NOTE WITH INTEREST

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elaborate antenna is impractical, the noise level is high, and a tuner is subjected to physical abuse never encountered in the home. The possibility of satisfactory results seemed remote; this was confirmed when a very good tuner-antenna combination (intended specifically for mobile FM use) was installed in my car and was able to raise only one station, and that without full limiting.

A publicity release from American Television and Radio came along about that time and generated renewed interest in mobile FM broadcast reception.

AT & R makes inverters, which are power packs which change the low-voltage direct current of an automobile battery to 110-volt AC. With one of these inverters, you can operate a standard tape recorder, an amplifier, or an FM tuner. Models are available with output ratings of 65, 110 and 125 watts for 6-volt systems and in 100 and 125 watt capacities for 12-volt systems. They can be mounted under the dash or, with extension cables and small, front-seat control units, in the luggage compartment. I got a 100-watt inverter and put it in the back.

We had a Radio Craftsmen C-1000 FM tuner in for a "Tested in the Home" report at this time, so I tried that, in conjunction with the inverter, and used the audio section of my AM car radio. For an antenna, I tried first the regular AM whip. With this, I received four FM stations dependably. This was encouraging!

So I put a ski-rack on top of the car and tied a crossed dipole FM antenna to this. Such an antenna is non-directional and is of 72 ohms impedance, which would match the coaxial cable. Coax was desirable in order to minimize noise pickup; the cable would be short enough to make insignificant its higher signal attenuation.

The whole affair was unsightly enough to inspire strong objections from my wife, but it worked. I could get seven stations with regularity. Flutter with the car in motion could be noticed occasionally but was not objectionable in degree. In short, it would seem that FM reception is possible for anyone who wants it badly enough and who can get reasonably

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