## A PERSONAL "MOBILE" RECEIVER

 PRACNCAL 16 m WIRELESS

## Contents

Radio show review
d.C. TRANSISTOR OUTPUT STAGE TRANSMITTER KEYING MONITOR DIODE-TRANSISTOR PORTABLE BEGINNERS' TEST METER

ETC. ETC. ETC.

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nonths． ） Ments．18／9，MELITY PHONE and sipINKFItS in stock Kean oast prices or credit terms if supplied wita amplifier．

## STAAR GALAXY 4－SPEED MIXER AUTO－CHANGERS

 Brand new，cartoned．Turnover sapphire styli．Many exclusive features．Unique For $200-250$ v．A．C．mains．Onlv $\mathbf{4 5 . 1 9 . 6 .}$
## PORTABLE CABINETS

Full range of attractive $\begin{aligned} & \text { designs from } \\ & \text { 15／9 }\end{aligned}$ GRABM MOTDIK，TRTENTABLE And PICK－IF，Mains 200－250 A．C．Standard 78 r．p．m．Only 259.
SIPECIAL，tPFELR，Two tone Port－ able cabinet．Gram amplifier，Staar． £9．19．6．Carr． 10 or with B．S．R UAB． 11 凹n言。
TIT，SKIFOTIR T．R．F，IRHCEIVTETR． A deslgn of a J－valve Long and Medlum wave 20j－2s A．C．Mains recelver with selentum rectilier．High gain H．F．stage and low distortion anode bend debector Power pentode output．valye line－u are wall up to standard and simpiletity are well construstion is spgcial feature．Point to－pint 10 Marimum buctiding anc pat 19 ino atractive Brown Cream Bakelite or Walnut veneered wood cablnet $12 \times 66^{\frac{1}{2}} \times 5$ in．
 II．IYER UVIX．Type AC／4／5かi with turnover crystal head．f6．g．6．Carr． 46.


## A SIX TRANSISTOR＂POCKET＂ SUPERHET RADIO

## All parts including Tran slstors Printed Circuit Atstors Printed Circuit Coloured Plastic case． £9．19．6

Ferrite aerial， 2 sla，P．M．Sparker，atc．，etc．and full instruction bookiev．wie or $x$ ， 1 in，completed output．Demonstratsd at our vounter premises．pull

R．S．C．BATTERYTO MAINS CONVERSION UNITS

Type BMI．An all－dry battery eliminator Size 5$\} \times 4 \frac{1}{4} \times 2$ in approx．Completely replaces battery sup plyfng 1.4 V ，and 90 V where A．C．mains 200

TyDe BM 3．Size $8 \times 5$ $x 2\} n$ ．Supplies 120 v ． 90 v and 60 v .40 mA ． and $2 v .0 .4$ a．to 1 amp． fuly smoothed．There－ placintr botity remer batteries and I．T． 2 v arcumalators When connected to A．C．mains supply ＊RITARLEFBIt c／s． HATTHIR I IREXEV includes 90 \％．This includes latest low consumption types． Complete kit with diagrams．39r9．or ready to use． $48 / 9$.

using 2 y acoumblat－

## R．S．C．MAINS TRANSFORMERS（ gunvifited）

 Julerlesped anit Impregnatell．Primi－
 $25140-250$ v． $70 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 2 a， 5 v． 2 u．．． $16 / 9$ $350-0-350$ v． 80 mA .6 .3 v． 2 a． 5 v． 2 a．．． $18 / 8$ $250-0-250$ v． 100 mA .6 .3 v． 4 a， 5 v． 3 a．．． $23 / 9$
 $350-0.350$ v． $103 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 4 a， 4 a，C．T． $2 / 9$ $\begin{array}{r}0-4-5 \text { v．} 3 \text { a．} 150 \text { mA．} 6.3 \text { v．} 4 \text { a．} 5 \text { v．} 3 \text { a } \quad \begin{array}{l}23 / 9 \\ 2919\end{array} \\ \hline\end{array}$ HULLY SHRNUIDFID UPIRIGITT $250-0-250$ v． $60 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 2 a． 5 v． 2 a． Midget type 21－3－3in．
$250-0-250$ v． $109 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 4 a． 5 v． 3 a．．．$\frac{17 / 6}{26 / 9}$ $300-0-300$ v． 100 mA .6 .3 v． 4 a， 5 v． 3 a．．．26／9 $350-0-350$ v． $100 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 4 a． 5 v． 3 a．．． $26 / 9$ $300-0-300$ v． 130 mA .6 .3 v． 4 a． 6.3 v． 1 a．
for Mullard 510 Amplifier for Mullard 510 Amplifier
$350-0-350$ v． $150 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{v}, 4$ \＆． 5 v． 3 a．．． $33^{\prime} 9$ $350-0-350$ v． 150 mA .6 .3 v． 2 a． 6.3 v．
2 a． 5 v． 3 a．．．． 425 a． 425 v． 209

FIL IMENT TIRA，NSFGIRMIIR\＆
All with $200-250 \mathrm{v}, 59 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ ．primaries 6.3 v ． 12 v .1 a ， $7 / 11: 6.3$ v． 3 a $8 / 11$ ． 6.3 v． 6 в $17 / 6 ; 12 \mathrm{v}, 3 \mathrm{a}$ ，or $24 \mathrm{v}, 1.5 \mathrm{a}$ ． $17 / 6$ ．

## OUTPUT TIRANSPORMTRES

Midget Battery Pentode 66：1 for 3S1．etc．
Small Pentode， $5000 \Omega$ to $3 \Omega$
Small Pentode $7 / 8.000 \Omega$ to $3 \Omega$
Standard Pentode 5,000 a to 30
Standard Pentode． $7 / 8.000$ o to $3 \Omega$
$10.000 \Omega$ to $3 \Omega$
Push－Pull 10－12 watts 6 V 6 to $3 \Omega$ or
Push－Pull $10-12$ watts to match 6 ve to $3-5-8$ or $15 \Omega$
Push－Pull ELS4 to 3 or 15 』 $\cdots 18$ ．．．． 169
Push－Pull 15－18 wutts．6L6，KT66 ．．．． 229
Push－Pull for Mullard Sio Ultra Linear Push－Pull 20 watts，sectionally wound 6L6．KT66，etc．．to 3 to $15 \Omega \ldots 47 / 9$
$3 / 9$
$3 / 9$
$3 / 9$
$5 / 6$
$5 / 6$ 56
56 $6 / 9$
 ACIB－CIB WinEik with high fidelity Studio plck－up．Latest moiel．Brand A．C．mains．Our prica $£ 7.1 .3$ v． 50 c．p．s． A．C．mains．OLT orica £7．19．3．Carr． 5.6. CHINGH．E\＆Type R．C．120H Very limited nums r at 9 Ens．（approx．half price）．Carr．5．6．

## R.S.C. Al2 STEREOPHONIC AMPLIFIER KIT

A complete set of parts to construct a Stereo amplifier with an undistorted output total 6 watts (3 watts each channel). For A.C. mains mput of $200-250 \mathrm{v}$, Outputs for matched $2-3$ ohm speakers,


ANI/TM RADHOGRAM
ciliswis IIIGII QL ALITY E-8 WATT pUSIIPuII, OUTIPUT

Sensitivity $130 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{v}$. Ganged Vol. and Tone Controls. Preset balance control. Full instructions and point to point wiring diagrams Carr. and pkg. .iosupplied. Only good quality components and latest high grade vares used. e. acepth be ally realistic reproduction can be obtained at ample volume for premises. A really sen*ational offer.
 Comprising Al2 Kit, 2 matched bin. L'Speakers suilable most pick-ups.

LINGAR LA5 MINIATCRE 4/5 WATT Quility AnPlifitis. Suttable for use with any record plaving unit, and most microphones. Negative feed-back 12 db . Separate Bass and Treble Controls For A.C. mains input of $200-250 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{cics}$ Output for ${ }^{2-3}$ ohm speaker. Three minia ture Mullard valves used. Size of unit only $6-5-5 \mathrm{in}$. high output for $2-3 \mathrm{ohm}$ speaker. Guaranteed for 12 months. Only E5/19 B. Send S.A.E. for illust rated leafiet Terms. Deposit $22 / 6$ and 5 monthly pay

## ments of $22 / 6$

## R.S.C. 4-5 WATT A5 HIGH-GAIN AMPLIFIER



A nimbly-nomsitive 4 -valy qualty amplifier for the home, small elub, ete. Onls 50 minilvoits input is re hured for fuil olltpit so that it is sulitatbe for use witio he latest hith fidelity pick-up heads, in adiltion dil other types of pick-ups anit practicalis ani minkes. separate bass ano treble controls are proviton These give fill lonk-playing record equaisainon. 1 um level is negligible heing 71dto. down, 15 dis. negative feedback is isen. Hoi. of 300 sor int and l. T. of 6.3 V. 1.5 a. is available for the suppls of mains inpat of $200-230-250$ v. 50 cis. Output for $2-3$ ohm speaker. Chassls is not aliv. Kit is complef in evers detail and inciuden fuliy punched chassis (with basembate) with Blue hammer finish and point-to-point wiring diagrams sind in
 plua 3/6 carr. : or Inabosit $22 / 6$ and 5 monthly payments of $22 / 6$ for assembled unit.
R.S.C.

## PORTABLE AMPLIFIERS

Junior 5 watts High Quality output Separate Bass and Treble 'Cut' and Boost " controls. Sensitivity $15 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{v}$ High Flux 8in. Loudspeaker 'built-in. Handsome. strongly made Cabinet (size approx. $14 \times 14 \times 7 i n$.$) finished in satin$ walnut, and fitted carrying $h$ andle. H.P. Terms. Deposit e1 and 9 monthly
pavments of $\& 1$.
GENIOR $10^{\circ}$ FIDELITY OUTPUT HICH Separate Bass and Treble 'Cut' and 'Boost' controls. Twin separately controlled high gain inputs so that two instruments such as Guitar and String Bass can be used at the same time. Two loudspeakers are incorporated. a high Flux 12 in. for Bass notes and a $7 \times 4 \mathrm{~m}$. elliptical for Treble. Cabinet is well made and finished satin walnut Size approx. $18 \times 18 \times 8$ in. H.P. Terms. Deposit $23^{\prime} 6$ and 12 monthly payments of $23^{\prime} 6$. Both models for $200-250$ v. A.C. mains.

## 13 ans


and 9 monthly payments of 11 12 in. 20 WATM INEH simers. size 18 x $18 \times 8$ in. Finish as above. Terms: Deposit 1310 and 12 monthly payments of $13 / 10$. 1310 and 12 monthy
 PIAMER Separate pick-up (GP5q).
Only E3.15.0. Twin sapphine styli. $200-250$ v. A.C. mains.

TERMS : C.W.O. or C.O.D. No C.O.D. under £

PLESSEX DUAL CONCWTHIC 12in 15 ohms high Fidel ity speaklit (12,000 lines) with built-in tweeter (comDletely separate elliptical speaker with choke, condensers, etc.). providing extraordinarily realistic reproduction when used with our A8 or similar amplifier Rated 10 watts. Price only 25/17/6.
ACOS Hi-Fi C'rystal Cartridges. (Turn over type with sapphire stylus.) HGPso Standard replacement for Garrard and B.S.R. Only 19/9. B.S.R. Ful-f, $17 / \theta$. B.a.R. Only 1999:

## COLLARO Mk. III 1F GNS. 3-SPEED TAPE <br> TRANSCRIPTORS

IP.M. NIPLAKIERS. $2-3$ ohm, 2 in. Perdio $25 / 9.5 \mathrm{in} .17 / 9.6!\mathrm{in} .16 / 9.81 \mathrm{n} .19 / 9$. $8 \times 5 i n .259 .10 i n .26 / 9.10 \mathrm{x}$ 6in. 29/9, 3 or 150 ohms type HFi012 10 watte. hiAd ity ohms hde AB Amplifier, 4 gns. 12 in . Plessey 8 ohms 10 watts ( 12,000 lines). $59^{\prime} 6$.
WEFTEIRS. Plessey 3 ohms 19/9. RolaCelestion 15 ohms 25'9.
1.(i3 NINIATLIRE $\mathfrak{2}-3$ WAIT GIRAM AnPi,JFILEL For use with any single or auto-change unit. Output for $2-3 \mathrm{ohm}$ speaker. For $200-250$ v. 50 c.p.s. A.C. mains. Over-all size $64 \times 41 \times 24$ in- Con Guaranteed i2 months. Only 5\%i9.

SUP'RIEIET FELSIDER CNIT. Design ol a high quality Radio Tuner Unit (specially suitable for use with any of our AmpliCh Sw incorporates Gram position W.ch. Sw. incorporates Gram position. 250 v 15 mA H. T and L.T of 6.3 v 1 amp . required from amplifier. Size of unit approx $9-6-7$ in high. Simple alignment proedure Point-to-Point wiring diagrams. instructions and rriced parts list with illustration. 2/6. Total buildine cost \$4/15/-. For descriptive leaflet send S.A.E.

GARIRARI 4-SIPEED SINGIE RUCORD IPLAXEIE UNITS with turnover crystal head. Current model. List Post 1/9 extra under 22: 2/9 extra under 85.
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ade sapplied.
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For Portable Radio or Player


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. Slze is 13in. $x$ in. $x$ in, and it is nicely covered in two-tone I.C.I. fabric.

## Miniature

Microphone

 value $57 / 6$-ofiered while supplies last at only 29 ' 6 plus 2/6 post, Suitable for your own circuit or to build original circuit. All parts avallable at highly competitive prices. Do not miss the tremendous bargain

## Dulci AM/FM Radiogram Chassis

 with this hi-f 4 watt watt output chassis." Price, £19.17.6 or 52 down and 20 fortnightly pasments of e1.0.6. H-E1 Model H4 PP. e2, 16.6 or 2N.16.6 down andur chase figures include insurance for 12 months.)
> H. IB.C. Televimion Transistar Sr". All parts available total cost. including two transistors. e1219.6 Postage 2/- extra.

## Special Introductory Offer

introducing our new Inductor $40^{\circ}$ Fluorescent fitting. This is a batten type fittins nicely finished. white enamel. Suitable for chain suspension or direct fxing. uses fully compotinded choke ballast and radio suppressed starter. Offered at a special price this month to introduce it. namely 396 . complete with tube. Carriage up to 150 miles $5 / 6$ : up to 250 milles. 6
\&100 worth of Equipment for 19/6


The famous Rllo4-unused but slightly soiled and not tested. Covers 200-500 Kc s, 3-5.5 Mc/s and 5.5-10 Mc/s. Has unique " click stod "mechan $\mathrm{mim}^{\text {min }}$ (7 stops) and permits selected frequency to boe held. returned to. etc, Hartley oscilator, power amplifier, keying and speech, wonderful break. down value meters, relays, switches, Complete with valves-real bargain at 19/6. plus 10 -carriage

Undoubtedily finest value ohtainabte in amplifiers-powerful three valse circuit ideal for dances. parties, ctc omplete with valves, mains trans ormers, volume and tone controls, bricess chassis, speaker ant cahinet Data free with parts or available separately $1 / 6$.
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 to build the " Beginner"s Sunerhet as descrined in the January 1958 . issue, are available as a parchl. Price £3, plus $3 /-$ post and insuranos

## Stereo Outfit

Stereo Amplifier outht comvris ing 7 watt twin channel amplifier for A.C. mains working and two bin. P.M. Speakers on voneered and poished corner bafties Whole outfit giving really terrific reproduction and amazins 3-D effects. ild complete. plus caiti age and jnsurance. Or £ldown and 28 weekly payments of 10 -


New Improved Circuit for the 1960 Skysearcher This is a three valve recejver kit
using modern circuitry. Ineal asja using modern carcuitry, Ifical asi a second set for the bedroom, workshop. etc. Al parts including nains transiormer. val nes, resistors. colla etc.. but not cabinet, chassis of Deaker. $28 / 6$ plus post and ins. 3/6 separately 1/6.
A.C./D.C. Multimeter Kit Ranges volts 0-5. 0-50, C. 100 , $0-500$. $0-1000$. A.C. volts 0-5. $0-50,0-100, \quad 0-500$. nilliamps
$100.0-500$. - Ohms $0-50.000$ with internat batteries. $0-500,000$ with external batteries. Measures A.C.D.C. Volts, current and ohms. All the essential parts including metal case. 2in. moving coil meter. selected resistors wire for shunts, range selector, switches. calibrated scale and full instructions. price 196 , plus 266 post and insurance.

## FOR ADDRESS SEE NEXT PAGE



Speaker Bargain


12in. Hi-fidelity loudspeaker. High flux. Permanent magnet type with standard 3 ohm speech coil. Will by famous maker. Price $32 / 6$. plus 3 post and insurance.

## For Your Lab

Resistance substitution boxes are great time savers and you really cannot have ton many of them : here then, is an opportunity to here then, is an opportunit to acquire these at a very ow rate.
Our R.s. kit available for only 8'6. plus $1 / 6$ postage. comprises one 50 W . precision variable resistor $0-100 \mathrm{~K}$, six $2-3$ watt fixed resistors, one E-position switch. one pointer knob and one ordinary knob and instructions. This anft when made up will give an infinite variability over the range 100 ohm to 2 meg.

I4in. T.V. Cabinet
14in. T.V the latest styling -beautis fully
veneer vencered
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## Band III Converter


suitable Wales. London. Midilands. North.
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ing
2 ing 2 EF80
valves, coils. valves, coils,
ontrot. confine tuner, ontrast control. condencers and resistors. (Metal case available as in extia.) Price oncy 196. plus with parts or available separately. 1/6. Please" sernd tu' more hits, the one you sent last wach is performing maunificently, We receive this sor't of letter every day of the week. so it you have hesitated because you thought our kits too cheap you need hesutate no longer.

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 The ownership of a bood instrument has been the turning point in many a could eas could easily be yours. for you can own the latest Avo ment for the initial payment of only 10/- This ment is ultra- modern, has 10,000 Ohms per Volt. measures A.C Volts $0-1.00$ in 5 ranges. D.C. Volts $0-1,000$ in 7 ranges D.C. current at 1 Amp. in 5 ranges and resistance up to 2 Mpgs. in two ranges.
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All sent immediately for $10 /$ - deposit, balance by 21 payments of $10 /-$, which includes free insurance against accidental damage tor 12 months. Non-callers add $3 / 6$ post and insurance. Cash price. $£ 9.10 .0$.

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Car Starter Battery Chargerdue to a fortunate purchase we are able to offer you a fine ready-
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## I2-CHANNEL TURRET TUNER



Ideal for converting an old or building into new T.V. These are brand new stock, not surplus, supplied complete with valves and Band III stations.
A1udell 1. I.F. Output 3338 $\mathrm{Mc}^{\prime} \mathrm{s}$ series heaters (parallel heaters, $5^{\prime}$ extra).
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FOUR ITEMS FOR PRICE OF ONE


Set of modern T.V. parts suitable for modernising old televisor or for a new one. For wide angle 14 in . or 17 in . tubes comprises : (1) Line output E.H.T. transformer. (2) 700 scanning coils on ferrite yokes, (3) Wrath control with ferrite core. (4) Frame outpu visor. Offered at the price of the Line output transformer only namely, 5'6, plus $2^{\prime} 6$ post and insurance

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For customers wishing to use fuorescent lighting without metal work. for shop window lighting, ecc. We offer complete kits of parts. Five items as illustrated comprising best quality choke ballast, canister starter and white bakelite holders. 40 watt kit, 22/6, 80 watt kit. 26/6. plus $2^{\prime}$ - post and insurance.

## Miniature Fluorescent Kits

K1t of parts including tube, two holders, starter, starter holdiagram Price as follow
$6 i n ., 9 i n$. and $12 i n$., 29/6: 21 in., $35-$
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Selenium rectifier type $12,500 \mathrm{v}$. 1A. half-wave, easily rebuilt into fuli wave or multiple type, contains 30 35 mm . discs. Price 8/6, pius $1 / 6$ post. Type 13. 36 volt 9 amp. easily rebullt suitable for 6 or 12 volt batteries at 3 amps, contaiins 2484 mm . Aiscs. Rea bargain at 19,6. plus $1 / 6$ post.


Tube Tester and
Reactivator
Reactivator We can supply all the making this unit which will not only test Cathode Ray Tubes but also will reactivate them supplied complete with full instructions. Price £3, plus 2,6 post and ins.
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200 sheets covering most popular post-war televisors by leading makers-Cossor, Ekco, Ferguson.
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P.V.C. covered in 100 ft . coils- $2 / 9$ a coil or four coils different colours, $10^{\prime-}-$, post free.

If ordering by fout, address your order to the Company mearest to you and please include postake. Eifertronicto (Manor
520. Itiki tit. Norflt,
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New illustrated lists are available on all the following. Any will be sent free upon request.
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IVOMETEK MODEL 8. The finest multi-range meter available. 20,000 ohms per volt on D.C. ranges. 2.5 Eight D.C. Voltage D.C. current ranges 50 microamps. to 10 amps. Seven A.C. Voltage ranges 2.5 v . to $2,500 \mathrm{v}$. Four current ranges 100 mA . to 10 amps. Three resistance ranges. Fully detailed leafet available. Price f23.10.0. H.P. Deposit e4. 14.0 and 12 monthly payments of f1.14.6. Price with leather carrying case, $£ 26.10 .0$ H.P. Deposit $£ 5.6 .0$ and 12 payments of £1.18.10.

Other AVO Meters available include the Model 7. £10.10.0. H.P. Deposit £3.18.0 and 12 Deposit $£ 1.18 .0$ and 12 monthly payments of $14 / 4$.

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All transistors post free.

## TRANSISTORISE YOUR CRYSTAL SET

A kit to construct a single transistor amplifier for any Crystal Set. Increases the volume many times. No solderins required and full instructions supplied. Complete kit with brand new Transistor, 21/6. Post free.

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All available types by Mullard. Brimar. Mazda. G.E.C. Osram Cossor or Emitron can be supplied, Many types have been recently reduced in price. Any type sent C.O.D. or quotation given as you prefer.

## JASON FM TUNER

There are no less than five different Jason FM Tuner Kits now available to the Home constructor. Brief details ate given here and individual lists on any are available free
MIONT IAPOIRTANT. We take great pains to see that the kits we suppiy are absolutely complete in every detall and also that all components supplied are
entirely suitable in every way. This accounts for differences in price you may notice between our prices and those of some of our competitors. THIS SHOULD RE BORNE IN MIND WHEN COMPARING PRICES.

## TANDARD TUMT2 \&

STANDARD TUNEAR. FATI. The very popular tuner which is supplied with a chassis assembly fitted with a gold hammer finish front panel and glass dial, Employs four EF91 valves, External nower supply is required. Complete kit $£ 6.19 .6$ Power pack kit. 39-
STANIARH TUNEIR IN SIRELY MOUNTING CASE Furiz. This is a new version of the above tuner. The circult has been brought up-to-date and is buit into the very attrac tive shelf mounting case of the new Fringe Tuner mentioned below. The circult uses four EF80 valves and the power supply can be built into the case If desired. Complete Kit £7.1\%.6 without power supply components. E9.16.0. with power supply. MEIRCIVY SWITCIIED TUNER. This is a tuner in chassis form which has a three position switch for the three PBC programmes. Uses one ECF80 and four EFA0 valves. External power supply is required. Complete Kit £9.19.0. Power Pack Kjt 39

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NEW FRINGE TUNISR IN SHEIF MOUNTING CANE, Fart3. This is an entirely new Fringe Tuner and is suoplied complete with a very attractive green shelf mounting case with Perspex dial. The tuner is fitted with varianif AFC. Internal power supply is desired. Valves used are onf ECC81 and five EF90. Complete Kit $£ 9.19 .6$ without power supply components. £11.18.0 with power supply.

TV SOUND FM SWITCHED TUNER
This tuner, also supplied in an attractive shelf mounting This tuner, also supplied in an attractive sheif TV sound case. has any BBC or ITV Sound channel as well as the three from anv BBC or ITV Sound channel as well as the three BBC FM programmes. Fitted with internal power suppiy. EM81 and one E7.80. Complete Kit E15,15.0.

INSTRUCTION MANUALS
All our kits include the appropriate instruction manual All available separately as follows:Manual coverimg both Standard Tuners and the new Fringe Area model, $2 / 10$ \& "Mercury," $2 / 3$; TV Sound/FM, 3All past free.

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This unit is intended for 'use with an existing amplifler and provides all the circuits necessary for tape recording and play back. Instruction manual, giving full constructional inform ation is avallable price, 2 10, post iree.
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 please enduite for any valve not listed. 3a. stami, please.


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(OMPIJEF W゙ETH (IRISTAE MIKE AVE 8in. GUDSPETKER
A.C. mains $200-250$ v. Size $10 \frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 6$ in. $x 2$ in. Incorporating 6 valves. H.F. pen., 2 triodes. 2 output pens and rectifier. For use with all makes and type of pick-up and mike. Negative feed back. Two inputs. mike and gram., and controls for same. Separate controls for Bass and Treble lift. Response flat from 40 cycles to $15 \mathrm{Kcs}$. . $-2 \mathrm{~dB}: 4$ db down to 20 Kes . Output 8 watts at $5 \%$ total distortion. Noist level 40 db down all hum. Outout transformer tapped for 3 and 15 ohm speech colls. For use with Std. or L.P. records. musical instruments such as $8 / 4.19 .6$ P.\& P.7/6.
Cuitars. otc. Or 35/-depmitt Plus P. \& P. 76 , and 3 monthly payments of 25'-

## 6-WATT PUSH-PULL AMPLIFIER

A.C. Mains 290250 v.. incorporating 4 valves and metal rectifier, 2 imputs, hish and low, and controls for same. Separate controls for Bass and Treble lift. Size of chassis 11 in . x 41 tn . x 21 in

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59 / 6 \quad \text { P. \& P. } 5
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## 2-TRANSISTOR POCKET RADIO

Plya Germanium diode fully tuneable over medium and long waves. Size 3 ifn. x 4 in. x $\operatorname{in}$. Complote set of components including case and 2 transistors. earpiece and wiring dlagram (less batteries).

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Inclusive of transistors with irput and outhut transformers to match 3 ohm speech inil. Suitable for us? with the above kit. 19/6 P. Plus 16 .

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Comprising 2 in . moving coil meter. scale calibrated in AC/DC volts. ohms and milliamps. Voltage range ACITC $0-50,0-100,0-250,0-500$. Milliamps 0-10. 0-100. ohms range 0-10.000. Front panel, range switch. wirewound pot (ror ohms zero setting). togele switrh, resistor and rectifier. In grey hammer fitish case.
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All with tapped primaries. $200-250$ volts. $0-160,180,200$ y., 60 ma . E.? v. 2 amps. $10.6 .320-0-320 \mathrm{v} .75 \mathrm{ma} . .6 .3$ v., $2.5 \mathrm{amp..5} \mathrm{v} ., 2 \mathrm{amp}$. 106. $280-0-280,80$ ma. 6.3 v. 2 anlp., 6.3 v .1 amp., 106.

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Cash 26.19 .6 or $25 /$ - deposit and 6 monthly payments of 21/6. Post and Packing 5/- extra.
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Cash $\mathbf{£ 4 . 1 9 . 6}$ ог $\mathbf{2 5}$ - deposit and 4 monthly payments of $31 / 6$. Plus Postage and Packing. 5/-.
Coverage 120 Kc 's-84 $\mathrm{Mc}^{\prime} \mathrm{s}$. Metal case 10 in . $x$ bin. $x$ 41 in . Size of scale. 61 in . $x$ 31 in . 2 valves and rectifler. A.C. mains $230-250 \mathrm{v}$. Internal modulation of $400 \mathrm{c} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{S}$. to a depth of $30^{\circ}$. modulated or unmodilated $\mathbb{E}$ F output
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Complete with tuning condenser Separate sections for Short Wave. Coverage 10-21 m.. 21-45 m.. 44-100 m. and $190-545 \mathrm{~m}$. I, F. 470 Kr . BRAND NEW. by famous manufacturer. Completely assembled on sub-chassis. With eircuit diagram.

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UAB WITH 4 -speed plays 10 reoords 12 in .. 10 in STEREO HEAD

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Fermeability tuned. by famous German Manufacturer. Coverare $88-100 \mathrm{Mc}$ s. Complete with ECCB5. Size $4 \mathrm{in} . \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. x 2 in .

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34 to $38 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Complete with PCF 80 and PCCA4. These have been removed from chassis. These have been removed

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Finished in 2-tone leatherette. will take B.S.R. UA8. with room for amplifier and 7 in. $x 4 i n$. Speaker. Overall size, 15 ,in. $x$ l 3 in. $x$ 9 lin.

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The new, exciting De Luxe " Gold Star " Pocket Radio in beautiful moulded plastic case-choice of four lovely colours, Red, Green, Blue and Pink. This model is a highly sensitive, self-contained set covering all medium waves. Uses modern miniature "buttonbase " valve and specially designed high efficlency coll. Exceptionally easy to build from our step-bystep plans-the case is supplied ready drilled! Size of radio only tiln. $\times 2 i \mathrm{in}$. $\times 1 \mathrm{iln}$. :-and batteries fit inside. We can supply all parts including case, detachable aerial. instruction book, screws, wire, etc.. for only 48/- plus 2/- Post and Packing. C.O.D. 2'- extra. (Parts sold separately, priced parts list 19.)

Choice or beautiful walnut veneered cabinet or ivory bakelite. This is the lowest possible price consistent with high quality. No radio knowledge whatever needed

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No. 62. Transmitter-Peceiver. 1.6$12 \mathrm{mc} / \mathrm{s}$ in two ranges. Ideal for mobile use. Total II valves. Rx-A super with separate mixer and local oscillator. Tx uses QV04-7 as power amplifier VFO or switched selected crystals. C.W., phone (grid modulation). metered for operation and valve testing, Pi output to match rod aerials or iong wire "Press to send" operation from mike. Size $81 \mathrm{in} . \times 17 \frac{1}{\mathrm{in}}$. $\times 131$ in., weighs coly 29 lbs. Completely self contained with internal power unit for 12 v . operation. Power consumption 4.4 amps on send, 3.4 amps on receive. As new condition, tested, complete with operation instructions. Price, $\mathbf{E 1 7 / 1 0 / \text { . Delivery included. }}$
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# Practical Wireless 

VOL. XXXY, No. 633, NOVEMBER 1959

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## Contents


The Editor will be pleased to consider 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 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, W.C.2. Owing to the rapid progress in the design of wireless apparatus and 10 our efforts to keep our readers in touch with the latest developments, we give no warrarty that apparatus described in our columns is not the subject of letters patent.

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incorporates " Amateur Wireless."

## TRANSISTORS $v . V A L V E S$

IN recent issues we have published several letters concerning the rival merits of transistors and valves. From this, 'and unpublished correspondence, it is clear that there is still a great interest in conventional circuits using valves; far more interest, in fact, than in circuits using transistors. We say this because a few readers have written to us saying, although not in so few words, that we should publish only transistorised circuits. Such readers should realise that at the moment they are in a minority. Many amateurs cannot afford to spend money on two or three transistors, when a careless mistake could prove very costly.

Another factor which deters many constructors from building transistorised equipment is that they are familiar with valves and not with transistors. Most have learnt all their radio knowledge in terms of valve circuits, and it is difficult for them to adapt their way of thinking to transistor circuits. (For the newcomer to radio construction, of course, this difficulty does not exist.) To many, there are no points of resemblance between valve and transistor circuits, and it is difficult to know the liberties which may be taken with transistors, especially as factors such as sensitivity to surges, light and heat have been exaggerated.

The feeling has grown, therefore, that transistors are out of the amateur's world, and until this feeling is eradicated and transistors are no longer looked upon with awe and wonder, we do not feel justified in increasing the number of articles on the subject, although it goes without saying that we shall try to satisfy those readers who take a keen interest in transistors.

## A MESSAGE TO READERS

THOSE of you who have been with us from the first issue already know that Practical Wireless has always endeavoured to serve its readers in every possible way. We try to present articles which have a bearing on the latest developments in radio and electronics and which can be readily understood by the "practical" man. This is a practical magazine and our policy is to cater for the amateur constructor rather than the theoretician-a policy which we are sure carries your full approval.

We also have a free advisory service which is unrivalled : not only questions on articles in our pages are answered, but also problems on almost every other aspect of radio.

Our service to radio clubs and societies is well known ; we give considerable space in our pages to reports of club activities including details of past and future events.

Unfortunately, the steadily increasing costs of both paper and production make it necessary for us to increase the price of the magazine or to reduce its size. We know from views expressed by many of you in the thousands of letters which reach our offices that the latter course would not be approved, and accordingly we have decided to make a slight increase in price. With this, and subsequent issues, Practical Wireless will cost 1s. 6 d .

We are sure you will agree that, at the new price, this magazine represents very good value and you may be sure that we shall strive to keep the editorial content at its present high standard.

[^0]
## Broadcast Receiving Licences <br> THE following statement shows the approximate number of Broadcast Receiving Licences in force at the end of July, 1959, in respect of wireless receiving stations situated within the various Postal Regions of England. Wales, Scotland and Northern Jreland.

| Ression | Total |
| :---: | :---: |
| London Postal | 879,044 |
| Home Counties | 879,236 |
| Midland | 651,450 |
| Norih Eastern | 750.240 |
| North Wesiern | 599.099 |
| South Western | 524,622 |
| Wales and Border Counties | 323.569 |
| Total England and Wales | 4,607.260 |
| Scotland | 560.376 |
| Northern 1reland | 157.047 |
| Grand Total | 5,324,683 |

## 1959 Radio Hobbies Exhibition

 $\bigcirc F$ special interest to radio enthusiasts will be this years International R adio Hobbies Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Society's Old Hall, Westminster. A novel feature will allow visitors to operate and compare communication receivers of the world Sections will be devoted to amateur construction of all items of radio equipment. Demonstrations of high-fidelity amplifiers and of transistor components, receivers and power supplies will be featured. This annual event is sponsored by the Radio Society of Great Britain, who award prizes for outsianding examples of homeconstructed equipment and display many items of interest to amaleurs. The commercial exhibits will include kits and components in great variety for home consiruction and a varicty of acrials for home assembly. Kits for car radios, oscilloscopes, ctc. will also be on show, together with test equipment and accessories. The show will be epen from Wednesday November 25, to Saturday November 28 , the hours of opening being $11.00 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$, to $9.00 \mathrm{p.m}$.
## Total

 879,044 $.651,450$ 750.240 599.099 524,622 4,607.260 560.376 157.047Hi-Fi Equipment for Public Address Work
A TRIAL installation of highfidelity sound reproduction equipment for outdoor public address work has now been completed by BTH Sound Equipment Lid., a subsidiary of the British Thomson-Mouston Co., at the ground of the Rugby Town Association Football Club. The amplifier installation consists of two standard 20-watt, singlechannel amplifiers, with their control units mounted in a moderately sized metal cabinet with a separate turntable attachment and a microphone. To ensure acceptable quality in the reproduction of both speech and music, one amplifier and its control unit are lined up for speech. the other pair for music, the changeover being effected by a special switch which changes over both input and output leads.

Broadcasting House Extension THE BBC has awarded a contract to F. G. Minter Lid., 4. Buckingham Gate. London, S.W.I, for the formation and completion of technical and special areas in the new building. Nos. 10-22, Portland Place, London: W.1, which is to lorm the extension to Broadcasting House. The work covered by the contract includes the main control room and continuity suites on the first floor together with the associated subsidiary areas. Also included is accommodation for the Outside Broadcast Department, workshops for London Station and a large private automatic branch telephone exchange. New recording suites are being formed on the fifth floor and it is


An operator using the music amplifier of the public-aditress sistem at the Rugby Town Foothall Club.
expected that the new areas covered by this contract will all be operational by the late spring or carly summer of 1961.

## New Admiralty W/T Station

THE supply and installation of the transmitting equipment for the new Admiralty W/T station at Inskip. near Preston, Lancs, has recently been completed by Marconis Wireless Telegraph Co. Ltd. Thirty transmitters. ranging in output power from 40 kW to $3 \frac{t}{2} \mathrm{~kW}$. have been installed. together with 49 drive units. a co-axial linc exchange, an open wire automatic aerial exchange and a considerable amount of ancillary equipment.

## Printed Circuit Boards

PRINTED CIRCUITS I.TD.. of Borehamwood. Herts. a company within the A.E.I. Ciroup, are currently producing what are claimed to be the largest printed circuit boards over made, thereby opening up new fields of application as well as improving the production rate of smaller units. The photograph illustrates part of the automatic equipment recently installed in the factory at Borehamwood. In this instance, 1.100 separate circuits. incorporating inductors. are being processed on one board 5 ft . $\times 5 \mathrm{ft}$.

## E.M.1. Computer for B.E.A. BRITISH EUROPEAN AIRD WAYS have placed an

 order for an electronic computer costing over a quarter of a million pounds to aid efficiency and meet growing demands on its ground organisation. The computer, an EMIDEC 1100 . is heing manufactured by E.M.I. Electronics Ltd.. at Hayes. Middlesex, and when completed will be one of the largest electronic data processing systems in the country. Capable of carrying out tens of thousands of arithmetic calculations a second, the EMIDEC computer will provide B.E.A. excentives with fuller information of passenger and freight movements and will finable future light schedules to be planned for the greatest conrenience of the public and highest operational efficiency. The EMIDEC 1100 is an alltransistor machine employing themost advanced techniques and the use of cores and transistors throughout ensures a greater degree of reliability.

## BBC Engineering Publication

$\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{B}}$R. C. G. MAYO. a member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. and Mr. R. E. Jones, of the Research Department, BBC Engineering Division. are the authors of "A Quality-
sound transmitters from Scptember 21. The new station is situated at Morborne Hill, six miles south of Peterborough, and a 560 ft . steel lattice mast carries the aerial for the V.H.F. sound service. Peterborough will radiate the BBC 's three sound services on V.H.F. It will transmit the Home Service on $44.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. the Light Programme on $90.1 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and the Third Pro-


Processing a 5ft. x 5ft. printed circuit board at the Borehamwood factory of Printed Circuits Ltd.
checking Receiver for V.H.F.! F.M. Sound Broadcasting." published as BBC Engineering Division Monograph No. 25. price 5 s . The authors describe the development of a qualitychecking receiver for F.M. sound broadcasts in Band II (87.5$160 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ). The results of tests o! the original and final prototype models are given; both have a high standard of performance. the main advantage of the final model being its simpler design. This publication can be obtained from BBC Publications. 35. Marylebone High Street, London, W.1. post frec.

## Peterborough V.H.F. Station

 THE BBC's new Peterborough V.H.F. sound broadcasting station is now nearing completion. It was brought into regular programme service on October 5. Test transmissions were radiated from the V.H.F.gramme and Network Three on $92.3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. each with an effective radiated power of between 1 kW and 22 kW depending on direction.

## Obituary-Mr. L. O. Sparks

Ir is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Mr. L. O. Sparks. A former member of the staff of Amatcur Wireless, he joined us when that paper was taken over by Practical Wireless, and contributed many constructional articles and designs for the home constructor. Shortly after the war he resigned from this journal and set up his own business as a supplier of homeconstructor designs under the title of Sparks Data Sheets. and moved to Dorset for health reasons. In spite of the move. however. he was unable to combat the effects of asthma to which he eventually succumbed.

to be made, and running is economical, consumption being approximately 0.3A. Long periods of listening are thus possible without danger of running down the accumulators, even when these are of the small capacity type fitted in scooters. When camping, or using a caravan, a twin flex
lead can be taken to scooter or car accumulator circuit to obtain current.

## Circuit

The circuit is shown in Fig. 1, and uses two pentodes; as detector and amplifier. This is a straightforward arrangement which needs few


Fig. 1.-The circuit diagram. parts and gives very good results. Regeneration increases sensitivity, so that a short rod or wire aerial is sufficient. Both medium and long waves are tuned, but if the long wave Light Programme transmission is not required, or if the Light Programme can be received on medium waves, the L.W. coil and wavechange switch can be omitted.

When using the set, almost any aerial will be satisfactory. Rod aerials can be self supporting. A short wire aerial can be stretched on insulators beneath the vehicle, or an insulated wire may be used as a "throw-out" aerial. Generally. the aerial should not be entirely inside the body of the caravan or vehicle, because of the screentr $\tilde{\underline{E}}$ effect of the metal. A few experiments with a yard or so of insulated flex will soon show how the position of the aerial influences reception.

## Cathode Windings

A cathode tap is needed on each coil. and this is most easily provided by adding a few extra turns to the original winding. If the coils are examined. the beginning of the winding will be found near the coil former. This is the "grid" side of the coil. and goes to the 200 pF condenser (via switch). The outside end of the winding is finished at a second tag. At this tag a short piece of 36 s.w.g. or similar thin insulated wire is soldered on. The extra turns are then wound on top of the existing coil, in such a direction as to form a continuation of the original winding. as shown in Fig. 2. The outside end of the original winding and beginning of the cathode winding provide the cathode connection. The end of the cathode winding is taken to a spare tag. and to chassis.


Fig. 2.-Winding extra turns on the coils.
For the M.W. coil. $3 \frac{1}{2}$ turns will be suitable. With the L.W. coil. $5 \frac{1}{2}$ turns are used for this section.

It will be found that the actual number of turns is not very critical. But if too few turns are used. it will not be possible to bring the detector to the threshold of oscillation. which is essential for maximum sensitivity. Too many turns will also reduce sensitivity, because the detector will begin to oscillate at a very low screen grid voltage. No oscillation at all will be obtained if the turns of the cathode windings are reversed. Touches of wax or adhesive will keep the winding in place.

## Chassis, Panel and Case

The dimensions of the required items are given in Fig. 3, the chassis being cut from thin aluminium, with a flange to screw to the panel. The sizes given for the 3 -ply are for $3 / 16 \mathrm{in}$. wood, and will need modifying slightly if the $1 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in}$. $X 4 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in}$. pieces are made of wood of a different thickness. The back and four small pieces are fixed together with panel pins, glue being spread over meeting

## COMPONENTS LIST

30 k midget potentiometer.
500 pF compression trimmer.
M.W. and L.W. aerial coils.

Three-way, four-pole wafer or switch.
Fixed condensers: $100 \mathrm{pF}, 200 \mathrm{pF}, 2,000 \mathrm{pF}$, two $0.01 / 1 \mathrm{~F}$.
Resistors : 47k, two 2.2M.
Two 12AC6 valves.
Two B7G valveholders.
Small knohs, ete.


Fig. 3.-Dimensions of the case.
surfaces first. When the receiver is completed, it is placed in the case, and the panel fixed by four small wood screws. Outside dimensions of the complete set are $4 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . \times 1 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} .$. plus the projecting knobs.

Leads pass through holes in the case, the aerial lead being kept separate from other connections. A tew $\frac{1}{4}$ in. holes should also be drilled in the back of the case for ventilation.

The 500 pF condenser is placed centrally. with the switch to the right. and potentiometer to the left. when viewing the panel from the rear. The chassis is attached after wiring up the switch and 500 pF condenser.

## Suitch

The switch is a 4 -pole 3-way wafer. fixed to the panel with wood screws. spacing washers being used under these. One pole is used for grid switching. one for the cathode circuit. and the remaining two. wired in parallel. for battery switching. The switch thus has "Off." "L.W." and "M.W."


Rear vien of the receiver.
positions. The wafer is coupled to the control knob by shaping a short piece of $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. diameter ebonite rod, dowel, or metal rod, so that it fits the flat sided spindle hole in the rotating centre piece of the wafer. A hole is drilled through this short spindle and a securing pin passed through. so that the spindle cannot be drawn out. The spindle lurns in a $\frac{1}{d}$ in. hole in the panel, and is fitted with a knob, a washer being placed on under this.

## Condenser

The tuning condenser is of the compression lype, as used in many transistor sets. This has a small bush, to allow fixing to the panel, a little wood being cut away to receive the nut. The trimmer screw is then removed, and a longer 6 B.A. bolt inserted in its place care being taken not to- omit the large washer and mica disc. A small knob is fitted to the end of the bolt, being held by means of a lock nut.

Because of the relatively high minimum capacity of this type of condenser, full coverage from 200 to 550 metres is not possible. However, adjustment of the position of the core of the coil will allow tuning from about 200 to 450 metres, or from 250 to 500 metres, so a required station near the extreme end of the band


View showing the wring.
can be brought in. On the L.W. band, the coil core is simply adjusted to bring 1,500 metres near the middle setting of the trimmer.

## Wiring

All wiring is shown in Fig. 4, the valveholders being seen from below. Counting pins clockwise from the space, connections are as follows: Left-hand holder, $1,200 \mathrm{pF}$ and $2.2 \mathrm{M} ; 2,3$ and


Fig. 4.-Wiring diagram.
centre, M.C.: 4. batlery positive (via switch). 30 k potentiometer. and 47 k resistor; $5,2,000 \mathrm{pF}$, $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, and $47 \mathrm{~h}: 6$, potentiometer slider and $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}: 7$, calhodes (via switch). Right-hand holder, $1,0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and $2.2 \mathrm{M} ; 2,3,7$, and centre, M.C.; 4 and 6 , battery positive; 5, output. Some holders do not have centre tags, and this is of no importance. "M.C." indicales connections to a tag bolted to the metal chassis.
If long-wave tuning is not required, wiring is somewhat simplified. The M.W. coil is permanently connected in circuit, as shown in Fig. 5. An on-off switch is then joined in series with one battery lead, as shown. This switch can be located between the valves. There is also
(Continued on page 580)


Fig. 5.-If long waves are not required the M.W. coil may be connected in circsit permanenty.

# A Simple Trounsistor Portable 

A CIRCUIT FOR PERSONAL LISTENING

By L. Baker

THIS receiver. covering the medium and long wavebands, serves as a useful stand-by receiver in the event of a failure of the normal receiver or in the event of a power failure which makes the mains set inoperative. It is also useful for camping trips and being small in size and weight it can be carried easily. It is not a miniature receiver but it is nevertheless quite small: $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. $X$. $3 \frac{1}{4}$ in. long $\times 1 \mathrm{in}$. deep. Most of the parts will already be to hand in the average spares box. and the others will be readily available at most radio shops. No specialised miniature components are used in the construction.

## Circuit Description

The circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 1. From this it will be seen that the receiver has a simple circuit with M.W./L.W. tuning coils with separate coils and switching for the aerial and tuned windings. A D.P.D.T. switch serves as the wavechange switch: one side switches the aerial to the appropriate aerial coil. the other side connocts the appropriate tuning coil to the tuning condenser which is a $0.0005 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ solid dielectric type of the kind frequently used in receivers employing reaction circuits. The coils are wound on a piece of ferrite rod and it will be found that only a short acrial will be required and in good reception areas reasonably good signals can be obtained with no aerial at all. The coil and condenser are built and wired as one unit. The signal detector is an 0A70 crystal diode. the
the output of which is taken directly into the base of the first transistor of the three-stage audio amplifier. The signal is fed from the collector of Tirl via the coupling condenser C 2 to the base of Tr2. Likewise the collector of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ is taken via the coupling condenser C3 to the base of Tr3, the output of Tr3 being fed into a deaf aid earpiece or earphones.

## The Coils

The long wave coil is made from a discarded I.F. transformer. The ferrite rod. $4 \frac{1}{2}$ in. long. is first fitted with a cardboard sleeve lin. long. This sleeve should be a sliding fit on the ferrite rod. One winding from the I.F. transformer is then fitted to the sleeve. removing some turns from the inside of the coil if necessary. The other coil is fitted to the sleeve in a like manner, spacing the coils roughly lin. apart.

The coils should not be cemented in place until the final adjustments are made on the completion of the wiring. The medium wave tuned winding consists of 75 turns of wire close wound on a former $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. long. This former should be also a sliding fit on the ferrite rod. The medium wave aerial winding is again part of a discarded I.F. coil fitted on a separate former. This coil should have rather more than half the number of turns of


Fig. 1.-The circuit diagram. the long wave aerial coil. This is achieved by removing approximately half of the winding, stripping off the wire from the outside of the coil. The ferrite rod is fixed to the frame of the $0.0005 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ tuning condenser by means of a securing bracket of stout cardboard. At this stage a tag strip of seven tags should be fixed to the other terminal of the condenser (see Fig. 2 which shows the wiring).

## The Amplifier

The case for the set is made from a plastic box such as sold in multiple stores. Other types of case
may be employed provided they are not of metal. the actual size being a matter for individual requirements. Holes should be drilled for the tuning unit, the wavechange switch and the volume control. on/off switch. Holes should also be drilled for the $A$ and $E$ sockets and the output jack J1. All parts can then be installed and the wiring can be completed from Fig. 2 leaving the transistors until last. When all other wiring has been completed, the diode and transistors should be installed using a heat shunt to prevent damage to these components. Before connecting the battery, all wiring should be checked for mistakes (which could possibly ruin the transistors).

In the original model, OC71 transistors were used. If surplus types are used, the values of R2, R4 and R6 may have to be changed slightly for best performance from the amplifier. A good way to do this is 10 wire the circuit temporarily on a piece of pegboard and adjust the values of R2, 4, 6 by trial and error.

## Adjusting and Testing

With battery connected, the amplifier can be tested by plugging in the carpiece and switching on. Touching the base connection of Tr3 should produce a buzzing noise in the earpiece. The noise should become louder on touching the base
and clearest signals are heard and finally cement it in place.

Suitch now to the medium waveband (it is best to adjust this band at night when more stations are on the air to serve as useful check points). It may be necessary to remove a turn


Fig. 3.- The dial of the receiver.
or two from the M.W. tuned winding in order 10 receive stations on about 200 metres, with VCl almost open. The Home, Light and Third programmes can then be checked. sliding the coils on the ferrite rod as before. Finally, adjust the spacing between the aerial and tuned coils for the best signal strength consistent with good selectivity and seal in the final position as with the L.W. coil.

## Dial

A small dial can be made from stout cardboard marking an arc to suit the pointer knob and the stations usually heard. A knob of the pointer type is used for the dial and a small circular knob for the volume control and switch.

As the current consumption of this set is in the region of 3.5 mA it will be found that many months of useful service will be obtained from the battery before it has to be renewed.
connection of Tr2, and should be louder still on touching the base of Tr1.

## Adiusting the R.F. Section

The diode connections should be checked to see that the cathode of the diode is connected as shown in the circuit diagram. A short aerial should be connected to the set, and the wavechange switch should be set to Long Wave. Condenser VCI should be set at about the centre of its travel where the BBC Light Programme should be heard. If the station is heard with VCl almost open, wire should be removed from the L.W. tuned winding until the station is heard with VCl in the correct position. With the station tuncd in accurately, slide the long wave coil former along the ferrite rod until the loudest
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A complete stercophonic amplifier by Airmec.

THE most prominent and popular feature at this year's Radio and TV Show was undoubtedly the "slim line" TV receiver. Details of this and other TV features are fully: covered in our companion journal Practical Tclerision. However. stereophonic apparatus was a close second to the "slim line" and most

# Radio Show Review 

A SUMMARY OF THE TRENDS AT THIS

## YEAR'S EXHIBITION

little larger than a normal radiogram. into which both the speakers have been incorporated, being placed at the extreme ends of the cabinet. This approach is typified by the Pam receiver at the top of page 552 and the Peto-Scott model at the top of page 553 .

In some models, one of the speakers is renovable so that it may be placed in the usual manner at a distance from the main assembly. In certain designs. arrangements have been incorporated so that the complete apparatus may be used for mono or stereo reproduction, while of the demonstration rooms were crowded by enthusiasts of all ages. Probably the other focus of interest was on the applications of transistors to portable receivers of all dimensions. It is, of course. very difficult to pick out any individual receiver or firm for particular reference. but the accompanying illustrations gite an idea of some of the apparatus which was on view and of modern designs in the fields mentioned above.
 in others the equipment which is fitted is primarily for mono. but provision has been made in many instances for the additions required for stereo.

## Anplifiers:

Amongst the separate amplifiers which were available for the assembly of stereo apparatus may be mentioned the amplifier shown at the top of this page. This is an Airmec product consisting of two identical power amplifiers and two identical pre-amplifiers on a single chassis. These are fed from a common power pack and the amplifier is suitable for fitting into a cabinet with a record player and radio tuner of any desired torm. The output is rated at 10 watts on each channel and there are separate inputs for radio. pick-up and tape.

## Stereophonic Sound

The accepted principle for stereo reproduction is to have two speakers separately placed in a room. However. criticisms have been levelled against the system both on the lines of expense and on the space occupied by these fitments. Two or three firms have tachled this problem by producing a single cabinct. very

At the top is a Labgear signal gemerator. and below are (lefo) a tape recorder editing accessor:and on the right Collaro's Mark It tape transcriptor.



The Collaro Junior four-speed gramophone ufin.


Amongst the speakers shown by Whiteley Electrical Radio Co. were some specially designed for stereo. and in their demonstration room these were connected to switches so that various com-


> An imposing stereophonic radiogram
> from the Pam range-model 627, costing 60 gns .

## Transistors

In addition to the use of transistors in conventional receivers, arranged on panels for case of assembly and servicing, there were a number of special receivers employing transistors. mostly in the form of pocket or personal receivers. Three of these are illustrated here, and the one on the left of the centre group on page 553 gives a good idea of the compactness of the design. This is the Emerson model 888. It measures $6 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. long $\times 4 \mathrm{in} . \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. and costs 18 guineas. It embodies a printed circuit for medium and long waves, a self-contained ferrite red aerial and is operated by penlight batteries.

To the right of this may be seen a Pam "Gayplay " receiver, which also utilises a printed circuit. Two 3 V penlight cells are used and the case is of real leather. This receiver is designed to cover medium waves with a fixed position for the Light Programme on the long waves. The price of this model is 17 guineas.
Another Emerson model is seen in the centre of this page and in this tuning and volume adjustments are effected by thumb-operated discs protruding through the right-hand side of the case. This set also has a printed circuit and is styled in gold


On the left is the Pam push-button tuner, in the centre the Emerson transistor personal radio, and on the right a Rola wide-range speaker.
binations could be connected to the amplifier and the results clearly demonstrated
The K.B. Stereovox loudspeaker shown at the foot of page 551 was one of the most unusual seen at the exhibition.


Two transistor portables from the Dynatron range. On the left the "Romany", at 22gns., and on the right the "Nomad" at 24l gns.
and black. It is tunable over long and medium waves and is provided with a socket for a car aerial. The price is 19 guineas.

## Tape Recorders

Following radio and amplifying equipment in importance. undoubtedly came the tape recorder, and in addition to complete recorders there were a number of accessories. One of these is shown on page 551, and is an editing device by Tape Recorders (Electronics) Ltd. This is a splicer, similar in appearance and use to a standard film splicer, in which the tape is gripped on each side, cut at the centre. painted with adhesive (or a piece of tape used) and then clamped for a few minutes to make a satisfactory join which may be played without difficulty. The jointing of tape is. of course. a simple matter when a device of this type is used, but without it it may be found difficult to join the tape in line so that it will pass over the heads on the recorder without noise and without running off the guide rollers or spool. In addition to this splicer Tape Recorders exhibited a complete splicing outfit consisting of the splicer, three spools of leader
tape. jointing tape, jointing compound, ten safety clips and spare parts.

The deck to the right of the splicer is a Collaro tape transcriptor (Mk. IV). This is a two directional. twin-track instrument, incorporating two sets of magnetic heads. inter-connected brakes and a microswitch for the motors. It has three speeds and is provided with a three digit counter and a pause control. The two blocks of push-buttons on each side of the deck are for record. playback and fast speeds on the two tracks of the tape. with a large bar in the centre for a stop suitch.

In the centre strip on this page. the left-hand recorder is the "Prince" by Tape Recorders. and that on the right is a Brenell. The "Prince" is a twin-track instrument, single speed ( $3 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} . / \mathrm{sec}$ ) with $4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ output. The recording level indicator is of the magic-eye type. It accommodates reels up to $5 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in}$. in diameter.

The Brenell model is the "Three Star " which was selected by the Design Centre when they displayed items of outstanding British design and


On the left is the Emerson Vanguard pocket radio and reading from left to right are the "Prince" tape recorder, the Pam "Gayplay"," and a Brenel tape deck.


Another stereophonic radiogram. This model DRG68 by Peto-Scott covers F.M. as mell as A.M. It costs 75 gns .
and a normal radio receiver. The player is known as the Romany and is a four-transistor, four-speed, battery-operated unit available in three colours. The price is 22 guineas, and the speaker in this model is a 9 in . $\times 4 \mathrm{in}$. elliptical model. to ensure good quality. A full 500 mW output is available. and the power is provided by three 9 V batteries. The "Nomad" is a seven-transistor set with

manufacture. It has three speeds (71, $3 \frac{3}{4}$ and $1 \frac{7}{k} i n . / \mathrm{sec}$ ) and is provided with different frequency correction for each speed. Push-buttons are employed also in this model and there is a simple and robust interlocking of the control unit to prevent accidental erasure, tape breakage and spillage. The brakes are self-adjusting, and there is a pause control and revolution counter. The deck accommodates reels up to 7 in . in diameter and the amplifier is of the printed circuit type utilising the latest valves developed for low noise and high gain. The price of this instrument is 58 guineas, which includes microphone, radio lead. $1,200 \mathrm{ft}$ reel of tape and an empty spool.

## Portable Receivers

Amongst the standard types of portable. the Roberts is probably one of the best known, and one of these is shown at the foot of this page. This is a transistor model, and also incorporates a printed circuit. It is available in six colours. cosis 22 guineas and a carrying cover may be obtained at $30 /$ extra.

At the foot of the opposite page are two portables from the Dynatron range: a record player

## An Aerial-powered

# Transistor Receiver 

A ONE-TRANSISTOR CIRCUIT WHICH USES NO BATTERIES By Capt. R. F. Graham

THIS novel circuit will be of interest to experimenters who have a really good aerial and earth. In Bedford, a river valley fringe area some 50 miles from the BBC, it works a loudspeaker without any kind of baitery-not very loud, obviously, but quite clear even in the next room when tuned to BBC Third ( $647 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and a suitable transformer is used to match a good loudspeaker, instead of the high resistance phones shown in the circuit. BBC Home ( $908 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) gives good phone reception but quiet speaker output because the aerial used is definitely poor. It is lower than the gutters. only 22 ft . high and consists of 114 ft . of disused tele-


Fig. 1.-The circuit diagram. In some instances, it may be found that the omission of DI improves results.
phone wires. Even so reception is very much louder than from a crystal set on the same aerial.

## Inductance

Coil L, for a medium-wave station, may have 50 to 60 turns of 22 s.w.g. wire on a 3 in . to 4 in . diameter former. A simple large coil with spaced turns gave better results than small high $Q$ types tried. Insulated flex may be close wound (on a large bottle) and tuned by unwinding turns. This is better than a coil with tapped turns. A Litzwound variometer at near its maximum inductance is still better, or Litz wire can be space wound on a tube into which a ferrite rod is inserted for adjusting the tuning.

## Tuning

Tuning condenser $\mathrm{C}(500 \mathrm{pF})$ is in series with L. If the earth or its connection is bad, then C becomes useless and no power will be delivered even if the aerial is very good. This acceptor tuned circuit tends to tune the aerial wire as part of L ; therefore, the input to " b " and " e " of the transistor is from across $\mathbf{C}$, necessitating the aeitial to be on good insulators and the down-lead well away from walls to avoid all stray capacity losses. Even the coil should have little capacity between turns. Exact tuning is possible by using a high resistance voltmeter across the ( - ) and
$(+)$ points shown in the circuit. When both $L$ and C are so adjusted that the meter shows maximum reading, then the ratio of $C$ to $L$ will be correct for loudest output. For a station of longer wavelength it will be necessary to add a small condenser across $C$ as well as extra turns on $L$, or to insert the ferrite rod farther. Voltage readings should be more than one volt when the carrier is not modulated or 1.5 volts when the audio is loud. Half a volt is the minimum and this from a poor aerial.

## Transistor

The transistor may be any audio type having good gain and small Ico leakage. If near to a BBC station it may be an output type instead of a small signal type and the aerial can be shorter to avoid overloading and damaging the transistor.
Capacitor C1 $(1 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ feeds A.C. carrier to D3 and blocks D.C. It also eompletes the audio input to " $b$ " and " $e$." Heriee, it is large, but since it should be a ceramic or paper type, $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ may be used.

## New Radio Aid

$\mathrm{A}^{\mathrm{F}}$FTER spanning the Atlantic with radio messages via the Moon, Pye has developed the equipment used in this experiment into a commercial application for long-range, ground-to-air radio control of aircraft.

Until recently the range of voice communication to aircraft from, say, London Airport has been limited to about 150 miles. In an installation undertaken for Pan American Airways at Shannon Airport the new Pye equipment has attained consistent ranges four times greater and reliable two-way communication is available up to approximately 450 nautical miles.

## Atlantic Gap

Under favourable atmospheric conditions, ranges have at times been achieved up to 1,000 miles. This goes a long way towards bridging the great Atlantic "black-out gap" where until now voice communication has been unsatisfactory.

The distance from Shannon to Gander in Newfoundland is 2,000 miles, so the possibility of continuous radio-telephone coverage to transAtlantic aircraft is in sight for the first time. Further extensions of the range will be the subject of future tests.
The communication of 1,000 miles range was obtained with a Boeing 707 flying at $38,000 \mathrm{ft}$ over the Atlantic. A high-powered Pye transmitter, similar to that used in the Moon experiment, is sited near Ballybunnion, 30 miles west of Stiannon, and is automatically controlled by a Pye radio link from Shannon Airport.

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was there. Of course. the emphasis was on the design of the modern television receiver, and particularly on the use of the 110 deg . deflection cathode-ray tube. but, nevertheless. there was much of interest to the amateur radio enthusiast. A greater number of sets for V.H.F./F.M. was on display; I have thought for a long while now that apart from the BBC. few concerns have given enough thought to the selling of these high quality receivers. The man in the street does not understand what is meant by "greater quality of reproduction." " greater dynamic range." etc.. but with recorded illustrations he can realise that the V.H.F./F.M. service means that there will no longer be the irritating interference by foreign transmitters and electrical and "static" interfer-ence-will be almost or completely eliminated.
The hi-fi man a I s o found many stands to view: the enlarged audio hall this year was very popu-lar-and very hot. although at least one or two enterprising manufacturers had the good sense to install air conditioning. I often found


5WL, P. I. Park, of Strichen, Aberdeen, in his den. myself unaccountably gravitating towards one of these stands!

Stereo this year was all the rage, although as I have said previously. I would just as soon have a mono system as a stereo system. I thought that my own equipment-ten watt amplifier and mul. tiple speaker system with a 10 cu . ft . corner refler cabinet-gave better results than any I heard at the show. I realise. though. that it was impossible to judge results fairly in the small demonstration rooms, especially with the high level of ambient noise. which was certain to mask many good eflects (and some bad ones. too, no doubt).

As I said. I was present at the show on several davs. and once more I gained much pleasure from conversing with readers of Practical Wireless and Practical Television. Many came ready to argue with me. but after a short while most of then came over to my view or conceded several points. One person refused to believe what I said on a certain matter and went away in high dudgeon. I did not see him again: perhaps he had my statement confirmed and decided to say no more.

# Becoming an "Amateur" 

## AMATEUR RADIO FOR BEGINNERS-3

ARECENT correspondent wished to know if amateurs like to receive reports or cards from SWL's. A great deal has been written on this subject and it is not intended to go too deeply into it here. The writes feels,

THE QSA/R SYSTEM

| READABILITY SCALE <br> QSA1-Unreadable. <br> QSA2-Readable at times. <br> QSA3-Readable with difficulty QSA4-Readable. <br> QSA5-Perfectly readable. |
| :---: |
| STRENGTH SCALE <br> R1-Unintelligible. |
| R2-Weak, barely readab |
| R3-Weak, but c |
|  |
|  |
|  |
| sig |
|  |
| R9-Extremely strong signals. |

Table I.-The system used when reporting on phone signals. A perfectly readable, extremely' strong signal is said to be $05 R 9$, or simply " 5 and 9 ."
however, that a few words of advice would not be out of place in a beginners' series of the present nature.

## Writing for Cards

Many SWL's set out to acquire a card from every station they hear, and are disappointed when, after long waiting periods, it becomes obvious that the percentage of replies received to cards sent out is going to be very small. At this stage they either give the whole thing up in disgust, or carry on hopefully without ever attempting to discover the reasons for the low percentage returns.

The writer once received a card which bore the bare inscription: " Heard you on 20 m . last week. Would like your QSL card." The sender was obviously interested in amassing as many QSL cards as possible. There is nothing basically
wrong with this practice except that it shows lack of consideration for other people. During the course of a year, licensed amateurs who are regularly active on most bands receive a large number of reports from listeners. The cost involved in replying to all of these can become excessive.

## Send Useful Reports

There is a great deal which the SWL can do to ensure that most, if not all, of the reports he sends out will receive replies. The first rule is never to send a report to a station unless you feel certain that it will be of some use to him. There's not much point, for instance, in sending a report to a French station whom you have just heard working a station in this country.
Now let us suppose you heard the same station working into Equatorial Africa and stating that he was using a beam aerial. After listening for some time you discover that the African station is giving him very poor signal strength reports: and yet, you are hearing him strongly. Clearly there is something wrong-either his beam is not pointing in the right direction or its "front-toback ratio" is very poor indeed. In any cvent the French station would probably welcome confirmation that he was at least putting out a good signal somewhere.

## Reporting Signal Strengths

There are two methods in current use by amateurs for conveying information regarding strength and quality of signals. These are the QSA/R system for telephony, and the RSE system for CW (morse). Both are given in tables I and II respectively.

> (To be continued)

## THE RST SYSTEM

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { R1- } \\ & \text { R2-1 } \\ & \text { R3- } \\ & \text { R } 5-1 \end{aligned}$ | EADABILITY. <br> readable. <br> ely readable. adable with difficulty. adable with slight difficulty. fectly readable. |
| :---: | :---: |
| STRENGTH <br> S1-Barely perceptible signals. | TONE <br> Tl -Extremely rough note. |
| S2-Very weak signals. | T2-Rough A.C. note. |
| S3-Weak signals. | T3-Rough A.C. note, musical. |
| S4-Fair signals. | T4-Rough A.C. note, greater musicality. |
| S5-Fairly good signals. | T5-Musically modulated note. |
| S6-Good signals. | T6-Modulated note, slight whistle. |
| S7-Moderately strong signals. | T7-Near D.C. note, smooth ripple. |
| S8-Strong signals. | T8--Good D.C. note, slight ripple. |
| S9-Extremely strong signals. | T9-Purest D.C. note. |

Table II.-The system used for reporting telegraphy signals (C.W.). If the note sounds to be crystal-controlled an " $X$ " is added after the Tone figure. If the note is chirpy add a " C."

# A Transmitter Keying Monitor 

USE THIS OSCILLATOR TO CHECK YOUR TRANSMISSIONS

By R. Wright, B.Sc. (G3IBX)

MANY newly licensed amateurs are troubled by the fact that on many QSO's they are unable to hear the note of their transmission and so have no check on the quality of their telegraphy. Further. there is probably nothing more lowering to morale than numerous mistakes-with subsequent erasures-when working a station operated by a first-class telegraphist.


Fig. 1.-Circuit of the oscillator.
(It might, perhaps. be added here that a "firstclass "telegraphist is not necessarily the man who can send fast. Correct formation and spacing of letters and words are far more important. Once these have been thoroughly mastered, speed will come with practice.

## Function

The purpose of the oscillator. the circuit of which is shown in Fig. 1. is to provide sidetone irrespective of the transmitter and receiver frequencies in order that a constant check can be kept on keying.

Tl is an ordinary intervalve coupling transformer and provides the tuned circuit and coupling necessary to sustain oscillations-the oscillatory circuit capecitance being provided by the self-capacitance of the transformer winding.

## COMPONENTS LIST

R1 $-47,000$ ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ watt resistor.
R2-100,000 ohm, 1 watt resistor.
C1-100 pF capacitor.
C2- $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor.
C3- $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor, 350 volt working voltage.
T1-Intervalve coupling transformer.
(Ratio 5:1 or 3:1.)
V'—Oscillator valve, Elig1, etc. (See text.)
Valveholder to suit valve used.

The frequency of oscillation will usually lie somewhere between 700 and $1.400 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. well within the audio range. C1 and R1 provide sufficient bias for the valve. R2 not only limits the H.T. current through the valve. but together with C3 decouples the oscillator from the H.T. line.

## Choice of Valve

Almost any valve of the R.F. pentode type operated as a triode (i.e.. anode. screen grid and suppressor grid wired together on the valveholder) seems to oscillate satisfactorily. For the sake of compactness. an EF91-or equivalentis suitable and such a valve is in use at the writer's station.

The cathode of the oscillator valve should be connected to the keyed line of the transmitter so that the oscillator is keyed simultaneously with the transmitter. The output from the oscillator is capacitively coupled through C 2 to the receiver phones or loudspeaker. In most receivers one side of the phones will be earthed and the oscillator output is coupled to the other side of


Fig. 2.-Injecting the A.F. from the oscillator into the headphone circuit. Two tupes of output stage are shown: the one on the left is for high resistance headphones and the one on the right for low resistance headphones.
the phones. Figs. 2 (a) and (b) show the more usual arrangements for connecting (a) high resistance phones and (b) low resistance phones to the receiver output valve. The correct point for connecting the A.F. from the oscillator is also shown. With this method of connection, the A.F. note from the oscillator will be heard in the phones even if the H.T. of the receiver is normaliy switched off during transmission.

## Construction

In receivers such as the R1155, the oscillator can usually be built into the set. However, if room does not exist in the receiver, the oscillator may be constructed on a small chassis, approximately $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. $\times 3 \mathrm{in} .$, and mounted in any convenient position, taking H.T. and L.T. from any suitable point in either the receiver or transmitter. The H.T. requirements are extremely modest, being $200-250$ volts at $2-5 \mathrm{~mA}$, depending upon the type of valve used. L.T. will be 6.3 V
at, probably, 0.3 A , again depending upon the valve used.

## Practice Oscillator

If the oscillator is powered from the receiver it may, of course, be used as a morse practice oscillator being keyed via the transmitter key but with the transmitter power switched off. Finally, should the oscillator fail to function when constructed and all connections appear to be satisfactory, try reversing the connections to one side of the A.F. transformer.

## A Noiseless Organ Control

MANY experimenters find difficulty in adapting ordinary radio volume controls for use in electronic organs-chiefly on the grounds of noise caused by wearing of the track. Requests are frequently received for details of a noiseless control and the following data were published by us in 1956, but the issue concerned is now out of print and in response to many requests we are reprinting the data here.

The following is the result of many experiments


Theoretical circuit of the control.
conducted on an electronic organ to find a swell control which did not require constant attention. The basis of this control is to provide a completely frictionless, and therefore non-wearing, control.

In this circuit a variable condenser is connected between anode and grid of the pre-amplifier stage; this provides feedback which tends to cancel the incoming signal. It is essential that this stage should be a pentode so as to keep the capacity of


The control in "maximum" or loudest position.
the variable condenser within reasonable limits. A great asset of this circuit is that it provides a progressive "top" cut very similar to the shutters of an organ swellbox, and has been found to be effective with diapason tone down to 16 ft .

The essential components are a pair of threegang variable condensers with the shafts coupled together. Economy in space could be effected by using miniaturised condensers (variable). The possibility of using variable condensers with paxolin dielectric should not be ruled out.


The control "off" or in the position of minimum volume.

No originality is claimed for the above as a similar idea is used on the Novachord, but the writer has never seen any constructional details concerning this type of control and, after having made up every type to be found in any publication, has found the above to be perfect.-J. H.

## COMPONENTS REQUIRED

## 2-Three-gang . 0005 variable condensers.

1-Valve (SP61, EF36, EF50, etc.). Any equivalent.
1 - $\frac{1}{4}$ Meg. anode load resistance.
2-. $01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ condenser
1-1,000 ohm resistance.
$1-50 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ bias condenser.
1-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Meg. resistance.
1-. $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ condenser.
I-1 Meg. resistance.

# a Direct-Coupled 

FURTHER NOTES ON THIS NOVEL RECEIVER CESCRIBED IN THE MAY AND JUNE ISSUES

By W. Cleland

THE widespread interest that exists in miniature radios was revealed once again in the number of queries dealing with this set. which was described in the May and June issues.

## Circuit

The receiver was an experimental one not ideally suited to beginners. who would find it easier to make a conventional type of circuit work. It is probably best in direct-coupled circuits to make the feedback resistance variable. so that it can be readjusted from time to time.

Transistors differ so much in characteristics that it is hardly possible to guarantee good results with every batch of transistors. especially in a direct-coupled circuit. The R.F. transistor in particular has to be biased rather critically to make it sensitive as a detector, and this low current condition does not yield a high R.F. gain. The gain can be increased by applying positive feedback. but the degree to which this can be done depends upon the stability of the basic gain, and unon the need to avoid excessive attenuation of the outer side-bands containing the higher audio frequencies.

## Stability

A milliammeter placed in the collector circuit of a transistor shows that the current continues to increase for some time after switching on. The accompanying change in gain would tend to prochuce instability if reaction has been adjusted close to the threshold of oscillation. Thus. more

reaction can be used in a stabilised circuit than in one where no precautions are taken.

Conditions are less critical if the functions of R.F amplifier and detector are separated. and it is hoped later to give details of an improved receiver which uses an R.F. stage followed by a separate crystal detector.

## Crystal Set

It might be as well to point out that an ordinary crystal set followed by an A.F. amplitier is not a sensitive receiver. A crystal set requires a good aerial and earth and receives only local stations. Thus an R.F. amplifier of some kind is essential. The transistor receivers that are manufactured are practically all superheterodynes. and so have a chain of I.F. stages preceding the detector.

As signal strength is reduced. a detector becomes less and less efficient. until for a very small signal. the detector almost completely ceases


Fig. 1.-The original circuit diagram. to function. The so-called first detector or mixer in a superheterodyne is of course worked differently: being in effect an amplifier or attenuator with its gain or loss varied by the cycle of oscillator voltage. Thus it can work just as well for a small signal as for a larger one, which partly accounts for the sensitivity of a superheterodyne. However. the kits of parts available for superheterodynes are for rather larger receivers incorporating loudspeakers and the smallest receivers. down to wristwatch size. tend to employ comparatively simple regenerative circuits.

## Distortion

A low signal input to the detector involves not only insensitivity but also increased distortion, whilst elsewhere in a radio set, distortion is least for small signals.

Owing to the unusual circuit and compact assembly, some difficulty may have been found in following out parts of the wiring of the receiver, especially those leads that pass through the pancl.

In Fig. 8 (page 302, June issue) the transistor leads can be identified as follows. The leads as they emerge from each transistor are, from top to bottom of the diagram: emitter, base, collector, in that order, for each transistor.

Two errors occurred. One was referring incorrectly to R6 as R8; there being, of course, only seven resistors in the receiver. The other


Fig. 2.-Circuit of the modified direct-coupled receiver, using fewer components, but less highty stabilised. Most of the components are the same as in the original circuit.
error was the omission from Fig. 8 of the connection between the emitters of transistors 2.3 and 4 and the junction of R2 and R7, and C3.

## Wiring

The two end leads of the aerial winding pass through holes under the ferrite slab direct to the tags of the 500 pF trimmer, and the adjacent tags of the two trimmers are connected together. The other tag of the 500 pF trimmer is taken to the base connection point of Trl. The twisted aerial tapping is taken through a hole at the edge of the slab and goes to the junction of C3, C4 and R7. (The aerial lead going to the base of Trl is the end closer to the tapping.)

The positive connection from the 1.5 V cell passes through a hole next to that for the tapping and is taken to the push-button switch. This, by the way, is luminous and glows brightly in the dark. The wire from the negative pole passes through both panels and connects to the end of RI linked with R3 and R4. One earpiece lead is connected to the negative pole, and the other lead passes through both panels to R5.

## Components

Some of the components proved more dificult to obtain than had been anticipated. The plastic box has become difficult to obtain, but as it was rather fragile, a more robust container would be preferable.

Some difficulty was also encountered with the 500 pF compression trimmer, as the 250 pF and 750 pF appear to be more readily obtainable. However, a 750 pF trimmer would probably serve in place of 500 pF . although a few turns might have to be taken off the aerial winding.

The ferrite slab was actually taken from a commercial component which had' become damaged in the course of experiments, but slabs believed to be similar had been scen in onc or two shops. However. as ferrite rods appear to be stocked almost exclusively, for those who require to wind their own acrials, the choice of a rectangular section was inconvenient.

## Earpiece Flex

The use of an improvised earpiece flex in the receiver was a dubious economy, as the proper type of cord is more flexible and has a better appearance. There is no need for this flex to be screened. In fact, in one American midget receiver, the earpiece cord also serves as an aerial, being isolated for this purpose by means of R.F. chokes. This can be accomplished equally well without the chokes, if a double-wound tuning coil is used to carry the earpiece currents.
In the smallest radios, where every stratagem has to be adopted to conserve space, a ferrite aerial becomes less practicable, and an external aerial will probably give a larger input. However, an earth is then of importance, and it might be that a separate aerial wire is best, with the earpiece flex taking the place of an earth.

## Direct Coupling

Direct coupling, also useful in conserving space, has its drawbachs. Occasionally it produces "motor-boating" especially when unsuitable values of coliector resistances are employed. If the emitter-base voltage becomes larger than the emitter-collector voltage, a phase reversal occurs, which converts the negative feedback of the stabilising circuit into positive feedback. In such cases it may help to alter the order in which the transistors are used.

The circuit of a modified type of directcoupled receiver with which experiments have been made is shown in Fig. 2. This circuit contains only four resistors. three capacitors and a small R.F. choke. It avoids some of the gain reductions that take place in the other circuit, but is less highly stabilised and more critical in adjustment. The resistor $\mathbf{R} 4$ has to be varied to find a suitable value.

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# - Caravan and Car Radio Circuits 

SIMPLE BATTERY-OPERATED RECEIVERS

By C. Stone

CRCULTS for 6 V and 12 V accumulator running can be very similar to those in standard mains receivers. It is, in fact. usually easy to adapt a small mains set of suitable type for accumulator operation. so that it can be used in a vehicle or caravan. However. a receiver built especially for this purpose may be preferred. In favourable circumstances, as when listening in a caravan. quite simple circuits will give an adequate performance.

## Typical Circuit

A popular type of circuit for a car radio is shown in Fig. 1, and will give sufficient volume even under adverse conditions. Two I.F. stages are used in the interests of high sensitivity. but it is not unusual to find an R.F. amplifier instead of the second I.F. stage. The I.F. stage is probably simpler to wire, unless the R.F. amplifiet selected is untuned, and thus has much to recommend it. Adequate screening will be needed, to avoid instability:

The circuit is of conventional type, and will give good results with a H.T. supply of 180 to 250 V . The 12 A 6 output valve is an Octal type. but the others are miniatures. so that a compact receiver may be built. If less sensitivity is required, one I.F. stage may be omitted. The

12 AH 8 heater can then be wired for 12 V supply, as this valve has a tapped heater for either 5.3 V . 0.3 A or $12.6 \mathrm{~V}, 0.15 \mathrm{~A}$ running. If operation from a 6 V accumulator is wanted, the 12AH6 can be connected for 6 V . with all the other heaters in parallel. a miniature 6.3 V output valve such as the 6 BW 6 replacing the 12 A 6 . No other changes need be made, except to adjust the output valve bias resistor, if necessary. For the 6BW6. this can be 270 ohms.

A circuit of this kind can, of course. be made up with valves other than those shown, provided a suitable heater circuit is arranged. For a 5 V accumulator. valves with 6.3 V heaters are wired in parallel. With a 12 V vehicle supply. 12.6 V valves may be used. Alternatively, 6.3 V valves with the same heater current rating may be wired in pairs. as in Fig. 1. If a single 6.3 V .0 .3 A valve remains, a 21 ohm. 2 W resistor can be connected in series with its heater, so that it can be run from the 12 V supply.

## Tuning Methods

A receiver covering only medium waves will often be sufficient. and this eliminates wavechange switching. The correct padder must be included. as in Fig. 1, and is usually 500 pF . A ganged tuning condenser, with small reduction drive, is


Fig. 1.-Superhet with two I.F. stages.
used for manual tuning. If space permits, it is in order to use a two or three band coil pack. This would be more feasible in a caravan radio for operation from the car supply than in a compact car radio.

An alternative to manual tuning is to provide two or three stations which can be selected by means of a rotary switch (or a push-button switch unit, if this is 10 hand). A circuit for three pre-set stations is shown in Fig. 2. There is no need for a gang condenser or runing drive. The long wave Light Programme can also be provided, in addition to medium wave stations. Other parts of the receiver circuit remain unchanged.

With pre-set tuning, the oscillator coils may be used without padders. In these circumstances, it is possible to lune the M.W. oscillator coil to such a frequency as will allow reception of the $1,500 \mathrm{~m}$ long wave transmitter. An additional oscillator coil for long wave reception is then unnecessary: However, this is not possible with manual tuning.


Fig. 2.-Circuit for pre-set tuning. coil below the chassis.

## Power Supplies

with all heaters in parallel. Other valve types are, of course, quite satisfactory.
The receiver may tune medium waves only, or both medium and long waves, or pre-set tuning may be arranged, a rotary switch bringing in pairs of pre-set condensers, adjusted to the required stations. If maximum range is not wanted, reaction may be omitted. Screening is necessary between the coil circuits, to avoid instability. This is most casily arranged by placing the aerial coil (or coils, with fual-wate tuning) above the chassis and the detector stage

Methods of arranging the heater circuit for 6 V or 12 V running have been mentioned. For H.T., some 180 to 250 V will be needed, and can be obtained from a vibrator pack or rotary transformer. Surplus vibrator units are sometimes available. but the vibrator may prove noisy if worn or in bad condition. Current consumption is, however, lower than with a rotary

Connections for a rotary H.T. supply are shown in Fig. 4, and many small rotary transformers or converters of this type are available. The output is D.C., so no rectifier is needed. A reasonably effective smoothing circuit, such as that shown, is generally required, or at least one large capacity smoothing condenser.

## Chassis Polarity

Most vehicles have positive taken to chassis, but this is not universal. It is thus wise to check this, and the polarity of the H.T. output, or the rotary or smoothing condensers will be damaged.

To keep down interference, by-pass condensers of $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ to $2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ can be wired across the brushes, or from brushes to chassis. These may be necessary with both input and output circuits. Electrolytic condensers are not suitable for interference suppression, but a large capacity eondenser of, say, 200 to $1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, is parallel

If required, the 2 -gang condenser can be switched into circuit in one position, for manual tuning. Stations other than the pre-selected locals can then be received when wanted.

## A T.R.F. Circuit

It will be found that a T.R.F. circuit such as that shown in Fig. 3 will give adequate volume in reasonably favourable conditions. There is no automatic volume control, as employed in the circuit in Fig. 1 and, therefore, a 3 -valver of this type is most suited for camping or a stationary caravan. It is very much simpler to build than the superhet. For a 6 V supply, the 12 A 6 would need replacing by a 6 V 6 or 6 BW 6 ,
with the 12 V supply to the receiver, may prove helpful in obtaining a quiet background. It is also helpful to position the converter so that there is little chance of direct pick up of interterence by the receiver or aerial. A nulti-pin plug will allow easy interconnection of receiver and power unit.
When interference arises, and its cause is not known. systematic investigation should allow the trouble to be cleared. If the interference ceases when the aerial lead is disconnected at the receiver, the aerial or lead is responsible. But if interference continues, it may be carried to the set by the power supply leads. If so, further bypass condensers should be added at the receiver. Screening, and a suitable choice of position, will


Fig. 3.-A simple T.R.F. circuit.
avoid troublesome pick up of interference by the receiver wiring itself.

## 12 V H.T. Circuit

If valves of the type intended for a 12 V H.T. supply are used. no vibrator or rotary power unit will be needed. A circuit of this type will be given next month. two I.F. stages again being used in the interests of good sensitivity.


Fig. 4.-Rotary converter power pack.
sistor stage, which may best be incorporated with the loudspeaker. This stage is necessary because the reduced H.T. voltage makes the output from the 12 K 5 insufficiently powerful for speaker listening. In addition. sensitivity equalling that obtained with a circuit such as the one in Fig. 1 must not be expected. Various power output transistors may be used. with values adjusted according to the maker's recommendations. The total current demand is much less than when a vibrator or rotary transformer is required.

## Using a Portable

A battery-operated set is quite convenient for occasional use in a caravan. or when camping. With portable receivers, it is often helpful to add an external aerial, because the signal pick-up of a frame aerial. inside a metal caravan or vehicle is very small. (To be continued)

When compared with a circuit such as that in Fig. I. it will be seen that somewhat fewer components are required, because S.G. dropper resistors and similar items are not necessary. Bias is obtained by grid rectification. so that values are best as shown. Dual-wave or pre-set tuning may, of course. be used if preferred. A very compact receiver may then be built, except for the tran-

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# Controls for Stereo 

TWO USEFUL DEVICES FOR STEREOPHONIC RADIO TRANSMISSIONS

By G. Gray

WHEN listening to the BBC stereophonic radio transmissions it is necessary to adjust the receivers to give as near the same volume as possible, and to have the loudspeakers operating in the correct phase. Checking one speaker phase against the other is not easy when speaker connections are reversed by changing over the leads, because of the time required to do this. Trial and error adjustment


Fig 1.—Wiring a speaker phasing switch.
of the volume controls is also troublesome, because it is necessary to move back to the correct listening point each time. To overcome these difficulties, a speaker phasing switch and extension volume control may be added to one receiver. These items will not interfere with the normal use of the receiver.

## Positioning

The positions of the two receivers will often be dictated by the layout of the room, but the loudspeakers should normally be about 6 ft . to 8 ft . apart, with the listener approximately the same distance from each loudspeaker.- Each loudspeaker, and the listener, may be imagined to occupy the points of a triangle in which each side is approximately equal. The BBC TV sound transmitters are used for the right-hand channel, and the M.W. and V.H.F. Network Three carries the left-hand channel. A V.H.F. receiver is preferable for this channel, but not essential.

## Phasing Switch

If the speaker cones are out of phase, results are not satisfactory. Fig. 1 shows wiring for a speaker phasing switch, the switch itself being fitted at a convenient point at the back of the receiver. A 2 -pole 2 -way rotary switch is shown, but other types of switch will be satisfactory.

Assuming that the sound receiver is to have the switch, the output transformer secondary connections will be located passing from the transformer to the speaker speech coil tags. These leads are cut and extended by soldering on con-
necting wire or flex, joints being covered with sleeving or tape. If a negative feedback loop is included from the speaker, connections to this must not be modified, but only those going to the actual unit itself.

When the receiver is used by itself, this switch can be in either position. For stereo listening, reception should be tried with the switch in each position in turn, to see which is correct.

## Volume Control

A speaker volume control tends to upset matching, while an A.F. control may easily cause hum. For these reasons a variable gain control is introduced into the cathode circuit of one I.F. stage, in Fig. 2. It is only necessary to break the cathode resistor chassis connection, and wire these points to a closed circuit jack. With no plug inserted, the receiver operates as usual.

The extension volume control will require some 8 ft . or so of twin flex, and the potentiometer itself can be included in a small case or box. The degree of control afforded is not so great as that obtained with the usual receiver volume control, but is normally sufficient for final adjustment.

With the jack plugged in, the extension volume control is set to a value which allows approximately correct volume to be obtained by adjusting the normal receiver volume control. The listener


Fig. 2.-Wiring a gain control in the cathode circuit of an I.F. stage.
can then occupy the correct position, some 6 ft . to 8 ft . from each loudspeaker.

## Adjustment

When the announcer or performer is occupying a central position, the extension control is turned until this effect is achieved. If the left-hand (sound receiver) channel is being controlled, insufficient volume will appear to make the sound source move to the right, while excess volume will move it to the left. The TV receiver volume control (right-hand channel) is left set at some intermediate position giving suitable volume.

# D.-C. Transistor Output Stage 

THE APPLICATION OF DIRECT COUPLING TO TRANSISTORS

By J. S. Kendall

IN the early days of radio it was customary to take a high impedance speaker and feed it directly from the anode of the output value. Then, with the introduction of the moving coil speaker. it became a necessity to have an output transformer betucen the valve and the speaker. Over the last few years Direct-Coupled (D.-C.) amplifiers have become more and more popular, but always there has been a matching transformer between the valve and the speaker. introducing its own problems and phase shift. With the modern power transistor. further steps forward have been made possible. Now. the load impedance required is approaching the impedance of a moving coil speaker. The match may not be perfect. but at least it is reasonably good.

## Impedances

Transistors differ in action from the conventional value. There is always a tendency to try to find similarities between the transistor and the thermionic valve. It must be remembered that the transistor is a current operated device, whereas the valve is voltage operated. Thus, the input resistance or impedance of a power transistor is very low.

## Circuit

For the circuit described here. a V15/30P transistor was chosen. It is a power transistor, and has a maximum dissipation, when correctly mounted, of some 10 W . The makers recommend

that it should be mounted on a heat sink 7 in . square made of 16 s.u.g. aluminium. For the full rating. the metal body of the transistor must be clamped directly. without insulation, to the heat sink. If, however. the transistor has to be insulated from the plate. then a mica washer 0.002 in . thick is used. Then the maximum power dissipation is reduced to some 5 W .

The circuit developed by the writer. shown in Fig. 1. with the correct value of R1. can be used with battery voltages of between 1.5. at which good volume is available. and 6. at which it will give over IW output. For the 6 V version, RI can colsist of a fixed and variable resistor in
series. Thus with 6 V applied, the standing current through T2 can be set at 1.5 A -or just under. Under no circumstances must the transistor be allowed to pass more than 3A or be allowed to dissipate more than 10 W (and then only when the correct heat sink is used). TI can be mounted in the wiring. For 1 to 3 V ,


Fig. 2.-Transistor base comnections.
working. R! can be 1,000 ohms. and for use above 3 V . it is suggested that the same resistance be used with a 5,000 ohm variable in series.

## Loudspeaker

For the original circuit a 3 ohm elliptical speaker was used with very good results. Normally. the polarity of the connections to a meving coil speaker matters little but on D.-C., as in this circuit, there is a right and a wrong mode of connection. The correct method is to connect the coil so that the D.-C. through it moves the coil away. or out of. the magnet.
When dealing with transistors. one must not let soldering heat reach the body of the transistor. An accidental touch with a soldering iron can ruin a transistor very quickly. It is a good plan to hold the wires in place with the fingers when making joints-if the wires become too hot to hold. then you are too slou in soldering! With the power types. the soldering to the large solder tag must be done with it removed from the transistor. and suitable clips must be devised for the connections to the two pins. Remember. too. that a reversed battery can be disastrous.

## REFRESHER COURSE IN MATHEMATICS

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shown in Fig. 11 test first at CS (11) and then at CR (12). Both readings should be almost the same if a choke is fitted. If a resistor is used instead of a choke a drop of at least 40 V and often as much as 150 V may be expected. Checks at points (13) to (18) cannot be made with the meter at present, but a low wattage lamp may usually be employed for testing. No harm can come to the set from such a procedure, but under some circumstances the lamp may burn out (if the transformer gives a very high voltage, say, 450 V ). Heater ranges are A.C. and cannot be checked at present but one can always observe if the valves

IN the previous article, the circuit of a typical pentode valve amplifier was given together with details of simple tests of voltage. Now, in Fig. 9 (last month), if no H.T. were present on the far side of RA you would proceed to check the power pack which may be of two types. The cheaper A.C./D.C. type with live chassis is shown in Fig. 10 and may be checked as follows. Test between earth and positive of Cs and positive of Cr. Both readings should be between 200 and 300 V on British sets. The point five readings should be 20 to 60 V lower than the point six test if all the valves are drawing H.T. Tests on the other side of the rectifier (7), (8), (9) and (10) are concerned with the arrival of A.C. mains to the rectifier and chassis. This cannot be checked on your meter until A.C. ranges are added. Meanwhile, use a low wattage lamp bulb (15 watts is suitable).
On no account should you touch any part of an A.C./D.C. receiver when it is comected to the mains, even if it is switched off.

## Conventional Power Packs

If the power pack is the conventional type


Fig. 10.-A.C./D.C. power pack (live chassis).


Fig. 11.-Conventional A.C. power pack.
are alight.
The beginner is advised to check home-made receivers in working order, as slated, to gain confidence. The testing of commencial receivers is difficult (but possible) without a service sheet. If the reader is likely to want to service a commercial receiver he should take steps to hire or buy a service sheet (if the former, copying out all the data he may require in the future, including the circuit).

## Current Ranges

It is now intended to extend the usefulness of

is AND DETAILS OF THE DIRECT<br>: ADDED<br>By E. V. King

the instrument so as to include ampere and milliampere ranges. It is very unlikely that ampere ranges will ever be used by the amateur in the ordinary way but the author has fitted a one amp.

## PARTS REQUIRED

1 yard (approximately) of 26 gauge resistance wire (the gauge is not of great importance but this is the most suitable).
4 yards (to allow for breakages, etc.) of approximately 41 gauge insulated resistance wire (an old wire-wound pot. of 25 k would provide this). $4 \frac{1}{2}$ voll flat battery.
1.000 ohm potentiometer (will akso be used in the meter).
Parts needed temporarily for calibration, etc.
Flashlamp bulb and holder ( 3.5 V .3 amp ).
$10,000 \mathrm{ohm}$, I watt resistor-any tolerance.
500 omm , watt resistor-any tolerance.
47 ohm resistor, 1 watt-any tolerance.
range for the following reason: When testing milliamperes, as in testing volts. you should always start on a very high range and work downwards to avoid damaging the meter. Now, some power packs will easily give a surge of 500 mA ; therefore. a one amp. range is fitted and if a wrong connection were made by the beginner the meter would not be burnt out, for no ordinary power pack will deliver over $1,000 \mathrm{~mA}$.

The range switch is already in position and you have probably marked in the ranges as suggested last month. To be quite sure they are marked correctly check them with Fig. 12. If you do not wish to mark the panel permanently at this stage, stick paper labels on with gum. These can be removed later with warm water. On no account proceed without marking the switch positions.


## Shunts

You are probably wondering how we are going to make the meter read up to IA because it is impossible to use the meter as it stands to measure currents greater than 1 mA , which is its full scale deflection. However, if we connect a resis-


The meter after the current ranges have been added.
tance (known as a "shunt ") across the meter and the resistance of this shunt is less than the resistance of the meter (which is usually 100 ohms) then more current will flow through the shunt than through the meter. Thus, if we want to measure up to 1 A (that is to say,, 000 mA ) then we arrange the value of the shunt so that 999 mA flow through it and 1 mA through the meter. (The reader who is interested in the mathematics involved should read the article "Meter Shunts and Multipliers" which appeared on page 139 of the April issue.)


Fig. 13.-(a) Wiring a temporary shunt across the meter to make a trial ammeter; (b) the theoretical circuit.


Fig. 14. -Wiring the two banks of the range selector switch.

## Materials Required

The main items required to make shunts for the milliamp. ranges are two sizes of resistance wire. Very little is required and it is not worth while to buy $40 z$. reels. The gauges stipulated are by no means essential as the lengths of wire are made up individually by experiment. The gauge of wire suggested for the 10 mA range is 41 enamelled silk covered, but any fine hairlike resistance wire. enamelled or silk covered, will serve. In order to make sure about this. the author used an old 10.000 ohms wire-wound potentiometer which had once been a volume control. This was stripped and the wire was used in one of the prototypes. An ordinary wire-wound resistor could also furnish the necessary few inches of wire. The other ranges use 26 gauge Contra, Eureka or Constantan wire. The author took some wire from a 600 W fire element and it worked well but rather more was needed than expected. The wire from an old low value potentiometer (say. 100 ohms) would be suitable.

## A Simple Ammeter (Uncalibrated)

The beginner is advised to follow this series very carefully so that he understands his instrument when it is finished. The understanding man is most likelv to use his meter sensibly
and is unlikely to damage it. It is intended to use the one milliampere meter as a simple ammeter in the first instance so that you may understand how the "shunts" work.

## An Experiment

Refer to Figs. 13 (a) and (b) as you follow the text. Disconnect or unsolder all wires to the meter temporarily. Take, a flashlamp battery of 3 or $4 \frac{1}{2}$ volts and wire up a flashlamp bulb to the battery to make sure battery and bulb are all right. Now take 4 in . of 26 gauge Contra (or wire as suggested above) and wrap it round the meter terminals so as to leave about $1 \frac{1}{2} i n$. between them. Attach two leads of insulated copper wire and screw down the nuts. Now check that the resistance wire is tightly held at each end with not more than $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in. in a loop behind the -meter. Give the loop a sharp pull to make sure the wire is not broken. When you are quite sure all is well, connect the lamp. battery and meter as shown in Fig. 13. The lamp will consume about $\frac{1}{3}$ amp.. that is about 300 mA and the meter will go over about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the full scale deflection.

## Diverting the Current

This experiment should illustrate the principle of wiring shunts across the meter. The shunts have to be of such a resistancc that they pass a definite proportion of the total current. Thus if we wish the meter to read 10 mA full scale deflection. then the shunt must be of such a resistance that 9 mA flows through the shunt and 1 mA through the meter. Meters vary somewhat in resistance and the leads and solder in the shunt circuits make quite a difference. so the shunts are made up for this meter by trial and error. No harm can come to the meter if the directions are followed and no other meter is required for the calibration.


Rear vien of the meter with the shumts in position.


Fig. 15.--The extra wiring needed on S2 (see Fig. 6 last month).

## The Milliampere Ranges

The trial meter just made is now dismantled. The correct leads are soldered or screwed back on to the milliammeter and the voltmeter again tested. When you are satisfied that your meter again looks like Figs. 6 and 7 (last month) proceed as follows.

Refer to Fig. 14 and note how it differs from Fig. 7 (last month). You will note that the only differences are additions, no wire already fixed has to be moved or unsoldered. Refer to


R6 R7 D8 and R9 are bent sideways for clarity. They are actually upright over the top of the switch
Fig. 16.-Wiring the top bank of the switch.
Before doing any more, test the voltage ranges to make sure you have not upset any previous wiring.

## Testing the One Milliamp Range

It is assumed that the above wiring has been carried out and that the voltage ranges are working correctly. Turn the range switch to position 6. Here is the test procedure: do not depart from it unless you are experienced. Clip the Figs. 14, 15 and 16 and proceed with the wiring plan here given:-Take meter negative to tag 6 of the bank of the range switch nearest the panel, that is the bank which had the series resistors soldered to it last month. Then wire tag 6 to tag 7 , tag 7 to $\operatorname{tag} 8$, tag 8 to tag 9 , and tag 9 to tag 10 . Tag 11 is not wired in but is left without any connections.

## Shunt Wiring

Check that resistors are soldered to tags 1 to 5 and all the other tags except number 11 are soldered together and to the negative terminal of the meter. Now solder a wire about 3 in. long, of bare copper, to tag 6 of the same bank you have just wired. Tag 6 will now have three wires on it, one going to meter negative, one to tag 7 and a spare copper wire which is for the shunts.

The next stage deals with the bank nearest to you when the panel is viewed from the back. Tag 12, the one which feeds the contact ring of the switch, is connected to the positive terminal of the meter. Now refer to Fig. 17 and make sure your circuit complies in every detail with the diagram except that $R 6,7,8$ and 9 are omitted for the moment, but the copper wire is ready in position.


Fig. 17.-The complete wiring for the range switch (the two banks are shown separated for clarity).
positive crocodile clip to the short (positive) tag of $4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~V}$ flat battery. Now clip the negative crocodile on to one end of a $10,000 \mathrm{ohm}$ resistor, and very gently and quickly flick the free end of the resistor on to the long tag of the battery. The meter will move. While testing verify that the needle does not go right over to the stop. If it does something is amiss and it must be found before proceeding.
(To be continued)


## OBTAINING IMPROVED RESULTS FROM T.R.F. RECEIVERS

ALTHOUGH most people buy commerciallybuilt receivers many still prefer to construct their own-thereby deriving great enjoyment and at the same time saving money. Some amateur constructors build superhet receivers quite successfully but newcomers prefer simpler T.R.F. types. These can give highly satisfactory results but their chief disadvantage, compared with superhets, is their


Fig. 1 (left).-The leaky-grid detector. Fig. 2 (right),-Feeding the detector from a tapping point on the coil.
inferior selectivity; that is to say they have diffculty in separating closely-spaced signals such as those in the medium waveband. This difficulty is most apparent when attempts are made to receive a weak signal when there is a stronger signal on a nearby frequency.

## Straight v. Superhet

Although it is true that the selectivity of a T.R.F. receiver (with its 2 or 3 tuned circuits) can never equal that of a superhet (with its 5 or 6 tuned circuits) a T.R.F. is nevertheless capable of a very good performance. if it employs high-Q coils. and provided the selectivity inherent in these coils is used to its fullest extent in the circuit employed. Unfortunately, there are many ways in which some of the energy in the coils can be lost, thereby reducing their efficiency and degrading the performance of the receiver. This article describes the commonest sources of such losses and gives suggestions for reducing their effect or eliminating it entirely. Constructors who feel that they do not obtain the maximum selectivity of which their receiver is capable. will almost certainly be able to effect an improvement by adopting one or more of the circuit techniques described below.
" Q" of Coils
The selectivity of a coil is measured by its " $Q$ " and modern dust-iron cored coils have a $Q$ value up to 200 or 300 . If this value of $Q$ could be obtained when the coil is in use in a receiver, the selectivity would be good. The coil is however connected to other components such as tuning capacitors and trimmers, to RC circuits (such as aerial-earth systems) or to valve circuits (such as amplifiers and detectors), all of which take power from the coil and inevitably reduce its effective $Q$ value. The effect of tuning capacitors is generally very small but that of aerials and valve circuits can be disastrous and it is with the effect of such circuits that this article is primarily concerned.

We shall deal first with the effect of losses. commonly known as damping. due to valve circuits. The chief losses are those due to detectors; the damping due to amplifying stages is usually very small. Fig. 1 illustrates the essential connections for a leaky-grid detector. If the valve grid is regarded as a diode anode. this is also the circuit of a diode detector. Such a circuit is capable of very serious damping, the magnitude of which is determined largely by the value of the resistor RI. Although this may have a reasonably large value such as 250 ks , the effective resistance of the detector circuit across the tuned circuit is only one third of this, approximately $80 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. Such a resistance value connected across a medium-wave circuit with a Q of 200 is sufficient to reduce the $Q$ to 60 , i.e., it reduces the selectivity to less than one third the value of which the tuned circuit is capable. To keep the $Q$ high. R1 should preferably not be less than IMS: even this will reduce the Q by 15 per cent. CI has little effect on the $Q$ value but to


Fig. 3 (lefi).-Circuit with reaction coil. Fig. 4 (right)-An alsernative reaction circtiri.
give reasonable quality should be approximately ${ }^{2} 0 \mathrm{p} F$ if R1 is 1 MS .

## Using a Tapping

If, for some reason, it is impossible or undesirable to increase the value of R1, the detector can be fed from a tapping point on the coil as shown in Fig. 2. This, of course, reduces the signal applied to the detector but it also considerably lessens the load on the tuned circuit and the resulting increased selectivity may more than compensate for the loss in signal. If the tapping


Fig. 5 (left).-Anode-hend detector. Fig. 6 (right).-Cathode-follower detector.
point is at the centre of the coil, a resistance of 100 ks connected across half the coil is equivalent in damping to 400 ks 2 connected directly across it.
If the detector valve is a triode, the tuned circuit may he quite heavily damped by negative feedbach (Miller effect) from the anode circuit of the valve to its grid circuit through the anodegrid capacitance which is commonly a few pF for a triode. This can be eliminated by using an R.F. pentode as detector (which has a much lower anode-grid capacitance) or by the application of positive feedback (reaction) either of which will result in a considerable improvement in selectivity. There are many ways of applying reaction to a tuned circuit and Fig. 3 represents the most usual circuit which employs a separate coil magnetically coupled to the tuning coil. The degree of feedback can be controlled by adjustment of C2 but if this is advanced too far the circuit will oscillate.
An alternative method of applying positive feedbach is illustrated in Fig. 4; this circuit has the merit of not requiring an additional coil. Suitable values for C 2 and C 3 are 100 pF and $1,000 \mathrm{pF}$ respectively.

## Alternative Detectors

If the complication of positive feedback is considered undesirable, hut high $\mathbf{Q}$ is essential, an alternative type of detector can be used. The anode-bend detector (illustrated in Fig. 5) and the cathode-follower detector (Fig. 6) do not reduce the Q of the tuned circuit feeding them.

For this reason the cathode-follower detector is often termed an "infinite-impedance" detector. In fact this detector may even increase the $\mathbf{Q}$ of the tuned circuit feeding it and, if Cl is particularly small, it is not unknown for a cathodefollower to oscillate! The cathode-circuit components in Figs. 5 and 6 may consist of a 47 k resistor and a 200 pF capacitor The anode load resistance in Fig. 5 is commonly 1 M and the valve is often an R.F. pentode employing a screen-feed resistor of 3 M and a screen decoupling capacitor of $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

Apart from the damping due 10 detector valves, the principal cause of loss of selectivity is the acrial connection. The acrial-earth system is, of course, the source of input signal for the receiver and must. therefore, be connected to the first tuned circuit in some way. No matter what method of coupling is employed, this connection inevitably lowers the effective $Q$ value of this tuned circuit. The effect of aerial damping can, however, be minimised by suitable design of the aerial-coupling circuit.

## Conflicting Requircments.

The aerial-coupling circuit should ideally give good voltage gain from aerial to the grid of the first R.F. amplifier and good selectivity. These requirements are, to some extent, conficting because a circuit designed to give maximum voltage gain necessarily gives only half the selectivity inherent in the coil whereas one designed to give maximum selectivity gives zero voltage gain. There is, however, one degree of coupling which gives 80 per cent. of the maximum possible voltage gain and the same percentage of the maximum possible selectivity; this is a very good compromise and in most forms of aerial-coupling circuits attempts are made to obtain this value of coupling. Unfortunately it is only possible to obtain this performance at one frequency in the band; at other frequencies the gain (or selectivity) suffers on comparison with the selectivity (or gain). The best solution to this difficulty is to design the circuit to give this particular value of coupling at the centre of


Fig. 7.-Three methods of coupling the aerial to the tuned circuit.
the waveband, say at $1 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ for the medium waveband.

There are many circuits which can be used to give the required degree of coupling and Fig. 7


Figs 8.-Aerial coupling circuits giving little variation in gain or selectivity over the band.
illustrates three of them. Fig. 7(a) illustrates an R.F. transformer with a small primary winding. Fig. 7(b) shows the aerial connected to a tapping on the tuning coil and Fig. 7(c) illustrates the use of series capacitance coupling. All these circuits give substantially the same performance characterised by large variations in gain and selectivity over the waveband: in fact the voltage gain for all three circuits is directly proportional to the square of the frequency and thus varies by $9: 1$ over the medium waveband. Nevertheless such circuits are extensively used for aerial-coupling purposes.

In the R.F. transformer. best performance is achieved with a small primary inductance of approximately $40 \mu \mathrm{H}$ and tightly coupled to the tuning coil. In Fig. 7(b) the optimum position for the tapping is-such that the number of turns included between the tapping and earth is approximately one quarter the total number on the coil. In Fig. 7(c) best results are obtained with a capacitance of the order of 10 or 20 pF .

## Constancy Over Range

Good though the performance can be from these circuits they do suffer from variation of gain and selectivity over the band. Better constancy is possible from the circuits illustrated in Fig. 8; in these there is very little variation in


Fig. :0.--iving a bandpass filter.
gain or selectivity over the band but, in general. the voltage gain is inferior to that obtainable from the circuits of Fig. 7. particularly at the highfrequency end of the band. Fig. 8(a) shows an R.F. transformer but it differs markedly from that of Fig. 7(a) because it has a large primary winding of approximately 2 mH which is loosely coupled to the secondary, tuned. winding
Fig. 8(b) gives the circuit for shunt-capacitance aerial couplings; a suitable value for the coupling capacitance is $0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. Larger values will reduce the voltage gain and smaller values will prevent full coverage of the waveband by reducing the effective maximum tuning capacitance in parallel with the tuned winding.

## Extra Tuned Circuit

It may happen, even when all posssible measures to increase selectivity have been taken, that the selectivify of a (wo-tuned-circuit receiver


Fig. 9.-Wavetrap circuits.
is inadequate to cope with conditions in a particular locality or to permit interference-free reception of a certain favourite station fairly close to a powerful local station. There is only one solution to this problem. namely to employ a further tuned circuit. The simplest method of doing this is to employ the additional circuit as a wavetrap connected in the aerial circuit and tuned to the local station to reduce its magnitude at the aerial terminal of the receiver.
The wavetrap may be connected in either of the two ways illustrated in Fig. 9. Circuit (a) should be used when the receiver input impedance is low and circuit (b) when the impedance is high.
Aerial coupling circuits giving a low input impedance are those in which an R.F. transformer with a small primary inductance is used. those in which the aerial is connected to a tapping point on the tuned winding and those in which shuntcapacitance coupling is employed. Aerial-coupling circuits giving a high input impedance are those in which an R.F. transformer with a large primary inductance is used and those employing a small series capacitance.

## Inclusion in Receiver

A wavetrap is usually fixed-tuned and aid selectivity only over a comparatively narrow
(Continued on page 600)


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# Increasing Gain 

ADDING AN EXTRA STAGE TO TRANSISTOR PORTABLES<br>By R. Hindle

SOME of the small transistor portable receivers that have been sold in the past few years have worked quite reasonably, but have seemed to those accustomed to handling the usual valve portable receivers to be somewhat lacking in gain. They have attracted purchasers by their compaetness, but when the first enthusiasm has waned the owner has wished for just that little extra. This is not intended to be a reflection on the designers of such receivers. No doubt the owner is asking more than the designer intended to give. Transistors were very expensive and for the receiver to be an attractive sales proposition the cost had to be kept down, so that the number of transistors used was kept down. Because of the small size of the receiver only a small ferrite rod aerial is normally provided so that the signal picked up is small. Many purchased such a receiver after having heard it perform in a location enjoying good signal strength and then took the receiver home where, perhaps, the signal strength available was considerably less. Another possible contributory cause was the considerable spread of characteristics of available transistors. A receiver in which marginal transistors were fitied would have measurably inferior performance to the average specimen.

## Additional Stage

The author had just such a set to deal with recently. The obvious solution is to add an extra transistor stage, and this was the line taken. The question is, where in the receiver should the extra stage go? Considering the addition of a


Fig. I.-Circuit of the added stage.
The first of the alternatives is not very attractive. Obviously, it is impossible to provide an additional section on the ganged tuning capactior and an extra control for a separate tuning capacitor is not likely to be acceptable even if room can be provided. An extra I.F. stage seems the best in theory, but this can set some problems to ensure stability and will be a little bulky. An audio stage is much easier to add, and can be made very compact. A test to see if such a stage will be acceptable is to see if the receiver before alteration, when run at maximum volume, brings up the backgromnd hiss to an audible level. An extra audio stage will increase this noise, and if this would be intolerable, clearly there is no point in making such a change. Make sure that such hiss is controllable by the volume control. If this is not so it is probably coming from one of the audio transistors and the replacement of this will quite likely give the better results desired.

## Positioning

The receiver that is the subject of this article left no doubt where the extra stage should be put. For its size, only $6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. $\times 4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. $\times 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. it had quite a large speaker, and the receiver was compaetly built on to two panels, one at each side of the speaker. On neither panel was there any spare room for additional components, but a slim extra chassis could be fitted behind the speaker. Interconnecting leads between the wio pancls passed below the speaker. Obviously one of these carried the signal; this could be broken
Fig. 2.-The wiring diagram.
stage 10 an already completed receiver is quite different from the consideration of a change in circuit whilst the receiver is in the design stage. The physical design of the original receiver particularly in these very small units, is almost certain to dictate where the stage can be inserted

There are three possible alternatives, in theory. The extra stage could be in the R.F. part of the circuit, or in the I.F. part, or in the A.F. part.
with no disturbance to the receiver panels and the extra stage placed here. What signal was passing between the panels then? This would determine the type of stage to be fitted. An examination of the receiver indicated that this lead terminated on the volume control and therefore was carrying the audio signal from the detector diode which was situated on the tuner panel; the other panel had all the audio circuits. An audio amplifier could certainly be made slim enough to sit behind
the speaker and with the volume control at maximum the background hiss was low so clearly an audio stage was indicated.

## Circuit

Fig. 1 gives the carcuit of the amplifier used. This is quite conventional. The usual form of


Fig. 3.-Installing the paxolin panel.
stabilisation using a base potentiometer and a bypassed emitter resistor is provided. The single transistor is a V10/30A. There would be no virtue in using a two-stage amplifier because the one stage brings up the background noise to a lesel that indicates a maximum usable audio gain. C 1 , has to be provided to isolate the previous stage from a D.C. point of view or otherwise the operation of the base potentiometer would be upset. RI provides the D.C. path for the earlier stage that the volume control had supplied before the alteration. C3 is necessary to isolate the volume control from the D.C. point of view.

## Construction

I: will be seen from Fig. ? that the whole amplifier is fitted on a paxolin board measuring only $2 \mathrm{in} . \times{ }^{3} \mathrm{i} \mathrm{in}$. This board is fitted with small riveted soldering tags in the position indicated. The tags are wired as shown. the upper row all going to the battery negative tag and the lower row to the positive tag. The " E " tag (intended for the emitter connection to the transistor) is connected to the upper tag provided for C2. The components are then soldered to the appropriate tags. some on the front and some on the back as indicated.

The last component to be connected on to the board is the transistor. The usual precautions are necessary to prevent damage to the transistor whilst soldering. The leads should not be cut too short ( $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. to $\frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$. is reasonable) and pliers should be held on these to act as a heat shunt whilst soldering. The transistor then sits snugly against the board between R2 and R4.

## Wiring

Fig. 3 shows how the amplifier is connected into the receiver. The lead from the tuner panel
to the volume control on the audio panel was soldered to a tag at the tuning panel end. This was carcfully unsoldered from the tag and resoldered on to the output tag of the extra amplifier. A new wire was fitted from this tag to the input tag of the amplifier. In connecting the battery leads from the amplifier, it is necessary to ensure that the amplifier's supply is controlled by the receiver switch. In the present case the switch on the volume control unit was in the negative supply line. The connections to this switch were accessible and consequently the negative lead from the amplifier was connected to the pole of the switch remote from the battery. It was convenient to take the positive lead directly to the battery case which had accessible soldering tags.

The complete amplifier board was very light. The new sub-miniature electrolytic capacitors were used. these being little bigger than the resistors. Polarity has to be observed when connecting these. of course. and this is indicated. As a result of this small size and weight it was unnecessary to provide any means of securing the amplifier panel which was held in place simply by the connecting leads.

The result of this modification was quite satisfactory in boosting up the signal strength of the receiver and proved to be well worth while.

## A PERSONAL "MOBILE" RECEIVER

(Continued from page 548)
sufficient space for a separate on-off switch for battery, and a 2-pole 2-way rotary switch for wave-changing, if this is preferred.

## Using the Set

A single earpiece of a complete headset will be most suitable for listening. Several headphones may be operated if required. Phones of the type used with crystal sets or battery onevalvers will be satisfactory, and will normally be of medium or high impedance. The anode current is very small, so no isolating transformer is required. Low impedance phones will. however. need a transformer of suitable ratio for matching purposes. Without this. volume will be much reduced.

If the polarity of leads is not marked. battery connections should be reversed if the set does not operate. Wrong polarity will not cause damage with this circuit. but it is preferable to fit a polarised plug. to allow easy connecting up to the vehicle. Vehicle chassis are often positive. but not universally. The valves are designed to operate within the normal range of voltages experienced with a vehicle ( 12 V accumulator. or two 6 V accumulators in series).

Rotating the potentiometer will increase sensitivity until oscillation occurs. With a poor aerial. or distant station. the setting of this control is fairly critical. The most sensitive position for the control is just below the point of oscillation. The set requires about half a minute to warm up after switching on.

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working brings him (literaty) into contact more often than the casual hobbyist.

## Supply Earthing

How docs the danger arise in the first instance -or rather how does the chassis become "live"? To be live, and hence to be a danger to life, the chassis must somehow acquire a potential difference with respect to some other exposed cơnducting surface within its vicinity. Fig. 1 makes this a little clearer.
FAt the sub-station the supply mains is redistri$b$ 奞ed at the consumer's voltage level; 200 V upwards is normal in the U.K. Of the two wires feeding the supply, one is at earth potential at the sub-station, being referred to as the neutral conductor, whilst the other is known as the line conductor. (Readers will be familiar with the " $L$ " and " $N$ " seen associated with the pins of certain types of plugs and sockets.)

## Universal Receiver

Now most TV sets, and indeed a large number if radio sets, manufactured these days are of the "universal" type, that is they are designed for operation on either A.C. or D.C. mains. It is customary for the negative side of the H.T. supply in these sets to be connected directly to the chassis. Now, because the H.T. in turn is derived directly from the mains supply, the chassis must be connected to one terminal of the mains supply as shown in Fig. 1. When the set is plugged into the mains supply (unless a correctly connected three pin plug is used) there


Fig. 2.-A mains reversing switch circuit and a simple indicator lamp.
chassis of some TV receivers and radio receivers can become live with respect to earth.
is a 50 per cent. chance that the two pin plug wired to the set may be plugged in in such a way that the chassis lead is connected to the live (i.e. "line") terminal on the outlet plug.

Unless the mains outlet socket is carefully marked and due care taken to connect the plug of the set the correct way round, a live chassis will result. Consequently, if a piece of earthed apparatus is used in conjunction with the chassis of the set, there is a danger at least of the fuses being blown, and the more serious danger of the user being electrocuted by providing a conducting path to the flow of current between the chassis at line potential and the earthed apparatus.

## Checking

A cautious worker will check the polarity of the set connected to the mains supply, either by connecting a voltmeter or lamp between the chassis of the set and an earthed point, say conduit, or by using one of the special screwdrivers now available with a small neon lamp built into the handle. When the screwdriver is connected to a live point the minute current which flows through the neon lamp and the person holding the handle is enough to illuminate the neon lamp without harming the holder, whilst giving a visual indication of the polarity of the mains.

With the polarity reversed the chassis of the set will be at the potential of the neutral line with respect to earth. It is unusual for the neutral to be more than one or two volts from earth potential and the fact that there is any P.D. at all can be explained with the aid of Fig. I again.

Current drawn from the main supply and feeding a load via the supply socket must then return, as indicated by the arrow, along the neutral line. In doing so, there is a small potential drop between the neutral pin and the actual earthed point at the sub-station owing to the resistance of the line between these two peints. Nevertheless, the potential drop developed in this way is usually far from lethal.

## Safety Precautions

In a well equipped A.C. supplied establishment devoted to the servicing or handling of a large
number of TV and radio sets, an isolating transformer is very often used to supply the benches. This will be a $1: 1$ ratio transformer of anything up to 5 kVA rating. Neither terminal of the secondary of the transformer feeding the benches is earthed: such a supply is said to be floating and owing to small similar leakage currents from both terminals to earth, each terminal usually acquires a similar potential with respect to earth. Provided that only one set is being examined at a given time the polarity of the connection to the mains is of no importance and to protect the worker a lead is connected between the nearest true earth point and the chassis of the set.

To the reader running his own small service bay the use of such a transformer is highly recommended. However, these transformers are by no means inexpensive. and the earlier safety precautions, if observed, should remove any hazards from the task.

## Alternative l'recautions

There are two further alternatives which should appeal to many readers, one being entirely automatic in operation. Both solutions are based on the fact that to protect the person working with a " wrong-way-round " and hence live chassis. the polarity of the connection to the manns must be reversed. This polarity can either be reversed by reversing the plug connection in the socket, or by reversing the mains supply to the socket itself.
The first alternative is simple enough if the plug used is of the twe pin variety. but is tiresome if a three pin $p^{\prime}-\mathrm{g}$ is encountered. Admittedly, in the latter instance, the three pin plug should have been connected correctly in the first instance, but so often little attention is given to the significance of the letters " L ." and " N " inside a three pin plug, particularly by the domestic handyman.

Under such conditions and because it is easicr to operate, a reversing switch connecting the mains supply to the outlet socket on the servicing bench provides a neat solution.

## Test Prod

In use the nature of the polarity is established by an insulated test prod, which is momentarily connected to the chassis. This prod is wired to a main pygmy lamp. the other side of which is taken to earth. If the chassis is live the current flowing between the chassis and earth will light the lamp giving a visual indication of the fact and the reversing switch is operated accordingly. The circuit arrangement is shown in Fig. 2.

It is a simple enough matter to connect such a switch in circuit with each of the outlets on the bench: though it is only necessary, of course. to use one test prod. The switch used should be of the snap action toggle variety with "break-
before-make " contacts, to avoid shorting out the mains during the change-over.

The indicator lamp is mounted conveniently on the socket board so that only a lead with its associated test prod is visible as a flying lead. The indicator lamp itself can be either one of the small bayonet cap filament types as used in electric oven switch-box pilot lamps, or one of the even smaller neon indicator lamps. If the latter type is used a resistance must be wired in series as a ballast-a value of 100 k is suitable for the miniature bayonet cap type 188 made by G.E.C.

## D.C. Supplies

The above circuit and the one that follows are, of course, usable with both A.C. and D.C. supplies, but one reservation, should be made in connection with certain D.C. 1 distribution systems.
In some of them the positive feeder is earthed. Now in the universal set, used on D.C. supply mains the H.T. negative lead is always returned to the negative line of the supply mains while. of course, it is connected to the chassis of the set. Since the set will only function with the polarity of the mains connected in this way. the


Fig. 3.-The addition of a relay to the reversing switch enables the operation of switching over wrongly connected mains to be carried out auttomatically when the polarity of the chassis is "sensed" with the test prod.
chassis, with a positive-carthed D.C. supply, will aluays be live with respect to earth. Although D.C. distribution systems are obsolescent these days, this fact must be borne in mind.

The circuit that follows is arranged so that automatic reversing of the mains polarity is restricted to A.C. mains and negatively earthed D.C. mains only.

## Automatic Polarity Control

The addition of a relay to the reversing switch enables the operation of switching over wrongly connected mains to be done automatically while the polarity of the chassis is "sensed" with the test prod.

Fig. 3 shows the fundamentals of the circuit. The relay has three separate sets of changeover contacts labelled A, B and C respectively. All sets are of 5 A rating and of the "break-beforemake" type.
(Continued on page 587)



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The new B.S.R. Model UA12, 4-speed Mixer Automatic record changer, fitted with latest type turnover cartridge, OUR PRICE E8/I7/6. Carriage 3/6.
The latest Collaro Conquest, 4 -speed auto-changer, in eream with 'studio "O" insert. Brand new, fully guaranteed. $£ 7 / 19 / 6$ plus packing and post $3 / 6$.
Collaro, 4 -speed single player unit with automatic stop, cream, turnever crystal cartridge, brand new and guaranteed, $£ 6 / 19 / 6$ Garrard Automatic Record Changer, 4-speed, type RC/20/D Mark 1. Price 88.17 .6 . Packing and post $3 / 6$.

ACOS MICROPHONES
Acos Mic 39-1. Crystal Stick Mierophone for use as,a hand, desk stand or floor stand unit for high quality recording, broadeasting and public address work. List price $55 / 5 / 0$. OUR PRICE 39/6 With Stand $47 / 6$. With floor stand adapter $52 / 6$. Postage $1 / 6$. Aco: Mie Type 33-1. Crystal hand or table microphone. Omni-directional. List 50/-. OUR PRICE 29/6. Postage $1 / 6$.

METAL RECTIFIERS FOR RADIO AND TV.

## S.T.C.



COLLARO MARK IV TAPE TRANSCRIPTOR
4 heads, twin track operation, 2 motors, tape measuring and calibrating device, finished in cream polystyrene cover plate with maroon controls, 3 speeds $3 \frac{3}{4}, 7 \frac{1}{2}$ and 15 inches per second. Price $£ 16.6 .0$ plus 10/6 carriage and insurance EX-GOVERNMENT

HEADPHONES ETC. High Resistance Headphones type CHR. 13/6 pair, available either cream or black.
Low Resistance Headphones, impedance 120 ohms, type CLR, 7/6 pair.
American Throat Microphones type T30, 3/- set

LOUDSPEAKER UNITS
*All brand new. *Note Special Prices. All Permanent Magnet 3 ohms Impedance.
Sin. Plessey, Goodmans
Lectrona 17,6 each
6 lin. Plessey $\quad 18 / 6$ each 8in. Goodmans $\quad 19 / 6$ each
loin. Elac, Plessey $\quad 25 / 6$ each 6 in. $x$ 4in. Plessey $19 / 6$ each $7 \mathrm{in} . \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. Goodmans 19/6 each $7 \mathrm{in} . \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. Goodmans $19 / 6$ each $8 \mathrm{in} . \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. Goodmans $25 / 6$ each 10 in . $x$ Gin. Plessey $25 / 6$ each 8 in . Loudspeaker Units 3 ohms Impedance with a Matching Output Transformer suitable for 6V6. Brand new but soiled, offered at a Special Price of $11 / 6$ each. Postage $2 /-$
Acos Pick-up arm, type GP54/2 complete with turnover erysta! cartridge and crystal styli HGP37/1 or HGP59/5C, 29/6 complete.

## CATALOGUE

Our 1960 catalogue is now avail. able, please send $1 /-$ in stamps for your copy. Trade Catalogues also available, please attach your Business Letter Heading.

> TERMS: Cash with order or charges extra, as follows: Orders value $10 /$ add $1 / 4 ; 20 /$ add $1 / 6$; $40 /-$ add $2 /-45$ add $3 /-$ unless otherwise atated. Minimum C.O.D. fee and postage $3 /$-. For full terms of business see inside cover of our catalogue. Personal Shoppers 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon. to Friday. Saturday $10 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. to $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.


Don't be at a loss waiting for a test set until you have sufficient money saved to buy one. You can have one of the well-known M.I.P. Series 100 Multi-Range test sets sent to you almose at once. A deposit of $47 / 6$ secures. Balance payable over 6 or 12 months. Cash price $£ 12.7 .6$.

## Extended Terms

Deposit $47 / 6$ and 6 monthly payments of $\mathbf{£ 1 . 1 5 . 0}$
Deposit $47 / 6$ and 12 monthly payments of $17 / 11$

## $\star 21$ SELF-CONTAINED RANGES $\star$

$10-1,000$ d.c. volts. $10-1,000$ a.c. volts. 100 Microamps to 500 Milliamps d.c. 100 Microamps a.c. Oto 1 Megohm. 0 to 10,000 ohms.

All voltage measurements a.c. and d.e. are at 10,000 ohms per volt.

":*



GD. 23
POST COUPON FOR FULL DETAILS

## MULTI-RANGE TEST SET-SERIES IOO

MEASURING INSTRUMENTS (PULLIN) LTD. Electrin Works, Winehostor 8t., Acton, London, W.3.
Please send illustrated leaflet of the Series 100 Test Set with details of new easy payments scheme.........

NAME.
ADDRESS $\qquad$

Sets $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ constitute the reversing switch while set $C$ works in conjunction with a test prod, similar in construction to the one discussed carlier.

## Operation

When the prod is touched on a chassis, if it is live, then current will flow via the " normally closed" contacts of set $C$ through the parallel

## COMPONENTS LIST

Indicator lamps: See text.
Relay: GPO type $\mathbf{3 , 0 0 0}, 5,000$ to $\mathbf{1 0 , 0 0 0}$ ohm type. 3 sets $5 \mathrm{~A} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{O}$ contacts B.B.M.
Rectifier: $\mathbf{3 0 m A} .250 \mathrm{~V}$.
Condenser : $8 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ 250VW electrolytic or higher value.
Resistor R.: Series current limiting. Value depends on relay :
4.7K. 5W w.w. for 5,000 ohm relay.

10 K IW w.w. or carbon for $10,000 \mathrm{ohm}$ relay.
Sundry outlet sockets, lamp holder, test prod, wire, etc.
combination of the relay coil and condenser $C$, then through the rectifier to earth. A current limiting resistor R is connected in series with the relay.

When condenser C is charged the relay will be entergised and the contact sets will change over. The mains polarity is thus reversed by means of sets A and B, while at set C current is now fed to the relay coil from the line to maintain it slosed.
${ }^{\text {K }}$ Condenser $C$ acts both as a smoothing element on A:C. mains to prevent the relay from chattering, and also as a device to enable it to pull in while the contact set $C$ is momentarily open during the transition phase.
If at the outset the chassis is not live then no potential difference will be provided across the relay when the prod is initially connected and hence the switching action will not take place.
On D.C. mains the rectifier will only conduct current from a live chassis which is positive with respect to earth and therefore on supplies with a positive earth the circuit will not provide its safety function, leaving the mains connected to the set in such a way that the set will operate but provide no protection to the worker. This is an unavoidable situation with this type of mains.

## Indicator Lamp

Human nature being what it is, there is always some doubt about the satisfactory functioning of an automatic device in the mind of the user if it fulfils its function by not working. This is the case in the above circuit when a set is plugged in the right way round since testing the chassis with the prod will produce no thud from the relay.

However, to reassure the user of the apparatus, a pilot lamp can easily be fitted. "The two points marked XX on the diagram of Fig. 3 show the connections to which a lamp of the types described earlier may be wired.

In fitting the circuit, the components can be mounted directly on the wooden batten holding the outlet socket or sockets.

The circuit is quick to assemble and the com-
ponent parts, on which there is a fair degree of latitude, are fairly readily found in the average constructor's spare parts box.

## Conclusion

In conclusion one final application of the circuit might be of interest to users of portable A.C./ DC. public address equipment. Very often. particularly in outdoor environments, an unpleasant tingle is felt when handling, say, the microphone or pickup on such equipment. This is almost always due to leakage through the insulation isolating exposed metal surfaces from the live chassis of the amplifier, and can usually be cured by reversing the polarity of the mains. It is not a difficult task to connect either of the circuits described to the amplifier, thereby removing the cause of the nervous twitch to which some announcers and M.C.s are prone, when using "hot "equipment.

## 1959 RADIO SHOW

TOTAL attendance at the Radio Show, Earls Court, London, which closed its ten-day run on Saturday (September 5) was 310,161, compared with 334,502 last year, the slight reduction being attributed by the organisers to the exceptionally fine weather this year.
The attendance of buyers from home and overseas was considerably higher. There were 4,109 overseas visitors in all, including 679 classified as buyers, the latter figure being 25 per cent. up on last year.

Manufacturers' sales were described by the chairman of the exhibition (Mr. F. W. Perks) as the best ever at any Radio Show.

Of more than 100 countries represented, most visitors were from: Union of South Africa, nearly 400: India, over 350; Australia, about 275: Pakistan, over 200; New Zealand, about 175; and Ceylon, over 150.

Comparative (paid) attendances were as follows:

|  |  | 1959 | 1958 |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wednesday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 15,754 | 19,548 |
| Thursday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 26,801 | 32,373 |
| Friday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 23,945 | 28,673 |
| Saturday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$. | 37,282 | 42,185 |
| Monday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$. | 25,362 | 27,300 |
| Tuesday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 36,160 | 32,523 |
| Wednesday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 40,288 | 39,571 |
| Thursday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 36,305 | 41,337 |
| Friday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 28,186 | 26,976 |
| Saturday | $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$ | $\underline{38,924}$ | $\underline{38,245}$ |
|  |  | $\underline{309,007}$ | $\underline{328,731}$ |

About 1,300 inquiries were made at the special careers display from young people wanting jobs in the radio and electronic industry.


BRIGHTON AND DISTRICT RADIO CLUB
Hon. Sec. : Mr. E. M. Large, School House, Frant Road. Hove 4, Sussex.
THE club has now moved to new headquarters at the following address :-Home Guard Club, British Legion, 76, Marine Parade, Brighton.

## BRITISH SOUND RECORDING ASSOCIATION

## FORTHCOMING events:

October 31st.. Stereo Symposium to be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street. London, W.C.I.
The Annual Dinner, originally planned for Saturday, 19th September, has had to be postponed and will now take place on the 21 st May, 1960. the same date as the Annual General Meeting and the Amateur Competition.

## THE BRITISH INSTITUTION OF RADIO-ENGINEERS

## MEETINGS for October, 1959

London Section:
October 7th at 6.30 p.m.-Computer Group Meeting, "Some Reflections on Computer Design", by W. Renwick. M.A., B.Sc. (Member).

October 14th at 6.30 p.m.-Students Meeting. "The Use of Transistors in Communication and Control", by E. Wolfendale B.Sc.

October 21 st at 6.30 p.m.-Medical Electronics Group Meeting. "Aviation Medicine". by P. V. Byford.
October 28 th at 6.30 p.m.-Radar and Navigational Aids Group, inaugural meeting. Short addresses will be given on "Radio-its Impact and Shipping", by Capt. J. D. F. Elvish. C.B.E. and " A Histurical Survey of Radar and Radio Aids 10 Aircraft Navigation " by Air Marshal Sir Raymund G. Hart, K.B.E. C.B., M.C. (Member).

Bristol-South Western Section. (Meetings are held at the School of Management Studies, Unity Street.)

October 7th at 6 p.m.-Annual General Meeting, followed at 6.30 p.m. by chairman's address, "The Drift of Electronics", by

Capt. L. Hix, R.N. N.Sc. (Member).
Cardiff-South Wales Section. (Meetings are held at the Cardiff College of Advanced Technology.)

October 28th at 6.30 ,p.m.-"Stereophonic Sound and Electrostatic Loudspeakers '".

Edinburgh-Scottish Section. (Meetings are held at the Department of Natural Philosophy, The University, Drummond Street.) October 23 rd at 7 p.m.-"True Motion Radar", by J. H. Beattie.

Glasgow-Scottish Section. (Meetings are held at the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders. 29. Elmbank Crescent).

October 22nd at 7 p.m.-"True Motion Radar", by J. H. Beattie.

Malvern-South Midlands Section. (Meetings are heid at the Winter Gardens.)

October 27th at 7 p.m.-س" Superconducting Computer Stores", by Mrs. Lois Roberts.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne-North Eastern Section. (Meetings are held at the Institution of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, Neville Hall. Westgate Road).
October 14th at 6 p.m.-"True Motion Radar ", by A. Harrison, B.Sc.

Western-super-Mare-_South Western Section. (Meetings are held in coniunction with and at the R:A.F. Radio Apprentices School, Locking, Nr. Weston-super-Mare).

October 7th at 10.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.-Symposium on "The Training of Radio Apprentices'. Further information on Symposium from Flt. Lt. D. R. McCall. B.Sc.. A.M.Brit., I.R.E., c/o 27. O.M.Q., R.A.F.. Locking. Weston-super-Mare. Somerset.

DERBY AND DISTRICT AMATEL'R RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec. : F. C. Ward (G2CVV), 5. Uplands Avenue, Littleover. Derby.
PROGRAMME untif August 14th, 1960. (Meetings will he held in Room No. 4, 119 , Green Lane. Derby, unless otherwise stated. Alterations will be announced over R.S.G.B. News Service (BBR2s)-3.6 Mc/s on Sundays at $10 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$.)
October 14th at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.-Open evening in the sub-basement rooms.
October 21st at 7.30 p.m.-Demonstration of stereophonic equipment
October 28th at 7.30 p.m.-Open evening in the sub-basement rooms.
November 4th at 7.30 p.m.-" Perspex and its uses for the Amateur", by A. Hitchcock (G3ESB).

November 7th and 8th at 7.30 p.m. - Second top band C.W. contest. R.S.G.B. This is an ideal opportunity for members to gain experience for N.F.D.

November 1 ith at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. - Open evening in the sub-basement rooms.

November 18 th at 7.30 p.m.-Film show.
November 25 th at 7.30 p.m.-Open evening in the sub-basement rooms.

November 28 th at 7.30 p.m.-Annual trip to London.
December 2 nd at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.-Sale of member's surplus items.
December 9th at 7.30 p.m.-Open evening in sub-basement rooms.

December 1 th at 7.30 p.m.-Christmas party.
December 16th at 7.30 p.m.-Electronic gadgets for amusement from the junk box.

December 23rd and 30th.-Club rooms closed. Top band net will operate Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve for exchange of greetings.
1960 :
January 6th at 7.30 p.m.-.Open evening-collection of 1960 subscriptions. Senjors 5 s. ., Juniors 2s. 6d.
January 13 th at 7.30 p.m.—Members exhibition-thrée sections: juniors; home constructed; kit assembled.
January 20 th at 7.30 p.m.-Open evening in sub-basemerit rooms.
January 27th at 7.30 p.m.- Quiz night.
February 3rd at 7.30 p.m.-Annual general meeting.
February 7th at 7.30 p.m. -Proposed date for contest ${ }_{f}$ for G5YY.

March 18 th at 7.30 p.m....Proposed date for annual dinner aind dance.
August 14 th at 7.30 p.m.-Third annual mobile rally.

## HALIFAX AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec. : A. Robinson (G3MDW). Candy Cabin, Ogden, Halifax.
THE Annual General Meeting was held on September Ist. It I was decided to hold future A.G.M.s in May instead of September. A vote of thanks was proposed to the retiring officers and officers for the coming year were elected: chairman. Mr. R. Smith. G3NBI; secretary/treasurer, Mr. A. Robinson, G3MDW: minute secretary. Mr. G. Sunter ; librarian, Mr. P. Hopkinson.

## LEEDS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

MEETINGS are held each Wednesday at 7.45 p.m., at Swarthmore Educational Centre, 4, Woodhouse Square. Leeds. 3. Programme includes Lectures. demonstrations and film shows. New members are always welcome. Apply to D. Binsdale, 8 , Quarry Mount Street, Leeds. 6, for details and a copy of the programme.

## THE READING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Hon. Sec. : R, J. Nash (G3EJA), 9, Holybrook Road, Reading, Berks.
DESPITE the holiday period the meeting held on August 28th was well attended when G3DXJ gave an interesting talk and demonstration on single side band reception.

On October 31st G3DXJ will give a lecture on "SSB from the transmitting angle " for those menbers who were away on holiday:

## COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

A CLASS for radio amateurs will be held at Croydon Technical College if a minimum number of students ( 15 ) enrol. Enquiries to The Registrar, Croydon Technical College, Fairfield, Croydon. Telephone: CROydon 9271.

The illustration on page 493 of the September/ October issue was of the rig of Mr. R. Turner, of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, and not of Mr. N. E. A. Rush.

## C．R．T．ISOLATION TRANSFORMERS TAPPDD MAINS PRIMARIES

TYIPEA．OPTIONAL $25 \%$ and $50 \%$ BOOST 2 V．OR 4 V．OR 6．3 V．OR 10.8 V．$O P$ 13.3 V． 216

OUD LATEST SUPERIOR PRODUCT ＇PPD AD．HIGF QUALITY，LOW CAPAC－ ITY． $20 / 15 \mathrm{pF}$ ．OPTIONAL BOOST $26 \%$ ． $50 \%$ 75\％．16／\＄EACE．
IPE 13．MAINS INPUT．MULTI OUTPUK 2 4，8．3．7．3， 10 AND 13 VOLTS．BOOST $25 \%$
AND $50 \%$ LOW CAPAUTTY． $21 /=$
TRIMMERS，Ceramic， $311,510,70 \mathrm{pf}, 9 \mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~F} 100 \mathrm{pf}$ ．
 RESISTORS，Preferred valaes， 10 ohms to 10 neg．＂
 HIGE STABLITTY．$\frac{1}{}$ w．． $1 \%$ ，2／－，Preterred values $100 \Omega$ to 10 meg．Ditto， $5 \%, 100 \Omega$ to 5 meg． 0.9 d
5 wat $)$
WIRE－WOUND RRSISTORS
 10 watt 15 watt

## 15 wati

 GEVAERT GEVASONOR
$\mathbf{5 0 \%}$ extra long play plantic tspe． $1,7 \mathrm{th}$ ft． 7 in ． theel．35／＊：Mätt．Jin．reel，21／－
SUPERIOR 1，20J 1t．Plastic Tape on 7 Plastic Ryols．Quality Guaranteed，24－－
SPARE REELS．ALL SIZES．3\％
＂Ingtan：＂Bulk Tape Eraser and Eead De－ thump， $200 / 250$ v．A． $\boldsymbol{\prime}^{\prime}$ ．，27／8．Leaflet，A．A．E
O．P．TRANSFORMERS．Heavy Duty 50 mA, ， $4 / 6$ ． Mu＇tiratio，push－pull，7／6．Miniature，3s4，etc．， $4 / 6$


| MAINS TRANSFORDERS 200／250 v．A．C． |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| STAMDARD， $250 \cdot 11-250,80 \mathrm{~mA} .6 .3$ | 3．5． |
| tapped 4 8． 4 s．Rectifier 6．3 v． 1 a． 2 a．or 4 v． 2 a．ditto． $350-0-350 \ldots$ | 22／6 |
| MTNLATURE． 200 v， $213 \mathrm{~mA} .$. B． 3 v． 1 | 10／6 |
| MILGET． 220 v． 43 HA．， 6.3 v． 2 a. | 15／6 |
| SM4LL，250－0－250， 100 mA .6 .3 v． 3.5 | 18／6 |
| STANDARD． $2500-250,65 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$ ． |  |
| 3.57. | $17 / 6$ |
| HEATER TRANS． $6.3 \mathrm{v}+1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{amp}$ ．${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $7 / 6$ |
| Witto，tapped mec．－ to $^{\text {c }} 6.3$ v．． 14 amp． | $8 / 8$ |
| Ditto，pec．f． 3 v． 3 amp． | 10／6 |

ALADDIN FORMERS a cod core，tio．，8d，；lin．10d． 11．Ain．FORMERS $5937 / 8$ and Cans TV1／2，sin．${ }^{3}$
 TYANA，Midget Solderiog Iron， $230, v, 40$ w．， $16 / 9$ ． REMPLOY Instrument Irom， 230 v ．\＆w． $17 / 8$ ． MAIS DROPPERS． 3 in．I 1 tin．Adj．\＄liders． 0.3 amp．， 750 ohms， $4 / 3.0 .2 \mathrm{amp}$, 1，000 ohms， $4 / 6$.
LINE CORD． 3 amp．， 60 ohm per foot， 2 amp．， 100 Lhme per foot．2－way，6d，per foot， 3 －way，7d，per ft． LOUDSPEAKER P．M． 3 OHM．Sin．Rola， $17 / 6$ ． Kin．Flessey，18／6．Gin．x 4 in ．Rola，18／．Gilin．Rola， 18／6． $8 \times 5 \mathrm{in} . .21 /=10 \times$ fin．， $27 / 6.10 \mathrm{in}$ ．Kola，30／\％ 1HI－F．Tweeter， $25 / \mathrm{m} .12 \mathrm{in}$ ．H．A．．s0／．．12in． 15 ohm 10 w．Plessey， $45 /=$ ．
STMS TORLAN HF1012 10in． 3 to 15 ohm 10 w．， $95 /$ 12 in ，Batcer 15 watt 3 ohms，or 15 ohms， $105 /=$
 HIGR RESISTAICE PEONES． 4,000 ohms， $16 / 6 \mathrm{pT}$ MIRE TRANSF，50：1， $3 / 9$ er．：100：1，Potted， $10 / 6$ SWITCE CLEAXER，Fluid squirt Bpout． $4 / 3$ tin． TWIN GANG TUNING CONDENSERS． 365 pf ． miniature 1 in ．$x 1 / \mathrm{in}$ ．$x 1 / \mathrm{in}, 10 /=.0005$ Standard with trimmets， $9 /-$ ；less trimmers， $8 / 6 ;$ midget， $7 / 6$ SIIGLE， $50 \mathrm{pH}_{4}, 2 / 6 ; 80 \mathrm{pF}, 100 \mathrm{pF}, 100 \mathrm{pF}, 7 /$ solid dielectric $100,300,500 \mathrm{pr} .3 / 8$ ．
SPEAKER FRET．GOLD CLOTE，17in，X 2 Jin．；5／\％ njin x 35 in ．， $10 /$－Tygan $4 \mathrm{ft}$. 6in．
New and Bored VALVES 90－day Guarantee．

| 1R．I | 616K89 |  | 80 |  | HABC80 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 \times 5$ | 8／6 6L．3G | 10／6 |  | 10／6 |  | 10／6 |
| 1T＊ | 8／6 6N7M | $7 / 6$ | EB9L | 6／6 |  | $7 / 6$ |
| 2 X 2 | 3／6 6476 | 10／8 | EBC33 | 816 | MU14 | 1016 |
| 384 | 8／6 6isA 7 | 7／6 | EBC41 | 10／6 | P61 | 66 |
| 364 | 8／6 98，${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 10／6 | EBF80 | 10／6 | PCC8 | 12／6 |
| 5 J | 8／6 6AN7 | $8 / 6$ | ECCS 4 | 12／6 | FCF8 | 11／6 |
| $5 \mathbf{5}$ | $8 / 6$ 9 6 C | 7／6． | ECF＇8 | 11／6 | PCL | 11／6 |
| 5\％／4 | 10／6 6x4 | 7／6 | ECH 42 | 10／6 | P12N2 | 8／6 |
| 6 A M6 | 8／6 $6 \times 5$ | 7／6 | ECL82 | 12／6 | PL82 | 10／6 |
| HBE | \＄／6／12AT7 | $9 / 6$ | EF39 | $7 / 1$ | PY80 | $8 / 6$ |
| $6 \mathrm{BE6}$ | $7 / 612 \mathrm{AU7}$ | 9／6 | EF41 | 10／6 | PY81 | 10／6 |
| $6 \mathrm{BH5}$ | 10／612A17 | $9 / 6$ | EF50 | $5 / 1$ | PY82 | $8 / 6$ |
| ticw 6 | 10／6 I2BE6 | 10／6 | EF80 | 10／6 | 3P61 | 5／6 |
| $6 \mathrm{D} / 5$ | 7／612K7 | 8／0 | EF91 | 8／6 | UBC41 | $10 / 6$ |
| 6FisG | $7 / 612 Q 7$ | 8／6 | EF92 | 5／8 | UCE42 | 10／6 |
| 6 H 5 | $3 / 635 \mathrm{~L} 6$ | $9 / 6$ | ELS32 | $5 / 6$ | UF41 | 10／6 |
| 6J5 | 6／83574 | 9／6 | E1．84 | 10／6 | UL41 | 10／6 |
| 6 J | $7 / 880$ | 10／6 | EM81 | 12／6 | UY 41 | 8／6 |
| 6876 | 8／6）807 | $0 / 6$ | EZ40 | 8／6 | U22 | 10／6 |
| 6K6GT | 8／6 954 | 1／6 | EZ80 | 8／8 | 8105 | $8 / 8$ |
|  | ／6－EA50 | 1／6 | 148 |  | VR150 | 8／6 |

## FINEST VALUE



1959 RADIOGRAM CHASSIS
THREE WAVEBANDS．
five valves N．W．If mb－m m．Latent mitlahd


A．C．200／25e v．+ －Hiy Gwiteh ：shor1－Medinm－ Long－dram．A．N．and Negative reethrack
 horiznatal or vertjial size thin．a time．
Aligned had calibraterl．Isolated Chassis．
\＆9．10．0 carr．\＆Ins． $4 / \mathrm{h}$ ．
TEKMM：Jef．E5．5．0 amd five monthly of 21. MATCHED SPEAKERS FOR ABOVE CHASSIS． in．． $17 / 6 ; 11 \mathrm{in.}$.25 －： $12 \mathrm{in} ., 301$


UA8 World＇s Finest 4－Speed Autochanger OUR PRICE 56.19 .6
TERMM：Dep． 83.10 .0 alul four monthly of 21. Stereo Model UAs £9．19．6 UA12 $\mathrm{s}_{11} 17.6$. COLLARO LATEST MODEL GIGE－FID NIITY AUHOCEANGER 4－SPEADS－10 BeCORDS With Stadio＂O＂pickenp
BRAND NEW IN MAKER＇S BOEES
OUR PRICE $\} 7.19 .6$ post iree．
BUILD THIS REPRODUCER BARGAIN SINGLE PLAYER KIT
Ready for immediate assembly． 4 －speed Collary＂＇Junior＂Unit．．．．．．\＆4 126
 with room to play luiu．recorils ．．．
\＆2
Ready－built $3 \cdot$ watt amplifier with
two valves anil loudspeaker
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$\begin{array}{ll}16 / 450 \mathrm{v} .3 / 6 & 8+8 / 500 \mathrm{v} .\end{array} \quad 5 /=8,200 / 6 \mathrm{v}$.
$32 / 450 \mathrm{v} . ~ \$ / 68+16 / 500 \mathrm{v} . \quad 5 / 650+50 / 350 \mathrm{v}$.

$50 / 26 \mathrm{v} . \quad 2 /-32+32 / 350 \mathrm{w} . \quad 4 / 8 \quad 64+120 / 8 / 50 \mathrm{v} . \quad 11^{1 / 6}$ $50 / 50 \mathrm{~F} . \quad 2 /=132+32 / 500$ \％．$/ 1 / 6100+200 / 275 \mathrm{v} .12 / 6$ SENTERCEL RECTIFIERS．E．H．T．TYPE FLY－ BACE VOLTAGE．K3／25 2 KV ．， $5 / \sim ; K 3 / 40 \quad 3.9$ KV．，7／＝；K3／45，3．6 kV．，7／6：K3／50 4 kb ， $8 / \mathrm{c} ;$ KAINS TYPE SELENIU胃 300 \％． $85 \mathrm{~mA} . .7 / 6$ ．
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85 mA, 8／6； $200 \mathrm{rDA.} 21 / ,\mathrm{c} ; 300 \mathrm{~mA} . \mathrm{g} 27 / 6$ ． Conss wearite＂p＂type，8／－each．Oamor Minget type adj．dust core from $4 / \mathrm{c}$ All ranges． FERRITE ROD AERIALS．M．W．，8／9；M d L．．． $12 / 6$. RE COILS A／RF，T／pair H．F．CHOKEy $2 / 8$ FERRITE ROD．7in．x 3／8in．dia．， $2 / 6$ ．

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WAVECEANGE 8WTHCEES
5 p．4－way 2 wafer long apindle
5 p． 4 －way 2 pafer long apindle
2 p． 2 －way，or 3 p .2 －way ahort ppindle
2 p．2－way，or 3 p． 2 －way ahort rpindle
2 p． 6 －way， 4 p． 2 －way， 4 p． 3 －หas long spindle．
2 p．6－way， 4 p．2－way， 4 p．3－หas hug apindle．．． 3,1
 6d，B12A，CRT，1／B．Eng．Hnd Amer．4，5，$i$ ，and $7 \mathrm{pin}, 1 / \mathrm{m}$ ．MOULDED MAZDA and $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{n}}$ ，Wi．t．，fid． $7 \mathrm{pin}, 1 /$ ．MOULDED MAZDA and Int．Wet．，6d．
B7G．BM，B9G．B0A．9d．B76；with cri．．1 6． B9A with can．．1／9．CERAMIC EP50．BTG，BUA，


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[^1]
# SUPER-REGENERATION 

LIKE VALVES, TRANSISTORS MAY ALSO BE USED IN CIRCUITS WHICH GIVE SUPER-REGENERATION<br>By E. G. Bulley

SUPER-REGENERATION is really a steady oscillatory condition which is interrupted by another frequency. This condition is known as quenching and can be performed by the transistor being switched by itself or by the application of an auxiliary signal.

## Logarithmic Mode

The former is known as self-quenching and such operation is termed logarithmic mode, and it is in this mode that the length of the pulse is logari:hmically proportional to the signal. That is to say, as the received signal varies in amplitude, so will the oscillatory condition.

In the latter case, however. where an auxiliary signal is injected. the oscillatory condition of the circuit is quenched by this signal before it is limited by the supply voltages of the circuit.

## Linear Mode

This type of mode is linear and is known as forced quenching, and it can be stated as being the means by which the biasing of the oscillator transistor can be adjusted to a particular value, whereby the gain of the oscillation itself is too


Fig. 1.-Basic super-regenerative circuit.
weak to maintain an oscillatory condition. Therefore, the auxiliary or quench signal is modulated and the oscillations will start and stop. The modulated quench signal is usually obtained by the rectification of R.F. pulses by a semiconductor diode.

A basic super-regenerative detector circuit is shown in Fig. 1. This circuit can form the basis for experiment, whereas Fig. 2 is a typical circuit used for injecting a quench signal. Many of the novel types of miniature transistorised receivers for use on the higher frequencies which have been developed in the U.S.A. have employed superregeneration and such applications should prove very interesting to the constructor.


Fig. 2.-Circuit for iniection of the quench signal.

## Swinging Chokes

THESE components are available upon the surplus market. and to the newcomer to radio they seem to cause confusion as to their application. These chokes are used as the input component of choke input filters associated with mercury vapour power supplies.
The swinging choke is so named because of its varying characteristic. that is to say, the effective inductance varies with the direct current. The inductance of swinging chokes usually lies between 5 and 20 Henrys, and as previously mentioned, they are the first component in the input filter. This is, of course, followed by a choke having a constant inductance.

## Calculations

In the first place. one must determine the current taken from the power pack at no signal. This D.C. is the product of both the load and bleeder currents. Now this current value must be substituted in Ohm's Law to calculate the load resistance. The voltage is the D.C. output from the filter to the load, so with two known values the third, namely $R$, can be evaluated.
With the load resistance now known, this in turn can be substituted in the equation $L=\frac{R}{1130}$, where $L$ is the required inductance in Henrys for a swinging choke at zero signal. This approximate value is the high figure of inductance, and likewise the same method can be applied to determine the inductance at the other end of the swing, that is at full signal. First, the D.C., followed by the load resistance. must be calculated, as previously explained, and substituted in the inductance equation.--E. G. B.

#  

## I限(0)

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
IN RECEIVERS AND COMPONENTS
"FELGATE" ELEC.

## TRONIC INVERTER

$\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{A}}$ADIO MAILING LTD., of Studlands Hall. Studland Strect. Hammersmith. London. W.6. are now manufacturing the "Felgate" Electronic Inverter (Mark 11). This is a power source to run A.C. equipment from 210/250 volt D.C. mains. and has been introduced to meet the demand for a higher power output than that of

the first "Felgate" Inverter. It has a rating of 20 to 100 watts and can be used with most types of tape recorders. radiograms and record players and. although primarily intended for such equipment. is equaily suitable for many other kinds of apparatus. The inverter uses a multivibrator circuit driving four valves 50CD6 (two valves in parallel). The overall dimensions are $10 \mathrm{in} . \times 7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . \times 6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$.

## E.M.I. RECORD PLAYING DECK

A NEW record playing deck for the home constructor record enthusiast which is of practical design and incorporates a novel form of speedchange mechanism has been introduced by E:M.I. Sales \& Service Ltd., of Hayes. Middlesex. It is supplied in mains or battery versions and for stereo or mono reproduction. The cartridge fitted is an Acos GP73 turnover stereo pick-up with a diamond stylus. Full mounting instruetions and template are included with each unit. The prices for mains or battery are: Mono £6 18s. 6d.. stereo $£ 7$ 17s. 6 d .

## "PRECISION" SOLDERING IRONS

$\mathrm{A}^{\text {NTEX LTD., announce that they have moved }}$ 3. Tower Hill to $7 / 8$, idol Lane, London, E.C.3, in order that they may deal more
efficiently with home and export orders for their "Precision" miniature soldering irons. All irons are now fitted with a new type of handle which is fully heat resistant and designed to make the soldering iron robust enough to be used by unskilled labour on production lines.
POCKET-SIZED TRANSISTOR RADIO A NEW pocket-sized transistor radio called the Ready Co Personal is now made by the Ever $53 \mathrm{in} . \times 31 \mathrm{in} . \times 1 \frac{1}{7} \mathrm{in}$. and weighs 19 oz . (complete with battery). The cabinet is of robust polystyrene and the superhet printed circuit uses six transistors and a germanium diode. Battery life is, given as $25-30$ hours. The receiver tunes medium


The Sky Personal pocket-sized radio.
wave ( $192-555 \mathrm{~m}$ ) and the long wave Light Programme is pretuned. The price is $£ 21$ including purchase tax.

## MINIATURE EDGEWISE METER

 TAYLOR ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTS LTD.. of Montrose Avenue, Slough, (Model 220) which will be of interest to design engineers and manufacturers. It is one of the smallest meters of this type manufactured in this country and occupies a minimum amount of frontpanel space for equivalent scale lengths. This. model has been developed for use in a modern:(Continued on page 595)


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The miniature Edgewise Meter
ammeter and is available with right hand zero. left hand zero displaced, or centre zero pointer position and is suitable for either horizontal or vertical mounting. It occupies a space frontage of 2.5 in . $\times 0.62 \mathrm{in}$

## PHILIPS "DISC-JOCKEY" TRANSISTORS

DHILIPS ELECTRICAL LTD.. announce the sistor (Model A(99147) which is a 4-speed portable battery operated record player with

transistorised amplifier. It sells at 19 guineas, including tax. It weighs 91b. and plays all standard sizes of records at all four speeds. The carrying case is covered in ivory and green washable leathercloth. Incorporating a $4 i n$. highefficiency loudspeaker, it is operated by four transistors and powered by four torch batteries which give more than 40 hours playing time. The speed selector has a mechantical "off" position in which the drive wheel is automatically freed from the turntable and drive spindle.

## NEW TRANSISTOR PORTABLE RADIO

CHE BC501. a new transistor portable radio suitable for all domestic, outdoor and travelling conditions, is announced by The General Electric Co. Lid., of Magnet House, Kingsway, London. W.C.2. With a sloping front control panel and a standard car aerial socket. in addition tónits 8in. ferrite rod aerial. this model can be
used in the home or in the car for touring. It uses a single long life layer-built battery and retails at 19 guineas. The printed circuit uses six germanium transistors and one crystal diode, and provides long and medium wavebands with

push-button selection. A 7in. $\times 4$ in elliptical speaker is used for good reproduction. The wood cabinet is covered with washable Vynair in contrasting shades of Autumn Tan and Lichen Grey with gilt embellishment.

## DIGITAL VOLTMETER

THE new Solartron " 999 " Digital Voltmeter Type LM901 displays measured voltages in large, plain figures. which may be read at a considerable distance from the instrument and. if necessary, by untrained personnel.

Manufactured by The Solartron Electronic Group Ltd.. Thames Ditton. Surrey, the LM . 901 is lightweight and of compact and robust construction. Being transistorised. it is rugged though small, and may be used on the laboratory bench, in the factory, control room or in the field. It is completely self-contained, and its power consumption is extremely small. The voltage range is from zero up to 99.9 V in three sub-ranges, or 109.9 V when using the range extension facility,



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

## Amateur Bands

SIR,-I am absolutely appalled at the conditions on the amateur bands. II seems that the ambition of every commercial station and jamming station is to get into these already overcrowded bands. Some bands are legally shared with these stations. but it appears that they can encroach on exclusively amateur bands. The latest addition to 40 metres is "Outlook Able testing for circuit adjustment purposes." This is more or less continuous and I have heard many people commenting on it. Can newcomers to the ham bands look forward to clear areas to transmit when they come on to the air next year? Will the Frequency Allocation Conference ban these pirates or will they ignore the protest and allow this encroachment to continue? I hope to become an amateur next year and I look to those who allocate transmitting frequencies to clear just a kilocycle or two on each band for me and the many other newcomers to use when we obtain our transmitting tickets. Is it too much to ask for this privilege?-I. Jackson (Alnwick).

## Meter Multipliers

SIR.-I note with interest J. C. Alldred's method of obtaining aceurate meter multipliers in the July issue of P.W... but see that in order to apply his method one must either rely on a new battery being "up to scratch " or already have an accurate volmeter at one's disposal. Beating this in mind may 1 suggest a much simpler methed of achieving the desired result. From the formula quated by Mr. Alldred. calculate the required resistance, and obtain a 20 per cent. carbon resistor of the nearest preferred value below R. Note the resistor must not be of the porcelain enclosed type. The meter will then, of course. read high. The reading may be corrected by connecting an accurate voltmeter in parallel and applying a suitable P.D. for the range. As the resistance is proportional to the cross-sectional area of the carbon. file a small nick in'the resistor until the readings are the same on both meters. It will be found that little earbon need be removed in order to raise the resistance to the required value. Therefore, the physical strength of the component is not seriously impaired. The same method may be employed for higher ranges of voltage providing the neces-

sary precautions are taken in order to be able to handle the resistor with a large P.D. across it.J. Oi.iver (Madeley).

## Transistors v. Valves

SIR,-I have been reading, month by month. the argument on the above and feel that I must butt in. I have found that many of my friends and myself started out in the hobby of amateur radio with transistors. However. I have inevitably found that most of us have, after a time, all turned over to using the valve. We have agreed that if one is armed with the following valves. a beginner: can make quite a few, odds and ends including amplifiers. receivers and: with a few additions, transmitters. The valves are: 6V6G. 6J5. 6J7; 6 K 8 and a full wave rectifier for a suitable power unit. It is a matter of opinion whether the valve sets are better than the transistor sets,. but I personally have gained much more experience and fun building the valve sets.J. Fuller (Dorset).

SIR.-I am surprised to hear any amateur speak slightingly of transistors and am sure this attitude is due to ignorance. The primary virtues of these devices, from a radio point of view. is the pocket size receiver that can be made with them and the cheap running costs of a standard size portable. In many cases this is the only type of transistor receiver your dissatisfied readers have listened to so they must not run away with the idea that this is the best that can be done with transistors-not by any means! In a way. transistor receivers have started to run before they have learned to walh. All these small receivers use ferrite rod aerials and must have small loudspeakers with inefficient acoustic housing. If a straight simple transistor circuit is connected to a good acriai, signals quite free from any background noise at all cant be obtained. and if the signal is put into a normal substantially housed speaker a quality of reception can be obtained which is quite unequalled by any type of valive circuit. There is something wrong with any radio amateur who is not thrilled by the advent of transistors. America, Japan and Australia already have them working F.M. and communication receivers.--B. Waliace (S.W.I6).
(Continued oin page 599)

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SIR.-I. as a member of the "young radio set" feel it my duty to pass on the views of my friends and myself on transistors. Only one of my friends who tried transistors sticks by them, all the others gave up disillusioned. On comparing a two transistor plus crystal set with a valve set $I$ see why valves are so popular. Although there was little to choose between the two as regards volume and sensitivity, I found the valve set much more stable for, although both were built as portables any change in aerial/earth capacity meant a tremendous cut in volume on the transistor set. The valve set only used 1 ft . of aerial and even if this was on the ground the set worked. -" Oid Fashioned ?" (Hereford):

SIR.-As a member of the younger generation which is supposed to be pro-transistor and anti-valve. I shall now try to support the case for the valve. With transistors one has to be very carcful not to overheat them, give them the wrong electrode polarity, keep the junctions in the light (in the case of glass walls) and take great care with the circuitry to prevent surges. Valves, on ithe other hand, are more robust and are not so casily damaged. The reversal of the power supplies will not ruin them at once, surges don't bother them except in A.C., D.C. series heater ${ }^{\text {th }}$ chains. They can become very hot (a GV6, heats tup to $250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). The supporters of transistors live in a delusion that transistors mean midget ;receivers. I have seen a valve set half the size of a transistor set in the same shop window. These supporters also state that valves are expensive to run and that "it only costs 4 d . to run a set for so many months, etc." If they want to save money on power why don't they revert to a crystal-set which has no running costs at all. Valve upkeep is, in my opinion, worth every penny. It is a joy to listen to more or less natural sound emanating from a 5 -valve superhet, but it is an ordeal to suffer seratchy sound from a midget $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. loudspeaker.

To the transistor fanatics I say this, try to drive a 6 in. speaker with as many transistors as you like at decent volume. It can be done easily with one valve (e.g., PCF80) at very moderate cost. It will he very difficult indeed to obtain the same results with transistors.-R. Kerr (Lanarkshire).

## Correspondents Wanted

CIR -I am 23 years of age and would like to correspond with amateurs of my age who are interested in anything that comes under "Elec-tronics."-W. S. A. Perera (Inspector of Telecommunications, Wattegedara, Minuwangoda, Ceylon)

SIR,-I am 13 years old and very interested in radio. especially short-waves. I hope in the near future to obtain an amateur's licence and would like to correspond with other boys of my age- - G Barrett (Kestrel's, East Anstey, N. Devon).

CIR.-I am 20 years of age and am interested in radio, amplifiers. tape recorders, etc. I am totally blind and. as you will realise, there are
many difficulties for me in this field. For example, having literature read to me on the subject. and soldering. I would like the chance to correspond with any of your readers whose interests are the same, as I am sure in this way many of my problems will be solved. Fortunately I have someone who will read the letters to me and write my replies.--L. Ball. (80. Fenwick Road. Aspley, Nottingham).

SIR.-I am 15 years old and very interested in amateur radio. I would like to correspond with radio enthusiasts of my own age.S. Hoskins, Jnr. (6, Etherbridge Green, Loughton, Essex).

SIR,--I am 13 years of age and very interested in amateur radio. My favourite bands lor listening are 20,40 and 160 m , and 1 would like to correspond with amateurs of my own age.Paui. Brown (6, Ripon Street, Preston. Lancs).

## Valve Types

SIR.-As an old-hand who has just come back to the home-constructor fold after some years absence, I am apalled by the many types of valves which now appear to be necessary for an experimenter. It would appear that in the past a circuit has been designed without any recourse to valves which may be available, and then the designer has requested the valve maker to make a valve for his circuit. How else can one account. for the many types-some of which seem very close to each other. Surely, there should only be a few what might be called "standard" types, and circuits should be designed round them and not vice versa.-K. A. Semster (Folkestone).

## An Efficient Aerial

SIR.-For many years I have been using the bell-wire from my front door as an aerial and it has served magnificently. The bell was disconnected a long time ago. but the wire. which runs through the wall of the house, seemed to be ideal and did not appear to be directional in any way. A few weeks ago 1 was messing around and tried one or two alternatives, without any improvement. until I thought of using a disused lead-in from a large garden aerial. This was a heavy rubber-covered wire running up to the caves from downstairs and has egg insulators at top and bottom. I was astounded at the improvement of what I had thought was a remarkably efficient aerial. Many more stations came in loud and clear. and I can hardly think that is due to the fact that most stations nowadays are vertically polarised. Can there be any other explanation for such an efficient aerial ?H. F. Nickolds (N.W'10).

## Commercial Set Design

$S^{1}$IR.-I was very disappointed after my visit to the Radio Show to note that manufacturers appear to have stood still in one direction in designing the modern radio receiver. We are continually reading that radio is dead, and comedians and others on TV crack jokes about the "steam radio," etc.. yet what have the makers
done to make people radio conscious or want radio? The general look of the sets is still too "scientific" or laboratory-like for the home, and reproduction did not seem to be all that good. Also, why is there no provision on any set (so far as I could see) for TV sound? I would have thought that would have been one of the first things the makers would have done to try to sell TV sets.-G. Barton (Matlock).

## Loudspeaker Design

S1R.--Can any one tell me what has happened to the ribbon loudspeaker? Some years ago we had a boom in speaker design all directed to giving overall frequency range. but now it appears that the use of tweeters and woofers has taken the place of designing one really good speaker to cover the entire range. Has it been found impossible to do this? Why has the ribbon not been brought out? Has it been found too fragile after its very popular use as a microphone?-F. Sandrey (Hove).

## Radio Pick-up

SIR.-Has any reader found a satisfactory way of overcoming radio pick-up on long leads used with a tape recorder? I have a recorder and amplifier connected to my speaker and radio in the normal lounge, but run a long lead to an upstairs room with mike to hear when the baby cries. When I switch over to the mike I can hear quite clearly a background of short-wave stations. and I understand from my dealer that others find this difficulty also. The long lead is
in coaxial and both ends are earthed. Has any other reader experienced the trouble and found a satisfactory, easy cure?-G. E. R. Trueman (Hoddesdon).

## Variometers

SIR,-I have been given some very old numbers of Pracilcal Wireless and Amuteur Wireless which had been kept as treasures by one of my relatives. I read in some of these that adequate selectivity could only be obtained by means of a variometer, and there were several interesting types of this component in the issues. Some of these were very large, and there were also some sets described using home-made coils, over 3 in . in diameter. What has happened to these components? Today there are coils only half an inch across and about lin. in length, whilst I do not remember seeing a variometer in any issues since the war. It appears from notes accompanying some of these articles that the purpose, of them was to obtain and maintain a high " Q ." As this is still necessary, why are these components not used today?-H. J. Barrivger (Glasgow).

## Earth Connections

SIR,-The mains sets of today are usually fitted with a two-way flexible cable. and the points in the house are of the three-pin type. 'Onc of these pins is for earth, but as most electrical apparatus is usually fitted with a three-core cable (one being green for earth). why are not radio and TV sets so fitted? It seems that it would be much more efficient to make use of the "mains" earth. and would it not be safer if the mahers took steps to fit the necessary isolating condenser in A.C./D.C. sets. with the earth correctly connected? The correct connection of the " $L$ " and " $N$ " sockets of mains apparatus is one which $I$ " feel should be more stressed in your pages and it does not appear to be well known even by many servicemen.-G. Y. Kingdon (Norbury).

## SELECTIVITY

## (Continued from page 576)

tuning range near its resonant frequency. A better method of employing an additional tuned circuit is to include it in the receiver proper, tuning it with an additional section of the tuning capacitor. This, of course, involves a major redesign of the receiver because it necessitates the substitution of a 3-gang for the original 2-gang tuning capacitor. If the receiver has more than one waveband, additional contacts will also be required on the wave-range switch. Of the three tuned circuits the receiver now contains, it is preferable to combine two in what is known as bandpass filter. One method of doing this is illustrated in Fig. 10 which is a "skeleton" circuit showing essential components for one waveband only. In this the bandpass filter, is used as an inter-valve coupling element but it could alternatively be used between the acfat and R.F. amplifier.

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| 3 A 5 | 1016 | 6X4 | $6 / 9$ | A231 | 9／6 | ECH21 | 17＇6 | MH4 | 6／－ | UBC41 | 86 |
| 3Q4 | 816 | 6X5GT | 6：－ | B38 | 15！6 | ECH35 | 68 | MU14 | 91. | UBF80 | 96 |
| $3{ }^{3} 4$ | $7 / 6$ | $7 \mathrm{B7}$ | 81－ | CL33 | $11 / 6$ | ECH42 | $9^{\prime} 6$ | MX40 | $12 \cdot 6$ | UBF＇89 | 96 |
| $3 V 4$ | $81-$ | $7 \mathrm{C5}$ | $81-$ | DAC92 | 10／\％ | ECH81 | 8.6 | N18 | 8.8 | UBL21 | $20 / 6$ |
| 5 S （ | $6 / 6$ | 7C6 | $81-$ | DAF91 | $7 / 8$ | ECL80 | $9 / 6$ | N152 | 116 | ECC84 | 12＇9 |
| 5V4G | 11／6 | ${ }^{7} \mathrm{H7}$ | $81-$ | DA F96 | 8：6 | ECI 82 | 116 | ${ }^{P C C 84}$ | 8／－ | UCC85 | $9^{\prime}$ |
| 5Y3GT | 7／6 | 757 | 919 | DCC90 | 10／6 | EF39 | 516 | ${ }^{\text {PCC89 }}$ | 14／＊ | せCFon | 14＇－ |
| $5 \mathrm{Z4G}$ | 9.6 | 7 Y 4 | 8／－ | DF33 | 10／－ | EF 41 | $9^{\prime} 6$ | PCF80 | $8^{\prime}$－ | ［CH21 | $20^{\prime} 6$ |
| 6AL5 | 5／6 | 10 Cl | 146 | DF91 | $6: 3$ | EF42 | 116 | PCF82 | $10^{\prime} 6$ | UCH42 | $8^{\prime}$ |
| 6AM5 | $5!-$ | 10 C 2 | 176 | DF96 | $8^{\prime} 6$ | EF80 | $6^{\prime} 6$ | PCL82 | 10／6 | UCH81 | 9 |
| 6AM6 | $4 / 9$ | 10 Fl | 176 | DH76 | 6＇6 | EF85 | 76 | PCL83 | 1216 | UCL82 | 116 |
| 6AQ5 | 7／－ | 10F9 | $10^{\prime} 6$ | DH77 | $7 / 3$ | EF86 | 116 | PCL84 | 116 | UCL．83 | 143 |
| 6AT6 | 78 | 10P13 | 1519 | DK32 | $14^{\prime} 6$ | EF69 | 8：－ | PENA4 | 11／－ | UF41 | 93 |
| 6BA6 | 76 | 12AH8 | 10／6 | DK40 | 14／－ | EF91 | $4^{\prime 9}$ | PEN36C | 96 | UF42 | 6 |
| 6BE6 | 7／ | 12AT7 | 81. | DK91 | $7 / 6$ | EF92 | $5 /-$ | PEN45 | 8／－ | UF99 | $\bigcirc$ |
| 6BH6 | 81. | 12AU7 | $6 / 6$ | DK92 | $8 / 6$ | EL33 | 101－ | PEN46 | 56 | CLA1 |  |
| 6BJ6 | － | 12AX7 | 81－ | DK96 | $8 / 6$ | EL38 | $21 / 6$ | PL36 | 13／ | UL44 |  |
| 6BR7 | 10／6 | 12BA6 | $81-$ | DL33 | $9 /-$ | ELA1 | 219， | PL38 | 21／6 | C＇L84 | 8 8 |
| 6BW7 | 8／6 | $12 \mathrm{K7GT}$ | $6^{\prime} 6$ | DL35 | 12／3 | EL42 | $10^{\prime} 6$ | PL81 | 11：6 | UR1C | 9 ＇6 |
| 6CD6： | $26 / 9$ | 12K8GT | $12 / 8$ | DL92 | $12 / 6$ | EL84 | 86 | PL82 | ${ }^{1} 86$ | U1N | 126 |
| ${ }_{6}{ }^{\text {F }} 1$ | 14／6 | 12Q7GT | 6！6 | DL94 | 8／－ | EM34 | 8.6 | PL83 | 9／6 | ［Y21 | 14－ |
| 6F6G | 6／6 | 1223 | 76 | DLAG | 816 | EM80 | $9 / 6$ | PY32 | $12 / 6$ | UY41 | 7. |
| $6 \mathrm{Fl3}$ | 12／6 | 1487 | 16／9 | EABC80 | $7 / 9$ | EM81 | $9^{\prime} 6$ | PY80 | 12 | UT「85 | ${ }^{\prime}$ |
| 6 Fl 14 | 176 | 19AQ5 | 76 | EAF 12 | $9 / 6$ | EM84 | $10^{\circ}$ | PY81 | 76 | TP4B | 9.8 |
| 6K7G | $3 / 9$ | 20F2 | 176 | EB91 | $5 / 6$ | E ${ }^{\text {c }} 51$ | $9{ }^{\prime} 6$ | PY82 | 818 | VP41 | $6^{\prime}=$ |
| 6K7GT | 61. | 20 L 1 | 176 | EBC33 | 7 | EY86 | 9／－ | PY＇83 | 816 | W76 | 68 |
| 6K8G | 6／9 | 25A6G | 11／－ | EBC41 | 816 | EZ40 | $7^{\prime} 6$ | PZ30 | 171： | WT7 | 5：－ |
| 6 L 1 | 16／9 | 25Z4G | 9／－ | EBF80 | $8 / 8$ | EZ 11 | 716 | SP61 | 3.6 | 277 | 48 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6d．per xtra． reel in | valve <br> sured |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ID } \\ & \\ & \hline D \end{aligned}$ |  |  | ST | $\mathbf{M}$ |  |  |  |  | Damag 6d．ext D．Parce xtra． | ina. |




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D.C. voltage 4,000 ohms per volt. 10,50 250,500 and 1,000 volts
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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 145 | 5/- | $7 \mathrm{C5}$ | 8/- | DL92 | 7/- | PY80 | $7 / 6$ |
| IC5 | 10/0 | $7 \mathrm{C6}$ | 7/6 | DL94 | 7/6 | PY8I | 86 |
| $1 \mathrm{I}_{4}$ | 5/- | $7 Y 4$ | 7/- | DL96 | $9 /-$ | PY82 | $7 / 6$ |
| IR5 | 7/- | $7 \mathrm{Z4}$ | T/- | E891 | 5/- | VR105 | 306 /- |
| 154 | 7/- | 8 D 3 | 5/- | EBC41 | $9 / 6$ | VR150 | 306 - |
| 155 | 6/6 | 9D6 | 5/- | EBF90 | $9 / 6$ | PZ30 | 19.11 |
| $1{ }^{1} 4$ | 6/- | 10LD3 | 12/7 | EBF89 | $9 / 6$ | QP2I | 5 |
| 3 A 5 | 9/- | $12 \mathrm{AT7}$ | 8/- | ECC81 | 8/- | QP230 | 5 - |
| 305 | 9/- | $12 \mathrm{AU7}$ | 7/6 | ECC82 | $7 / 6$ | U50 | - |
| 354 | 7/- | I2A8GT |  | ECC91 | 5/- | U52 | 6/- |
| $3 V_{4}$ | 716 |  | 10/- | ECF80 | 12/- | U78 | 6 6- |
| $5 \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | 6/- | $12 \mathrm{K8M}$ | 10/- | ECL80 | 10 | UABC8 | 0 9/- |
| 5 V 4 | 10/- | 12SN7G |  | EF22 | 7/6 | UAF42 | 9/- |
| 5Y3GT | 6/- |  | 10/- | V$\$ 70$ | 6 - | UB41 | 10- |
| 6 A7 | $9 /-$ | 12SL7GT |  | V5110 | 6 | UBC4I | 9/- |
| 6A8GT | 9/- |  | 10\% | EF36 | 5/- | UBF89 | $9 /$ |
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| $6 A C 7$ | 5/- | 7475 | 6/- | EF40 | $11 / 6$ | UCH42 | 101- |
| 6AG5 | 5/- | CVI35 | 5/- | EF42 | 11/- | UCL82 | 12/- |
| 6AL5 | 5 - | CVI36 | 5/- | EF89 | 8/6 | UF80 | 9/6 |
| GAMG | 5/- | CVI38 | 5/- | EF91 | 5/- | UF85 | $9 / 6$ |
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| 6D2 | 5/- | 723A/B | 55 - | EL42 | 10 - | UL41 | 8/- |
| $6{ }^{612}$ | 5/- | 2 K 25 | 65/- | EM34 | 7/6 | UL84 | 9 |
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| GTIC | 15/- | DAF91 | 7/- | EY86 | 10 | UY85 | $8 \%$ |
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| 6L6M | 10/- | DCC90 | $9 /-$ | EZ80 | $7 /-$ | VR53 | $18 / 7$ |
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