

DIRECT-READING EREQUENCY-METER

Loudspeaker Cross-over Networks Servicing Tape Recorders Transistorised Grid-dip Oscillator



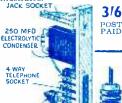
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RELDA DOES IT AGAIN: 4 TRANSISTOR FIRST WITH A **PUSH-PULL** MINIATURE AUDIO AMPLIFIER TAPE RECORDER IN KIT FORM AT MODEL PK-543 ONLY £6.19.6 A ready built miniature amplifier incorporating in-put and output transfor-mers, 4 transistors, 9 volt battery snap cord (for Power) speaker and volume volume connection leads, ideal for use with record players intercome hear-Consisting of three transistor amplifier, recordplay, volume control, miniature speaker, forward-stop-rewind-switch, reel of tape and spare reel, motor, attractive coloured case. Mic and earphone sockets, pick-up col, mike, earphone and carrying handle supplied. Standard battery oper-ated. Simple to put together in less than one hour. Brand new and guaranteed. PRICE 52/6 with record players, intercoms, hear-Complete with full instructions and circuit diagram. P. & P. 1/6 DIGITAL COUNTER A 6-TRANSISTOR RADIO FOR PORTABLE MAINS SOLDER-ING IRON MODEL SPI ONLY £7.19.6



OPERATORS UNIT. Fantastic Bargain, exceptional offer! As illustrated.



MIDGET METAL RETAIL RECTIFIER

V.H.F. MOBILE AERIAL and base, with PYE connections, 27in, overall, as used by Taxis, Police, etc., 7/6.



AERIAL VARIOMETERS These magnificent you * instruments enable you to receive maximum signal strength on all S.W. receivers.



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INSTANT VALVE FILAMENT TESTER, MODEL VT-41.

Pocket-size, battery operated. Gives Instant Check of: All radio valves: * All TV valves:* All TV and Radio fuses: Circuit continuity: All Pilot lamps. Has built-in miniature 7-and 9-pin valve straighteners and batt-

ery test. *International Octal. B.8, B.9, B.7. Battery and Mains types. Beautifully styled—precision made. Supplied complete. Fully guaranteed.

ONLY 30/-, Post Paid.

MINIATURE CLEAR PLASTIC PANEL METERS

"S" METER MODEL SR. 2P. Stan-dard "Ham" Signal strength indica-tor. Calibrated in "S" units from 0-9 with scale terminating in - 10 to + 30 db calibrations of 0-5 + 0-10 in linear scale divisions. A "must" for radio amateurs for conversion of any Communication Receivers with A.V.C action to give calibrated signal strength action, 35/-



VU METER MODEL VR. IP. Calibrated and damped in accordance with standard VU Meter Practice. Upper scale reads -20 to +3VU. Lower scale 0-010°, modulation. Uses precision carbon film multiplier resistor and full wave rectifier. 42/6.

DC MICROAMMETERS Model MR.23 0 to 50 uA. Model MR.250 0 to 500 uA. 39/6 32/6

Precision, call-brated control 12/6. P. & P. 2/6. Brates P. 2/6.



FULL RANGE HIGH FIDELITY! 12" MECHANICAL TWO-WAY LOUDSPEAKER MODEL CR.12AE

This speaker embodies two reproducing cones mounted coaxially with power coming from the same voice coil. The larger cone reproduces the lower frequencies and the small cone gives you efficient high frequencies repro-duction. Due to the double cone construction, velvet smooth crossover is possible and brings you the finest in high likelity music reproduction. Specification: Freq. response: 30 to 16,000 c.p.s. Resonant freq: 45 ± 10 c.p.s.

Capacity: 10-20 watts Sensitivity: 102 db/w. Voice coil impedance: 16 ohms Mechanical crossover freq: 1800 cps. Diameter: 121n. Depth: 3jin. Voice Coil diameter: 21n. ONLY CO CA P & P ONLY **£8.8.0** P. & P. Baffle opening diameter: 11in

MAIL ORDERS TO (DEPT. P.), 32a COPTIC STREET, LONDON: W.C.I





on a.. r light Designed 30 watts.

30 watts. Designed on an entirely new principle for light weight applications. Highly stableheat characteristics ensure long life and safety in use. The Model SPI features a removable handle that may be used to cover the tip and barrel to permit the iron to be carried safely even while hot. Supplied complete with Vinyi bag, mains lead and plug. All for only 18/9.

SF-20 RADIO HEADPHONES









HI-FI HEADPHONES These miniature Hi-



These miniature Hi-Fi phones use high q u a l i t y permanent magnetic speakers with regu-soft rubber ear moulds give correct spacing for optimum acoustic load. Each unit has a built-in miniature Hi-Fi transformer to ensure the finest music and voice reproduc-tion. Supplied free is a small transformer unit which steps impedance up to 4000 ohms. Only 15/-, P. & P. 2/6.



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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

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March, 1962

HARVERSON SURPLUS CO. LTD. HARVERSONS GREAT OBSOLETE VALVE LIST DON'T DISCARD THAT OLD SET! GET A NEW VALVE FROM US AND KEEP IT WORKING.

-ALL VALVES NEW • GUARANTEEL • IN ORIGINAL BOXES • GENUINE MULLARD, MAZDA, MARCONI, ETC. • POSTAGE & PACKING 6d. PER VALVE.

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		/- EL3	5/- KT36	28/-IP41	9/-	R3	9/- U251	12/-1X24	21/- 6AQ5	4/-16	sJ7	s)- 19X3	8/6,80 9/*
A50A 9/6 A50N 12/6	D4 5 D41 10	/- EL31	5/- KT41	17/6 P215		RGI	35/- U282	12/- X24 18/6 X410	14/- 6B4	5/- 6	SJ7GT	8/- 20F2	18/6 83 12/.
A70B 12/6	D41 10		5/- KT42 12/6 KT44	22/- PA20 12/- PC/PI	9/-	S11A	9/- U309	18/6 X.61	10/- 6B5	5/- 6:		B/- 20P1	18/6 84 12/-
	D43 10		15/- KT45	12/- (5 Pir		SILD	9/- U339 10/- U403	14/-(X71M	12/- 687	6/- 5		8/- 20P4	18/6 85A1 18/6
A70D 17/6		/- EL35	18/6 KT55	12/- Termi		S-150	10/- U4020	15/- XSG 9/- Y63	5/- 6B7M 5/- 6B8G	5/- 6		9/- 25A8G 8/- 25L6	10/- 87 12/-
AC/PEN	D433 10		18/6 KT66	12/6		816	71- IIAFA	1 11/- 214	6/- 6BAG	7/8 6		8/- 25L6 8/- 25Y5	10/- 89 12/- 10/- 117Z6GT
23/3	DA41 10		18/6 KT71	12/6 PL33		SD20	9/- UB41	10/- 1/21	6/- 68G6C			2/- 25¥5G	10/- 12/-
AC/HL 15/-	DAR10 8	6 EL50	10/6 KT74	12/6 PM2	71-	SD61	9/- UBL2	1 18/6 231	8/6 6C4	5/- 61		71- 2574	9/6 154V 9/-
AC/ME 15/-	DC/HL 10	6 EM1	12/6 KT76	12/6 PM2A	71-	SP2	9/- UCILI	1 18/6 263	7/6 605	6/- 61	U7G 1	3/- 27	8/6 164V 9/-
ACP4 16/6 AC/SP1 12/6	DD-PEN	/- EM4 EN31	32/- KTZ4	3 5/6 PM2B 1 7/- PM2H		SPI	12/6 UCL11		15/- 6C5G	6/- 6		3/- 28D7	6/- 202DDT
AC/8G 10/6			9/- KTZ6	3 7/- PM2M		Met)	Pin UM34 12/6 UR1C		12/- 6C6	8/0 61	VGGT	7/- 30FF	7/- 16/6
AC/52PEN	DD13s 16		9/- L12	6/-PM3		SP4B	12/6 UR3	16/- Z8159 16/- Z8160	12/- 6C8 12/- 6C8G	12/- 6		9/- 30LT 5/- 30P4	7/- 202PT_16/6
23/3	DD41 12		15/- L21	6/- PM3A		SP6	12/010107	15/-1A4E	6/- 6CH5	8/- 6		5/- 30P4 3/- 31	11/- 2028TH 12/-
AO/52 18/6			15/- L42	6/- PM4	9/-	SP13	12/6 0 08	23/-11A5UJ		9/- 8	X6 d	3/- 33	12/- 202VPB
AC/8XV17	DD207 10		15/- L63	6/- PM4D		SP13C	12/6 UU30/	250 1A6	12/- 6D1	71- 61		3/- 34E	12/- 202 VFB
16/8 AC/TP 30/-	DD620 10 DD4020	6 FC130		6/-		3P22	12/6	18/6 105	10/- 6D6	5/6 62	7.5 8	6 35	18/- 903THA
AC/TH118/6	10		500 LP4 8/6 LP220	6/- PM5B 8/- PM12		SP41	L2/6 UU60/	250 1C5GT		6/6 67	65/12Z5	35A5	17/6 16/6
AC/VP115/-		6 GT1C	8/6 LV136	10/- P M12/	1 9/-	13142	12/6 (4 Pin) 12/6 UY11	18/6 1D6 15/- 1F5	10/- 6D8G 10/- 6F1	6/6 18/6 74		/6 35E /6 35ZA	17/6 210DG 16/6
AC2HL 10/6		6 GTD4	B10/6 ME41	12/- PM221	0 10/-	SP132	12/6 UY31	15/-1F5G	10/- 6F5G	9/-17/		/- 35Z5	17/6 210LF 16/6
AC/2PEN	DDT13 10	6 GTD4	C 10/6 ME91	12/- PM24/	A 10/-	SP141	12/6 V914	12/-116	10/- 6F6G	7/- 71		ú. 36	8/- 210VPA
17/6			22/- MH4	7/6 PM243	4 10/-	SP210	12/6 VL363	111/-[117	10/- 6F7	71- 70		7/- 39/44 7/- 40	11/- 2158G 16/6
AC3 10/8 AC4 10/6		- GZ32	10/-MH41	8/6 PM25			12/6 V M341	3 12/6 106GI		9/- 70		7/- 40	11/- 220HPT
AC5/PEN	DL63 16		12/6 MH41	14/6 PM202	10/-	SP220	12/6 V04	12/6 1LA6	12/- 6F8G	9/- 71	D3 1	/- 408UA	14/-/ 18/8
10/6	DL72 12		12/6 MH410	14/0 PM220	910/-	3F1020	12/0 VP2 12/6 VP2B	10/-1LB4 10/-1LC6	10/- 6F11	16/- 71	D7 1	/- 41 /- 41E	12/- 220PT 16/6
AC5/PEN-	DL82 12	6 H63	12/6	10/8 PP3/2	50 8/-	35210	12/6 VP4	12/B 1LD5	10/- 6F12 4/- 6F13	11/- 71	27 11	/- 41MDO	19/ 2201 18/6
DD 12/6			0 12/6 MHL4	M 6/- PP4	9/-	ST11	12/6 VP4A	18/6 1LE3	9/- 6F14	12/- 7	7 11	/- 41MHF	12/ 230PT 10/0
AG8 10/6 AGX2270			10/6 MKT4				10/6 VP4	105	9/- 6F15	141- 70	27 11	/- 41MHL	12/-1004 10/0
10/6	DC20 10 DC25 10	6 HP410	10/8 MKT4	14/6 PP13A		SU2150	10/6 (5 Pin)	10/6 184	9/- 6F32	10/- 71	4 0	6 41MLF	1241" 05 437 010
AL1 8/6	DS 8			PP35 14/6 PP352	9/- 19/-	SU2150	A VP13A 10/6 VP22	12/61W4 8/61W4/3	9/- 608	5/- 84 5/- 81	<u>n</u> 6	6 41MP	12/- HOULDENA
APP4A 8/6	DW2 12		10/6 ML4	7/6 PT-10		T4D	10/6 VP23	5/6	50 6G6G 14/6 6H6	5/- 81 3/- 94		/- 41MPG /- 41MPT	19/_ 18/6
APP4B 17/6	DW4/500	HP413	15 ML6	7/8 PT230		T31	10/6 VP41	5/-1W4/5	6H6GT	3/- 91		- 41MRO	10/_ 402P
APV4 8/6 ABP88 5/6	EAB1 9		10/6 MPT42	18/- (4 Pin)	6/-	T40	10/6 VP102	10/6	14/8 60H7		D1 11	- 41MTL	12/- (/ PID) 18/6
ABTH2 5/6	EB4 9		15/- MS/PE 0 15/- (5 Pin)	N PT230	9/-	TDD2A	12/6 VPTA	10/62A3	8/6 6J5		F14 11	6 41MTS	14/- 14/177 0/0
AS4120 12/6	EB34 1	6 HL23	15/-(MS/PE	N PV30	8/-	TDD13	12/6 VPT4 12/3 VR19	10/6 2A5 9/- 2D4A	8/6 6J5GT 8/6 6J7		P14 18	/- 41MXP /- 41STH	12/
ATH43 10/6	EBC3 18	6 HL41	18/- (7 Pin)			THISC	12/6 VR53	7/6 2D4B	8/0 6J8			/- 4131H	11/ 000 8/0
ATP4 5/-	EBC33 5		DD MS/PE	N-4 PY32	14/-	TH21C	12/6 VR55	8/6 2013	8/6 6J8G		AH7 7		EN 615-3T 8/6
AW2 5/-	EBC81 8 EBF11 9		18/- (7 Pin)		18/-	TH30C	12/6 VR56	8/6 2D13A	8/6 6J86		AM76G	T	17/8 774 8/6
AW3 5/- AW6 5/-	EBF11 9 EBL21 18		18/-	N B PEN4			12/6 V R75	8/6 2D13C	12/6 6K.6	8/-	12	- 42MPT	11/- 807 7/6
AZ1 18/7	EC31 5			18/6 PEN4		TP22 TP23	12/6 VR91 12/6 VR92	8/6 2-P 8/6 2X2	22/- 6K7			1- 42/OT	17/6 832 8/6 879 8/6
AZ2 18/7	EC50 6	- HL133				TP26	12/6 VR116	8/8/2X2/87	4/6 6K7G 9 6K8G	4/- 12		/- 420TDI	11/- 884 8/6
AZ11 18/7	EC52 5/		21/-(MSP4	PEN20	5 15/-	TP1340	12/6 VR135	8/6	9/6 6K25		J5GT 4	6 428PT	11/- 956 8/-
AZ31 9/6	EC53 5		20 21/- (7 Pin)	10/6 PEN36	IC	TP2620	12/6 VR136	8/6 3D6	5/- 6L5G	18/6 12	J7 9	/- 43	9/6 1130 8/6
AZ50 12/6 B21 15/-	EC54 5/ EC90 13		18/- MU1	8/-	23/-	TSE4	12/6 VR137	8/6 3L36	8/- 6L7	6/6 12		<i>j_</i>]44	9/6 1701 8/6 1881 8/6
B36 15/-	EOC31 5		A 7/- MU14 0 18/6 N14	8/- PEN40 18/6		TSP4 TT4	12/6 VR505 12/6 VR105	8/6 4D1 30 4THA	8/- 61.7G		K8 11	/- 44SU	10/* 10050 0/8
B63 7/6	EOC32 5		8/6 N16	18/6 PEN44		TTIL	12/6	8/6 4TP	12/- 6L18 12/- 6L19			6 45	10/- 0051 9/8
BR201 10/-	ECC33 8	6 K30G	8/6 N17	18/6 PEN45	18/-	TT12	12/6 VT'25	6/-4TPB	12/- 6LD20	14/- 12		- 40 - 47E	10/- 2101 8/6
BR1050-50	ECH3 18		8/6 N41	17/6 PEN46	18/-	U16	9/6 VT61	6/- 4TSA	12/- 6N1		SG7 6	6 47MG	10/- 2151 8/6
10/- BU200 10/-	ECH34 5		9/6 N 108	18/6 PEN22		U17	9/6 VT100	6/- 4TSP	12/- 6N7	7/- 12	8J7 7,	6 50A5	11/- 2220TH
BU200 10/- C1 12/6	ECH35 5 EE50 4		12/6 N145 12/6 NR54	18/6 18/6 PEN42	22/-	U19	25/- VT105	6/- 5B/25/1			sK7 5	/- 558	11/- 18/6
Č10 12/G	EF5 5		12/6 054B	7/- PEN45		U21 U23	8/- VT109 8/- VT119	6/- 6/- 5U4G	16/- 6N7M 6/- 6P1	7/- 12		- 56	11/- 4066A 17/6
CSPENDD	EF6 10	- KBC32	2 10/6 OA4	6/-	22/-		12/6 VT136	6/- 5Y3	6/- 6P25	12/- 12: 11/6 12:		/- 57 /- 61	11/- 4687 10/6 11/- 4687A 10/6
18/6	EF8 16	6 KB/Z	10/6 0C3	9/- PENA	4 17/6	U31	9/6 VT202	6/- 573	10/6 5P26	17/6 12	357 8	- 61BT	11/- 6153H/05
C10B 8/6 C20C 8/6	EF9 13/) 10/6 OD3	8/-PEND	D	U33	18/6 VT203	6/- 5Z4	9/- 6P28	18/6 12:	7.3 8	6 61SPT	11/- 12/6
C20C 8/6 C23B 8/6	EF11 18/ EF37A 11		7/6 OM1 10/6 OZ4	9/-1360 (7	Pin)		18/6 VU39	6/- #A3	10/6 6Q7G	6/6 13	SPA 12	- 62BT	11/- 7193 8/8
C36A 12/6	EF39 6/		10/6 P2	9/- 7/- PEND	22/-	U47 U50	9/-(VU111 6/6(W21	6/-6A4	10/6 6RY	9/- 13		- 638PT	9/- 7475 8/6
CBL1 21/-	EF50 5		5/- P2	4020		U52	6/6 (4 Pin)	6A6 9/- 6A6G	10/6 6 R7G 10/6 6 SA7	9/- 14 8/- 14		- 70LY	8/- 8012 12/6 8/- 9002 12/6
CIA 21/-	EF51 5	- KT24	10/+(4 Pin)	7/- PT4	17/6	Ŭ74	8/+ W21	6A7	10/- 68C7	7/- 14	N5 12	6 75	8/- Barreters
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CV1092 5/6 CV1 16/6		6 KT33	10/- P220A	9/- QP22B	6/-		12/-(W61	12/+ 6AB5	8/6 68FY	11/- 15	D2 8	6 77	8/- 14/(
CT10 16/6		6 KT33C - KT35	2 10/- P240 18/6 P22A	9/- QP25 7/- QP230	12/6	U84	15/- WD40	12/-6AB7	8/6 6867	8/- 119	8,	6 78	3/- 1904-
			-Nearly e	71-1Q1 230	12/0	0201	15/-WT40	10/-'6AC7	3/- 68H7	8/-119		6 79	8/- Philips 14/-
			-icarity 6.	tory rabe		OCK al	DALER WILL	orices.	Write, cal	u or P	none (or your	needs.

F.M. TUNER HEAD



A permeability tuned tuner head by a famous maker, supplied without valve (ECC85) 18/6 plus 1/9 P. & P. Valve 8/6 extra.

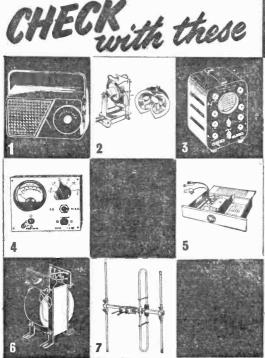
SPECIAL OFFER MIDGET 2 GANG CONDENSERS

Polystrene cased, with built-in trimmers. Size I x I x $\frac{1}{4F}$ ins. Not used, but removed from printed circuit boards.

UNBEATABLE VALUE 9/- P.& P. 2 for only I/- PUSH-BUTTON TRANSISTOR SWITCH A 3 push-button switch, specially designed for transistor radios. Button functions provided are on-off, iong and medium wave. The back of switch is also equipped with a rack for mounting a Ferrite Aerial. Easily worth 15¹-, OUR PRICE ONLY P. & P. 1/-, 516

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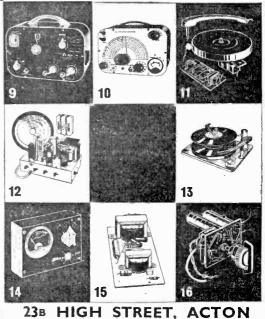


- SIGNAL GENERATORS. Cash \$4,19,6, P. & P. 5/6. Coverage 120 kc/s to 84 Mc/s. Case 10 x 6⁴ x 4⁴₂in. Bize of acate 6⁴ x 3⁴₂in. 2 valves and rectifier. A.C. mains 230-250 v. Internal modulation of 400 c.p.s. to a depth of 30 per cent, modulated or unmodulated R.F. output continuously variable 100 millivoits. C.W. and mout. switch variable A.F. output and moving coll output meter. Accuracy \pm 2 per cent. 10. SIGNAL GENERATORS.
- BATTERY RECORD PLAYER AND AMPLIFIER. 45 r.p.m. motor "Acos" crystal pick-up, 3 transistor push-pull amplifier c with transistors. Output 500 milliwatts, 496, P. & P. 4/-. "Star complete
- 13. S-watt PUSH-PULL 5 VALVE AMPLIFIER, A.C. mains 200-250 γ. Bize 104 x 64 x 24 in. 5 valves. For use with all makes and type or pock-up, and mike. Negative feed back. Two inputs, make and erain, and control-for same. Separate controls for Base and Treole litt. Response flat troit 40 cycles to 15 kc/s. ± 2 db, 4 db down to 20 kc/s. Outruit 8 warks at 5 per cent total distortion. Noise level 40 dt down all hum. Output transformer tapped for 3 and 15 ohms speech colls. For use with 84 ot 1. LP, records musical instruments such as guitars, etc. Suitable for small hals, 23,19.6, P. & P. 61. Crystal mike to suit 15/-, P. & P. 2/-, Sin. P.M. Speaker to suit 12/8, P. & P. 2/-.
- 13. B.S.R. MONARCH UAS WITH FUL-FI HEAD. 4-speed, plays 10 records, 12fin., 10in., or 7in. at 16, 33. 45 or 78 r.p.u. Intermixes 7in., 10in. and 12fb. records of the same speed. Hase manual play position: colour, brown. Dimensions: 124 x 102in. Space required above baseboard 44in. Letwo baseboard 24in. Fitted with Full-Fit furnover crystal head, 86 19.6, P. & P. 50. With Stereo Head £7,19.6. P. & P. 5/6.
- TRANSISTOR TESTER, Por both P.N.P. and N.P.N. transistors incorpora-ting moving coli meter. In metal case, size 41 x 37 x 14in. Scale marked in gain and leakage. 1967, P. & P. Sr.
- 15. PUSH-PULL OUTPUT STAGE inclusive of transistors with input and output transformers to match 3 ohms speech coll, suitable for use with the POCKET RADIO. Kit of parts, including transistors, 19/6, P. & P. 2/-. Wiring diagram 1/6, free with parts.
- PORTABLE AMPLIFIER. On printed circuit for A.C. Mains 200/250 v. Bize 4 x 3in. with tone and volume control. Complete with Valree ECLS2 and ErS0. Output 2 watts. 3966, P. & P. 3/-.





- 3-TRANSISTOR POCKET RADIO with MINIATURE SPEAKER, FERRITE ROD, and 2 GERMANIUM DIODES. The only 3 transistor radio available al the price. Build it in 1 evening! Tunable over M/L waves. Complete with
- ROD, and 2 GENMARIUM DIODES. The only 3 transitor radio available at the price. Build the is I evening I mathe over ML waves. Complete with easy-to-lolow instructions and all components (less batteries obtainable apy-to-lolow instructions and all components (less batteries obtainable separately.)
 LINE E.H.T. TRANSFORAERS. Built-in line width control likely. Ream colition of easy to be an easy to be an
- with marts.
 5. CHANNEL TUNER, Will tune to all Band I and Band I II stations. Complete with P.C.C.84 and P.C.F.80 valves (in series) I.F. 16-19 or 33-38. Can be modified as an acriar converter (instructions supplied). 32/6, plus 4/- P. & P. IEATER TRANSFORMER to smit above, 20/-250 v. 36. plus 2/- P. & P.
 6. MAINS TRANSFORMERS All with tapped primaries, 250-500 v. 70 mA
 6.3 v. 2 anup. 10:6, P. & P. 3.-280-0-280v. 70 mA 6.3v. 2.4, 6.3v. 1A 10/6. P. & P. 3.-280-0-280 120mA 6.3v. 2.4, 6.3v. 1A 10/6. P. & P. 3.-280-0-280v 120mA 6.3v. 2.4, 6.3v. 1A 10/6. P. & P. 34-280-0-280 120mA 6.3v. 2.4, 6.3v. 54.
- å 4/
- P. & P. 4/-. P. & P. 4/-. P. SIGNAL GENERATORS. Cash £8,19.8 or 25/- deposit and 6 monthly payments of 21/6, P. & P. 5/6. Coverage 100 kc/s to 100 Mc/s on funda-mentals and 100 Mc/s to 200 Mc/s on harmonics. Case 10 x 64 x 54/n. Three minsture valves and Metal Rectifier. A.C. mans 200/250 v. Inter-nal modulation of 400 c.p.s. to a depth of 30 per cent. Modulated or unmodulated R.F. output continuously variable 100 millivolts. C.W. and mod. switch, variable A.F. output. Magic eye as output indicator. Accuracy + 2 per cell.



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	I STREAT	-					
		cial 24 Hour					
AC2PEN21/- ECC91 AC2PEN ECF80 DD 21/- ECF80 DD 21/- ECF80 ACTP1 32/- ECF81 ACYP1 15/- ECF82 ACY1 15/- ECH31 AZ1 15/- ECH32 AZ1 15/- ECH31 CL1 ZL/- ECH31 CL2 I/- ECL31 CL3 18/6 ECL82 CY1 15/- EC66 D77 4/- EF90 DAC32 7/6 EF32 DAF96 8/9 EF37 DCC90 14/6 EF37A DF91 4/- EF40 DF92 7/- EF41 DF93 10/- EF37 DC90 11/6 EF85 DH73 11/6 EF85 DK94 8/6 EF91 DL33 8/6 EF91 DL33 <t< td=""><td>$\begin{array}{cccccc} 4^{47}, & EZ35 & 6^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ40 & 7^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ41 & 7^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ41 & 7^{4}, \\ 2^{17}, & EZ80 & 7^{4}, \\ 2^{17}, & EZ80 & 7^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & EZ20 & 7^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC2 & 21^{1}, \\ 8^{16}, & FC2 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC32 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & GZ30 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & GZ31 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & HABC80 & 10^{1}, \\ 10^{17}, & HABC80 & 10^{1}, \\ 10^{16}, & KT33 & 8^{1}, \\ 10^{16}, & KT33 & 17^{16}, \\ 4^{17}, & KT61 & 9^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & KT88 & 21^{1}, \\ 11^{17}, & K788 & 11^{17}, \\ 4^{16}, & KT88 & 11^{17}, \\ 4^{16}, & MS4B & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & MIS4B & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & MI38 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{17}, & MI38 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{16}$</td><td>PCF80 9/6 PCF82 7/. PCF84 16/. PCF82 7/. PCF84 16/. PCL83 12/6 PCL83 12/6 PCL83 12/6 PCL83 12/6 PCL83 12/6 PCL83 12/6 PEN44 17/6 PEN44 17/6 PEN45 17/6 PEN45 10/. PEN45 10/. PEN</td><td>U12 9'- U14 9'- U14 9'- U22 8'- U24 21'- U25 12'6 10'- U31 9'- U35 17'6 U43 8'6 U43 8'6 U43 10'- U47 12'6 10'- U45 10'- U46 10'- U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U339 15'- U404 10'- U404 10'- U480 29'- U801 29'- U589 10'- U589 10'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U580 11'- U</td><td>UY85 7/- VMS4B 12/6 VP4 15/- V10530 7/- VU39 9/- VU110 2/6 W76 5/- W77 4/- W81 6/- W81 6/- W81 6/- W81 8/- X61 12/6 X76 12/6 X77 12/- X61 12/6 X78 11/- X78 21/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X79 21/- X79 21/- X78 12/-</td><td>SZ4GT 12/6 6A7 9/- 6×A8G 8/6 6A8GT 13/6 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 7/-6 6AA7 5/- 6AA8 7/6 6AA5 5/- 6AA7 6/- 6A028 9/3 6A76 6/- 6B86 3/- 6B86 6/- 6B86 6/- 6B86 6/- 6B87 12/6 6B87 12/6 6B87 12/6 6BW7 12/6 6C4 6/- 6C53GT 8/- 6C54 10/- 6C9 12/6 6C4 6/- 6C53GT 12/6 6C74 3/6 6C74 3/6 6C74 12/6 6C75 12</td><td>6LD20 14/- 6P25 10/6 66725 10/6 66728 6273 17/6 6377 7/- 65817 6/- 6537 7/- 6547 7/- 6547 6/- 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 7/6 6537 7/6 6537 7/6 60367 7/6 6037 7/6 604367 10/- 6045 4/6 6045 4/6 605302 10/- 703 12/6 705 15/- 705 15/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 708 15/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 <t< td=""><td>12C8 8/6 12J5GT 4/- 12J7GT 8/6 12J7GT 7- 12X8GT 10- 12X8GT 10- 12SA7 8/6 12SA7 8/6 20P1 25/- 20P1 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 30C1 9/6 30L15 11/6 30P4 21/- 30P12 10/- 30P13 12/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 37Z74 7/6 37Z74</td></t<></td></t<>	$\begin{array}{cccccc} 4^{47}, & EZ35 & 6^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ40 & 7^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ41 & 7^{4}, \\ 8^{46}, & EZ41 & 7^{4}, \\ 2^{17}, & EZ80 & 7^{4}, \\ 2^{17}, & EZ80 & 7^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & EZ20 & 7^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC2 & 21^{1}, \\ 8^{16}, & FC2 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC13 & 21^{1}, \\ 9^{16}, & FC32 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & GZ30 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & GZ31 & 10^{16} \\ 4^{17}, & HABC80 & 10^{1}, \\ 10^{17}, & HABC80 & 10^{1}, \\ 10^{16}, & KT33 & 8^{1}, \\ 10^{16}, & KT33 & 17^{16}, \\ 4^{17}, & KT61 & 9^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & KT88 & 21^{1}, \\ 11^{17}, & K788 & 11^{17}, \\ 4^{16}, & KT88 & 11^{17}, \\ 4^{16}, & MS4B & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & MIS4B & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{17}, & MI38 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{17}, & MI38 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{14}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{16}, \\ 10^{16}, & N138 & 17^{16}$	PCF80 9/6 PCF82 7/. 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PEN	U12 9'- U14 9'- U14 9'- U22 8'- U24 21'- U25 12'6 10'- U31 9'- U35 17'6 U43 8'6 U43 8'6 U43 10'- U47 12'6 10'- U45 10'- U46 10'- U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U329 12'6 U339 15'- U404 10'- U404 10'- U480 29'- U801 29'- U589 10'- U589 10'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U589 11'- U580 11'- U	UY85 7/- VMS4B 12/6 VP4 15/- V10530 7/- VU39 9/- VU110 2/6 W76 5/- W77 4/- W81 6/- W81 6/- W81 6/- W81 8/- X61 12/6 X76 12/6 X77 12/- X61 12/6 X78 11/- X78 21/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X78 12/- X79 21/- X79 21/- X78 12/-	SZ4GT 12/6 6A7 9/- 6×A8G 8/6 6A8GT 13/6 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 9/- 6AA8 7/-6 6AA7 5/- 6AA8 7/6 6AA5 5/- 6AA7 6/- 6A028 9/3 6A76 6/- 6B86 3/- 6B86 6/- 6B86 6/- 6B86 6/- 6B87 12/6 6B87 12/6 6B87 12/6 6BW7 12/6 6C4 6/- 6C53GT 8/- 6C54 10/- 6C9 12/6 6C4 6/- 6C53GT 12/6 6C74 3/6 6C74 3/6 6C74 12/6 6C75 12	6LD20 14/- 6P25 10/6 66725 10/6 66728 6273 17/6 6377 7/- 65817 6/- 6537 7/- 6547 7/- 6547 6/- 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 6/6 6537 7/6 6537 7/6 6537 7/6 60367 7/6 6037 7/6 604367 10/- 6045 4/6 6045 4/6 605302 10/- 703 12/6 705 15/- 705 15/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 708 15/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 10/- 707 <t< td=""><td>12C8 8/6 12J5GT 4/- 12J7GT 8/6 12J7GT 7- 12X8GT 10- 12X8GT 10- 12SA7 8/6 12SA7 8/6 20P1 25/- 20P1 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 30C1 9/6 30L15 11/6 30P4 21/- 30P12 10/- 30P13 12/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 37Z74 7/6 37Z74</td></t<>	12C8 8/6 12J5GT 4/- 12J7GT 8/6 12J7GT 7- 12X8GT 10- 12X8GT 10- 12SA7 8/6 12SA7 8/6 20P1 25/- 20P1 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 20P3 25/- 20P4 22/- 20P3 25/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z6 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 25Z5 8/- 30C1 9/6 30L15 11/6 30P4 21/- 30P12 10/- 30P13 12/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z5 8/6 35Z4 7/6 35Z4 7/6 37Z74

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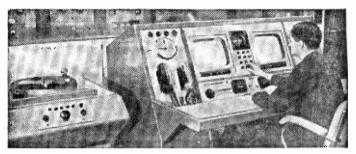
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LOUDSPEAKER P.M. 3 OHM. 24, 3, 4in. 19/6. 5in. Rola, 17/6; 8in. Plessey, 18/6; 7in. x 4in. Rola, 18/-; 6jin. Rola, 18/6; 10 x 6jin. 27/6; 10 in. Rola, 30/-; 4in. Tweeter, 25/-; 12in. R.A. 30/-; 13j x 8in 45/-STENTORIAN HF1012. 10in. 3-15 ohms, 10 w., 95/-. BAKER SELHURST LOUDSPEAKERS

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PYE SIEREOFHOMU PLAYER Complete with Garrard TA MKII Stereo unit and self contained quality stereo ampilder, size 14['] wide x 17' deep x 8['] high. Brand new in maker's box with full instructions and guar-antee. OUR PRICE £12.10. Carriage and Insurance, 10'. Suitable for use with any two 3 ohm loudsneakers.

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TWIN GANG TUNING CONDENSERS. 365 pF, minature lin. x 1 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ n. 10'-. 500pF Standard with trimmers. 9/-: midget. 7/8; with trimmers. 9/-SMALL 3 gang 500 pF, 17/-. SINGLE 25 pF, 50 pF, 75 pF, 100 pF, 160 pF, 5/8. Solid dielectric 100, 300, 500 pF, 3/8.

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465 kc/s SIGNAL GENERATOR Total cost 15/-. Uses B.F.O. Unit. ZA 30038 ready made. POCKET SIZE 21 x 41 x 11n, Slight modifications required, full instructions supplied. Battery 7/6 extra 69V+14V. Details SAF S.A.F.

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Tunable channels It o S. Gain 18db. ECC64 valve. Kit price 29/6 or 49/6 viltb power pack. Details 6d. (PCC84 valves if preferred. BAND III I.T. A.—Same prices. Tunable channels 8 to 13. Gain 17d3. Paxolin Panels, 10 x 81n 1/6. Miniature Contact Cooled Rectifiers. Setenium Contact Cooled Rectifiers. Setenium Rect. 3007 85mA. 776. Coils Wearite "P" type. 3/. each. Osmor Midget "Q" type. adj. dust core. from 4/- each. All ranges. Territe Roid Aerials, L. and Med. T.R.F. Coils. A/HF, 7/- pair; HAX. 3/-, Ferrite Roid Aerials, L. and Med. T.R.F. Coils. A/HF, 7/- pair; HAX. 3/-, Repanco DRR2. 4/-, DRX2. 12/6. Minimium Contasti, 10/6 ach. Ferrite Roid Aerials, L. and Med. State in the subscience of the subscince of the subscienc		465 kc/s slug tuning miniature can If x i x in. High Q and good band	<pre> t x ½ x ½in., 10/ Type D240 8.5 : 1 Driver Transformer. t x ½ x ½in., 10/ </pre>
 With power pack. Divergence difference of the profession of the profession	BAND 1 B.B.C.	width. Data sheet supplied.	ARDENTE TRANSISTOR
Paxolin Panels, 10 x 8in. 1/6. Miniature Contact Cooled Rectifiers. 250V 50mA. 7/6: 250V 60mA. 7/6: 250V SomA. 7/6: 250V 60mA. 7/6: 250V Setenium Rect. 300V 85mA. 7/6. Colis Wearte "P' type, 3/- aeah. Osmor Midget: "Q' type, adj. dust core, from 4/- each. All ranges. Teletron D.W.R. L. and Med. T.R.F. with reaction. 3/6. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each.WEYRAD Colis Wearter "P' type, 3/- aeah. Comor Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid. 8 x in. 2/6. H.F. Chokes. 2/6. Osmor QCI. 6/9. T.R.F. Colis. A/HF, 7/- pair: HAX. 3/-, Reparco DRR2 4/-, DRX1 2/8. Medium and iong ware. Powerful 7 x 4in. dis 5 x 7in. 5/9; 11 x 7in. 6/9; 13 x 9in. adie 5 x 7in. 16/6. H. 10/6; 15 x 10., 16/6. Mutrilium Panels, 18 s. w.g., 12 x 12in. 4/6; 14 x 9in. 4/-; 12 x 8in. 3/-; 10 x 7in., 2/8, 8 x 6in. 2/WEYRAD Colls Coll 2/- Colls Social action Coll 2/- Colls Social action Coll 2/- Colls Social action Coll 2/- Colls Social action Colls Social	with power pack. Details 60. (PCC84 valves if preferred.)	"oc"	Type VCI545, 5K with switch, dia, 0.9in., 8/- Type VCI760, 5K with switch, dia, 0.7in., 10/6
Miniature Contact Cooled Rectifiers, Story 60mA, 7/6.Kit PANCE Contact Cooled Rectifiers, Solenium Rect. 300V 85mA, 7/6.Kit PANCE Selenium Rect. 300V 85mA, 7/6.Schenium Rect. 300V 85mA, 7/6. <td>· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</td> <td></td> <td>WEYRAD</td>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		WEYRAD
 Setenium Reet. 300V 85mA. 7/6. Colis Wearte "P" type. 3/- aach. Osmor Midget: "Q" type. add. dust core, from 4/- each. All ranges. Teletron D.W.R. L. and Med. T.R.F. with reaction. 3/6. Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. L., 12/6. Osmor Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roid. As it in. 2/6. Dismor Midget. Transformers—P50/3CC, to feed dide detector, 6/ Driver Transformers—P50/3CC, to feed dide	Viniature Contact Cooled Rectifier 50V 50mA, 7/6: 250V 60mA, 8/6: 25	s. ₩ £6.6.0,	
Osmor Ferrite Rod Aerials. L. and Med. T.R.F. with reaction. 3/6. Ferrite Rod Aerials. M.W., 8/9; M. and L., 12/6. Osmor Ferrite Rod Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10'- each. Ferrite Rods. 8 z it. n. 2/6. Mir. Chokes. 2/6. Osmor QCI. 6/9. T.R.F. Coliks. A/HE, 7/- pair: HAX. 3/-, Repanco DRR2. 4/-, DRX1. 2/8. Aluminium Chassis, 18 s.w.g. Plain. dif: 9 x 7in. 5/9; 11 x 7in. 6/9; 13 x 9in. 8/6; 14 x 1in., 10/6; 15 x 14in., 12/8. Mathematic add biology and bi	Selenium Rect. 300V 85mA, 7/6.	Carr. 4/-	Long and Medium Wave Aerial-RA2W. On 6in. rod, 7/16in. diameter, 208pF
 With Feartie Roid Aerials. M.W., 8/9; M. and L., 12/8. Osmor Ferrite Roid Aerials. L. and M. for transistor circuits. 10/- each. Ferrite Roids, 3 x : in. 2/8. I.F. Chokes. 2/6. Osmor QC1, 6/9. T.R.F. Coils. A/HF, 7/- pair: HAX. 3/- Repanco DR2, 4/-, DRX1, 2/6. Aluminium Chassis, 18 s.w.g. Plain, undrilled. 4 sides. riveted corners. lattice king holes. 2/1n. 6(9; 13 x 8/1n. 4/8; 9 x 7/1n. 5/9; 11 x 7/1n. 6(9; 13 x 8/1n. 4/8; 9 x 7/1n. 5/9; 11 x 7/1n. 6(9; 13 x 8/1n. 4/8; 14 x 11m. 10/6; 15 x 14/1n. 12/8 W.B. Batteries used B126 (L55/9) and AD35 (L56/9) and AD35 (L56/9). Sub-miniature Feletrolytics (15V Ling Ar. 10/6; 15 x 14/1n. 12/8 W.B. Batteries used B126 (L55/9) and AD35 (L56/9). Sub-miniature Feletrolytics (15V Ling Ar. 10/8; 14 x 9/1n. 3/-; 10 x 7/1n 2/3; 8 x 6/1n. 2/- 	rom 4/- each. All ranges.		Uscillator Coil P50/1AC. Medium wave.
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P and P charge 1/- over \$3 post free. C.O.D. 2/-, (Export welcome. Send remittance)		C.O.D. 21-, (Export welcome. Send remittance	ALL PARTS, PRINTED CIRCUIT AND CARINET, OSMOR DE-
and extra postage).			



Practical Wireless

Vol. XXXVII No. 661 MARCH. 1962.

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MORE BLUEPRINTS

REE with every copy of our April issue will be the latest PRACTICAL WIRELESS blueprint. However, this free blueprint-value 5s.-will differ from those we have recently given away; it will be printed on both sides. In other words. there are two complete designs on the blueprint. More free blueprints will be given away with the May and June issues thus giving a total of 6 PRACTICAL WIRELESS designs of free blueprints.

This series of blueprints has been arranged to cater both for the advanced constructor and for the comparative beginner; the sixth design needs more skill and experience than the first. However, the April blueprint has Design No. 1 on one side and Design No. 4 on the other. This will mean, of course, that the beginner will be able to build No. 1 while the more experienced will be interested in No. 4.

THE APRIL BLUEPRINT

Design No. 1 is a two-valve battery-operated receiver covering short waves-the P.W. International short wave two. The nature of short waves is such that reception is possible from The prototype sets have received many foreign countries: transmissions from Moscow, Sofia, Ankara and many other places. The circuit of the set is designed to facilitate construction by the novice. The text of the article will be comprehensive and give additional information on how to obtain the best results.

Design No. 4-the P.W. Regency-is a 4-transistor portable receiver covering medium and long waves. It is sufficiently sensitive to give reception of several Continental stations and it has its own internal ferrite rod aerial. The expense of construction has been kept to a minimum for the results to be expected.

THE MAY BLUEPRINT

This will feature a two-valve mains-operated receiver using comparatively few components to give coverage of medium and long waves and include provision for playing gramophone records (to enable the unit to form the basis of an inexpensive radiogram). This set will be design No. 2.

The second side of this blueprint will deal with a 6-transistor superhet battery-operated receiver covering medium and long waves-design No. 5. A readily available plastic cabinet is used and the receiver is very sensitive and selective and will compare favourably in performance with many of the commercially available sets.

THE JUNE BLUEPRINT

We shall not release full details of designs numbers 3 and 6 until next month since the date of publication lies so far ahead. However, we can mention that this blueprint will feature a sensitive, switch-tuned mains-operated VHF/F.M. receiverusing a crystal controlled oscillator circuit.

Order your copies of the April, May and June issues now---if you delay, you may miss this series of blueprints.

Our next issue dated April, will be published on March 7th.

March, 1962

Round the World of Wireless

POTENTIAL AND CURRENT NEWS

Broadcast Receiving Licences

THE following statement shows the approximate number of Broadcast Receiving Licences in force at the end of November. 1961, in respect of wireless receiving stations situated within the various Postal Regions of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The numbers include Licences issued to blind persons without payment.

Region			2	ota
London	••			672.45
Home Counties	• •		••	626,26
Midland	• •	••	* *	458,27
North Western	••		••	487.79
South Western	••	••	••	421,62 368,43,
Wales and Border C	ounti	es	••	216,72
Total England and	Wales	5		3.251.580
Scotland	••	••	••	354,125
Northern Ireland	••	**	••	113,371
Grand Total	••			3,719,076

Two 300MW Turbine-Generators for Canada

THE contract for two 300MW steam turbine-generator sets for Lakeview Power Station on the shore of Lake Ontario, near Toronto, Canada, has been awarded to Associated Electrical Industries Limited. The order has been placed by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. This is the second order for 300MW turbine-generators to be received by AEI for Lakeview; the first order, which was for sets of similar design, was announced in March 1960.

Certain major items of the turbine-generators will be manufactured in Canada principally by the Canadian General Electric Company, to AEI designs.

Nigerian Firm to Manufacture Radio and TV Receivers

A NIGERIAN firm – Nigerian Electronics, Ltd., of Lagos– will manufacture radio and television receivers under a licence and technical assistance agreement announced recently by Westinghouse Electric International Company of the U.S.A. It will be the first full-scale electronics manufacturing operation in West Africa.

Ownership of the company is shared by the Western Regional



Guglielmo Marconi in the room in the old Barrack Hospitai, on Signai Hill, St. John's, Newfoundland, where he was successful in detecting Morse signals from Poldhu in Cornwall, 2,200 miles away.

Government of Nigeria, a group of Nigerian nationals, and Ad. Auriema, Inc., of New York City, exclusive U.S. representatives. Plant personnel is drawn entirely from West Africa.

The licence covers all Westinghouse models of home radio receivers as well as black and white television receivers.

First product of the firm's newly-built factory at Apapa, a suburb of Lagos. will be a threeband, transistor portable shortwave radio receiver. The unit is similar to a model manufactured by the Westinghouse plant at Metuchen, New Jersey, in the U.S.A.

Radio Links in Australia

THE General Electric Company Limited is to provide radio equipment for two SHF radio relay systems for the Australian Post Office, one between Sydney and Orange and the other between Brisbane and Mount Matheson.

The Sydney-Orange link will be equipped to provide a two-way telephony system and a one-way television link. One channel in each direction will be used as a standby (protection) channel and will be switched into service should a working channel fail or become degraded.

The Brisbane-Mount Matheson system will provide a duplicate (main and standby) one-way television link.

Each radio frequency channel operates in the 6000Mc/s frequency band and is capable of carrying 960 speech channels or a television programme.

Equipment will be supplied for five repeater stations, two between Brisbane and Mount Matheson and three between Sydney and Orange.

The equipment will be manufactured at the Company's Telephone Works in Coventry.

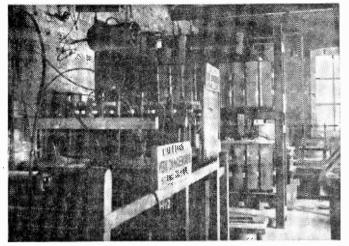
Dorset Radio Link Transmitter

A FTER two and a half years' service on an unattended site at Eggardon Hill, Dorset, a microwave radio link transmitter has been returned by the British Broadcasting Corporation to the manufacturers, EMI Electronics Ltd., for conversion to a different frequency.

The original klystrons were still in good order after 20,000 hours continuous running.

This link is part of a chain between Southampton, Rowridge (Isle of Wight) and North Hessory Tor (Plymouth) which relays BBC television programmes to and from the West of England.

After the radio frequency unit has been converted from 4000 Mc/s to 7000 Mc/s band, the link will go back into service for



Part of the transmitting station built at Poldhu for Marconi's experiments. On the extreme left are the transformers, on the right is the spark gap and the banks of capacitors can be seen in the wooden rack.

the BBC without any major overhaul being necessary.

Marine Radio Station

THE Irish Department of Posts and Telegraphs have placed a contract with Telecommunications Limited, Dublin, one of the Pye Group of companies, for the re-equipping of the marine radio stations at Malin Head in the North and Valentia in the South West extremity of Ireland.

The equipment ordered consists of a number of Pye 1kW medium frequency transmitters equipped for 3-channel operation and remote control.

Minister of Aviation to Open Eleventh Electrical Engineers Exhibition

THE Minister of Aviation, Rt. Hon. Peter Thorneycroft, will open the eleventh Electrical Engineers (A.S.E.E.) Exhibition at 12 noon on Tuesday, 20th March, 1962.

This will be the second time r. Thorneycroft has opened Mr. this important show; the first time was in 1956. Since then the exhibition has doubled in size and has firmly established itself as Britain's largest "shop largest Britain's window " of electrical equipment and draws engineers and buyers from every part of the world.

Each year a special section of the exhibition is devoted to a particular aspect of the electrical industry; in 1962 the feature will be "Electricity in Aviation". In

a display area covering 5,000sq.ft the Royal Air Force and the Ministry of Aviation will be showing a comprehensive range of electrical apparatus, accessories and components used in aircraft and on the ground.

Radar for Swedish Navy

 \mathbf{A}^{N} order for radar display units has been placed with the Electronic Apparatus Division of Associated Electrical Industries Ltd. by the Swedish Navy Board. These units are to operate in conjunction with coastal surveillance radar equipment previously supplied by AEI. They will be made at the AEI factory at Blackbird Road, Leicester.

Valves Ordered for Czechoslovakia THE Electronic Apparatus Division of Associated Electrical Industries Ltd. has received an order for welder-type ignitrons and over-temperature thermostats from Exico Ltd., London, for export to Czechoslovakia. This is nearly half the 1961 quota for electronic and communications equipment for export to Czechoslovakia, fixed at £50.000 which also takes into account cables, radio and television receivers, sound reproducing equipment, valves and components. As far as can be ascertained, the AEI industrial valves will be used mainly in the motor-car industry.

The valves being supplied include the AEI BK34 with a maximum demand rating of 2400kVA and а maximum average anode current of 355A. The types BK34 and BK24 also included in the order have maximum demand ratings of 1200kVA and 600kVA, with maximum average anode currents of 140A and 56A respectively.

Diamond Jubilee of Transatlantic Radio

SIXTY years ago-on the 12th December, 1901-Guglielmo Marconi became the first to send a wireless signal across the Atlantic. This remarkable achievement with such primitive equipment marked the birth of world-wide communication.

During the spring of 1900, Marconi had succeeded in sending reliable signals from St Catherines in the Isle of Wight to The Lizard in Cornwall, a distance of 186 miles. This encouraged his belief that by using larger aerials and far more powerful transmitters he would be able to achieve transatlantic distances. Scientists were highly sceptical, many said it was impossible because of the curvature of the earth.

Marconi determined to make attempt. A transmitting the station nearly one hundred times more powerful than any previously constructed was built at Poldhu, near Mullion, in Cornwall. Enormous aerials were erected at Poldhu and at Cape Cod in Massachusetts, but both were wrecked in severe gales. Another, less ambitious in design, was put up at Poldhu while Marconi and his two assistants sailed to Newfoundland where, from the top of Signal Hill, a receiving aerial was hoisted, at the third attempt, by means of a kite.

At 12.30 p.m. (Newfoundland time) on December 12th, 1901, Marconi and his assistant G. S. Kemp, using one of the primitive receivers of the period with a telephone earpiece heard a faint succession of S's in Morse code. Signals from Poldhu, 2.200 miles away, had crossed the Atlantic.

To commemorate this historic achievement, a Special Exhibition was displayed at the Science Museum, London, from the 13th December to 25th January. Among the many historic exhibits and original photographs, a notable feature was a recording of Marconi's voice telling in his own words of how success was achieved.

1000

March, 1962

transistorised feeder unit

THIS EQUIPMENT MAY BE USED WITH AN AMPLIFIER TO FORM A LOCAL STATION RECEIVER

By R. Murray-Shelley

WHEN used in conjunction with almost any medium or high gain amplifier, this unit will form a very efficient local station radio receiver. There are several advantages of a transistorised circuit over a more conventional valve circuit. In the first place, the use of transistors enables the size of the unit to be reduced; another important point is that the power consumed by the unit is negligible it is conveniently supplied from batteries—and thus no power connections have to be made to the main amplifier as is usually the case. The aerial signal is passed via C11 to the coil which is tuned by the pre-set condensers C1 and C2. Which one of these is used depends upon the station required. An extension of the tuning coil serves as the secondary of a step down transformer, the output of which is taken to the base and emitter of the first transistor. The radio frequency signal is amplified by this component in the normal way, a small portion of it being fed back in the positive sense via the pre-set trimmer C5, which acts as a reaction control. The signal appearing at the collector of the first transistor is demodulated by the two germanium diodes.

The audio output from these is fed back via RFCI to the base of Tr1 transistor which now acts as an audio amplifier. The amplified audio signal is taken from the collector of the transistor, and fed, via RFC2, to the primary of the interstage transformer T1 (ratio 5:1). The secondary of this transformer feeds the base and emitter of the second audio transistor. This tran-

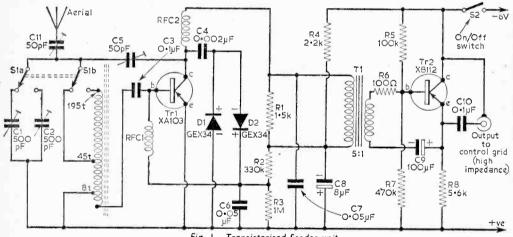


Fig. 1-Transistorised Feeder-unit.

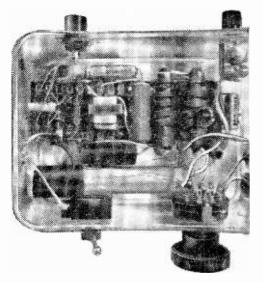
In this circuit, the output impedance is high enough to match into most valve circuits. Another feature of the unit is the provision of pre-set switch tuning, which proves to be very satisfactory in practice.

The Circuit

The feeder uses two transistors together with two germanium diodes. The fact that a radio frequency transistor is capable of functioning equally well at audio frequencies is made use of in this design, the first transistor being "reflexed" to provide additional gain. The effect is almost that of using three transistors. sistor is arranged so that it has a high output impedance, making it suitable for feeding into a valve amplifier having a characteristically high input impedance.

Power Supplies

The tuner requires only 0.7mÅ or less, at a potential of 6V. This is most easily obtained from a battery. Either a 6V battery designed for transistor work, or one made up from four 1.5V cells connected in series, may be used. The possibility of using mercury cells may also be considered. These have an EMF of 1.3V, and five connected in series would be suitable. Mercury cells are obtainable



An underchassis view of the unit.

at reasonable prices from advertisers in "Practical Wireless".

In the prototype, the battery was not housed in the unit, but was connected to it via a polarised

COMPONENTS LIST					
Resistors:					
RI I-5k R5 100k					
R2 330k R6 100 Ω					
R3 IM R7 470k					
R4 2-2k R8 5-6k					
Condensers:					
CI 500pF trimmer					
C2 500pF trimmer					
C3 0.1 µF—low voltage working					
C4 0.002 µF—low voltage working					
C5 50pF trimmer					
C6 0.05 µF—low voltage working					
C7 0.05 µF—low voltage working					
C8 8µF 6VW electrolytic					
C9 $100 \mu\text{F}$ 15VW electrolytic					
CI0 0.1 µF I50VW					
CII 50pF trimmer					
Transistors:					
Tri XAI03 Tr2 XBII2					
Chokes:					
RFCI, RFC2 Radio frequency chokes-not critical-see text					
Diodes:					
Dland D2 Germanium diodes—GEX34					
Switches:					
SI 2-pole, 2-way rotary switch					
S2 Single-pole, single-way switch					
Transformer:					
TI Step down transistor transformer, ratio					
approx 5 : l					
Sundries:					
6V battery—see text					
Plastic container, polarised socket, coaxial					
output socket, 8in. length of 5 in. diameter					
ferrite rod					
*					

socket. The use of such a socket is important to ensure that the battery is always connected with the correct polarity. Should the battery be connected the wrong way round, then there is a very real possibility of destroying the transistors. The battery could, however, be mounted within the case of the feeder. The life of the battery depends, of course, upon how much the equipment is used, but in most instances it will remain serviceable for many months.

Construction

The tuning coil is constructed first. Details of this assembly, together with dimensions are given in Fig. 2. The core of the coil consists of two 4in, lengths of γ_{0}^{s} in, diameter ferrite rod side by side. Ferrite rod is usually supplied in 8in, lengths, and thus it will be necessary to cut the rod to secure the correct sizes. This is most easily accomplished by filing a nick in the rod at the point where it is to be cut, and then snapping it in half at thât point. Care should be taken in this operation, since, although ferrite materials are extremely hard, they are also very brittle. The wire gauge or the type of insulated copper wire used is not critical. The dimensions given refer to a coil made of 34s.w.g. enamelled wire.

Housing

The whole unit is housed in a plastic box. the size of that used in the prototype being $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. **x**

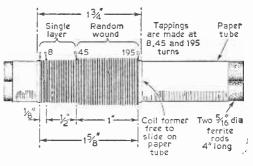


Fig. 2-Details of the tuning coil.

 $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. A metal box is not suitable, since this would screen the ferrite assembly. The switches and the several sockets are mounted on the walls of the box itself. To enable this to be done, it is necessary to make holes in the plastic. Attempts to drill this type of material, using ordinary twist drills, usually end in failure owing to fracture of the plastic. The plastic is, however, easily pierced using a hot soldering iron or other heated metal tool.

Group Board

An eighteen way group board is used to mount the main electronics assembly. The miniature transformer T1 is glued to this board. The groupboard in turn is glued to the plastic box. The wiring is not, in general, particularly critical, though the connections to the tuning coil should be kept as short as possible and care should be taken when soldering the transistor and the diodes —a heat shunt should always be used in soldering

components of this kind. Construction is easier of the wiring of the group board is carried out before this component is mounted in the plastic case.

The output is taken via a coaxial socket, and coaxial or screened cable. The centre connector of the socket should go to C10, and the screen to the negative line. This ensures that the negative line of the feeder is connected to the chassis of the amplifier.

The feeder should on no account be used with an amplifier of the A.C./D.C. variety, which may in some circumstances have a live chassis.

Components

Construction is simplified if miniature components are employed, in that it is easier to accommodate all the components in the fairly limited space available. The resistors need only be rated at $\frac{1}{2}$ W or $\frac{1}{2}$ W, and all the condensers, with the exception of C10 may be of low working voltage.

The radio frequency chokes are not critical, though their inductances should be fairly high. Small chokes such as are used in very high frequency apparatus are not suitable for this application. It is recom-

this application. It is recommended that the specified radio frequency transistor be used. The choice of audio transistor is less critical.

Adjusting the Feeder

The wiring should first be checked thoroughly, and the unit connected to a medium or high gain amplifier. The battery should next be connected, taking great care to see that the polarity is correct. An aerial is then connected to the appropriate terminal. This aerial need only be five or six feet long; indeed, in some areas close to the transmitter, an external aerial may not be necessary, sufficient signal being obtained from the ferrite aerial in the feeder itself.

Condenser Settings

The pre-set trimmer C5, should first be set to a low capacity. and the aerial trimmer, C11, screwed up fairly tight. The coil is slid to one end of the ferrite rods. The unit is now switched on, and S1 is switched to the medium wave position (i.e. 45 turns of the coil are in circuit). The trimmer corresponding to this position (C1 in Fig. 1) is then adjusted in conjunction with the position of the coil on the ferrite rods, until the local Home Service broadcast is heard at maximum strength. C5 and C11 are then adjusted for best reception. C5 should be adjusted to a position so that the unit

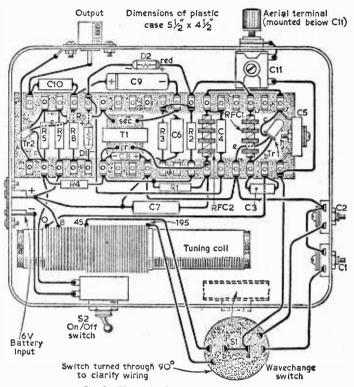


Fig. 3-The underchassis wiring of the unit.

is on the point of oscillation. The coil should now be fixed in position on the ferrite rods with glue. S1 is then switched to the Long Wave position and C2 adjusted to receive the Light Programme (1.500m). No further adjustments of C5 or C11 are normally required.

Directional Effects

When using a very short aerial, it may be found that the feeder unit has directional properties; i.e., the signal is stronger when the whole unit is turned in one particular direction. This is due to the directional nature of the ferrite rod assembly which provides a maximum signal when at right angles to the direct line from the receiving position to the transmitter.

The output of the unit is sufficient to allow it to be used with all but the smallest amplifiers. Its small size makes it ideal for building into portable record players and the like. In such cases a telescopic aerial could be used.

Other Stations

The feeder is essentially designed to provide local station reception of high quality. It may, however, be possible to add other pre-set stations on the medium wave band, the Third Programme being particularly suitable.

THIS UNIT WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR USE WITH A SIMPLE GEIGER HEAD, BUT IT WILL OPERATE SATISFACTORILY FROM ANY SUITABLE INPUT SOURCE By A. Cole



(Continued from page 927 of the February issue)

LTHOUGH at the slower counting rates, the bias setting is not in the least critical, many counts will be missed at higher rates if the bias is set too far below the critical value. However, no damage is possible when the counter is blocked on account of too high a bias setting, but the low setting where V4 conducts permanently should be avoided. If the constructor wishes to modify the circuit to make it impossible to reach this dangerous point, then (after switching off) he should measure the resistance from VR1 slider to chassis when set to the onset of this permanent condition for the H.T. supply he intends to use. This value of resistance increased by about 25% to 50% should be inserted between the bottom end of VR1 and chassis, and a new value potentiometer inserted to replace VR1, having a value of 500k less the inserted fixed resistance. Alternatively, the appropriate region of VR1 can be marked in red, or a protruding bolt inserted as a stop at the appropriate point, so that the knob cannot be turned past that point. In any case, it is always advisable to have a meter connected in the main H.T. feed. The resting current of the whole amplifier, at 250V H.T., should be bout 2 to 5mA, and will be between 75 and 100mA on pulses. It is highly advisable to use a stabilised H.T. supply for this amplifier, though not essential. If a non-stabilised supply is used, it should at least have choke-condenser smoothing, not mere resistor-condenser smoothing, and have an output smoothing condenser of at least 50µF. However, if the constructor has already built, or intends to build, the stabilised H.T. supply appearing in the pages of this magazine, this is far more suitable to operate the present equipment, and will already incorporate the required current meter. It will be found that the maximum accurate counting rate is higher with a stabilised H.T. supply, and the general stability over many running hours is then also more reliable even at slow counting rates.

Principle of the Geiger-counter Tube and Geigerhead Circuit

The author's Geiger head is included in a larger chassis containing other associated circuitry, such as integrators and average-value display, which are of no interest for this article. These associated circuits only serve a useful purpose in making measurements on radiation of much greater intensity than is ever likely to be encountered in the atmosphere or rainwater, etc., which the author, however, encounters in other laboratory work.

A Geiger tube is a special gas-filled cold-cathode diode, similar to a neon tube. The case forms the cathode, and a central axial wire forms the anode. The applied voltage is such that a discharge almost but not quite takes place. As soon as any particle or quantum of atomic radiation enters the space occupied by the tube, it causes ionisation in the tube, and thus initiates a discharge, in other words tube current flows. This causes a sudden positive voltage pulse across R17 (in Fig. 2), and this is applied to the grid of the cathode follower V6. Tube current is quenched

within a few millionths of a second, partly on account of chemical effects within the gasfilling of the tube, and partly on account of the drop across R14 causing the voltage to fall below the striking value. The tiny capacitor C10 was found to be required by the author, as otherwise the voltage on the tube fell too rapidly, so that the pulse was too short to be registered. It is essential that C10 be made no larger than necessary, as otherwise the average tube current is excessive, and will damage the tube. In some cases the circuit stray capacities will already be sufficient, in which case no actual physical component will be needed for C10. The constructor should connect a calibrated oscilliscope to the coaxial output socket, and adjust C10 until the peak voltage of the output pulses is about 25. It is an advantage to make C10 in the form of about an inch of tightly twisted flex, and progressively cut this shorter and shorter, until 25V output, and no more, is obtained.

The purpose of the cathode follower, V6, is to decoupled the output fully from the Geiger-tube circuit, so that no back-action disturbance from the subsequent counter is possible. Furthermore, it transforms the pulses to low impedance, so that cable-losses and distortion, in the connection to the subsequent counter, are negligible. The constructor is strongly advised not to run the Geigerhead circuit from a power supply feeding other apparatus too, nor to run any other circuits from the power supply feeding the Geiger head.

Uses and Experiments possible with this Equipment --Radioactivity Checks for Atmosphere, Rainwater, Tap-water, etc.

A count is made for at least six to twelve hours with the Geiger head just standing in the room. It is not necessary to count any particular exact period, but merely to note the precise number of minutes actually counted. The count made is divided by this number of minutes, giving an average count per minute

without a test sample. • A test-tube containing the sample to be tested is then inserted in the Geiger head, and again a count made for at least six hours, without having otherwise altered anything from its previous state. In the same manner, an average count per minute is calculated, this time applicable to the presence of the test sample. Any significant increase, compared to the average without the sample probably represents radioactivity that the sample pos-sesses. The longer the period

of – counting, the more significant is апу difference detected, i.e. the more can we say "the sample has the radioactivity detected as difference' instead of "it probably has For the small increases of radioactivity it. to be expected from atomic bomb tests, in rainwater, counts need to be over periods of some hours to be worthwhile.

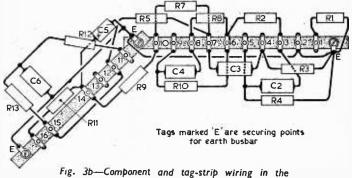
Interpreting Results

The reason for this is as follows: The normal count, of about 20 per minute with the tube used, is fully irregular. Counts in individual minutes may be as low as 12 or less, and in other individual minutes as high as 30 or more. But if one counts over, say two hours, i.e. 120 minutes, it is highly unlikely that the *average* will deviate as much. Thus, whereas a difference of even 75 per cent in the averages of two counts, each for an hour, is already very significant. The radioactivity in rainwater may represent only 10 per cent increase above the normal average rate, and thus a count

of many hours is needed before this definitely proves itself as a *persistent* increase in long-period averages, as only then is the probability small that such an increase has occurred by pure chance.

Preparation of Samples

Some discussion is also necessary regarding the method of preparing samples of rainwater for measurement. It is fully pointless just to fill rainwater into the test-tube as it falls out of the sky, for if under such circumstances any significant increase of counting rate were ever detected, then it would be a cause for the greatest alarm, representing radioactive contamination of the severest nature. The author's extensive experiments showed that present levels of radioactivity in rainwater lie some 500 to 2000 times lower than those conveniently measurable with the apparatus here described. Thus very considerable *concentration* is needed prior to making measurements, and the best way of doing this is discussed further below. The author has been able to do some useful work using only about 200-fold concentration factors, though this then needs rather long counting times, during which the ever-

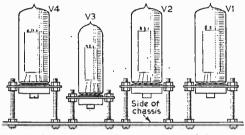


counter unit (see also Fig. 3a—last month).

present small fluctuations of the cosmic background effect can cause considerable error. Nevertheless, 200 seems to be the minimum usable concentration factor. The same remarks apply, of course, whether rainwater, drinking water, spawater, or any other liquid test-samples are concerned.

Accuracy

If the total number of pulses counted in a given measuring period of T minutes in N pulses, then the most probable statistical fluctuation is the square root of N. This "most probable statistical fluctuation" is defined as the average difference of individual measurements from the average result of many exactly similar measurements under precisely the same conditions. Consequently the square-root of N, subsequently divided by T, gives the statistical fluctuation of results to be expected in the value of "counts-per-minute". Thus, to be considered as "significant", the increase of counting rate produced in measurements with a sample must be as many times as possible as great as the expected random statistical fluctuation. Let us take the practical numerical example with which the experimenter will be concerned in the apparatus here described. Counting rates of about 20 per minute will be obtainable, giving a total of ten thousand counts in 500 minutes. The square root of ten thousand is 100, and this therefore represents the random fluctuation of the exact total counted which may be expected, on the average, if the experiment is repeated many times under precisely the same conditions. A probable error of 100 in 500 minutes represents a probable error of 0.2 in the count per minute average. This is 1% of the actual average counting rate. The same percentage error is to be expected in the



Valveholders mounted on stand-off bolts

Fig. 3c—The valves in the counter unit are mounted underneath the chassis as shown above.

cosmic count without test-sample, and in the subsequent count with sample. Because the "signal" interesting us—namely, the activity of the test sample, is given by the *difference* of the two *nearly equal* counts, the individual errors add, and we have an uncertainty of 2 per cent., plus or minus, of the total counting rate involved. To be reasonably safe in saying the "signal" is significant in indicating radioactivity of the test sample, it should lie at least a factor of 5 higher than the fluctuation; i.e., be about 10 per cent. of the total counting rate.

Thus, for a counting time of 500 minutes (roughly overnight), with the described apparatus having a counting rate of about 20 per minute, the samples measured must have an activity leading to a rise of at least 2 per minute in the counting rate, and must be prepared with this aim in mind. Under this condition, because the "signal" is then 5 times the fluctuation ("noise"), the quantitative accuracy of measurement results for the radioactivity of the sample is "plus-or-minus 20%".

Improving Accuracy

Greater accuracy results if the sample has higher activity, or if the time of counting is increased. Increasing the activity of the sample incurs more expense in preparation (see below), but has the advantage that the increase of accuracy is directly proportional to the increase of concentration. Increasing the counting time is basically cheaper, but has two severe disadvantages. Firstly, the accuracy increases only with the square root of the counting time, so that to get a tenfold increase in accuracy a counting time 100 times as long is needed, which greatly aggravates the second disadvantage—namely, that the cosmic background itself is subject to fluctuations over such long periods. These fluctuations are in addition to the normal statistical ones, and have other more physical reasons in connection with the sun, the ionosphere, etc. It is thus highly advisable, if attempting any measurements requiring counting time exceeding 24 hours total for both component measurements together, that "interlace" be employed. This involves alternate measurements with and without sample, each for several hours, and using averages of the respective sums for calculating the final results.

At any rate, the advantages of using as high a degree of initial concentration as one can afford in preparing samples should have been made clear by now! It is now required to give details of the best method of preparing water samples, devised from the author's experiments. The same method is used for rainwater, tapwater or spa-water. The final volume of the prepared sample should be chosen accurately standard as 10c.c., and an appropriate small chemical measuring vessel should be procured, to make up the sample to exact volume before filling into the Geigercounter test-tube. A few small glass beakers of about 100c.c. should also be obtained. Regarding chemicals, a 250c.c. bottle of dilute nitric acid (1 part acid to 4 parts water) is needed. This should be kept in a glass-stoppered poison bottle, and great care exercised, as the solution is highly poisonous and corrosive.

Volume of water

About a gallon of the water to be tested is required as starting point, and should be boiled to dryness in a small saucepan on the kitchen stove, subsequently kept strictly only for such experiments. A saucepan holding no more than a quart should be used, filling in more original water as it evaporates. The water should be cleaned as far as possible prior to boiling, using paper or fine cloth filters, to avoid too much scum towards the end of the concentration process. When all the water has been boiled dry, the deposits in the saucepan should be swilled with about 5c.c. of the dilute nitric acid (care!), and all transferred as completely as possible into one of the small glass beakers. After allowing the insoluble dirt to settle, the clear liquid is poured off completely into the 10c.c. measuring vessel, and made up to exactly 10c.c. with tapwater. This now represents the finished sample, which can be filled into the test-tube in the Geiger head. Remember that the sample is, chemically, dilute nitric acid, and thus very corrosive. Do not spill any drops into the electronic apparatus!

The author finds that a boiling-time of about 4 hours is required on a good kitchen gas range to deal with a gallon of water in this manner, at a cost of about 4s. gas-consumption. This cost would be high if all one could do with the sample thus prepared were to make one measurement, and say whether or not it were radioactive. But in fact there is much more to be done. Once one has prepared two or three such samples, one can measure them repeatedly at intervals of a few days or weeks, and investigate the rate of decline of the activity.

(To be continued)

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March, 1962

loudspeaker CROSS-

By K. Berry

HOW TO MAKE NETWORKS FOR ANY IMPEDANCE AND FREQUENCY.

ROPRIETARY loudspeaker crossover networks are fairly expensive items, and are not always available with the required impedance and crossover frequency. This article gives details of how to design and make crossover networks for any impedance and frequency.

Basic Theory

Loudspeaker crossover networks are in fact perfectly straightforward prototype (or constant-K) filter sections or half-sections. The mathematical theory of these filters may be found in any standard text-book and it is not proposed to deal with it hеге.

Two types of filter are used in these networks. One is a low pass filter, which, as the name would suggest, passes only frequencies below its cut-off frequency. Signals above this frequency are subjected to attenuation and the amount of attenuation increases with frequency. The circuit configuration of such a filter is shown in Fig. 1, where both a whole and a half-section are depicted. The second type of filter is a high pass filter, which passes without attenuation only those frequencies above its cut-off frequency, frequencies below being subjected to attenuation. In this case, the degree of attenuation increases as the signal frequency decreases. A high-pass filter section and a halfsection are also shown in Fig. 1.

Attenuation

If a prototype low-pass filter section is designed to have a certain cut-off frequency, it does not start to attenuate sharply at that chosen frequency. In practice, it will be about 20% above the cut-off frequency before 6dB of attenuation is reached, though at a frequency 20% below fc, the filter will introduce an attenuation of about 11dB. This performance is typical of prototype filters. Filter sections can be designed to have a very rapid attenuation if so desired, but such filters lie outside the scope of this article. If it is desired to feed a high frequency loudspeaker or "tweeter", this may be done in one of three ways (see Fig. 2); (a) It can be connected in series with a single

capacitor of suitable value.

) V E R Networks

(b) It can be fed via a high-pass half-section filter. (c) It can be fed via a high-pass whole-section filter.

Method (a) is not normally considered satisfactory since the rate of attenuation below the crossover frequency is insufficient. Both methods (b) and (c) are acceptable. though method (b) is, in fact, the method normally used. The rates of attenuation below fc, per octave

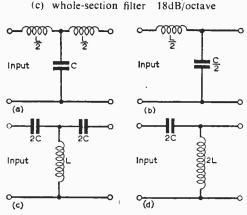
(2.1 frequency change), are:-

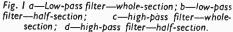
6dB/octave

12dB/octave

(a) capacitor feed

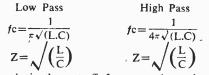
(b) half-section filter





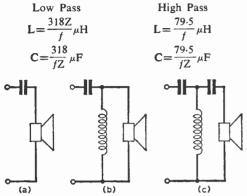
Design Data

Prototype filter sections are designed from the following equations



where fc is the cut-off frequency in cycles per second, Z is the impedance of the filters and L and C are the values of inductance and capacitance in Henrys and Farads.

To save the necessity for long calculations, these formulæ have been re-arranged and partly worked out as below:—



where f is the desired cross-over frequency in kc/s and Z is the loudspeaker voice-coil impedance in ohms.

Example

Design a loudspeaker crossover network with a crossover frequency of 5kc/s. The loudspeaker speech coil impedance is 15Ω .

Low Pass
L=
$$\frac{318Z}{f} = \frac{318 \times 15}{5} = 954 \mu H$$

High Pass
L= $\frac{79.52}{f} = \frac{79.5 \times 15}{5} = 238.5 \mu H$
C= $\frac{318}{fZ} = \frac{318}{5 \times 15} = 4.24 \mu F$
C= $\frac{79.5}{fZ} = \frac{79.5}{5 \times 15} = 1.06 \mu F$

• The actual values of the components required for the half-section filters will therefore be:--

Low Pass Inductor (‡L) 477μH Capacitor (‡C) 2·12μF High Pass Inductor (2L) 477μH Capacitor (2C) 2·12μF

In other words—the components needed for the high and low pass half-sections are the same. It should be noted that will not be as case if whole section filters are used. The circuit for network designed above is shown in Fig. 3. Table 1 gives component values required for certain specific frequencies for 3 and 15Ω loudspeakers.

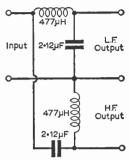
Construction

When the component values for the desired network have been arrived at, all that remains is to make the unit. The capacitors should preferably be paper or metallised paper types. However, certain of the values listed in Table 1 preclude the use of such capacitors, and resort must therefore be made to electrolytic capacitors. These may be either of the reversible type or of the uni-directional type. If the latter are employed their working voltage should be not less than 25 times the maximum A.C. voltage to be applied to them. Thus for a

Fig. 2 (left), a, b and c—Methods of feeding a "tweeter".

Fig. 3 (right)—The circuit of a 15Ω, 5kc/s crossover network.

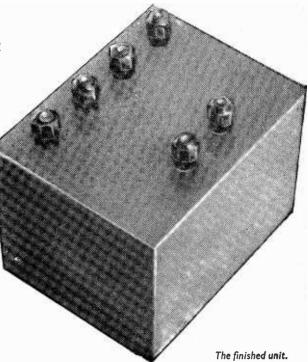
15W amplifier using 15Ω loudspeakers, the capacitors should have a working voltage of not less than



 $25 \times 15 = 375$, whilst for a 3W amplifier using 3Ω loudspeakers the voltage required is only $25 \times 3 = 75$.

Performance

A 5kc/s crossover network was made up and the performance measured both with half-section filters and with whole-section filters. The results of this test are shown in Fig. 4. The greater attenuation of the whole-section filters can be seen clearly.



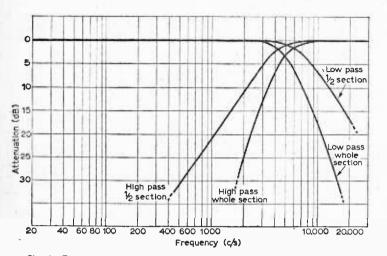


Fig. 4—The response curves of a Skc/s crossover network with half-section and whole-section filters.

Tolerances

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It is felt that is should be pointed out here that if strictly accurate results are to be obtained, the actual capacity of the capacitors employed in crossover networks, whether paper or electrolytic, should be close to their calculated value. Since paper capacitors have a typical tolerance of $\pm 20\%$, and electrolytics a tolerance of $-20 \pm 100\%$, this is not easy to ensure. Many capacitors, when measured, do, in fact, have values of capacitance which are very much closer to their nominal value than their tolerances allow.

TABLE I Crossover Network Component Values

Impedance	3Ω		15Ω	
Frequency	Inductor	Capacitor	Inductor	Capacitor
0.5kc/s 1.0kc/s 2.0kc/s 5.0kc/s 10.0kc/s	954µН 477µН 238•5µН 95•4µН 47•7µН	106μF 53μF 26·5μF 10·6μF 5·3μF	4780μH 2390μH 1195μH 478μH 239μH	21·2μF 10·6μF 5·3μF 2·12μF 1·06μF

To ensure complete success, the exact value of the capacitors should be measured on a capacity bridge. Information on the use and construction of such bridges may be found in earlier issues of this magazine. However, if a bridge is not available, *paper* capacitors (not electrolytics) can be measured with sufficient accuracy by the following means. Connect the unknown capacitor in series with a variable resistor and connect the series combination to a 50c/s A.C. supply. the voltage of which does not exceed $\frac{2}{3}$ of the D.C. working voltage of the capacitor. Adjust the series resistor until the voltage measured across the capacitor is the same as that measured across the resistor. The capacity of the capacitor is given by $3180/R \mu F$, where R is the value of the resistor in ohms. The voltmeter used for this test should be of not less than $500\Omega/V$ on A.C.

The inductors, fortunately, present little difficulty. For ease of construction, the coils are wound on number enamelled 22s.w.g. wire wound on a 3in. diameter former. The coils are "ran-dom wound" over a length of about 4in., and when the required number of turns has been wound, the coil is slipped off the coil former and bound together with insulation or other suitable For coils made as tape. described above, inan ductance of $340\mu H$ will be obtained with a coil of 50 turns. The number of turns required for a given in-ductance, $X \mu H$, may be

calculated from the expression N=50 $\sqrt{\frac{X}{340}}$ turns

The quantity of wire required may be calculated from the fact that a coil of 50 turns weighs 14oz. These coils, being air-cored have an inductance

which is independent of current, and cannot, unlike iron-cored coils, introduce distortion.

Coil Spacing

When the capacitors and inductors have been obtained, it only remains to make a suitable assembly and wire it together. The inductors should be spaced at least 3in. from one another and should be kept 2-3in, away from any large metal object. If the coils are at right angles to one another, then there is no limitation on their spacing. A finished crossover network, mounted in a wooden case is shown in the illustration on page 1007.

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March, 1962

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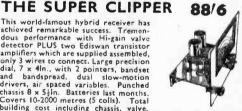
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By B. N. Rolfe

A BASIC, NON-MATHEMATICAL EXPLANATION

HEN we were discussing Tests 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Fig. 1 (in the January issue) it was intimated that the ratio of reverse to forward resistance could be used as a measure to assess the goodness of a transistor. With a good transistor the ratio should be at least 25:1, but with high quality components the ratio may be as high as 100:1, or even greater.

Low-power transistors will in general have a forward resistance about 100Ω and a reverse resistance in excess of $50,000\Omega$ (50k). If both resistances (forward and reverse) are high or infinite, then that particular junction is opencircuit. If there is no difference between forward and reverse resistances, whether the actual values are high or low, the junction is leaky or short circuited. Both junctions, relative to base. should be checked, since if only one is good while the other is either open or shorted, the transistor is useless.

Leakage is checked as was shown in Fig. 8, but it should be noted that temperature has a marked effect on the resistance values obtained, so keep the component away from a soldering iron or bench light while performing resistance tests.

One of the reasons why a transistor works is because a change in collector current is brought about by a change in base current. This is not the complete story, however, for there would be little point in using a transistor if a change in base current only produced an equivalent change in collector current.

Amplification

I We know that, with a valve, a small change in control grid voltage produces a change in anode current and that this change is reflected as a change in voltage across the high impedance

change in voltage across the hu anode load. We also know that, because a small change in anode current causes a relatively large change in voltage across the load, compared with that at the grid, a valve provides a means whereby a small voltage at the input is amplified to a larger voltage at the output. In other words, the small change in voltage at the grid gives rise to a larger change in voltage across the anode load.

(Continued from page 811 of the January issue)

To be any good, the same thing must happen with a transistor—and it does. This is brought about mainly because the base-emitter junction is biased for forward current and as a consequence has a low resistance which produces a fairly high current from a low voltage. The collector circuit, on the other hand, has a higher resistance, which means that for a given collector current a higher voltage can be applied to the collector through a higher value resistor. This is because the collector circuit cannot be biased for forward conduction. It will be recalled that collector conduction is promoted essentially by the base current.

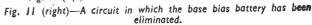
Current Gain

A transistor would be said to have a current gain of 100 if a change of 5mA were caused in the collector circuit by a base current increase of 5/100mA, that is 50µA. We can understand how a transistor gives voltage amplification by considering the circuit in Fig. 10. Here, the base is biased to the correct working point by battery B1. Now, suppose an input signal is applied in such a way in relation to R1 that it causes an alteration in base current. If the signal were a pure sine-wave, it would add to the battery voltage on one half cycle and subtract from it on the other half cycle. Let us suppose that the input signal is 50mV peak to peak across 1,000 Ω (R1); this would cause a total current change of 50µA in the base circuit (Ohm's law).

If the transistor has a current gain of 100, then there would be a 5mA change in current in the collector resistor R2. If R2 also has a value of $1,000\Omega$, as shown, a change of 5V peak to peak would occur across it (Ohm's law again). Clearly,

<u>www</u> R3≶ change R2 1k causing R1 Output 5V signal CI e Battery Battery 50mV signal ≷ causing ≤ R1 50µA change≷ 1k ≷R2 Input in current B1 Fig. 10 (left)-How a transistor acts as a voltage amplifier.

5mA curren



then, the transistor has served to step up the 50mV input signal by 100 times to 5V.

If the collector resistor had been $5,000\Omega$, the same reasoning will show that the output would have been 25V peak to peak. There are, of course, limits to the output voltage that can be obtained, depending on the type of transistor and circuit characteristics, and there are various other factors which alter slightly the simple example above.

The Use of a Common Battery

A transistor requires two voltage sources, one for biasing the base and the other for energising the collector. Fortunately, both sources are negative to emitter with *pnp* transistors (positive to emitter with *npn* types), and for this reason it is possible to eliminate one battery and arrange a potential-divider to tap-down the required bias for the base.

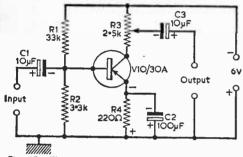


Fig. 12-The circuit of a practical audio amplifier.

This feature is shown in Fig. 11. Here the battery is connected negative to collector and positive to emitter, as is normal. In addition, a potentialdivider comprising R1 and R2 in series is connected across the battery. At the junction of R1 and R2, relative to battery positive, exists a negative voltage of a value governed by the ratio of R1 to R2. The ratio is arranged in relation to the battery voltage and the type of transistor so that the correct base voltage is present at the junction, and the latter is connected to the base as shown.

The input signal is applied to the base through the isolating capacitor C1 to prevent the D.C. conditions from being affected by the input source load. It is also usual to feed the output from the collector through a similar capacitor (or transformer) to subsequent stages.

A Practical Transistor Amplifier

We can now consider a practical amplifier, and a circuit of such a device is given in Fig. 12. This is very little different from the hypothetical arrangement of Fig. 11, for C1 is the input capacitor, R1 and R2 form the base divider, R3 is the collector load and C3 is the output capacitor. In this case, the collector load is a potentiometer which acts as a volume control to feed the required audio output to the following stage. This technique is often adopted in small A.F. amplifiers, where the amplifier is used to strengthen weak signals from a microphone or pick-up so that they will fully drive the main amplifier or control unit. It will be noted that the input and output capacitors are electrolytic types, which are required owing to the relatively low input and output impedance of a transistor circuit. With valve circuits, A.F. is usually coupled through 0-1 μ F capacitors, or even lower values. This is possible because of the high grid input and anode output impedance; but if similar values were used for audio coupling in a transistor circuit, there would be a considerable loss of lower frequencies because the reactances of the coupling capacitors would rise to greater values than the effective input and output loads. We must always remember that while a valve works essentially on input voltage, a transistor works on input current.

When a transistor rises in temperature whether because of an increase in the "ambient" (surrou...ding) temperature, or because of the current passing through it, its collector current increases. This increase in collector current causes the transistor to become even warmer which results in a further increase in collector current. This state of affairs is likely to continue until the transistor fails, and is called "thermal runaway".

It is essential that some method of counteracting this effect is incorporated in transistor circuits, otherwise transistor equipment would be extremely unreliable, to say the least. The resistor R4 in Fig. 12 serves this purpose, and is sometimes called the stabilising resistor. It is wired in series with the emitter and it therefore passes both collector and base current, and across it is developed a voltage that is proportional to the current and resistance values. With *pnp* transistors, the voltage is negative at the emitter with respect to battery positive, as shown on the diagram.

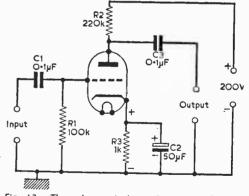


Fig. 13.—The valve equivolent of the amplifier of Fig. 12.

Now, if the collector current were to rise owing to an increase in the temperature of the transistor or from another cause, the negative voltage at the emitter would also rise (because a larger current would be flowing in the resistor). An increase in the negative emitter voltage is exactly the same as a decrease in the negative voltage at the base with respect to the emitter.

Now, the less negative base will result in a fall of collector current (remembering that an increase in collector current is promoted by an increase of negative base bias), so the transistor will cool

(Continued on page 1016)

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

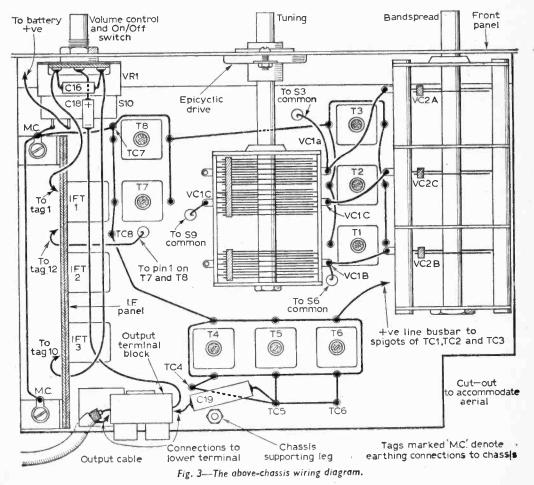
16m TO 175m TRANSISTOR S.W. TUNER

A UNIT DESIGNED TO BE USED WITH A SEPARATE AMPLIFIER

(Continued from page 904 of the February issue)

By F. Neville Hart

LTHOUGH the extending aerial of the receiver will normally be used for reception, it will be found, however, that in order not to upset the trimming, and also avoid flatness in tuning, it is best merely to wind 3 or 4 turns of the "lead-in" around the extending aerial, without actually connecting it to the set. An earth is a considerable help in avoiding hand capacity effects, but if the tuner is used with a mains L.F. amplifier a series condenser of not more than 1000pF, with a rating of 350VW, should be inserted. In any case, owing to the risk of a high voltage surge for a fraction of a second reaching the transistors through the condenser, try it without. There may be sufficient earthing from the chassis connection to the amplifier, also made through a condenser. With a battery



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amplifier, either valve or transistor, an earth is a definite and safe advantage.

Bandspread

Bandspread is used; in the prototype a 3-gang surplus condenser has been adapted, by taking off plates, leaving about 20/30pF, but if a 3-gang type is not obtainable, a 2-gang one will do, omitting the section tuning the aerial coil, for this stage is the flattest in tuning and the variation in tuning of the other stages is sufficient to provide adequate bandspread without loss of volume.

If, as is found with many surplus low capacity variable condensers, the unit has no "stop", one can split a piece of wire insulation and stick it on the end of a condenser plate with adhesive. This will prevent the moving plates from progressing further than maximum and minimum capacity.

Three-gang Candenser

The Jackson "OO" tuning condenser 176 and 208pF with an additional 208pF is used. It can be obtained to order from component stores. Beehive trimmers are specified (30pF), but the flat. "postage stamp" type would do as well.

Only one oscillator coil is used for both ranges 2 and 3, the second harmonic being used for the 16m to 35m range.

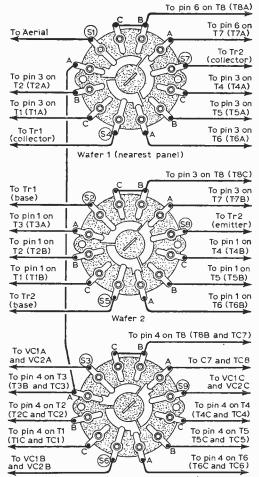
· Construction of the Set

The R.F. base-plate, of aluminium, must be cut to size, the position of the coil cans marked and the square apertures carefully made, so that the cans may be pushed through with gentle pressure, first bending at right angles their soldering "lugs". The holes can best be made by drilling a series of holes inside the area to be removed, pushing or cutting out the unwanted piece and filing to fit. Small holes must be drilled to coincide with the soldering lugs. When these are bent flat against the aluminium, wire can then be threaded through, wound round the cans and soldered to the "lugs". This will hold them tightly in position, earthing them well, when the wire is continued to a good earth point, such as battery positive or the tuning condenser carthing tag (see Fig. 3).

Holes are drilled to take the earthy ends of the beehive trummers which are similarly fixed by winding the tinned wire round the "stalk" projecting on the top side, and soldering with a fairly hot iron. These fixing wires will all be joined together and earthed also.

Brackets

The angle brackets to hold the R.F. base-plate to the front panel should be mounted next. Exact measurements for these are not given, for constructors may have suitable types handy, or those purchased may have different hole spacing. They should be mounted with a portion protruding for \$in. so that when joined to the front panel, enough space is given to push wires through. It is as well to use steel brackets of sufficient length to give firm support to the two panels. The two tagstrips each side can be mounted with the angle brackets, if the holes coincide. The tuning condensers can also be mounted with suitable bolts, placing a soldering tag on the one nearest the rear of the main condenser.



Wafer 3 (furthest from panel)

Fig. 4—The band-switching wiring diagram.

An epicyclic gear is used with the main condenser, and the front panel should be offered up before drilling the hole for the gear to ensure that the spindle will come true when it is fixed to the panel.

It is essential that no strain either way should be put on the spindle, and that it slips easily into the epicyclic gear, as tuning may be stiff, or the moving plates forced to touch the fixed ones.

Output

A double or coaxial connector can be mounted on a bracket, on the R.F. plate, to take the output lead to the amplifier jack. In the prototype a Sin. brass bolt is passed through the R.F. plate and held with nuts, so that it forms a "leg" on each side, in order to support the whole set upright when the front panel is on, facilitating testing and alignment.

When the holes have been drilled in the front panel, the switch and the volume control can be mounted, taking care to see that the hole for the bandspread condenser spindle is in the correct position. A template should be made, to ensure that the fixing bolts for the wavechange switch are correctly placed, unless it is a "one hole fixing" type.

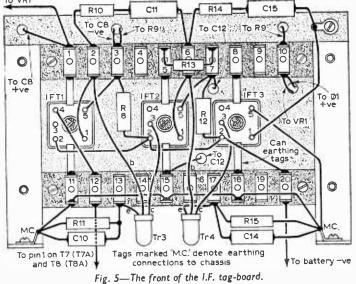
I.F. Panel

The I.F. panel is treated quite separately, there being only three leads from the main R'.F. panel, i.e., the negative positive line, and the line. oscillator collector circuit outpaxolin put. A panel is mounted on a double ten-tag soldering strip, which is sold in the required size, and consists of two strips supported at each

end by an angle-bracket. If a solid tag-board can be obtained, so much the better. There is just enough room for the LF, cans and their resistors and condensers, with the diode. Square holes are cut in the paxolin to take the cans, and a few extra holes drilled to push wire through.

Can Flxing

The holes for the cans should be marked out so that, when mounted, their two fixing lugs fall To VR1



opposite a soldering tag on the strips. These are soldered together, thus holding the cans firmly in place. These tags should be connected to the positive line, earthing the cans.

The wiring of the LF, panel is done in the same way as the R.F. panel, the positive line wires first.

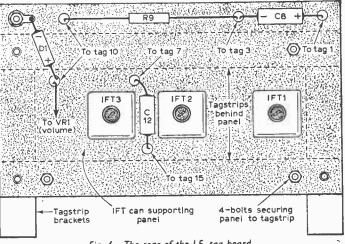


Fig. 6-The rear of the I.F. tag-board.

negative line resistors and next, then the condensers.

Sleeving -

Wiring of the base-plate can now be started. wiring all the earth leads first, with bare, tinned copper 24s.w.g. wire, which is used for all other wiring, too. For the other leads sleeving of various colours is recommended for easy reference, a colour code being formed and written down.

Condensers and resistors can be soldered into place, and the stator plates of the tuning condensers wired in circuit with as short leads as possible.

Switch Wiring

The more inaccessible tags of the wave-change switch must have leads soldered on so that when the two panels are joined the other ends can be cut to the right length. Sleeving can be placed over these to ensure identification.

The stator tags of the bee-hive trimmers are so placed that they are above the required pins on the coil cans, and the wire is then pushed through into the hollow of the pins, the whole being soldered quickly but with enough solder to make a good joint. As the transistor connections are easily accessible these can be left until after complete assembly.

Assembly

The front panels and the R.F. base-plate can now be joined, the various leads from the wavechange switch cut as short as possible and soldered to their respective pins on the cans, and tag strips. (To be continued)

Short-wave Listeners' Log

OME short-wave listeners who are particularly interested in receiving amateur stations seem to be confused by the methods of operating which are used. There are customary systems which are, in fact, helpful for all concerned, and the new S.W. listener should soon make himself familiar with them.

When there is any chance of the town or locality being misur derstood, it is usual to spell these phonetically. This is especially necessary in contacts between stations in different countries.

Phonetic spelling is simply the use of easily understood words with the required initial letters. There are several lists of these, so it is pointless to give any one list in full. Quite popular is a list of names, such as Adam, Baker, Charlie, etc. However, many overseas amateurs use country, capital city, and similar names, such as America, Boston, Canada, etc. Various mixtures, and original words, are also often heard.

The same system is used to identify call-signs. For example, Uncle King Henry is simply "UKH" George 3 London Zebra would, of course, be G3LZ, and so on.

"CQ" Calls

1016

When listening on the amateur bands, some stations will almost certainly be heard calling "CQ". This is an invitation by the calling station for any other station who hears him, to reply. The call-sign of the calling station will be repeated at frequent intervals. The station may then say he is "standing by" or may conclude with "K". This is an invitation for listening stations to transmit, and one or more replies should then be heard, if. within range.

When stations are in contact, the station transmitting should give his call-sign last. For example, if the transmission concludes with "WIZXY, G6XYZ, K" it is G6XYZ who is transmitting, not WIZXY.

If stations are working each other, and are in different countries, this frequently gives an easy increase in the number of countries logged. Or a station in an easy, fairly near country may be heard in contact with a station in a remote, rare country. If so, when the first station passes the transmission over, it is quite likely that the rare country will then be heard, replying on the same frequency.

Q-code

Various "Q signals" are often used and will frequently be heard. Some of these are: ORM, interference: QRT, stop sending: QRZ, who is calling?; QSL, acknowledgment; QSO, communication or contact; QSY, change of frequency; QRP,

decrease power, or low power; QRO, increase power, or high power; QTH, location. A message such as "Too much QRM, could not copy your QTH, please repeat," would thus mean, "There is too much interference for me to copy or understand your town or location, please repeat". If conditions were very bad, with longdistance working for example, the message might begin "Too much Queen Roger Mary'

All amateur stations should always give both the call of the station being worked, and their own call, at the beginning, and at the end, of each transmission.

A QSO (period of communication or contact) is most often between two stations, but may be spread among three or more, who pass the transmissions round to each other in turn. Participants may be in the same, or different, countries. Some may "Go QRT' or sign off, while others may join in by giving their calls and announcing that they are on the frequency.

Transistors Work How

(Continued from page 1012)

down and a condition of "thermal equilibrium" will exist in the circuit.

In some respects, the emitter resistor is rather like the cathode resistor of a valve, and, since it passes collector current, it will have some influence on the base bias. It cannot provide base bias, of course, because it makes the base go positive (or less negative) with respect to the emitter and the base calls for a negative voltage. It thus detracts from the bias provided by the potential-divider, and this must be taken into account when the circuit is designed.

Like an unbypassed cathode resistor, an unbypassed emitter resistor will have developed across it a signal voltage. With a valve this gives rise to negative feedback, but with a transistor it would be likely to cause instability and other disturbing effects, unless the circuit were designed specifically for the resistor being left unbypassed. Usually, however, a large value electrolytic capacitor shunts the resistor (C2 in Fig. 12).

At this stage it would be useful to compare a transistor A.F. amplifier with its valve counterpart. Such a circuit is given in Fig. 13. Here, there is a 0.1μ F input coupling capacitor C1, and similar value output capacitor C3. R1 is the grid resistor, R2 the anode load resistor and R3 the cathode bias resistor which is bypassed for A.F. by the 50μ F electrolytic canacitor C2.

It is interesting to compare the cathode circuit in Fig. 13 with the emitter circuit in Fig. 12. Across the cathode resistor is developed a voltage which is positive at the cathode relative to H.T. negative (caused by the cathode current). Since the grid is returned to H.T. negative through R1. it is thus negative with respect to the cathode by a value equal to the voltage across R3. The valve requires a negative grid bias and, since there is no grid current, this is adequately provided solely by the cathode resistor.

As with a triode valve, a transistor may be arranged in any configuration. That shown in Fig. 12 is known as the "common emitter" mode which. of course, is equivalent to the "common cathode" mode of a valve—Fig. 13.

(To be continued)

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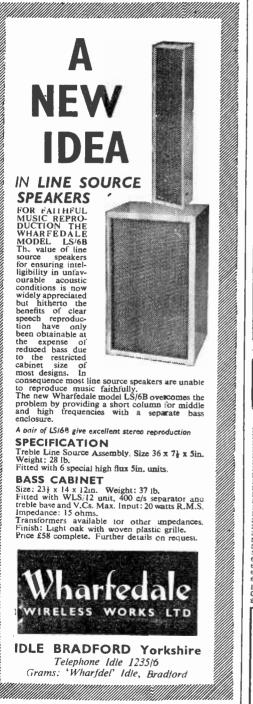
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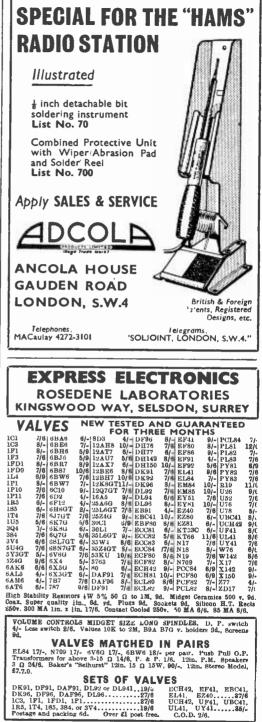
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March, 1962



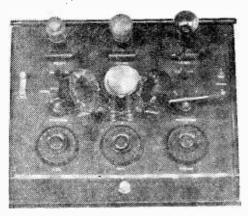


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Artificial Troposphere

R EGULAR readers of this page may remember my remarks in the December, 1961, issue caperiment recently carried out by the U.S.A., in which a rocket was used to fire copper needles — millions of them — into space to form a metallic belt around the earth from which signals could be bounced from one part of the earth to another. Apropos of these remarks 1 mentioned how 1 had wondered what effects current atomic bomb tests will have on radio communication, and whether the radiations which result remain for all time in space, and perhaps gradually may make a complete screen round the earth.



A view of Mr. Munro's vintage receiver, which is still in good working order.

Upon reading my remarks in the December issue, a reader, who prefers to remain anonymous, has submitted the following contribution to the point which I put up for discussion.

"Regarding radiations emitted from atomic explosions remaining and accumulating in space, this is in principle not to be disputed. If not complete, then at least partial continuous accumulation is scientifically established. That such an accumulation could disturb ordinary wireless communications, if at reaches sufficient intensity, is also quite true.

colossal atomic hydrogen bomb, and has used exactly the same energy-producing processes for countless centuries, as man had only learned to produce on earth in recent years. The nuclear intensity of the sun corresponds to the explosion of many thousands of atomic bombs per second, of the largest size man has yet made. Yet all this radiation from the sun has succeeded in producing through the ages, as regards radio communication, is our well known ionosphere, and its well-known effects on short-wave radio, etc.

"Admittedly, the sun is about ninety million miles distant from us, but nevertheless, the discrepancy between the rate of release of atomic energy on the sun and from man-made devices is so great that the man-made contribution to a radiation belt screening the earth is vastly smaller than that present due to the sun anyway. Furthermore, space itself is so vast, that colossal amounts of radiation can accumulate in it without any appreciable rise of local intensity.

"The dangers of atomic bomb fall-out are of a different nature. Here we have unstable atoms of debris thrown into the atmosphere, which drift with the weather, to be washed down later in rain somewhere. The unstable atoms in this rain will then explode later, giving *new production* of *local* radiation. But this unstable atomic debris in the air will not disturb radio communication any more than an ordinary fog does, to which this debris is analogous."

I really must thank this reader for having taken the trouble to write to me with such a clear and concise explanation; we may now rest reassured.

Vintage Sets

A reader in, Occumster, Caithness-Mr. D. J. Munro-has sent me two photographs of a wireless set which he has in his possession, and the set can be seen in the illustration on this page. Mr. Munro informs me that the makers' stamp on the cabinet is that of A. J. Stevens (1914) Ltd., Wolverhampton. Apparently the receiver is still in perfect working order and when used with a loudspeaker it gives enough volume for the average room. The lid on top can be raised for the connection of the aerial, battery supply etc.

Our thanks to Mr. Munro for sending such an interesting letter. Any other readers who care to send me details or photographs of their vintage sets are invited to do so—1 will pay for all photographs which are published in "On Your Wavelength."

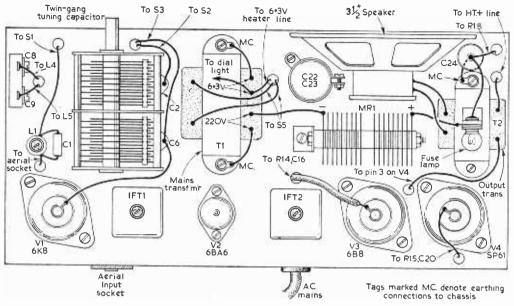


Fig. 3-The above-chassis layout of components.

(Continued from page 902 of the February issue)

AST month the circuit was described and now this article goes on to deal with construction and alignment.

The components are mounted on an aluminium chassis. There is nothing critical about the positions of the components but the arrangement which was shown in Fig. 2 (last month) allows reasonably short connections in the R.F. and I.F. sections and gives good balance when the set is lifted by its carrying handle. Wiring diagrams are given in Figs. 3 and 4. In these, the wiring and components have been opened out for clarity; in construction, the connections should be no longer than necessary. Flexible PVC covered wire is recommended for the heater circuit and 22s.w.g. tinned copper for the remainder, lengths of more than an inch or so being covered with sleeving. Connections to the wave-change switch should be made before the oscillator coils are fitted, apart from which, construction can proceed in any desired order. The $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. speaker and the tuning scale, measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 3in., are fitted on a piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. hardboard in which suitable apertures have been cut, and this is bolted to the front chassis runner in three places. No other support is needed. The holder for the fuse bulb is soldered to the top of the output transformer; a large iron is needed for this.

Testing

When construction is complete, a check should first be made with a meter applied between C24 and chassis, that there are no shorts in the H.T. wiring. The power can then be switched on and a preliminary check made to see that voltage is present at the valve electrodes, after which the H.T. line voltage should be measured. If it exceeds 230, the values of R17 and R18 should be increased

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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

to bring it down to this figure. The background at this stage should be virtually silent. If, however, trouble should be experienced with hum pick-up at the grid of V3, it may be completely eliminated by modifying the detector circuit as shown in Fig. 5. This arrangement is open to technical objection in that the A.C. shunt load on the signal diode is considerably increased, thereby introducing a certain amount of distortion, but this is not a high fidelity receiver and no adverse effect snould be noticed. trimmer C5, at the same time moving the tuning condenser back and forth a little, until a combination of settings is found which gives maximum response, i.e. where the signal and oscillator circuits track exactly. Note the dial reading (Point A). Now carry out a similar procedure at 600kc/s, with the padder capacity, C8, and again note the dial reading where exact tracking is found (Point B). Return to Point A and repeat the whole process several times till no further improvement is obtained. The oscillator now tracks correctly near

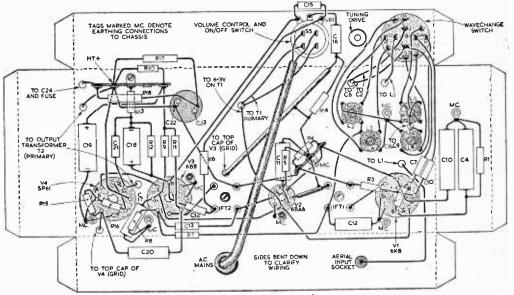


Fig. 4—The underchassis wiring diagram.

I.F. Alignment

If a signal generator is available, inject at the grid of V1 a modulated 465kc/s signal, advance the volume control and adjust the cores of the I.F. transformers for maximum response from the loudspeaker. The injected signal should be kept as small as possible and should be reduced in amplitude as the circuits come into line.

Signal and Oscillator Circuits

The first step is to adjust the medium wave aerial coil to cover the desired range, which it will be assumed is from 1500kc/s to 550kc/s. Set the medium waves padder, C8 to about two-thirds capacity and, with the switch in the medium wave position, and the tuning condenser fully open, inject a 1500kc/s signal at the aerial socket. Tune for maximum response with the trimmers, C3 and C5. Close the condenser fully and inject a signal of 550kc/s; tune for maximum by manipulating the cores of the aerial and oscillator coils. Repeat the process at each frequency until no further improvement can be obtained. Correct three-point tracking of the oscillator can now be achieved as follows. Set the tuning condenser to 1400kc/s and inject a signal of this frequency at the aerial. Tune with the

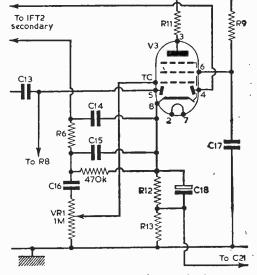


Fig. 5-An alternative detector circuit.

each end of the band and at some unknown intermediate point which, for proper performance, ought to be about 900 kc/s. Inject a signal of this frequency and find the exact tracking point by manipulation of the tuning condenser and the oscillator core; note the dial reading (Point C). Move to Point B and tune a 600 kc/s signal with C8. Repeat the adjustments at points C. A and B in that order till no further improvement can be obtained and finish off by adjusting C5 at point A.

Long Wave Band

The trimmers C3 and C5 require no adjustment on this band since the alteration in stray capacities due to switch operation is negligible Close the tuning condenser fully and adjust the core of L3 and the L.W. padder C9 using a frequency of 150kc/s. The oscillator can then be tracked at points B and C as for medium waves, using frequencies of 160kc/s and 200kc/s respectively.

All the foregoing operations should be carried out with a signal just sufficient to obtain a response, so that the AGC system is not brought into action.

Alignment without a Generator

If a generator is not available pre-tuned I.F. transformers should be used. Set the wave-change switch to long wave and tune in the Light Programme on 200kc/s. Adjust the I.F.

the Light Programme on 200kc/s. Adjust the I.F. cores for optimum results. Only small adjustments should be required to compensate for stray capacities; do not make any large alterations or the prealignment will be lost.

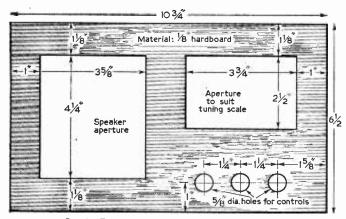
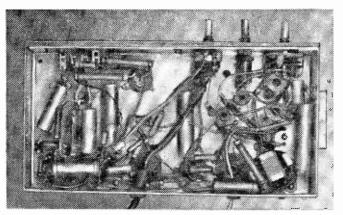


Fig. 6—The dimensions of the front of the cabinet.

Without a generator, it will not be possible to check the range of the signal circuits exactly but it is usually possible to find transmissions at each end of the band from which a reasonable approximation can be made. For tracking the oscillator, select three transmissions as close as possible to the frequencies of points A, B and C and proceed as previously described.

Oscillator Amplitude

If. when the receiver is correctly aligned, it is found that whistles are troublesome at various points on the scale, it is probable that the oscillator amplitude is too great. This may be remedied by inserting a resistor of from 100 Ω to 300 Ω between C10 and the switch S4.



An underchassis view of the receiver.

Operation

In most areas, satisfactory reception of the BBC programmes will be obtained with about three feet of wire as a "throw-out" aerial, though the signal to noise ratio will, of course, be improved

in less favourable situations by a more efficient arrangement. An earth is not necessary, though it will reduce mains-borne interference if this proves trouble some.

Cabinet

A cabinet in which to house the receiver is easily made without any complicated joinery and with only simple tools. The constructor will require some plywood, glue, glasspaper, panel pins, a saw, a hammer and a carpenter's brace and bits. Cut out the top from $\frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. and the bottom from the same material, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. The sides should be of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Another piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. faced ply, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Another piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. faced ply, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. $x 5\frac{1}{2}$ in.

joints and providing a rebate of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. along the rear edge of the top in which the back of the cabinet can be fitted. The manner in which these five pieces of wood are assembled will be clear from Fig. 7.

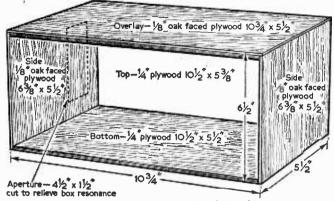


Fig. 7-The method of assembly of the cabinet.

The front of the cabinet should be cut from in. faced ply to the measurements given in Fig. 6, though the aperture for the tuning dial may, of course, have to be adjusted in size, shape and position to suit the scale used and the height of the tuning condenser spindle above the chassis.

Assembly

The top and overlay should first be glued together so as to form the $\frac{1}{2}$ in. rebate at each end and along the back. When this is dry, a trial assembly of the remaining pieces can be made, using $\frac{1}{2}$ in. panel pins, driven half-way home. Some care is needed in driving the pins through the front into the sides which are only $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, but

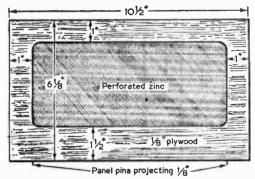


Fig. 8-The back of the cabinet.

with small gauge pins and a light hammer it is not really difficult. Having obtained a satisfactory fit, dismantle, apply glue to the joints and re-assemble, driving the panel pins right home. Some of the modern glues set hard enough to blunt wood-working tools so it is as well to wipe away the surplus around the joints while it is wet.

Finishing

The panel pins should be punched in so that the heads are a little below the surface and the resulting indentations and any other blemishes filled with plastic wood of the colour in which the cabinet is to be finished. This is important because plastic wood does not readily absorb wood dyes.

When this is dry, sand all over with No. 2 glasspaper, removing any projections at the corners and places where filler has been applied and finish off by giving a good rub down all over with No. 0 paper. Wood dye of the desired colour can now be rubbed in with a rag wad. A very satisfactory and durable final finish can be obtained with little effort by rubbing into the wood a compound of self-drying oils' marketed by several of the wellknown, polish manufacturers for sealing wood floors. About three applications will be needed, with a light rub down between each.

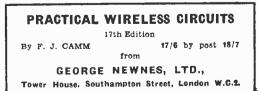
When this has been carried out, the carrying handle can be fitted and the speaker aperture covered with suitable material. Four small rubber buffers fitted to the bottom will improve the appearance and avoid damage to any polished surfaces on which the receiver may stand.

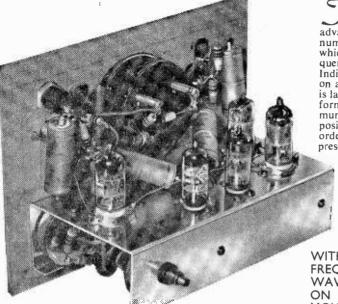
Fitting the Receiver

Place the receiver in position and drill upwards through the bottom and through the end flanges of the chassis, holes about 3/32in. in diameter, one at each end. Enlarge and countersink the holes in the wood only. Wood screws of suitable diameter can now be inserted and will have a selftapping action as they enter the aluminium, so securing the receiver firmly in position. As some of the H.T. wiring is above the chassis, it is desirable to fit a back to the cabinet. This can conveniently be of $\frac{1}{100}$ in ply cut to size and have the centre cut out as in Fig. 8, in the interests of acoustics and ventilation. The aperture can be covered with perforated zinc, secured to the wood with an impact adhesive. Two panel pins should be driven into the bottom edge as shown and the heads filed to points which can be pressed into the bottom of the cabinet; the top can be secured with a couple of small wood screws.

Acoustics

With the particular speaker used in the prototype, an undesirable box resonance was noticed. This was relieved by cutting a second aperture, $4\pm$ in. x $1\pm$ in., in the left hand side of the cabinet as shown in the illustration.





HIS useful instrument for the advanced experimenter can serve a number of purposes, the principal of which is the measurement of the frequency of any input waveform. Indication is on a virtually linear scale on a moving coil meter, and the reading is largely independent of the exact waveform of the input, provided that a minimum amplitude is exceeded and that positive-going transitions at least of the order of those on a sine wave are present on the waveform.

1988

Subsidiary uses of the instrument are manifold. Thus it includes as first stage, a one-valve preamplifier with a gain of 100, and a maximum output voltage of 25r.m.s, with a cathode-follower

WITH THIS INSTRUMENT, THE FREQUENCY OF AN INPUT WAVEFORM WILL BE SHOWN ON A LINEAR SCALE ON A MOVING COIL METER.

By E. Dexter



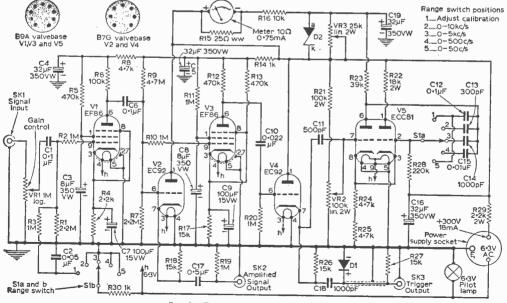


Fig. I—The complete circuit diagram.

output stage. This can be used *independently* for any of the normal purposes for which such an amplifier may be required. An amplified version of the input signal, undistorted, but of reversed polarity, can still be taken from the pre-amplifieroutput while measuring the frequency, or monitored there on a pair of headphones or a small loudspeaker.

The second stage of the instrument is a pentode limiter squarer, again feeding an output cathode follower embodying a differentiator and negative clipper circuit using a silicon rectifier. At the output provided, short positive trigger-pulses of about 30V amplitude appear, at a repetition frequency equal to the input-waveform frequency. These trigger pulses may be used to start the timebases of a triggered oscilloscope, etc. The third stage of the instrument is an integrating monostable multivibrator (flip-flop), used as the frequency measuring stage. Any reasonable combination of ranges desired can be obtained by appropriate choice of condensers for this stage, and an internal calibration check against the mains frequency is provided.

Geiger Counter

All stages will operate satisfactorily on a pulseinput of the type obtained from a Geiger counter, and the pre-amplifier will also amplify such pulses admirably well. Using a Geiger head of the type published in another article, which has a Geiger tube and simple positive-signal cathode-follower output, the frequency meter here described is usable as it stands as an integrating radiation intensity meter. The pulses from the Geiger head are fed into the input stage, and the meter shows the average number of pulses per second, which can be converted into the usual radiation-intensity units using the calibrationfactor of the particular Geiger tube in use, or by comparison with a standard radiation meter.

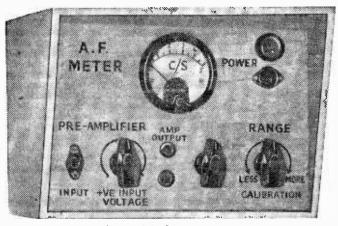
The time-constant of the indicating meter circuit is about one-third of a second, so that all fluctuations slower than this in the input (as will certainly be present on, for example Geiger counter input) will be followed faithfully by the meter, whereas faster fluctuations of the input signal frequency are automatically averaged.

Introduction to Pulse Circuits

It is not easy to make this circuit function properly if two basic requirements are not satisfied. Firstly, a sufficient basic knowledge in theory and practice of conventional radio and amplifier circuitry. Secondly, possession, or availability for use, cf a small oscilloscope and a valve-voltmeter, as well as an audio-signal generator, preferably calibrated. Home-made equipment according to plans published in the past in P.W. and P.TV. is ideal.

It is perhaps not out of place to suggest to the really serious constructor, who will possibly wish to build the instrument described in this article

F	RE	QU	ENCY-
Resista RI R2 R3	COMPONENT ors (All IW ±20% Cal stated) 2.2M IM IM		METER
R4 R5 R6 R7 R8 R9 R10 R11 R12 R13 R14 R14 R15 VR1 VR2 VR3 Condel	470k 1k 25Ω w.w. (see text) Potentiometer 1M k Pre-set Potentiomet Potentiometer 25k li	R19 IM R20 IM R21 I00k 2W R22 I8k 2W R23 39k R24 4.7k R25 4.7k R26 I5k R27 I5k R28 220k R29 2.2k 2W R30 Ik pg. 2W	C9 $100\mu F$ 15VW electrolytic C10 $0.022\mu F$ 500 VW C11 500pF ceramic (see text) C12 C12 See text {C14 C15 C16 $32\mu F$ 350VW electrolytic C17 $0.5\mu F$ 500VW C18 $1000pF$ ceramic C19 $32\mu F$ 350VW electrolytic Valves: V1, V3 EF86 V2, V4 EC92 V5 ECC81 D1 Silicon Rectifier, 250V 250mA or similar D2 12V 150mA zener diode Sundries Meter: $0.75mA/10\Omega$ (see text) Ceramic switch, 2-pole, 5-way
C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8	0-1 μF 500VW 0-05μF 500VW 8μF 350VW electroly 32μF 350VW electrol 32μF 350VW electrol 0-1 μF 500VW 100μF 15VW electrol 8μF 350VW electroly	ytic ytic ytic	Ceramic switch, 2-pole, 5-way Pilot lamp 3-pole panel-fitting power socket (tape- recorder type) 3 coaxial sockets, panel fitting Valveholders; 2 BTG, 3 B9A (ceramic) 3 pointer knobs Aluminium 15 in., 8 in. x 8 in. Wood for Cabinet Tagstrip, bolts and usual accessories



A view of the front panel

for use in advanced experiments in circuit techniques, that he build his oscilloscope, valve voltmeter and audio signal generator first, before the present circuit, as such instruments will be needed in any case. It is also quite in order, if desired, to build the instrument described in this article as an addition to, say, a comprehensive signal generator, including the present circuit on the main chassis or on a subsidiary chassis within the same cabinet. If the constructor is building a signal generator, he could leave space free until later.

Wiring Considerations

The circuit in this article will serve as a useful introductory exercise to acquaint the newcomer to pulse-circuits with some of the practical aspects. Some brief general remarks on this subject are not out of place, In pulse circuits, we are very often dealing with large signal amplitudes of tens or hundreds of volts, and are primarily interested in changing waveform shape rather than amplitude. Thus stray couplings are not of quite the same importance as in conamplifiers, as the ventional of a volt involved fractions secondary of imare portance at the high signal amplitudes present. Thus, it is often better to dispense with screened leads as far as possible, and tolerate the small extent of feedback produced, rather than cause the far more serious waveform-deformation of all amplitudes produced by the phase and frequency distortion resulting from the unwanted stray capa-cities of screening. Where of screening. screened leads must be used in pulse circuits, these must be of

low capacity coaxial type. Ordinary audio cable is seldom satisfactory.

factory. A "pulse" is basically any waveform containing very sudden changes of voltage, akin to the idea of "transients" in conventional amplifier terminology. As will be known to the constructor, any stray capacities will "round-off", i.e., destroy the steepness, of transients, because of the charging time required by the capacities. Thus, unless this type of deformation of the waveform is deliberately desired at the point in question in a pulse circuit, stray capacities remain the constant problem. Layout and design should be such as to minimise these. It is in many cases the effect of stray capacities which ultimately sets an upper frequency limit to satisfactory performance of a pulse circuit.

Ranges

Bearing in mind the remarks just made, it is clear that any conventional amplifier (the stray capacities and other circuit defects of which are so low that frequency distortion and phase distortion are quite negligible over the whole range of harmonic components contained in a given waveform) will be capable of amplifying that waveform with negligible distortion of shape. Now, consider a good square wave, with its sudden

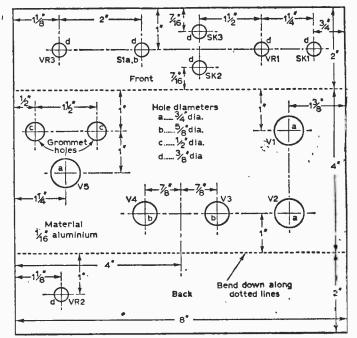


Fig. 2-The drilling details of the chassis.

alternate positive and negative transitions, as the ultimate example of pulse types of waveform, Fourier analysis shows that harmonics up to the fifth, at least, and preferably up to the tenth, must pass satisfactorily through an amplifier, if the "square" form of the wave is not to be appreciably rounded off. Thus we need much higher frequency ranges in equipment dealing with nonsinusoidal waves, and pulse-amplifiers and equip

Prototype

The circuit as published in this article was found to operate quite reasonably with a 0 to 50kc/s upper range, simply by replacing C13 with a value between 50 and 100pF. But this range will no longer be anywhere even approaching linear, on account of stray capacities being then of the same order as the capacitance value used for C13, so that a separate calibration on the

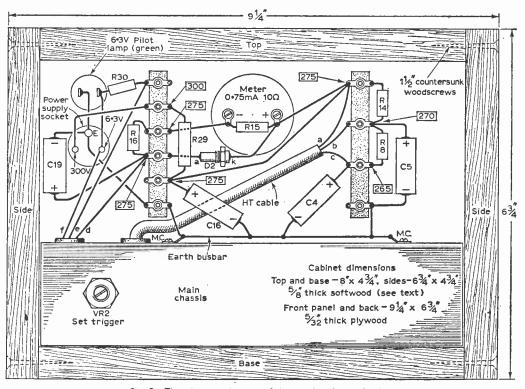


Fig. 3—The wiring at the rear of the panel and case detai s.

ment fall under the category of "video" amplifiers.

In the instrument described in this article, modest ranges up to 10kc/s fundamental frequency are present on the prototype. There is no reason against the constructor attempting to install considerably higher ranges, and he will very tikely be successful in doing so, as long as certain points mentioned later in this article are watched carefully. A second method to increase the range to higher fundamental frequencies is to include a frequency-divider stage in front of the input. This has definite advantages. Firstly, in the author's experience, it is easier to make such frequency-dividers work well at high frequencies than it is to make the integrating multivibrator of the present circuit run well above 10kc/s. It must be remembered, from the above remarks, that a 10kc/s range already requires the presence of signal components up to 50kc/s. meter scale will be required for this range. Indeed, *slight* non-linearity of scale, in the form of slight opening-up at low readings and slight cramping near full-scale, may be present on all ranges, so that the finished instrument should be calibrated initially against an already calibrated audio oscillator, on all ranges.

The writer has not found this non-linearity appreciable on any of his scales for the four ranges incorporated, 0 to 50c/s, 0 to 500c/s, 0 to 5kc/s, and 0 to 10kc/s. Thus one linear scale is used tot all on the meter. The writer preferred to leave out a 0 to 25kc/s range, with its extra calibration, as his personal uses of the instrument will seldom require this, but the hi-fi enthusiast, who will use this instrument on good audio-amplifiers. and experiments therewith, should include this range instead of the 10kc/s range.

(To be continued)



(Continued from page 908 of the February issue)

S stated last month, this unit is built in four sub-units arranged, so that when assembly is complete, spatial interlocking is achieved within the cabinet. The constructor can base the final construction on the guiding dimensions given here from the author's prototype unit. Only after careful consideration should constructional work be commenced, as only then can the exact dimensions necessary be determined. The author, however,

DETAILS OF THE CIRCUIT SWITCHING

By M. L. Michaelis

used standard size components throughout in his prototype unit, so that in fact little departure from his construction will normally be needed, unless the constructor wishes to use particularly awkward components that may be in his junkbox. In that case, the author would feel that a conventional chassis construction should be reverted to, rather

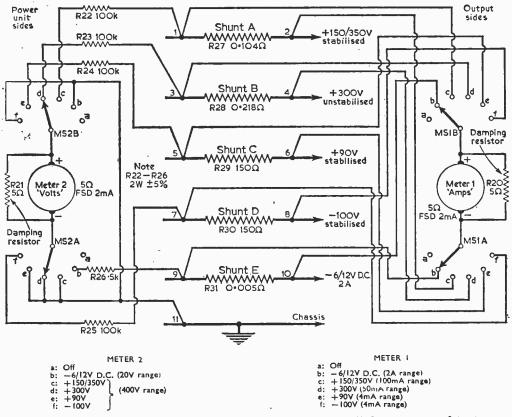


Fig. 7—The theoretical circuit of the monitor meters. See also Fig. 6 (last month) for the positions of the shunts in the main circuit. Note also the resistor voltages which were given in the Components List.

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

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Pilots

than attempt too drastic a modification of the "spatial" design here published. It must also be stressed that this power supply, when finished, will very likely form one of the most valuable key items of the workshop, and thus a little extra trouble and expense in obtaining optimum components will repay itself well in the form of reliability and efficient service.

Cable Forms

Particular care is required in making the interunit cable-bunches between the tagstrips. If these are too short, repairs and servicing later will be unnecessarily awkward. If they are too long, there is danger of damage by pinching or chafing when the large quantity of wire is stuffed away in the assembled unit. The correct lengths are such that any part may be detached by removing the appropriate cabinet screws, and then pulled clear far enough for easy insertion of a small soldering iron or other tools to any part of the detached portion. By removing all cabinet screws, the whole power unit can be "exploded" at any time, without breaking any electrical connections. This is required for more drastic servicing, or for later modifications.

Finally, the usual warning. Take great care to connect the mains plug correctly. The earth pin (the large pin) of the plug goes to the chassisline and transformer cores, and the live pin (marked "L" inside modern 3-pin plugs) goes to the fuse and mains switch. The unit could be lethal if the live pin were connected in error to the chassis-line.

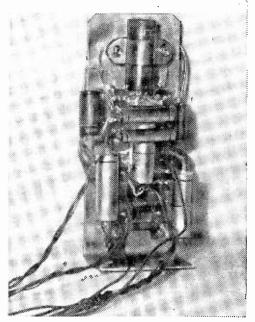
Circuit Description-(1) Switching

Fig. 6 (last month) showed the complete theoretical circuit apart from the monitor meter circuitry, for which only the shunts and connections 1 to 11 were shown. The complete metering circuitry is shown in Fig. 7.

Two conventional transformers are used. One large 350-0-350V winding rated at 100 to 150mA. with two 6.3V windings tapped at 4V, and rated at 2.5A and 4A respectively. The second transformer is a smaller one, with a 250V 80mA winding and a 6.77 4A winding tapped at 4V. The larger transformer must have a primary winding tapped at 110V, and not be of the type now often found which has two separate 110V primaries, which are connected in series for 220V and in parallel for 110V. Only the tapped type of primary can be used for providing the 110V output envisaged in this power supply.

The only reason why one side of the A.C. heater outputs, and thus also one side of the lowvolt D.C. output, is earthed is because V2 requires this to prevent excessive heater-cathode potential differences in this value. If one of the transformers can be purchased with an additional 6.3V winding (it need only have about 0.5A rating) for feeding V2, then neither side of the heater supply outputs need be earthed, and earthing can take place externally as desired. As already mentioned, the D.C. low-voltage output has the positive side earthed in the author's unit, to conform with normal custom and requirements in transistor circuitry.

The 6.3V winding of the smaller current rating on the large transformer is used to heat the stabiliser valve V1, switched via one contact of the relay Rly 1. The 4V tapping of the same winding is used for the mains and 110V supply pilot lights, thus fully loading this winding. These pilot lights are fitted with 6.3V bulbs, which give adequate brilliance, and far longer life, operating at 4V. The mains pilot is fitted with a green glass, and wired direct to the 4V tapping on this winding; it thus comes on as soon as the mains is switched on. The 110V pilot is fitted with a red



A rear view of the rectifier sub-chassis.

glass, and is also wired via a second contact on the 110V switch (which is thus a double-pole on/off switch S2), and comes on only if mains and 110V are switched on, i.e. if 110V output is actually present. Fuses are placed on the supply side of switches, so that possible switch faults are also interrupted by the fuses. Slow fuses should be used throughout, as fast fuses are liable to blow due to the surge upon switching on the inductive circuitry represented by the transformers. It is far safer to use a low-rating slow fuse than a

high-rating fast fuse. S3 and S4 represent the H.T. switches. S3 is simply a double-pole on/off switch, whereas S4 is a double-pole on/on switch, i.e. two poles (a and b) are made in one position and broken in the other, whereas two other poles (c and d) are broken in the first position and made in the second. This merely represents a special form of double-pole double-thro.v toggle switch.

S3 is the main H.T. switch. One contact switches the A.C. side of the 300V unstabilised



Power Unit Meter reads buffered voltage Note: It is also possible to Volts ==-More (Mi buffer using dry cells, though this DC Low Volts efficient Amps (M2) Consumer Load Accumulator Accumulator of desired output voitage

Fig. 8—Method of buffering the accumulators. Adjust VR2 until MI reads the same current as M2; then the power unit is supplying all the power to the consumer load and the accumulator is neither charging nor discharging, but is merely stabilising the voltage.

If MI reads higher than M2, then the difference current is charging the accumulator. If MI reads lower than M2, then the accumulator is discharging to supply the difference to the consumer load.

supply, and the other contact switches the energising current to the A.C. relay Rly 1 and to the red H.T. pilot lamp L3 fitted with a 10V 0.2A bulb. Thus if S3 is off, no H.T. outputs at all are possible, and the pilot lamp cannot be lit. As soon as S3 is switched on, either of two H.T. output conditions are possible, depending upon the setting of S4. With S4 "up", i.e. making contacts A and B the relay and pilot lamp receive 4V A.C. via contacts A on S4 and S3. This is insufficient to energise the relay, and thus the main stabilised H.T. and the minus 100V supplies remain dead, as they can only be fed over the relay contacts. But the 10V pilot lamp glows dimly, showing that the H.T. supplies are partially on, to the extent that the 300V unstabilised supply is operating, and also the plus 90V supply derived from it. This switch setting is intended for operating small equipment such as a valve voltmeter, an oscillator, etc., when the main H.T. supply is otherwise not needed. Thus the valves and equipment need not then be run unnecessarily off load. As is seen, the main H.T. circuits are still completely dead in this position. Two relay contacts are breaking the 350-0-350 A.C. feed, so that even the rectifiers and smoothing are dead. A third relay contact is breaking the heaters of V1, and contacts D on S4 are still breaking the heaters to V2, whereas contacts B on S4 are shorting the anode of V2A to earth, thus removing H.T. from this valve, although the 300V supply is on. This function of contacts B on S4 also serves to discharge the 300V supply through R13 after switching everything off.

March, 1962

If S4 is now also switched "down", i.e. breaking A, B and making C, D, then the relay and pilot lamp L3 receive 10V A.C. via c instead of 4Vvia A as previously. This causes the relay to switch on, and the pilot lamp to run at full brilliance. V2 receives heater voltage via D on S4, and the H.T. short is removed because B on S4 has opened; thus V2 can operate. As soon as the valves have warmed up, all H.T. outputs are present.

S3, the H.T. main switch, overrides S4; and S1, the mains on/off switch, overrides everything.

Advantages of Switching

This seemingly complicated switching circuitry has in effect many distinct advantages. Firstly it makes do with perfectly normal simple components, in spite of the requirements of switching a large number of circuit items simultaneously at relatively high voltages. Secondly, it leads to a very simple result as far as panel controls are concerned, giving merely a couple of toggle switches there. Thirdly, it fully meets the requirement, that the main H.T. stabiliser circuitry can be left absolutely dead if only the 300V unstabilised supply is required, thus preventing unnecessary wear of components.

The A.C. relay used is a small three-phase con-tactor rated at 400V 2A on the contacts, such as is to be found in various appliances using motors, such as washing machines, refrigerators, etc. If only types with a magnet winding for 200/250V A.C. mains are obtainable, then the constructor will have to rewind the coil. This is not difficult, as only about 100 to 200 turns will be required for a 10/12V A.C. coil. The mains coil should be stripped of all windings, and then sufficient turns of enamelled copper wire of about one fiftieth of an inch to one twenty-fifth of an inch in diameter wound on to make the relay pull in securely at 10V A.C., but make no attempt to move at 4V A.C. Having achieved this, if the current taken at 4V A.C. (in the non-operating resistance should be included until the current falls below half an amp under these conditions. If this resistance has then impaired the security of operation at 10V A.C., the minimum number of extra turns needed for secure operation should be added again. However, it should be possible to procure such relays ready made with 10/12V magnet windings. It is, of course, essential to use a relay in this circuit, as no ordinary toggle switch will withstand 350-0-350V switching on an induc-tive circuit without serious danger of flashover sooner or later. It is not possible to use ordinary small D.C. relays either, for two reasons. The contact spacing is insufficient in such relays, and the current rating is too small. Contact resistance is also not reliably small enough for switching the 1.5A heater supply of V1 as required. Thus it is absolutely essential to use a proper 3-phase powercontactor A.C. relay, which thus has the proper voltage and current rating.

We now come to a discussion of the heater supplies, etc. The A.C. 4A outputs at $4/6\cdot3/10/12\cdot6V$ are operative as soon as the mains on/off switch is on, and thus they have no additional switching. But they are individually protected by a total of four fuses, fitted with slow 4A cartridges. The low voltage D.C. supply for heaters, battery (Continued on page 1058)

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radio and record reproduction.

Transistorised Grid-Dip Oscillator

IN THIS DESIGN THE METER AND OSCILLATOR ARE BUILT INTO TWO SEPARATE CASES. By M. R. Lord

HE uses of the normal type of grid dip oscillator are well known to all radio enthusiasts; but it suffers from the disadvantage of size, even if the meter and power supply are not in the same case as the oscillator. The presence of a valve means that the unit is large and, also, the normal GDO needs a sensitive, and correspondingly expensive, meter.

However, by the use of one transistor in the oscillator, and another to amplify the change of

current, these two objections can be removed, and the oscillator can be built into a very small case.

The Circuit 1

This GDO consists of two units connected by a few feet of flex; the oscillator and a small box containing the meter, battery, and meter amplifier.

containing the meter, battery, and meter amplifier. The oscillator uses a single OC170 (Tr1) and will operate up to at least 25Mc/s. The voltage across L3 is rectified by the diode, filtered, and applied to the base of Tr2.

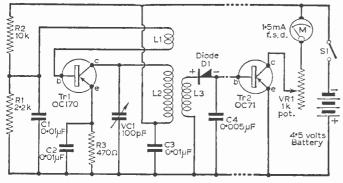
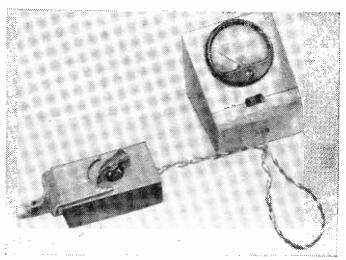


Fig. 1-The circuit of the grid-dip oscillator.



The meter and oscillator connected.

When the oscillator coil is brought near to a circuit tuned to the same frequency, power is absorbed from the oscillator circuit, and so the voltage applied to the base of Tr2, and hence the current flowing through the meter, alters. The variable resistance VRI serves to limit the current flowing through Tr2 and the meter.

Construction

The oscillator is built in a small box made of bakelite or some such material. The dimensions

used in the prototype are shown in Fig. 2, but these will obviously vary if a tuning condenser of different size is used; the tuning capacity used by the author was a twin gang midget type of about 100pF per section, only one section being used.

The associated resistors and capacitors are mounted on a paxolin board by threading their lead wires through small holes drilled in the paxolin, as shown in Fig. 3. This board was then glued inside the box (see Fig. 2).

inside the box (see Fig. 2). The plug-in coil is made by cementing a ³/₈in. diameter coil former. minus base, to a B9A plug. The arrangement of the coil winding is shown in Fig. 4. The actual frequency range covered will

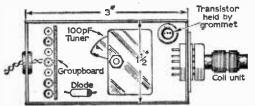
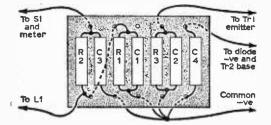


Fig. 2 (above)—The general layout. Fig. 3 (below)—The group-board layout.



depend upon the tuning capacitor used as well as the number of turns on L2, but as a guide, 30 turns on L2 gave a frequency range on the prototype of 8.5-14.5 Mc/s.

L1 should have about one third as many turns as L2, and L3 about half as many. After winding, the coils are smeared with polystyrene cement to fix the turns in place.

The coil socket, a B9A valveholder, is cemented to the case with an impact adhesive. Tr1 is held in place by pushing it inside a rubber grommet that is glued to the inside of the case.

The meter case can be to any design. In the prototype, VR1 was mounted inside the case, but it would be better mounted on the front panel as

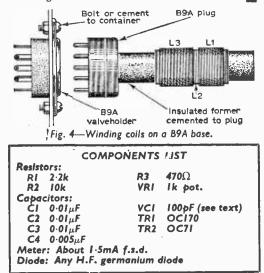
often. The scale is drawn on an L-shaped piece of Perspex which forms part of each coil assembly. as can be seen from the illustrations. This avoids the crowding of figures that would occur if all the scales were drawn on the front of the oscillator.

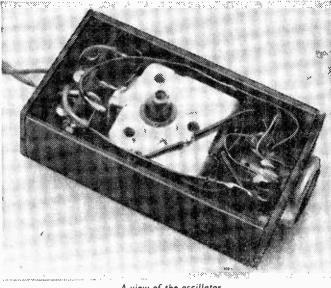
Calibration

a calibrated short wave If receiver is obtainable, calibration is easy. One end of a piece of wire is plugged in the aerial socket of the receiver, and the other end is looped around the coil. The receiver is then tuned from the low frequency end, with the BFO turned on, until a whistle is heard, the receiver is then tuned to the same frequency as the GDO. The receiver and GDO are then tuned together to some frequency, such as 8 or 9 Mc/s as indicated on the receiver, the GDO tuned to give zero beat on the receiver, and the scale marked with the appropriate number. (The accuracy of the receiver can be checked against standard frequency transmissions.) This process is repeated at 1Mc/s or 0.5Mc/s intervals to calibrate the whole scale.

Operation is simple; the coil is brought near to the coil to be investigated, and the tuning altered until the meter reading shows a dip or rise. The dial reading corresponding to maximum rise or dip is then equal to the resonant frequency of the tuned circuit under investigation.

By virtue of its design, it can also be used as a sensitive absorption wavemeter without any modification, although care must be taken not to subject it too high a signal, or there is a danger of damage to the transistor.





A view of the oscillator



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1037

SERVICING TAPE RECORDERS

FAULTS, SYMPTOMS AND THEIR REMEDIES FOR DOMESTIC EOUIPMENT

By T. S. Smith

N this new series for the experimenter the overall construction of tape recorders will be dealt with; how a recording is made and reproduced; how the various circuits work. Various fault symptoms and conditions will also be described.

Basic Knowledge

This approach is essential, since it is virtually impossible to repair a tape recorder successfully without a basic knowledge of how the equipment functions. Indeed, the amateur recordist stands a far better chance of securing better recordings if he knows how the various items operate.

To play a tape record (sometimes called a prerecorded tape) a "replay head", an amplifier and

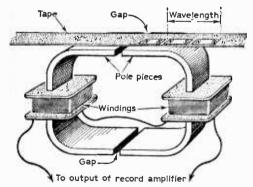


Fig. 1—How the magnetic field between the gap of the record head produces small magnets on the coated side of the tape.

loudspeaker and some mechanism capable of causing the coated side of the tape to pass at a constant speed past the replay head, are required.

When all these things are set up, the magnetic "sound pattern" on the tape is converted back across the replay head to the original electrical impulses, as were present at the microphone during the recording.

The impulses are amplified first in terms of voltage and then in terms of power so that they

are able to work a loudspeaker, as if the original microphone were connected to the input of the amplifier, instead of the replay head.

Gain and Equalisation

There are two important points here. One is that the electrical impulses from the replay head are extremely weak, so great amplification is required—more, for instance, than is required for an ordinary medium-quality gramophone pick-up. This means, then, that it is not usually possible to connect a tape replay head across the pick-up terminals of a radio or radiogram and expect to obtain tape reproduction. A head amplifier and some form of equalisation (see below) would, at least, be required.

Secondly, the signal output from a replay head is not constant over the whole of the audiofrequency spectrum. The output peaks towards the centre of the spectrum and diminishes fairly quickly (depending upon the tape speed) towards the high-frequency end. There is also a drop at the low-frequency end. In order to correct this apparent shortcoming, the amplitude of the signal has to be corrected against frequency, and this is accomplished by an equalisation network which gives, in effect, high-frequency lift, and a certain degree of bass boost. Such a network has to be included either before, or after, the head amplifier, and, as this introduces an overall "insertion loss", an even greater gain from the replay amplifier is required.

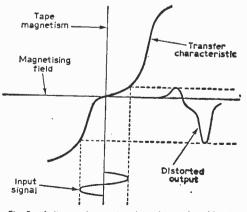


Fig. 2—A distorted tape signal can be produced by the "transfer characteristic".

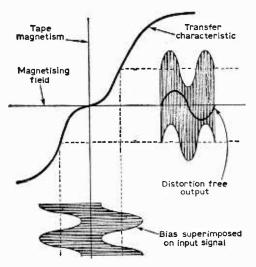
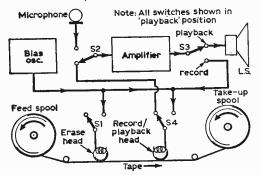


Fig. 3 (above)—A supersonic bias superimposed on the recording signal at the record head eliminates the transfer distortion.

Fig. 4 (below)—The basic record/playback switching of a domestic recorder.



Recording

So much for replay. Now to deal with the recording side. To make a tape recording, a recording head, an amplifier, an oscillator and, again, some mechanism to drive the tape at a constant speed past the recording head are needed. Some programme material to record is also required.

If the programme is from a microphone, then this would be connected to the input of the amplifier, while the output would be connected across the recording head. The microphone converts the sound waves to electrical impulses, which are considerably magnified by the amplifier. The output of the amplifier is designed in such a way that quite large current changes occur in the "electromagnet" of the recording head. These current changes, of course, occur in direct sympathy with the electrical impulses from the microphone caused by the sound waves.

Thus, across the pole pieces of the recording head occur variations in magnetic field, of polarity and strength determined by the original sound. As the tape passing the pole pieces is coated with a substance that is influenced by magnetism, small magnets are, in fact, formed on the tape. The length of the small magnets is governed by the frequency of the sound, while the strength is governed by the loudness of the sound. The general idea is illustrated in Fig. 1.

Here, it will be seen that the pole picces are in two sections with a gap at the top and bottom. Non-magnetic shims are used to fill the gaps and the whole assembly is clamped mechanically. The small magnets can be seen on the tape, and the wavelength of the recorded sound is related to the length of the magnets. The lower the wavelength, the higher the frequency, so for high audio frequencies the magnets are very small indeed.

The replay head is of very similar construction, and on almost all domestic machines the same head is used for both record and replay. As would be expected, the top gap dimensions have quite a bearing on record and replay (especially on replay), and to a certain limit, the smaller the gap the better the high-frequency reproduction. More will be said about that later.

The Need for a Record Bias

Because the magnetism imparted on to the tape by reason of the magnetic field set up between the pole pieces of the recording head is not linearly related to the magnetic field, severe distortion would result on replay from a recording produced simply as described above. This is called "transfer distortion." and results from the residual magnetism retained by the tape during the recording cycle. The "kink" which produces the distortion is shown on the transfer characteristic in Fig. 2.

In order to counteract the effect of the "transfer kink" a "supersonic" bias is superimposed on to the tape along with the record signal. The bias, being slightly above audio-frequency, cannot be heard on the recording. Fig. 3 shows how this supersonic bias eliminates the distortion.

At this stage it should be understood that the amplitude of the bias has quite an influence, not only on the quality of the recording, but also on its "signal-to-noise" ratio. It is also very important that the bias signal be as pure as possible. Excessive harmonic content makes it virtually impossible for the bias to rid the transfer characteristic of its kink completely, and another kind of distortion may also occur. It is for this reason that high-quality recorders use push-pull bias oscillators. Some machines have a control for adjusting the bias amplitude, but before haphazard adjustment is made to this control it is as well to refer to the instruction manual, as the recording level and type of tape are related to the bias amplitude. We shall have more to say about that later.

Erasure

The bias oscillator also serves another purpose it energises the erase head so that prior to making a recording the originally recorded material is wiped off the tape. The erase head is rather like the record and replay head, but does not require to be so exacting in its construction.

(Continued on page 1057)



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FAULTS IN VHF/F.M. **RECEIVERS** 5-Transistor I.F. Stages

(Continued from page 961 of the February issue)

RANSISTORISED A.M./F.M. receivers follow a pattern which is very similar to that of valve counterparts. Transistor versions may appear to be extra complicated, but this is superficial, almost certainly resulting from a lack of familiarity with transistor techniques. Fig. 13 shows a rather interesting circuit of the I.F. stages of such a receiver, and the apparent complexity here is due essentially to the tuned circuits and switch-ing arrangements. This circuit is a follow-on of the VHF transistorised tuner which was dealt with in Part 4 of this series (last month).

Switching

Although all the various switches are ganged, there are two distinct switching functions: one which changes the circuit from A.M. to F.M., and vice versa, and the other simply for A.M. waveBy G. J. King

change. The switches which are concerned with the A.M./F.M. change are suffixed with the letter "A", while those which deal with L.W. and M.W. switching in the A.M. section are suffixed "B" The former switches are shown in the "F.M." position, while all the latter switches are shown

in the "open" position. In the "F.M" position, transistor Tr3 operates simply as an I.F. amplifier, but in the "A.M." position its function is changed to oscillator/mixer (i.e., frequency changer). In both positions, tran-sistor Tr4 operates as I.F. amplifier. It will be recalled that Tr3 and Tr4 are the transistor counterparts of valves V2 and V3 in the circuit given in Part 2 of this series.

F.M. Oberation

It is probably best to investigate the circuit first under "F.M." conditions. The 10 7Mc/s F.M. I.F. from the VHF tuner is applied direct to the base

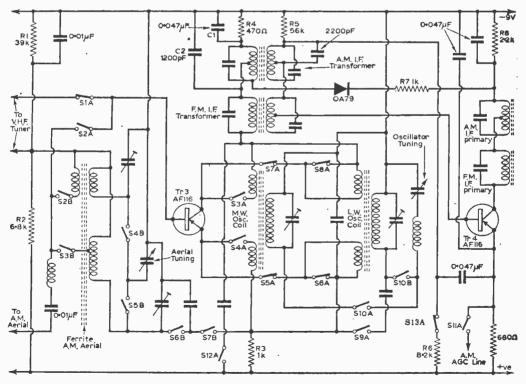


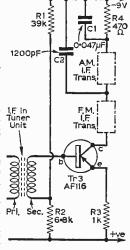
Fig. 13-The circuit diagram of the I.F. stages of a transistorised A.M./F.M. receiver.

of Tr3, via the closed S1A. The other side of the VHF tuner I.F. secondary winding is connected to the junction of R1 and R2, which forms the base potential-divider for Tr3. The A.M. aerial circuits are removed from the base of that transistor by S2A being open, and similarly, the A.M. local oscillator circuits are disconnected from the emitter and collector circuits by switches S3A and S4A being open.

Tr3 emitter continuity to battery positive, through emitter resistor R3, is achieved by switches S5A and S6A being closed, while collector continuity is maintained on "F.M." by switches S7A and S8A being closed. The collector switching puts the collector to the "live" side of the seriesconnected F.M. and A.M. I.F. transformer primaries. The low value resistor R4 is simply a collector decoupler, which works in conjunction with C1, while C2 provides a relatively low impedance path for the F.M. I.F. signals.

Fig. 14—The circuit of Tr3 stage when the receiver is switched to F.M.—Tr3 then operates as an I.F. amplifier.

The "F.M." operation of Tr3 is very simple, and resolves to the circuit shown in Fig. 14, which details the sum total of components employed, excluding the switching arrangements. It is a straightforward I.F. amplifier, using the "earthed-emitter" mode with the F.M. I.F. signals applied to the base. The biggest complication is the switch- Pri. ing, and should both services fail, it is best to undertake fault diagnosis with the switched to "F.M." set



Typical Tr3 readings on "F.M." are collector 7V, emitter 0.7V and base 0.85V, all relative to battery positive. The voltages will differ slightly when the set is switched to "A.M.", since then Tr3 is called upon to oscillate, but that section will be dealt with later.

As with the valve circuit, the F.M. I.F. signals are developed in the I.F. transformer which is tuned to $10^{-7}Mc/s$ in the collector circuit (in the anode circuit when a valve is used). The A.M. I.F. transformer in series is almost like a short-circuit so far as the $10^{-7}Mc/s$ signals are concerned, and this effect is increased by C2.

The I.F. signals in the secondary of the appropriate transformer are coupled to the base circuit of the second I.F. amplifier Tr4. The signals are usually fed from a tapping on the winding, as shown in Fig. 1, to facilitate matching to the low impedance base. The other side of the seriesconnected secondaries are returned to the junction of R5 and R6, which act as the base potentialdivider for Tr4. A point of interest here is the switch S8A in series with R6. This is closed on "F.M." operation, ensuring that Tr4 base is operated from a constant potential. On "A.M." operation, however, S13A opens and S11A closes. This returns the base to the A.M. AGC line, and thus gives AGC to Tr4.

The F.M. I.F. signals are developed in amplified form across the I.F. transformer in Tr4 collector circuit (note that the primaries only are shown in the circuit). from where the signals are coupled to the F.M. ratio detector. This latter section and the A.F. stages of the receiver will be dealt with in a subsequent article.

A.M. Operation

When the receiver is switched to "A.M." all the switches suffixed "A" change over. Such operation disconnects the VHF tuner and switches in the aerial circuits. In the circuit under discussion (Perdio Model 95) a ferrite rod aerial is used and the windings on this constitute the R.F. tuned circuits. Switches S2B, S3B, S4B and S5B are cc...cerned with L.W. and M.W. switching.

The local oscillator tuned circuits and feedback are also brought into circuit by S3A, S4A and S12A closing. These functions cause Tr3 to work as a self-oscillating frequency changer, and the voltages therefore change as follows: collector 7.2V, emitter 0.8V and base 0.9V. In essence, the base voltage rises, as also does the emitter voltage, due to the stage oscillating.

If the set is dead on "A.M." but normal on "F.M." a check of the emitter voltage when changing from F.M. to A.M. is sometimes sufficient to indicate whether or not failure of the local oscillator is responsible for the fault. A more definite change in emitter voltage can be obtained, however, by connecting an 0.1μ F capacitor across the oscillator tuning gang with the set switched to "A.M.". An increase in voltage would indicate that the stage is oscillating.

The local oscillator "beating" with the incoming signal produces the A.M. I.F. of 470kc/s. This is developed across the A.M. I.F. transformer in the collector circuit of Tr3. The series-connected F.M. I.F. transformer has no significant effect on this, as the inductance is so small compared with that of the A.M. I.F. transformer.

Again, the output is coupled to the base of Tr4, as before. As already intimated, AGC is applied to Tr4 by S11A closing and S13A opening.

Overload Protection

A rather interesting feature on A.M. is the OA79 diode and resistor R7 connected between the primary of the first A.M. I.F. transformer and the junction of R8 and the primary of the second A.M. I.F. transformer. This network works as an overload protection on A.M. and is included as an alternative to AGC, which is extremely difficult to apply to a self-oscillating frequency changer stage.

The diode is normally non-conducting, but under conditions of strong signal, which may be sufficient to overload the frequency changer stage, the bias alters in such a way that conduction occurs through R7. This in effect then puts the resistor in shunt with the first A.M. I.F. transformer primary winding, and thus decreases the effective output of the stage.

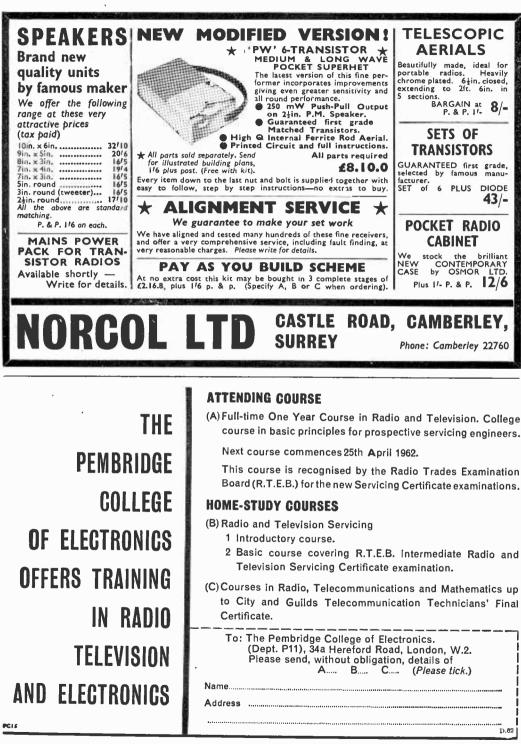
(Continued on page 1050)

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

1043



www.americanradiohistorv.com





The output of this unit is 50mW and its overall power gain is 50dB.

The signal tracer is manufactured by Lab-Craft Ltd., 83 Ilford Lane, Ilford, Essex.

BATTERY-OPERATED RECORD PLAYER UNIT

A NEW battery-operated record player unit has recently been introduced by Greencoat Industries Ltd. Compact and robust in design, the player will play all L.P. records from 7 to 12in. in diameter at 333r.p.m. or 45r.p.m.

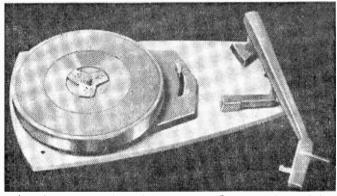
The record player is finished in two-tone grey and incorporates a ceramic cartridge. It provides reproduction free from audible "wow" and rumble ".

The unit consumes a low current which, during playing, is not higher than 23mA on the 9V version, and 38mA on the 6V version with the stylus in the outside groove of a 12in. record. The patented centrifugal governor ensures that turntable speed remains constant within $\pm 0.8\%$ over the voltage range. The voltage range for the 9V unit is 9.3 to

SIGNAL TRACER

THE Model 703 signal tracer, made by Lab-Craft, is essentially a two transistor transformer coupled amplifier providing adequate gain for signal tracing in the audio stages of a receiver. Provision is also made by the addition of a diode detector to trace signals in the I.F. and R.F. circuits of radio and television receivers.

When used in conjunction with Lab-Craft's radio and television signal probes-models 704 and 705 respectively-this instrument provides a complete circuit analyser for fault finding on radio or TV, by tracing the R.F. and A.F. signal from aerial to speaker.



A new battery-operated record player unit from Greencoat Industries Ltd.



ews

A signal tracer made by Lab-Craft Ltd.

6.8 and that for the 6V unit is 6.3 to 4.5.

A switch automatically switches off the motor, which is started again by moving the arm away from the record, as is normal practice.

The record player is so designed that when not in use the tone arm support may be swung in towards the turntable and the tone arm positively locked on top of it.

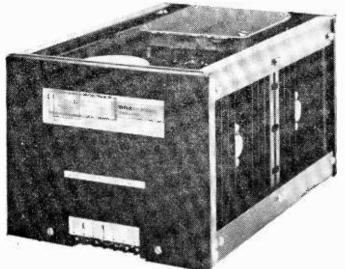
Robust construction is ensured by a metal chassis and the player will function correctly on non-horizontal surfaces up to angles of 25°.

Two standard types are available, one for operating from a 9V battery, Model No. KT 5/9, and the other unit is for operating from a

6V battery, Model No. KT 5/6. The record player is made by Greencoat Industries Ltd., Irwin House, 118 Southwark Street, London, S.E.1.

TRANSISTORISED POWER SUB-UNITS

A NEW range of transistorised power supply subunits has been announced by A.P.T. Electronic Industries Limited, and designated the TSU Series, and is intended both for laboratory use and for incorporation in customers' own equipment.



A transistorised power sub-unit by A.P.T. Electronic Industries Limited.

Features of the new units, apart from higher stabilisation and low output resistance, are their wide ambient temperature range, non-destructive overload protection, low temperature coefficient and small size.

The range comprises six units with maximum rated outputs of 0.5A, 1A, 2A, 3A, 5A and 10A; the unit illustrated is the 5A model, type TSU 500. The output voltage of each unit is set during manufacture to a specified fixed value in the range 6-30V, but can subsequently be reset to a different voltage in this range, if required.

All units operate from single phase A.C. mains of 200-250V. The output resistance (D.C.) in the 0.5A model is 0.1Ω , and in all other models it is less than 0.05Ω , the output impedance is less than 0.5Ω in all models and at all frequencies up to 500 kc/s.

A non-destructive system of current overload protection is incorporated in all units, and is fully effective over the permissible range of ambient temperatures of -10 to $+45^{\circ}$ C.

> The sizes of all units are small for their rated outputs. A factor contributing to the compact design, and one which also makes for ease of servicing, is the use of printed circuit-boards.

A.P.T. Electronic Industries Limited, Byfleet, Surrey.

SUB-MINIATURE HIGH STABILITY RESISTORS

A NEW "Resista" sub-miniature high stability composition film resistor, type Rsx1, is now available from GASP (G. A. Stanley Palmer, Ltd.).

This addition to the existing resistor stock range has been especially designed as a robust, long-life resistor with a high degree of service stability for use in such equipment as computers, dataprocessing, automation, telemetry, radiocommunications and so forth.

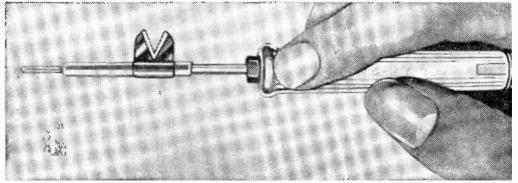
The resistor consists of a ceramic rod coated with a special composition film. It is capless with tinned axial wire terminations, and is finished with tropical lacquer. G. A. Stanley Palmer Ltd.,

Maxwell House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.2. HEATED WIRE-STRIPPER

A WIRE-STRIPPER, designed to be mounted on to interchangeable soldering bits, has been announced by A.N.T.E.X. Ltd. The spare bit is attached—with the wire-stripper in place—to an ANTEX Precision soldering iron. With the iron "on" any wire drawn through the stripper will be stripped of any plastic covering — the heat of the iron melting the toughest of insulations.

The stripper is small enough to be left in place without any inconvenience when soldering. A.N.T.E.X. Limited, 7/8 Idol Lane, London,

A.N.I.E.X. Limited, 7/8 Idol Lane, London, E.C.3.



A new wire-stripping attachment by A.N.T.E.X. Ltd.

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March, 1962



PRACTICAL WIRELESS

A CLASS "A" MODULATED MINIATURE VALVE BY

TRANSMITTER

(Continued from page 913 of the February issue)

N last month's article most of the construction was dealt with and the circuit was described in detail. In this concluding article, final adjustments are made and the transmitter is tested.

A 100pF variable condenser is used for grid tuning, and this is mounted directly above the 6BW6 holder. (In Fig. 3—last month—the condenser is shown moved slightly to the right, to clarify wiring.) An extension spindle passes from this condenser, over the coil holder, and through the panel.

Connections in the oscillator and amplifier stages should be short and direct. Stout, direct leads are taken to the chassis, where indicated. In the oscillator section, an insulated tag serves as anchor point for the 22k resistor (R4)/(C5) and 1,000 pF condenser. The lead to the neutralising condenser passes from this tag.

In front of the screen, a strip with three insulated tags forms connecting points for the choke and modulator leads. A smoothing choke may be used instead of the 100Ω resistor (R15) wired to the smoothing condenser tags. If a mains switch is required, it can be situated near the *Spot/Tune* switch.

Send/Receive Switch

Fig. 3 showed the *send/receive* switch as seen from behind, and this item is mounted on the chassis runner. The simplest way of providing for external connections is to use lengths of twin flex for the speaker circuits and separate flexible leads for aerial and receiver. These leads should not need to be more than about 2ft long, and in these circumstances no benefit was found to arise from using coaxial leads. But if the aerial coupler or receiver is designed for coaxial input, aerial and receiver leads may be of coaxial cable, with the outer conductor joined to the chassis.

Tuning Colls

The transmitter may be required for top band only, when a larger transmitter is operated on the other bands, where the same power limit does not apply. If so, the oscillator coil is tuned to the 160m band. For this purpose, a small medium wave coil, with single winding, as used in broadcast receivers, was found satisfactory. The effective parallel capacity is only about 50pF (100pF variable in series with 100pF fixed coupling condenser) and a small trimmer may be required across the coil, to reach 160m. When this trimmer, or the coil core, is suitably adjusted, the 100pF grid tuner will allow any final modification to tuning. Amateur Transmitter

For 80m operation, 160m band crystals may remain in use. The oscillator coil can then consist of 45 turns of 32s.w.g. wire, occupying about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. winding length on a $\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter former, with dust core. The core is adjusted until resonance can be obtained over the band.

The P.A. output coils were wound on plug-in formers, 14in. over the ribs. For the 160m band, approximately 70 turns of 28s.w.g. DCC wire will be satisfactory. For the 80m band, 29 turns of 22s.w.g. bare wire, turns spaced to occupy about 2in., will be suitable. A notched former is most convenient for the coil, with a smooth ribbed former for the larger coil.

Meter Circuits

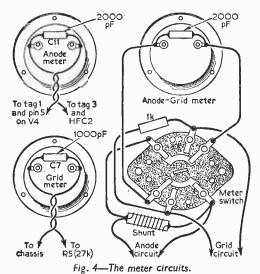
Surplus meters can be obtained at quite low cost, and it may be decided to use individual meters, as in Fig. 4. The anode current meter will be required to indicate about 50mA, so an instrument with a full scale deflection of about 100mA is convenient. Twisted twin leads pass from it to tags 1 and 3 in Fig. 3 (last month).

For grid current, an 0-5mA or similar meter may be used. It is wired to the points indicated in Fig. 3. A grid current of ImA to 2mA will indicate a bias of about 25V to 50V on the 6BW6, and normal operation is well maintained between these limits.

Fig. 4 (on page 1050) shows a way of using a single meter. In this case it should be a 5mA or similar instrument, so that grid current may be read. The 1k resistor completes the grid circuit when the meter is switched out, and has no significant influence on either the meter reading or the grid current. When the meter is switched for anode current, the shunt reduces it to 100mA full-scale reading. The switch must be of a type which breaks one circuit before completing the other. Alternatively, a 3-position switch can be used, with the central position unconnected.

Fig. 1 (last month) showed the circuit positions of the grid meter M1 and anode meter M2 and it will be seen that the latter includes the 6BW6 g2 current also. Points 1, 2 and 3 in Fig. 1 correspond to the numbered tags in Fig. 3 (also last month).

Many surplus radio-frequency ammeters have a 2mA or similar movement, which can be used when the thermo-couple is disconnected. A new, linear scale may be drawn up for the converted meter, if preferred. The R.F. scale is non-linear, and no longer applies. Shunts may be found by trial. Alternatively, divide the movement resistance by a figure corresponding to one less than the number of times the scale is to be multiplied. The result will be the required shunt value, in Ohms.



Oscillator Adjustment

Initially, the *transmit/receive* switch should be at "receive". When the spot and tune switch is closed, some grid current should be indicated. This grid current should peak to a maximum when the 100pF grid tuner is rotated. If not, adjust the position of the coil core until this is so.

To neutralise the amplifier, unscrew the 30pF trimmer to minimum capacity. Close the 2-gang aerial loading condenser, and rotate the 200-300pF tuning condenser. As the circuit passes through resonance, a slight dip in grid current should be seen. Slowly screw down the 30pF trimmer, with an insulated rod, until this dip is no longer present. If the trimmer is turned too far, the dip will re-appear. This operation is done with the oscillator alone working, and when the best setting of the neutralising condenser is reached, little or no change in grid current should be seen, on tuning the anode circuit through resonance.

An initial test is best carried out with some form of artificial aerial. If the transmitter is to work into a relatively high impedance aerial, a 15W 250V household lamp will suffice. If a low impedance output will be used, a 12V 6W or similar lamp is more convenient. The lamp is joined from aerial lead to chassis.

Check that 1mA or more of grid current is obtainable, before turning the switch to transmit. The 2-gang condenser is closed, and the anode tuning condenser is rotated for minimum anode current. To load to the desired input, open the 2-gang condenser, meanwhile re-adjusting the anode condenser, until the anode current has reached the required figure. The 2-gang condenser will probably need to be almost closed, for a low impedance circuit but fairly well open for higher impedance.

To check modulation, either the station receiver may be used, or a simple monitor. The latter can consist of a coil and condenser tunable to the required band, with a crystal-diode detector, and phones. If a 500pF condenser is used, one coil will cover two bands. If the station receiver is used, remove the aerial, and reduce R.F. gain, to avoid overloading. Also keep the A.F. gain turned well down, and keep the microphone away from the loudspeaker.

Turn the audio gain control up until distortion just begins, then back slightly. If distortion remains, ensure that the receiver is not being overloaded.

FAULTS IN VHF/F.M. RECEIVERS (Continued from page 1042)

It will be understood, of course, that failure of A.M. and F.M. could point to a fault in the A.F. stages, but it is generally possible to obtain some idea of the operation of these sections simply by switching the set on. If an ear is held close to the speaker, a definite noise will be heard when the set is switched on (the sound is not so obvious when the set is switched off). This indicates, at least, that the output transistors and speaker are passing current.

The A.F. driver stage could still be at fault, however, but there is an equal chance that the trouble exists in stage Tr3 or Tr4 (the A.F. stages will be considered in the next article).

The best way of checking the I.F. stages is to switch the set to "F.M." and then inject a 10.7 Mc/s I.F. signal, via an 0.1μ F isolating capacitor, first to the base of Tr4 and next to the base of Tr3. If the signal passes through the set from Tr4 but not from Tr3, then the trouble obviously lies somewhere in Tr3 section. The transistor may be defective. or there may be trouble in an associated component, but a few voltage checks on the transistor electrodes, relative to battery positive, should reveal any obvious breakdown. Electrode voltages for that stage have already been given. If the signal does not pass beyond Tr4, a check should first be made of the electrode voltages here. The base should be about 0.9V, the emitter 0.75V and the collector 5V.

If the voltages are fairly reasonable, a very strong 10.7Mc/s signal injected via an 0.1μ F capacitor at the collector should produce an A.F. output. (In all F.M. tests. of course, the generator should be frequency-modulated.) If there is no trace of output signal, the A.F. stages should come under attention.

Failure of A.M. Reception

Here the trouble would almost certainly lie in stage Tr3. The transistor can be discounted, as also can the collector, emitter and base components. There is every possibility that a faulty switch is responsible or trouble in one of the A.M. oscillator coils or tuning elements.

Failure of F.M. Reception

This symptom was considered in Part 4 of this series, and would almost certainly result from a fault in the VHF tuner or tuner switching elements.

However, it sometimes happens that a fault occurs in one of the F.M. I.F. transformers or in one of the associated tuning capacitors.

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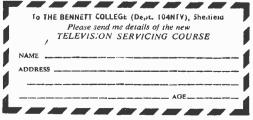
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1053

All about CATHODE FOLLOWER circuits

By E. McLoughlin

PRINCIPLES AND USES OF THIS TYPE OF CIRCUIT

(Continued from page 921 of the February issue)

N Fig. 12, last month, a valve White cathode follower circuit was shown. However, the direct transistor equivalent of the circuit which was shown in Fig. 13 (also last month), would give better performance, on account of the greater current carrying capacity of suitable transistors. The principle of the White cathode follower is

that a second value is used as part of RK, in parallel with the external load forming the main RK. This second value is driven at the grid from a small anode resistor in the cathode follower valve circuit, so that its resistance in parallel with Rk changes to compensate any changes of output voltage. This circuit, employing a coupling con-denser (C1) does not function as such at D.C. For frequencies below the cut-off of C1, R1, the circuit essentially behaves as an ordinary cathode follower.

Fig. 14 (right)-The baseinput emitter-follower.

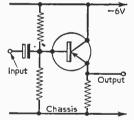
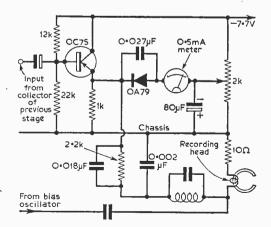


Fig. 15 (below)-The emitter-follower in a commercial tabe recorder.



The Base-Input Emitter Follower

This circuit, shown in Fig. 14, is the direct ansistor equivalent of the valve cathode transistor This circuit is capable of handling a follower. signal almost equal to the collector supply voltage, as transistors are capable of running with very small emitter to collector voltages and base to collector voltages.

Using a parallel argument to the cathode follower mathematics, one finds here that the output impedance (internal impedance of the emitter output) is equal to the internal impedance of the generator feeding the base, divided by the current-gain of the transistor. The internal base-resistance of the transistor must, of course, be included in the effective internal resistance of the base-feed, for the above consideration. By the "current gain" is to be understood the ratio of increase of collector current to increase of base current producing this in the circuit, and is in the region of about 20 for very many typical transistors. A typical base-feed from the collector circuit of a preceding voltage amplifier will have, say, 5,000 impedance, so that the output impedance of the typical emitter follower will lie in the region of 250Ω. As in the case of the cathode follower, this value of load is then needed if maximum power is desired, whereas a load of several times this value is required if 1:1 voltage transfer is desired.

Fig. 15 shows a typical practical example of the use of a transistor emitter follower. It is the output circuit of the recording amplifier in the Philips Transistor Portable Tape Recorder RK5. The low impedance output of the emitter follower supplies sufficient drive to operate the $500\mu A$ moving-coil meter serving as recording level indicator, via its rectifier. Also, at the same time, it drives the recording-head. Thus, the circuit is a genuine power output stage. Good use is made of the low impedance of the output in preventing distor-tion at the recording head in spite of the asymmetrical current in the meter on account of the rectifier diode. With an output circuit of higher impedance in a collector circuit, the meter rectifier would inevitably react back to distort the whole signal at the head.

Cascade

It is, of course, possible to use two or more emitter followers in cascade in which case the output impedance is about 10Ω at the second. This would enable an ordinary moving-coil speaker of 5Ω or 15Ω impedance to be connected direct as emitter-load of the second stage, and the power output would be excellent, provided a transistor of suitable current rating were used for the second stage. Using a 2A power transistor and a 6V

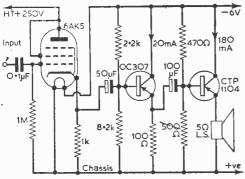


Fig. 16—An experimental circuit for a transformerless output stage for 5Ω or 15Ω loudspeakers. (To avoid D.C. in the speech coil, replace the loudspeaker by a resistor of 5Ω or 15Ω and feed the loudspeaker through a 1000μ F 12VW electrolytic condenser between output emitter and chassis. This is necessary to avoid burning out <u>miniature</u> loudspeakers.)

collector supply, it is possible to feed a couple of watts into a moving-coil speaker of 15Ω , direct and without a transformer of any kind, by careful choice of component values in a circuit of this kind, to suit the particular transistor obtained.

A further possibility for lines of experiment for the ambitious experimenter would be to use a combination of a valve cathode follower and a power-transistor emitter follower, to operate a 150 moving-coil speaker at good power without a transformer. It would be possible to feed the transistor from a small bridge rectifier and smoothing running off the heater supply of the valve. Fig. 16 shows a typical example of such a

Fig. 16 shows a typical example of such a circuit tried out by the author, but, as transistors still vary greatly in their data, the experimenter will have to-develop his own circuit for whatever transistor he can purchase. It is advisable to place a meter in the base and collector circuits during all experiments, to be able to see at all times that current ratings are not being exceeded.

Concluding Note

It is by no means maintained that the circuits sketched in this series represent the optimum attainable in all cases. These circuits are merely intended as sketches, to suggest to the reader his own experiments. The diagrams illustrate principles; precise component values must be tried out in the reader's own experiments. They will depend on the particular valves and transistors, etc., available. Whilst experimenting, particular attention should be given to trying various D.C. operating points, by returning grid leaks of cathode followers to various points on a H.T. bleeder, as indicated in many of the circuits. Meters should be included in circuit when experimenting, to show up at once any arrangement causing excessive current.



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1055

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

March, 1962





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

Whilst we are always pleased to assist readers with their technical difficulties, we regret that we are unable to supply diagrams or provide instructions for modifying commerical or surplus equipment. We cannot supply alternative details for receivers described in these pages. WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO ANSWER QUERTES OVER THE TELE-PHONE. If a postal reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed with the coupon from "age iii of cover.

METAL CABINETS

SIR,—Your correspondent T. H. Hughes, who writes of his difficulty in obtaining metal cases to house his test gear (January issue), may be interested to learn that sheet steel boxes in a variety of sizes, from 3in. x 3in. x 14in. to 12in. x 12in. x 4in. and possibly larger, are readily available as standard electrical hardware. They are usually referred to, in the electrical contracting trade, as "pressed steel adaptable boxes". These I have used with various small items of test gear etc., but one should however, be wary of using steel cases with instruments incorporating sensitive moving coil meters.

No doubt the firm from which Mr. Hughes purchases his components could obtain such boxes for him through the usual trade channels,—D. J. Morkus (Birmingham).

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

SIR,—I am interested in radio technology and have a radio service shop of my own. I would like to correspond with any radio serviceman from anywhere. All letters received will be answered promptly.—C. S. YEAR (61 Jln. Market, Bedong, Kedah, Malaya).

F.M. QUALITY

SIR,—Your correspondent Mr. Van der Syde's letter in the January issue regarding F.M. quality and his remarks regarding ratio detectors, prompts me to add that I have noticed several unusual effects with these transmissions, including that of the attenuation of the lower audio frequencies. Even allowing for the pre-emphasis of the system I feel that there are effects that are not easily explained.

I have enjoyed and constructed amateur radio apparatus for over 30 years and I will be the first to admit that there are difficulties in making and aligning I.F. transformers and ratio detectors of sufficient accuracy to make worthwhile F.M. receivers at home; the great point being to get the spot on zero at the centre of the I.F. passband. The effects which I have noticed are, however, apparently outside any explanation of this sort.

For instance, I have noticed that an A.M. detector will give a very good reproduction of VHF/F.M. on either side of the centre frequency. As a matter of fact I have discarded the ratio detector and am now using a normal single diode

crystal detector. I would like to add that the results are superior to those formerly obtained with the ratio detector.

Another effect which I have noticed, and which may be connected with this aspect of the question, is that the VHF frequency modulated transmissions (from Wenvoe at least) can often be heard weak and distorted at points on the dial other than on the normal readings. This effect has been noticed on both the VHF/F.M. and on the TV transmissions, although it is more pronounced on the former.—T. G. DAVIES (Llantrisant, Glamorganshire).

VINTAGE MODELS

SIR,—I fully agree with all that Mr. J. Mansell says in the December issues of P.W. I have a truly magnificent receiver—an H.M.V. 442 which was built in 1934. I purchased this set in 1937 for £3 in working order and the only repairs I have had to pay for were a part rewind of the mains transformer and a MHD4 valve in 1940; and a PX4 valve in 1958.

The volume and bass response is still as good as ever and 1 intend to maintain this set in working order for as long as it is possible to do so.—P. J. PLATER (Wellington, Surrey).

Servicing Tape Recorders

(Continued from page 1038)

The alternating magnetic field created across the gap of the erase head serves to demagnetisc the tape. An ordinary permanent magnet wiped along the tape would give more or less the same result, and some old machines employ permanent magnet erasure, but the "noise" background remaining on the tape is far less by the use of an alternating field than by a direct field. Again, since the "erasure" signal is above audible limits a tape so erased is completely cleared of signal.

The Basic Domestic Recorder

The record and replay functions are integrated in most domestic machines. Already it has been mentioned that the record head works also as the replay head and that the bias oscillator also serves as erase oscillator. In addition, sections of the replay amplifier are used for record.

This means that there is considerable switching on changing from record to replay and viceversa. Moreover, the motor itself is invariably coupled in some way to the "record/replay" switch, as also is the tape drive capstan. In Fig. 4 is shown a simplified version of the record/replay change-over system.

(To be continued)

Club News **m m** m m m

AMATEUR RADIO MOBILE SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: G3FPK, 79 Murchison Road, London, E.10. On show on the society's stand at the Radio Hobbies Exhibition ere a number of pieces of equipment, all loaned by members. The stand attracted a large number of visitors, and 59 new members were welcomed into the society.

BRADFORD RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec.: M. T. G. Powell, G3NNO, 28 Gledhow Avenue, Roundhay, Leeds 8.

Instruction for junior members of the society is given at 7 p.m. afore all meetings held at Cambridge House and morse classes are held when previously arranged.

Future Events:

February 13th—Field-day discussion and informal meeting. February 27th—A display of members' equipment. March 13th—Audio amplifier design and construction, by P. J.

Barowitz.

DERBY AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: F. C. Ward, G2CVV, 5 Uplands Avenue, Little-

over, Derby. On January 24th members exhibited home-made equipment,

and on 31st the management committee meeting was held. The society now has a membership of over 150 after the recent

enrolment of ten new members. The annual general meeting was held on February 7th.

Future Events:

February 11th—GSYY Trophy contest. February 14th—A discussion on reflectors. February 17th—The annual dinner at the Derbyshire Yeoman.

GUILDFORD AND DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec.: J. Barker, G3PDX, 35 Banders Rise, Merrow. Guildford.

At the November 24th meeting, members saw the 1960 and 1961 films of the NFD's and G3NDF also showed a film about high speed photography.

Thick fog caused the car treasure hunt, which had been arranged for November 26th, to be abandoned. The Christmas draw was held on December 14th but the main subject for the meeting was a talk on recording, given by G2BBX. The first meeting in the New Year was held on January 11th.

It has been decided that for the 1962 National Field Day, the society will operate two stations, with G3FZC and G3IAF in charge of them.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: G. Sunter, 24 Booth Fold, Luddendenfoot, Halifax.

Anyone interested in short-wave radio is invited to any of the society's meetings. Slow morse transmissions are now sent on 1900kc/s from 12.00 to 13.00GMT, every Sunday. On December 5th, G3ADG gave a talk on efficiency modulation, and December 19th was a ragchew night.

On February 6th members attended the annual dinner. Future Events:

February 20th-Ragchew.

March 6th-The conversion of surplus equipment by G3MAX. MITCHAM AND DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY

HIICHAM AND DISINICI RADIO SOCIETT Hon. Sec.: M. Pharaoh, G3LCH, I Madeira Road, Mitcham. G3VK recently gave a talk on the Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network, tracing the history and development of the movement in the Surrey area. The Christmas meeting was held on December 15th, which included the Christmas draw and constructional context. The following meeting on December 20th and constructional contest. The following meeting on December 25th was mainly devoted to an RSGB tape recorded lecture with the title, "The human machine as a radio operator" and which was illustrated with slides.

On January 12th, A. Gee gave a talk on amateur radio teleprinting.

NORTHERN HEIGHTS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: A. Robinson, G3MDW, Candy Cabin, Ogden,

Halifax.

Recent activities of the society have included an informal evening and the Christmas dinner. On January 24th, T. Fawthrop gave a talk on tape recorders.

PLYMOUTH RADIO CLUB

Hon. Sec.: R. Hooper, 2 Chestnut Road, Peverell, Plymouth. The competition on December 6th for the Ernie Hillyard trophy was won by J. Fallon. J. Share gave a talk on the erection of beam aerials at this meeting.

On February 7th members discussed preliminary arrangements for the National Field Day of 1962.

REPORTS OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES

READING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Hon. Sec.: R. G. Nash, G3EJA, 9 Holybrook Road, Reading, Berkshire.

The November meeting was very well attended by short-wave enthusiasts.

National Field Day 1962 was the subject under discussion at the December meeting of the club. The Annual General Meeting was held on January 27th. Future Event:

February 24th—G. Preston will give a talk on useful pieces of home-made equipment.

SPEN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: N. Pride, 100 Raikes Lane, Birstall, Nr. Leeds. On January 31st a Fire Prevention Officer from Bradford lec-tured members on the subject of "safety in the shack".

Future Events: February 28th—Aerial problems, by A. R. Bailey. March 14th—Radio astronomy, by L. Dougherty.

Experimenter's POWER PACK

(Continued from page 1030)

charging and transistor circuitry is taken off on the output side of the A.C. heater fuses, so that these serve to protect the D.C. circuitry as well. S5, a single-pole change-over toggle switch, selects 6V or 12V A.C. input to the half-wave copper oxide rectifier D4, and S6 functions as on/off switch for the D.C. circuit. C13 and C14, together with VR2, provide ample smoothing. The author has operated a sensitive transistorised tape-recorder from this supply, on record and playback, without any detectable hum whatsoever. VR2 serves to regulate output current and voltage on any particular load, and thus also serves as charging resistance for battery charging. The monitor The monitor meters can be switched in at will to read off the output voltage and current. If the on/off switch S6 is momentarily turned off whilst accumulators are charging, the charging current will cease, and the voltmeter will drop to the true voltage of the accumulators on charge, which is, among other things, a good indication of the extent of progress of charge of a healthy accumulator. Otherwise, the ammeter is more important for accumulator charging, but if the supply is used for heating battery valves, the voltmeter is normally more important. Once the heater voltage has been set correctly, the meters are free to be switched over to measure other outputs, e.g. to set the main stabilised H.T. at 120V, if we are dealing with battery valves. It is also perfectly permissible to "buffer" accumulators with this supply, i.e. to connect the power supply output and accumulators of the desired total voltage in parallel and with the same polarity to the consuming valve heaters or other load (see Fig. 8). If VR2 is then adjusted so that the monitor ammeter reads about the same current as the load consumption is known to be, then the accumulators will be neither charging nor discharging, but merely floating and acting as voltage stabilisers of very high efficiency. This is, in fact, the cheapest and simplest way of stabilising the low-voltage D.C. output.

(To be continued)

Book 3/6

PRACTICAL WIRELESS

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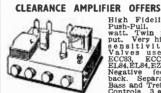
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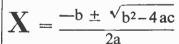
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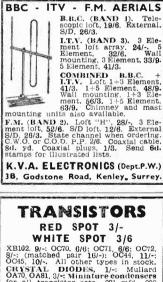
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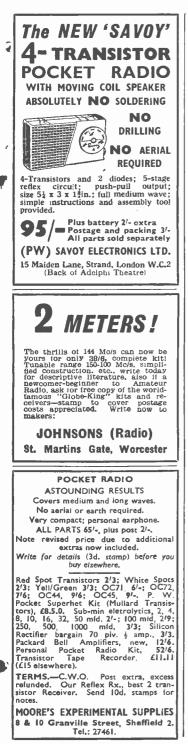
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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

March, 1962



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1.6				
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A LL OF these blueprints are drawn full-size and although the issues containing descriptions of these sets are now out of print, constructional details are available free with each blueprint except for the PW Monophonic Electronic Organ and the PW Roadfarer.

The Index letters which precede the Blueprint Number indicate the periodical in which the description appeared. Thus PW refers to PRACTICAL WIRELESS; AW to Amateur Wireless and WM to Wireless Magazine.

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