges**

D.C. Voltage: 0-1,000V in 7 ranges A.C. Voltage: 0-1,000V in 5 ranges D.C. Current: 0-1A in 5 ranges Resistance: 0-20,000 (2, 0-2M (2,

Pocket Size :  $5\xi \times 3\xi \times 1\xi$  inches. Weight : 1 lb. approx.



Complete with Test Leads and Clips. Leather Case if required 32/6. Sensitivity :

10,000 ohms per volt on D.C. voltage ranges. 1,000 ohms per volt on A.C. voltage ranges.

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On D.C. 3% of full scale value.

On A.C. 4% of full scale value.

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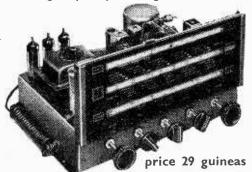
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6 watts push pull output • 9 valves and 2 diodes • Full FM band (87-108 mc/s) plus medium and long • Adjustable ferrite rod aerial on AM bands • Automatic frequency control on FM • Frequency response 30-22,000 c.p.s. $\pm$ 2dB • Tape record and playback facilities • 2 compensated pick-up inputs • Separate wide range bass and treble controls • Negative feedback • 3, 7½ and 15 ohms output impedance • Magic eye tuning on AM • Reverse vernier tuning drive • Provision for booster unit for low output pick-ups • Satinised brass dial escutcheon and veneered facia board available • Size of chassis 12"  $\times$  8" x 7" high.

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#### Also Available

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The NEW ST3 AM/FM Tuner 27 gns. (3 waveband, self-powered) П Ŷ



EVERY MONTH VOL. XXXIV, No. 624, DECEMBER 1958 COMMENTS OF THE MONTH

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#### **CONTENTS:**

|                                        | Page    |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| Editorial                              | 775     |
| Round the World of Wireless            | 776     |
| Beginner's Superhet                    | 778     |
| A High Quality Transistor              |         |
| Power Amplifier                        | 781     |
| Power Transistors                      |         |
| Medium Wave T.R.F. Inter-              |         |
|                                        |         |
| com Receiver<br>On Your Wavelength     | 703     |
|                                        |         |
| Radio Shacks                           | 792     |
| Servicing Radio Receivers              | 794     |
| A Resistor and Condenser               |         |
| Box                                    | 799     |
| A 12 volt Valve-Transistor             |         |
| Car Radio                              | 801     |
| Car Radio<br>Beginner's Constructional |         |
| Course                                 | 805     |
| Transistors in Practice                | 808     |
| A.C. Pre-tuned Superhet                | 811     |
| Principles of Neon Tubes               | 816     |
| Club News                              | 0.00    |
|                                        | 823     |
| Trade Notes                            |         |
| Programme Pointers                     | 827     |
| Open to Discussion                     | 828     |
| The Editor will be pleased to c        | onsider |

articles of a practical nature. Such articles should be written on one side, of the paper only. and should contain the name and address of the sender. Whilst the Editor does not hold himself Whilst the Editor does not hold himself responsible for manuscripts, every effort will be made to return them if a stamped and addressed, envelope is enclosed. All correspondence intended for the Editor Should be addressed : The Editor PRACTICAL WIRELESS, George Newnes, Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, Strand, WIRELESS, Owing to the rapid progress in the design of wireless apparatus and to our efforts to keep our readers in touch acting of whereas apparatus and to our efforts to keep our readers in touch with the latest developments, we give no warranty that apparatus described in our columns is not the subject of

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EDITOR : F.J. CAMM

**OF ISSUE** BY THE EDITOR

### ANOTHER DEATH RAY SCARE

THE high-power radio stations being built in Britain as part of the NATO Defence Network, gave rise to a report

suggesting that these five stations might produce a death ray danger to residents in their areas, because they will concentrate their transmissions along certain lines. This suggestion is, of course, sensational rot, so much of which appears in the daily papers in connection with every new scientific development, and we are astonished that "science editors" of such newspapers allow such statements to appear in print.

The Ministry of Defence was quick to publish a rebuttal. It stated that it has been known for years that there is a very slight hazard from the use of some new radio techniques, but even this slight risk can be avoided by elementary precautions. An area of only about 40 yards in front of the reflection cone will be fenced off and that area is the limit of the risk of radiation. There is no question of surrounding homesteads having to be evacuated. The Ministry says that it is not true that the beams impose a danger as much as a mile away. It is equally untrue to suggest that they are concerned with so-called death ray experiments. Any fencing off of a larger area will be for security reasons only.

Radiation from radio beams can cause internal burning, but only if an individual stands close enough to the transmitter.

#### WALKIE-TALKIES-TRX LICENCE REQUIRED

HERE is a common belief amongst purchasers of Government surplus transmitting equipment, especially walkietalkie sets, that they may be used without a licence. As a Government official pointed out in last month's issue, a transmitting licence is necessary under Section 1 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949, which says "No person shall establish or use any station for wireless telegraphy nor install or use any apparatus for wireless telegraphy without a licence granted by the Post Master General." In the majority of cases the equipment is such that a licence could not be granted.

#### THE "P.W." AND "P.T." FILM SHOW

HERE is still time for readers to apply for free tickets for the P.W. and P.T. Film Show, at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1, which is being arranged by this journal in conjunction with Messrs. Mullard, Ltd.

Admission is by ticket only, and applications for tickets will be dealt with in strict rotation. We are inviting as guests members of the Institute of Practical Radio Engineers and members of that Institute should apply to the Secretary for tickets and not to us. It will be an entirely different show from last year's. The films deal with the principles of the transistor and the manufacture of junction transistors, with a final film entitled "The Conquest of the Atom " in colour. There will be an interval for refreshments which are provided free. I shall take the chair at 7.30 p.m., on January 22nd, 1959. Mark applications for tickets "Caxton Hall," in the top left-hand corner.-F. J. C.

Our next issue, dated January, will be published on December 5th

**Broadcast Receiving Licences** "HE following statement shows the approximate number of Broadcast Receiving Licences in s force at the end of August, 1958, in respect of wireless receiving stations situated within the various Postal Regions of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Thenumbers include Licences issued. to blind nersons without navment.

| to unnu persons     | WILLIO  | ci t | paymente  |
|---------------------|---------|------|-----------|
| Region              |         |      | Total     |
| London Postal       |         |      | 1.022,449 |
| Home Counties       |         |      | 1.026.709 |
| Midland             |         |      | 757.159   |
| North Eastern       |         |      | 941,051   |
| North Western       |         |      | 721,130   |
| South Western       |         |      | 629,479   |
| Wales and Border C  | ounties |      | 392,795   |
|                     |         |      |           |
| Total England and V | Vales   |      | 5.490.772 |
| Scotland            |         |      | 670.252   |
| Northern Ireland    |         |      | 177,452   |
|                     |         |      |           |

6,338,476 Grand Total The total for England and Wales in last month's issue was shown as 553.393. This should have read 5.553.393.

#### "Easy-to-Fit" Car Radio

F interest at the recent Motor Show was an "Easy-to-Fit" car radio consisting of a compact single unit suitable for installation in most makes of car. It will appeal to the handyman-motorist who, using only ordinary hand tools, can fit it tor himself.

#### Stereophonic Tests

THE BBC are carrying out I more stereophonic sound tests at fortnightly intervals hetween 10.15 and 11.15 a.m. on The first alternate Saturdays. was on October 18th.

The Network Three tranmitters, both medium-wave and V.II.F., are being used for one channel and the BBC television sound transmitters for the other. Later it is hoped to carry out experiments in stereophonic sound transmissions using a single transmitter instead of two as at present. To hear these tests a television receiver and a medium or V.H.F. receive: are required. The loudspeakers of the two receivers should be 6ft. to 8ft. apart and the listener should be equidistant from each.



#### By "QUESTOR"

#### College to Close

N pursuance of their domestic policy in regard, to the recruitment of senior technologists and technicians, the Directors of / E.M.I. have announced that the activities of their College of Electronics at 10. Pembridge Square. London. W.2, including their four-year, three-year and one-year courses, will cease at the end of July, 1959.

#### High-speed Electronic Computer

NEW "all British" highspeed electronic computer, which when completed will be

capable of scanning the entire information contained in the Encyclopædia Britannica in less than four minutes, is now in an advanced stage of construction at the main Hayes factory of E.M.I. Electronics Ltd.

#### Round-the-world Telephone Cahle

THE construction of a roundthe-world Commonwealth telephone cable was considered at the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference in Montreal recently. It was envisaged that its provision would be based on capital contributions from all Commonwealth countries and that the new cable could be operated on a selfsupporting financial basis.

Experts estimated that the total length of a round-theworld telephone cable of this nature would be about 27.000 nautical miles or nearly 30.000 nautical miles if the trans-Atlantic crossing is included. The construction cost was estimated at £88m.



A holiday moment with a portable by the bridge, Meikleour, Perthshire.

December, 1958

#### Exhibition of Valves

 $A^{\rm N}$  exhibition of specialised valves and tubes for radar and microwave communications equipment was recently held by the Government and Industrial Valve Division of Mullard Limited, at the Electronic Centre, Mullard House,

Despatches of Radio Receivers NESPATCHES of radio receivers during July. 107.000, were up by 3 per cent. on the two-year average (1956 and 1957) for the month and 13 per cent. down on July. 1957. according to the monthly estimates of the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association

New V.H.F. Station on the Air THE BBC's new V.H.F. sound broadcasting station, which has been built on the same site as the BBC television station at Rosemarkie, near Inverness, is now in service.

It radiates the Scottish Home Service on 94.0 Mc s. the Light Programme on 89.6 Mc/s, and the Third Programme and Network Three on 91.8 Mc/s. each with an effective radiated power of 6 kW. The transmissions are horizontally polarised.

#### New Speech System

 $A^{T}$  the new Altitude Test Plant of Rolls-Royce Ltd., Derby, where some of the world's most powerful pure-jet and turbo-prop engines are produced, the noise difficulty has been studied and in collabora-Communication tion with Systems Ltd. a special amplified speech system has now heen developed.

By employing a special handset, consisting of padded earphones and a larynx micro-phone, and a wall-mounted control box fitted with a volume control, instructions can be passed quickly and accurately between the control engineer and responsible for personnel making adjustments to engines under test

**Despatches of Radio Receivers** DESPATCHES of radio receivers during July. 107,000. were up by 3 per cent. on the

two-year average (1956 and 1957) for the month and 13 per cent. down on July, 1957, according to the monthly estimates of the British Equipment Manu-Radiofacturers' Association. grams at 9,000 were 31 per cent.

down on the average for the two previous years and 36 per cent. down on July. 1957.

Manufacture of Silicon Rectifiers HE Plessev Company Limited announces that an important licensing agreement covering the manufacture in Britain of rectifiers silicon for military. commercial and industrial usesmissile including systems. computers and television sets --has been concluded with one of America's leading rectifier silicon manufacturers. General

Instruments Corporation, of New Jersey.

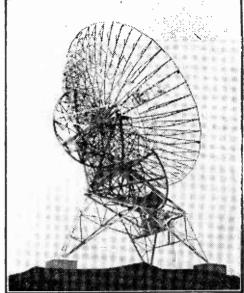
#### Mobile V.H.F. Schemes

THE United States Air Force have recently awarded a contract to British Communications Corporation Limited for the installation and maintenance\* of a series of comprehensive mobile V.H.F. schemes covering U.S.A.F. bases in Eastern England. The equipment to be used is the BBC standard Type 69. 5 watt mobile transmitter/ receiver, and the standard Type 311/201, 15 watt fixed station equipment.

#### Our Query Rules

REMINDER that the coupon cut from page 3 of the cover and a stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed with every technical query. We are receiving so many letters from non-readers that we must insist upon strict compliance with this rule.

Polypole Coupler Systems BRITISH INSULATED CABLES LIMITED have introduced polypole coupler systems to provide the equipment designer with everything nccessary for the reliable inter-



Model of radio aerial to be built in California by the United States Army.

> connection of electronic and similar types of equipment.

#### Exploration of Space

THE illustration on this page shows a model of the radio aerial to be built by the Army's jet propulsion laboratory for use in the expanding exploration of space by the United States Army. The radio receiver will be capable by 1960 of com-municating with space vehicles at great distances from the earth. It will be erected at Camp Irwin. California, near Barstow,

#### Change of Address

 $\mathbf{C}$  T A A R ELECTRONICS LTD., have now moved to Princes Row, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.L.

P.W. Caxton Hall Film Show January 22nd, 1959, at 7.30 Apply for your Free Ticket now to "Caxton Hall," Practical Wireless, Tower House, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2,

December, 1958

## THE BEGINNER'S SUPERHET

#### THIS RECEIVER TUNES 200-1,600 METRES IN A SINGLE BAND

#### By F. G. Rayer

THOUGH this receiver can give good results as it stands, sensitivity and power can be increased by additions to the circuit. These modifications are quite straightforward, and will overcome limitations arising from the simplicity of the receiver. The original circuit is shown in Fig. 1, and can readily be built without a practical wiring plan, if required. It tunes about 200 to 1,600 metres in a single band, and employs a power pentode acting as anode-bend detector.

> •/ MQ

MMMM

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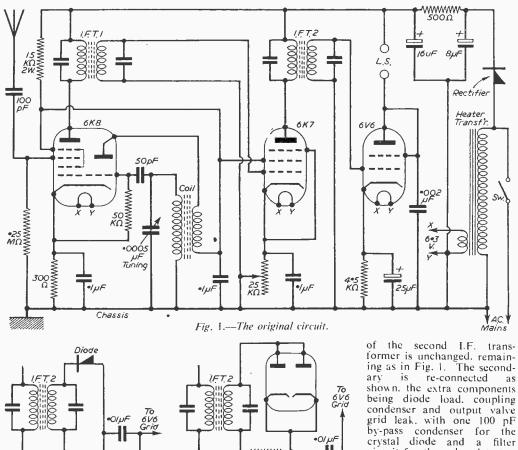
•25 ΜΩ

Fig. 2 .-- Diode or double-diode detector.

directly operating the speaker through the usual output transformer.

#### **Diode Detector**

Adding a crystal diode as detector will increase volume, and a circuit for this is shown in Fig. 2. A cheap surplus valve such as the 6H6 may also be employed, an extra octal holder being provided for this. In each case the primary wiring



λ₩₩₩ 47KΩ

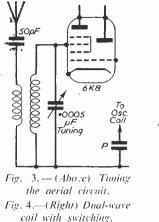
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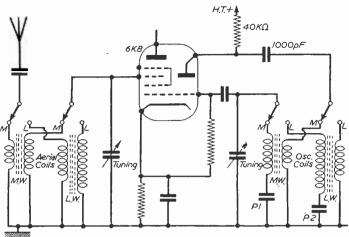
100 pF

•25 MO

www.americanradiohistory.com

circuit for the valve detector. The cathode bias resistor of the 6V6 must now be changed to approximately 270 ohms, as the valve operates as L.F. amplifier. A useful increase in power is obtained. It is also possible to take the 6V6 screen grid directly to





the H.T. positive line, instead of using the valve as a triode, and this further increases volume. Instability is likely if this change is made with the valve acting as detector, as in the original circuit in Fig. 1.

#### Aerial Tuning

If it is desired to tune medium waves only, a medium wave aerial coil can be used instead of the .25 megohm leak, as in Fig. 3. One section of a two-gang variable condenser is used to tune this coil, and the modification will give a good increase in sensitivity and reduce interference from unwanted stations.

It is best to fit a pair of ready-made coils, to

avoid ganging difficulties. Medium wave aerial and oscillator coils are available from many advertisers, with tag wiring data. The oscillator coil is no longer returned directly to the earth line, but has the padder "P" inserted. This is essential. The correct value is given by the coil maker and is usually 500 pF.

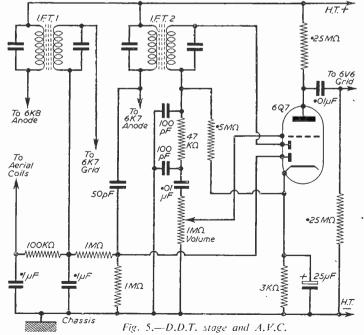
If the gang condenser has trimmers, adjust these for best volume. If not, wire a 50 pF trimmer in parallel with each section. The trimmers should be set fairly near the low wavelength end of the band, and the coil cores should be adjusted fairly near the high end of the wave-band, this also being for maximum volume.

With tuned aerial circuit and diode or double-diode valve detector, the receiver can give a very good performance.

If long waves are also required, wavechange switching is now necessary, and a circuit for this is shown in Fig. 4. A four-pole, two-way switch selects medium wave or long-wave coils. as necessary. "P1" is the medium wave oscillator coil padder, already mentioned, and "P2" is the long-wave padder, usually of 150 pF. Other parts of the circuit remain unchanged, except that the oscillator anode now has its own 40 K resistor, with a 1,000 pF coupling condenser to the switch and oscillator coils.

#### D.D.T. Stage and A.V.C.

To make the receiver the equivalent of many popular superhets, a double-diode triode valve, such as the 6Q7, may be employed, to provide detection, additional L.F. amplification and auto-



matic volume control. A circuit for this appears in Fig. 5.

One diode is used for detection exactly as with the valve in Fig. 2. A 1 megohm volume control is provided for the triode section of the 6Q7, the 25 K ohm volume control in Fig. 1 being removed. The triode section of the valve is coupled to the 6V6, and will provide a considerable increase in volume. The remaining diode in the 6Q7 is coupled to the 6K7 anode by means of a 50 pF condenser, and rectifies part of the signal, for use as bias. This bias is applied to the 6K7 and . 6K8 valves through a resistor network, with 1 µF decoupling condensers. This automatically reduces gain with powerful signals, and helps to compensate for the fading experienced with distant stations.

#### Improved Smoothing

If the 500 ohm resistor in Fig. 1 is replaced by a 60 mA smoothing choke, this will reduce hum. In view of the extra amplification obtained when the 6Q7 is added, this modification is well worth while. Hum may be brought to a very low level indeed if the 6Q7 anode circuit is decoupled. To do this, disconnect the .25 megohm resistor from H.T. positive and take it to a 8  $\mu$ F or 16  $\mu$ F 250 v. or 350 v. condenser. Add a 33 K ohm resistor from the condenser to

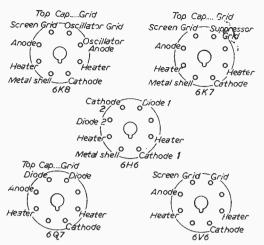


Fig. 6.-Showing the valve base connections.

H.T. positive, and wire the negative condenser tag to chassis. The 6Q7 grid lead should also be run through screened brading, the brading being connected to the chassis.

Connections for the valves are shown in Fig. 6, the valveholders being viewed from below.

## Stereophonic Sound on Radio

#### THE NEW E.M.I. SYSTEM

FOLLOWING the recent announcement that the BBC are studying methods of transmitting stereophonic sound over a single radio channel, it has been disclosed by Electric and Musical Industries Ltd. that the BBC will be collaborating with them during the next few months in tests of a system invented by E.M.I.

#### Object of Stereo

In stereo the aim is to reproduce sounds in such a way that the listener is aware of the direction from which each sound comes, and thus feels that he is himself present at the performance. Basically E.M.I.'s Percival system which has successfully undergone preliminary transmission tests at Hayes—involves separating the sound programme from the directional information at the transmitting end. At the receiving end the directional signal, by operating on the programme signal, produces the stereophonic effect through two loudspeakers.

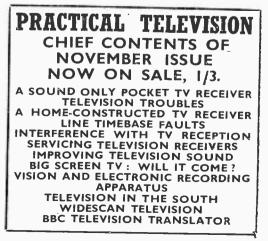
Since only a very narrow band is required for the directional information, virtually all the bandwidth remains available for the programme itself. Furthermore, the range of the transmitter is not appreciably reduced, as it is in other single channel stereo systems.

#### Percival System

The Percival system is fully compatible, i.e., a listener with an ordinary standard set can receive a normal quality transmission at the same time as his neighbour with a stereo receiver is listening to the same programme in stereo. The stereo receiver itself is only slightly more complex than an ordinary radio set, while at the broadcasting end all that is required is a single additional unit used in conjunction with a standard transmitter.

It is believed that this is the only fully compatible single channel stereo system in the world which does not involve either modifications to the transmitter or loss of range.

the transmitter or loss of range. Should the BBC after further tests decide to adopt the system, it is envisaged that suitable receiving sets may be on sale to the public in about a year's time.



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December, 1958

# A High Quality

# Transistor Power Amplifier

THE COOLING FINS (Concluded from page 690 of the November issue)

By A. J. Short

URTHER details of the output stage concerning the cooling fins for the transistors and the output transformer are as follow: (b) Cooling Fins.—The heat generated by the dissipation of the output power transistors is dispersed by means of cooling fins of 16 gauge aluminium. These fins also serve the purpose of heat sinks to absorb heat during moments of peak dissipation for dispersal during the intervening periods. It is, therefore, important that a thinner gauge of aluminium is not employed. By the foregoing methods thermal runaway is avoided. The cooling fins in this design serve also as supports for the transistors and connections for the transistor collectors. The area of the fin limits the maximum permissible dissipation of the transistor and in this case an area of 19 sq. in. gives a maximum permissible collector dissipation of 6 watts per transistor. The large area employed in the design was partly to enable larger drives to be applied to the output stage than are possible from the present driver stage

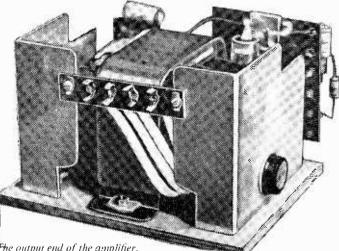
and partly to ensure a large safety margin for trouble free running.

(c) The Output Transformer.-The importance of a high quality output transformer is as great in a transistor amplifier as it is in a valve amplifier and although any appropriate commercial output transformer may be employed, the design of a high quality transformer suitable for home construction at relatively low cost is particularly recommended and is included hereunder. This design employs grain orientated silicon strip steel type cores manufactured by The English " C <sup>\*</sup> Electric Co. Ltd. of Liverpool. Two loops, type HWR 40/24/5, being required, and the windings consist of 200 turns of No. 21 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire (half pound) for each half of the primary, and wire for the secondary according to the table on page 690 (November).

#### The Primary

Each half of the primary is divided into two halves connected as in Fig. 4 and the secondary

is in three sections surrounding and between the two halves of each half of the primary. In this way maximum coupling is obtained between the windings and leakage inductance is kept low. Internal capacity in a transistor output transformer is not as important as with valves, as the impedances involved are so low. All windings should be made in the same direction and each layer is covered with Sellotape before adding the next layer. Care must be taken when the windings are connected to ensure that no portion of a winding has become accidentally reversed or loss of power and severe distortion will result. The transformer is intended to operate with powers of up to 40 watts under high quality conditions and so may be used with these power transistors



The output end of the amplifier.



under conditions of high power drive and at higher voltages.

The former is constructed from stiff cardboard and heavily shellaced before use. During winding the sides should be supported by plywood sideplates to ensure rigidity. On assembly the core is inserted and clamped firmly into place as the transformer is mounted.

Should the constructor wish to make use of a commercial transformer the minimum desirable requirements are:

Primary inductance: Not less than 0.2 Henry each half.

Primary resistance: Not more than 2 ohms each half.

Secondary resistance: Minimum possible.

#### Construction

The amplifier is mounted on a 6in.  $\times$  5in. board of five-ply wood, as shown. This should be well varnished before use as the cooling fins of the power transistors are bolted directly on to it and it is wise to ensure a reasonable degree of insulation between fin and board in case of subsequent dampness. In the same way the bolt holes through the board should have varnish run through to provide similar sealing of the wood and insulation. At least two coats of varnish are recommended. Bolt heads on the underside are countersunk and insulated with a hard setting wax. The cooling fins for the transistors should be cut for bending and the edges smoothed with a file. The holes for mounting the transistors should next be drilled and the surface of the fin on which the transistor will rest should be carefully smoothed with a block and very fine sandpaper to ensure the best possible contact between the two surfaces. Care should be taken when mounting the fins to see that they do not come into contact with any other part of the amplifier.

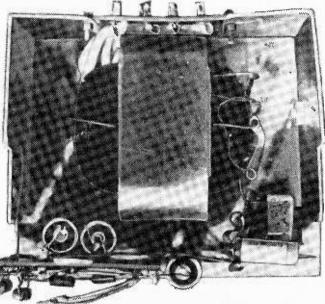
The two sub-chassis are next constructed; they have been made

separate in order that alternative driver units can be fitted: they should be wired in accordance with the diagram. Care should be taken to ensure that the outside case of the two condensers mounted on the rear of the driver sub-chassis do not come into contact with one another. This can be done by wrapping each condenser in two layers of Sellotape before fitting. Other points to be particularly watched in wiring are: the polarity of electrolytic condensers, keeping heat from the transistors, and making sure that the transistors are connected right way round. Remember that the "common earth" is *positive*.

#### Testing

When wiring has been completed and checked the amplifier may be connected to a 12 v. supply; it is a wise precaution on the first test to connect the supply via a 0.1 amp torch bulb which will light or blow if some major mistake in wiring has occurred and possibly save some of the components from destruction. If all appears well at this stage voltage measurements may be made with a high resistance voltmeter at the points indicated in the theoretical diagram.

On the initial tests the negative feedback circuits should be disconnected at the points marked "A." When the amplifier is working satisfactorily in this way the negative feedback circuits may be connected in and the amplifier tested again. A loud continuous howl will generally indicate that the feedback is being taken from the wrong side of the output transformer, and "hissing" of the loud notes indicates that the negative feedback is excessive and the values of the feedback resistors should be increased. This can easily occur if the transistors or other

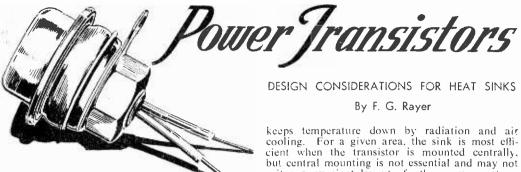


View from above showing the spacing between the cooling fins and the output transformer to allow adequate air circulation.

components used happen to be near the edge of the tolerance of the production spread.

The output stage may be used with alternative driver stages by inserting the signal to the bases of the output transistors via isolating condensers at the points marked "X" (Fig. 1). When used in this manner the secondary of the interstage transformer is used as an A.F. choke. The size of the coupling condensers used will depend on the amount of power being applied to drive the stage. remembering that 40 mA of A.F. drive arc required for every 10 watts of output power. (A condenser of 100 mfd, has a reactance of approximately 30 ohms at 50 c/s.)

A suitable container for the amplifier should be selected or constructed which will give adequate ventilation for the output stage.



RANSISTORS capable of providing a large power output are now available, and means of maintaining thermal stability must be employed unless the power handled is kept considerably below the maximum permissible. With many circuits, an increase in transistor temperature causes a rise in current, which in turn further increases temperature. - If not checked, this can destroy the transistor. The heat sink prevents such a breakdown by dissipating heat and maintaining the transistor temperature within safe limits.

Two power transistors for the output stages of large receivers or amplifiers are shown in Fig. 1. The makers list the V15 as suitable for a 6 v, supply, and the V30 for a 12 v, supply, the peak collector voltages being -15 v. and -30 v. respectively. The OC16 is suitable for -14 v. Lower voltages can, of course, be used with reduced output. The transistors have a threaded rod forming the collector connection which allows a firm clamped joint with the heat sink.

A transistor of the V30 type is shown in Fig. 2, with a 0 B.A. nut holding a tag for the collector connection. Projections passing through clearance holes provide base and emitter wiring points. Operation is similar to that of small transistors. except for considerations arising from the

increased power, and from the fact that collector and heat sink may be at different potentials.

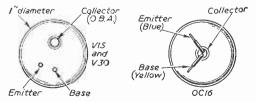


Fig. 1.—Two types of power transistors showing the connections,

#### Heat Sinks

The heat sink consists of a large area of metal. preferably with high thermal conductivity, which

suit a convenient layout of other components.

Aluminium is suitable and easy to work, the sheet being of 14 s.w.g. or similar material. Additional thickness will improve dissipation of heat. Blackening is also helpful, but not by means of enamel or other material which acts as an insulator between metal and air. Cooling is improved by having the sheet vertical, so that convection maintains a good air circulation.

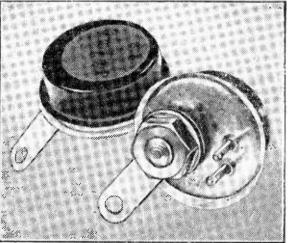


Fig. 2 .- Two V30 transistors.

#### Heat Sink as Chassis

The heat sink may act as a chassis upon which other parts are mounted, and when the collector is not at chassis potential thin mica washers are used for insulation, as in Fig. 3. For the V15 and V30, the makers list a maximum collector power dissipation of only 1 watt at 25 degrees C. ambient temperature, with the transistor alone in free air. With the transistor clamped directly to 9 sq. in. of 16 s.w.g. aluminium this is increased to 4 watts. The interposition of mica washers between transistor and sink reduces this to 2 watts. With 50 sq. in. the dissipation is 10 watts; direct contact with 16 s.w.g. aluminium again being provided.

For the OC16, listed dissipations range from 2.9 watts with mica washers and mounting on a 4in.  $\times$  7in. plate (28 sq. in.), up to 16 watts when a thin tin-plated lead washer is used between base and sink, and the latter is of 1 sq. ft. area. The 16 watts dissipation is with an ambient temperature of 25 degrees C and falls to 6.5 watts with an ambient temperature of 55

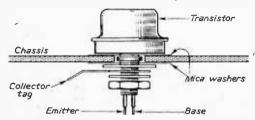


Fig. 3.—Insulating the transistor from the heat sink.

degrees C. The importance of adequate cooling is clear. The dissipation with 4in.  $\times$  7in. sink increases to nearly 7 watts when the ambient temperature does not rise above 25 degrees C.

When making the heat sink, the holes for the transistor should be carefully drilled so that the plate is not distorted, and all roughness should be cleaned away with a file to obtain the best possible contact between transistor and metal. For small equipment, the transistor can be mounted directly on the plate, which is insulated from the chassis as in Fig. 4. Clearance holes for emitter and base should be free of burr, and short pieces of insulated sleeving may be added to avoid any chance of a short circuit here. As mentioned, a 3in,  $\times 3in$ , plate would permit up to 4 watts collector dissipation with the V15 or V30.

#### Building an Amplifier

When building an amplifier for a large output, the heat sink should be made of generous size, or a careful watch should be kept on temperature and transistor current when first trying the equipment. This test should be as long in duration as any period of continuous running likely to be required.

A larger area of heat sink may often be obtained by adopting a layout such as that in Fig. 5, which makes good use of the space available in compact portable equipment. With long periods of running, adequate ventilation becomes important. If it proves necessary to reduce dissipation, because of overheating, this can most simply be done by lowering the voltage applied

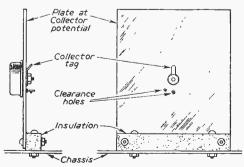


Fig.4.-Mounting the transistor in small equipment.

to the transistor. For many purposes, ample power output can be obtained without any danger of exceeding the maximum ratings.

#### Choice of Heat Sink Material

One of the best materials for heat sinks is copper, because of its high thermal conductivity. However, mild steel and aluminium are among the most common materials used for chassis, and these are, therefore, recommended.

#### Size, Shape and Surface of Heat Sinks

As already mentioned, the size and shape of the heat sink will depend to a large extent on the particular application.

For best results the heat sink should be:

(i) As large as possible (with a minimum thickness of 1/16in, for aluminium).

(ii) Shaped and mounted in such a way as to promote cooling by convection. For instance, the

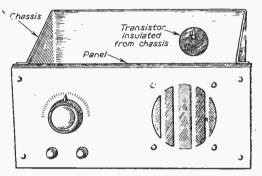


Fig. 5.--Layout when a large heat sink is required.

folding of a plane sheet into a chimney shape would aid the loss of heat by convection. This will however, impede cooling by radiation. Slightly better efficiency is also achieved if the heat sink is mounted vertically instead of horizontally.

(iii) Blackened to assist cooling by radiation. Blackening improves the efficiency of the heat sink considerably. These sinks may be blackened with a thin coat of matt black cellulose paint. There may be differences in the effectiveness of different blackening methods, but these have not been investigated.

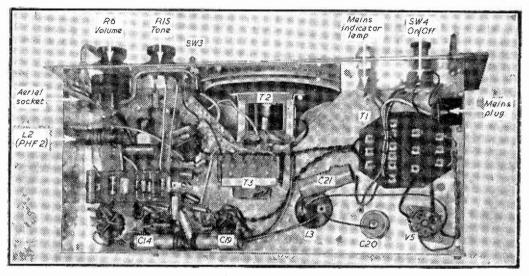
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December, 1958

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

# Medium-wave T.R.F. Inter-com. Receiver By M. A. Hammond

A UNIT FOR ROOM-TO-ROOM COMMUNICATION



The underside view.

THE need for some form of communication between workshop and house resulted in the construction of the unit described here. It will be apparent that, apart from filling this rôle, it is also a useful stand-by receiver, or can be quickly set up to provide a baby alarm, not to mention a means of communication between bedroom and kitchen, or any other room, if one is unfortunate enough to be confined to bed and requiring the services of someone downstairs. For the prototype, an existing receiver built by the writer some years ago, was modified and having proved satisfactory, a re-design was embarked upon with the inter-com "built in."

#### The Circuit

In view of the cheapness and availability of the valves in particular, the circuit consists of an

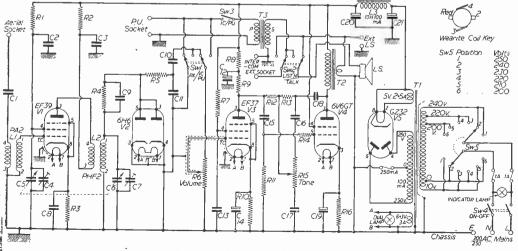


Fig. 1.-The circuit diagram.

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | LIST OF CO                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | OMPONENTS /                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| R1-82 K $\Omega \frac{1}{2}$ w.<br>R2-10 K $\Omega \frac{1}{2}$ w.<br>R3-330 $\Omega \frac{1}{2}$ w.<br>R4-250 K $\Omega \frac{1}{2}$ w.<br>R5-47 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R6-1 M $\Omega$ log, pol.<br>R7-390 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R9-220 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R10-33 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R10-33 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R12-1 M $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R13-270 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R13-270 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R14-47 K $\Omega \frac{1}{4}$ w.<br>R15-1 M $\Omega$ pot.<br>R16-220 $\Omega \frac{1}{2}$ w.<br>C1-209 pF (mica).<br>C2-9.1 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C3-9.1 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C3-9.1 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C4-69 pF trimmer.<br>C5-500 pF (mica)ed | C7 60 pF trimmer.<br>C801 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C9100 pF.<br>C1001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C11100 pF.<br>C122 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C1301 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C1450 $\mu$ F 50 v.<br>C15001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C15001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C16001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C17001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C17001 $\mu$ F 350 v.<br>C1950 $\mu$ F 12 v.<br>C2032 $\mu$ F 450 v.<br>C1F39.<br>V26H6.<br>V3EF36. EF37, or<br>EF37A.<br>V46V6GT.<br>V5GZ32. | <ul> <li>SW1-D.P.C.O. toggle.</li> <li>SW2-D.P.C.O. toggle.</li> <li>SW3-S.P. toggle.</li> <li>SW4-D.P. toggle or rotary.</li> <li>*SW5-2-pole 6-position rotary.</li> <li>*1-250-0-250 v. (a) 100 m.N., 5 v. (a) 2.5 A., 6.3 v. (a) 3.A.</li> <li>T2-To match 6V6 output.</li> <li>T3-Universal type output :</li> <li>2 P.M. speakers, size as required.</li> <li>3 2-way flush sockets (Painton Miniature).</li> <li>* Mains plug and socket (Bulgin. 3-pin).</li> <li>Wander plug and socket.</li> <li>1.1-Coil PA2 (Wearite).</li> <li>1.2-Coil PHF2 (Wearite).</li> <li>2.50 mA. fuses and holders (Belling-Lee).</li> <li>250 mA. fuses and holder (Belling-Lee).</li> <li>Slow-motion drive, 5½ to 1 (Plessey Type A).</li> <li>Dial lamp 8 v. 2 A. M.E.S. and holder.</li> <li>* Mains indicator lamp and holder.</li> <li>* Optional.</li> </ul> |

EF39 for R.F. 6H6 detector feeding into an EF36. EF37, or EF37A A.F. stage with 6V6 output. The circuit is. of course, T.R.F. for simplicity and medium wave only is catered for, the output incorporating tone control (R15) and negative feed-back (Fig. 1). The pick-up facilities not mentioned before, increase the versatility of the unit.

#### Double Pole Changeover Switch

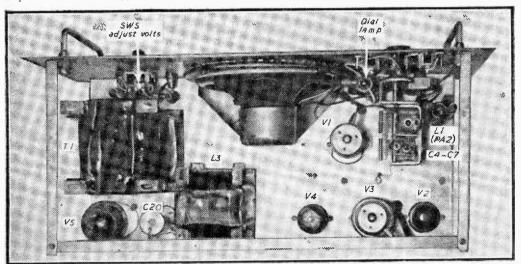
The inter-com section is simplicity itself, using only a double pole changeover switch and another output transformer serving as a microphone transformer, the speakers, of course, being used as microphones. All the switching is at the receiver end, which means that the operator can always be assured of the last word. When used as a baby alarm with the appropriate extension, this arrangement has a distinct advantage in so much that the child, assuming he or she were capable, could not switch his or her end out and wonder where the soothing remarks had disappeared to.

#### Isolating Switch

An inter-com isolating switch SW3 is fitted between the primary of the mic. transformer T3 and change-over switch SW1, as shown in Fig. 1. to prevent this winding being directly across the pick-up should a gram unit be plugged in. A single pole switch will suffice, the other end of the?primary being earthy in common with one switch of the pick-up socket.

#### **Extension** Loudspeaker

An additional socket was fitted for an extension L/S as it will be appreciated that should one



The top view.

#### PRACTICAL WIRELESS

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#### SPECIAL OFFERS:

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of £1.6.6.

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These cartridges will enable you to convert your BSR or Collaro Changers and Players to Stereo. Full details and length of suitable cable included. ISIG. Ful-Fi TCBS. 63.10.0. RONETTE (Studio). For all Collaro models. \$4.4.0.

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#### **R.L.D. CONSTRUCTION KITS**

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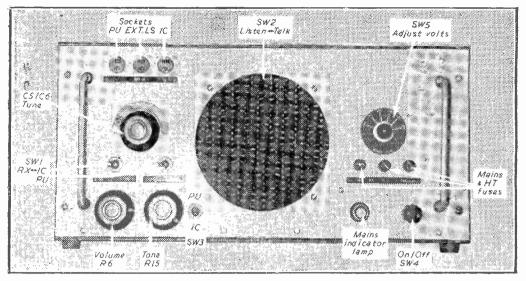
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circuits. 2nd Edition. BOOKSELLERS ... in case of difficulty 16s. from GEORGE NEWNES LTD., Tower House, Southampton Street, London, W.C 2.

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British Institute of Engineering Technology 409 B, College House, 29-31, Wright's Lane, Kensington, W.8.



Showing the front view.

wish to transmit a radio programme via the intercom wiring, this could be done by simply transferring the inter-com line plug from the IC socket to the extension L/S socket. This requirement could also be achieved by the method shown in the operating table, but would involve a further speaker for reception at the receiver end. This arrangement, of course, is not the normal function of the unit and is only mentioned out of interest, the extension L/S socket being fully employed if necessary when the unit is acting as a normal receiver.

#### Universal Type Transformer

A universal type transformer was found to be

best for T3 and various tappings tried for best results according to the speaker used in the receiver, in this case, a Rola 6in., and the performance of the inter-com. An optimum setting for the volume control R6 was found on using the inter-com, and duly marked on the front panel.

The inter-com extension consists of another speaker and appropriate length of twin cable, or, as the writer has used, co-axial screened cable, using the screen as the earthy connection. With this arrangement no trouble is experienced through the inter-com extension cable being lashed to the same line that carries the mains from the house to the workshop in the garden.

| SW2<br>Position | SW3<br>Position                              | Use Socket                                           | Operation.                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Listen          | I.C.                                         | Ext. L.S. if req.                                    | Normal radio reception.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Talk            | I.C.                                         |                                                      | Radio reception relayed on<br>inter-com, extension speaker<br>only.<br>Radio reception relayed on                                                                              |
|                 |                                              | EM. E.J.                                             | inter-com. extension speaker<br>and additional extension<br>speaker at receiver end.                                                                                           |
| Listen          | 1.C.                                         | I.C.                                                 | Communication from inter-<br>com. extension speaker<br>heard only.                                                                                                             |
| Talk            | LC.                                          | I.C.                                                 | Communication to inter-<br>com. extension speaker.                                                                                                                             |
| Listen          | P.U.                                         | P.U.                                                 | Gram unit reception on receiver.                                                                                                                                               |
|                 | Position<br>Listen<br>Talk<br>Listen<br>Talk | PositionPositionListenI.C.TalkI.C.ListenI.C.TalkI.C. | Position     Position     Use Socket       Listen     I.C.     Ext. L.S. if req.       Talk     I.C.     Ext. L.S.       Listen     I.C.     I.C.       Talk     I.C.     I.C. |

W i t h t h e switches and sockets suitably labelled, the operations are tabulated for guidance until one is familiar with the procedure (see table 1). T h e receiver

layout is not critical and it is not proposed to give a drilling diagram in so much that components hand vary to with different constructors, rendering modifications in drilling should the constructor not have the precise component available.

It will be noted

from the photographs that the writer has incorporated various refinements at the power supply end, such as adjustable mains voltage switching, a mains plug instead of lead out cable and a mains indicator lamp in addition to the dial lamp. These, of course, are not essential

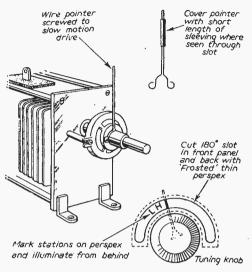


Fig. 2.—Simple dial tuning.

although shown on the circuit, and any suitable power supply may be substituted according to the particular whim of the constructor. It is, however, advisable to incorporate mains and H.T. fuses—although these are frequently omitted by constructors.

#### Housing the Unit

This particular unit was housed in an ex U.S. Army case suitably ventilated, with a new front panel and chassis, and utilising simple dial tuning as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Care is required in wiring the switches and it is best to use a colour

## Catalogues Received

#### Stereophonic Equipment

THE DULCI CO., LTD., Villiers Road. Willesden, N.W.2, have recently produced an illustrated pamphlet of their stereophonic equipment, Details are given of their "Stereo Eight" which is a twin channel amplifier, the "Stereo Two" which is a control unit for stereo and monaural high-fidelity reproduction in the home and their twin power amplifier Model SP44.

#### Radio Frequency Measurement Techniques

A NEW Note on Applied Science dealing with signal generators, attenuators, voltmeters and ammeters at radio frequencies, has been produced in booklet form by the Department of system of one's own choosing to avoid wiring confusion and possible wrong connections.

On completion of unit, the wiring should, of course, be checked before switching on, although the writer resorts to carefully marking a circuit as he wires and never checking afterwards (touch wood--no accidents yet!) and the receiver aligned in the normal way, leaving the inter-com until last and making any final adjustments to the universal transformer T3 on test. One final interesting point—should one install a mic, transformer with an extremely high ratio, startling results can be obtained on the inter-com—a tap running will sound like Niagara Falls and a small object dropped gives the impression of the house falling down, unless the volume control R6 is turned right down.

There are many variations that could be applied

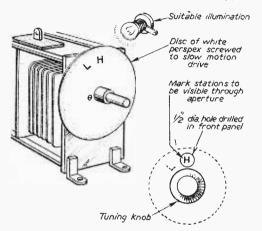


Fig. 3.—An alternative method of tuning.

to this basically simple unit, such as voice operated relays and automatic switching of the intercom, apart from a more modern form of receiver, using miniature valves and covering all waves, but I leave this to the potential constructor who delights in elaborations.

Scientific and Industrial Research, Charles House, 5-11, Regent Street, London, S.W.1.

Twenty years or so ago. instruments designed to give a signal of known amplitude were known as standard signal generators. The word standard, which was meant to refer to the signal rather than to the generator. has now been dropped from most of the catalogues. The voltage values are usually engraved on the scales of the instruments, but it is obvious that these scales must be checked if the instruments are to serve as authentic standards or suppliers of known voltages. The present pamphlet explains the procedures which have been adopted for calibrating such instruments. It has also some useful information on the calibration of attenuators and on the study of the behaviour of voltmeters and ammeters at radio frequencies.



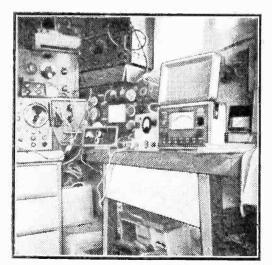
#### Bad Language

M R. E. WELLS writes from South Australia to add force to my campaign against sloppy English and wrong pronunciation of English words. He says that our language is badly misused in Australia. even by the daily newspapers. He deplores the dropping of capital initial letters in proper nouns (i.e., peter smith), and so do 1.

He says that the radio programmes in Australia are very poor and are broken up indiscriminately by advertisements. He thinks that England is backward with printed and transistorised circuits, which have been common in Australia for a long time, even among constructors.

He further asks why it is that circuits using transistors always aim to produce miniature sets. "Is it." he asks. "because they cannot compare with equivalent valve sets in the matter of quality of reproduction?" His idea of a portable set is one having good quality reproduction yet light enough to carry around—one not requiring an external aerial nor H.T. batteries, big mains transformers and chokes.

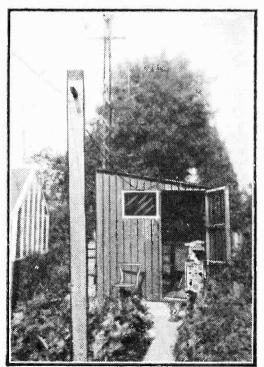
The use of transistors has brought a demand for midget sets because so many other midget components such as condensers, resistors, loud-



Apart from the question of midget portables, however, the overall size of a wireless set was overdue for reduction. For years wireless components have been made far too large. The general tendency has been for smaller sizes of components and this, coupled with transistors, should enable us to market really small domestic receivers.

#### Photographs of Shacks

ELSEWHERE in this issue is a page of photographs of readers' shacks, sent in response to my request, and I publish two further pictures below. The letters accompanying them have been most interesting and nostalgic, and I am surprised at the number of readers who own transmitters. The S.W. fans are, of course, in the majority and most of them sit up until the early hours of the morning listening to the ham as well as the professional short-wave broadcasts.



Two views of Mr. J. B. Mawbey's shack.



<sup>(</sup>Above).—An older receiver owned by Mr. J. S. Bauchop, of Glasgow.

(Left).—This receiver belongs to Mr. L. J. Short, of Falmouth, Cornwall.

I am afraid that I do very little short-wave listening nowadays as the programmes I was interested in are now subject to political jamming. especially by Russia. Their propaganda programmes injected with Russian venom began to inauseate me. It seems a great pity from their point of view that they do not employ announcers who can speak English. As you know, announce-ments are made alternately by a man and a woman and each speaks with a strong Yankee accent. Everybody becomes everybardy. Americanese is not English.

### Script Writers-Give Them Credit

MOST entertainers today employ script writers. some more than one. The list of credits seldom mentions this mainspring of the programme, and the actors who utter their words and gags get the credit for it. when in point of fact they are only human parrots; practically anyone can learn off a script and give an air of spontaneity to it, creating the impression that the quick-fire gags are spontaneous. You remember that rhyme about actors and actresses ? :

Empty shells from eight till ten,

Filled with the wit of other men.

The script writer is more important than the entertainer who utters his words.

That is not to say that some of the gags are not corny. Ted Kavanagh made Tommy Handley. whom I understand without a script was not a funny man at all. The best comedian is usually the spontaneous comedian who composes his own scripts and does not travel under false colours. However, factory-made jokes are the order of the day and from the listeners' point of view, no one cares who supplies them.

#### Stercophonic Sound

F the opinions of my radio friends and of readers who write to me on the subject mean anything at all, stereo sound receivers are in for a thin time. Most people admit that it is possible to improve even a high-priced quality receiver. but the difference made by stereo as compared with the cost means to many people that the changeover is not worth while. There is very little wrong with reproduction of commercial receivers today. Certainly not sufficient to warrant scrapping existing sets and buying the latest toy. Acoustics of the room in which the set is installed play a great part in stereophony, and so does the auditory nerve of the listener. Very few people have hearing of perfect pitch and fewer still are able to detect the difference between stereophony and the reproduction of a good-quality receiver.

#### R.S.G.B. Exhibition

HE R.S.G.B. has organised a Radio Hobbies Exhibition to be held at the Royal Horticultural Old Hall. Vincent Square. London, S.W.1. on November 26-29th, 1958. The committee has invited members all over the country to submit for display equipment of every type. from gadgets to complete transmitters and receivers. A silver plaque will again be presented in connection with the Constructors' Competition. and prizes valued at £10 and £5 will be awarded in connection with

equipment exhibited by members living outside Region 7. Offers to do stand duty at the exhibition should be sent to Mr. G. W. Norris, 134, Meads Lane. Ilford. Essex.

This is an exhibition which should appeal to all practical constructors. It is bound to be attended by large numbers of the old school and for that reason alone I shall spend some time there.

The R.S.G.B. through the years has done an excellent job on the amateur transmitting side and I am wondering whether the time is not now right for them to admit by examination radio enthusiasts who are not necessarily amateur transmitters.

#### International Amateur Radio Union

Societies which are members of the Inter-national Amateur Padio Union (and I with national Amateur Radio Union (and I gather that there are over 50 of them) are annually invited to supply certain statistical data, and some of the information provided is most interesting. For example, from the figures now before me. it appears from the 1957 return that there are 237.500 licensed amateurs in the 33 member countries. Some member societies did not make a return, so it is safe to assume that there are at least 300.000 such stations. America claims 182.000. No doubt, many of these stations are inactive, but the figures do show that there are more amateur stations than professional in existence throughout the world.

#### The Song Writers' Vocabulary

READER suggests that to be a successful A song writer the only mental equipment you require is a vocabulary of about 50 words. It is obvious that you do not require a knowledge of music, and that you will be writing for singers who cannot sing and have no knowledge of music either, and for a bobby-soxer teddy-boy crooning public. You hear better singing outside a public house than is put on by these highlypaid. sob-voiced singers. Above, love, true, blue. devotion. ocean. are obvious first words in the vocabulary. If you wish to become a highly-paid singer. you must learn to mispronounce all of the words giving them a negro cum-Yankee pronunciation as I have indicated earlier on. Here is a gem I heard the other evening, from a well known singer: "She sad she woodner murry merr till the rast of the werld wer dad." This type of singer is largely responsible for the decline of the music hall. Screaming neurotic youths and girls fill the theatre for a short time, while their favourite lounge lizard sobs his heart out on the stage. As a result, the more mature set of the music-hall-going public packed it up, because too

much programme time was given to the idol. Fortunately, these singers have a short stage life, but others come along and fill the gap. The BBC has a public duty to take these people off the air and to force these youngsters to follow a useful occupation. Their influence is entirely debasing. I witnessed two evenings ago thirty people walk out of a variety theatre the moment one of these crooners came on the stage. It was obviously an organised protest and more people should do it.



THIS model is truly representative of the style of portables of the future. Instead of using the low-consumption all-dry type of battery valves as are employed in portables of less contemporary design, the Cossor 546 features six transistors and printed circuits. The set is energised by six Ever-Ready type LPU2 batteries and a full 300 mW of audio is applied to the 7in.  $\times$  4in, elliptical high-flux loudspeaker, which provides adequate acoustic power for normal domestic use, and for use in the car, at picnics and almost all other places where portables would prove of value.

#### Valve-type Portables

One of the major disadvantages of valve-type portables, when subjected to everyday use, is the high battery cost, and this applies even to receivers which use the economy type of valve. Such receivers, therefore, usually serve as a "second set" which can be used at odd times away from home or in the bedroom when the occasion demands. Portable sets incorporating a mains section (battery-mains models), however, are sometimes used on the mains as everyday receivers, but this practice may also prove rather expensive in terms of valve replacements and may be frustrating during the winter time when voltage cuts cause failure of the oscillator section.

The coming of the transistorised portable alters the outlook considerably, since, as with the Cossor, the running cost of this type of set compares favourably with that of a small mainsoperated receiver.

The receiver is housed in a small wood cabinet which is covered with "Lionide" material. It is superhet and the six transistors are arranged in the circuit as follows: OC44 self-oscillating frequency-changer; OC45 first LF, amplifier: OC45 second LF, amplifier: OC71 audio driver: two OC72 push-pull output. A type OA70 or OA79 germanium diode is used as the detector.

A Ferrodyne rod aerial is contained in the cabinet, and adequate signal pick-up is secured without an external aerial. The receiver covers both the long and medium wavebands and an I.F. of 470 kc/s is used.

(Continued on page 797)

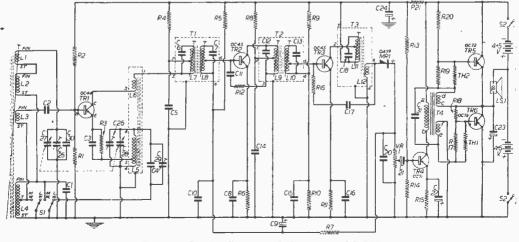


Fig. 1.-Circuit diagram of Cossor Model 546.

**EF86** 

**EL34** 

FL84

data for AUDIO PHIL

FCC83

GZ34

EZ81

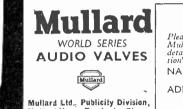
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ment. And who can blame them when they know that the Mullard World Series of Audio Valves is the finest in the world. Fill in the coupon below for free data on Mullard World Series Audio Valves.

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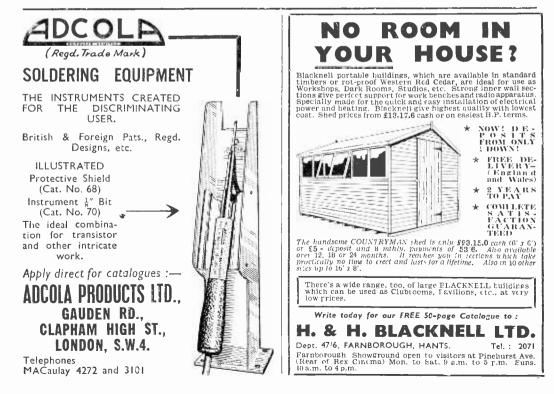
This popular book is available now from most dealers, price 3 6d. It contains designs and full constructional details of the new Mullard EL34 High Quality 20 Watt Amplifier, a Mullard Band II F.M. Tuner, pre-amplifiers for the Mullard EL34 Amplifier and for the popular Mullard 5 Valve 10 Watt Amplifier, together with other useful technical information.





Muflard Ltd., Publicity Division, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London, W.C.1.







#### The Circuit

<sup>1</sup> The complete circuit of the receiver is given in Fig. 1. Transistor TR1 is the self-oscillating frequency-changer, and the oscillator coils are 4.5 and 1.6. They are tightly coupled and feed-back takes place between the collector circuit winding and 1.5, the transistor in this case being arranged in the common-base mode. Capacitor C28 is the oscillator tuning capacitor, while C26 is the M.W. trimmer and C29 the L.W. trimmer. It will be seen that on the L.W. position C29 is connected in shunt with the oscillator frequency to embrace the L.W. band. Padding capacitors are not used because the vanes of the tuning capacitor are shaped specially to avoid tracking error.

#### The Aerial

The Ferrodyne aerial consists of the three windings 1.1, 1.2 and 1.4 arranged for optimum response, on a ferrite rod. The M.W. section is 1.1 and  $C_1 = S_1 = RV_1$ 

response, on a ferrite rod. The M.W. section is L1 and L2 in series and the L.W. section is L4. In order to obtain maximum signal transfer from the aerial circuit to the low impedance base circuit of TR1, a coupling winding L3 is incorporated on the aerial which is connected to a suitable tap on the L.W. winding; on M.W. the coupling is achieved between L1 and L3, these two coils being interwound.

On the M.W. position, switch S1 short-circuits L4 and returns the "cold" end of L3 to chassis. C27 is the aerial tuning section of the gang and C25 is the aerial trimmer.

The 470 kc/s I.F. signal is developed across the windings of T1. Tappings are arranged on the windings to match into the collector

circuit of TR1 and the base circuit of TR2. The oscillator circuit of TR1 is stabilised by the potential divider, R1 and R2, and the 1k resistor R3 in the emitter circuit. The collector circuit is decoupled by R4 and C5.

The LF, stages comprising TR2 and TR3 are wired in the common-emitter mode. Neutralisation is achieved by C11 and R12 in TR2 circuit and C17 and R16 in TR3 circuit, this being necessary to avoid regeneration as the result of the base-collector capacitance of the transistors. This, of course, is comparable to the effect of the grid-anode capacitance of a triode, when connected to tuned circuits in the earthed-cathode mode.

In the Cossor circuit the tuned I.F. couplings are arranged to avoid the necessity of altering the neutralising component values when changing a transistor. It is usually a tedious process to select a neutralising capacitor of the exact value required by the transistor. Resistors R6 and R11 stabilise the emitter currents and excessive degeneration is avoided by the bypass capacitors C8 and C16. The amplified LF, signals are demodulated by the detector diode, MR1; the volume control, VR1 forming the A.F. load. The D.C. component of the signal is carried through R7 to the base circuit of TR2, and this controls the collector current and the gain of the stage. Decoupling is by C9 and C10, and since the top of R7 is connected to the base current stabilising resistor R5, the detector diode is biased in the forward direction towards the bend of its characteristic curve. This increases the detection efficiency.

The A.F. signals across VR1 are fed to the base of TR4 through the coupling capacitor C21. TR4 is also connected in the common-emitter mode, the emitter current being stabilised by R15 and the base operating point by R13 and R14. The bypass capacitor C22 is of a high value to prevent degeneration of the low audio frequencies.

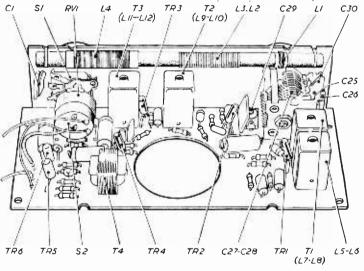


Fig. 2.—A general view of the component layout.

The output transistors, TR5 and TR6, operate in class "B" push-pull, or nearly so, since the transistors are biased by resistors R17, R18 and R19, R20 so that slight conduction occurs even under conditions of no signal, a practice which eliminates switching distortion as the transistors conduct on alternate half cycles of signal. Thermistors TH1 and TH2 stabilise the output stage from the aspect of temperature variation and thus hold the bias current constant.

The only A.F. transformer used in the set is that which serves to couple the driver transistor to the output transistors, transformer T4 in the circuit diagram. The output stage is coupled direct to the loudspeaker which has a 30 ohm speech coil. This set-up is known as a "singleended push-pull" stage, which, it will be recalled, was fully described in the June, 1958, issue of PRACICAL WIRELESS, when the Cossor Model 544 transitorised record player was dealt with.

1

| **************** |              |                                    |  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| LIS              | T OF COMPO   | NENTS                              |  |  |  |  |
| R1—22 ΚΩ.        | R19220 Ω.    | C1604 //F.                         |  |  |  |  |
| R2100 K Ω.       | R20-4.7 KΩ.  | C17—30 pF.                         |  |  |  |  |
| R31 ΚΩ.          | R21—1 ΚΩ.    | C18-200 pF.                        |  |  |  |  |
| R4-470 2.        | C1-180 pF.   | C20-01 /JF.                        |  |  |  |  |
| R5-82 K 2.       | C2—.04 //F.  | C218 µF.                           |  |  |  |  |
| R6-220 Ω.        | C301 µF.     | C22-50 + µF.                       |  |  |  |  |
| R7-4.7 ΚΩ        | C4-350 pF.   | C23-1 µF.                          |  |  |  |  |
| R8-220 Ω.        | C501 //F.    | C24-50 µF.                         |  |  |  |  |
| R9—27 K Ω.       | C6-400 pF.   | C25- \                             |  |  |  |  |
| R10-3.3 KΩ.      | C7-200 pF.   | C26                                |  |  |  |  |
| R11-470 Ω.       | C804 //F.    | $C27 \rightarrow variable$         |  |  |  |  |
| R12-10 K 2.      | C9-32 µF.    | C28                                |  |  |  |  |
| R13-27 KΩ.       | C10—.01 µF.  | C29 /                              |  |  |  |  |
| R14-6.8 K 2.     | C11-6.4 pF.  | C30—10 pF.                         |  |  |  |  |
| R15-390 Ω.       | C12-400 pF.  | C31—.01 µF.                        |  |  |  |  |
| R16—2.2 KΩ.      | C13-200 pF.  | On Later Models:                   |  |  |  |  |
| R17-220 Ω.       | C14—.01 µF.  | C20 is .04 µF.                     |  |  |  |  |
| R18-4.7 K Ω.     | C15—.04 //F. | <b>C23 is 4</b> <i>µ</i> <b>F.</b> |  |  |  |  |
|                  |              |                                    |  |  |  |  |

#### Servicing Notes

Servicing should always be performed with an instrument of fairly high resistance, since a low resistance meter will severely disturb the operating conditions of the transistors. Even if this does not destroy the transistor, a true voltage reading will not be secured, so there is little point in making the test.

It is not good policy to remove a component or transistor from the circuit while the supply is connected and the receiver switched on. If a current test is called for, the appropriate circuit should be broken and the current meter inserted with the supply disconnected. The supply can then be switched on and the current test made, after which the set should be switched off before the meter is disconnected.

#### Current and Voltage Readings

The total current taken from the battery of the Cossor 546 depends upon the audio power supplied to the loudspeaker. Under quiescent conditions the total current from a 9 volt battery should be in the region of 7.5 mA, this in part being made up of the collector current of the output transistors, which should not differ by more than 0.1 mA from 2 mA for each. At 10 mW output the total current should increase to 13.5 mA, to 32 mA at 100 mW and 54 mA at 300 mW (full power). It can clearly be seen that battery economy can be effected by keeping the volume turned down or, at least, by not operating the set above the level required for comfortable listening.

Currents and voltages pertaining to the first four transistors are given below, where Vc is the collector voltage. Ve the emitter voltage and Ic the collector current.

TR1:—Vc: -5.4 to -5.5 volts: Ve: -0.7 to 0.92 volt; lc: 0.77 inA to 0.82 mA, dependent on the setting of the waveband switch and the tuning capacitor.

TR2: -Vc: -5.65 volts; Ve: -0.17 volt; lc: 0.78 mA under conditions of no signal.

TR3:--Vc: -5.65 volts; Ve -0.42 volt; Ic: 0.9 mA,

TR4:--Vc: -8.8 volts: Ve: 1.0 volt: lc: 2.4 mA.

When replacing components in proximity to the

detector circuit, the wiring should be disturbed as little as possible and the components should be located as near as possible in the positions of the originals. Failure to observe these precautions may result in instability or whistles owing to harmonics of the I.F. being fed back to the ferrite rod aerial system.

Low-frequency instability and distortion may occur when the batteries are nearly at the end of their useful life, but this trouble will be aggravated by an open-circuit or low value of C24.

#### Alignment

A signal from a suitable generator modulated at 30 per cent, with an A.F. signal is desirable for circuit alignment (Fig. 2). Tuning indication is best obtained either from an output meter having an impedance of 30 ohms and connected across the loudspeaker terminals, with the loudspeaker disconnected, or from an A.C. voltmeter connected across the loudspeaker. The applied signal should at all times be kept at a level which does not produce more than 50 mW of audio (1.2 volts A.C.) so as to avoid alignment error owing to the action of the A.G.C.

For I.F. alignment, the signal is connected between pin 5 of T2 and chassis, remembering that this corresponds to H.T. positive. With the tuning gang at maximum capacitance, the volume control at maximum, and the waveband switch set to the L.W. position, the core in T3 should be adjusted for maximum output. The signal is next connected to pin 5 of T1 and the cores in the bottom and top. in that order, of T2 adjusted for maximum output. It is important to note that the cores tune the transformer correctly only in the outer tuning positions. Finally, the signal should be transferred to the base connection of TR1 and the bottom and top cores. in that order, of TI adjusted for maximum output. To finish off, the cores of T2 and T1 should again be adjusted for maximum response and then all cores should be sealed with soft wax.

For M.W. alignment, the signal should be coupled to the set by placing the generator lead close to the ferrite rod aerial. The set should be switched to M.W. and the tuning pointer adjusted to the "M" mark on the tuning scale. Trimmer C25 should be screwed in without overtightening and the signal generator tuned to 575 kc/s. The core of L5 should then be adjusted for maximum output.

The receiver should be retuned to the "M" mark at the other end of the scale (the minimum capacitance end), and the generator set to 1.450 kc/s. C26 and C25, in that order, should be adjusted for maximum output.

The receiver and signal generator should again be retuned to 575 kc/s (this corresponds to the "M" mark on the tuning scale near the minimum capacitance position of the gang), and 1.5 and 1.1 adjusted for maximum output. The operations should be repeated for optimum results.

For L.W. alignment, the signal generator should be tuned to 260 kc/s and the receiver to the "L" mark on the tuning scale. C29 and L4 position on the ferrite rod should then be adjusted for maximum output. The operation should be repeated for optimum results.

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

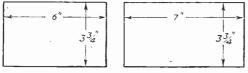
# A Resistor and Condenser Box

FOR CHECKING SUSPECT PARTS BY SUBSTITUTION

By J Hillman

,799

THIS is a compact box containing a number of resistors and capacitors which can be selected by means of a zwitch. They can be used to check any suspect resistors or capacitors in a radio or TV set. The range of values is quite wide as a series parallel switch allows many combinations to be obtained. The ranges are: capacitance 100 pF to 700 pF in 100 pF



Figs. 1 and 2.-Details of wooden pieces.

steps: .001 to .007 in .001 steps: .01 to .07 in .01 steps: .1, .25, .35, .5, 16  $\mu$ F 450 v.; 50  $\mu$ F 50v.; 100  $\mu$ F 450 v.; 200  $\mu$ F 350 v. Resistance 0.500 ohnis: 0.5 k. ohms; 0.50 k. ohms; 0.1 M ohms. Also the 1 M ohm pot can be used to substitute for a volume control. The box itself is also useful as a support for a chassis or C.R.T. when it is out on the bench for servicing.

#### Construction

The box is made of wood in preference to metal as it can then be used right up against a chassis without any danger of it causing shorts. First make up two pieces of wood as Fig. 1 then two as Fig. 2. Next glue and nail the four pieces together as Fig. 3 using a simple butt joint and placing the shorter pieces inside the longer ones. The joint appears as Fig. 4. Now place a piece of hardboard on the top of the completed box

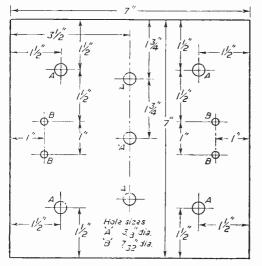


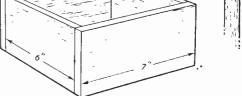
Fig. 5.-Marking and drilling the holes.

the box may not be square and the top would not be as good a fit. Now nail and glue the top on then mark off the holes as shown in Fig. 5 and drill as shown. Now fit the two 12-way switches.

and mark off in pencil right round the box then

cut out the hardboard along this pencil line. This

is better than attempting to measure the size as



Figs, 3 and 4.—Showing how to nail the pieces together, and making the joint.

the four pots and the toggle switch and the four sockets, enlarging the holes where necessary with a round file. The box should now look like Fig. 6 viewed from inside.

Wire up the four pots, the S3 switch and the moving pole of S1 and S2 first. Now start on S2 and wire in the condensers joining their common ends to the common ends of the pots and to S2 negative. Wire up in a similar manner the other switch S1, leaving the two large condensers until last. These condensers are secured to the side of the box with half-round brackets. Now label the controls as Fig. 7, this can be done by typing out the labels and then cutting them out

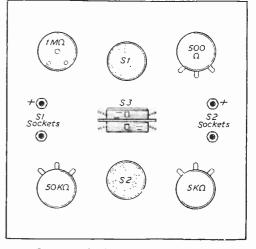


Fig. 6.-The box viewed from inside.

800

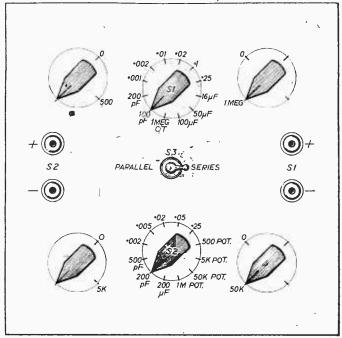


Fig. 7.—Showing how to label the controls.

and sticking them in their appropriate places. Finally, make up three leads as Fig. 8.

#### **Operation**

For resistor substitution simply select the required range on S2 and adjust the pot to the required value. The pots can be calibrated by means of an ohmmeter if desired and their values marked in on a scale for future reference as shown in Fig. 7. Two of the leads, as Fig. 8. are plugged into S2 pos. and neg. sockets. and the crocodile clips are then connected to the resistor in the set, this resistor having been disconnected at one end. For capacitors a similar operation



Fig. 8.—Details of the leads.

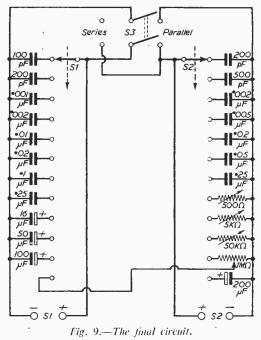
is carried out except for certain values. For 100 pF S1 is used and the S1 sockets, whilst for 200 pF S1 or S2 may be used. 300 pF is obtained by putting S1 to 100 pF. S2 to 200 pF and S3 to parallel, using either S1 or S2 sockets. 400 pF is obtained using S1 on 200 pF and S2 on 200 pF S3 still in parallel position. 500 pF is obtained using S2 on 500 pF and S3 in series position. For .001 and .002 S3 is in series position and S1 and S2 are used respectively, whilst for .003 S1 is set to .001, S2 to .002 and S3 'o parallel, this is the same for .01, .02 and .03. For .004 S1 is put to .002 and S2 to .002 with S3 in parallel, similarly for .04 using .02 and .02. For .005 and .05 S2 is set to the required value with

| COMPONENTS LIST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1100 $\mu$ F mica condenser 500 v.<br>2200 $\mu$ F mica condenser.<br>1500 $\mu$ F mica condenser.<br>1001 $\mu$ F ceramic condenser.<br>1001 $\mu$ F ceramic condenser.<br>101 $\mu$ F ceramic condenser.<br>101 $\mu$ F 1 kv. tubular condenser.<br>101 $\mu$ F 1 kv. tubular condenser.<br>101 $\mu$ F 1 kv. tubular condenser.<br>102 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>111 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>111 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>111 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>112 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>150 $\mu$ F 500 v. electrolytic.<br>1-50 $\mu$ F 450 $\nu$ . el |
| 2-200 <i>µ</i> F mica condenser.<br>1-500 <i>µ</i> F mica condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1-500 <i>µ</i> F mica condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1001 //F ceramic condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2-002 #F ceramic condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1-500 <i>w</i> F mica condenser.<br>1001 <i>w</i> F ceramic condenser.<br>2002 <i>w</i> F ceramic condenser.<br>1005 <i>w</i> F ceramic condenser.<br>101 <i>w</i> F 1 kv. tubular condenser.<br>202 <i>w</i> F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>105 <i>w</i> F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>11 <i>w</i> F 500 v. tubular condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 101//F 1 kv. tubular condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 202//F 500 v. tubular condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 11pF 500 v. tubular condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 225//F 500 v. tubular condenser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 225 $\mu$ F 500 v. tubular condenser.<br>6-Pointer knobs.<br>116 $\mu$ F 450 v. electrolytic.<br>150 $\mu$ F 50 v. electrolytic.<br>1200 $\mu$ F 450 v. electrolytic.<br>1200 olm W W Pot.<br>15 k ohm W W Pot.<br>15 k ohm W/W Pot.<br>15 k ohm W/W Pot.<br>11 meg. carbon Pot.<br>1DPT toggle switch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| $1-16 \ \mu F$ 450 v. electrolytic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1-50 <i>µ</i> F 50 v. electrolytic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1-100 //F 450 v. electrolytic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1-200 "F 350 v. electrolytic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1-500 ohm W W Pot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1-5 k ohm W W Pot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1-50 k ohm W/W Pot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1—1 meg. carbon Pot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1-DPT toggle switch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 4wander plug sockets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3—wander plugs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2-1-pole 12-way switches.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 26in. of 4in. < hin. timber.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2 pieces 7in. < 7 in. hardhoard.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1 yd. connecting wire.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2—half-round hrackets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <ul> <li>3—wander plugs.</li> <li>2—1-pole 12-way switches.</li> <li>26in. of 4in. ( §in. timher.</li> <li>2 pieces 7in. ( 7↓in. hardhoard.</li> <li>1 yd. connecting wire.</li> <li>2—half-round brackets.</li> <li>Screws and nails to suit.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 62 1 1 25 111                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

S3 in series, as is .1, .25, whilst for .35 S1 is set to .1 and S2 to .25 with S3 in parallel and for .5 S1 is set to .25, S2 to .25 and S3 to parallel. Care must be faken to get the

S3 to parallel. Care must be faken to get the polarity right when using the 16, 50, 100 and 200  $\mu$ F capacitors.

The final circuit is shown in Fig. 9.



PRACTICAL WIRELESS



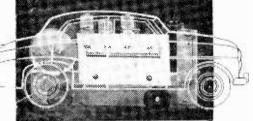
OF THE VALVE SECTION

By R. Morgan

HIS receiver uses a range of valves designed to operate with a 12-volt high tension supply, so that no means of stepping up the vehicle battery voltage is required. This avoids the usual vibrator circuit, and also reduces the current drawn from the accumulator. By employing a transistor output stage, sufficient volume may be obtained without any need for high voltages.

#### The Circuit

The circuit for the valve section is shown in Fig. 1 and the 12.6 v. heaters are intended to be operated directly from the 12 v, vehicle accumulator. The output valve heater takes .45 amp., with .15 amp, for each of the other valves, making only just over 1 amp. in all. Tuning is for M.W. only, but a L.W. band can easily be provided if reception of the Light Programme on 1,500 metres is required. Two LF, stages are used, in the interests of sensitivity, A.V.C. being applied to the first stage. A normal double-diodetriode stage is followed by a special output tetrode in which the first grid is intended to aid the initial impetus of the electron flow, the second grid being used as a control grid. This valve is rated as giving 35 mW, output with 12.6 v, applied



801

to anode and space charge grid, and acts as driver for the transistor output stage.

It is important to adhere fairly closely to component values, especially as grid rectification provides bias for all but the first LF, amplifier. The 19 K. D.D.T. cathode resistor is not intended to produce bias, but an A.V.C, delay voltage, and it is important to see that the triode section grid leak in this stage is returned to cathode and not chassis.

For smoothing, two large capacity condensers and a low resistance choke are used. The degree of smoothing which is considered sufficient depends, to some extent, on the vehicle and on personal opinion. Worn dynamo brushes and a dirty commutator can contribute considerably to the noise introduced from the vehicle's battery circuit.

#### Chassis Layout

The congested, cramped layout sometimes adopted in car radio sets makes construction more difficult, and a small, conventional chassis design has been adopted. A chassis about 9in. imes 44in, imes 2in, deep will easily accommodate all parts, and the completed receiver is only about 41in. deep overall, including valves, tuning drive

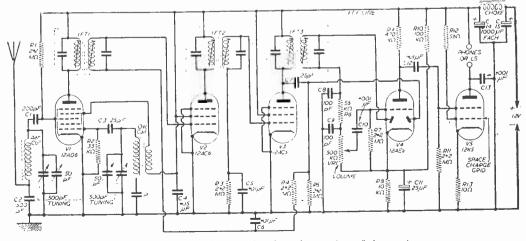
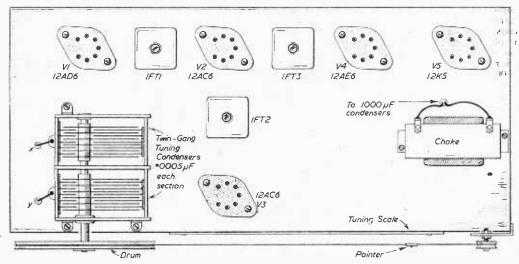


Fig. 1.-The circuit diagram for the valve section of the receiver.

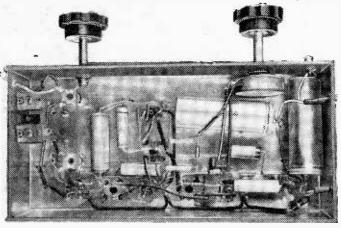




and scale. Therefore, accommodation should not give much difficulty.

Fig. 2 shows the chassis layout. The tuning condenser is screwed down so that the spindle projects sufficiently for the drum to clear the front runner. The valveholders require §in. dia. holes, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. dia. holes can be used to clear the LF, transformer leads. A central hole is also necessary under each transformer, so that the cores can be reached. The chassis punches proformers. The valveholders should also be located as indicated.

The coils are mounted by pushing their clips into holes in the chassis, or by securing these clips to the chassis with short 6 B.A. bolts. The associated pair of trimmers may be bolted to the side of the chassis. Drilling is best finished before any parts are mounted to avoid possible damage and to prevent fragments of metal lodging between valveholder tags or elsewhere.



View of the underside of the chassis.

duced by the component supplier will prove very convenient for making these holes.

Components and wiring under the chassis are shown in Fig. 3. The I.F. transformers must be correctly located so that the anode connections agree with the positions shown. Other wiring here will then be correct with the specified trans-

Wiring

"X" is taken to the tuning con-denser and "Y" to the front set. Two other leads pass from the 1.000  $\mu$ F smoothing condensers to the choke. Battery and output leads pass through the side runner: rubber grommets or insulating tape being added to avoid shorts owing to fraying of the wire.

Only a few leads pass through

Valve base connections are shown from the underside in Fig. 4. It is important to note that the 12AD6, 2.2 megohms Har the leak is returned to the H.T. positive line, not to the chassis. On the 12K5 valve-holder, two of the tags must be wired together to form the space-charge grid

connection. Heater wiring may be done first: points marked with the positive sign in Fig. 3 being joined together. Coils and I.F. transformers may best follow. Anode and grid connections must be short. direct. and clear of each other, or the I.F.

amplifier section may oscillate when aligned. Points marked "MC" are taken to the chassis. leads being soldered to 6 B.A. tags tightly bolted in place. Bare connecting wire between these tags will provide a convenient earthing point for other circuits, as in Fig. 3. The 25  $\mu$ F and 1.000  $\mu$ F condensers have to be wired in the correct polarity, as indicated. With the by-pass condensers it is usual to take the wire at the marked end, or outside foil connection, to chassis. Other small condensers and all resistors may be wired in either way round, leads being cut to suit.

The padder "P" is 470 pF for the M.W. band. For L.W., in addition, a 3-pole 2-way rotary switch would be necessary to switch aerial and oscillator coils, and the L.W. oscillator coil must then have its own 150 pF padder. Wrong padder values will make alignment difficult or impossible.

It is necessary to see that valveholder tags do not short to one another, or to the chassis, and that the I.F. transformer leads are clear of the chassis and insulated with sleeving.

#### **Tuning** Drive

A piece of stout aluminium is bolted vertically at the right of the chassis and carries two pulleys pivoted on bolts held by lock nuts. The driving cord passes round these pulleys and round the tuning control spindle and drum, as in Fig. 5. One complete turn is necessary round the spindle to provide sufficient grip. The cord is also taken right round the drum, and the ends knotted together so that the spring will maintain tension. This gives a smooth, reliable drive.

The pointer movement is equal to one-half of the circumference of the drum, or approximately 4.4in, with the 23in, diameter drum. The pointer is a straight piece of tinned-copper wire soldered to a small piece of brass or tin clipped to the cord. A scale can easily be drawn up and bolted to the front of the chassis, as in Fig. 5.

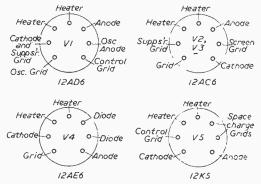
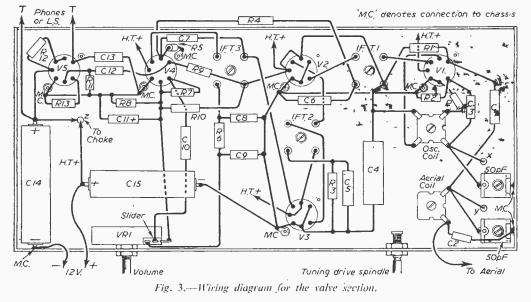


Fig. 4.—Valve base connections (from the underside).

being equally divided from 200 to 550 metres, or having stations marked as they are tuned in.

#### Testing and Alignment

The valve section described is best dealt with alone, as no changes to alignment would be necessary when connecting up the transistor output stage. The leads marked "T" in Fig. 3 may be taken to a speaker transformer, a ratio of about 18:1 or 20:1 being best for a 2-3 ohms speaker. However, as this ratio is rather low it may be noted that a much higher ratio will give good enough results for the purpose in view. It is also possible to use phones instead, provided they can carry the required current, which is about 35 mA with no signal, falling



to approximately 8 mA with maximum signal strength. If the phones are not suitable for this, a resistor may be used as anode load, with a condenser of about  $.1 \ \mu F$  to  $1 \ \mu F$  in series with the phones. The resistor will have to be fairly slow in value to avoid excessive voltage dron. 500 ohms being suitable.

It must be noted that the output obtained from the circuit does not equal that achieved with valves operating with a 250 v. H.T. supply. This is only to be expected. The power output of the driver is 35 mW. This is, of course, not sufficient for good volume with a speaker.

but it is enough to operate the transistor output stage. If a speaker is used with the 12K5 alone, and best results are required, the transformer should have a low primary resistance and provide a load of 800 ohms.

With an aerial connected and valves warmed up, it should be possible to tune in the local station. The L.F. transformer cores are then carefully adjusted for maximum volume. - A length of ebonite rod filed to a suitable shape is most satisfactory for this and for adjusting the coil cores. If a signal generator is available, a modulated 465 kc/s signal can be applied to the 12AD6 anode. After provisional align-

ment, the generator output lead can be placed near the anode connection, without actually being in contact with it, and a final check of alignment made. When no further improvement is possible. the I.F. circuits can be left.

With the aerial and oscillator coils, the cores

| СО          | MPONENT LIST—VALVE SECTION                                                 |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|             | 1.F. transformers, miniature, 465 kc/s-                                    |
| 1 2         | smor.<br>.0005 $\mu$ F 2-gang tuning condenser with drive,                 |
| dri         | um, etc.—Jackson.                                                          |
| 2 (         | 50 pF trimmers.—Cyldon.<br>2 QO8/SM (sub-miniature) M.W. battery osc.      |
| 0.0         | ilOsmor.                                                                   |
| Padd        | ler condenser for QOS SM-470 pr.                                           |
| Туре        | QA5/SM (sub-miniature) M.W. aerial coil.<br>Osmor.                         |
| Padd        | ler condenser for QA5/SM-2,500 pF.                                         |
| Resi        | stors :                                                                    |
|             | ch 10 K, 33 K, 56 K, 100 K, 470 K-  watt                                   |
| 6           | ubilier.<br>2.2 megohms—] watt.—Dubilier.                                  |
| 1 69        | ch 10 ohms, 56 ohms—1 watt.—Dubilier.                                      |
| 1.50        | 500 K potentiometer.—Egen.                                                 |
| 1 00        | d condensers :<br>ch 200 pF, 500 pF.                                       |
| 2 69        | ch 25 nF, 100 pF, .001 µF, 1.000 µF.                                       |
| 1 1         | .05 µF, 25 µF,                                                             |
| 3 >.<br>Cha | .01 //F.                                                                   |
| Con         | trol knobs, etc.                                                           |
| For         | 1 W operation the coils required are QO9 SM.                               |
|             | d QA6/SM ; a 3-pole 2-way rotary switch is so required.                    |
| -Val        | ves : $2 > 12AC6$ ; 1 each 12AD6, 12AE6,                                   |
| 1.          | 2K5.                                                                       |
| Valv        | we holders $-5 \times B7G$ .<br>of the above components are available from |
| 0           | smor Radio Products Ltd., 418, Brighton                                    |
| Ř           | oad, South Croydon, Surrey.                                                |

December, 1958

are adjusted at a fairly high wavelength (say, 450 to 500 m.) and the trimmers are adjusted at a low wavelength (say, 225 to 250 m.). The position of the coil cores will much influence dial readings towards the high wavelength end of the scale, while the trimmers have most influence on lower wavelengths. This can be used to bring-dial readings into co-incidence with stations received. As the oscillator coil has most influence on tuning, it is best to tune in a station correctly, then adjust the aerial coil for best When no further improvement in volume. volume is possible, alignment is finished.

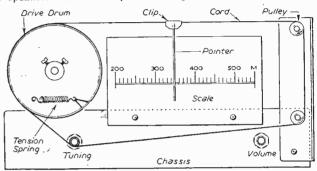


Fig. 5.-The dial and cord drive.

Final alignment of the aerial coil should be with the actual aerial and lead-in fitted in the vehicle. It will then take into account stray capacity, which will depend upon these.

The type of aerial will considerably influence reception, and an efficient aerial is not easily provided on a vehicle. The best signal pick-up will be achieved with an aerial which is as high as possible, reasonably long and removed from chassis, bodywork, or other metal surfaces. A roof or wing aerial will usually be satisfactory. A wire under the car can give enough volume in some areas, but an interior wire is almost useless in saloons owing to the screening.

If the aerial is clear of the ignition system and other electrical equipment. direct pick-up of interference will be reduced. The usual suppressors will be necessary and must be added.

The lead-in should also be well clear of electrical circuits. If not, it must be screened. Screening will usually be necessary when the receiver is fitted in the front of the vehicle. Whether or not interference is being picked up by the lead-in or aerial can easily be found by disconnecting these in turn from the receiver. Direct pick-up can be almost prevented by using a metal cabinet. An accumulator supply with positive connected to vehicle chassis is usual, so that receiver and vehicle must not be in contact.

An on/off switch has to be included in one battery lead, and this can be at the speaker position. or in the receiver, whichever is more convenient. The choke must be of very low resistance and does not seem easily obtainable. The secondary of an output transformer of fairly generous size may be used here, or a choke can be wound with 16 s.w.g. or similar wire.

(To be continued)



#### 7.-HOW TO DIAGNOSE FAULTS IN THE SET

### By E. V. King

IN the last article we concluded with methods of checking the speaker and further information is given below.

4. Check on resistance range that pins 1 and 5 (on 6V6 pins 1 and 7) are earthing properly.

5. You may check the valve as follows. If all above are O.K. by putting a meter on current range in the H.T. lead to TR2. If low then valve emission is low (unless R9 has increased in value). If high R9 or C11 are probably faulty.

Readers should note that the meter used for the 400 ohm columns in the charts was the Avo-Minor No. I and that the new Multiminor has a resistance of 10,000 ohms per volt. With the Multiminor all readings will be the same, except for pin 4 (the screen) of each valve, which will read higher.

#### Speaker Gives Slight Hum but No Signals Preliminary Tests.

1. Touch top cap V3 with lead removed. Loud hum from speaker shows that V3 and associated circuit are O.K.

2. Replace connector to top cap. Try again. Hum, with less volume should be heard. If not then C14/R10 are at fault (on 6V6 for T.C. read pin 5).

By the way, a check on the goodness of C14 can be carried out by doing test 5 under Valve 3 check and while doing it unsoldering C14 from V2 anode. No difference *at all* should be shown in the static current readings. If there is a difference, even of ImA replace C14.

3. If no results after above two tests then check on Valve 3 as shown above.

Valve 2 check.

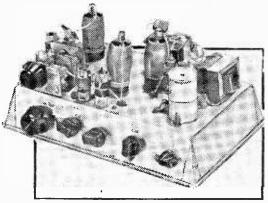
1. Verify that finger on V3 grid gives speaker response.

2. Replace grid lead to V3 and remove lead to V2 T.C. Touch with the finger. Loud hum shows that V2 is live. Remove finger and move it about in the air  $\frac{1}{2}$ in. away from T.C. Hum and/or squeal should vary as the finger is moved. If it does V2 is O.K. If not V2 or its circuit is faulty. Note we have not tested tuned circuit yet, Replace top cap before continuing.

3. Check H.T. at pin 7. If low check H.T. supply as stated.

4. Check H.T. at junction R6 and C9. If low suspect C9.

5. Check H.T. at pin 3. If nil check H.T. is arriving at Z PHF1. If it is then one of the



PHF coils is faulty. If not lead to R6 'C9 is shorting or open circuit.

6. Check H.T. at pin 4. If low or high R7 or C10 is faulty.

7. Check bias at pin 2. If high R12 is open circuit, if low C17 is faulty (or valve is to blame).

8. Current check is not very satisfactory in the detector circuit but it should be approximately as on the chart. Readings with and without a signal will vary somewhat. Put the meter on current range in series with the lead from R12 to chassis, i.e., unsolder R12 from its tag. If current is high suspect wrong values or a faulty C17. If low suspect wrong values or a faulty valve. Test by substitution.

9. Place head phones between top cap and earth. Removing the lead formerly thereon. Speak into them. If sound comes from speaker, though distorted, all is well. If not, if above tests are O.K., valve is faulty.

Valve 2 tuned circuit check.

1. Verify that phone check on V2 T.C. is O.K. 2. Place a long aerial on red of PHF2. Tune. No signal shows coils or associated connections on the secondary sides (red to "X") are faulty.

on the secondary sides (red to "X") are faulty. 3. Remove aerial and place it on Y of PHF2. Tune. No signal shows that the coil wiring on the primary sides is faulty ("Y" to "Z").

4. Remove V1. Place aerial carefully in pin 3 socket. You should get reception. If not lead from pin 3 to PHF coils is faulty. Replace the valve in its sockets.

#### Value 1 Check

1. Scrape the top cap of this valve with a piece of wire. Crackles should be heard in the speaker. If not VI circuit or valve is faulty. Keep volume on full, but not oscillating.

2. Remove top cap connector. Place aerial on top cap. Tune in, Loud hum should be present as modulation on the local stations. If not VI or VI circuit is to blame (as distinct from VI tuned circuit).

3. If loud modulation hum is present but radio does not operate then the P.A. coils and associated wiring are at fault.

4. If loud modulation hum is not present, R2 being full on, of course, then check voltages on valve.

| -                                                     |                                        |               | _                                                               |                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                       |                                        | 40.02         | Reading                                                         | 180 v.<br>195 v.<br>No test<br>10 v.<br>25 v.<br>4/6 v.              |
| Mains<br>Leaky Grid Circuit<br>as Figs. 22 or 35      | 4(                                     | Range         | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 mA |                                                                      |
|                                                       | Leaky G<br>as Figs.                    | 75000'        | Reading                                                         | 180 v.<br>195 v.<br>No test<br>12 v.<br>30 v.<br>4/6 v.              |
|                                                       |                                        | 1,0           | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 v.<br>1 mA        |
| 200 v. A.C. Main                                      |                                        | 40012         | Reading                                                         | 180 v.<br>195 v.<br>20 v.<br>30 v.<br>25 mA                          |
| 10                                                    | 20<br>Anode Bend as<br>Fig. 23         | 40            | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>2.5 mA               |
|                                                       |                                        | 0000          | Reading                                                         | 180 v.<br>195 v.<br>1.2 v.<br>35 v.<br>65 v.<br>4/6 v.               |
|                                                       |                                        | 1.0           | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 v.<br>1 mA                  |
|                                                       |                                        | 1.600 2 403 2 | Reading                                                         | 225 v.<br>280 v.<br>No. 16st<br>10 v.<br>30 v.<br>5 mA               |
|                                                       | id Circui                              |               | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 v.<br>25 mA       |
|                                                       | Leaky Grid Circui<br>as Figs. 22 or 35 |               | Reading                                                         | 225 v.<br>280 v.<br>No test<br>12 v.<br>40 v.<br>5 m                 |
| 240 v. A.C. Mains<br>Anode Bend Circuit<br>as Fig. 23 |                                        |               | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 v.<br>1 mA        |
|                                                       |                                        | 77077         | Reading                                                         | 225 v.<br>280 v.<br>30 v.<br>35 v.<br>35 v.<br>35 v.<br>35 v.        |
|                                                       | d Circui<br>g. 23                      | 400           | Range                                                           | 500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>25 v.              |
|                                                       | Anode Ber<br>as Fi                     | 1,0002        | Reading                                                         | 225 v.<br>280 v.<br>1.5 v.<br>50 v.<br>75 v.<br>4/6 v.               |
|                                                       |                                        |               | Range                                                           | D.C.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>500 v.<br>7 m A.C.   |
| Mains used                                            | Valve circuit                          | Meter used    | Test Points as under                                            | Unaction R6 C9 (V2, H.T.)<br>Pin 7 (Main H.T.)<br>Pin 2<br>Pin 2<br> |

"Radio " Position) .5 3 and THE TABLE ABOVE GIVES TEST FIGURES FOR V2 (52

THE TABLE BELOW SHOWS TEST FIGURES FOR V3

| Mains Used                 |        |         | 24      | 240 v. A.C. Main: | Mains  |                             |       |              |        |         | ň      | 200 v. A.C. Mains | Mains  |         |        |         |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------|--------|---------|--------|-------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| Valve Used                 | <br>   | SP4     | SP41/61 |                   |        | 61                          | 6V6   |              |        | SP41/6  | 1/61   |                   |        | 6       | 6V6    |         |
| Meter Used                 | 0.1    |         | 40      | 40022             | 1,0,1  | 770001                      |       | 670          |        | 7700    | 4      | 40022             |        | 77000   | 4      | 400.22  |
| Test Points as under       | Range  | Reading | Kange   | Reading 1         | Kange  | Reading   Kange Reading   h | tang  | e Reading Ra | Range  | Reading | Range  | Range Reading     | Range  | Reading | Range  | Reading |
|                            | DC     |         | D.C.    |                   | D.C.   | l                           | 00    |              | D.C.   | I       | D.C.   |                   | 0.0    |         | •      | 1       |
| Main H.T. pin 7 (6 on 6V6) | 500 v. | 240 4.  | 500 v.  | 240 v.            | 500 v. | 225 v.                      | 00    | 225 v.       | 500 v. | 195 v.  | 500 v. | 195 v.            | 500 v. | 190 v.  | 500 v. | .v 061  |
| pin 2 (8 on 6V6)           | 5 %.   | 3.5 V.  | 5 4.    | 3.5 V.            | 25 v.  | 24 v.                       | 25 4  | 24 v.        | 5 <.   | 3.2 v.  | 5 4.   | 3.2 v.            | 25 v.  | 18 v.   | 25 v.  | 18 v.   |
| pin 3 (3 on 6V6)           | 500 v. | 235 v.  | 500 v.  | 235 v.            | 500 v. | 215 v.                      | v 003 | 215 v.       | 500 v. | 190 v.  | 500 v. | 190 v.            | 500 v. | 180 v.  | 500 v. | 180 v.  |
| pin 4 (4 on 6V6)           | 500 v. | 240 v.  | 500 v.  | 240 v.            | 500 v. | 225 v.                      | 00    | 225 v.       | 500 v. | 195 v.  | 500 v. | 195 v.            | 500 v. | 190 v.  | 500 v. | 190 v.  |
|                            | A.C.   |         | A.C.    |                   | A.C.   |                             | A.C.  |              | A.C.   |         | A.C.   |                   | A.C.   |         | A.C.   |         |
| pin 8 (2 on 6V6)           | 25 v.  | 4'6 v.  | 25 v.   | 4'6 v.            | 25 v.  | 6 v.                        | 25 v  | 6 ۷.         | 25 v.  | 4/6 v.  | 25 v.  | 4'6 v.            | .25 v. | 6 v.    | 25 v.  | 6 v.    |
|                            | 10mA   | 7.5 mA  | 25 mA   | 7.5 mA            | 100 mA | 30 m A                      | 00 m  | 30 m A       | 10 mA  | Am A    | 25 mA  | 6 mA              | 100 mA | 24 mA   | 100 mA | 24 mA   |

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

5. Check voltage on pin 3 (volume control on full).

6. Check voltage on pin 5 (this will vary according to value of R3, see text). Suspect R2, R3, C4, C2, 7. Check bias on pin 2. If wrong sus-

pect R1, C3.

8. Put meter on current range and in lead from Y on PHF2 to junction R5 and C8. If reading high then suspect R1, C3. If low and above tests O.K. suspect valve. Test by substitution.

It is hoped that the beginner will now feel quite confident that not only has he been able to build a good serviceable receiver but that he can service it with some degree of skill. The beginner should try to work out why voltage variations could be caused by the components suggested above. The author makes no pretence that the above faultfinding system is absolutely fault proof. He doubts if there is such a system anyway, especially are intermittent and distortion troubles difficult to find without a good technical knowledge.

There is no better aid to good faultfinding than a good brain and a thorough understanding of the receiver under consideration. If you have made the receiver you should have both aids at your disposal.

The receiver may be placed in a wooden or plastic cabinet but not a metal one. A short picture-rail aerial will do for ordinary use so the receiver makes a small convenient bedroom receiver, but some of the author's friends have these operating in their living-rooms and find them very useful. Those who like Luxembourg can receive it well, but with some fading (no A.V.C. is fitted and is not really practical on this type of receiver). The author has sometimes been given a very old radio for servicing invariably one refused by the servicing department of a local shop. Usually, on brief investigation the author has to agree with the shop that it is not worth while replacing valves. switches, etc. The author usually suggests to the owner that he could build this T.R.F. receiver in the cabinet on the chassis for a few pounds. The tuning gang is used. The H.T. supply is used with new electrolytics. The speaker is used, with suitable arrangements if it is mains energised. The straight T.R.F. using three SP61s or 41s (the latter usually, as old sets are of 4 volt types), is built in using the old valve holes. Not one complaint has come along, so readers may consider this idea when confronted with similar problems (where cash is the main consideration).

The wiring of the receiver may be tidied up somewhat. For instance, to help the beginner main H.T. was taken from pin 7 of V2 to the other valves. It is neater and uses less wire to take H.T. from C13 to V3, then to V2 and on to V1. It is also possible and good policy to make pin 7 of each valve the decoupled H.T. point in lieu of the main H.T. point. If you feel confident, rearrange R5/R6/C8/C9 accordingly. If in doubt leave well alone. In a similar way you may now take the filament line to V3, then to V2 and finally to V1. Long untidy wires are again eliminated. The last prototype was altered in this way.

## Suggested Faults for the beginner to find by systematic search.

1. Mains lead to MR1 unsoldered.

2. One end of R11 unsoldered.

3. R7 unsoldered from pin 4 V2.

4. Lead from R2 to pin 4 V1 unsoldered.

5. C16, shorted with a fine piece of wire.

6. R6 disconnected at one end.

7. Lead from pin 3 V1 disconnected from "Y" on PHF2,

8. Lead from S1 to chassis unsoldered from chassis.

# Transmitting Topics

Re my article in the March issue, it is as well to mention that the old trick of applying negative feedback to the driver stage is a great help in providing good drive. The loss in gain in the driver should be remembered, however, and unless adequate gain is available from the speech amplifier. a little extra pre-amplifier gain must be provided. With the circuit values of Fig. 5, the loss in gain is about three to one, so one should have about 10 db. reserve gain in the speech amplifier. Generally reserve gain of this order is available.

A further point that is mentioned to prevent readers being confused, is that some of the figures quoted for 807 power outputs and load impedances, and those calculated for conditions short of the maximum figure may not agree with some published figures. There is a good reason for this. Firstly the handbook figure for the full 120 watt output at 750 volts is not quoted by British makers. This is because the British figures refer only to Service high reliability continuous running conditions. and not to the American peak ratings for "Intermittent Commercial and Amateur Services."

A further reason why power output and impedances may not agree at reduced voltages with the makers' figures is that the ratings, outputs and impedances calculated by the method described gives the amateur the maximum power output at low voltages. The maker's conditions at lower voltages are often designed to give quite low distortion, and in some cases are a compromise between Class AB2 and Class A operation. in that the zero signal standing current is increased over its value for Class AB2 operation, so that distortion is lowered and anode current swing is reduced. This is a help in conventional 9. R5 unsoldered at one end.

10. Filament transformer unsoldered from earth on one side.

11. PHF2 "X\* disconnected from PHF1 "Red."

12. PA2 "Z" disconnected from PA1 "Y."

**Components Required for Modifications** 

Fuses and fuse holders to suit, see text.

Warning lamp, 4 or 6 volts, 3 watts, and suitable holder, or

Baby Neon lamp, 90 volts, with suitable holder (G. R. Products, 22, Runnymead Ave., Bristol).

If leaky grid detector is fitted then gram/radio switch is required, the type being rotary, 3-pole, 3-way with insulated operating knob; also 1 400 ohm  $\frac{1}{2}$  resistor and 1 20 v. 12 or 25 mfd. condenser.

If a 6V6 is fitted you require:

1 6V6 valve, metal or glass will do.

1 International Octal holder. Paxolin is cheap and suitable.

1 400 ohm 2 watt resistor (R9).

If internal volume control is fitted for "gram" a suitable value is given in the text.

audio amplifier design. For the amateur, however, the full power conditions are those of interest. For this reason bias conditions may be adjusted so that some 60 to 80 mA standing anode current is drawn by Class AB2 807s. Those skilled at juggling with load lines and characteristic curves might find, for example, that a little extra power might be achieved by biasing down to 25 mA or less starding current. However, while zero-bias triode connected 807s take only some 15 mA standing current, this is a condition best avoided with Class AB2 807s, owing to the greater demands upon power pack regulation, and the power increase obtainable is only a few per cent.

We might sum up briefly by saying that provided the impedance values are recalculated we can obtain good audio output from a modulator even at reduced anode voltages. The calculation of available power and required load impedance applies to all types of Class AB2 and Class B modulators, although the popular 807 has been used as an example throughout. Where power pack regulation is poor. in some cases by operating at a high anode voltage and restricting the anode current swing. preferably with the appropriate alteration of load impedance the current swing may be reduced in cases where the full audio power is not required. Readers are warned, of course, that the anode voltage for power output calculation is the voltage to which the H.T. line has sagged at full signal output and not the higher value when no signal is applied. Generally if the H.T. volts have sagged by 10 per cent. from the expected figure. a 10 per cent. loss of audio power results.

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# **TRANSISTURS** *in Practice—conclusion*

### No. 11.-" SINGLE-ENDED " PUSH-PULL CIRCUIT

THE circuit shown in Fig. 8 is of a practical unit built to test out the theory given in the previous issue. The circuit is identical with Fig. 7 except that now the load is shown as a speaker and component values are marked. The speaker has to have a speech coil higher than those generally in use and actually an impedance of 35 ohms is used. This speaker is available from the W.B. range and is one of the miniatures developed for transistor circuits. It is an elliptical unit in a frame of overall size 2 11/16in.  $\times$  1 27/32in. Special mention of the required speech coil should be made, however. because otherwise a unit with the more usual 3 ohms coil will be supplied and that will not suit the present design. The transistors used to drive the speaker are Mullard OC72, and these should be obtained as a matched pair. The drive transformer. TFR, is available from the Belclere Company in Oxford and has the type number GX2078: this component has a ratio of 7:1 plus 1.

The present design does not include a driver stage, but to show the constructor how to use it Fig. 8 gives also the circuit of a simple first stage using a Mullard OC71. This could be the end stage of the audio amplifier designs dealt with in detail in the previous series, it being necessary

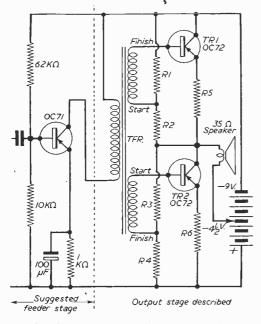
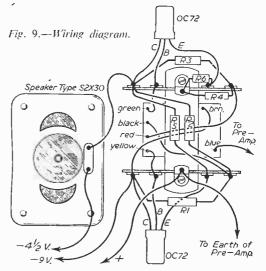


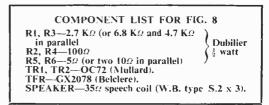
Fig. 8.—Circuit diagram showing connection to preceding stage.

only to remove the coupling transformer used for the earlier designs and substitute the one contained in the present work. The OC71 stage given in Fig. 8 will require the addition of the necessary input components to match the source of signal if there is to be no transistor before it.

The method of construction is very simple. The transformer is simply turned upside down and a soldering tag strip with four tags phis earth is bolted to each mounting hole of the transformer with the tags inside the bolt holes. This will be seen from the wiring diagram given in Fig. 9. The four secondary leads are connected to the appropriate tags first as indicated.



these being colour coded for identification. They are connected to give inputs of opposite phase to the two bases. The brown lead, being the start of the primary winding, goes to the battery negative tag and the blue one is left free to take the input signal. A lead from one of the carth tags goes also to the earth line of preceding circuits. The various resistors are then wired in —there are no capacitors. Note that only one side of the speaker is connected to the tags; the other side goes direct to the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  volts point of the battery. The transistors are the last items to be soldered on to the tags and as this unit in its present form is only experimental the full length of leads of the OC72s is left on and these stand vertically upwards from the tags. To test this unit a 9-volt battery of the type once used for grid bias purposes (and presumably still used because they are still available) was used.



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#### PRACTICAL WIRELESS



# A.C. PRE-TUNED SUPERHET

## This Sensitive Receiver has Switched Tuning of One L.W. and Four

### M.W. Stations

**RE-SET** receivers appear to have a wide popularity, and the superhet type of circuit has much to recommend it under present-day listening conditions. The circuit described here provides for the automatic selection of five stations, a rotary switch being employed. Such switches are readily obtainable (which may not always be the case with pushbutton types) and are in some ways easier to fit and wire.

The circuit, shown in Fig. 1, has one or two points worth noting. "Potted" aerial coils are used, with bottom-end coupling and an aerial filter circuit which isolates the aerial and prevents modulation hum of the type caused by faulty insulation of the aerial wire. This coil circuit is simple and selective. The frequency changer and I.F. stage follow usual design. All the valves are of the octal type and very readily obtainable. As no further A.F. amplification is required, a double-diode is used for detection and A.V.C. This was preferred to the use of a double-diode-pentode, in view of the cost of the latter and the difficulty sometimes experienced in obtaining it. A 'delay voltage is applied to the A.V.C. cathode. Without this, the A.V.C. action is too powerful and all stations are much reduced in volume.

A separate control is used for volume, as this has advantages in preset receivers. The on/off switch is also employed as a simple tone control. A valve rectifier is used as less hum is experienced with this type, with a given amount of smoothing, than with metal rectifiers. A .01  $\mu$ F condenser reduces the possibility of modulation hum here.

## By F. G. Rayer

and hum on all stations is almost inaudible, even during silent periods.

All valves have 6.3 v. heaters, operated in parallel from a 6.3 v. transformer. This avoids the heat of a mains-dropper and the adjusting of this component which would be required if 25 v. 3 amp. output and rectifier valves were used for a .3 amp. heater chain.

#### Layout

The chassis is  $6in. \times 10in. \times 2in.$  deep, and the positions of the major components will become apparent from Fig. 2. All the valveholder keyways should be situated as illustrated, to avoid wiring difficulty or errors.

The 8 plus 16  $\mu$ F condenser tags project through clearance holes and must on no account touch the chassis. A pair of 4in, holes under each 1.F, transformer allows leads to pass through from these.

The selector switch requires five poles, and wiring is simplified if single-pole wafers are used, so that there are five separate wafers. One wafer can then be employed for each circuit position. Switches of this kind may be purchased new, and are also offered cheaply by various advertisers of ex-service-equipment. One "way" or position is required for each station. The switch illustrated has six positions, one being unused. Unrequired tags may be left disconnected if a smaller number of pre-selected stations is required; or the tags can be wired to a gang condenser, for manual tuning, as will be explained.

This switch is fixed to a support bolted to the

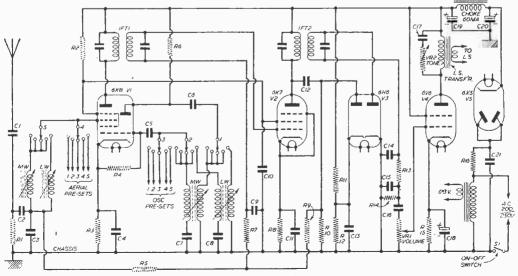


Fig. 1.—The circuit of the receiver.

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front of the chassis and to a rear bracket, which also helps to support the preset condenser assembly. If the specified coils are used, the 'tag wiring will be as shown in Fig. 2. In case of difficulty, or when using other coils, the coilmaker's data and diagrams should be followed.

#### Selector Switch

Reference to Figs. 2 and 3 will clarify connections to this item. Wafer 1 is concerned with switching the anode circuit of the oscillator, and is wired to the 2.000 pF coupling condenser. In four positions the M.W. oscillator coil feedback winding is in circuit, the remaining position transferring to the L.W. coil. The second wafer switches the oscillator grid circuit in exactly the same way. When wiring, it is helpful to connect the presets systematically, so that the pair in circuit at any switch position, is at once apparent. The left-hand one of each pair is for aerial tuning, and the right-hand one for the oscillator. Capacity effects, especially with a metal screwdriver, will be much reduced if the top platein each case, is in the earth side of the circuit. All these tags are wired together, and to chassis.

The capacities given in Fig. 4 are most generally suitable, but in a few cases one or more of the condensers may require modification. For example, the  $2 \times .005 \ \mu\text{F}$  condenser for the MW4 position is for the high-wavelength Third Programme. If the low-wavelength station is best received, 100 pF or 50 pF condensers will

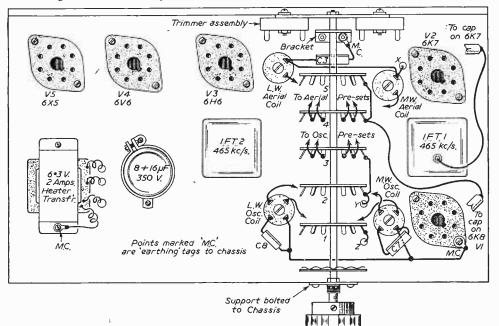


Fig. 2.—The layout on top of the chassis.

Wafer 3 selects, in turn, any one of the five preset oscillator tuning condensers.

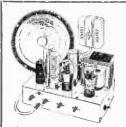
The fourth wafer is employed for the aerial coil presets, while wafer No. 5 selects the M.W. aerial coil in four positions, and the L.W. coil in the last position. If Figs. 2 and 3 are studied these points should be immediately clear. If any doubt is felt about wiring, it is suggested the M.W. coils, with one twin preset, be wired up first and the receiver got into working condition. The other presets and L.W. coils can then be wired to the remaining switch tags.

The presets themselves are fitted at the back of the set. as shown in Fig. 4. Two strips, mounted vertically, support the larger condensers, which are bolted behind. A further strip across the top holds these rigid, and is in turn bolted to the bracket holding the back of the selector switch. The two small postage-stamp type trimmers are bolted to the top strip. be necessary. Tuning throughout the whole of the band is not possible with .0005  $\mu$ F presets, because of their high minimum capacity. That is why smaller capacities are used for lower wavelength .stations.

#### Underchassis Wiring

The primary of the first I.F. transformer is wired to 6K8 anode and H.T. positive. The secondary of this transformer is wired to the junction of the 100 K resistor and .1  $\mu$ F condenser. as shown. The remaining secondary lead issues from the top of the screening can. and is taken to the top cap of the 6K7.

In the second position, the transformer primary is wired to 6K7 anode and H.T. positive. The secondary is wired to the one diode of the 6H6, as shown, and to the junction of 50 pF condenser and 47 K resistor. It is essential none (*Continued on page* 815)



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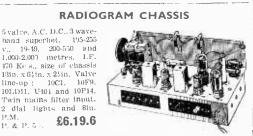
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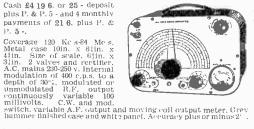
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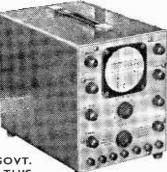
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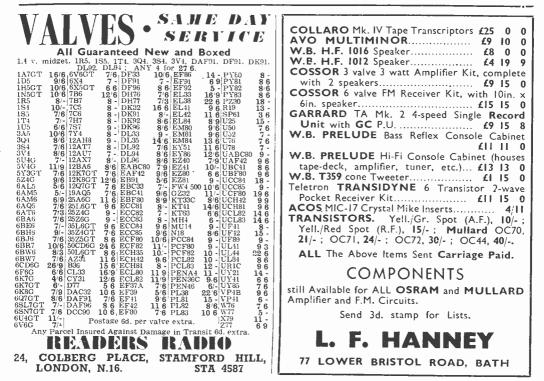
CONTROLS : brilliance, focus, X shift, Y shift, coarse time base, fine time base, synchronisation, Y amplitude, X amplitude, Y input selector switch.

FACILITIES : Y plates via (1) high gain amplifier, (2) low gain negative feedback amplifier, (3) isolating condenser, (4) isolating condenser and attenuator. Hard valve time base covering 5 c.p.s., to 150 kc/s. X plate deflection from external source via X amplifier. Synchronisation via sync., amplifier at Y or other frequencies. 50 c.p.s., calibrating voltage. Brilliance modulation. Flyback suppression.

PRICE: £17.17.0 or £4.4.0 down and 15 weekly payments of 18/9. Postage and packing 6/-.

## THE RANGE ELECTRONICS COMPANY CORMORANT WORKS, LETT ROAD, LONDON, E.15

Phone: MARyland 5266.



of the transformer connections be confused or wrongly made.

All other points are perfectly straightforward.

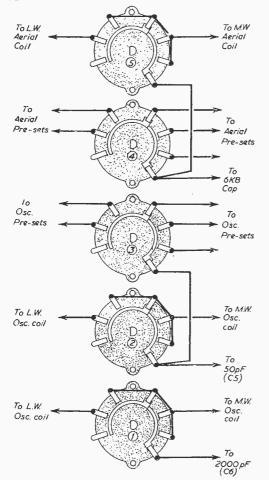


Fig. 3.—Wiring of the wafers of the selector switch.

chassis. In the case of the rectifier valveholder, two spare tags, marked "X," are used to anchor the mains leads. The lead, also marked "X," from the .01  $\mu$ F condenser passes through the chassis to the "earth" end of the coils as shown in Fig. 2.

Connections should be reasonably short and direct, and no bare joints, etc., should touch the chassis or other points in The set. Any wire of about 22 or 20 s.w.g. is suitable for wiring. Finned-copper wire solders most readily, and an insulated sleeving can be slipped over where necessary.

If the filament transformer has various input points, for 200 to 250 v, mains, the tags or leads for the appropriate mains voltage are chosen. Unused leads should not touch the chassis or

#### COMPONENT LIST

- 5 octal vaiveholders.
- 470 pF padders, and potted acrial coils with 2,500 pF coupling condenser : Osmor Radio Products.
- Preset condensers (see text) : Coventry Radio,
- 5-pole 5- or 6-way rotary switch. 6.3 v. 2 amp. heater transformer.
- 60 mA smoothing choke.
- 2 465 kc s. I.F. transformers.
- <sup>1</sup> wait resistors: 2 of 300 ohm. 2 of 10 K, 30 K, 33K, 2 of 47 K, 2 of 100 K. .5 megohm, 2 of 1 megohm.
- I watt resistors : 100 ohm, 240 ohm, 100 K.
- .25 megohm volume control. 25 K potentiometer with switch.
- Condensers: 4 of 50 pF mica : 2 of .01/F, .05/F, .001/F, 750 v. and .01/F, 750 v. 5 of .1/F, 350 v. 2,000 pF. 8 plus 16/F, 350 v. 50/F, 50 v. bias condenser.
- 50-60 mA output transformer, ratio 45:1 for 2-3 ohm speaker.

other points, and may be bound with tape. The underneath wiring plan and alignment details will be described next month.

(To-be continued)

| CONDENSER AN        | D RESISTOR VALUES                |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| C1001 #F (750 v.w.) | ) $C21 = .01  \mu F (750  v.w.)$ |
| C201 // F           | RI                               |
| C3-2,506pb          | R230K 😥                          |
| C41 #F              | R3                               |
| C5-50 pF            | R447K Ω                          |
| C6-2,000 pF         | R5—100Κ Ω                        |
| C7-470 pF           | R633K 🕸                          |
| C8-150 pF           | R7—100ΚΩ                         |
| <b>C9—.1</b> µF     | R8—300 🕰                         |
| C101 <i>p</i> F     | R9—1M 🛛                          |
| Ç11—.1 <i>p</i> F   | R10-1M Ω                         |
| C12-50 pF           | R11100Κ Ω (1 w.)                 |
| C13—.1 //F          | R12—10ΚΩ                         |
| C14-50 pF           | R13—47K 🖓                        |
| C1550 pF            | R145M Ω                          |
| C16—.01#F           | R15-240 Q (1 w.)                 |
| C17—.05 µF          | R16100 Q (1 w.)                  |
| C18-50 PF           | VR125M Ω +                       |
| C19—16 #F           | VR2—25K Ω                        |
| C20—8µF             |                                  |
|                     |                                  |
|                     | 100pFeach-                       |

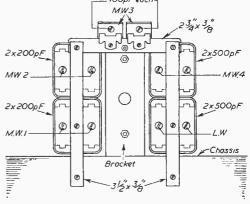
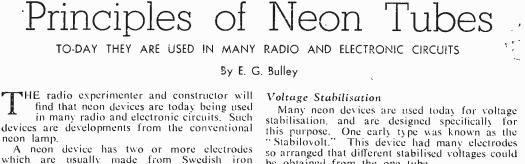


Fig. 4.-Mounting of the station trimmers.



although nickel is sometimes used. The electrodes may be of various shapes: likewise the spacing between them and the gas pressure are also design parameters. The electrodes are sealed into a glass envelope and during the evacuation process this is filled with neon.

#### **Operation of Neon Tubes**

To appreciate the action of the neon consider such a device which has two electrodes. By applying a voltage between these electrodes.

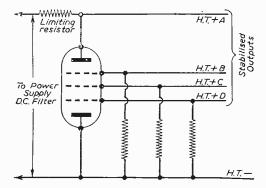


Fig. 1.-Circuit for obtaining several stabilised voltages.

nothing occurs until the voltage is sufficient to cause ionisation. This is a cumulative action which produces a glow discharge and is easily recognised by its reddish colour. When a dis-charge occurs, a current commences to flow through the device. Ionisation will not occur until the critical striking voltage has been reached.

#### Limiting Resistors

A neon device must have a suitable resistance in series with it and the voltage supply, otherwise, when the striking voltage is reached, it would be destroyed. The inclusion of the resistor limits the discharge current. The device has a characteristic similar to that of an ordinary electric arc, namely one of negative resistance.

Many neon lamps are fitted with a resistor within the base, enabling them to be operated directly from the mains supply. But for purposes such as voltage stabilisation, the resistor is separate from the device.

be obtained from the one tube.

A basic circuit for such a device is shown in Fig 1. The different stabilised voltages obtainable are represented by A. B. C and D. The advantages of the "Stabilovolt" are evident.

Other types of neons are available for voltage stabilisation. Many of these have only two electrodes. External resistors are necessary when incorporating these in any circuit, to limit the flow of current. The value of the resistor is dependent upon the maximum supply voltage as well as upon the ratio of the current through the load to the operating current of the neon tube. When calculating the value of the resistor. it should be ascertained that the value found will not cause the neon to be extinguished when the voltage across the tube falls to its minimum value. The maximum load current that can be stabilised is determined by the minimum and maximum values of the supply voltage.

It is, however, possible to operate two or more of this type of stabiliser in parallel in order to handle more load current.

Care must be taken to ensure that a resistor is included in series with each tube. This practice. although permissible, is not to be recommended as the stabilisation characteristic is affected.

#### A Basic Circuit

A basic circuit illustrating the use of a single neon stabiliser is shown in Fig. 2. The D.C. voltage output from the filter varies with the output current. As the voltage increases, the current through the limiting resistor and the neon tube increases, but the voltage across the neon tube remains constant from its striking point onwards to very nearly its maximum current rating. The current through the neon tube increases and the voltage drop across the limiting resistor also increases resulting in reduction of the D.C. supply voltage. Likewise, if the supply voltage reduces

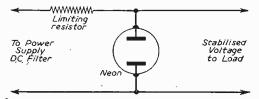


Fig. 2.—Basic circuit for a single neon stabiliser. (Continued on page 820)

#### PRACTICAL WIRELESS

| 1 0 /                                         |             | LARGEST                 | RANGE O               |                        | G VALVES I                 | N THE NO               | RTH OF                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                                               | ALVES       |                         | D. ALL AV             |                        |                            |                        | ST FREE.               |
|                                               | aranteed    | ENGLAN                  | D. ALL AT             | AILADLE E              | A-STOCK. K                 | ETOKN PO               | SI FREE.               |
|                                               |             | PEN45 27/10             | UU6 20/11             | 2X2 4/6                | 16F6M 7/6                  | 7B7 8/6                | 20F2 27/10             |
| ALPHA AI                                      |             | PEN46 7/-               | UU8 27/10             | 3A4 7/-                | 6F13 14/-                  | 7C5 8/                 | 20PI 27/10             |
|                                               | Before      | PEN220A                 | UU9 8/6               | 3D6 5/-                | 6FI5 14/-                  | 7C6 8/-                | 20P3 24/4              |
| I CERTAN                                      |             | 4/-                     | UY4I 8/6              | 3Q4 9/-                | 6G6G 4/6                   | 7D6 13/6               | 20P5 20/11             |
|                                               |             | PENA4 15/-<br>OP21 7/6  | UY85 10/-<br>VP2B 8/- | 3Q5GT 9/6<br>3S4 8/-   | 6H6 2/6<br>6H6GT 2/6       | 7H7 9/-<br>7O7 9/-     | 25A6G 11/6<br>25L6GT   |
| AC6PEN 6/6 LEE37A 12/-                        |             | R19 13/6                | VPI3C 3/6             | 3V4 9/-                | 615M 6/6                   | 757 9/6                | 10/-                   |
| AC6PEN 6/6   EF37A 12/-<br>AC/THI EF39 6/6    |             | SP41 3/-                | VP23 6/6              | 4DI 3/-                | 616 6/-                    | 7Y4 8/6                | 25Y5 9/9               |
| 34/9 EF40 14/6                                |             | SP61 3/-                | VP41 8/6              | 5R4GY 9/6              | 6j7G 6/6                   | 8D2 2/9                | 2SY5G 9,9              |
| ATP4 3/6 EF41 9/9                             |             | T4I 24/4                | VR105/30              | 5U4G 8/-               | 6j7M 9/-                   | 9D2 3/6                | 25Z4 9/6               |
| AZ31 12/6 EF42 14/-                           |             | TP25 27/10              | 8/-                   | 5Y3G 8/-               | 6K6GT 7/-                  | IOFI                   | 25Z5 10/-              |
| CBL31 24/4 EF50 4/-                           |             | UI0 10/6                | VR116 4/-             | 5Y3GT 8/<br>5Z4G 10/-  | 6K7G 5/-<br>6K7M 6/9       | (Seconds)<br>15/-      | 25Z6 10/-<br>30F5 10/- |
| CCH35 24/4 EF54 6/-                           | KTW63 7/6   | UI4 (DW 4/500) 8/6      | VR150/30<br>9/-       | 5Z4G 10/-              | 6K8G 8/6                   | 12A6 6/6               | 30FLI 11/6             |
| CL33 13/- EF80 8/6<br>CY31 12/- EF85 9/-      |             | U22 8/-                 | VU120A 3/6            | 6A8G 10/-              | 6K8GT 10/-                 | 12AH8 11/6             | 30P4 21/7              |
| DAF96 10/6 EF86 14/6                          |             | Ŭ26 I2/6                | VU39 (MU              | 6AC7 6/6               | 6K25 20/11                 | 12AT6 10/6             | 30P12 12 6             |
| DF96 10/6 EF89 10/-                           |             | U37 27/10               | 12/14) 8/9            | 6AG5 5/6               | 6L6G 9/-                   | 12AT7 9/               | 30PLI 12/6             |
| DH63 9/- EK32 8/6                             |             | U45 15/-                | VUIII 2/6             | 6AK5 6/6               | 6L7 7/6                    | 12AU6 10/6             | 35L6GT 9/6             |
| DK96 10/6 EL32 5/6                            |             | U50 8/-                 | W77 8/6               | 6AL5 6/6               | 6L18 15/-                  | 12AU7 8/-              | 35W4 8/6               |
| DL96 10/6 EL33 20/2                           |             | U403 17/5               | W729 13/6<br>X65 11/6 | 6AM6 9/-<br>6AO5 7/6   | 6N7 7/6<br>6P28 27/10      | 12AX7 9/-<br>12BA6 9/- | 35Z4GT 8/              |
| DM70 8/6 EL38 27/10                           | N78 12/6 1  | U404  1/10              | X78 15/-              | 6AT6 8/6               | 607G 9/-                   | 12BE6 10/6             | 42 8/-                 |
| EASO 1/6 EL41 11/-<br>EABC80 10/- EL42 12/-   |             | U801 31/4               | X79 11/6              | 6AU6 10/6              | 607GT 9/-                  | 12H6GT 3/-             | 50C5 11/6              |
| EABC80 10/- EL42 12/-<br>EAF42 10/6 EL84 10/6 |             | UABC80                  | Y63 9/-               | 6B4 5/-                | 65A7GT 8/-                 | 125JGT 4/6             | 50CD6G                 |
| EB34 2/- EM34 10/6                            | PCF80 13/6  | 10/6                    | Z309 9/6              | 6B8G 4/-               | 6SG7 7/6                   | 1217GT 10/6            | 31/4                   |
| EB41 9/6 EM80 10/6                            |             | UAF42 10/6              | Z359 9/6              | 6BA6 7/6               | 6SH7 6/-                   | 12K7GT 7/6             | 50L6GT 8/6             |
| EBC33 7/6 EM81 11/6                           |             | UB4I 9/6                | Z759 9/6              | 6BE6 8/-<br>6BG6G 24/4 | 65J7 8/6<br>65K7 6/        | 12K8GT<br>13/6         | 75 11/6<br>77 7/6      |
| EBC41 10/- EY51 13/6                          |             | UBC41 10/-<br>UBF80 9/6 | 1A3 3/6<br>1A5GT 6/-  | 6BH6 16/-              | 65L7GT 8/                  | 1207GT 7/6             | 80 8,6                 |
| EBF80 10/6 EY86 13/6<br>EBF89 18/1 E740 9/-   |             | UCC84                   | 1A7 11/6              | 6B/6 9/-               | 65N7GT 7/6                 | 12SC7 1/6              | 142BT 3/6              |
| EBF89 18/1 EZ40 9/-<br>EBL21 24/4 EZ41 10/-   | PL83 11/6   | 20/11                   | 1C2 11/6              | 6BR7 11/6              | 6SQ7 9/3                   | 125G7 7/6              | 185BT 34/9             |
| EBL31 24/4 EZ80 8/9                           | PX25 12/6   | UCF80 23/-              | 1C5GT 12/6            | 6BW6 8/6               | 6U4GT 12/6                 | 12SH7 5/6              | 210DDT 4/6             |
| ECC84 10/3 EZ81 11/10                         |             | UCH42 10/6              | 1D5 12/6              | 6BVV7 10/-             | 6U5/6G5                    | 12SJ7 8/-              | 210VPT 3/6             |
| ECC85 9/6 EZ90 8/-                            |             | UCH81 11/6              | 1D6 12/6              | 6C4 7/-                | 18/1<br>6U5G 8/6           | 12SK7 6/-<br>12SL7 8/- | 807 6/6<br>954 2/-     |
| ECF80 13/6 EII48 2/-                          |             | UCL82 23/-              | 1H5GT 10/6<br>1L4 6/6 | 6C5GT 6/6              | 6U5G 8/6<br>6U7G 8/6       | 125L7 8/-              | 955 4/9                |
| ECF82 13/6 FW4/50010/-                        |             | UCL83 17/6<br>UF41 10/6 | 1L4 0/0               | 6C6 5/-                | 6V6G 7/-                   | 12319/01               | 956 3/6                |
| ECH21 24/4 GZ32 12/-<br>FCH35 10/6 H30 5/-    |             | UF85 10/6               | IR5 8/-               | 6C8G 5/-               | 6V6GT 7/-                  | 12SQ7 8/6              | 9001 5/6               |
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| ECL80 13/6 KF35 8/6                           |             | UL44 27/10              | 1T4 7/6               | 6D6 5/-                | 6X5G 7'-                   | 19BG6G<br>24/4         | 9004 5/6               |
| ECL82 13/- KK32 23/-                          |             | UL46 24/4               | 1U5 7/6<br>2C26 1/6   | 6FI 14/-<br>6F6G 7/6   | 6X5GT 7/-<br>6/30L2 12/6   | 2001 16/-              | 9006 5/6               |
| EF36 6/- KLL32 8/6                            | PEN44 27/10 | UL84 11/6               | 1/0                   | 10100 7/0              | TOTOLI ITO                 | 2001 10/-              | 1,200 3/0              |
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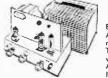
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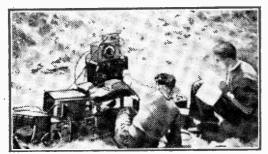
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#### WEST LANCS, RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec. : A. Crighton, 77, Myers Road West, Crosby, Lancs. DURING the recent 21st anniversary celebrations of the Borough of Crosby the Rotary Club organised a "Crosby at Leisure" Exhibition. The Society set up a "Fop Band " transmitter in the Exhibition

Hall, using a member's call sign, G3.1ZT A (Mr. K. Coates), and 40 contacts were made, including three very interesting ones, with mobiles

Recently the Society has acquired new accommodation at "Colonsay," Crosby Road South, the garden of which offers scope for the erection of a new antenna, which will spur on the reconstruction of the Club's transmitter.

the reconstruction of the Club's transmitter. During the last few months quite a few new members have circled, mainly schoolboys and young men. A programme of morse practice, lectures and, possibly, film shows is being prepared, commencing with "An Introduction to Receiver Alignment" by G3.FZG, and, later, practical demonstrations on the recently acquired equipment.

" Panel " to discuss set questions are other interesting items to be arranged.

RADAR & ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION

STUDENT Section at the Norwood Technical College, Room 214, Knight's Hill, London, S.E.27, at 7 p.m. 1958

November 14th.—Operational use of Radio Aids for Navigation. Lt.-Commander R. B. Michell, D.F.C. F.I.N. December 12th.—The Manufacture of Magnetrons and Klystrons. D. W. L. White, B.Sc. Eng.

1959

1959 January 9th.—" Television Wire Broadcasting." K. A. Russell, B.Sc., A.M.J.E.E. February 13th.—Trends and Developments in Marine Radar. March 13th.—Radar Data Handling, Dr. L. C. Payne, April 10th.—" A Modern British Marine Radar." (The B.T.H. 601." Escort.").

At the Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London W.C.2, at 7 p.m.

January 26th.—." Zeta" "Nuclear Power and Fusion." br. D. W. Fry. . March 2nd.—Being arranged. April 6th.—" Thermonuclear Research." Dr. T. F. Allihone, Dr.

F.R.S.

May 22nd.-Annual Dinner, Connaught Rooms, Gt. Queen Street, London, W.C.

#### THE SLADE RADIO SOCIETY

Hin, SLADD SOCIETY
 Head Juriters: The Church House, High Street, Frdington, Birmingham, 23.
 Programme: Fourth Quarter, 1958
 November 7th.—"Flectronics in the Hospital," by Mr. R. Lightwood of the Department of Surgery, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.
 November 21th Annual Courter Material

Idospital, Birmingham, Norometer, Gueen Hukachar, November 21st.—Annual General Meeting, December 5th.—Heid Demonstration (including Stercophonic) by Messrs. Altobass Ltd., Leicester.
December 19th.—"Fun and Games." presented by Messrs.
L. H. Blackwell and G. L. Turner (Members).
The Club Station (G3JBN) at The Church House is available for the use of members for constructional purposes. Instructional morse classes are held on every Tuesday and Thursday, at 745 pm. Slow morse transmissions are radiated on the air each Monday evening from Station G3AVJ on 1.9 Mc s., at 8 pm., Visitors to the Society's meetings, which commence at 7.45 pm. prompt, and to the Club Station, are cordially welcome. Full particulars of the Society and is activities may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Mr. C. N. Smart, 110, Woolmore Road, Erdington, Birmingham, 23.

## NEWS FROM THE LUBS

HALIFAX & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon, Sec. : A. Robinson (G3MDW), Candy Cabin, Ogden, Halifax.

Halitax. A T the monthly meeting on October 7th, 1958, held at the Sportsman Inn, Ogden, a very good attendance of members and friends heard a lecture by the Chairman, Mr. H. Makin (G3FDC), whose subject was "Receiver Construction." Mr. Arthur Robinson (G3MDW) received from the Halifax Boy Scout Association "The Thanks Badge" for organising the local amateur station in last May's "Jamboree on the Air."

BURTON-ON-TRENT & DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: D. J. Brown (G3CNT), The Old Vicarage. Newborough, Burton-on-Trent, Stalls. OFFICIAL meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in the Club Room. Stapenhill Institute. Stapenhill Road, Burton-on-Trent, and there is an informal weekly "Club Night" also on Wednesdays intervening. The Club has its own "rig" and will shortly be operating on top band and 80 under its own call-sign. The following programme has been arranged for November :-

The following programme has been arranged for November :--Wednesday, November 12th.---Judging of entries in the Tom Spencer "Constructor's Cup "Competition for home-built gear. Friday, November 21st.--The Annual Dinner, 7.30 p.m. at

the Station Hotel (next to Railway Station), Burton-on-Trent, tickets ten shillings each, available from the Secretary. Friends are cordially invited.

Sunday, November 30th .--- A further D F Contest will be held. Sunday, November 301n.—A further D P Contest with be field, starting from the Swan Hotel, Trent Bridge, at 2 p.m. and tinishing at 5 p.m. Tea and a Junk Sale will follow at The Royal Oak, Barton-under-Needwood. Friends from out of town are invited to participate and should please notify the Secretary a week in advance if they would like tea. New faces are always welcomed at the Club.

#### TORBAY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hon, See, : Goo, Western (G3LFL), 118, Salisbury Averue, Barton, Torquay.

THE main topic under discussion by the twenty members who attended the October meeting was the progressive step taken by securing premises for our new Club Headquarters. All were appreciative of the fact that for the first time in our club's history, it would now be possible to practice construction and repair work and also a school for instruction for the R.A.F.

and repair work and also a school for instruction for the R.A.T. could be brought into being. The speaker was our President, W. Sydenham (GSSY), whose subject, "Transmission and Reception of U.H.F.," was very well received. Next month, the same speaker will continue with "Miniature Antennas for U.H.F." This will take place on Miniature Antennas for U.H.F. This will take place on Saturday, November 8th 1958, at the Y.M.C.A., Torquay, 7.20 p.m.

BRADFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon, See, : David M. Pratt, G3KEP, 27, Woodlands Grov , Cottingley, Bingley.

Cottingley, Bingley. THE new session began with a lecture by D. G. Enoch (G3KLZ) on "Fault Finding Made Easy" on September 9th, P. J. Barowitz (G3LZW) will give a lecture and demonstration on "High Quality Sound Reproduction" on September 23rd, and on October 7th, there will be a lecture on "V.H.F. Equipment" by D. Skirrow (G3GFD). The Society is again arranging a course for the Radio Amateurs' Examination at the Bradford Institute of Technology. Further details of this may be obtained from the Principal of the Institute. Meetings of the Society arrangement before meetings. We welcome to our meetings all interested in radio and or television. Nov. 18 Communications receiver design and construction.

Nov. 18 Communications receiver design and construction. H. Makin (G3FDC).

Dec. 2. Social evening. Dec. 16. Resistor capacity bridges. A. R. Bailey, M.Sc. (G31BN).

Dec. 30. Film show by courtesy of Mullard Ltd., and R.S.G.B.

CLIFTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIFTY Hon, See, C. H. Bullivant, G3DIC, 25, St. Fillans Road, Catford, London, S.F.6. AT the Annual General Meeting held on September 12th the bolowing were elected to serve as club officers for 1059 (0).

At the Annual General Meeting held on September 12th the following were elected to serve as club officers for 1988 59 : W. A. Martin (G3FVG), chairman : N. E. Moore, hon, treasurer : C. H. Bullivant (G3DIC), hon, sceretary : E. God-mark (G3WL), R. Poppi, senior committee members : R. Schilling, junior committee member. The Club Charmonochia Cua and the Direction history

The Club Championship Cup and the Direction Finding Shield have been won this year by C. Hatfull (G3HZI). The Transmitting Field Day Trophy has been woal by C. Bullivant (G3DIC).

(Continued on page 820)

Nine members of the Society are taking classes for the Radio Amateurs' Examination.

Meetings are held every Friday at 7.30 p.m. at the clubrooms, 225, New Cross Road, London, S.E.14. Details of membership can be obtained upon application to the Hon. Secretary.

SPEN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY THE season opened on September 17th with the Annual General Meeting. Officials elected: President and treasurer: Mr. L. A. Metcalfe; vice-president and social secretary: Mr. J. Rose; secretary; Mr. N. Pride; committee: Mr. F. Varley (G2FCP), Mr. R. Tipping. Mr. J. Puel law Buckley.

Programme : Nov. 11th (Tuesday).-Mullard Meeting and Film Show. St. Georges Hall, Bradford. Nov. 26th.—Crystat Microphones. G. N. Newman, N.S.F.,

Keighley

Dec. 10th.—High Fidelity Sound Reproduction. A. E. Falkus, B.Sc., Fane Electronics, Batley.

Jan, 7th.—Film Show, Jan, 21st.—Bridge Circuits. S. Marsden, Jan, 24th.—Annual Dinner, Kingsway Cafe, Dewsbury, Feb, 4th.—Modern Methods of Record Reproduction. J. W. Thornes, Ltd., Dewsbury.

FEDERATION OF BRITISH TAPE RECORDING CLUBS Hon, Sec. : R. Penfold, 48, Holbrook Lane, Coventry, JUST recently, and especially during the first part of this year. a number of tape recorder owners have been gathering a number of tape recorder owners have been gathering together in their towns, cities and districts in order to form local

Tape Recording Clubs. The purpose behind this activity is one of common interest and assistance. Tape recorder owners can meet with others under the auspices of a club and can enjoy not only a friendly social atmosphere but also the fruits of other enthusiasts' experiences in the two-fold field of recorder technique and recorder use.

BURY RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec. : Mr. L. Robinson. 56. Avondale Avenue, Bury, Lancs. THE Bury Radio Society holds its meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the George Hotel, Kay Gardens. Bury.

Forthcoming meetings: Nov. 11th.—Lecture on "Single Side Band." by Mr. R. Hammond (G21G).

Dec. 916.—A.G.M. In addition to these meetings a class on "Radio Theory" is held every Tuesday at the George Hotel. These classes are intended to assist those preparing to take the Radio Amateurs' Exam.

COVENTRY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: A. Noakes (G2FTK), 4. Baron's Field Road. Coventry, Monday, November 10th : "Radio Theory," by V. A. Dalkin, B.Sc.

Friday, November 14th : Annual Dinner, Fletchamstead Hotel.

Monday, November 17th : Lecture, by W. Grimbaldeston (G6WH).

Monday, November 24th : Social evening. Monday, December 1st : Committee meeting.

#### PRINCIPLES OF NEON TUBES (Continued from page 816)

in value then the current through the neon is decreased, which in turn reduces the voltage drop across the resistor resulting in an increase in the D.C output voltage.

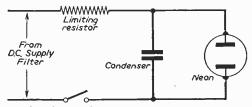


Fig. 3.—Circuit for a neon relaxation oscillator.

Other neon devices are available, one such that is manufactured in this country by Mullard is what is termed a voltage reference tube. Such

Monday, December 8th : Open meeting. Monday, December 15th : Junk Sale. All meetings at 9, Queens Road. Coventry at 7.30 p.m. In addition morse classes are held every Tucsday at 7.30 p.m. G2FTK and the club room is open every Friday when club members are engaged on constructional work. The society recently had a resounding win in the annual all-band MARS CARS contest.

 $A^{T}$  the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on September 22nd, 1958, the following officers and committee were elected :

were elected : President : H. Chater (G2LU), Vice-President : L. W. Gardner (G5GR), Chairman : D. W. Harries (G3RF), Vice-Chairman : P. H. Hawkes (G3LNO), Secretary : A. Noakes (G2FTK), Treasurer : J. Faldon, Committee : A. Clements, H. Drinkwater, T. Saxton (G3LJR), K. Lines (G3FOH), A. Whatley (G3CZS), P. Yardley,

TEES-SIDE AMATEUR RADIO (LUB Hon. Sec. : A. L. Taylor (GJJMO), 12 Endsleigh Drive, Middles-brough, Yorks. Tel. 86933.

THE club recently had a lecture by Brian Wilson (G3LX9) on measurement of liquid and material levels in vessels, etc., by capacity changes effected in electronic circuits. Some small-equipment was shown. These methods give remote indication of contents levels, warnings of full or empty bins, and so on at

remote points, or on containers which are not readily inspected. We had a tape from the Radio Society of Great Britain-on Aerials which was loaned, complete with associated charts.

on Aerials which was loaned, complete with associated charts. This is one of the valuable services given by the Society. On October 10th, Frequency Checking was discussed by A. L. Taylor (G3JMO), who showed how a 500 kc s crystal plus a chain of multivibrators could perform many functions in the shack, such as calibrating the receiver, stabilising the V.F.O., driving a clock, calibrating a 'scope and setting the Tx on as near the "band edge" as may be desired. A magic eye display unit to ensure band edge warning was explained, plus one or two circuits for harmonic amplification and a constant volume 800 c; s filter was discussed (no insertion loss). We shall join the West Hartlepool Club for their pie supper on Monday. November 24th.

LONDON SHORT WAVE CLUB Hon, Sec. : K. R. Piper (G3LOO). 2, Catherina Terrace, Stock-well, S.W.8. THE London Shortwave Club is being reformed. Meetings will be held at the Battersea Men's Institute, the club forming part of the Institute's activities. Meetings will be held weekly on Friday evenings, and as members will be members of the Institute, they will be able if they wish to take part in other of the Lastitute's activities.

they wish to take part in other of the Institute's activities. These include : elementary radio, advanced radio and R.A.E. course (at Honeywell school).

A role will be no addition to the L.C.C. fee. A full programme has been planned, to include a wide variety of lectures and demonstration sessions, and the club station will be available and active.

Interested persons should write to the above address in the first instance, so that some idea can be obtained as to the amount of interest in this proposal and an early informal preliminary meeting arranged.

tubes provide a voltage reference which is accurate within very fine limits.

Neon lamps are today used as indicators and are to be found in much amateur and professionally built equipment.

An interesting application is the neon relaxa-tion oscillator. A basic circuit for such an oscillator is shown in Fig. 3 and this produces a saw-tooth waveform. The neon tube provides the discharge path for the condenser.

A glass tube filled with neon at a specified pressure and containing no electrodes whatsoever is often used to indicate the presence of R.F. especially at amateur transmitting stations.

The reader will find experiments with neon devices both interesting and fascinating. Many are still available on the surplus market, but the base can be removed from a conventional neon lamp and the limiting resistor cut out of circuit to provide a neon suitable for experimental purposes.

PRACTICAL WIRELESS





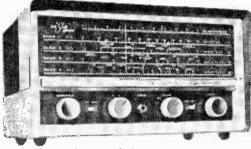
SOUTHERN RADIO SUPPLY LTD. II, LITTLE NEWPORT ST., LONDON, W.C.2. GER. 6653. MONTROSE AVENUE, SLOUGH, BUCKS. Telephone : Slough 21381 . . . . . Cables : Taylins. Slough

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

# News from the Trade .

#### NEW SHORT-WAVE RECEIVER

THE rewarding result of lengthy research and intensive effort, the all-new NC-60 Special has been introduced by the National Company. This special short-wave receiver is described as "the first, all-new, low-priced short-wave receiver



A new low-priced short-way? r.cciver.

in more than ten years." The NC-60 Special covers .54 to 31 Mc/s in four bands and features full electrical bandspread on all frequencies; separate general coverage and bandspread tuning capacitors for each band; front panel phone output jack and a large, well-lighted dial scale with standard broadcast, amateur, aircraft, marine, WWV, CD and foreign shortwave frequencies clearly indicated.

The modern cabinet, finished in two-tone black and grey enamel, and measuring 75in, high by 85in, deep by 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>in, wide, is the work of Peter Quay Yang, noted industrial designer.

#### PICKERING'S NEW STANTON STEREO-FLUXVALVE CARTRIDGE

A FTER intensive development and testing, the superior features of the well-known "Flux-valve" have been incorporated into this new stereo pickup—the Model 371 Stanton  $45 \times 45$  Stereo-Fluxvalve Cartridge.

The Stanton  $45 \times 45$  plays all microgroove records, either monophonic or stereophonic, equally well and automatically, without fuss or bother. Of truly miniature design, it will fit into all tone arms with standard  $\frac{1}{2}$  in, mounting centres. Performance assures a response flat within 2 db over the entire stereo recording range with complete absence of spurious resonance. This obviates



The Stanton Sterco-Fluxvalve Cartridge.

any possibility of groove-wall breakdown, thereby prolonging the "mint" condition of both record and stylus. Supplied with a .7 mil precisionpolished diamond stylus, mounted in Pickering's exclusive "T-Guard" stylus assembly. Ideal for record changers, players and transcription tone arms using a stylus force from 4 to 6 grams for proper tracking.

The Stanton 45  $\times$  45 Stereo-Fluxvalve has two balanced signal outputs for connection to the low mag outputs of a stereo-preamplifier (they may be connected in parallel for use with a conventional single-channel preamplifier). Output level is sufficient for all preamplifiers; no need to employ a transformer or other gain device. Exclusive "magnetic-discriminator" provides inter-channel isolation with negligible cross-talk.

Complete details and prices are available from Ad. Auriema. Inc., 85, Broad Street. New York 4, N.Y.

#### TURNER INTRODUCES NEW MULTI-USE MICROPHONE

THE addition of a new multi-use microphone, the 200 Series, to its line of microphones has been announced by The Turner Company.

According to the announcement, the new 200 Series is engineered to function as a hand, stand, desk or lavalier mike. This multi-use design feature allows dealers to fill a wider variety of orders from a smaller stock of microphones.

The 200 Series is available as a crystal, dynamic or ceramic. It can be used for broadcast, TV, public address, recording and amateur communications. The mike is die-cast zinc alloy with satin chrome finish, complete with 12ft, quality cable.

#### CALL SIGN TAGS

KAR KEE TAGS, 116. Commercial Road. Totton. Southampton. Hants, have for some considerable time been making key tags which take the form of the registration number plate of a car for owners to attach to the ignition keys.



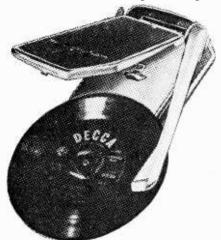
Call sign tags for key rings,

They are now catering for the amateur radio enthusiast by making similar tags stamped with call signs similar to that shown in the illustration. They can be carried on a key ring or screwed on to the set. The tags cost 4s, each plus postage.

#### THE WONDERGRAM

CAMP BIRD INDUSTRIES LTD., Camp Bird House, Dover Street, London, W.I, have solved the problem of playing records without the need for a turntable. They have produced a battery-operated record player that plays all sizes of record, and can be held in the palm of the hand.

It has two speeds, 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> and 45 r.p.m., and selects the right speed automatically. There is nothing to switch, adjust or turn. The motor is of the permanent magnet type with centrifugal electric governor, which maintains constant speed between 6 and 4 volts, allowing for voltage drop.



The Wondergram.

The amplifier is of the three transistor typesingle-ended push-pull Class B (no output transformer) for maximum efficiency. It has a ceramic pick-up, with matching transformer, the needle being sapphire tipped (semi-permanent).

The Wondergram measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in.  $\times$   $4\frac{1}{2}$  in.  $\times$ 11in. and weighs 2lb. It costs 14 guineas.

#### SPEAKER PRODUCTION

OODMANS INDUSTRIES, LTD., Axiom (T) Works. Wembley. Middlesex. inform us that they have ceased production of the Midax 400. This decision has been made because of the increasing popularity and demand for the Midax 650. mid-range pressure driven horn unit.

#### FIXED PROD VOLTAGE TESTER

A NEW fixed prod voltage tester has been introduced by the electrical equipment division of the Martindale Electric Co. Ltd., Westmorland Road, N.W.9. It will be of particular interest to linesmen and maintenance electricians, especially in works where there are mixed voltages.

#### STENTORIAN FIDELITY HIGH PRODUCTS

'HE comprehensive range of Stentorian high fidelity products obtainable at a reasonable cost has been improved and extended. There is now a range of loudspeakers varying in size from Igin, in diameter to 18in, in diameter and these units are available with a variety of cone constructions, speech coil impedances and magnet strengths to suit all requirements. Of particular interest are a 21in. loudspeaker with a rigid plastic chassis for portable equipment use and an 8in. loudspeaker with 17.000 gauss magnet for

horn loading operation. The 10in. and 12in. range has been extended to include units with magnets of 16,000 gauss and the cone tweeter range now includes a medium priced unit of 34in. diameter.

Stereophonic reproduction requirements are met by a range of special cabinet speakers. The two sizes of column loudspeakers are already familiar and to these have been added a corner stereo reproducer, the special feature of which is a mechanically adjustable mid-range reproducer. The well-known range of breakdown cabinets is still available and has been augmented by the Prelude Major and the Prelude Horn Loaded cabinets supplied in fully assembled form.-Whiteley Electrical Radio Co. Ltd., Victoria Street, Mansfield, Notts,

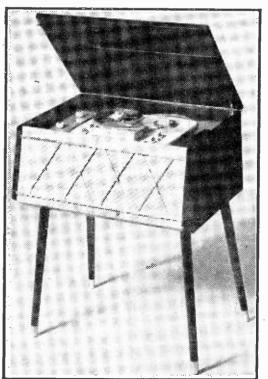
### VERITONE VENUS

`HE new Veritone tape recorder is fitted into an acoustically designed box finished in rich sapele mahogany with silk frontpiece and gilt fittings.

Separate record and playback amplifiers give facilities for playback (as distinct from monitoring) while recording and superimposing. Echo effects are also possible.

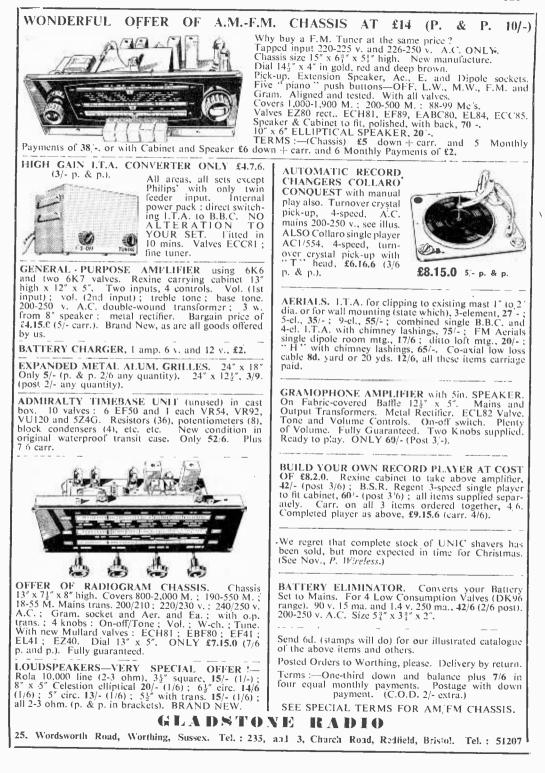
#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

TAAR ELECTRONICS LTD., have now moved to 2. Princes Row. Buckingham Palace Road. S.W.1.



The new Veritone tape recorder.

PRACTICAL WIRELESS





ramme Pointers

## OUR CRITIC, MAURICE REEVE, REVIEWS SOME RECENT PROGRAMMES

#### Oliver Cromwell

**T** is three hundred years since the death of Oliver Cromwell, one of the very greatest men in our national history. So one would expect a celebration programme on the radio. Those who like serious subjects treated seriously were not disappointed with Oliver Cronwell, A Conversation, written by Maurice Cranston and produced by Douglas Cleverdon<sub>r</sub>

The conversation took place between four other great men. contemporaries of Oliver, namely. Hobbes (Felix Aylmer), Marvell (Marius Goring), Evelyn (Hugh Burdon) and Aubrey (Robert Eddison). Bernard Miles contributed the voice of the Lord Protector. I enjoyed every minute of it. Each actor spoke his lines perfectly, and they contained many ideas on what Oliver might have done if he had been alive in more recent times.

#### A Debate

A well-arranged debate on the disturbances in Notting Hill and Nottingham, followed by further discussion of the problem in *At Home and Abroad*, was put on as a special feature and substituted for the advertised programme. Some alarming facts were revealed. They were discussed dispassionately and objectively, and the opinions of local residents were heard. It was most interesting and informative.

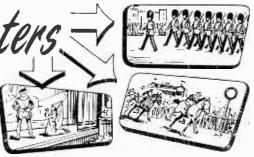
#### Out and About

It is a pity that the Saturday afternoon programme Out and About cannot keep more closely to its advertised timings. This too often presumes that the finish of a certain event will be wanted by a majority of listeners instead of what the Radio Times gives out. Cricket was a particular sufferer all through the summer to the advantage of Wimbledon tennis and athletic meetings in particular. Some fans may be glad, of course, but it seems more than likely that an annoyed listener will be created for every happy one.

#### Ivor Novello

The decision to give two separate hours to *The Ivor Novello Story* no doubt accurately assesses the popularity of the late maestro. That he was a "genius of the theatre" only prompts the questions "What theatre?" and "What is genius?" Let us rather say he was a purveyor of melodic sentiments, and lyrics that charmed all who heard them and gave limitless pleasure to very many thousands.

As radio entertainment The Ivor Novello Story was excellent material, all the old tunes



were there and all the old memories. The laudatory remarks of friends—on which this series is largely based—were there, too; and good it is to know that memories are not always as short as they seem.

#### Ted Kavanagh –

The death of Ted Kavanagh removed the best wisecrack script writer radio has ever had. Only one or two others can claim the right to be even mentioned in the same breath. As with the Chaplin comedies in filmland, the best of the Itma programmes marked a high water line which radio comedy had not reached before and has not reached since.

#### Anthony Hopkins

To those with even just a little knowledge of the standard classics of music. Anthony Hopkins' Sunday afternoon dissections are, with those of Edward Sackville-West, the best now before the public. He has, to a greater degree even than Sir Walford Davies had, the ability to show us the smallest parts of a piece of music just as if they were concrete things. Four-thirty on a Sunday afternoon is an appointment well worth keeping.

#### Desert Island Discs

Our music critic indulged recently in some strictures on the *Desert Island Discs* programmes. One felt that he took them a little too seriously and not sufficiently as the entertainment they undoubtedly are meant to be. After all, the idea behind the series can only be another way of asking people what their favourite works are and their preferences for various styles of entertainment. There is no need to make a mountain out of a molehill. I have, however, often been surprised at some of the interviewees' choices to the extent of wondering whether they were "put up jobs." Some degree of control is bound to be exercised to avoid certain famous works of universal appeal being chosen with too great a frequency.

#### Beyond Our Ken

"Advice to a water diviner—leave well alone," was another "joke" which failed to make me revise my original opinion of the Kenneth Horne show *Beyond Our Ken*. Another warned him, on walking into a tent, not to do so as he might "be arrested for loitering with intent!" If this sort of thing is beyond our ken, it is also beyond us to know how it can be put over every week.



The Editor does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed by his correspondents.

the coupon from page iii of cover.

#### Circuit Wanted

SIR.—Can any of your readers suggest a circuit D employing two Eddystone coils, say. one aerial and one anode. I wish to use up a twin set.-V. J. R. (Staffs).

#### No Long Waves

SIR.—In reply to Mr. M. A. Bushell (November issue). long waves are a necessity in many par.s of the country, especially in hilly areas where no local transmitter exists. The M.W.

signal is greatly attenuated owing to local conditions, and the L.W. may be the only usable waveband, for instance, for the Light Programme. Manufacturers therefore cater for largest sales .-C. J. JONES (Coatbridge).

#### Stereo Gramophones

SIR -- Concerning the Marquis of Donegall's paragraph on stereo gramophones (November. 1958, issue, page 733), the word "stereogram" is already in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary which defines it as "A diagram representing a solid object on a plane." or as equivalent to "stereograph." the pair of pictures used in a stereoscope. These two uses of the word, which dates back to 1866, are in accord with the "solid drawing" meaning of its Greek elements. Unfortunately, this cannot be said of the new usage which Decca have applied to "stereogram." which is presumably a contraction of "stereo-gramophone." I suggest that "stereophone" would have been preferable, although even this word has probably been used for something else in the past. (It is not in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary) .-- E. R. WOOD (London, S.W.1).

#### Electronic Organ

 $S^{\text{IR},-\text{I}}$  was particularly interested in Mr. Woodcock's organ as described in the August issue, for in the winter of 1929-30 I built a very similar type from a reed organ. I had heard, for the first time, the harmonica played through a microphone and amplifier and was struck by the volume and depth of tone produced, so I really experimented to amptify a small reed organ for use in a medium sized hall, with a choir. I should say a small harmonium, for in a reed organ the notes are operated by drawing air through the reeds, whereas the harmonium has bellows and an air chamber and is capable of producing a good sustained note while the reed, American, organ

is not. For microphones I used two small balanced armature loudspeakers, one at the extreme bass and the other in the treble, and they worked very well. In fact this little organ was quite successful, and if we had not got the much boosted Hi-Fi amplifiers of to-day, it was possible to build quite a good one even then. (See my article "Amplifier Progress." May, 1957. PRACTICAL WIRELESS.) Volume and quality were good, so much so that I added tone changes, etc., the speakers were one 14in. mains energised, moving coil and one horn type. a straight horn oft. long ! There were snags, one being

that although I lined the reed chamber with felt Whilst we are always pleased to assist readers with their technical difficulties, we revert that we are unable to supply diagrams or provide instructions for modifying commercial or surplus equipment. We cannot supply alternative details for receivers described in these pages. WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO ANSWER QUERIES OUTOTHET THE TOTOWNER OF ANSWER an inch thick and had an elaborate silencer for the air escape. the reeds could still be heard when the amplifier was OVER THE TELEPHONE. If a postal reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed with switched off, this was an amplified and not an electronic organ. So later I made every

reed one plate of a condenser microphone and an adjustable stud the other. The capacity change due to the vibrating reed produced the frequency together with a certain amount of overtone from the reed. I have never found the oscillating valve type of organ produce the same quality.

Perhaps the foregoing will give other readers ideas.--R. H. COWIAN (Thetford).

#### Service Frequencies

SIR.-Many newcomers (and regular SWLs) do not know the frequencies (S.W. and V.H.F. and U.S.W.) covering other than entertainment, news, etc., broadcasts. Perhaps you could indicate in your columns the approximate frequencies used by Aviation. Police. Fire, etc., services .- D. O'BRIEN (Dublin).

[For many reasons it is undesirable to make these public.---ED.]

#### Speaker Enclosure

IR.-I. too. built the speaker enclosure designed by Arthur Adams. I would, however, suggest to our friend from Hove (September issue) that if he wishes to hear all that his enclosure is capable of, he should follow my lead and place a Stentorian HF1214 in the bottom as the bass speaker and in the top chamber, facing forward, a Stentorian T816, with a 1.500 cross-over unit.

I placed two LPH65's wired in series through (Continued on page 831)

5 watt }

1R5 in i

2X2 284 311

511

51.3

5Z. GAMG

638

6KG 6K7

C.R.T. ISOLATION TRANSFORMER

**Type A.** Low leakage windings. Optional  $25^{6}_{c}$  and  $50^{6}_{c}$  boost on secondary. 2 y or 4 y, or 6 3 y, or 10.8 y, or 13.3 y, or 10.8 y, or 13.3 y. 2 v or 4 v, or 6 3 v, or 10 v, v, or 10 v, v, or 10 v, v, with mains primaries  $\dots,\dots, 12$  6. **Type B.** Mains input. Multi Output 2, 4, 6.3, 7.3, 10 and 13 volts. Boost 25  $^{\circ}_{0}$  and 30  $^{\circ}_{0}$ . Low capacity  $\dots,\dots, 21$ . **Type C.** Low capacity transformer for 2 volt

Tubes with falling emission. Maine Primary, Output 2-24-24-24-3 volts at 2 amps, 17.6.

TRIMMERS, Ceramic. 30, 50, 70 pt., 9d. : 100 pt., 150 pt., 13 : 250 pt., 16 : 500 pt., 750 pt., 19, RESISTORS, Preferred values, 10 obus to 10 mex, 4 w. 4d. ; 1 w. 4d. ; 1 w. 6d. ; 1 w. 8d. ; 2 w. 1 -, HIGH STABLLITV. § w., 10, 2 - Pretered values, 1000 to 10 mex, Ditto., 50, 100 Q to 5 mez, Ω, 9d. 5 watt WIRE-WOUND RESISTORS (18 0 mext)

15,000 ohms-50,000 ohms, 5 w., 19; 10 w., 23.

12/6 PURETONE RECORDING TAPE

1.200 It. on standard 7" Metal reels. Spare Reels 7" plastic, 4 - ; 7" metal, 2 3. SUPERIOR 1.200 It. Plastic Tape on 7" Plastic Reeis, Quality Guaranteed, 21 -. "Instant" Bulk Tape Eraser, 27 6.

O.P. TRANSFORMERS. Heavy Duty 50 mA., 4 6, Multivatio, push-pull, 7 6, Miniature, 384, etc., 4 6, L.F. CHOKES 15-10 H, 50 65 mA., 5 - ; 10 H, 85 mA., 10 6; 10 H, 150 mA., 14 -.

MAINS TRANSFORMERS

MAINS TRANSFORMERS STANDARD. 2200-0250, 80 mA., 6.3 v. moned 4 v. 4 a. Restlifter 6.3 v., 5 v. or 4 v., 22.6 ditto, 350-0350 ... 200 mA., 6.3 v. 1 a. 10 6 MINLATURE. 200 v. 20 mA., 6.3 v. 1 a. 10 6 MIDGET. 220 v. 15 mA., 6.3 v. 2 a. SMALL. 220-04-220, 50 mA., 6.3 v. 3 STANDARD. 250-0250, 65 mA., 6.3 v. 3 5 a.

25 ohus-10,000 ohus

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17.6

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I.F. Transformers enclosed in iron dust pots with slug tuning. Push Pull Interstage Transformer Type TT4. Ratio I : I C.T. Stack size Iğin. x I I/I6in. x 7/I6in. 8/6. Push Pull Output Transformer Type TT5. Ratio I5 : I C.T.

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a 4  $\mu$ F condenser to face upward through a large fret in the top of the upper compartment. The whole effect is to make the sound appear in the room instead of in the enclosure.-D. G. WADE (Newcastle).

#### Car Radio Interference

S1R.—In his article on the suppression of car radio interference (October, 1958), Mr. F. C. Palmer mentions that the "S.W." on an ignition coil represents "secondary winding," This is incorrect, the secondary winding being connected between the case of the coil (earth) and the distributor lead. The "SW" terminal (meaning switch) is connected via the ignition switch to the battery.-J. R. M. YEOMAN (Somerset).

#### Long Waveband-Is It Wanted?

SIR,-I was surprised at the statement made by M. A. Bushell of Gravesend, in your November issue, to the effect that there is no programme value in the long waveband that cannot be obtained on M.W. Surely he must be aware that in certain parts of the country the Light Programme is practically unobtainable on 247 metres and is subject to fading and interference in other areas. as is the case locally.-G. FOOKS (Bridport).

SIR.—I have read the comments of M. A. Bushell (Gravesend). on the subject of No Long Waves in "Open to Discussion" PRACTICAL WIRELESS, November, 1958.

It may interest Mr. Bushell and others, to know that thousands of people in the West Country and probably elsewhere, are unable to receive the Light Programme except from the long waveband transmitter on 1.500 metres.

Radio receivers manufactured in this country. and published designs, which do not include the long waveband are of little interest to the large number of people who have to rely on the long waveband for full BBC coverage.-S. E. ADDIS (Minehead).

#### Beginner's Constructional Course

SIR.-May I congratulate you and Mr. King on your "Beginner's Constructional Course." The instructions are simplicity itself to follow. I constructed the 3-valve receiver progressively. as Mr. King does, and obtained excellent results each time.

The 1-valve receiver, early in the morning and tuned to the BBC European service, had enough power to work a speaker. When using a balanced armature earpiece the speech could be heard 10ft. away. I was even more amazed at the sensitivity of the 3-valver, as it operated the loudspeaker at good volume with only 6in, of wire for the aerial. Even at midday it requires only a few feet to work it. Have any other readers experienced such good results ?---M. J. REDMAN (Brighton).

#### The R.F.24 Coverage

CIR.—With reference to the letter of D. Jones **D** of Wales (September issue), the R.F.24 has switched tuning centred on five frequencies between 20 and 30 Mc/s.

| inese are:      |          |           |      |         |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|------|---------|
| Switch position | No. 1    |           | 22.0 | Mc/s.   |
| Switch position | No. 2    |           | 22.9 | Mc/s.   |
| Switch position | No. 3    |           | 25.3 | Mc/s.   |
| Switch position | No. 4    |           | 27.3 | Mc/s.   |
| Switch position | No. 5    |           | 29.7 | Mc/s.   |
| This converter  | is desig | ned to be | used | with an |

I.F. of 7.5 Mc/s .-- J. C. CARMICHAEL (Ayrshire).

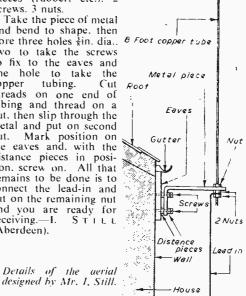
#### Making an Outside Aerial

SIR.—The appended sketch shows a simple and efficient aerial I recently made. The material required is:

One piece of copper tubing 8ft.  $\times$  4in., 1 piece of metal 14in.  $\times$  1in.  $\times$ 

4in. (approx.). 4 distance pieces (rubber, etc.), 2 screws. 3 nuts.

Take the piece of metal and bend to shape, then bore three holes sin. dia. & Foot copper tube two to take the screws to fix to the eaves and one hole to take the copper tubing. Cut threads on one end of tubing and thread on a nut, then slip through the metal and put on second nut. Mark position on the eaves and, with the distance pieces in position. screw on. All that remains to be done is to connect the lead-in and put on the remaining nut and you are ready for receiving.-I. STILL (Aberdeen),



#### Ex-Service Reference Numbers

SIR-1 would like to know if any of your readers could supply me with lists of data of ex-service reference numbers, together with their representations of components, etc. As an example. I would like to know the value of an ex-W.D. volume control (Reference No. 10c/8676). I have a lot of components marked like the above. but no values or identifications as to what they are. I would appreciate data. etc.--IAN HETHERINGTON (Sheffield).

#### "Car Radio Interference"

SIR.—I should like to point out an error in Mr. F. C. Palmer's article on "Car Radio Interference Suppression" in the October issue. He states that the letters S.W. on the ignition coil represent the "secondary winding." This is not so; it represents "switch" and is connected

to the ignition switch. Therefore on no account must a 150 v. working condenser be connected to the secondary as there is usually about 10.000 volts on this terminal.

I have been taking your magazine regularly now for 10 years-since I was 12 years old.-D. D. REED (Malvern).

#### Novice Tickets

SIR.—From time to time we read in PRACIICAL WIFELESS acticles the WIRELESS articles about novice tickets, some are for a low power rig licence, some are against the novice using a rig of any sort. I fail to see why it is not necessary to pass an examination if one wishes to indulge in radio control, but as soon as we suggest using a 1-valve TX for C.W. or phone even on V.H.F. bands. we are told you will have to pass the R.A.E., etc. I should like to receive suggestions from all those interested in novice radio. If there is sufficient response. it might be possible to form a club in Birmingham. -L. J. BECHETT (Birmingham).

#### Ideas for Circuits

SIR.-I am most interested in a battery portable radio. It should have a loudspeaker: the signal strength on local BBC stations should be reasonable but, above all, I must have quality.

I am not a crank over small size: I think that miniature receivers are made so small that the accent is on the "miniature" rather than on the "receiver." Neither am I interested in weight. What is the use of sacrificing all for weight, when the farthest it will be carried is a few yards? Also, what is the use of sacrificing all for battery life. I would rather have quality and short battery life than distortion and tong battery life. It seems that at times we are so, technically blind that we fail to realise that our true object is accurate reproduction of sound.

Give me such a circuit and I shall be delighted. You can use transistors or printed circuits, but

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AND ARTERICAL DESCRIPTION OF A DESCRIPTI

let us have quality sound.-R. H. STEWART (Corby, Northants).

#### The Great Transistor Chaos

SIR.—The unenlightened remarks of M. M. Pritchett ("Open to Discussion." October issue), cannot be allowed to go unanswered. I would like to answer his letter point by point. First, of course, there is a lot of fuss made about the transistor. Without doubt it is the greatest single advance in electronics made since the invention of the thermionic value and. therefore, a wireless magazine which did not freely "mention" them would nowadays appear almost as ridiculous as a motoring magazine which did not mention cars. Secondly, transistors are definitely not "delicate." As is borne out by two articles in the same issue as Mr. Prichett's letter, they are very robust. Of course, one takes care not to overheat them, in the same way as one takes care not to drop a valve on to the floor, and one takes as much care not to reverse the supply voltages to a transistor as one takes not to apply H.T. to the heater of a valve. Thirdly, their price. If Mr. Pritchett had any experience of electronics. he would know that all such new components begin by being fairly expensive and gradually decrease in price as newer and better manufacturing techniques are evolved. Considering the high wastage rate during production and the conditions necessary for manufacture. it is my opinion that the current price of transistors (at least, germanium transistors) is reasonable. Fourthly, I cannot understand Mr. Pritchett's reference to "costly and compli-cated circuitry." The costly power supply unit is now unnecessary, and the stage-by-stage circuitry of transistorised equipment is only as complicated as one cares to make it. Certainly in many cases it can be made simpler than an equivalent valve circuit. Lastly. to Mr. Prichett's biggest howler: "They save nothing as far as the amateur is concerned." It is obvious from this statement that his views cannot be seriously taken as being representative of the viewpoint of the genuine amateur. They are words which would never have been uttered by that happy band of pilgrims which pioneered the use of the higher radio frequencies. The transistor has opened up a vast new field for experiment which will. I am sure, be fully exploited by all radio enthusiasts worthy of the name.—P. R. WILLIAMS (Surbiton).

#### Correspondents Wanted

 $S^{\text{IR}, \dots \text{I}}$  wish to correspond with amateurs who are of 16 years and who are interested in radio and television .-- M. N. STUART (Sandbech Hotel, West Cliff. Whitby. Yorks).

#### Information Required

 $S^{IR,-I}$  wish to fit an "S" meter and B.F.O. to a P.C.R.2. I would be grateful if any reader could help .-- JACK BROOKES (Blackpool).

[Any letters addressed to Mr. J. Brookes, care of these offices, address as given on page 775, will be forwarded to him.--Editor.]

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|           |      | 807       |       | KT61    |       |
| 54ZG      | 9.9  |           | 7/9   |         | 9'9   |
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| 6AT6      | 79   | ECC83     | 9'9   | SP61    | 2.9   |
| VOLUM     | EC   | ONTROI    | wi wi | th long | (lin. |
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|           |      | I 100 oh: |       |         | 99    |
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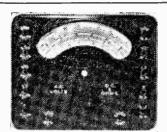
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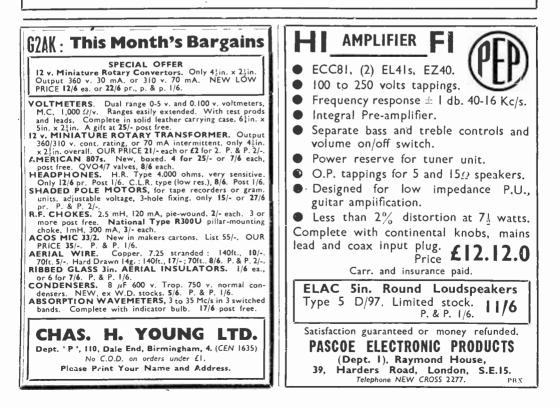
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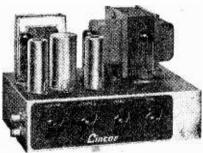
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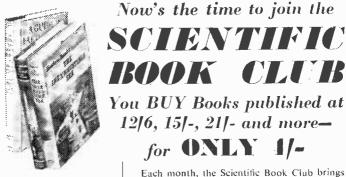
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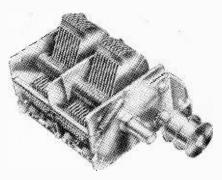
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December, 1958



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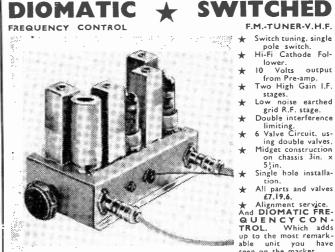
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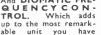
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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

December, 1958



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**PRACTICAL WIRELESS** 

No. of Blueprint

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| 3/6 ea                  | ch                                                   |                              | •••        | 1 44 70 |
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| 3 (1<br>Trai<br>F. J.   | D, 2 LF<br>ns))<br>Camm's<br>ce (HF,                 | ₹ (RC<br>''`Spri             | &<br>te "  | PW82*   |
| Tet)                    |                                                      | Pen,                         | D,<br>     | PW87*   |
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