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| $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 5 | ${ }_{6}^{6}$ |
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## TOPIC OF THE MONTH

## Who's for Hertz?

GAD, Sir! Let's send a gunboat down the Rhine and subdue those followers of Heinrich Rudolph Hertz! How dare they threaten our homely $\mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ !

The term Hertz (Hz), used in Europe as the unit of frequency, has lately been promoted for more widespread acceptance. The situation at the moment, if you'll pardon the expression, is flux. The British technical press is divided, as is that of America, but the amateur radio movement and press appear to favour the older terminology.

There is little guidance from officialdom. The British Standards Institute have made no proclamation, nor have the ITU Radio Regulations been amended. No doubt future committees will sit and-as seems likely -declare for conversion to Hz .

Reasons for the change are (a) to tie in with Continental nomenclature and (b) to honour the name of Hertz. Standardisation is usually desirable in technical fields but with the prospect of decimal coinage, mm for inches, gm for those fine old English Ibs, CCIR standards for u.h.f. TV, etc., some patriots feel that things have gone far enough. They wonder if, one day, the M1 will be renamed Autobahn 1, Scotland Yard becomes the Surette, "Practical Wireless" will cost $1 \frac{1}{2}$ Swiss francs and London is known as Londres, in the interests of unification.

As for perpetuating the name of Hertz, why stop there? Casting around in radio's past will land a healthy catch of other worthy but unsung heroes. Why not start again and concoct an entirely new set of technical units to satisfy all national honours? There are also many untapped areas for new units. Instead of expressing Wow, Flutter and Distortion as percentages we could devise a scale of units, to be called respectively, say, Dollys, Littlewoods and Beatles. The possibilities are boundless.

As for changing $\mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to Hz , this seems to be utterly unnecessary. "Cycles per second" is an exact specification, whereas Hertz is meaningless without qualification. One might as well abolish the gramophone disc r.p.m. for "Berliners", i/s of tape speed for "Pfleumers" and m.p.h. for "Fords".

So for the moment we are sticking to old-fashioned $\mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$-at least until a change seems universally acceptable or until the Electricity Boards begin supplying 50 Hz mains! W. N. STEVENS, Editor
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[^0]
## Lafayette Receivers

I THINK your readers should be made aware how difficult it is to obtain spares for some of the American built receivers that are extensively advertised and sold in this country.

I purchased an H.E. 30 communica. tions receiver some time ago and recently wanted one or two parts which are special to the receiver. I have written twice to the Lafayette Radio Corporation, in New York, asking for the name of a spares supplier in this country, without success.

It is thus assumed that no spares facilities exist in this country (having not received a reply to either of my letters) and that one has to obtain them direct from the States. From my experience in trying to obtain a manual for this receiver (costing approximately 10 s . plus 14 s . for postage and insurance), it is obvious to me that the purchase of any foreign set is an uneconomical proposition.

My receiver remains silent.
H. C. Pryse. Weybridge, Surrey.

## Short Wave Receiver

Being interested in S.W.L. for some time, I decided to build the "valve-base coil" short wave receiver (P.W. July 65) and found it necessary to have a twin gang $300+300$ p.F. tuning capacitor using one gang as described in the text and the other gang with a coil of the same number of turns used in L1 across it with the aerial side of it going to pin 2 of V1.

I would like to hear from other readers who have built this set, and whether they had to do the same.

## P. Blanchard.

8 Bircham View, Goosewell Hill, Eggbuckland, Plymouth.

## Converting the R1392

With reference to my article in the November issue page 502, I notice three errors.

Line 7 first paragraph should read $f \mathrm{xtal}=\frac{\mathrm{f} \text { signal-I.F. Mc/s. }}{18}$ In Fig. 2 the power supply lead marked "H.T. +ve to pin $9 . . . "$ etc., should read "H.T.-ve to pin . . ." etc., although anyone looking at the circuit will realise that the lower H.T. + ve should read H.T.-ve. Also in Fig. 2, R5 should be in series with V2 (OA2).
C. G. Elliott, G8ADP.

Devon.

## NEWSS AND

## NEW CORRESPONDENCE CENTRE

The Aldermaston Court Centre for Adult Education was officially opened recently by Sir Arnold Lindley, Chairman of the Engineering Training Board. This historic place now houses the modern and efficient machinery for providing correspondence courses varying from the ever popular G.C.E. " $O$ " and "A" levels up to and including degree level. In fact 1,000 different courses are currently available.

The intake of the centre now tops twenty thousand a year, and over 2,000 letters and enquiries are answered every week. This is by no means restricted to Britain, and overseas lessons are shipped out at a rate of five tons per month.

This correspondence college embraces many of the well-known names: The British Institute of Engineering Technology; School of Careers; Press Art School, to name just a few.

There is no doubt that all these colleges, which come within the Cleaver-Hume Group, are extremely capable and well-organised. One room at the centre contains some three million lessons ready printed and our guide explained that these were "kept warm" to avoid any suspicion of paper deterioration.

The preparation of a course is a specialised business. First a panel of consultants is formed to prepare the syllabus. Once this is agreed, experts are approached to select text books, prepare lessons complete with test questions and model answers. The proposed course is then vetted and edited by experts in correspondence tuition. When the consultant panel is satisfied completely, the lessons and model answers are prepared for printing.

One of the courses examined at random was "Technical Mathematics", the subject-logarithms. The style and presentation was clear and lucid, but perhaps the most pleasing thing was the number of examples given; fifteen in fact. In the majority of text books only a couple of worked examples are included followed by numerous test questions.

## £1.1M AUTOMATIC WEATHER SYSTEM ORDER

The Marconi Company is to supply the Royal Swedish Air Force with an automatic meteorological system to process weather information received from ground stations, weather ships and weather satellites. The system is scheduled to be in operation by 1969 .

## POCKET RADIO WITH INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

This small Sony radio is of integrated design. In fact all the components ( 9 transistors 4 diodes 14 resistors and several inductors) are incorporated in a small silicon chip measuring $1.5 \mathrm{~mm} . \times 2.25 \mathrm{~mm}$. The overall dimensions of the receiver are: $1.25 \times 2.3 \times 0.7$ in.; weight is 105 gm . Maximum audio output is quoted as 70 mW . The address of Sony U.K. Sales is 70-72 Welbeck Street, London, W.1. (Tel. WELbeck 3546).


The integrated Circuit used in this receiver, has 9 transistors, 4 diodes, 14 resistors, and the size is $1.5 \mathrm{~mm} . \times 2.25 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## COMMENT

## B.S.R. WINS GOLD MEDAL AT LEIPZIG FAIR:-

B.S.R. Ltd. of Old Hill, Staffordshire, won a Gold Medal for the UA50 Mini-Changer which is claimed to be the smallest portable record changer in the worid.

Altogether, 53 Gold Medals and Diplomas were awarded at this Fair. Nearly 300 firms from 25 countries submitted products for examination by scientific and technical experts.

## NEW MODELS FROM HEATHKIT

Two new kits are announced by Daystrom Ltd. in their Heathkit range. Model CR-1 is a high performance car radio covering m.w. and l.w. available as a kit for f12.17.0 (loudspeaker extra).

Model SD-1 is a welcome addition to the range. It is a transistor f.m. stereo decoder which although designed for use with the existing Heathkit tuners can also be used with most other f.m. tuners with facilities for multiplex output. The kit, complete with built-in power pack costs f8.10.0.

## SPIRALUX TOOLS

The new 48-page catalogue of Spiralux hand tools contains details of many items used by radio constructors. Copies may be obtained on application to Hollands \& Blair Ltd., Bensham Grove, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

## MICROELECTRONIC COMPUTER



The photograph shows the new Marconi Myriad /I, claimed to be one of the world's most powerful microminiature machines. It is a simpler version of the original Myriad, the first commercially available integrated circuit computer. Over 20 million orders per minute can be handled in this parallel computer which uses a 24 -bit word and single address form order code.

## BBC ENTER DISC MARKET

The BBC is to market its own disc records under the label of BBC Radio Enterprises. The records will utilise the BBC archives for material and will probably be along the same lines as the records of BBC programmes issued by Pye, Decca and E.M.I., an arrangement which will continue. This is another venture designed to raise revenue for the $B B C$; its sister division, BBC Television Enterprises, has been bringing in between $\mathbf{f 1 M - £ 2 M}$ annually.

## Regenerative Rejuvenation

From time to time letters are published in these columns criticising the superregenerative receiver. This is a great pity, since properly built and operated super-regen's take a lot of beating.

I am also pleased to see that interest has been aroused in the v.h.f. and u.h.f. bands. Now perhaps we shall see more of these interesting receivers. It is true that they have rather a wide bandwidth, but this is obviously an advantage at v.h.f. and u.h.f.

As far as I can see, the f.m. detection of a super-regen is as good as found in commercial receivers, which require a sweep-generator for alignment if distortion is to be avoided. With the superregenerative receiver, the operator is able to realign as he pleases with his single tuning control.

If really high quality is wanted with economy, then the quenching of the oscillator should be sinusoidal. This does mean that another valve or transistor is needed, plus a few resistors, capacitors, an r.f. choke and a quenching transformer. Even then, the total cost is well below a conventional f.m. receiver.

Recently, I had occasion to replace a complicated v.h.f. receiver I had built for satellite listening. I knocked-up a super-regen and was pleasantly surprised with the results. It was not so noisy as the superhet, yet was just as sensitive and a lot smaller.

I venture to predict, Sir, that we shall be seeing in the not too far distant future, a line-up something like this: grounded-grid (or base) r.f. amplifiermixer, local oscillator, super-regenerative self-quenching detector (operating on the difference frequency), followed by the usual audio stages. For amateur use, the added complexity of automatic gain stabilization can be dispensed with.
Hugh A. L. Wagner. Kuala Lumpur.

## Surplus not Junk

I was rather surprised to read your Club Spot feature on the Luton \& District Amateur Radio Club that the seller of the i.f. strips was termed a junk dealer.

I would like to state that my Surplus Radio Components Business in Luton has a large selection of components, and that in the space of two years we have built up a reputation that we are very proud of.
George Hannington. Luton, Beds.

[^1]
## Sbband



FOR a t.r.f. receiver to be successful it must be possible to control reaction smoothly and efficiently. Tuning should also be easy, and the whole construction rigid. These points are satisfactory in the receiver described here, and very good results may be obtained.

Figure 1 on the blueprint shows the circuit. Readymade Denco green type plug-in coils are used and the following ranges are available:

| 1 | $150-500 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $2000-750 \mathrm{~m}$. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | $515-1545 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ | $580-194 \mathrm{~m}$. |
| 3 | $1.67-553 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $180-57 \mathrm{~m}$. |
| 4 | $5.0-15 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $60-20 \mathrm{~m}$. |
| 5 | $10.5-31.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ | $28-9.5 \mathrm{~m}$. |

Ranges 2, 3 and 4 are the most suitable, giving coverage from 580-20 metres. VC2 is for medium wave tuning, or short wave bandsetting, while VC3, operated by a ball drive, is for s.w. tuning, or bandspreading. This arrangement is very helpful in the congested s.w. bands.
VR1 allows the screen grid voltage of V1 to be adjusted for best regeneration, which is controlled by the 15 pF capacitor VCl . When long range reception is not achieved with a t.r.f. receiver, this is usually because regeneration is not properly controlled. A little care is necessary in this direction, but the presence of VR1 and the small size of VC1 does allow excellent reaction. The 6BR7 is a high gain, low microphony valve very suitable for detector.
The two sections of a 12AT7 are used as audio amplifier and output stages. Reception is often satisfactory with a loudspeaker, but 'phones are obviously more suitable for DX work. VR2 is the audio gain control. A small transformer T2 and

## BLUEPRINT SIDE ONE

a pair contact cooled rectifiers provide h.t., which is smoothed by $\mathrm{C} 10 / \mathrm{Ch} / \mathrm{C} 9$.
An attempt was made to measure sensitivity with a laboratory type signal generator, a difficult exercise with a t.r.f. receiver. Tests were made on $10 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. With VC1 fully open and VR1 adjusted for maximum gain, an input of $200 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ at the aerial terminal produced an output just audible in the loudspeaker. With VC1 rotated for maximum sensitivity, an input of $1 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ produced an output just audible.

## Chassis and Panel

Dimensions of the chassis and positions of major components can be taken from Fig. 2 on the blueprint. A $\frac{3}{4}$ in. diameter punch is most satisfactory for the valveholders and coil holder. These are fixed with 6BA bolts, with tags under the nuts. Trimmer T1 has its lugs through a strip of paxolin, supported by a bracket.

The panel used in the prototype was made of hardboard, painted, and backed by sheet aluminium, but aluminium alone would do. This and the side brackets can be purchased ready cut if preferred. The panel is bolted to the brackets and chassis.

A large hole is needed for the ball drive, and its lug is bolted to the panel. If the drive and VC3 are fitted carefully, the flexible coupling could be omitted. This coupling takes up any slight misalignment, but for smooth tuning VC3 should be as near in line with the drive as possible.

Leads from VR1 pass through an adjacent hole, and may be coloured for easy identification. This is also so with VR2; take separate well-insulated leads from the switch (VR2) through the chassis to the primary of T2, and mains.

A non-skirted holder is most suitable for the coils. The use of screening cans on V1 and V2 is optional.

## Under the Chassis

Figure 3 on the blueprint shows wiring and components under the chassis. Leads to VC1, VC2, VC3, V1 and the coil holder should be as short and direct as possible. All connections can be in 20 s.w.g. tinned copper wire, with insulated sleeving.
A tag strip near T2 anchors switch, mains and T2 primary leads. Tag 1 is a junction for switch and primary wires. Tag 2 holds the mains red (L) lead and the second switch connection. Tag 3 is a junction point for the mains black ( N ) lead and transformer primary.

When wiring is completed as in Fig. 3, the output transformer Ti can be bolted to the side runner. Its primary is connected to h.t. positive at R6 and $\operatorname{tag} 6$ of V2. Leads from the secondary run to the panel jack socket.

The wires from C5, VR2 and R8 are close against the chassis. So are the 6.3 V heater connections. C6 is directly from tag 1 to tag 7. If audio oscillation
begins with VR2 near maximum gain, this should be checked. Wiring should otherwise be perfectly straightforward, from Figs. 2 and 3.

## Notes on Components

Changes are possible with no loss of efficiency, and this may allow items on hand to be used. Any trimmer, small variable capacitor, or pre-set capacitor should do for TC1, though it must, of course, be insulated from the chassis.

Though VC1 and VC3 are 15 pF , values from 10 pF to 25 pF will be found satisfactory. VC3 should not be too large or tuning will be less easy, but some plates can be taken off larger capacitors. VC 2 can be $250 \mathrm{pF}, 300 \mathrm{pF}$ or similar. The smaller values will reduce the band coverage, especially for medium waves. Should some other type of drive be available, it can be fitted to VC3.

Resistor values are not very critical. R1 could be $68 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $150 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. R 3 and R 6 may be about $200 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $270 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. VR2 could be $500 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. The coupling and by-pass capacitors can also be changed somewhat in value without spoiling results.

The anode current of the output stage is small, and the type of speaker matching transformer originally intended for small battery operated pentodes will do well. The power output of this stage is similar to that of the output pentodes once used in battery portables (about 250 mW ).

If to hand, a larger transformer could be used for T2, but a bigger chassis, with the transformer on top, might be necessary. If the transformer is intended for use with a valve rectifier, and the valve is also to hand, it can replace R1 and R2. Provided an h.t. supply of around 250 V is available, the actual components employed will not be important.

## Speaker/'Phones

The output jack is for a speaker, or headphones. There is some mismatch when using 'phones, but this is quite usual, and not too important. 'Phones of quite low impedance are most suitable.

If a high-impedance headset is to hand, a jack for this purpose can be connected to the receiver chassis. Take the second jack contact to a $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mica capacitor, wired to tag 6 of V2.

## Receiver Tuning

The results obtained depend very much on correct adjustment of VC1 and VR1. These are not volume controls and cannot be simply turned to maximum and left.

With an average aerial, T1 can probably be about half closed. Set VC1 about two-thirds closed, and rotate VR1 to increase V1 screen grid voltage from zero, until oscillation is heard when tuning through a transmission. If VR1 is not turned far enough, no reaction may be obtained. Turning VR1 too far will make reaction violent and difficult to adjust by means of VC1. With VR1 in a suitable position, a smooth build-up of sensitivity should be possible with VC1.

Adjust VC1 critically while tuning with VC3.


Fig. 4: Dimensional data for the front panel. If one does not have a cutter large enough to tackle the hole for VC3, drill a lot of smaller holes just inside its circumference, then break away the unwanted metal and finish the job off with a file.

After changing coils, or moving VC2, VR1 may have to be re-set. This is actually quite easy, but note that if VR1 is turned past a certain point, sensitivity begins to fall off, even if reaction can still be obtained.

VC2 is used to locate the required band, and this is tuned with VC3. Should T1 be set at too high a capacitance for the aerial used, reaction may be lost on some frequencies, especially with the smaller coils. VR2 is a conventional audio gain control.

If possible, provide an earth on the receiver. However, this depends on the location, and other factors. Mains current can be drawn from a plug fitted with the smallest available fuse, such as 1 A .

If instability arises, especially at maximum audio gain, keep the aerial lead away from the receiver, and especially phone or speaker connections. Small capacitors (about 100 pF ) may be wired from tags 2 and 7 of V2 to chassis. Alternatively, stopper resistors of about $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ each may be placed in the connections to tags 2 and 7, immediately at the holder. The possibility of such instability depends to some extent on actual wiring.

Band coverage with each coil depends somewhat on the position of the core, movement of which also has some influence on regeneration. Initially, the cores may be set with about $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. of brass thread clear, and this can be adjusted later if necessary. The cores are locked with 6BA nuts, to retain tuning calibration.

## Try 80 Metre Band

Many transmissions should be heard at any hour, but the most suitable bands depend on the time of day and other factors. If. a start is being made in amateur band reception, then 80 m will furnish many stations, especially at week-ends. The 20 m band will usually be most suitable for long distance amateur signals. Very many broadcast stations will be heard around $19,25,31,41$ and 49 metres.

When maximum selectivity is required (as on the medium wave band) volume should be reduced as necessary by TC1 and VR2, so that regeneration can be increased. Good performance is then possible.


THIS unit uses sound-powered handsets, and embodies a small transistor amplifier at each station. Each amplifier may be built for less than five shillings, and the resulting power is at least as good as that available on the GPO system, without the tonal quality deteriorating.

Figure 1 (see Blueprint) shows the circuit diagram. The transmitter of the handset feeds via the blocking capacitor into the base of the transistor, which operates in the "common emitter" mode. The receiver of the handset acts as a collector load, and the audio output is fed via the line $S$ " (which includes a $0.5 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor to prevent the paralleling of the collectors of the two amplifiers), to the receiver of the other station, and thence via its battery to return along the " $C$ " line. The power for the amplifier is taken from a 4.5 V battery, which is used for calling.

## Amplifier

This is built around a cheap "red spot" transistor as advertised in "PW" at 1s. each which together with the base resistor and blocking capacitor is mounted on a piece of $1 / 16 \mathrm{in}$. thick paxolin $1 \frac{1}{2} \times$ $2 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in}$, in such a way that an imitation printedcircuit results. Four flexible "tails" serve to connect the amplifier to the remainder of the equipment. Constructional details are shown in Fig. 2.

## Calling System

Calling is via a third line " $R$," the current returning via the line " $C$ ". Any small bell or buzzer of 3 volt rating will be satisfactory over lines of moderate loop-resistance (say not more than $15 \Omega$ ) though in the author's case special arrangements had to be made, using relays to accommodate a loop resistance of $50 \Omega$.

## BLUEPRINT SIDE TWO.

The pulsating nature of the current taken by a bell or buzzer will give rise to voltage pulses in the impedance of the " C " line, and as this impedance is common to the speech circuit, the pulses will produce a rasping sound in the caller's receiver to indicate that the bell at the other station is ringing. Since in the author's case the "C" line did not carry the bell current, it is not possible to state the loudness of this sound, but if it proves to be excessive it may be attenuated by shunting a large low-voltage electrolytic capacitor across each bell.

The "call" switch is of the single-pole change-over type, spring-biassed to one position. A neat switch may be cheaply made from a "VETO" flush two-way switch available from Woolworths, if the mechanism is modified so that the locating spring does not pass over dead centre. Access to the mechanism is obtained by first removing the two tapered squareheaded screws securing the ceramic to the rear of the moulded front-plate. If the pinching screw is then removed from the centre terminal a small screw will be found inside, which if removed, will allow the mechanism to be withdrawn. By careful use of a miniature hacksaw the lug to which the locating spring is attached may be lengthened sufficiently to ensure that the line of the spring always remains to the front of the rocker fulcrum. No matter how the rocker is then moved it will always return to the one position upon release. Reassembly should be such that the lower portion of the rocker protrudes in the "free" condition. See Fig. 3.

## Case

This may be made from wood, plastic or metal in any shape or form to suit the individual constructor, provided that it will house the battery, amplifier and requisite terminal blocks. Externally there must be mounted the "call" switch, and a locating cradle for the handset, beneath which must be fitted a push-to-break switch (preferably a leveroperated micro-switch) to cause the amplifier to be switched off when the handset is on the cradle.

## Handset

As purchased, this will be fitted with a twin-core cabtyre-sheathed cable, which must be removed and replaced by a four-core cord. In some handsets a capacitor is connected in parallel with the transmitter, and it optional whether this is left in position or discarded. A neat four-core cord may be made by plaiting together two twin twisted flexibles (an idea of how to do this may be had from examining a handset cord on a pre-STD GPO instrument in some public call-boxes).

Flexibles, with transparent insulation are available with both tinned and untinned conductors, and it will assist in the final connecting up, as well as producing a pleasing appearance if different finishes of conductors are used respectively for transmitter and receiver. The action of plaiting will cause a loss of about $30 \%$ of the length of the individual twin-cores, so that due allowance must be made for this when purchasing. Care must also be taken to
see that the cords are clamped and anchored at each end to remove all stress from the terminals.

## Commissioning

Before the batteries are inserted it must be ascertained that the polarities are correct, and that the lines interconnecting the instruments are led to the correct terminals. A diagram, copied from Fig. 1, neatly drawn and pasted inside the battery-access panel of each instrument case will complete the project and afford it a professional appearance. On test, one of the author's instruments emitted a feedback whistle continuously whilst energised. A glance at Fig. 1 will show a similarity to the diagram of a blocking oscillator if a coupling could be arranged between receiver and transmitter. It was felt that the four-core cord could produce such a coupling, and the reversing of the cores to the receiver (or transmitter did in fact effect a cure.

## Authors' Prototype

The authors' prototype instruments, which have worked perfectly at Knaresborough for six months in spite of gardening damage to the lines were rather special in that certain local difficulties had to be overcome, although they embody the same principal components as the units described above.

Firstly, the line-wire which happened to be available was ex-army steel-conductor type with a resistance of about $0.44 \Omega$ /yard. Since the distance between the stations was 60 yards, the resulting loopresistance of $50 \Omega$ prevented the use of directringing bells or buzzers for calling. A relay was


This shows the cradle-switch and the call-detection relay. The modified dial mechanism can be seen in the background.


Note the 'S' line d.c. blocking capacitor on the right, and also how the cords were lashed so as to relieve the terminals of all stress.
therefore fitted at each end to detect the calling signal and ring the called station's bell from its local battery. The relay used had a coil resistance of $60 \Omega$ and with careful adjustment was made capable of working with a coil current of only 30 mA which makes adequate allowance for the falling voltage of an ageing battery.
Secondly, we were fortunate in being able to obtain a couple of scrap dial-type instruments, similar to GPO type, of which we were able to use the case, internal chassis, terminal block and handset cradle-switch. The dial, after modification (replacing the toothed pulsing cam by a toothless one so as to give one long "impulse" per operation) was retained as a call-switch. Removal of the "ringer," gongs, induction coil and capacitors gave sufficient room for the battery, amplifier, and call-detecting relay to be accommodated inside the instrument. The calling bell, of the cheap circular type, with its mechanism beneath the gong was simply affixed by screws to the rear of the instrument case. A disc, carefully lettered with calling instructions and fitted inside the dial gave the final professional touch to the instruments, which could stand unashamedly beside GPO counterparts.
Since the handle of the ex-Government soundpowered handset is wider than that of the GPO type carbon handset care must be taken to see that on being replaced after a conversation it depresses the cradle-switch plungers sufficiently to switch off the amplifier. If there is any uncertainty about this, it may be eliminated either by a bit of judicious filing, or by cementing a piece of $\frac{1}{8} \mathrm{in}$. thick $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. wide plastic to the underside of the handset handle.


THIS magazine frequently receives letters from readers who ask, "How can I get a licence, and how much is it?", a question which can never be fully answered in a letter. Many of these inquiries are in connection with transistor walkie-talkie transceivers imported from Japan. Others refer to car radio-telephones. And the rest come from budding short-wave listeners, who have heard their first amateur contact on the short-wave band of the domestic set.

First, it should be made quite clear that licences are not issued in this country for the use of transceivers on the Citizens' Band of $27 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. The Citizens' Band exists in America, and licences to operate such sets are relatively easy to obtain there. But the $27 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ band is allocated in the United Kingdom to model control, medical apparatus and industrial control systems.

There is in fact no Citizens' Band here, and the GPO will not under any circumstances, or for any fee, issue a licence. Although it is illegal to use such apparatus, and an offender may be fined and have the sets confiscated, it is not illegal to sell them. This is a fortunate paradox since, provided an amateur licence is held, these excellent little sets may be converted for the amateur $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ band and used very effectively.*

Many of these sets have been bought by people who imagine that a licence is not required as they operate "under the three-mile limit." This is a complete misconception of the law. The three-mile limit refers only to the stretch of seawater round the coast of the United Kingdom, within which its laws and regulations may be enforced. Outside this limit, at present, some of these regulations may be broken with impunity, which is how the pirate broadcasting stations are able to exist. But the term has nothing at all to do with the actual range of transmitting apparatus, and it is therefore illegal to operate in this country even over a range of a few yards.

The wavebands allocated by the GPO for control of models only are $26.96-27 \cdot 28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $464-$ $468 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. The transmitter input must not exceed 5 watts. A licence for this purpose is quite straightforward to obtain, the fee being $f 1$ for five years.

[^2]The address to apply to is: Radio Branch, Radio and Accommodations Dept., G.P.O. Headquarters, London E.C.I.

Car radio-telephone systems may be considered in three classes. Firstly, official services like Fire, Police and Ambulance, which have their own spot frequencies specially allocated. Secondly, the GPO radio-teiephone system, where subscribers in certain areas may rent instruments which are linked to the ordinary telephone system. The rental for this Post Office service is sufficiently high for its use to be mainly confined to business.

Thirdly, private systems, where a firm equips its own vehicles and sets up a base station. The apparatus is usually rented from a manufacturer and special wavebands have been set aside for this purpose.

We now come to amateur transmitting. Holders of these licences are able to operate morse, speech, teleprinter and even television transmitters. Many of them instal apparatus in their cars for which they need an additional permit.

Most beginners imagine that obtaining an amateur licence is largely a question of finance but this is not so. A fee of two pounds is required, but by the time the applicant arrives at this stage, the money seems very minor in comparison with the other requirements. The conditions to be met in order to be issued with an amateur transmitting licence are as follows:

1. Applicants must be over fourteen and be British subjects.
2. A pass must be obtained in the Radio Amateurs' Examination. This is a written examination paper somewhat of a cross between ' $O$ ' and 'A' level G.C.E. Physics, but with a more limited syllabus.
3. A pass must be obtained in the Post Office morse test, which is a test of receiving and sending in morse code at twelve words per minute, plain language and figures.
4. The fee of two pounds annually must be paid.

## THE EXAMINATION

The Kadio Amateurs' Examination is held twice a year, usually in May and December, and is organised by the City and Guilds of London Institute. The work covered for this examination is considered as a subject of study in its own right, and is listed as subject No. 55.

By writing to the Institute at 76 Portland Place, London W.1, a booklet setting out the syllabus and copies of previous papers may be obtained. The papers will give the student a good guide to the type of question usually set.

Centres where the examination may be taken are widespread and it is not always necessary to travel to London. In most cases the local technical college can make arrangements for the examination to be sat, but in this case the applicant must ensure that the college concerned knows that he wishes to sit the examination there. This should be done at least two months before the examination day. The college will probably require a fee of about five shillings.

The examination syllabus and the questions are compiled by a committee which comprises representatives of the Post Office, Ministry of Education and the official amateur radio organisation-the Radio Society of Great Britain, among others. This means that the questions asked are fair and applicable to normal amateur practice.

The whole purpose of the examination is to make sure that a person is not allowed to operate transmitting apparatus if he does not have sufficient knowledge to do so safely and without inconvenience to amateur and other stations.

The two most important questions in the examination always relate to this aim. In the first question the applicant is merely required to write out more-or-less word for word parts of the conditions set out in the actual licence.
A specimen licence can be obtained from the GPO, and should be learnt by heart. This part of the examination should present no problem. The second question always deals with methods of avoiding or curing interference to other radio or television services.

The rest of the syllabus is as follows: elementary electricity and magnetism, elementary radio principles, thermionic valves and semiconductors, radio receivers, low-power transmitters, propagation of radio waves, aerials and measurementsparticularly frequency measurements. This may seem a formidable amount of work, but as already stated the pattern of questions set remains within fairly narrow limits.

The authorities consider (whether rightly or wrongly is outside the scope of this article) that any person sufficiently keen and sufficiently intelligent not to be a nuisance or danger on the air, will be able, with reasonable application, to achieve a pass mark.

Quite obviously, though, it is no use the applicant sitting back until the examination comes along and then expecting to sit down and sail through. He must study, unless, of course, he already possesses a qualification which has taken him through a similar course of work.
There are three ways in which such a course of study may be tackled. Firstly, the books listed in the City of Guilds pamphlet may be bought or borrowed from a Public Library, and studied at home. Secondly, a correspondence course may be taken. Thirdly, the student may attend a course at evening school.

Many technical colleges run evening classes in this work. All that is needed is an inquiry. If there are enough applicants, a college not already offering such
a course will specially arrange one. The fee is very small-usually a guinea or two for the whole session.

## SHORT WAVE LISTENING

In addition to his studies, the intending applicant should spend a great deal of time listening on the amateur bands. These are as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1.8-2.0 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} \text { ( } 160 \text { metres, or "Top Band") } \\
& 3.5-3.8 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}(80 \text { metre band) } \\
& 7.0-7.1 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} \text { ( } 40 \text { metre band) } \\
& 14.0-14.35 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}(20 \text { metre band) } \\
& 21.0-21.45 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}(15 \text { metre band) } \\
& 28.0-29.7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s} \text { ( } 10 \text { metre band) }
\end{aligned}
$$

plus the v.h.f. bands, which the beginner probably won't be able to receive at first.

By listening regularly, he will become familiar with amateur procedure and learn a great deal from listening to contacts. He may also hear pirates. Pirates are not welcome on the amateur bands, and they are usually caught in the end. An applicant for a licence is unlikely to secure it easily if he has been previously convicted for piracy, so it pays to be patient and wait for the "ticket."

In the course of his listening, the Short Wave Listener, as he can now be termed, will come across a great deal of morse code. Learning to read this early on will add greatly to his enjoyment as well as pave the way for the Morse Test later.

## THE CODE

There has been much written on learning the code, but each generation of beginners seems to need the same advice just as urgently. Learning the code and learning to use it are two entirely different things, though obviously one will have to come before the other.
When first learning the alphabet, do not memorize dots and dashes, but learn each letter as a combination of "di" and "dah." For instance, V is not dot-dot-dot-dash but didididah. Learning the alphabet in this way will ensure easy transition to the morse key. A morse operator does not think about dots and dashes. He recognises the sound or rhythm.

Here again, some technical colleges run a course in conjunction with the R.A.E. classes. Also most radio clubs run practice sessions, and there are scheduled slow morse transmissions run by the RSGB usually on $1 \cdot 8-2 \cdot 0 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Finally, practices with a friend as frequently as possible are invaluable. All that is needed is a simple oscillator and morse key.

Mention of the RSGB slow morse and the Radio Club sessions prompts two further pieces of advice. Join your local radio club, where you will meet many to help you on your way to the ticket; and join the RSGB, which publishes a monthly bulletin entirely devoted to amateur radio. In the pages of their Bulletin details of slow morse transmissions appear regularly.

A course of study which includes the theory for the R.A.E. and practice for the morse test will normally take several months. Do not be tempted to let the work slip until a week before the examination and then try to cram. It just won't work, for most students anyway.

Most would-be amateurs wait to hear their results in the examination before taking the morse test. The
-continued on page 575

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## GETTING YOUR TICKET

-continued from page 572
reason for this is that the morse may be taken any time after the examination, but if the morse is taken first, and twelve months elapse before the examination is passed, then the morse has to be taken again. Thus if the student failed the examination he might find the morse test fee wasted!
The morse test may be taken at Head Post Offices in London, Birmingham, Cambridge, Derby and Manchester, and at certain coastal radio stations. Application should be made to: Radio Services Department, Wireless Telegraphy Section, Union House, St. Martins-le-Grande, London, E.C.I.
The applicant will be sent a form to fill in, and will have to pay the fee of ten shillings, in the form of a postage stamp. He will then be given ample warning of the date and time of his test, usually to suit him.
The official conducting the test is usually only too pleased to give a pass slip if he possibly can. The applicant will often be given a choice of keys and will have plenty of time to get the feel of the
key. The examiner will probably send a practice run first. So there is no reason for the student to fail through "nerves" provided he has practised beyond the required speed.

If the applicant is successful in the R.A.E. and in the Morse Test, he will have now two "pass slips." These are sent, together with the form supplied by the GPO and a birth certificate or other proof of nationality and age, to GPO Headquarters. The fee should not be sent until asked, for. Eventually the fee will be requested, and quite soon the "ticket" will arrive.

In fact it is not a ticket, but a rather disappointing looking collection of typewritten duplicated sheetsbut on it will be written a callsign, which will be the password to many happy years and to many good friends. Good luck! 73!
Further information on obtaining a license may be found in: "A Guide to Amateur Radio" ( 5 s .7 d . post paid) and "Radio Amateurs' Examination Manual" (5s. 9d. post paid) from Radio Society of Great Britain, 28 Little Russell Street, London, W.C.1; also "How To Become a Radio Amateur," available free from Radio Services Branch, G.P.O. Headquarters Building, St. Martins-le-Grande, London, E.C.I.

## OBITUARY-Captain Henry Joseph Round

Captain Henry Joseph Round, M.C., A.R.C.Sc., one of the pioneers of broadcasting and a prolific inventor with 117 patent applications to his credit, died recently in Bognor Regis.

Captain Round, born on June 2nd, 1881, graduated from the Royal College of Science, London, with a first-class honours. In 1902 he joined The Marconi Company and was sent to the United States where he worked at the Company's training school for wireless operators, at Babylon, Long Island. Here, in his spare time, he investigated wireless propagation problems, experimented with dust-core tuning inductances and devised the elements of direction finding.

About this period, and again in his spare time, Round constructed one of the first arc radio telephones, which on his recall to England he demonstrated to Guglielmo Marconi. He became a personal assistant to Marconi and was conspicuous for his ability to rectify obscure faults in the apparatus of the period. In 1910-11 he greatly improved the performance of the Clifden (Ireland) high power trans-Atlantic transmitter and followed this in 1912 with a brilliant feat of engineering at two stations on the upper reaches of the River Amazon which were not achieving the contract guarantee by reason of heavy signal attenuation across the jungle. Round virtually redesigned the stations in situ to operate on 4000 metres by day and 2000 metres by night, a masterpiece of ingenuity since no parts were to hand. The occasion was historic in that it was the first time that deliberate use had been made of different wavelengths for day and night working.

At the outbreak of the Great War, Round was seconded to Military Intelligence with the task of building a network of "valved" direction-finding stations to cover the entire Western Front. These stations, which he had developed just prior to the onset of war, were so successful in pinpointing the location of enemy transmitters that he was recalled
to England to supervise the construction of a second network there.

Other war work included the co-design with Major Prince of the first telephony transmitters and receivers for airborne use, including the design of the valves. For his services to the country, Captain Round was awarded the Military Cross.

In 1919 he developed new types of transmitting valves and in March of that year directed the installation of a telephony transmitter at Ballybunion, Ireland, which became the first European station to span the Atlantic with telephony. Further experimental telephony work at Chelmsford followed which led, via the early broadcasts from the Marconi 2MT station at Writtle, to the establishment of the original London broadcasting station 2LO at Marconi House, for which Round designed the transmitting equipment. In parallel with all this work he also carried out another huge project, the redesigning of the Caernarvon high-power station from spark to valve transmission.

He was appointed chief of the newly formed Marconi Research Group in 1921. In addition to his work on short-wave telephony he was responsible for several other developments including the "Straight Eight" receiver.

In 1931 he resigned from The Marconi Company to set up in private practice as a research consultant, returning to Marconi's in an advisory capacity in 1937 for work on echo sounding. During World War II he worked on ASDIC for the Admiralty, continuing with this until 1950. In 1952 he was presented with the prized Armstrong Medal by the Radio Club of America.

Captain Round has been working in close association with the Marconi organization almost to the time of his death. He was a truly great engineer, whose contributions to technology have helped in no small measure to shape the course of history.

## MICROPHONE STAND

## FOR THE GRUNDIG GDM

By A. D. Cardwell

SEVERAL of the microphones supplied with the popular range of Grundig tape recorders have no stands. In this article details are given for a simple stand which can be constructed in about an hour if you have the use of a sturdy vice.

The necessary materials should be easy to come by since all you need is a foot of $\frac{3}{16}$ in. diameter brass rod (brazing wire from a garage will do), a small roll of "sticking plaster" and a couple of rubber grommets. Total cost to the author was 3s. 6d., getting the "sticking plaster" from a local chemist and the rubber grommets from the spares department of a Standard Triumph garage (type 605851).

No difficulty should be experienced in constructing this stand if you first mark the brass rod (using the "sticking plaster") as shown in Fig. 1. Once this has been done, the bending process can be tackled. The first bend should be of $90^{\circ}$ at position D . Then make a $90^{\circ}$ bend at F to make the brass rod " U " shaped.

Now the base can be formed by bending the

metalwork at B and H as shown in Fig. 3 beyond the $90^{\circ}$ point to match the angle in illustration 4. The next step is to round off this bend with a screwdriver or similar instrument as shown in Fig. 5 to get the side pieces looking like those illustrated in Fig. 6. The final step is to bend the rear section of the base for the microphone cable.

With this completed, one should cut part of each grommet away and drill as shown in Fig. 7. Be careful not to have an accident when cutting the grommet-a wet blade will reduce the risk of the knife slipping.
The best position for drilling the microphone case is shown in Fig. 8. One should, however, be careful not to allow the head of the drill to penetrate too far when drilling the microphone case as damage can be done to the microphone insert. Also be careful not to make the holes too large, otherwise it will be difficult to secure the grommets.


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One of the most interesting sections of our Components Catalogue is the KITS SECTION, which runs to 14 pages listing 169 different items. Here is an extract from the page dealing with RADIONIC KITS . . . "Designed for both the beginner (aged 10 and upwards)
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Please write your name and address in block capitals
 ANY constructors take a pride in making all the units they build as small as possible. Naturally, a circuit containing a relay is somewhat of a headache since the standard Post Office type of relay is rather a bulky device. Smaller relays are available (sometimes from the surplus market), but these can be rather expensive, hence the article on constructing sub-miniature relays. The one described here can be built at little cost in an evening. It is possible to deviate from the specification and from the materials used to suit individual requirements.

## Background

In simple terms, the relay is an electrically operated switch. Current passes through a solenoid which magnetically attracts the moving portion of a contact assembly to either make or break a circuit or circuits. There can be as many circuits as one likes, but additional circuits add to the weight of the contact assembly and thus require more power.
The relay described is a single changeover device with a common contact and a "make" and a "break" contact.

## CONSTRUCTION

Figure 1 shows the fully assembled relay, Table 1 its specification and Table 2 the materials used. Construction is not too difficult, and all dimensions are given in millimetres.

## Solenoid

The core of the solenoid must be capable of being magnetised, but not a material which can become a permanent magnet. Soft-iron is ideal, and it has been found that some bolts make perfect cores. If you are not sure of the suitability of a selected bolt, first check if it is attracted to an ordinary magnet, and secondly check if it can become a permanent magnet. To do this, stroke the selected bolt with a permanent magnet, twenty to thirty times as shown in Fig. 2. If the selected bolt has permanent magnet properties, you will now be able to pick up small metal items with it. If you can, throw it away and find another with which to make the core.


If one was to use a material with permanent magnet properties, the contacts would permanently remain in the energised position.

Once a core has been chosen, the next step is to make up a yoke to hold the windings. This is best done with nuts and washers, as shown in Fig. 3. Size is not critical; the author used 8 mm washers spaced 13 mm . apart on a 3 mm . bolt, which had an overall length of 25 mm .

The next step is to wind the coil. There are several methods one can use, from doing the job by hand, or by machine employing an old gram motor or an electric drill. The only thing one must remember is that the turns should be wound fairly tightly and layer upon layer. Probably the best way is to start from the left, wind to the right and then back again until you come up level with the washers. The author used 44 s. w.g. enamelledcopper wire, brought the two ends of the coil out at the "head end" of the bolt and wrapped the turns with tape to hold them in position.

If the coil has been wound tightly, the resistance should be around $200 \Omega$. Before proceeding any further, it is worthwhile checking if the solenoid has the sufficient pulling power. This can be done by attaching the coil to a 1.5 volt battery and seeing if the solenoid will lift small pieces of metal. If it will, in all probability, there will be sufficient power to move the completed contact assembly: remember, with a 1.5 V potential the current through the coil is less than 10 mA .

TABLE 1

## SPECIFICATION <br> Size: 23 mm . x 16 mm . $\times$ 9 mm . Working voltage: 9 to 24 V d.c. Min. operating current: 45 mA . Contacts: single changeover, common with make and break.

## Frame

Constructional details for the frame are included Constructional details for the frame are included
in Fig. 4. A non-ferrous metal should be used (one that is not attracted by magnetic fields) such as aluminium, copper or brass. When completed, it should be bolted to the solenoid; see Fig. 1 for

TABLE 2

Fig. 1: Front and side elevation of the completed relay.

| MATERIALS |
| :--- |
| One 3 mm. bolt ( 25 mm . long) with |
| nuts and 8 mm . washers. |
| 44 s.w.g. enamelled-copper wire. |
| Small piece of tin. |
| Small piece of thin metal. |
| Small piece of 5 mm . thick perspex. |
| Short lengths of piano wire (38 |
| s.w.g. or larger). |
| Insulating tape. |

One 3 mm . boit ( 25 mm . long) with nuts and 8 mm . washers.
44 s.w.g. enamelled-copper wire. Small piece of tin.
Small piece of thin metal.
Small piece of 5 mm . thick perspex.
Short lengths of piano wire (38
Insulating tape.
positioning. No difficulty should be encountered in this operation, but one must be careful to ensure that the end of the frame is level with the bolt head. It should be filed to fit if necessary.

## Flap and Lever Arm

The flap and lever arm assembly is the chief moving part of the relay, the flap moving towards the solenoid, when energised, to change the position of the contacts. Thin metal, less than 1 mm ., which has the same properties as the core of the solenoid (being attracted to a magnet, but not having permanent magnet properties) should be used. A strip from an old tobacco tin is ideal. Fig. 5 shows the dimensions. The fold should be almost a rightangle, but not quite so that maximum contact is made with the bolt head when the solenoid is operated.

The rest arm for the lever assembly can be made from perspex and glued in position. Whilst this sets, the flap arm, which locates and positions the flap and lever arm, may be cut; see Fig. 6. Again this is bent just short of a right angle.
Lay the completed lever assembly on to the frame of the relay and position it so that a light depression on the flap will cause the end carrying the arm rest to lift a millimetre or so in the air. In this position the flap should lie flat on the head of the bolt. Fig. 7 shows the required overhang of the flap guide.

## Supporting Block for Contact Arms

A block of perspex is used to support the contact arms. This is cut to the dimensions specified in Fig. 8. The block itself is " $T$ ", shaped, the lower portion of the " T " resting on the flap guide and upper section projecting out above the arms of the flap and lever arm assembly; Fig. 10 shows this. The five holes in the block are to take the contacts and the terminating pins for the coil. If a very small drill is not to hand, it is possible to burn the holes through with the actual contact bars (38 gauge or thicker piano wire) and the terminals.

## Contacts

The contacts are made from piano wire and heated into the supporting block (see Fig. 9). The centre contact, the changeover arm, should be fitted before the other two contacts which, if possible, should be of thicker wire. The ends of these should be bent at
right-angles and positioned so that they are 1 to 2 mm . away from the changeover arm rest. Also be careful to leave enough projecting through the other side of the supporting block for the solder connections.

The contact bar nearest the frame should just touch the centre contact bar and the upper one should be close but not actually touching the centre bar. A little adjustment will be needed here to get the lower arm to break away from the centre rod when the relay is operated.

The pins for the coil terminations may be made from almost anything, since they too can be heated into the perspex.

## Positioning Supporting Block

When fitting the supporting block to the frame of the relay it is important to make sure that the lever arm can move freely before glueing the block in position. Once set, the relay is ready for testing.

## Final Adjustment

In all probability it will be necessary to make some adjustment to the contacts before putting the relay into service. To do this, it is best to heat the contact bars and rotate them to the wanted position. As soon as heat is removed from the bars, the perspex hardens and will hold the contact bars in position.
Now is the time to put 12 volts across the relay. If it fails to operate, possibly the centre contact is under too much pressure. Check this by gently
—continued on page 583
2. Elliptical path to be taken with the magnet when stroking the bolt.
3. (a) 3mm. bolt; showing positioning of nuts and washers. (b) cross-sectional view of bolt after coil winding.
4. Frame assembly (about 1 mm . thick).
5. Flap and lever arm assembly.

## 6. Flap guide.

7. Cross-sectional view showing overhang of flap guide.
8. Contact arms supporting block.


1THE R1155 is a 10 -valve communications and direction finding receiver which, together with its associated T1154 transmitter, loop aerial and visual direction finding indicator, was used extensively in aircraft during the last war.

Although sensitivity is good, selectivity is not up to communication receiver standards owing to the absence of a crystal filter in the i.f. stages. The response curve of the i.f. amplifier indicates a bandwidth of $4.3 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ at the 6 dB points and several methods of improving this were considered. Fortunately, the direction finding part of the receiver is largely independent of the remainder and the three DF valves and the bulk of the DF components can be removed, leaving space for modifications and additions.

Mechanical filters of Japanese origin are now obtainable at moderate cost, but these, unfortunately, are only available for an i.f. of $455 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ while the R1155 has an i.f. of $560 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Construction of a crystal filter was thought to be impracticable and a regenerative i.f. stage was also rejected, since these can lead to a noisy background and instability. Finally, interest was aroused in the $Q$ Multiplier. An experimental model was constructed using an outboard chassis, and was eventually incorporated within the R1155 itself, using the space occupied by the Jones plugs and sockets for the panel controls.

The $Q$ Multiplier is essentially a parallel tuned circuit resonating at the i.f. frequency and connected between the frequency changer anode and chassis. A parallel tuned circuit offers a high impedance at its resonant frequency and can be regarded as a band stop filter or a rejector type wavetrap. When regeneration is applied to the parallel circuit the $Q$ is


Fig. 1: Layout of the complete chassis. The valve positions are as follows: V1, V2 D.F. Switching (VR99 or X66); V3 R.F. Amplifier (VR100:or KTW62); V4 Frequency Changer (VR99 or X66): V5 1st I.F. Amplifier (VR100 or KTW62); V6 2nd I.F. Amplifier (VR100 or KTW62); V7 Beat Frequency Oscillator (VR101 or MHLD6); V8 L.F. Ampliffer (VR101 or MHLD6); V9 D.F. Meter Switching (VR102 or BL63); VIO Tuning Indicator (VI103 or Y61).
boosted to a high value, resulting in a sharp, narrow rejection notch

When this circuit is connected to a frequency changer, frequencies outside the rejection notch are shunted through the low impedance of the parallel circuit and as a result they do not enter the i.f. amplifier. Frequencies within the rejection notch cannot pass through the tuned circuit and are applied to the i.f. input and amplified. The combined effect of the $Q$ Multiplier and i.f. amplifier is to produce a sharp peak to the i.f. response, the width of the peak being controlled by the regeneration control. The position of the peak within the i.f. passband can be adjusted by the var-


Fig. 2: Circuit diagram of the "Q" Multiplier. iable tuning capacitor.

The circuit derived after some trial and error is shown in Fig. 2. The inductor L1 together with C2 and C3 form a Colpitts oscillator, the frequency being adjustable over a small range by C 5 . The amount of feedback is controlled by VR1. Decoupling is provided by R3 and C6, the r.f. choke preventing leakage at the i.f. frequency. Coupling to the receiver is via C1, which also isolates the h.t. on the frequency changer from the $Q$ Multiplier.

A small chassis $5 \times 2 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. which was available was found to be adequate. It was thought advisable to mount L1 on the underside in order to avoid touching it while operating the controls. This inductor is pot cored, a hexagonal trimming tool being required to adjust the core. A suitable tool was obtained from the supplier of the coil. A screened r.f. choke is preferred and several are available among the redundant DF components in the R1155: The one chosen was taken from the screened compartment behind the b.f.o. valve (L2).

Care should be taken not to interfere with L25 which is situated near V8 and the third i.f. transformer (Fig. 1). This component is of a similar shape to the one specified but is of a different type (10C/2186). It is required in the communication part of the receiver and should not be removed. It
is not essential to use the r.f. choke specified, several types were tried and the circuit would even work with a $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor in place of the choke.

Good quality co-axial cable is used between V4 anode and the $Q$ Multiplier. The length of this cable is kept as short as possible as its capacitance will detune the first i.f. transformer. Re-alignment of the first i.f. stage will be necessary and the cores of the transformer will not be able to peak if the cable is longer than about 3 feet. The value of resistor R2 may have to be changed on account of differences in layout and supply voltages, details of how to do this are given in the setting up instructions.

Published circuits of Q Multipliers show the tuning capacitor C5 connected across L1, which means that both sides of C5 are at h.t. potential. Satisfactory operation was obtained with one side connected to chassis as shown, thus allowing a standard component to be used. In the interests of frequency stability close tolerance silver mica capacitors should be used for C2 and C3, though the actual values are not critical. The power drain of the Q Multiplier is small, the h.t. consumption is only 1 mA . Both the h.t. and heater currents should be easily obtained from the R1i155 without overloading its power supply.

## Setting up

With the Q Multiplier switch in the off position connect it to the receiver and re-align the i.f. stages, making sure that the a.v.c. is off. Tune the receiver to a steady signal such as a local medium wave transmitter and use the magic eye as a peaking indicator while the cores are being adjusted. After alignment is complete, switch on the $Q$ Multiplier with C5 and VR1 set to mid position. Adjust the core of L1 until a signal is heard, using C5 as a fine tuner. If VR1 is advanced, oscillation will occur and the control should be set just short of the oscillation point to obtain maximum selectivity. It will probably be too sharp for other than c.w. reception and the control should be backed further until sufficient bandwidth is obtained. If oscillation does not occur when VR1 is advanced then R2 is of too high a value and must be reduced to $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. If oscillation occurs, irrespective of the position of the regeneration control, then R2 should be increased to $8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. After a little practice with the controls it should be possible to obtain selectivity comparable to that given by a crystal filter. With VR1 set for maximum selectivity, speech becomes unintelligible and each sideband can be selected at will.

At this point the reader may think that an outboard Q Multiplier would be adequate for his needs. Commercial add-on units are available which use their own power supply or the receiver supply. Constructional details are not given here as the unit described was experimental and was subsequently dismantled and rebuilt as an integral part of the R1155. There is no reason why it could not be fitted into a small metal case and used permanently in this way. Operation on $465 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ can be obtained by changing C3 to $1000 \mathrm{pF}, \mathrm{C} 2$ to 3000 pF and C5 to 100 pF .

The remainder of the article describes how the Q Multiplier was fitted into the R1155. This should not be attempted by anyone who has not had

previous experience of wiring or receiver construction. A novice could very easily put his R1155 out of action permanently.

## Removal of Components

The following components should be removed from the receiver. In each case the associated wiring must be traced back to source and cut. Meter Balance Control; Meter Deflection Switch; Aural Sense switch and associated tagboard and resistors; Valveholders V1 and V2; Tagboard and components mounted beside V1 and V2 on the end of the coil compartment. The two large inductors and mounting plate situated behind the Jones plugs and sockets. The metal panel labels screwed to the top of the front plate.

## New Components

Fit a jack type socket in place of the Meter Balance control, the second terminal or body of the socket going to the chassis. This is the new high impedance phones socket.

A banana socket fitted in place of the Meter Deflection switch provides the new aerial input.

A 4-pin Painton socket (type 500467) or similar, replaces the Aural Sense switch. This will only be required if an external power supply for the receiver is in use. A square hole should be cut in the front panel to accommodate this.

A small metal adaptor plate mounting a B9A valveholder is now mounted in place of VI to hold the Q Multiplier valve. A neat job can be made using an adaptor plate and details are shown in figure 4.

Before removal of the Jones sockets and plugs the aerial, phones and power wiring must be moved to their new location.

## Aerial Inputs

When the receiver was originally in use in an aircraft a fixed aerial was utilised for ranges 1 and 2
( $18.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and a trailing aerial for ranges 3,4 and $5(1 \cdot 5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $75 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s})$. P1 pin 1 is the fixed aerial input and P1 pin 2 the trailing aerial (Fig. 3). Unsolder from pins 1 and 2 the two wires coming from above the chassis, pull them back and connect each of them to the new aerial socket. This will provide a single aerial socket for all ranges. The two $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ resistors connected from P1 pins 1 and 2 to earth are not required and should be removed.

## Phones Output

The connection from the output transformer comes via a grey wire from a tagboard mounted below the chassis at the front left-hand side of the receiver. This wire passes along a metal channel and terminates on P1 pin 6. Unsolder this wire from pin 6 , pull it back through the channel and extend it to the new phone socket immediately above, at the top left hand corner of the front panel.

## Internal Power Wiring

Bolt a 4-way tagstrip to the underside of the chassis behind the Jones plugs and socket and transfer the internal power leads to it. The remaining wires connected to P1, P2 and SK1 are not required and should be unsoldered, traced back to their source and cut. The Jones plug and sockets can now be removed. Note, HT is NOT connected direct to the chassis but passes through a bias resistor.

If an internal power pack is in use, as in the writer's receiver, connection can be made to it from the tagblock. When an external power pack is used, run wires from the tagblock to the Painton socket. The wires from the power pack will have to be connected to the corresponding pins of a Painton 4 -way plug (cat. 500207 ).

## Installation

A metal panel $4 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. mounting VR1, C4, C5
$\star$ components list

| Resistors: |  | Capacitors: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | C1 | 100pF |
| R2 | $6.8 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | C2 | 2,200pF |
| R3 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | C3 | 800pF |
| VR1 | $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer | C4 | 500pF |
|  | (Radiospares | C5 | 50 pF variable |
|  | midget) | C6 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| Miscellaneous: L1 Q Multiplier pot-cored coil type |  |  |  |
| Q46 Electroniques. Bridge Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk. |  |  |  |
| L2 r.f. choke type 10C/2019 see text, S1a/S1b |  |  |  |
| only two poles used, V1, 12AX7 or ECC83-only |  |  |  |

and the 2 -pole switch is now fixed to the front panel in the space vacated by the Jones plugs and sockets. A length of co-axial cable runs from the panel to the anode of V4, the screen being connected to chassis. C 4 is mounted on a spare contact of the switch. Two screened leads run to the remaining components which are located around the B9A valveholder. The space vacated by V2 is used above the chassis for the r.f. choke and L1 is mounted underneath. C31 is a $4 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ paper capacitor connected between $\mathrm{HT}+$ and chassis. This component, if still required, can be replaced by a small 350 V working electrolytic and space then becomes available which can be used as and alternative location for the Q Multiplier coil, choke and associated components. This would shorten the leads required to the front panel controls. The writer was unable to do this as a mains transformer and smoothing choke had already been fitted here.

No difficulty was experienced operating the Q Multiplier in its new location. Setting up, as described earlier, including the adjustment of the 1st i.f. transformer cores was necessary on account of the new layout.

## MAKING SUB-MINIATURE RELAYS

-continued from page 580

lifting it up with a pair of tweezers and seeing if the arm pulls in when 12 V is applied. If this is the case, the wire must be bent upwards to release the pressure; adjusting the other contacts accordingly.


Fig. 9: (left) Method of locking wire contact arms in supporting block.

Fig. 10: (right) Contact arms and lever arm assembly.


If still unsuccessful, it is possible that the piano wire used is too heavy a gauge.

## Extra Poles

It is possible to add another changeover to the relay if required. It is best to place the extra one to the side of the existing one in preference to placing above it.

# receiving the 

## $B$ <br> BC

NOW that the BBC is at last transmitting regular two-channel stereo programmes, many readers are asking how it works and what extras are needed to receive the programmes and so forth. This article sets out to answer such questions, starting first at the transmitting end of the chain.

Stereo programmes are transmitted at v.h.f. in Band II, using frequency-modulation. The Wrotham and Dover stations are the first to carry the new signals, but within a year or so stereo will be extended to the Sutton Coldfield and Holme Moss transmitters. Public reaction to the system and prevailing economic factors will determine the subsequent rate of development and the nature of the stereo programmes transmitted. The first stereo broadcasts are in the Third Network Music Programmes (see Radio Times).

## How Stereo is Transmitted

Stereo reproduction demands two (or more) isolated audio channels from the sound source to the listeners' ears (Fig. 1). The requirements, therefore, are for two microphones, two isolated audio channels and two loudspeakers. On stereo tape the two channels are recorded separately side by side, while the channel isolation on disc records is achieved by the effective cutting of two modulation tracks at right-angles to each other.

It would be possible, of course, to maintain this two-channel isolation on radio by sending the information of the right-hand channel through one transmitter and that in the left-hand channel through a second
 transmitter. This system, which calls for two receivers, works quite well and readers may recall experiments along these lines being made by the BBC some time ago, with the v.h.f. set carrying one channel and the television sound section the second channel.
This is a very costly way of handling the problem since, apart from the need for two receivers, it holds the services of two transmitters. Far better methods have since been

Fig. 1. Stereo reproduction requires the use of at least two isolated audio channels. The signal in the lefthand channel is called the A signal and that in the right-hand channel the $B$ signal.
evolved, requiring only one transmitter for the two channels of audio information and no more radio space than required for a single channel mono transmission.

After examining the various methods put forward, Working Party S of the European Broadcasting Union proposed the Zenith-GE system for Europe. This is an American system, created jointly by the American General Electric Company and the Zenith Radio Corporation, and is, in fact, the system now in use by the BBC with the pre-emphasis changed from the American $75 \mu \mathrm{~S}$ to the British $50 \mu \mathrm{~S}$.

## Compatibility

A stereo broadcasting system must be compatible. This means that a stereo transmission must produce correctly balanced mono when tuned in by any ordinary f.m. set or tuner. Incorrect balance would be obtained if the mono set responded only to one of the stereo channels or if the right and left-hand information failed to be correctly integrated.

The Zenith-GE system is, of course, compatible, and by tuning in a stereo transmission on any ordinary mono receiver a perfect mono reproduction is obtained. However, when that same transmission is tuned in by a stereo radio or tuner or one with a stereo decoder attached, then the signals in the right- and left-hand channels are adequately isolated and fed to their corresponding audio channels.

Now, from the original source of sound, the signal given by the left-hand microphone (see Fig. 1) is called the $A$ signal and that from the right-hand microphone is called the $B$ signal. Clearly, then, $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}$ signal is equal to correctly balanced mono signal. By the same token, therefore, $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{B}$ signal must equal the stereo information. The $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}$ signal is called the $M$ signal ( M for mono) and the $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{B}$ signal is called the


Fig. 2. Block diagram of the essential features of the transmitting end of the Zenith-GE stereo system. The M or mono signal is $A+B$ and the $S$ or stereo signal is $A-B$.


Wrotham and Swingate are the only two BBC sound stations to radiate stereo. The contours on the map indicate field-strength in $d B$ relative to $1 \mu \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{m}$ for a receiving aerial height of 30 ft .
modulation input of the v.h.f. f.m. transmitter is interposed a $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier suppressing network, leaving only the upper and lowe $S$ signal sidebands for modulation. These sidebands fail to overlap the other modulation signals because they are spaced either side of $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ on the modulation spectrum, as shown in Fig. 3.

It should be remembered that all these signals together frequency-modulate the v.h.f. carrier.

## Ratio Detector

Fig. 4 shows a typical balanced ratio detector circuit that may be found in a good quality f.m. tuner or receiver. Some sets may effectively employ a slightly different version of this circuit or a Foster-Seeley discriminator. A well designed balanced ratio detector is capable of good quality demodulation and has certain advantages with regard to stereo. But whatever type of detector is used, its response must be sufficiently wide to


Fig. 4. The output circuit of a ratio detector used in many receivers and tuners. When feeding the signal into a stereo decoder either the de-emphasis components R1 and C1 should be removed or the output should be taken from the top of R1.
avoid cutting the higher order modulation components of the v.h.f. signal, and the same must apply to the i.f. channel which feeds the detector.

When the circuit in Fig. 4 receives a mono f.m. signal it develops across C 2 the audio modulation of that signal. The audio is normally fed out through network C1, R1 for deemphasis. This is necessary because pre-emphasis is given to the modulation signal at the transmitter to improve the system's signal/noise ratio.

Pre-emphasis means treble lift and de-emphasis treble cut. If the deemphasis at the set end equals the pre-emphasis at the transmitting end, the result is a flat overall audio response. Improved signal/noise ratio occurs because the treble cut (de-emphasis) at the receiver reduces the worst of the high audio-frequency noise at the same time as correcting for the treble lift (pre-emphasis) at the transmitter.
It is important to bear this in mind because when a stereo decoder is fitted to a mono set or tuner the original de-emphasis circuit has to be disconnected. The reason for this is that the de-emphasis circuit effectively attenuates at the rate of $6 \mathrm{~dB} /$ octave all the stereo information that is present on the transmission. Thus, with the de-emphasis circuit connected, the pilot carrier and upper and lower sidebands of the $S$ signal are all suppressed and the receiver then behaves exactly the same on stereo transmissions as on mono ones.

Now let us suppose that we disconnect R1 and Cl in Fig. 4 and take the modulation output direct from across C 2 . We get the M signal as before, but in addition we get the pilot carrier and $\mathbf{S}$ signal sidebands. These are of no use to mono sets and tuners, but when a mono receiver is linked to a decoder it then becomes possible to reclaim the $S$ signal, thereby making it possible to obtain the left and right-hand $A$ and $B$ signals.

## Basic Decoder

It is best to consider how this works from the block diagram given in Fig. 5. Here the modulation signal from the output of the receiver's detector (minus the deemphasis) is applied to a signal amplifier in the decoder. The M signal from the output of this amplifier is taken direct to the matrix (which has the reciprocal action of that at the transmitter). For this matrix to deliver A and $B$ signals it must receive the $S$ signal as well as the M signal.

The $S$ signal, however, cannot be obtained by detection without the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier (suppressed at the transmitter) first being re-inserted. This is where the


Fig. 6. Commercial stereo decoder unit designed for plugging into the Bang and Olufsen Beomaster 1000, integrated stereo tuner and hi-fi amplifier.
$38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier is added, and amplitude demodulation produces the S signal, fed to the matrix.

The matrix processes the $M$ and $S$ signals so that they yield the original A and B signals in the left and righthand channels respectively. The matrix can be considered as a balanced bridge detector, arranged so that the combination of the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier and the S and $M$ signals produces a modulation pattern, on one side of which is the left-hand channel and on the other side the right-hand channel envelope. Looking at it that way, each channel is then detected by the bridge; actuated synchronously by the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ signal.

The original $A$ and $B$ information is obtained because $(\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B})+(\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{B})=2 \mathrm{~A}$ and $(\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B})-(\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{B})=2 \mathrm{~B}$, the matrix, in effect, giving rise to simple addition and subtraction, as intimated at the start of this article.

The A and B signals from the matrix are then fed to separate left and right-hand audio channels, via $50 \mu \mathrm{~S}$ de-emphasis circuits, and thence to corresponding speakers.

## Deviation

The reason for suppressing the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier and then re-inserting it again in the decoder may not be apparent. It is concerned with modulation percentage or deviation. If the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier were retained, its depth of modulation on the main v.h.f. carrier would be such that the deviation of the audio signals ( M and S signals) would have to be reduced to avoid over-modulation. Less modulation depth is produced by the $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ pilot carrier owing to its reduced level in terms of v.h.f. modulation. In practice, the pilot carrier accounts for about 10 per cent of the total $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ pilot carrier signal comes in. This signal is passed through a filter, sometimes with extra amplification, and then into a frequency doubling stage, stepping up the frequency to $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$.

The signal amplifier also passes the upper and lower sidebands to a synchronous detector, at which stage the

Fig. 5. Block diagram showing the stages of a stereo decoder.


modulation, leaving 90 per cent for the M and $\mathbf{S}$ signals.
Both these signals can separately modulate the v.h.f. carrier to a maximum of 90 per cent because they never rise together. When the modulation of, say, the M channel is rising it is falling on the $S$ channel.

In stereo tuners and receivers the decoder circuit is integrated and often takes the form of a small printed
circuit board sub-assembly. Separate decoders are also being made, self-powered or for powering from the parent set. Some of the latest f.m. tuners have plugin provision for decoder sub-assemblies, such an assembly being depicted in Fig. 6 for the Bang and Olufsen Beomaster 1000, integrated f.m. tuner and stereo amplifier.

## Valve Decoder

Fig. 7 shows a valve decoder designed by the American Dyna Company. This uses two valves, a doubletriode ECC83 and a triodepentode ECF80. The first triode of the ECC83 is arranged in a cathode-follower stage, having a high input impedance (to avoid f.m.
Fig. 7. Circuit diagram of valve decoder used in an American tuner. detector loading) and a medium output impedance at the cathode. This valve does not amplify, but serves essentially to match the f.m. detector to the decoding circuits without matching loss.

The second triode of the ECC83 is an M and S signal amplifier, picking up signal from the first triode's cathode and applying its output at the anode to the matrix transformer T1. Filter F1 passes the M signal and the $\mathbf{S}$ sidebands but rejects the pilot carrier.
The $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ pilot carrier signal which is also present at the first triode cathode is fed to the first grid of the pentode of the ECF80, this section being arranged as pilot carrier amplifier. This signal is tuned by filter F2 at the input and filter F3 at the output. Frequency doubling is performed by the triode of the ECF80 and the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier is developed across the primary of T 1 .

The four diodes and associated resistors in the combined synchronous detector and matrix circuit receive
-continued on page 590


Fig. 8. Transistor decoder circuit, based on the B\& 01000.

## S.W. Broadcast Stations

I refer to the letter on page 201, July issue, by Mr. N. D. Mugford.

Mr. Mugford has the advantage over a great majority of the people on this earth, that he lives in a free (relatively so) and democratic society. I do too. Therefore, Mr. Mugford immediately has no right to demand of you that you cease printing details of communist broadcasters, just because he doesn't like what they're doing!

However, away from the political side of it all, and assuming that Mr. Mugford simply objects to Radio Peking, Radio Sofia, RBI, Radio Moscow, etc., because they contravene the ITU and clutter up the bands, using non-broadcast-assigned frequencies, etc., then we find a strange omission in his listings . . . he forgot the BBC, poor chap! Here we have a prime example of how to sign the rules, then forget 'em . . . Ol' Granny BBC's got some strange frequencies hitched to her girdle, like $9410 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}, 18150 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}, 12095 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$, and a few more!

So now, Mr. Editor, I must beseech you Sir, don't ever print any mention of the BBC until they drop all their naughty ways! And of course, they will take ever-so-much notice of the tremendous loss of listeners through your silence of their name!

Of course, Sir, you would then have to omit reference to any others so misusing the bands, which means nearly every international broadcaster worth his salt, and many who aren't.
Robert Ronai, New South Wales, Australian Radio DX Club. Australia.

## Valve Information: VX3188

MAY I correct the information given by your correspondent, W. Ritchie, on page 33 of the October issue?

The VX3188 is equivalent to the CV2277 and is a low-impedance pentode for use as an a.f. power amplifier and as a series valve in voltage stabilisers. The manufacturer's data sheet gives the following information: $\mathrm{VH}_{\mathrm{H}} 26.5 \mathrm{~V}$, IA 90 mA , IH $0.23 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{Vg} 1-13 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{VA} 100 \mathrm{~V}$, gm 9.5 $\mathrm{mA} / \mathrm{V}, \mathrm{Vg} 2100 \mathrm{~V}, \mu \mathrm{~A} 8500 \Omega$, Base: B9A.

Figures are also given for operation with $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{A}} \& \mathrm{Vg} 2=26.5 \mathrm{~V}$.
J. R. W. Murland.
Co. Down, N . Ireland.

## Low Voltage Neon Indicator

I note that several readers have been unable to obtain transistor types 2SO18 and XB121 as specified in my article "Low Voltage Neon Indicator" in the June 1966 issue. I have succeeded in obtaining a small stock of 2SO18's at 10s. each. Transistors type XB121 are available from Henry's Radio Ltd. at 10 s , each.
A. J. Bassett.

28 Park Road, Chorley, Lancashire.

# NEWS AND 

HARLOW MOBILE RALLY


On Sunday September 25th, a stream of traffic came in all shapes and sizes to Magdalen Laver. A family saloon with a base loaded whip on the front and a mini-halo on the back. A motor bike with a side car so full of gear it looked like a mobile Jodrell Bank. There was even a mobile on a bicycle, wobbling along the road with a huge whip towering upwards from the back of the saddle.

Without a doubt this is the friendliest rally your reporter has been to. The beaming face of Fred G3TLF on the front doorway and the eager handshakes from various people who five minutes past had been complete strangers all sum up the Harlow Rally.

The organisers covered everything; tea-and-cakes stall for the hungry; lucky dips and raffles for the gamblers; a make-up demonstration by a leading cosmetics house for the ladies; and a grand sale of the most glorious junk.

Then there were the kids; the dogs; the yarns of the DX that got away; and the groups of technical bods expounding pet theories.

Commercial gear was much in evidence but the antennae were ingenious. G3CZA/M had a very lofty whip with what appeared to be a midget basket-wound coil half way up. But perhaps the quaintest was a two foot length of 16 gauge which fed directly into an " $S$ " meter clutched in the hand of an enthusiastic s.w.l. who promptly informed all when the talk-in station was on the air. G3RVV reminisced on receivers he built back in the old days, one of which was built breadboard style on a 9-foot plank of wood!

## REMOTE CONTROLLED TRANSMITTING STATION

Two 30 kW , high frequency Marconi Self-Tuning radio transmitters are to be installed at Belgium's communications centre at Ruiselede. They are fully automatic, and will be remotely controlled over land lines from a centre three kilometres away.

In this installation, any one of $\mathbf{2 3 5 , 0 0 0}$ different frequencies at $100 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ steps in the range 4 to $\mathbf{2 7} \cdot \mathbf{5 M c} / \mathrm{s}$ can be se'ected from the control station without manual intervention at the transmitters.

This export order was awarded by the Belgian Posts and Telegraphs Department through SAIT Electronics, Marconi's Belgian Associates.

# ...COMMENT 

TAYLOR ASSEMBLY SHOP


In order to meet increasing demands for their products, Taylor Electrical Instruments Ltd. put into operation a 3-point plan. A training school was set up on the factory premises, new jigs were designed and installed, and new assembly techniques devised. The result has been highly successful in that delivery times have been improved and production output increased by three times, without occupying additional floor space.

## ANTEX SOLDERING KIT

New from Antex Ltd., of Grosvenor House, Croydon, is a complete Soldering Kit consisting of a durable and rigid plastic "tool-box" with a lift-off "see-thro" cover, designed not only to keep everything to hand but also to serve as an iron stand whilst the iron is in use. Contained in this "tool-box" is an Antex Model CN 240 15W soldering iron, fitted with a $\frac{3}{16} \mathrm{in}$. nickel plated bit. Two spare interchangeable bits $\frac{5}{32} \mathrm{in}$. and $\frac{3}{32}$ in.) are also provided, with a reel of resin-cored solder, a cleaning pad, and a handy heat sink for soldering up transistors etc. A useful addition to the kit is a handy 36-page illustrated booklet on "How-tosolder". Price is 49s. 6d. complete.

## "'THE ENGINEERS' DAY"

To encourage more young people to become engineers, the Government has sponsored "The Engineers' Day" exhibition at the Science Museum, South Kensington. Opening at 2 p.m. on November 18 th, the exhibition will run to January 14th and will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Graphic displays, with films and lectures, have been designed to promote an awareness of the importance and achievements of engineers and technologists.

Over 7,000 sq.ft. on the ground floor of the Science Museum have been given up to this exhibition. The installation at Goonhilly Down (Britain's ground satellite receiving station) will be featured.

## Ground Communications

I have recently been conducting some research on ground communication which, I believe, will be of interest to many readers.

Although the transmitter and receiver earths should normally be orientated so that they face each other, I have discovered that, for good local communication, they should be beamed in order to obtain a good signal/noise ratio . . . the noise here being mains hum. The useful transmitting range for speech in my area, with transmitter earths 25 yd . apart and an output of 4 W ; is about 300 yd ., although the soil conducts unusually well. Doubling the transmitter power increases the range by about $25 \%$.
M. J. Walsh.

## Portsmouth,

 Hampshire.
## Coil Formers for the Beginners' S.W. 2

In relation to the Short Wave Receiver for the Beginner (Practical Wireless, July 1966 issue, page 182) Eddystone inform me that coil former type 538 specified for two of the three coils, is no longer available.

I have found that type B37 may be used for all three coils if a little patience is exercised.
A. White.

Oxton,
Birkenhead.

## The R1155

With reference to the letter from John Tye inferring that enough has been written about the R1155 receiver, I would like to point out, we have not all been able to get back numbers of the magazines he mentions, which had articles on this receiver, i.e. noise limiter circuit. I endorse Mr. R. E. Robinson's cry for further articles on the R1155 or a reprint of " 10 metre Converter" or "Noise Limiter" for this well tried set.

Perhaps Mr. Tye would be willing to loan his back numbers to people interested in this receiver?

I would be willing to get the pages copied.
A. R. Preston.

16 Millard House, Grove Street, Deptford, London, S.E.8.

## The "Ten-Five" Receiver

In the list of components for the modified "Ten-Five" Receiver appearing in the September issue of Practical Wireless the specification for T4 was omitted. T4 should be a miniature tran-sistor-type transformer, Denco, Range 2 (Red).
the M and S signals after the carrier has been added and the signal demodulated. The matrix then delivers the audio signals in channels A and B , as already explained. It should be noted here that the matrix diodes have a d.c. return path through the resistors shunting the A and B amplifier inputs.

It is usual practice for the A and B outputs at the matrix to be fed to voltage amplifiers (another double-triode valve -one triode per channel-is commonly employed) before being applied to the input of the main stereo amplifier system, and it is in this early audio section that de-emphasis is often applied.

## Transistor Decoder

A transistor decoder circuit, based on the Bang and Olufsen Beomaster 1000, is given in Fig. 8. This has much in common with the valve circuit in terms of operation. $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$, are signal amplifiers, the first in common-emitter mode and the second in commoncollector mode, the equivalent of the valve cathodefollower. Stabilising feedback is applied between $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ emitter and Tr1 base, via the $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor.
The M signal and the sidebands of the S signal are passed to the tap on the secondary of the matrix transformer T 1 , via the RC filter ( $18 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ in parallel with $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ). The $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ pilot carrier signal is tuned by filter F1 in the bass circuit of Tr3 and by F2 in the collector circuit. Tr4 acts as a frequency doubler, the $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ sub-carrier signal being tuned by T1 primary in Tr4 collector circuit. The operation of the synchronous detector/matrix is the same as explained in the valve circuit.

## Critical Demands

To recapitulate; we have seen that any reasonable quality f.m. tuner can be coupled to a stereo decoder to provide A and B (left- and right-hand) stereo signals provided first the de-emphasis filter across the output of the f.m. detector is removed and that de-emphasis is inserted in each stereo channel subsequent to the decoding process.

It should be noted, though, that while some features of design or performance of the tuner may be acceptable for mono, there are certain critical demands for good quality stereo reception. For example, the tuner should be capable of maintaining a linear frequency response up to at least $240 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. In some cases it may be necessary to modify the f.m. detector a little to secure the best results. The total d.c. load of a ratio detector (i.e., R1 + R2 in Fig. 4) should not be much greater than $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, while the effective capacitance in parallel with the i.f. signal at the detector should not rise much above 250 pF .

Poor overall frequency response or bad phase characteristics of the parent tuner can cause the output of the A channel to appear in the B channel, and vice versa (this is called crosstalk). The alignment of the: discriminator transformer is also important from this


Fig. 10. $A$ and $B$ channel de-emphasis.
aspect and to ensure that correct detector synchronisation occurs. If possible, alignment is best checked with an oscilloscope and wobbulator.

## Setting Up

Finally, a word about the setting up of a decoder. The output A and B channels usually need to feed through a triode or transistor amplifier to raise the signal levels sufficiently to work into, say, the radio inputs of a hi-fi stereo amplifier or into the audio section of a high quality radio or radiogram. The de-emphasis should also be remembered, and Fig. 10 shows a suitable twin-channel de-emphasis circuit for connection to the outputs of a decoder.
Incidentally, the $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ or $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ signal developed in the decoder when a stereo transmission is tuned in is often fed to some form of stereo indicating device. With a decoder having reverse compatibility, this then enables the user quickly to tune over Band $\Pi$ in search of a stereo transmission. The indicating device can be a moving-coil meter movement, a magic-eye tuning indicator or even a bulb.
The magic-eye tuning indicator is probably the easiest device to use, since the signal level at points marked ' $A$ ' in Figs. 7 and 8 is adequate to give full deflection of the shadow. To operate a meter the signal would have to be rectified and amplified in a valve or transistor to provide sufficient pointer deflection.

## Coil Winding

For readers wishing to experiment with decoders and construct their own models, the following information for the winding of $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ coils and transformers will be of assistance.

To secure sufficient inductance and $Q$, the coils should be wound on pot-type cores, such as the Mullard Vinkor LA2505 or equivalent. About 1,500 turns of $45 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . \mathrm{g}$. enamelled-covered wire will tune over $19 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ with about 220 pF in parallel. Tapping in to get the correct impedance coupling necessitates making a connection about 25 per cent from the 'cold' or earthy end of the winding.

To tune $38 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ the primary of the matrix transformer should contain about 700 turns of 45 s.w.g. enamelledcovered wire tuned by 150 pF , while the secondary to feed the diodes should contain about 100 turns. The exact tapping points will depend on the nature of the circuit, of course.

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CONSIDERABLE increase in sunspot activity has been noted at times with complete blackout of h.f. channel on occasions. This means that better things are just around the corner as the higher frequency bands become more and more used. The move of the high-powered transmitters to these bands will considerably relieve overcrowding on the lower frequency bands and give the lower-powered stations a chance.

## SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina: Radio National (Ayacucho 1556, Buenos Aires) is reported to be using LRA33, 15,345 until after 2300 in Spanish.

Brazil: Radio Clube de Pernambuco: (Avenida Cruz Cabuga 394, Recife) often heard on 11,865 is now audible also at 2220 on 6,015). Radio Jornal do Comercio (Rua Marquez do Recife) now puts in a very strong signal on 15,145 after 0030 .

Radiodifusora Sao Paulo (Casilla Postale 252, 4142, Sao Paulo) seems to be carrying the programme of Radio Tupi over 17,817. Strong heterodyne with Radio Canado on 17,820.

Radio Clube Ribeirao Preto (Casilla Postale 18, Ribeirao Preto) now putting in good signal after 2230 on 15,415. Radio Sociedad de Babia (Rua Carlos Gomes, 57, Salvador) is back on 11,875 . At 2300 there is interference from Radio Moscow.

Chile: Radio President Balmaceda (Casilla 13650, Santiago) is audible with frequent identification 2245-2301 when blotted out by Vladivostock relaying Radio Moscow.

Colombia: Radio Nacional (Apartado Nacional, 1824, Borgota) heard on the new frequency of 15,345 around 0100 . Programmes in the main were transcription features of other stations.

Ecuador: La Voz de los Andes (Casilla 691 Quito) uses 15,325/17,880 to Europe 1830-2200 and 15,115/17,890 from 2330-2400.

Venezuela: Radio Barquisimeto (Apartmentado 576, Barquisimeto) gives a good signal from 0000 onwards on YVMQ 4,990. Radio Tropical (San Jacinto 9, Caracas) heard after 0025 over YVKP 4,870. Music, advertisements and news make up programme.

## EUROPE

## Albania: Radiodiffusion et Television Attanaise

 (Rue Ismail Quemal, Tirana) now has a QSL card. Some reports say the 0630-0700 English transmission is aired over $7,090 / 7,265$ whilst others give the frequencies as $7,265 / 9,390$.Denmark: Radio Denmark (Radiohouse, Rosenornsalle 22, Copenhagen V) has a special musical transmission 1800-1845 over long wave 245 (kc). There is English 1825-1830 and reports are wanted.

France: O.R.T.F. (Maison de I'O.R.T.F., 116 Avenue du President Kennedy, Paris 16) now has English at 1300-1330 over $15,245 / 17,740 / 21,580$ and 1915-1930 over 15,130/17,740. The French inter programme is relayed on the following frequencies 6,175 1100-2200, $11,845 / 11,920, \quad 1545-2000,15,245$ $1100-1200, \quad 17,765 \quad 1100-1230, \quad 21,580 \quad 1100-1230$, 1400-1700.

German Federal Republic: Deutsche Welle (Bruedertsrasse 1, Postfach 344, Skoln) has made changes in the following English transmissions 0300-0340 11,945/9,530; 0845-0940 11,925/15,275/17,845; 06000630 11,775/15,295; 1045-1055 9,765/11,905; 01300250 6,075/9,640; 0500-0540 15,140/9,735; 2050-2100 9,700/11,925/15,405.

Deutsche Bundepost (Funkampt Hamburg, Funkdienstburo, Hamburg 13, Schlüterstrasse 3) has a SSB point-to-point transmission over DGT46 19,460 at 1420 . QSL verification is given.

Great Britain: BBC (C.E.X.B., Bush House, London, W.C.2) has been heard carrying its 2000-2100 Russian transmission in SSB over 12,185.

Greece: National Hellenic Broadcasting Institute (Mourouzi Street 16, Athens) can be heard (with patience) at 2200-2230 and 2300-2330 over 15,345/ 11,720.

Holland: Radio Nederland Wereldomroep (P.O. Box 22, Hilversum). The 2100-2150 English transmission is now aired over 11,730 and on frequency in the $31 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{b}$.-probably $9,590$.

Norway: Radio Norway (Oslo) now transmits as follows: 0300-0430 9,550/9,610/11,850/1,578; 0745$081521,670 / 11,850 / 15,175 / 17,825 / 25,900 ; 1100-1230$ $7,240 / 21,670 / 15,175 / 17,825 / 25,900 ; 1300-1430,1500-$ $1630,1700-1830 \quad 21,670 / 15,175 / 17,825 / 25,900 ; 1900-$ $203011,850 / 15,175 / 17,825 / 21,670 / 21,730 ; 2100-2230$ $11,850 / 15,175 / 17,825$; $2300-003011,850 / 9,550 / 9,610$. The use of the $11 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{b}$. should be noted here.

Portugal: Radio Portugal (Rua du Quelhas 21, Lisboa) reported to be using 7,225/21,495 for its 2015-2100 English transmission to Europe although schedule says 41 and $49 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{b}$. are used.

Contributors this month were P. Charlton, A. B. Thompson, S. Shaw, M. C. Donnelly, D. Rye, D. Priestley, Swiss Broadcasting Corporation and Radio Nederland.

AVERITABLE deluge of logs, letters and reports have arrived from just about everywhere. The majority- $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. Some of the reports on forty are extremely good and as can be seen by the logs shown later-the DX is most definitely there for those who can be bothered to listen.
Very few tried $3.5 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, and only two listened on 160 in spite of the fact that W's are active down the l.f. end.
From the h.f. end comes news of great activity. Both 14 and $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ have been quite fantastic at times but reports are now growing on $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. One particularly good opening on ten metres showed just a quick preview of things to come, things like Argentine, Canal Zone, South Africa, Israel, all on phone.

## Seven Meg. Souffle

No, you don't need a beam! N. Henbrey (Rye), 20 -metre dipole and an EA12 logged CN8AW, UC2BF, VK2AVA, VP6KL, VS9ARV, VS90C, WA4YOJ/P/4 (0557), 5A2TZ. R. Adair (Co. Down), R107, dipole, UW9AS, VK2AVA, VP3JR, VP6KL, VS9ARV, ZB2AJ, 4X4VL, 9M2OV.
J. Fitzgerald (Great Missenden) uses a Hitachi WH837 portable with another BC set as a b.f.o. This set up harvested the following: CN8AW, EL2A, JA1AEA, JA2BAY, LX1BB, MP4MAW, OD5BZ, PY's 1CAD, 1CLI, 1CNK, 2DL, 2EAD, 6WA, 7AOT, 7LAK (all between 2052 and 2395); UA1WW, UB5UW, UW9AF, VK2AVA, VP3JR, VP6KL, ZB2AJ, ZS1JA (2312),5A2TR, 6O6BW, 9HIR, 9M2OV (2316). All s.s.b. Times for above three logs all between 1928-2143 except where stated otherwise.
D. Allisett (Gurnsey, C.I.), TCS receiver, 120 ft . I.w., heard CT1LX, JA2BOI, OX3LP, PY4ND, VK2AVA, VK3VJ, ZB2AJ. G. Morgan (Tredegar), HA230 tuned to $7050 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$, 45 ft . end fed, all s.s.b. - CN8AW, HB9AHL, LA1K, OH5MW, PY's 1CLI, 2EAB, 6WA, 7APS, 8QQ; SL6BH, UW9AF, VK's 2EQ, 2AVA, 3MO, 7SM (Tasmania); VP3JR, VP3YG, VP6KL, VS90C, 9H1R, 9R4VT, all on a loudspeaker, too!

## Twenty and Fifteen

If it's alive and it radiates, then you'll find it on one of these two bands. R. Wells (St. Albans) reports hordes of JA's romping in, and other s.w. l's quote similar instances of intense activity from distant climes.
R. Dowdell (Ewell), " 52 rx . soon to be replaced with 130 ft . end fed wire, running NW/SE." Coo! they must be coming in strong! $14 \mathrm{Mc} /$ s s.s.b.: CR6CN, EA8AH, EP2GF, ET3WH, HS1AK, KH6EN, KR6UA, LU5AES, PY2DSQ, VK3ZL, VS90C, YA1DAN, YK1AA, YV5CIV, ZD9BE, ZS6AR, 5A2TS, 5A5TV, 5N2AAW, 5Z4IR, 9G1FF, $9 \mathrm{~J} 2 \mathrm{MM}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{BO}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{DW}, 9 \mathrm{Q} 5 \mathrm{HF}, 9 \mathrm{U} 5 \mathrm{BB}$, 9 X 5 MH .

David Griffiths (Cardiff), 640 plus 4 r.f. stages (why bother with the 640 OM?), 100 ft . $1 . \mathrm{w} ., 14 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ s.s.b.: CR-6HF, 6IV, CR7-AP, FM, GW, EL2R, EP2PL, FH8KD, HS4AK, JA-1BN, 2BQE, 3RQ, 3UE, 5RG, 6AD, KG6CF, KG6ALW, KH6BX, KH6BJ, KL7-BTP, FCH, FEF, FIL, KM6CE, KR6HW, KR6QW, KS6BT, KZ5EX, K1VSD/AM, UH8DE, VE-2DZ, 8AA. VE1AED/SU, VE2BUJ $/$ SU, VK3EUU, VK9VK, VP2VV, VP3HAG, VP5RB, VS9OC, VS9ARV, WØOTP, WØGTA/8F4, W6KXZ, YA1DAN, YV5BNW, ZC4JU, ZD9BE, ZL1CR, ZL4CH, ZP5OG, 4U1ITU, 4X4BL, 5A4TR, $9 \mathrm{H} 1 \mathrm{AB}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{LO}, 9 \mathrm{~V} 1 \mathrm{MY}$. An extremely good log, set out in alphabetical order with the date, time, RST, mode, band, etc. Interesting from this $\log$ to see that even the ZL's were 5 and 5.
Philip Cooper (Uttoxeter),' CR45 t.r.f., 70ft. 1.w., managed CN8CS, EP2AX, F9RY, HP9FC/MM, I1AUM/M1, K1HRV/MM, K1VKD/P/KG6, K6 JXS/MM, KR6KS, KR6UL, KV4CF, M1B, OD5BZ, PY2DFS, SVØWX, VE1AAH, VE2BUJ/P/SU, VE8AG, VK3-MO, TL, ZL, W7ALE/Fix. P/KG6, XW8AY, YV5CHO, ZL3MM, ZS6XL, 5A3TW, 5A5TB, 601AW, 7Q7LC.
D. Harvey (Salop), PCR3, ground-plane hunted $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ for-CN8FB, CR7FG, CT2AC, CX5AAM, CXØLE, EA8ES, HR1JKM, K1, 2, 3, 4, LU4LG, OD5EC, PY2GKD, PY9AI, SL7ZZS, SV1AC, VE2BUJ/MM/SU, VE3BIF, W1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, $\emptyset$.
Paul Baker (Pontypool), HE30, 45ft. l.w. $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$-CE5MEO, dozens of CN's, CO8RA, CR7's, CT5JAS (ex G3SJ), CX5AAN, EA8CR, EAØAY, EL2AA, EP2RJ, HK4TA, many JA's, K6BNL, LU1DJO, MP4BEU, OA4DJ, OD5BZ, PX1MA, PY's, PZilBE, SM3DJU/MM, VE2BUJ/SU, SU1IM, TL8JF, TN8BK, UA9TT, VE8BZ, VP7NA, VS9ASP, W6YAW, WA6LDG, WB6DLA, W7LUN, ZC4MO, ZE6IL, ZS1JQ, 4X4QA, 5A1TK, 5H3JL, 5N2AAW, 6W8DD, 6Y5RS, 7XØBB, 9G1FV, 9H1R, 9L1TL, 9M2FI (Penang Is.), 9Q5FV, 9V1MT.

## Sunspot Special

Were you disappointed with $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ this month or did you hear mumblings from distant mikes?

Pat Longbone and John Singleton use a modified S640, 20 m . dipole-GM5ABN/KP4PRY, LA8WI, OE6UX, ZS6AJH. John Farrer (Bishop's Stortford), Mini-clipper, ground - plane-CT1PQ, DL8MM, DJ80D, EA8EV (Canary Is.), EL8B, many G's, ZC4GB, ZE1AA, ZE8JJ, ZS4OI, ZS6-DK, DLW, IW, JK, IB, 5N2AAM, 9J2DT, 9J2MM.
G. Owen (Bristol), Mohican, Joystick, $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ a.m. CT1-OW, PT, QL, CR6EF, CX2CN, EA7DG, I1FAE, KV5VF, LU1AAB, OZ4FF, PY-1BAV, 3BSB, 4AB, 7EC, ZE2JA, ZE3JO, 5X5JK. On s.s.b. he claims CE3PR, CX-2AAJ, 2BD, 9CO, DJ1OJ, DJ7LY, DJ8LD, EL2R, HI1JMN, KP4AXC, KZ5KW, PY1CK, PY2PA, PY3BKT, PY4CT,


Complete：a die，a punch，an Allen screw and key

| ${ }_{3} \frac{1}{2}$ in． | 14／6 | 11／in． | 18／－ | $1 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in}$ ． | 22／6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }_{\text {sin }}$ | 14／9 | 11 ${ }^{\text {in }}$ n． | 18／－ | 2 in ． | 34／3 |
| ${ }_{\text {a }}{ }^{3} \mathrm{in}$ ． | 15／6 | 1年in． | 18／6 | $2 \frac{3}{32} \mathrm{in}$ ． | 37／9 |
| zin． | 15／9 | $1{ }^{3} \mathrm{~B}$ in． | 20／－ | $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ ． | 44／3 |
|  | 18／－ | $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ | 20／6 |  |  |

BARGATN XTAL PICK－UP ARM Complete with ACOS LP－r8 Turnover Head and Styli 20／－；Stereo 30／－ SPEAKER FRET Tygan various colours， 52 in ．wide from EXPANDED METAL Gold or Silver $12 \times 12 i n .6 /$
NEW GARRARD GRAM MOTORS 100－130v．A．，15． NEW GARRARD GRAM MOTORS 100－130v．A．0．15／－
pair for 200／250v．（in series），or 10／－eaeh（Port Free）． FULL WAVE BRIDGE SELENIUM RECTIFIERS： 2， 6 or 12 v．outputs， $1 \frac{1}{2}$ amp．， $8 / 9 ; 2 \mathrm{a} .11 / 3 ; 4 \mathrm{a} ., 17 / 6$ ． CHARGER TRANSFORMERS．Tapped input 200／250
for oharging at 2,6 or 12 v ．，1．amps．，15／6；2 amps．， $17 / 6$ ； for oharging at 2,6 or 12 v．， $1 \frac{1}{4}$ amps．， $15 / 6 ; 2 \mathrm{amps},. 17 / 6 ;$
4 amps．， $25 /-$ ．Cirouit included．Amp meter 5 amp．， $10 / 6$ ． $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { MOVING COML MULTIMETER } & \text { TK } & 25 . & 47 / 6\end{array}$ MOVING COIL MULTIMETER EP10K．$\quad 79 / 6$ MOVING COIL MULTIMETER EPROK． $0-2,500$ v．D．C． 20,000 ohms per volt． $0-1,000$ v．A．c，
Ohms 0 to 6 meg． 50 Microamps full scale． $99 / 6$

## NEW MULLARD TRANSISTORS

 OC71 6／－；OC72 7／6；OC81D 7／6；OC81 7／6；AF115 10／6 AF114 11／－；OC44 8／－；OC45 8／－；001H1 $9 /-; 001708 / 6 ;$AF117 9／B．OC26 12／6；Transistor Holders 1／3． VALVE HOLDERS．EA50 6d．MOULDED Int．Oot．6at． Mazda Oct．6d．；B7G，B8A，B8G，B9A，9d；；B7G with ogn B9A，1／－．Valve base plags B7G，B9A，Int．Oct．， $2 / 8$ ．
TRANSISTOR MAINS ELIMINATORS Famous＂Power－Mite＂$\theta$ volt．Same size as PP9 45／－
battery．Fally smoothed，full－wave eircuit．

WEYRAD P50－Transistor Coils | RARW 6 in．Ferrite Aerial | Spare Cores．．．．．．．．．．． 6 d. |
| :--- | :--- |
| with ear aerial coil．．．．12／6 | Driver Trans．LFDT4．．．． $9 / 6$ | Ose．P50／1AC．．．．．．5／4 $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Driver Trans．LFDT4 } \\ & \text { Printed Circnit，PGAi．．9／6 }\end{aligned}$



Volume Controls Long spindles．Miiaget size 6 K．ohms to 2 M Meg Liog or


80 Ohm Coax $6 \mathrm{dd}_{\text {yd }}$ ． Semi－air spaced
40 yd． $17 / 6 . ~$
60 Cable ringe low loss $1 / 0$ $\underset{\text { Ideal } 685}{\text { fringes lines．}}$ ydit COAKIAL PLUG 1／－PANEL SOCKETS 1／－．LINE SOCK－ ETS 2人－OUTLET BOXES，SURFACE OR FLUSH $4 / 6$ ． BALANCED TWIN FEEDERS 6d．yd．， 80 or 300 ohms：
TRLLESCOPIC OHROME AERIAL． 1 2in．extends to 33 in， $8 / 6$ ．


NEW ELECTRDLYTICS FAMOUS MAKES

\section*{TUBULAR TUBULAR GAN TYPES 2／350} | $2 / 350$ |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| v． | $\cdots$ | $2 / 8$ | $100 / 25$ |
| v． | ．． $2 /-$ | $8 / 600$ v． | $9 / 6$ |



 | $25 / 25 \mathrm{v}$. | . | $1 / 9$ | $16+16 / 450$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $50 / 50$ v． | ．． | $2 / 3$ | $64+100 / 850 \mathrm{v}$. | $11 / 6$ | PAPER TUBULARS

350v．－0．1 9d．， $0.51 / 9 ; 1 \mathrm{mid} .3 /-; 2 \mathrm{mfd} .150 \mathrm{v} .3 /-$
500 v .0 .001 to $0.059 \mathrm{~d} ; \mathrm{m}^{2} 11 /-; 0.251 / 6 ; 0.53 /-$.
$1,000 \mathrm{v} .-0.001,0.0022,0.0047,0.01,0.02,1 / 6 ; 0.047,0.12 / 6$ ， E．H．T．CONDENSERS． $0.001 \mathrm{mid} .7 \mathrm{kV} ., 6 / 6 ; 20 \mathrm{kV}, 10 / 6$ ． $250 \mathrm{mid} 15 \mathrm{~F} / 6.500,1000 \mathrm{~m}, 2,15,3 / 6,2,30,50,100$ ，
 PULSE CERAMITCS 10 pF to 180 pF ．， $12 \mathrm{kV} ., 2 / 6$ ． SILVER MIOA．Close tolerance（plus or minus $\frac{1}{5} \mathrm{pF}$ ．）， 5 to $47 \mathrm{pF}, 1 /-;$ ditto $1 \% 50$ to $800 \mathrm{pF} .1 /-; 1,000$ to $5,000 \mathrm{pF}$ ．， $2 /=$ TWIN GANG．＂ $0-0$＂ $208 \mathrm{pF} .+176 \mathrm{pF} ., 10 / 6 ; 365 \mathrm{pF} .$, minia－
ture， $10 /-; 500 \mathrm{pF}$ ．standard with trimmers， $9 /-; 500 \mathrm{pF}$ ture， $10 /-; 500 \mathrm{pF}$ ．standard with trimmers， $9 /-; 500 \mathrm{pF}$
midget less trimmers， $7 / 6 ; 500 \mathrm{pF}$ ．slow motion，standard $9 /-$ ； small 3－gang 500 PF ． $18 / 6$ ．Single＂0＂ 365 pF ． $7 / 6$ ．
 $100 \mathrm{pF} .160 \mathrm{pF}, 5 / 6$ each．Oan be ganged．Oouplers 9 d ．each． TUNING．Solid dielectric． $100 \mathrm{pF}, 300 \mathrm{pF}$ ， $500 \mathrm{pF}, 3 / 6$ each．
 BEST BRITISH PVC RECORDING TAPES
 L．P．Ein． 5 in． 900 ft. Spare Spools 2／6．Tape Splicer 5／－．Leader Tape $4 / 6$.
Tape Heads：Coliaro 2 track 28／6 pair．B．S．R． 4 track 70／－

## MAINS TRANSFORMERS

Post
2／6 eac
$250-0-250,80 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.8$ v． 3.5 a．Rectifier 6.3 v ．．．．．25／－25／ MT． $510300-0800$ v． $120 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ ₹ 4 s
MINLATURE $200 \mathrm{v} .20 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.8 \mathrm{v} .1 \mathrm{a}$ MDDGET 820 v． $45 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v． 2 a. ． SMALL 800－0－800 v． $70 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3$ v． 4 a．．．
 Ditto tapped sec．1．4 v．，2，3，4，5，6．3 v． $1 \frac{1}{2}$ amp．．．． GENERALP PURPOSE LOW 30 ． 8 at 2 a Ditto， 1 amp， $5,10,15,20,25,30,40,45,50,55,6029 / 6$ $60 \mathrm{w} .18 / 6 ; 150 \mathrm{w} 25 /-; 500 \mathrm{w} .82 / 6$ ．
CRYSTAL MIKE INSERTS
 MOVING COL HEADPHONES 100 ohms

1966 GRAM
CHASSIS CHASSIS
hree Wavebands：


EF89，FHC81，EL84，ER80 12 －month guarantee．A．C．200－250 v．Ferrite Aerial 5 watts 3 ohms．Chassis $13 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . \times$ Yin．$\times$ Ein．dial size
$13 \mathrm{in} . \times 4 \mathrm{in}$ ．Two Pilot Lamps．Four Knobs． $13 \mathrm{in}, \times 4 \mathrm{in}$ ．Two Pilot Lamps．Four Knobs．
Aligned calibrated．Chasseqisolated from mains． $\mathbf{£ 1 0 . 1 0 .}$ HIGH GAIN TV．PRE－AMPLIFIER BAND I B．B．C． Tunable channels 1 to 5 ．Gain 18 dB．ECC84 valpe． KAN price 32／6 or bo／－will power pack．Details 6d． Band I or III．Coils and circuit only， $9 / 6$ ．Chassis $4 / 9$. B．B．C．2 Super Booster．UHF Transistor Model ready made 75／－

BLANK ALUMINIUM CHASSIS． 18 s．w．g． 4 sides，riveted corners，lattice fixing holes， $2 \frac{1}{2 i n}$ ．sides， $7 \times 4$ in．， $6 / 6 ; 9 \times 7 \mathrm{in}$ ，,
$6 / 6 ; 11 \times 8 \mathrm{in} .6 / 6 ; 11 \times 7 \mathrm{in} .7 / 6 ; 18 \times 9$ in． $9 / 6 ; 14 \times 11 \mathrm{in} .12 / 6$ ； $15 \times 14$ in．， $15 /-$
ALUMINIUM PANELS 18 s．w．g． $12 \times 12 \mathrm{in} .5 / 6 ; 14 \times 9 \mathrm{in}$ ． $4 / 6 ; 12 \times 8$ in． $3 / 6 ; 10 \times 7$ in． $2 / 9 ; 8 \times 6$ in， $2 /-; 6 \times 4 \mathrm{in} .1 / 6$ ． STELLA RECORD PLAYER AMPLIFIER 4 watt． 2 stage． 3 to 7 ohm．Neg．feed back．UCL 82 ，UY85． 200－250v．A．C．tapped inpak．Chassis size $8 \times 2 \frac{1}{2} \times 4$ in，high Gold／Walnut knops．Vorme and Tone coatrols on separal
ADD－ON BABY ALARM UNIT
All Transistor．For any make of IV or Radio．Only three connections．Made by K．B．，R．G．D．and Regentone．Circuit provided and instructions for use with all makes．No battery required．Ready built and guarant
With mierophone．Bargain price．Post free．


BAKER 12 in．STALWART
The only Hi Fi Speaker vailable with choice 3 or 15 ohm models．
May be used with any Hi Fi or domestio ound equipment． Max．Power． 15 watts
Bass Res． $40 / 50$ eps． Flux．． 12,000 gauss． Voiee Coil．
Chassis Solid A）cps．
Chassis Solid Alumini－ Overall depth．．． 6 in． Price 5 Gns．Post

## CATALOGUE S．A．

GROUP MODELS FOR VOCALS
BASS，LEAD and RHYTHMI GUTTARS
$30-10,000$ eps．Voice Coils 15 ohms ．Heaqy duty
＇Group 25＇＇Group 35＇${ }^{\prime}$ Group 50＇

LOUDSPEAKERS P．M． 8 OHMS． $2 \frac{1}{4}$ in．， 8 in ．， 4 in ．， 5 in, in $\times 4 \mathrm{in}, 15 / 6 \mathrm{each} ; 8 \mathrm{in} .22 / 6$ ； 6 in． $18 / 6 ; 10 \mathrm{in}, 301 / ;$ $12 \mathrm{in} .30 /-$ ；$(15$ ohms $35 /-) ; 10 \mathrm{in} \times 6 \mathrm{in} .22 / 6 ; 8 \mathrm{in} . \times 5 \mathrm{in} .81 /-$
E．M．I．Double Cone $18 \frac{1}{2} \times 8 \mathrm{in}$ ．， 3 or 15 ohm models， $45 / \mathrm{c}$ E．M．I．Double Cone $13 \frac{1}{2} \times 8 i n$. ， 3 or 15 ohm models， $45 / \mathrm{c}$
Stentorian 10in．HF1012， $25.10 ; 8 i n, ~ H F 812, ~ \& 4.10 ; ~ C r o s s o v e r ~$ $35 /-;$ Horn ${ }^{2}$ weeters $3-16 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s} .10 \mathrm{w} .29 / 6 ; 20 \mathrm{w} .20$ K Ke／s． $99 / 6$ 。 JACK SOCKETS Std，open－circuit 2／6，close－circuit 4／6． Chrome Lead Socket 7／6．DIN 3－pin 1／3；Lead 3／6
Phono Plugs 1／－．Socket 1／－．Banana Plugs $1 / \sim$ Sockets $1 / \%$ JACK PLUGS STANDARD．Chrome 3／－DIN 3－pin 8／6． 2 p．2－way，or 8 p． 6 －way，or 3 p .4 －way， $3 / 6$ each． Wavechange＂MAKITS＂＇p．12－way， 2 p． 6 －way， 3 p． 4 －way， 4 p． 8 －way， 6 p． $2-$－way．Prices include oliek spindies，ade位table stops，spaces，etc．， 1 waier，16／6； 2 waier，15／－i 3 waler，19／6； 4 waier，24／－i 5 water，28／6；extra wafers，4／6．
TOGGLE SWITCHES，s．p． $2 /-$ ；d．p．3／6；d．p．dt．4／－． TOGGLE SWITGFES，s．p． $2 /-;$ d．p．3／6；d．p．dt． $4 /$－．
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 AEI TUNER DEDIUM WAVE Three Transistor Superhet． Ready built．Printed cireuit．Ferrite aerial．$\quad 79 / 6$.
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Transistor Audio Amplifier Manual
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International Radio Stations List．
Modern Transistor Circuits，for Beginmer
Sub－Miniature Transistor Receivers
Wireless World Radio Valve Data
At a glance $\nabla$ alve equivalents

## Fistors．Preferred values， 10 ohms to 10 meg，

 10 ohms to 10 meg ．Ditto $5 \%, 10$ ohms to 32 meg ． 9 d ． $\left.\begin{array}{l}5 \text { watt } \\ 10 \text { watt }\end{array}\right\} \quad 0.5$ to 8.2 ohm 3 w． 15 watt $\}$ ， 10 ohms to 6,800 ohms $10 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 20 \mathrm{~K}, 25 \mathrm{~K}, 10 \mathrm{~W}$.
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| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (illustrated) |  |  |  |
| 127 STEREO TUNER-AMPLIFIER | $\mathbf{£ 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ |
| (excluding stereo radio decoder) |  |  |  |
| 127M MONO TUNER-AMPLIFIER | $\mathbf{£ 2 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ |
| OPTIONAL CASE teak and vinyl hide | $\mathbf{£ 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ |

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[^4]

## E CIRCUITS FOR AUDIO AND TAPE RECORDING By F. C. Judd, A.Inst.E., Haymarket Press Limited, London. 80 pages. Size $10 \frac{1}{4} \times 8$ in. Price 7 s . 6 d .

IIANY of the circuits contained in this book have been published in earlier issues of the Amateur Tape Recording magazine. However this volume does contain a large number of very useful circuits covering most audio requirements. Component values are given for almost all the circuits and in some cases a layout diagram is also included.

Over forty circuits are shown including stereo amplifiers; microphone mixer units; hi-fi amplifiers; echo units; even circuitry for an electronic metronome and a simple transistorised electronic organ.

After looking through the pages several times your reviewer was lead to the inescapable conclusion that 7 s .6 d . for this is excellent value for money.-DLG.

## AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA HANDBOOK <br> Ey Harry D. Hooton, W6TYH. Published by Foulsham-Sams \& Co. Ltd.,

THIS book appears to offer both theoretical and practical aspects of aerials suitable for the radio amateur. To do this in 160 pages is a very tall order and to me this attempt has been a failure.

The eight chapters include Transmission Lines; Antenna Fundamentals; Practical H.F. Antennas; Impedance Matching Systems; Antenna Coupling Systems; and Practical Antenna Construction.

Some of the pages seem to be a waste of time to read. On page 151 , for instance, there is a table of data for guying towers and information on the wind load. The smallest tower mentioned here is 120 ft . high, and one wonders how many amateurs
in this country could either erect or afford this sort of thing.

Perhaps the biggest gripe about this book is the price, when one considers the ARRL Antenna Handbook with some 300 pages for 19 s. 6 d. post free.DLG.

[^5]THE preface begins "The purpose of this book which is published in two volumes, is to introduce the principles of basic circuit design and to provide practice in solving the type of problems that occur in industry."

How refreshing to find an accurate preface which sums up two volumes in a single sentence. For those who are interested in circuit design, these books should prove ideal; a very thorough treatment of the exact why and how of circuit design.

The style of the author is excellent and even the more obscure points are explained with the greatest clarity. Volume 1 covers Fundamentals of Linear Circuits; Inductance; Capacitance; General Equations; Voltage Extremes; Current Extremes; Voltage Divider Design; Threshold Circuits; and Power Dissipation.

Volume 2 continues with Diodes; Transistors, Analysis of Transistor Circuit Functions; Transistor Specifications; Transistor Circuit Design; and Circuit Specifications.

For students or indeed anyone wanting a clear explanation of these subjects then your reviewer has absolutely no hesitation in recommending both these volumes. Indeed these books would prove, in time, to be an investment rather than an expense.-LSA.

## AEHIAL HIGGING MAIDE EASY!

The special series of constructional articles describing TV test equipment, now running in Practical Television, has already covered a precision R-C Bridge and a Modern Bar and Pattern Generator. We now present:
 cathode ray tubes and valves.

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SIMPLE audio mixers are a great utility with such diverse equipment as domestic tape recorders and Jelectric guitars. The writer was therefore surprised when he found difficulty in obtaining one to suit his purposes in adapting a public address system for use in a small hall. An extensive collection of past issues of electronics magazines similarly failed to provide the answer so the unit to be described was developed. It had to provide a limited gain with at least three inputs, each individually controlled and matching either high or low impedance sources. It was decided to employ a transistor amplifier for each input, and mix the outputs. This procedure has the important advantage, as compared with a passive mixing network followed by a transistor pre-amplifier, that interaction between the various inputs is eliminated. Therefore increasing the volume of input 1 has no effect on the signal level of other inputs.

Figure 1 shows the circuit finally adopted. The signal is applied via a volume control and capacitor chosen to match the impedance of the source to a single transistor amplifier operating in the common-emitter mode. This system sets the desired signal level prior to mixing. The signals are mixed in a collector load common to all the transistors. The output develops a voltage across this resistor independent of any other signals present. This output signal feeds the input of the main amplifier whose volume and tone controls have their usual effect. Power for the mixer can be obtained (as in the prototype) from a battery, which due to the very small current drain has an extremely long life; of at least several months. It is also possible to use the heater line of the main amplifier, rectified by an OA 202 diode and smoothed by a $1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 12 \mathrm{~V}$ capacitor, as the power supply to the mixer. It will be noticed that the base bias supply for each transistor is obtained by a potential divider from the collector, rather than as is usual,
from the h.t. line. This introduces a measure of feedback to correct the matching of the amplified signals from each transistor to the impedance represented by the common load and the other transistors. Otherwise considerable attenuation would occur.
The actual construction of the device is evident from the illustrations. As can be seen the prototype is a three-input mixer, battery-powered through a switch on one of the volume controls and built into a small plywood cabinet. As mentioned above there are alternatives to this arrangement and due to the small size of the unit the ambitious constructor may even build it into his main amplifier. The heart of the unit is the printed circuit board shown in Fig. 2. It will be noted that it is of unitary construction, in that each mixer is a repetition of a standard layout. Therefore should a mixer with a larger number of inputs be desired the constructor need only use a longer piece of circuit board and repeat the pattern. If this process is carried beyond six stages, the common load may have to be reduced and with it the mixer gain. The circuit board is made up in the usual way by masking the copper of a laminate board with cellulose paint in accordance with Fig. 2, and etching off the unwanted remainder with $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3}$. Adaption of the circuit to assembly on veroboard or a blank paxolin panel with wired connections on the reverse side is a possibility should the reader wish to avoid chemicals.

Having assembled the circuit board, connections from the volume controls to their respective elements on the board may be made, and also connections to the input sockets. To avoid hum problems, special care should be taken with earth connections to sockets and controls; where leads of more than a few inches are involved, use of screened wire is advisable, and the output lead to the main amplifier is, of course, screened. In the proto-
-continued on page 601

Fig. 1: Circuit diagram of the P.A. Preamplifier: Input 1 is suitable for high-impedance sources, while other inputs are suitable low impedance sources such as dynamic, moving-coil and magnetic microphones.

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I am highly delighted with their contents and feel sure I will eventually collect all volumes in print . . ." C. R. S., Braintree. ". .. I wust say Basic Electricity are brilliant. I will shortly be sending for Basic Electronics . . . M. A., Luton.

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type, input 1 was designed for use with high-impedance sources, such as record decks or crystal microphones. The other inputs are low impedance, for use with dynamic, moving-coil or magnetic mikes.

Frequency response and distortion figures for the

Fig. 2: Layout of the printed circuit board.
prototype have not been measured, but it is in regular use and proving satisfactory, giving accurate speech reproduction and crisp performance on records.

## PRAGTIGAL Min 5

## NEXT MONTH'S FEATURES



## '"Explorer" VHF Receiver

A four-transistor portable receiver/tuner for a.m. and f.m. reception on the v.h.f. bands. It covers 65$120 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $110-170 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, which take in the 2 m and 4 m amateur bands, BBC Band II and many other transmissions.

## Power Supplies

This article examines mains power supplies in detail and draws attention to several fundamental requirements not always appreciated when designing a power supply to fulfil a particular role. The author discusses valve, metal rectifier and transistor circuitry.

## ''Ten-Five"‘ Transmitter

An attractive "pocket-size" 'phone transmitter covering 160 and 80 m bands for use under fixed station, portable or mobile conditions. By the designer of the popular Ten-Five transistor communications receiver.

## Tape Recorder Monitoring

A unit to provide simultaneous record/monitor facilities, without the use of monitor headphones, where these are not incorporated in the tape recorder.
＇66－67 SEASON The MW DX season is now in full swing．We are now riding high（or low？）on the sunspot minima and results should be excellent．Consequently，it will be possible logaings from the Far East and South Africa．
 on the medium wave band requires a good deal more skill and patience than that necessary on the higher frequency short wave bands．Newcomers are referred to the two lead－in articles to the＇66－67 Season published in the October and November issues．Readers with copies of the November 1965 issue will also find a good deal of information in a special article in that issue．

Opportunities should abound in the next few months for much interesting listening and we would like to hear from readers who have logged any unusual DX（with times and other relative information）or any new stations．We are particularly interested to hear of West Coast American and Canadian loggings－and the time to try for these is around dawn，or earlier．

The following personal DX log for late－October 1965 to late－April 1966 will show the range of DX possible．Although this may be used as a heard frequently（almost nightly）；others rarely only．Other listeners heard many more DX stations than those listed．

The receiver used was a GEC communications type with crystal filter．The aerial was a short＂long－wire＂into the TV antenna．－Editor．

## Location

Toronto，Ontario Holguin，La Voz Aleppo，Syria Atlanta，Georgia BBC，Taipeh，Taiwan Radio Pakistan，Ouetta Detroit，Michigan La Voz de Barranquilla Georgetown，Guyana Sao Thome e Principe
VOA，Hue，Vietnam All India Radio，Lucknow Radio Baghdad，Iraq Dakar，Senegal
 Pyongyang，N．Korea． Damascus，Syria
Providence，Rhode Island South Miami，Florida Dartmouth，Nova Scotia
 ？Black Rock，Barbados？ Bonaire，Neth，Antilles Amman，Jordan Schenectady，N．Y．

옹
$\stackrel{\circ}{\infty}$
©
Callsign Location
Nashville，Tenn．Monrovia，Liberia
Godhavn，Greenland All India Radio，Indore Peking，China

 Ibadan，Nigeria Tel－Aviv
New York
R．Chilena，Santiago
Union Radio，Managua
Jerusalem，Jordan
Boston，Mass．
Grand Banks，Newfoundland Montreal，P．Quebec Mavana，Cuba Radio Pakistan，Dacca

BBC Relay，Perim Is． ？Thailand？ New York
Grand Banks，Newfoundland

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Grand Falls，Newfoundland R．Panamericana，Sao Paulo RNE，Santa Cruz，Canary Is． San Jose，Costa Rica Charlottetown，P．E．I． Buenos Aires
 Havana，Cuba

Ondas Portenas，Puerto la Cruz
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\section*{| CBT |
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| CFNB |
| CKCN |
| LV1 |
| YVLX |
| CHCM |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { WMCA } \\ \text { CFRA }\end{array}$ |}


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 This oan hang on the end of a flex or it can be makes it huminous in the dark. Made for electric blankets but ideal in clark roorns, etc., normally 10/6, our price $6 / 6$ each or $\$ 3$ doz.

## FINE <br> TUNERS

80 pf with long spindle as illustrated, $1 / 6$, or $12 /-$ doz. Twin 50 pf not
quite such long spindle, quite such long spindle,
$2 / 6$, or $24 /=$ doz.

## 12V INVERTER

Fully transistorised for operating a 20 watt


THOUSANDS OF TRANSISTORS at cut prices
(e.g. Silicon N,P.N. $5 /$-). Send $1 / 6$ for latest
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DON'T MISS THIS it will save you $\mathbf{2 1 0 0} 9 \mathrm{~g}$ Nickel Cadmium Battery typ PP3 (fits all popular pooket transistors'. Oan be recharged 800 times. Price with transformer type battery
charger, only $58 / 6 \mathrm{p}$. $\&$ i. $3 / \mathrm{F}$. charger, only $50 / 6$ p. \& i. $3 /=$.
Chargeable replacements also in Chargeable replacements also in
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NO SOLDERING POCKET 3

Lots of fom to build and good results when finished - complete kit with detailed hastructions and orystal earptec batteries,
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## MISCELLANEOUS BARGAINS

 5 amp. car battery oharger rectifier 10/6 (post. 3/6) Reed switch with magnet $6 / 6$; 1 meg. pots. $6 /-\mathrm{doz}$ ditto with d.p. sw. 10/- doz; Silioon Rect. BY100 $350 \mathrm{~V}, 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 4 / 6$ each. 3 for $12 /$-. Miniature sapphire stylus $3 / 6 ; 4$ transistor audio amplifier $19 / 6$; turret tuner, less bottom cover and valves 17/6 each, Neons (widgct) $1 / 6$ each; valve type $10 / 6$ doz., slide switch miniature $1 / 6$; mains type $2 /=$, toggle switch 2/3. 30 amp relay for controlling heating 39/6, 80 watt fluorescent sit 1\%/6 (post $3 / 6)$. 4 pole change-over switch for series parallel working $4 / 6$.S.C.R. Light Dimmer. Can also be used to control the speed of Motors, drills and the heat from or to critical instrument circuit recentiy described in Practical Electronics, Mains operation this fits into 13 amps. socket outlet box. Alf the components including the silicon controlled rectifler. Available as a kit. Price £4.10.0. Plus 2/9 post. \&

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## HEATERS

Make up one of these lategt type heaters
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tions-use silica enclosed elements designed for the correct infra-red wave length ( 3 microns). Price for 750 watts clement, all parts, metal casing as illustrated, 21/6, ylus $3 / 6$ post and ins. Pull switch 3/- extra.


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This is a fine Amcrican-made untt designed for precision. The time period is adjusted by a knulled screw. The delay period can be set anywhere from hours or seconds. The end of the delay operates a microswitch-and resetting can be 4 in . $7 \mathrm{in} x$ in 4in. $\times 7 \mathrm{in}$. $x$ 4in. Price $39 / 6$ plus $3 / 6$.


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## and template. <br> Complete with service sheet and template

## THIS MONTH'S SNIP

## ELECTRIC BLANKET OUTFIT

A thirteen yard, 70 watt waterproof element with temperature control by Thermal balance-and a double pole blanket switch in pastel blue bakeliteWith enclosed neon ON/OFF indication-both itemas ifeal for renovating a instructions only 12/6 plus 1/6 post and ins.

## FLUORESCENT SNIP

Your opportunity to instal non-flicker strip lighting at silly price-this month we offer the famous A.E.I. (Mazda) thstant staxt tighting iransformer suitable for one, 4 ft .40 watt tube or two, 2 ft . 20 watt tubes. This transformer is listed at over e8, but this month you can buy the complete kit comprising instant start choke/transformer, two tube ends and two Terry clips to hold tube. Specia snip price only 14/6 plas $3 / 9$ post. and insurance-don't miss this tremendous bargain.

See in the Dark
INFRA-RED BINOCUL!ARS
These infra red from a high voltage source will ensble objects to be seen in the dark, providing the objects are eye tube contains a complete optical lens system as well as the infra-red cell. These optical systems can be used as lenses for I.V. cameras binocolars form part of the Army
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## FIELD TELEPHONE UNIT

Officiaily known as remote control unit No. 1, essentially these are telephones with additional facilities-each unit contains magneto type ringer and belt-as well as transformer-relay and switches. A pair of these will give you two way eommunication over distancer up to five miles-unused and in good condition, $39 / 6$ each plus $7 / 6$ carriage and insurance.


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Nim Computer
This com: play games and do sim. ple tricks and will provide endless as well as as well as
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puterisation. Kit comprises all the components the printed front panel and fall instructions. The box is not included but this can be made rery imply from plywood. Price $£ 4.17 .6$. plus $3 / 6$ post. and ias.
Simple receiver for low voltage a TRF transistor et powered from the Sun or a $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{v}$. cell. Suitable or children or others who forget to switch off. 4 N.P.N. sillcon transistors, diode and all other components necessary to build this circuit described in Wireless World Oct. are available

Hectronic Controller for model locomotives, A evice to overcome jerky stopping and starting is escribed in Wireless World Oct. All components noluding five transistors, 4 diodes, mains transormer, etc. to bulld this cirouit is available as

Noughts \& Grosses Machine. This machine des* cribed in Sept. (65) Practical Elecironics is at home and considerable attraction (and profit) at charity do's and fetes, etc. It employs 19 switches and 9 bulbs and these and the other components necessary to make this are available. Price 24.10 .0 post. and ims.
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Employing a special frequency discriminator the instrument is just right for many of the jobs you installed as a rev counter or as a portable instru ment it will to such jobs as measuring frequency of time base-pulse generator-filp-fop, etc., etc Kit comprises: metal front panel all prepared and stove enamelled, moving coils meter, 4 specially tested transistor and diodes and all the necessary resistors and condensers and circuit diagram (separately 2/6) all tor $49 / 6$ plus $2 / 6$ post. and ins OZONE OUTFIT-for remoring smells and generally improving any opprensive atmosphere Kit consists of Philips Ozone Lamp and main unit, only need box, $19 / 6$ plus $6 / 6$ carr. and ins Solid State Ignition. Big things are claimed of Electronic ignition systems and if you woult hik to try for yourselfa.circuit as described in Practical Electronies (Sept. 1966). This requires a silicon controlled rectifier, four transistors and othe components arilable as a kit, price $\$ 5.10 .0$ post free
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Sub-miniature 6 transiator 3 diode F.M. Tuner. Covers 88-108 Mc. Operates from 9 -volt battery, miero miniature clrcuit giving hrilliant FM recention. Ready to use, simply connect to your $\mathbf{H i}$ Fi amplifier. Instructions supplied
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$15 \mathrm{VAC} \quad 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ ．round
$150 \mathrm{vAC} \quad 2 \frac{2}{2} \mathrm{in}$. sq．（black dial）
$20 j^{2}-$
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2 KW ULTRASONIC GENERATOR together with power supply unit for 200－250 v．A．C．Complete two chassis with interconnecting cables．Frequency 37 to $43 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ adjusted by fine control．Peak output 2 kw ．，average output 500 w ．Completely new with valves and manual $£ 65$ ，carriage paid U．K．

LARGE SELECTION of mains and Heavy Duty L．F．TRANSFORMERS．

VARIOMETER for No． 19 sets，17／6．P．\＆P．3／－．

MARCONI SIGNAL GENERATOR TYPE TF $801 \mathrm{~B} / 3 / \mathrm{S}$ ．Frequency range $12-485 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．in five ranges．Directly calibrated frequency dial．Output waveform：C．W．sinewave A．M．，pulse A．M．（from ext．source only）．Internal modulation frequency $1,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Output：$a$ ，normal－continuously variable directly calibrated from $0.1 \mu \mathrm{v} .-0.5 \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{b}$ ，high：up to 1 v ，modulated or 2 v ．unmodulated，output impedance 50 ohms．Fine frequency tuning control，carrier on／off switch，built－in crystal calibration for $2 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ and $10 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ ．Stabilised voltage supply．In excellent ＂as new＂condition．Fully checked and guaranteed． £115．Carr．30／．Including necessary connectors， plugs and instruction manual．

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ELECTROMVC GATE

Described in the April Issue

0NE of our readers who has built two of the electronic gates, described in the April issue by H. T. Kitchen, for converting single-beam oscilloscopes into dual-trace machines, has modified the original circuit to make it more versatile. Briefly, he has made the gating oscillator free running-continually variable from $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $5 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ -and improved the wave shape of the high frequency gating pulses.

## Variable Gating Speed

Two one-watt, wire-wound resistors (one fixed and one variable) are the only components necessary to carry out the fixed to free-running conversion. There are, however, a few circuit alterations; Fig. 1 shows the circuitry around V1 which has to be changed.

To effect the modification, proceed as follows: Disconnect the earthy end of R1 and R2. Connect one end of a fixed $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor to the $250+$ h.t. rail; the other to one end of a $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer. The "free" end of the potentiometer has to be connected to the earth rail and the wiper to the "free" ends of R1 and R2.

With the wiper of the potentiometer at the earthy end, the fixed speeds will be as before, but they will increase as the wiper is moved towards the h.t. rail to give continuous coverage.

## "Squaring-up the Square Waves"

A prominent rounding of the leading edge of the square wave output of the gating oscillator takes place on the higher frequencies; $2 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ and above, the higher the frequency the worse it gets. Although careful layout will improve matters, the stray capacity of the valve will cause some distortion. The result of this distortion is a spike on the signal across V2; the width being proportional to the percentage of the curve to the square on the waveform. If a careful study of the anode or output waveform is made it will be seen


Fig. 1: Modifications to the gating oscillator V/ to give continuous coverage from $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $5 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$,
that the curve usually starts about three-quarters of the way up the leading edge.

To overcome this problem the top portion of the square wave has been chopped. Instead of using a Zener diode (which would be expensive, since it would have to operate at about 160 volts), a pair of reversed diodes and a potential divider have been used. A circuit showing the alterations is given in Fig. 2. From this it can be seen that a potential divider,


Fig. 2: Clipper modifications to improve the square wave output of the gating oscillator. comprising a $50 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ variable and a $12 \mathrm{k}^{\Omega}$ wire-wound, half-watt resistor, is inserted across the supply lines. The diodes, which must be capable of withstanding 300 p.i.v. and a forward current of 10 mA , are connected to the centre point from the anodes of Vla and V1b. The diodes are thus reversed biased when the valve is conducting. When the anode voltage rises to the predetermined level, in this case 160 V , the diode conducts and prevents any further increase in amplitude. This has the effect of clipping the waveform at the wanted voltage level and thus eliminates the distorted portion of the square wave $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{A}}$ can, of course, be replaced with a fixed resistor once the optimum value has been selected. A small improvement may be found if a $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor is put across $R_{B}$.

When carrying out this modification, it is advisable to look at the signal on the an des of V2. It should appear as a square wave, reducing to zero as VR1 (in the original circuit) is advanced to the mid position. Any distortion from the oscillator will appear as spikes, which VR1 will have no control over.

## Correction

The lead connections from Pin 2 and Pin 7 of V1 in the original circuit diagram of the trace doubler (page 1077) are incorrect. They should be transposed to give cross coupling.



IN November 1965 steps were taken to show the full series of Mullard technical films to all interested in electronics and who lived in the Cardiff area. Arrangements were made to show the films at the Penarth Secondary School, St. Cyres Road (where we still meet) and the organisation was called The St. Cyres Electronics Group. We had to borrow a projector, and these and other technical films were shown until March to very appreciative members. On May 16th we adopted a Constitution, elected a Committee, changed our name to The British Amateur Electronics Club, and we were off!

The first thing we did was to arrange for the public to play with an electronic shooting gallery during Penarth Holiday Week and we were allocated the shelter on the promenade. Having got the go-ahead from the Council we then had to design and make it! To cut a long and unbelievable story short we did, in fact, have a modified game ready just in time (well, two hours late!) and we raised $£ 38$ for the British Empire Cancer Campaign during the week.

In June we published our first Newsletter which contained details of the aims and policy of the B.A.E.C. and all prospective members were sent a copy. Much to the surprise of our members a second Newsletter was published in September, and apart from details of the electronic games played during the Holiday Week it gives details of our future programme of meetings.

The electronic games we make are designed to incorporate different types of electronic circuits (counters, and gates, S.C.R.'s, etc.) and during our

## THE AMATEUR BANDS

-continued from page 594
SM5JW, SP5AKG, TI2LA, ZE1AN, ZE8SKI, ZP5KT, ZS4RI, 4X4GY, 5A2TI, 5N2AAF, 5Z4GS, 9J2-DT, DX, MM, VX, 9Q5BD, 9X5MH.

## News and Views

Contests for November include: 12th-13th, $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ DX contest (c.w. section); 19th-20th, Topband contest (second); December 4th, Fourth $70 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ contest (c.w.).
What to look for and where? Well, try the 1.f. end of $1.8 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ for W's on c.w. Almost any time on 14 and $21 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ for DX. Don't forget $7 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ still provides a challenge if you find DX too easy on 14 and 21.
How about 80, very few reports these days for this band. Finally, every time you switch on the gear-a quick listen on $28 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$. You never know what you might hear these days.
PS-G3JDG is loose on topband with 10 watts into
140 ft . end fed. You have been warned! Deadline for this month is 27 th.
meetings we will be investigating the principles and operation of all types of electronic devices and circuits with the aid of electronic test equipment, and then incorporate them in the games. During Penarth Holiday Week next August we hope to have a few new games ready and do better than this year, particularly as we have more time in which to prepare.

Our membership fee is 10 s . per year and out of this we pay for all electronic components used in the electronic games we make. The British Amateur Electronics Club is for all who are interested in electronics as a hobby, and it is hoped that more who live too far from Penarth to attend our meetings will join and exchange ideas through the Newsletter. To encourage this the B.A.E.C. has a scheme whereby electronic groups in other parts of the country can join as a whole, and if more than half their members are individual members of the B.A.E.C. then they can receive free electronic components up to $40 \%$ of their individual membership fee for any electronic project they plan which is approved by the committee of the B.A.E.C. This $40 \%$ would be the cost price plus postage, and as the B.A.E.C. can buy in bulk very cheaply indeed this idea could mean the difference between doing and not doing.

As has been shown in this summary we are a young club but very ambitious and full of ideas. To carry out our policy of catering for all who are interested in electronics as a hobby (and that includes radio) we need more members, so if you would like more details please write to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. E. Cullen, 4 Roseberry Road, Penarth, Glam., and he will, without hesitation, send you our first Newsletter!

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SINCLAIR MICROVISION
Available early 1967

## A revelation in quality and economy

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## IDEAL FOR USE WITH TWO Z.12s AMPLIFIER

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## MICRO FM

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## TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

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$\star$ Pulse counting discriminator
$\star$ Low I.F. completely eliminates alignment problems

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[^8]| Ener diodes |  |  |  |  |  |
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| $0 \mathrm{OLZ200} .4 .7 \mathrm{~V}$ | 10 |  |  |  |  |
| Oazzoi, 5.1 V | $9 / 6$ | OAz200. | 5V |  | - |
| OAZ202 5.6 V | 7 | ${ }^{\text {OAZZ206, }}$ | 3V |  | $7 /$ |
| OAZZ293, 6.2 V .. \%- OAZ207,9.1V .. $9 / 6$ |  |  |  |  |  |
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| OAZ209, 4.7 V | $6 / 6$ | OZA212, |  |  | 6 |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| P50/1AC Oscillator Coil, MW/LW |  |  |  |  |  |
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## 'PRACTICAL WIRELESS'

DECEMBER 1966

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Fig.I CIRCUIT DIAG


## ctical Wireless

## 5-BANO RECEIVER

## PRICE

5/-
WER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, LONDON W.C.2.



Fig. 2 TOP OF CHASSIS VIEW

Capacitors:

| C 1 | 100 pF mica. |
| :--- | :--- |
| C 2 | $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F} 250 \mathrm{~V}$. |
| C 3 | 200 pF mica. |
| C 4 | $0.25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350 \mathrm{~V}$. |
| C | $0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mica. |
| C | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mica. |
| C7 | $50 \mu \mathrm{~F} 6 \mathrm{~V}$. Electrolytic |
| C8 | $0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mica. |
| C9 | $32 \mu \mathrm{~F} 450 \mathrm{~V}$. Electrolytic |
| C10 | $8 \mu \mathrm{~F} 450 \mathrm{~V}$. Electrolytic |
| TC1 | 30 pF itrimmer. |
| VC1 | 15 pF short wave tuning. |

VC2 350 pF or similar air-spaced tuning. VC3 15 pF short wave tuning.
Resistors:

| R1 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ |  |
| R3 | $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| R4 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | All $10 \% \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$. |
| R5 | $33 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| R6 | $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| R7 | $3.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| R8 | $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| R9 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |

Valves:


Fig. 3 UNDERSIDE OF CHASSIS

## OMPONENTS LIST

Potentiometers:
VR1 $50 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ pot.
$V R 21 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ pot. with switch S1.

## Valves:

V1 6BR7
V2 12AT7

## Miscellaneous:

Two B9A skirted holders.
Denco (Clacton) Ltd. Green coils: ranges 2, 3 and 4
(1 and 5 optional).

B9A non-skirted holder.
Chassis $10 \times 6 \times 3$ in.
Panel $11 \times 7$ in.
Two $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. panel brackets (H. L. Smith \& Co. Ltd., 287/289 Edgware Road, London, W.2).

Ch. Small smoothing choke, 15 mA or larger.
T1 Small output transformer, ratio about 45:1
T2 $250 / 0 / 250 \mathrm{~V} 20 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{~V} 0.5 \mathrm{~A}$ or similar mains transformer.

MR1, MR2, 250V 20 mA or similar contact cooled rectifiers Tag strip, jack socket, ball drive, knobs, dials, etc.
'PRACTICAL WIRELESS'
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Fig. I CIRCUIT OF THE COMPLETE


# tercol unit 

WER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, LONDON W.C. 2

## PRICE <br> 5/-

Handset switch (press to open)

Handset

## OMPLETE TELEPHONE INSTALLATION



## Fig. 3 MODIFICATION , OF MECHANISM OF A'VETO' SWITCH

Two views of mechanism illustrating action of 'Veto' switch. The stationary part is cut at the two positions shown. The bend may be moved towards the centre thus changing the line of action of the spring and ceasing to cross the fulcrum point. The rocker then always returns to the position shown. On assembly the cut portion should be at the top

Fitted on battery tray inside instrument
$\mathrm{A}:-\frac{5}{32}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ dia. holes $\mathrm{B}:-\frac{3}{32}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ dia. holes $\mathrm{C}:-3 / 64$ dia. holes Underside wiring of paxolin panel is 15A fuse wire (shown dotted)
Fig. 2 CONSTRUCTION DETAILS OF ONE AMPLIFIER


holes dotted) MPLIFIER


Fitted on battery tray inside instrument


Transistor base



The dial-centre disc


[^0]:    Ail correspondence intended for the Editor should be addressed to : The Editor, "Practical Wireless', George Newnes Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2. Phone: TEMple Bar 4363. Telegrams: Newnes Rand London. Subscriptlon rates, Including postage: $36 s$, per year to any part of the worid. (C) George Newnes L.tl., 1966. Copyright in all drawings, photographs and artlcles published in "Practical Wireless' is speciflcaliy reserved throughout the countries signatory to the Berne Convention and the U.S.A. Reproductions or Imitations of any of these are therefore expressly forbidden.

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[^2]:    * Providing they are not of the super-regenerative type and do not create television and other interference!-Editor.

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[^5]:    三 FUNDAMENTALS OF RELIABLE CIRCUIT DESIGN
    ㅋols. 1 and 2. By Mel Xlander. Published by lliffe Books Ltd., London.
    Vol. 1. 197 pages. Size $8 \frac{1}{2}$ in. $\times 5 \frac{3}{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{in}$. Price 30 s . Vol. 2. 138 pages. Size $8 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in} . x$
    $5 \frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in}$. Price 27s. 6d.

[^6]:    A GUIDE TO SURPLUS COMMUNICATION RECEIVERS
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[^7]:    (A
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