

# XTAL

AUGUST

1948

Vol. 10 No. 8

for the

# radio amateur

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Toronto, Ont.

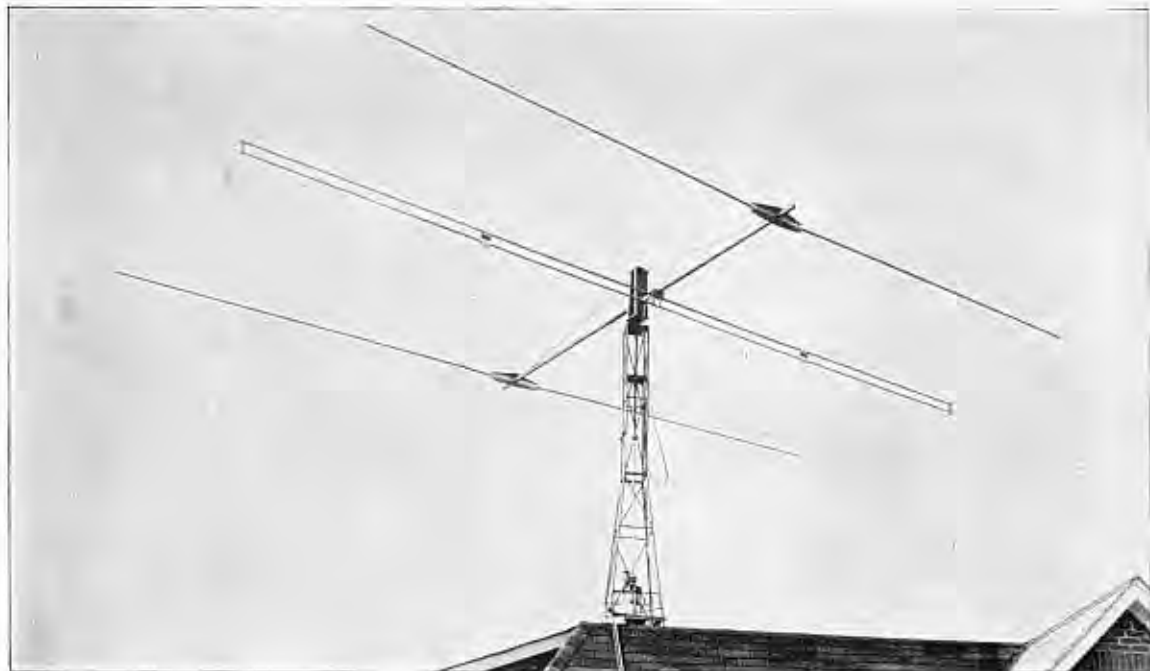
XTAL,

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OFFICIAL JOURNAL  
THE CANADIAN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION  
TORONTO, ONTARIO





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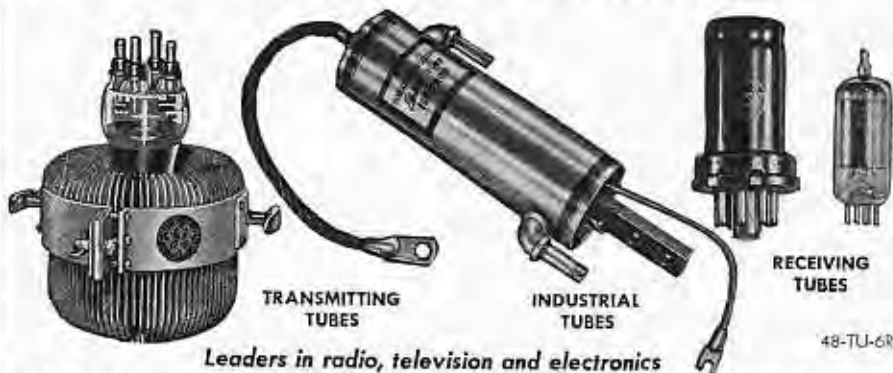
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# XTAL

[ C R Y S T A L ]

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## CAROA

## **. . . Traffic Service . . .**

**F**OR some time past, we have been giving consideration to Canadian participation in the time-honoured radio activity of traffic handling. Our reflections have brought us some convictions which inspire these lines.

The Canadian picture cannot be divorced from the over-all picture, of course. Many VE messages have a W destination and vice versa. When we consider the Canadian picture we view it as a segment, but a segment may be studied in the knowledge that an improvement in the unit effects an improvement in the composite whole. That is our approach to the subject of traffic handling in Canada.

When we ponder the traffic handling phase of our hobby, we are profoundly impressed by the vast field of public service available to us. The field, of which Canada is an integral part for all practical purposes of handling traffic, extends from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Circle, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Our field is a territory of millions of square miles populated by scores of millions of people. It is a vast territory, but its vastness imposes the need and demand for constant organizing and co-ordination if we are to achieve the utmost.

It seems incumbent upon us to say that we recognize the pertinent fact that the groundwork upon which the traffic handling organization has been built was laid by the A.R.R.L. many, many years ago. Down through the intervening decades, the League has given traffic handling invaluable inspiration and guidance. It has furnished the spark which has fired the enthusiasm and initiative of many. But it is hardly to be expected that the League can constantly give attention to every last detail of organization and co-ordination of traffic activity in Canada.

There are two other considerations to be taken into account in a study of the subject, the first of which is the right of an amateur to use his station in any way he chooses, provided there is compliance with the laws and regulations governing the operation of his station. If he chooses to carry on some independent traffic work, he is at liberty to do so. If a group of such amateurs should decide to band themselves into an independent net, there is no reason why they should not do so.

If a Canadian operator who is not ordinarily in traffic finds himself with a message for a distant point in Canada, or the United States, he goes on the air looking for someone to whom he may pass his traffic. That he is able to do so, that his message reaches its destina-

tion, is due to the fact that there exists an organization that was conceived by the A.R.R.L. It is apparent, therefore, that any conception of true independence must quickly disintegrate.

The second consideration is that some Canadian operators are members of A.R.R.L. and not of CAROA; some are members of CAROA and not of A.R.R.L. There are some who hold membership in both, and some who are in neither. Amateur radio is like that because amateur radio is democratic.

It is our conviction that Canadian operators outside the membership of A.R.R.L. or CAROA should have an opportunity of participating in co-ordinated traffic handling. There are at least two reasons for our belief, the first being the fact that the operating side of our hobby consists of communication — the transmission of intelligence. The transmitting of amateur radio messages is a natural activity. There may be many reasons why such amateurs should be members of our associations, but the fact of their non-membership should not deprive them of the opportunity to participate in traffic handling on some level.

The second reason for our conviction is that the handling of messages by amateur radio is a great instrument for the development of public goodwill. Those of us who have enjoyed the pleasure of delivering a message have been more than repaid for our effort by the kindly, appreciative and interested remarks that have been made to us. Goodwill is there, and we cannot justify overlooking any agency of goodwill. The more amateurs we can interest in traffic work, the greater will be our public acclaim.

Our potential field of service is so extensive that the utmost development of public goodwill depends upon the most comprehensive degree of organization and co-ordination. Which brings us to our point.

Believing traffic handling to be fundamentally an A.R.R.L. activity, we suggest it be regarded as such in Canada. It is the hope

### **Our Cover Picture . . .**

A scene typical of ham gatherings during the summer is shown on our cover. We give you some of the hams attending the 1,000 Islands hamfest at Brockville. From left to right you see: No. 1, Ve3AOQ; No. 2, 3EJ; No. 8, 3AWA; No. 9, 3MB; No. 10, 3UO; No. 11, 3JE; No. 12, 3AXS. Photo courtesy of Abrahams Studio, Kingston (3AOU).



of CAROA that we may be able to collaborate with A.R.R.L. in the extensive development of the Canadian field. We believe we are admirably suited to do so because CAROA, through the medium of XTAL, each month goes into the shafts of a majority of Canadian Hams.

Our present inclination is toward the opening of a new XTAL department which should be devoted to nets and traffic matters generally. The department would be placed in the charge of a member of the Executive Committee who would be assisted by a representative in each call district.

The C.G.M. being the representative of Canadian members of the League to the A.R.R.L. Board of Directors, our Executive Committee member in charge of the new XTAL department would be required to collaborate with the C.G.M. on the Canadian picture as a whole. Our representative in each district would be required to collaborate with the S.C.M. All those officials, collectively, could organize the Canadian field into complete coverage. Together, they could co-ordinate the whole Canadian organization into a most efficiently functioning unit of which any traffic man could be proud. Further, they could most effectively co-ordinate the Canadian activity with the United States picture.

The XTAL department could carry full information on Canadian nets. CAROA headquarters could maintain a complete index of Canadian communities that could be reached by a net. We would endeavour to co-ordinate nets to ensure the most expeditious and reliable flow of traffic. Radiograms enquiring for Canadian routings could be promptly and surely answered. All in all, we think that an outstanding organization can be built.

The C.G.M. would be kept just as fully informed on all matters as CAROA headquarters. The regular monthly feature of XTAL would be a great aid to the development and functioning of Canadian nets. The department would be available to the C.G.M. any time he wished to avail himself of it.

There, friends, is the idea in the embryo. It can stand a lot of refining and polishing, but we think it points the way.

In the meantime, as a preliminary step, we would like to hear from any Canadian operator interested in getting into traffic work. Just send along details regarding the days and hours you could engage in net work. Tell us also of your crystal frequencies, and your usual power. Pass along sufficient information regarding your station to enable us to proceed with our planning. Tell us also of the places for which you could accept traffic because a suburb of your municipality might be merely a local telephone call for you when we would not recognize the fact from a distance.

So, boys, CW and phone, if you are not in traffic and would like to be, let us hear from you. If you are in traffic, and you have reactions to these paragraphs, and you feel the urge to express yourself, let's hear from you, too. If you prefer to send a radiogram rather than a letter, just head your message for the all-Ontario Beaver Net (QBN) 3535 Kc at 7 o'clock E.D.S.T. nightly. The N.C.S. will see that your message reaches headquarters, as a member of CAROA Executive is a member of the Beaver Net and he is on practically every night of the week.

## TRAFFIC BRIEFS

● As we go to press, we hear rumours of a new Ontario CW net. Frequency and other details are lacking at this writing, but we understand the net will operate on 40 meters. It will be the purpose of the net to give traffic service to some of the more remote points of the province, and to centres where QSB makes 80 meter transmissions something less than constantly reliable. The new net will no doubt be co-ordinated with existing CW and phone nets resulting in improved Ontario coverage. This well-founded rumour is timely related to our current editorial on the subject of traffic handling and nets. XTAL will be pleased to give full publicity to details as they come to hand.

● We have heard some complaints regarding a degree of confusion surrounding the reporting of traffic activity totals. There is a feeling in some quarters that the report card currently in use could be profitably altered in a way that would remove confusion. We know a man who has some ideas on the subject, and perhaps we can tap him for our next issue.

## QSL's

● Frank Anzalone, W2WC of Brooklyn, N.Y., has just been granted WAVE certificate No. 20. We congratulate him, but we quote Frank: "Well, it has taken me a long time to get the cards together. What a job getting cards out of some of the boys. I had to send a second and even a third plea before some of them came through. I finally had to give up on some and was obliged to work a new station for the necessary confirmation. To get 18 cards I sent out 30. It took me one day only to make WAVE during the Ve/W Contest, but getting those cards was something else . . ." Could such words really be written about Ve's? If any of the offending Ve's had wanted cards for a certificate, no doubt we should have all kinds of rude comments . . . Have you ever heard of "Do unto others as . . .?"

# HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE IN THE BAND?

By Capt. Arn. Roberts, Ye3AXR

**A**T FIRST sight the above question seems like a very stupid one, but the number of emissions outside the amateur bands where the operator signs an amateur call, indicates the need for a short discussion on the subject.

The regulations give the amateur lots of choice in the selection of a frequency meter, merely requiring possession of a device which will indicate that he is transmitting outside the band, and he usually adjusts his equipment to operate in the band. However, a slight maladjustment of his apparatus may cause the radiation of considerable energy on parasitic frequencies and harmonics of the desired frequency. These radiations are not only illegal if they fall outside an amateur band, but constitute a waste of power which could well be delivered to the aerial at a useful frequency.

Frequency meters fall into two general classes:

- (a) Those requiring relatively close coupling to the transmitter in order to transfer the power needed to operate the indicator.
- (b) Those requiring only very minute amounts of power.

The most common example of the first type is the familiar absorption frequency meter, involving nothing more complicated than a resonant circuit with a flashlight bulb between condenser and coil to indicate the presence of RF. This simple device can be made much more sensitive by using as the indicator a meter, either of the RF type or a DC meter with rectifier.

Let us look briefly at the characteristics of this instrument.

1. Very simple and cheap to build, and can be made to occupy very little space. On these scores alone every amateur should own one.

2. Not capable of a high degree of accuracy in frequency measurements. The tuning indication is relatively broad, and because the device extracts from the circuit under test a small amount of energy, the necessarily close coupling causes a slight detuning of both the transmitter and frequency meter circuits.

3. Since this meter is not associated normally with vacuum tube circuits, it will not generate harmonics of its own. It therefore responds only to the frequency to which it is tuned. This allows for readily identifying the fundamental of a transmitter from its harmonics and parasitics.

Now for a short discussion of a frequency meter falling in the class requiring a minute amount of power. The familiar heterodyne

frequency meter falls in this category and in its simplest form consists of a regenerating detector with a calibrated dial and a means of introducing the signal to be measured.

Some of the characteristics of this meter are:

1. Requires considerable constructional skill to build. The stability and resulting accuracy and value of this instrument depend to a considerable degree on the workmanship in construction.

2. Involves the expenditure of considerable money. Here again accuracy enters into the selection and quality of parts.

3. Can be made highly accurate, particularly if associated with crystal calibration equipment.

4. Can be situated remotely from the transmitter and so a constant check on frequency can be made from the operating position.

5. Consisting principally of a vacuum tube oscillator which generates harmonics, the frequency relationship of transmitter parasitics and harmonics is sometimes difficult to tell. Those whose only method of frequency measurement is by means of a crystal calibrated receiver will recognize this difficulty.

Every radio amateur should possess an absorption type frequency meter in order to determine where in the frequency spectrum he is generating RF.

While an absorption type meter is valuable for initially adjusting a transmitter so it is reasonably free from harmonics and other spurious radiation, it is of absolutely no value (except possibly at VHF) for adjusting a transmitter to work on a certain frequency in a band or even to be sure that you are, in fact, in the band.

To be certain of this point, we need an instrument which is considerably more accurate than the absorption frequency meter. Whether it responds to harmonics and subharmonics is unimportant, because we will assume that the approximate frequency has already been determined by an absorption type wavemeter and we are sure that we are operating in the correct band and not on an odd frequency such as could be obtained by inadvertently tripling from a crystal oscillator instead of doubling. In fact, if the frequency meter is made to respond to harmonics this is an advantage, because it can then be used for several bands.

Present-day practice, especially on the lower frequency bands, is to call a station on his own frequency or to set the transmitter to an

Mid-Freq. of Band	Max. Poss. Deviation at Accuracies of				Possible Range of Transmitter Frequency			
	5%	1%	0.1%	0.01%	5%	1%	0.1%	0.01%
3750	187	37	4	0.4	( 3937	( 3787	( 3754	( 3750.4
					( 3563	( 3713	( 3746	( 3749.6
7150	357	71	7	0.7	( 7507	( 7221	( 7157	( 7150.7
					( 6793	( 7079	( 7143	( 7149.3
14200	710	142	14	1.4	(14910	(14342	(14214	(14201.4
					(13490	(14058	(14186	(14198.6

apparently clear spot in the band. Since this involves a receiver, it looks as though the receiver would be a good place to start from the standpoint of frequency measurements.

Just how accurate the frequency meter must be is indicated by the table (all figures in body of table are Kc).

Note that a frequency meter with an accuracy of even 1% would be useless for amateur purposes except possibly on 80 meters. On 40 and 20 meters it would tell you if you were in the band but not in what portion of the band. When you consider that most meters used in the transmitter have an accuracy of either 2% (for the better DC instruments) or 5% (for the cheaper DC instruments or better AC instruments), you can see how difficult the problem is. To get within audible beat note of a desired frequency on 7 or 14 Mc requires an instrument of 0.01% accuracy which is a high order of accuracy and cannot be attained without some expense and a good deal of care.

Fortunately, however, we have on hand a reasonably good communication receiver. With such a receiver it is possible to set the oscillator of a transmitter very accurately to zero beat with the receiver. Thus to call a station on his own frequency it is only necessary to zero beat the station calling, set your oscillator to zero beat, then tune up the rest of the transmitter. What the exact frequency is is rather unimportant provided we are sure it is in the band.

From this it looks as though what the amateur needs is not an extremely accurate instrument for measuring unknown frequencies but rather something which will mark the edges of the band with good accuracy, and, if possible, the edges of the phone subbands also.

A look at the frequency bands allocated to amateurs discloses the fortunate fact that all edges are an even multiple of 100 Kc. Similarly, all the phone sub-band edges are multiples of either 100 or 50 Kc. Thus if we had a 100 Kc or 50 Kc oscillator which could be set precisely on frequency, we would have a strong carrier at every edge of every band and it

would be a case of either being in or being out.

It is a simple matter to build up an oscillator to work on, say, 100 Kc. But having done this, how are we going to set it on frequency? The National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., maintains a frequency service by operating station WWV on 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 Mc. These stations keep on their assigned frequencies with an accuracy of 0.0001% or 1 part in a million. This is much closer than any receiver can be set to zero beat and far more accurate than is required for amateur purposes.

To have a good (secondary) standard of frequency in the amateur station, therefore, all that is necessary to do is to construct carefully an oscillator working on 100 Kc and to set its 50th harmonic to zero beat with the 5000 Kc signal of WWV. Then there is a signal in the receiver every 100 Kc which can be used to mark the band edges and to check the receiver calibration. For most purposes this will mark the 50 Kc phone band edges sufficiently accurately (they are midway between two 100 Kc markers), but if really high accuracy is required, the oscillator could be made to work on 50 Kc and its 100th harmonic set to the 5000 Kc frequency of WWV. In this case there would be a signal in the receiver every 50 Kc.

For those with some money to spare, crystals to work on 100 Kc are available at a reasonable price. The advantage of using crystal is that once set, the oscillator is more likely to remain steady at the correct frequency. However, a well-built self-controlled oscillator of the electron-coupled type is entirely satisfactory for this purpose provided its calibration is checked frequently.

With an absorption type meter to determine that operation is in the correct band and not between bands, and a standard oscillator to mark the band edges accurately, all the necessary equipment to be certain of in-band operation is on hand. Out-of-band operation then becomes a matter of sheer carelessness in tuning up, something no amateur should be guilty of doing.

# C A R O A CLUB ACTIVITIES

The months of July and August are when club activity is at its lowest ebb. Some clubs have discontinued for the summer months and will resume activities in the fall. This past year has been very encouraging to CAROA. The support that has been given this column by active clubs has been good. We hope when those clubs that are on holidays once again resume their regular meetings, they will appoint a reporter to CAROA, and send in news as before. There were numerous hamfests and picnics last month and we have news of a few.

The Thousand Islands Amateur Radio Club, Brockville, Ont., held their annual hamfest at Brown's Bay, west of Brockville, on July 4, 1948. The day's proceedings were very ably handled by W. Horton, 3AOQ, president, and Wm. Morris, 3UO. Weather was very hot, but many of those in attendance managed to cool off in the St. Lawrence from a nice sand beach at the hamfest site. The group was entertained by genial Cliff Abrahams, AOU, of Kingston, whose feats of sleight-of-hand and magic kept everyone's attention, even though the sun was trying its best to drive them under cover. There were numerous good prizes and lots of pop and ice cream. Those who came from near and far all agreed that it was a real good hamfest.

Word of more flood emergency work in B.C. comes to us from the Orchard City Amateur Radio Club, Kelowna, B.C. The entire club was present at an emergency meeting on May 30 at the local broadcasting station CKOV, where plans for flood relief were discussed. A group consisting of Harold Marshall, 7VI; Lawrence Wall, 7ACL; Ted Turner, 7TA; Larry Gorby, 7BE; Lawrence Walrod, 7ALO; Jack Bews, 7AAJ; Merrill Hughes, 7FS; Rolf Mathie, 7SC; Don Edwards, 7DK and hams-to-be Al Collins, Dave Gordon, Len Cuddford, Don Watt, an ex-commercial op. Ed Fairweather set up mobile and fixed emergency equipment and handled traffic through CKOV, 7AIX, 7RU and the A.F.A.R.S. station 7ND in Vancouver. Their work was highly praised by Red Cross and local civil authorities.

The 1948 officers of the St. Thomas Amateur Radio Club are: President, F. J. Burgin, 3AUI; vice-president, G. Conroy, 3BLJ, and secretary, W. E. Shaw, 3APL. The club is closed for the summer and will be represented again in the fall.

The Clinton Amateur Radio Club now holds two meetings a month on the first and third Thursdays. A membership drive is under way and interested parties are invited to contact Alex. Vellman, Local 13, R.C.A.F., Clinton, Ont. Antennas are now installed for all bands at the club location, and the club station, Ve3BER, took part in the A.R.R.L. field day from Ben Miller Falls. Frequencies used were

2 meters, 40, 75 and 80 meters. The club recently affiliated with A.F.A.R.S.

In the June issue of XTAL, a typographical error resulted in a misspelling of the secretary's name of the Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club. He is Fred Bath, not Both, and the call is Ve1LG. The club recently formed a Valley net, meeting Wednesdays at 6.30 p.m. on 3780 Kc. Stations are represented from Windsor, N.S. to Digby, N.S., a distance of 120 miles. The club took part in field day.

When the Regina Amateur Radio Club decides to put on an all-Saskatchewan hamfest they really do it up brown! The gang started coming in Saturday, June 12, and by evening 120 had enrolled. The Regina xyl's and yl's took the out-of-town ladies in tow and the OM's held a bang-up stag party in the arm-ouries. The following day the group met and drove in a convoy of cars and trucks to a park 10 miles out of town and the festival really got going. Various groups competed in a QSO party with portable equipment on all hands. There was a hidden transmitter hunt on 50 Mc, won by Ve5PH of Fairburn, Sask. Numerous other competitions such as frequency measuring, adjustment of transmitters, trouble-shooting and code efficiency tests kept the gang interested and entertained. A picnic and sports programme occupied the afternoon and R.C.C.S., R.C.A.F. and R.C.M.P. equipment was displayed. Some of this fb gear made the amateurs' eyes pop and there was much drooling! A mobile Nazi signals section was on display and this captured equipment drew quite a lot of attention. The gang then proceeded back to Regina for the big banquet, held in the King's Hotel at 7 p.m. President Don Leach gave the address of welcome. Jack Kyle, 5JK, won the oscar donated by radio station CBKI for the best quizz contestant, and the 20 other competition prizes, along with 90 door prizes, were given out. The festivities finished with the playing of a recording depicting a typical phone QSO, which was very comical.

A new club has reported in. The Quebec Radio Club, Quebec City, P.Q., was formed in 1926. The secretary is J. H. Labelle, 2HL, and the president is Alex Lariviere, 2AB. Address c/o Secretary, P.O. Box 744, Quebec, Que.

The Southern Alberta Amateur Radio Club, Lethbridge, Alta., have suspended activities for the summer, and will resume in September.

● E. P. Hobart (CRS 12) of Kitchener, Ont., is anxious that a Canadian Slow Morse practice be stated for Ontario. Are there any Ve3's who are willing to give a little of their time to sending slow morse on 3.5 Mc for the benefit of embryo hams?

# DX NEWS OF THE MONTH

R. D. Carter Ve3QD

BY the time you read this the summer vacation season will be pretty well over and we will all be eagerly looking forward to the fall dx. New antennas will be up, changes to the rig completed, and let's hope none of you are disappointed in the dx you can snare. While just now the bands are not good, don't give up, as there is plenty of good stuff coming through if you just have the patience to dig for it. Speaking of the fall, keep the week-ends of Oct. 29-31 and Nov. 5-7 open for the "CQ" dx contest. The first session is CW and the second phone. Full details will be out soon and when available we will pass them along. Personally, I think the fall conditions are better here than in the spring and it will be interesting to see how our scores compare with what we were able to do in the A.R.R.L. spring contest. Even if you don't want to enter the contest seriously, get in it, as it affords a fine chance to boost your countries worked total and also to meet a lot of new foreign hams. More on this later.

From time to time we all work stations that we never get cards from, and eventually it is disclosed that some of them are phonies. LX1AX, ZC1AN and ZD8A have been definitely established as such, and if any of you are counting any one of these please revise your total. Also suspected but not yet classified are EA7A, ZA2A, ZA2D, ZA2X, FG8D, FP8A, PX1B, CRSAC, FL8AE, FR3CE, ZD1WB, Y17BZ, FD8AC, PX2LD, Y17BZ, PX2LD, TA1AD, ZC4C, and VS9AU. However, don't remove any of these yet until we advise further. No doubt there are many more. Don't pass up EAXXX, though, as QSL's from him are coming through. He's in the Canary Islands and wait for his card first, the reply under cover. Speaking of QSL's, Bert Knowles has over 1,000 choice dx cards unclaimed. Over 400 of these are for three-letter calls starting with B, so if you haven't a self-addressed stamped envelope with him, shoot one along, and you may be agreeably surprised. Other provinces can do the same thing to their QSL manager. By the way, 98% of my cards reach me this way.

Some good ones to look for these days are ZD9AA, 14017KC, F8NE (Corsica), VS9GT (Oman), ZD2RGY, VQ5GHE, VR2AZ/VR1, C8LS, AC3NC, AC3NC (Sikkim). PX1A says he's the only Andorra ham so if you have worked any others there they probably are NG.

Ve3BNQ reports reports for the first time with 76 countries worked on 28 Mc. with 60 watts. Fb. Al. 3BCJ with a 19 set on 40 meters worked VK, KH6, KP, KZ, CM, as well as 43 states and all Ve. 2WW says the V beams still work and works VQ8CB, VQ5HGE, TU2LO (Turkey), UH8AA, ZS3EA, J9ACS, PK6XA, CFIAP, YS2AN, HL1AE and J2, 3, 4, 6 to prove it. 4RO got his card from C8YR and now is moaning because it isn't another coun-

try. Some guys are hard to please. I'll trade you a couple of countries for it, George. He added ZD1, UF, CT3 and ZD2RGY for new ones. 3QB is specializing in QSL managers, and has now worked those in VK4, W8, SU, G and Ve1. 1PQ finally snagged an OA and also added CT3AA, UG6WD and F8NE (Corsica) to his count. Heard but not worked were ST2KR, FESAB, RV2/FOS, as well as others. That's what keeps up the interest. Doug, 5QZ was busy most of the month with the arrival of a new junior operator, but still managed to work HL1AE, KP6AA, J9ACS, J2AAL, PK6XA, along with other good ones, and all with an 802-807VFO running 25 watts (3TB—note how easy it is). Congratulations, Cliff, on both the baby and the Fb dx. He also reports that KB6AD informed him that C8YR was taken over by C8YCW, who will operate on the same frequencies and times, so there's still a chance for us at Zone 23. 3ACS is dressing up the old 807 in an aluminum cabinet and hopes to up power shortly.

3ALJ reports working AC3GG. Let's hope it's not just another joker, as it's a real country to snare.

We are starting a new listing system this month which we hope will prove of interest, and will you kindly let us have the necessary information for the blank columns after your call. We would also appreciate your reactions to and any suggestions about this. In future reporting will you be good enough to give me this information.

Station	P.W. Total	Zones	1948 Total	Zones
4RO	161	40	100	
3QD	164	38	118	36
3IJ	128	37		
2WW	122	37	117	35
1PQ	110	36	59	
3ACS	108	35	49	22
3AVA	108	32	66	23
3AGC	108	31		
8AS	51	25		
3BHX	54	24	51	23
1NE	65	11		
7HC	151			
1EA	120			
3AAZ	102			
VO6EP	100			
6FK	93			
1AQ	84			
7EH	77			
3BNQ	76			
3TB	75			
3BBZ (3P1)	76			
5JV	72			
3BBN	70			
3QB	60			
4RP	55			
3BWY	53			
5QZ	50			

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# VHF IN CANADA

Conducted by GORDON COLEMAN, VE3ANY

The summer season of inversion dx is here, and with it, as far as the Ontario 6-meter boys are concerned, a general swing to horizontal polarization. Several Toronto and district stations have converted to horizontal, much to the dismay of the portable-mobile fraternity. The gusto with which beams are being built is indicative of a general change-over, and the mobile boys are looking up data on "halos," etc. However, the horizontal switch has paid dividends to those who changed. Stations in Belleville have finally worked Toronto and points west. The area around Rochester, N.Y., has had a good going over, and Toronto stations are working W2RLV, FBA and RTX. Stations in Buffalo, Portland and Niagara Falls, N.Y., have been worked by Toronto and Belleville. All in all, it has been lots of fun, and it looks as if it would get better. We can't help but feel, however, that if the same effort had been put into beams for vertical polarization (most vertical stations were not using beams) these hard-to-work districts would have been QSO'd long ago. Oh, well! Plans are under way by several stations to experiment with different modes of polarization, but human nature being what it is, our guess is that the question will never be proven one way or the other. In order not to be caught on the fence, one enterprising ham, Ve3KM, is putting up a 6-meter version of his very successful modification of the 6-element stacked array — which he has used to such good advantage on 144 Mc. This will have both vertical as well as horizontal in one antenna, so come what may, Wib will be prepared! Early observations by newcomers to the horizontal fraternity have noted more fading and an increase of the flutter due to aircraft, but certain reduction in ignition noise. Whether this fading is due to polarization or inversion shift has yet to be determined, but it is dashed annoying.

The increase of local long distance QSO's has nicely offset the marked decline of E layer dx this month. That E layer skip is less than the same period last year is strongly evident. Last year, during the period from June 1 to July 13, the 6-meter band was open to some part of Canada on 30 out of 43 days. In the Ontario section alone it was open 50% of this period. Openings this year during the same period have only been 12, about 25%, a noticeable decline. Next year will be worse, and so on until the next peak, in 1958. By that time we will all be a little older, more experienced and will possibly possess better, and certainly different, equipment.

At long last, someone has claimed a new dx record. Ve7AHZ writes to say that he beat Ve7VY's 6-meter dx record on Nov. 23, 1947, by working Ve1QY at 11.50 PST. That scales approx. 3,500 miles and certainly constitutes a new record, but what we would like to know

is, why was it so long in being claimed? Maybe Jim was waiting to see if someone was going to do better than that. There you are, fellows, there's a new one to take a crack at. What about the other VHF bands?

The deadline date is long past for the ending of the CAROA VHF Marathon. Of the hundreds of stations active on one or more VHF bands, only 15 entered this contest. Since there has been so little interest in this contest, it has been decided not to run it again, unless by popular demand. Ve3RM (ex-3BDY) of Ottawa is the national winner with 985 points on 50 and 420 Mc. What more fitting than the winner for all Canada to be in the Capital City? Winner for Ve7 district is Ve7AEZ with 250 points, all on 6 meters. No other district entered reports, so CAROA retains six certificates. Certificates will be sent to Ve3RM and Ve7AEZ in the near future. The final scores follow:

Station	Pts.	Station	Pts.
Ve3RM	985	Ve3AOP	66
Ve3BBW	274	Ve3AAJ	61
Ve3AEZ	250	Ve3OJ	38
Ve3AID	210	Ve3AFB	28
Ve3AJS	208	Ve3ABG	26
Ve3ADJ	78	Ve3BFP	18
Ve3RW	76	Ve3ARJ	16
Ve3ASD	71		

The results in the CAROA 6-meter dx Derby, to date, are as follows. Numerous stations not listed have worked out on E and F layer openings but have not sent reports to CAROA. Remember, it takes only a 3c postcard and ten minutes time to be eligible.

Station	No. dx QSO's	No. States
Ve3RW	112	12 & Ve1, Ve4
Ve3AJS	99	12 & Ve1, Ve4
Ve3ADJ	65	12 & Ve1, Ve4
Ve3AAJ	58	7 & Ve4
Ve3RM	55	11
Ve3ASD	39	10
Ve7AEZ	35	5
Ve1JK	30	11
Ve7NM	14	4
Ve3AZV	12	10 & Ve1
Ve3AXT	8	6 & Ve1, Ve4
Ve7BQ	7	4
Ve3AOP	7	6

Those station who have reported working less than seven dx QSO's are: Ve7DU and Ve3's APV, AET, ABG, ARV, AVF, ATB, KM.

This completes the VHF column for this month. Future columns will be written by another author. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have so religiously kept me posted on VHF activity in Canada. I honestly hope that all of you will give my successor the same measure of support that you have accorded me. It has been suggested that, in view of the general

*Concluded on next page*

# QVE From Ve3ANY

11 Park Road, Lakeview P.O.,  
July 20, 1948.

Dear Fellow VE's:

No doubt many of you will be surprised to find my name missing from the masthead of this month's issue of XTAL, under the heading Executive Committee.

Other activities of a business and personal nature will take up so much of my time in the future that I will be unable to devote my leisure time to CAROA business, and so I have resigned. My resignation was not a job which I relished. However, I would like it understood that the reasons for my resignation are purely personal.

It has been my privilege to serve you, and to participate in a phase in the growth of CAROA where dissention and ill-will had placed a great load on those who carried on. It was gratifying to see the reaction of the ham in Canada to that crisis, and to have enjoyed the confidence of so many of you at a time when all of us at CAROA needed a "lift." I hope that I have not let you down in the past and that you will forgive any mistakes that I may have made.

## DX—From page 11

I know some of the above are not right, so how about dropping me a line and bringing your listing up to date?

QTH's Thanks to All Those Who Helped Here  
CR6AI—Box 51, Lubango, Angola.

RV2/FO8—Roland Dassignier, Raivavae Island  
Via Tahiti.

VP4TZ—APO 869 c/o PM, Miami, Fla.

ZD1BD—Royal Signals, Freetown.

M1A—Francini, Republic of San Marino, Italy.

KB6AD—c/o C.A.A. Canton Island, South  
Pacific.

HL1AE—APO 712 c/o PM, San Francisco.

J9ACS—APO 239 c/o PM, San Francisco.

J2AAL—APO 710 c/o PM, San Francisco.

XU8CI—C/o French Consulate, Shanghai.

Please mail all contribution to Roy Carter,  
304 Brookdale Ave., Toronto 12, Ont.

laxity of support from the many VHF'ers who have not reported to the column, that it be disbanded to make way for other more interesting features. I can hardly help but agree with this, since, honestly, fellows, it has been grim! However, it is entirely up to you if you want this column to continue. Your letters to CAROA headquarters will signify your desires. In any event, I have enjoyed the associations that I have made and I hope you have liked the column. Maybe some day time will permit me to resume. We'll be seeing you. 73 and lots of dx.—Gord Coleman, Ve3ANY.

I would like you all to realize something which few seem to take into account. No one on the staff of CAROA gets any pay for what they do in the interests of Canadian hamdom. A paid office secretary is the only extravagance which we have permitted ourselves. All other effort is voluntary. Even at that it has only been possible to hold our own, financially, and still give you what you demand in XTAL. Sometimes it has hurt us deeply to bear the brunt of such criticism as been from time to time directed our way, when we count up anywhere from ten to thirty hours a week of our personal leisure time devoted to the interests of the Canadian amateur. Those of you who have never joined CAROA, but who insist in running us down at every opportunity, have no right to criticize! Those of you who are members and who have never offered the least bit of help by way of letter, technical or humorous incident, bit of news or even just a pat on the back, should not criticize either. You have not helped CAROA to produce a more interesting XTAL. CAROA is an Association of the Amateurs of Canada. All of the VE's, all 5,000 of us, are CAROA. It's your association, and it is up to you, all of you, to get behind it, support it, give it all the help you can and then pride yourself on being a part of it. That is the only way that CAROA will ever measure up to your demands. Regardless of what executive is in power, they will be helpless without your full support. You are the true executive of CAROA.

This sounds like strong talk and a lot of sounding off, but I'm not an executive member of CAROA now. I'm one of you—an ordinary VE and a member of CAROA. This is the way I see it, and remember, I've had the advantage of being on the inside looking out. You see things a lot clearer that way.

Thanks for listening, fellows, and thank you, one and all for the grand support that you have given my two columns, "VHF in Canada" and "Canadian Club Activities." I sincerely hope that my successor will receive the same fine support in the future. 73.

GORD COLEMAN, Ve3ANY.

## OSHAWA HAMFEST

The North Shore Radio Club is holding a hamfest on Aug. 28 and 29 at Lakeview Park, Oshawa. Saturday is set aside for setting up equipment (bring your own) and operating same. On Sunday there will be games, contests and races for all. Bring your own lunch, tea, coffee and milk provided. Free ice cream and pop for the kids. Registration fee for adults, 75 cents; children free.

# C A R A NATIONAL REPORT

## Vel

Ronald J. Hesler, Ve1KS, D.R., Box 160, Sackville, N.B.—The Truro Radio Club is making plans to obtain emergency power equipment and has also applied for their own call. NZ took the Truro gang down to Halifax the latter part of June. CB is working on his SCR322 getting it ready to perk on two. KN visited CX in Moncton during June and called in to see KS but Ron was busy pushing that new four-wheeled toy back after MA sat in it one day. EQ is busy these days working on his garden. GK doesn't like sweets, so the Truro gang all chipped in to get the deer prize he recently won at a ham gathering in Truro. DK is working on a rig with a pair of 410's in the final stage. JK, TR, VL, FQ, DN, QZ, TP and SF is the roll call of the Halifax gang who are now on six. JB a very heavy supporter of vital control is finally shifting to VFO. ME has moved to Wallace and expects to be on high power soon. FB is moving to a new QTH—room to let on 201. WD is a new call in Halifax; welcome to the fold. Ralph. QZ is busy like a bee as he suspects six to open soon; he also has 120 watts on 40, 20 and 10. NQ is getting out and he says he has said to prove it. NZ has got a new exciter perking. DS is selling out. FN is now in Ottawa with his power house. TA is working mobile. UM is rebuilding. GR is recuperating nicely after his recent illness and has lots of time for rag chewing. ET is chasing those elusive stranding wave streamlines again. UN, who plugs away at U.N.B. during the winter, is in Timmins to work away the summer in the mines (should be nice and cool there, which is something I wish it was here as I peck away at this report). OM is on the faculty of U.N.B. WU is a new voice from Stellarton. HM is doing wonders with his AT-7. EW is still hanging away at the dx on 20 CW—latest effort includes KZ5OM, which is a rare bird, we hear. LI is busy digging at his garden these days and hasn't too much time for the air waves. FV has been calling vainly on fone lately since he got his fone license; hasn't got out of town yet, but plans on junking his AT-7 for something else. DL has a lulu of a transmitter imported from the States which covers all bands from 10 to 50. VZ complains that her cull doesn't sound romantic enough and doesn't even sound cute in phonetic alphabet pronunciation. PD, it appears, has a VFO. EZ is active on fone. FL the OM of AYL is now working in Moncton with CVT and is only home on week-ends. OL in Fredericton is a newcomer who is starting out with a single 6L6—Aubrey is in grade nine at school. UG at the time of writing was still laid up but plans to be up and around again shortly. The Loyalist City Amateur Radio Club scored approximately 2,300 points in the Field Day working 80 fone and CW, 40 CW, 20 fone and CW and ten, two and six. H. has been transferred to Charlottetown. XD is another newcomer in the St. John area. The Maritime Net are to hold a meeting in St. John during the Reunion Banquet being held there, Sept. 4.

Well, gang, this is all the news that I have been able to gather in this month. It is very easy to see that summer is here from the length of this report. If any xl or xyl readers of this column are interested in the dope on the Young Ladies' Radio League, if they would drop the writer a postal card, I shall be pleased to send them an information sheet on this organization. Only requisite for membership is that the applicant must be a licensed operator and of course a xl! The yearly dues are only a buck a year. Would like to draw to the attention of all Vel's the fact that the YLRL offer a handsome certificate for any amateur qualifying for WAS/YL, meaning that a woman amateur has been contacted in each of the 46 states—proof by QSL cards is required. If any of you fellows or gals think that WAS is easy, take a try at this one. 73—Ron.

## Ve2

Floyd G. Gribben, Ve2NR, D.R., Quebec, 5120 Westbury Ave., Montreal, Phone EL 5387. Greetings, gang! At the outset it doesn't look like there'll be as much news for you as there was last month; summer and all that! However, let's look at what there is, anyway. Sid Allen,

who signs AEG, says he's proud as blazes that he worked KL70J on a Sunday afternoon on 40 with his 6L6. TM of Quebec says he's fed up with 50 fone (anyone not?) and is now a CW man on 40. Leon has been trying a bug borrowed from HL and likes it so much he says he may buy the contraption. (Rest of us don't need to buy one . . . we get our bugs for nothing!) GL of Beauport, our Quebec SCM and always an ardent CW man, is dabbling with fone on 80. What happens to your QSP's now, Gordie? ART, Ray Meisler, of Montreal, says he dislikes talking to himself on 10 meters. If you're in the same boat give Ray a call at CA 5604. RN, of Sherbrooke, uses a Marconi 1154 rig on 80 CW and plugs his phones into an HEO. SU, of Montreal, is convinced it's his antenna that keeps him in the back yard on 80 fone, so he's planning super mast for roof that'll be a regular landmark. Don't forget the warning lights for aircraft, Gordie. HQ does his phoning on 80 with PM. DL, of Montreal, is tutoring neighbour's son on fine things of ham radio. It's one way to gain favor with SCL's but . . . XX, of Dorval, says he put in FM at the cost of one condenser. On 80 fone you can hear the melodious voices of NZ and ZZ. In the CW part of the band, in between the crashes of QRN, you may hear AD, LT, JZ, PV, AS, ADR, AFO. Then on 40 you might notice KN, CB, UM and ADD. KU, of Lakeside, runs 100 watts to a surplus set and Jim hears things on a VRL receiver. FL, of Bourlonsque (near Val d'Or) has new Harvey-Wells TBS-50 rig. Dealers were rigging up power supply for it and to save money only put in single section filter. Guy says that as a result he got almost pure AC as his area is on 25 cycles to surprise to the many who thought that P.Q. was all on 60. ABS, of Val d'Or, doesn't get on much to use his new S-40 'cause he's QRL on local baseball team. Hope you get good dx on that next hit, Herb. ACP, Len Trepanier, hails from the same town. Len made up power supply for his 19 set only to blow filter condensers. Hope we don't hear reports of second set blowing, Len OM. WK was planning starting on new rig but decided to devote construction to his summer cottage near Lacbute. KH has summer spot close by WK and is sporting new tent which he broke in at the M.A.R.C. Field Day outing. Herman Eberts, the convention chairman, was originally assigned a three-letter call (AEG) but ended up with XP. Didn't you think three-letter calls fit over license plates, Herm? JJ finally made the decision and yanked out his entire AM modulator unit. He will use his Sonar job exclusively from now on! FL, of Bourlonsque, reports that the manager of the local brewery is studying code to get his ticket. (He should have plenty of spare bottles for the rig!) Guy also reports that the boys up his way are now longing for their fishing tackle and the great outdoors, so it looks like a quiet summer for ham radio. VL, of Montreal, and his family, moved back to the home town, Toronto, to work for G.E. All your friends are sorry to see you leave us, Bud. Give us a shout when you get settled and are spotting your new call of 3TF. You had you couldn't get your old one of 3KF back. Good luck to the new job, Bud. GF, our Ve2 reporter in Quebec, says a new ham is in town. He is L. A. Gagnon, of 131 Rue Des Oblats and his call is ADF. GF also lets us in on the following. HO, of Plessisville, paid a visit to the Quebec City dit and dsh boys. ZQ, also of Plessisville, was in Quebec on a visit. YD is on 80 fone every morning with his PP 807's and George dishes it out high, wide and handsome. There's nothing he likes more than traffic, so give it to him, boys! ADP will soon leave town (Quebec) via N.Y.C. and Phila. for a place called Ocean Rest where he will spend summer (lucky stiff). AFE is another new ham in Quebec who is Jacques de Blois, of 27 Aberdeen St. Further up the very same street we find Alexandre Desmeules at No. 132 whose call is AFC. Also on the new ham list is AFO, whom the boys call Luc Langlois. Luc has a nice flat pounding out from 639 Ave. Royale in Beaumont. He joins with PM, ZU and GF a couple of times a week for a brass singer's foursome! For those who don't know PM, he's L. P. Troutier, of 2 Bourdon St., in Quebec and ZU is Rene Gosselin of 21 1/2 Bourlonsque St., also in Quebec. GF heard an 80 fone man complain that the band wasn't wide enough. Rosalie says that the guy's signal was so wide that he needed the whole band for himself! (Quebec fone—note.) GP



also reports that the Quebec gang deplores continued presence of bootleggers who work 50 CW around 11 p.m. 2U, PM and GP were planning 144 Mc stuff but recent embargo caused lack of surplus on market so they dropped the project. (Ever try making your own, fellows? Plenty do in Mtl.) Many thanks for all the news. Rossie, UJ, of Mount Royal, handed out cigars in June when he became a pop for second time. It's another little girl. Congrats to you and the Mrs., ALGM is looking for fellows interested in forming net on 50 CW. If interested, write him at 283 Guilbault Ave., Longueuil. With regret I announce the passing of Fred George, VE2BV, one of Montreal's OT hams and former member of the M.A.R.C. and the staff at R.C.A. All the ham fraternity express sympathy for Fred's family and friends. An active 20-meter voice has been alerted. ACD, of Grandmere, uses 120 watts on 80 CW and Bolland hears 'em on an SX-17. WY now has his ten meter beam motor driven. Don't let 'er take off on you. Ross! WW, Don McVicar, the man with the antenna farm, has worked 113 countries postwar. KS, another dx hound of note, added two more countries to his 20 CW list, Yugoslavia, YU7DU, and Trans-Jordan, ZC1CL. Hal says the latter QSL's too! Westmount Mountaineer was the scene of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club's Field Day camp. Up there the boys had three canvas shacks for the junk and a fourth for sleeping (?). The entire set-up was battery operated to take advantage of the extra multiplier. Bigs were on 80 CW and fone and 40 and 20 CW. The VHF tent had stuff on ten, six and two . . . One of the most interesting rigs in use was that owned by XP. It was a VFO 807 job complete with dynamotor, hash filter, key, key-click filter, etc., all mounted on an old ironing board! Great excitement was had when KS yelled out that he had a J on the hook on the 20 meter rig. The big let-down came when the guy signed JA6BX/W6! Anyway, the boys had a swell time running up a total of 229 contacts with 3807 points. Taking part in one way or other were LC, KS, CP, BX, QQ, ACF, KH, CO, TA, XP, BK, EM, SU, DU, AF, IE, XR, Droppers-in were CB, AG, AE, ACK, MK, VV, JM, ZZ. They all came away, as usual, resolved that things next year would be different!

**Beef Dept. . . .** To all CW men who do not know the meaning of "R" (dit-dit-dit). It alone means "received OK," therefore the often added "OK" is unnecessary! Many seem to use "R" (plus the wrongly added OK) as if to mean "OK, here I am." When using "R," use it to mean what it implies. Don't use "R" and then go on to tell the other fellow, "Sorry, OM, but I missed most of that," etc. If you didn't receive it solid, then don't say you did by using "R." Tell him what you missed by saying "AR" (all before) or "AA" (all after) such and such a word, etc. Above all, and for goodness sake, please don't come back to repeat everything you received with that old and too familiar time-wasting business of "OK on this and OK on that" stuff. Keep the other guy from thinking he'd like to stick you across the HV. Use "R" only when you really mean it! AGE putting final touches to new VFO using surplus trimmer. Tammy enjoyed his first visit to Niagara Falls and reconnected with W2QFC, of Lockport, N.Y., whom he met in the services in England. ADL is a new xyl on who is Mrs. L. P. Bennett, of 81 St. Pierre St., in St. Lambert (YF of LP). LO, of Drummondville, sends in his usual fu letters. Here's what John had to say. His traffic handling has been slowed down due to the summer and he finds it harder to get his messages off the hook. He checks WILM near Boston, TM in Quebec and BB in Lachine. John says BB dropped in for a visit and a road ragehow resulted. Later the doorbell rang and John was overwhelmed with surprise to see his old traffic pal, WILM, who's a 65-year-old brass pounder. WILM also had visited TM in Quebec and ended up at BB's place before going to points west. TD, of Drummondville, still going strong on 40. WR, of Yamachiche, sickles to 40, too. So does KT of same town. Before closing his letter, LO said he was floored when he hooked KLT0J at 2 p.m. on a 40 meter CQ, but QRM spoiled things. (Earlier in this column AEG claimed he worked the same KL, so I guess Syd wasn't kidding. lol.) John is playing with a VFO and says the gadget intrigues him. (Wait'll he gets to the hamz stage!) Many thanks for the letter, John. ZP uses the hardware on 20 CW. ABQ does the same on 40. PK, of Montreal West, now has fb motor-driven beam complete with solenoid. George says it wasn't done cheap, either! BR bought himself a 19 set to use at his summer hideout.

**Let You Forget Dept.**—Convention time isn't very far away, so don't forget to make those plans now. You had better get those tickets before very long too. The Montreal Amateur Radio Club is counting on you to attend the big Hamfest. It'll be the biggest ham get-together in Canadian amateur radio history! Be there with bells

on. OM! Well, gang, thanks for looking. That's all there is! There isn't any more! Not until next issue. So, we'll see you right here next month. 73—Floyd.

## Ve3

**W. Bert Knowler, Ve3QB, D.R., Lanark, Ont.**—Lyle McLaren and Jack Folkard, of Almonte, are waiting for their ham tickets. 3NY is recovering from a serious operation. North Shore Radio Club, of Oshawa, are planning a hamfest for the end of August. 3AJB has a jr. op. 3MB is back on the air again after a serious illness. 3MP, Smith's Falls, has been QSO. 3RM, Ottawa, on six. Ten QSL's from ZK1AA came in to the QSL bureau (one was for 3QB). If any of you have worked ZK1AA and have not received his QSL by the time this is in print, better send your QSL manager a stamped self-addressed envelope. 3UK is planning to go on ten this winter. 3PB, VO (ex-AYE), AGN, APK, BOY, and DE all got their year at the U. of T. 3BGJ is a traveller for Hudson Coal Co. West Side Radio Club, of Toronto, raffles equipment for the Food for Britain Fund. 3BBM (who has a 19 set) is acting as baby sitter for 3LH (we wonder if 3LH's light bill is up). 3BBM also complains that school teachers are too hard on him. 3JJ worked approx. 740 stations in field day with five xmits, near King, Ont. 3BNM and ATU had beam-raising bees with 3ANL, AHL, ATU, and BNM, AIS, APM respectively. 3BIT has a Hammond ten-meter beam. 3RNM, ATU, BIT, AQY have shreds Wed. at 2200 hrs. on ten. 3BGA is on 30 CW with an S13. The O.A.R.T.A., Ottawa, expect to run two xmits at Central Canada Exhibition with the calls Ve3CCE and Ve3RC. 3RM is on 20 fone and CW—when six is not open. 3MX and RM have had QSO's on 420 Mc. 3ABC has his xmit, PP 813's, installed in an old ambulance. The following visited your D.R. in June—Jack Folkard, 3VO, ADR, ABC, BEB and AZO, 3QD is working on his beam. 3RWY still is pulling in the dx QSL cards. Frontier Radio Club had xmit on all hands in field day. 3AUN and PL have bought houses in town, of all things, right close together. Perhaps they want safety from the BCL's. 3AGB has worked 14 States on six with 35 watts to 529B. JTO is the proud father of a baby girl. 3AGT has finished an 811 modulator. 3BCJ collects a nice batch of QSL's. Come on, gang, send in the reports of what you are doing. You know we cannot run this column without news, and as far as seeing that, as we write this, the majority of you have not heard of the new D.R. appointment, the response has been very good.

The Thousand Island Amateur Radio Club, of Brockville, held a very successful hamfest on July 4. About 25 amateurs were present along with their xyls and jr-ops. The registrations were from Toronto, Montreal, Massachusetts and intervening points. Amongst the many valuable prizes given away was a TI165, which was donated by the North Shore Radio Club, of Oshawa. 3AOU was present and after many interesting sleight-of-hand tricks, demonstrated an excellent method of eliminating BCL (perhaps one should say the BCL). In this method (it was demonstrated on 3UO) the BCL is firmly fastened in a guillotine and a very knife is passed between his head and shoulders—very, very effective. 3ANY gave a short talk on VHF activity. The sum of \$11.13 was collected for the Food for Britain Fund. ATR reports traffic total of 50. RCP raffles five and requests more members for DOT net. All for this month, gang, and BCND. 73—Bert.

## Ve5

**Bill Gordon, Ve5MJ, D.R., Oxbow, Sask.**—FY on 75 fone and building 813 CW slg traffic 8 mags. YF on 80 and 40 CW 3 mags. PG is on 10 meters. UC has 300 watts to 513, but not so active since moving to new location 75, 20, 10. DO, new ham, building and experimenting with 144 Mc. Will GDO get in touch with 5BP who also has 144 Mc gear. GB is a new ham who will be on soon. JF is working on improving his portable and getting it working on 6 meters. XU is off the air, now out in B.C. looking for good location. Has new super-duper receiver, the best world, double conversion and all that. The VE5 gang will miss XU but good luck to him in his new QTH. GR not on yet—is collecting parts. DR on 20 meter c.w. RJ is not much since ten folded up. FL on 80 and 40 CW, 10 fone, 2 mags. RC putting final touches on portable rig for 6 meters. KQ will have 375 watts on 20 CW NBFM soon. PD still on 20 and 75 fone, 300 watts. EE on 75 fone having trouble with antennas. Interested in 80 and 144M. OB is not heard much since he moved out to the country QTH. BF still making fireworks and blowing fuses; going to reduce power. Using both AM and NBFM. Has BC625A and

# Dear OM...

We'd sure like to see you and your's at the . . .

## EASTERN CANADA A. R. R. L. CONVENTION

on October 8th and 9th

at the

Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal

Here's tentative news on our proposed program . . .

### Friday, October 8th

- Afternoon—Registration. Talk on "Inductive Interference" by Dept. of Transport.  
Evening—Smoker, songs, technical movies, cabaret acts, and . . .  
Midnight—Traditional A.R.R.L. Wauff-Hong Initiation ceremony.

### Saturday, October 9th

- Morning—Talks on "International Communications" and "Ham Topics".  
Afternoon—Code reading contests conducted by "Ted" McElroy, WIBS.  
Evening—The big, scrumptious banquet, and of course, the main excitement, the big drawing for prizes!

Also . . . many prominent manufacturers and agents will have on display many interesting exhibits of amateur radio equipment. All in all, gang, you're promised a really bang-up good time, very ably provided by . . .

H. L. Eberts, Ve2XP, Convention Chairman, and his committee consisting of: L. C. Morris, Ve2CO; G. Desrochers, Ve2ZZ; S. J. Chapman, Ve2LV; N. N. Wright, Ve2DU; H. B. Elliott, Ve2KS; W. G. Stygall, Ve2GK; J. W. Ewart, Ve2JE; R. K. Grant, Ve2QQ; A. G. Daeman, Ve2JJ.

These fellows wish to remind you to get your tickets now. For the OM it's \$5.50. For YLs and XYLs it's \$3.50. For tickets and information write the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, No. 1, Postal Station "D", Montreal.

"SEE YOU IN MONTREAL NEXT FALL"

ARC4 144 me but no diagrams yet for ARC4. M9 copied the Saskatchewan sweepstakes. UZ has been QRT for exams. Twelve Saskatoon hams attended the Regina hamfest. JF with his portable brought home the bacon from the Field Day activities at hamfest. BF retained the fur-lined button holes as the best bar. Fine time was had. Many thanks to BF for all the info. 73 Bill.

### Ve6

W. R. Savage, V6EO, D.R., 1329 14th St. N., Lethbridge, Alta.—EG was found in Lethbridge atop the FM antenna which was 320 ft. above ground. A real steep-sloped I would say. EH is down south using a plane to dust the fields with DDT or GRT, we are not sure as yet. GR says he has all his crop in now. We hope it grows O.K. for you, now Paul, MH is heard on 75 mtr fone now. WW is heard pounding brass on 20 mtr CW with a very nice signal. MJ is now S.C.M. for Alberta. He is waiting for a couple of African cards for his WAC. DN visits the Lethbridge exhibition. FE is quite interested in the SAARC booth at the exhibition. MN is building a 20-mtr beam. MA is kept very busy, what with changing antennas and the jr op's trapezoid. LA enjoys himself while working on his farm. Ex-RH is building himself a house. 3ADV and xyl pay a visit to some of the hams while taking a holiday out west. FS is busy these days fixing refrigerators so the boys can keep their beer cool. He does find time for the odd QSO. KO was using big guns unloading the midway. MV has a very nice exciter unit. OD is very busy with overmodulation indicators and oscilloscopes. RA is on 75-mtr fone with a very nice signal. JD is on 80-mtr CW. JJ seems to be on 20-mtr fone all the time now, we never hear him on 75. NW is working some nice dx. FH, IU, HU and CS must be the dx hounds in Edmonton from the QSL cards that have been coming through.

Seeing there is not much news this month I am going to list all the fellows who have QSL cards on file. Will you be kind enough to forward two stamped, self-addressed envelopes with your present and prewar call marked in the upper left hand corner? This will clean out the files for more cards and you will be sure to have an envelope on file for future cards. The following have from one to twenty-five cards on file:

AB, AN, AY, AH, AX, AQ, AW, AM, AD, AS, AV, AJ, CD, BF, CF, CG, BD, CT, BY, CZ, BK, BY, BA, BV, CO, CK, CL, CX, CR, DD, EY, EN, EP, DA, EG, ED, DV, DX, DU, ES, ET, FK, FW, FD, GB, GI, FO, GK, FG, FZ, GR, FN, GG, FP, GW, FT, GL, GU, GZ, GO, HI, H, IS, IE, HS, KZ, JE, JK, IK, IH, ID, IY, IF, HB, IR, KS, JI, JO, KN, KP, JU, KT, JC, JD, KI, KA, KE, LM, LI, MP, LA, LK, MW, LE, MQ, LS, MY, MT, LO, ML, MF, LJ, LH, MG, MH, MD, LG, OU, OT, NQ, NZ, NF, NA, OW, QP, PK, PI, PH, PT, RT, SZ, ST, TI, SY, RM, RL, RV, SI, SK, SU, UT, WB, UP, WG, VS, UY, WF, WL, VP, UR, VY, VZ, XS, ZW, YV, ZZ, YL, ZJ, YT, ZG, XO, XA, XB, ZM. That is all for this month, but how about some news for next month, fellows? Cheerio.—Bill.

### Ve8

Jack Spall, Ve8AS, D.R., Box 263, Whitehorse, Y.T.—AH was the first amateur to operate from Dawson City for several years, but there is the nucleus of a little ham club there now. The following people have their tickets now: C. H. Gray, 8CE; G. J. E. Slack, 8CG; G. C. Stoman, 8AY, plus 8AH and 8 BC, Rudy Amren, who lives at Bear Creek only eight miles away. Ham radio is really starting to go places in Dawson now! In addition two others have written tests and are awaiting calls before going on the air. Thanks to AH for all the information on the Dawson City gang—73—Jack.

### COMING UP

- Sept. 4—Loyalist City Amateur Radio Club reunion dinner; Saint John, N.B.  
Sept. 12—Winnipeg A.R.C. hamfest; St. Vital fair grounds.

● Bill Welch, Ve3BCS, came in contact with his power supply and suffered hand and arm burns. To bring him "to" took a doctor one hour. In addition to Bill's injuries, it is understood there may be equipment damage that will keep Ve3BCS off the air for some time.

## Canadian and U.S. Receiving Stations

By Sid Prior

**H**Y FELLOWS: May I introduce myself as your new C. & U.S.R.S. Editor, namely, Sid Prior, SWL.

As I am not a noted writer as my co-editors, ANY, ZE, QD or ALG, I hope you will stand by me until I get my footing in this new adventure.

XTAL staff and myself feel that the SWL's should be heard from, as a majority are future licensed amateurs.

I would like, as a start, in my next article, to be able to include a few names of SWL chaps and what they SWL with, and to give you an idea of what I mean, I spend my time tuning a Hallierafter SX25 on mostly 10 and 20, using a folded dipole, fed with 300 ohm line, and on 10 a vertical of aluminum tubing, co-ax fed. I hope shortly to put a Mallory Inductuner setup ahead of the SX25, so I may go up to 1 1/4. P.S.—Has any one got an Inductuner for sale?

So there you have it, fellows, and if some chaps will drop me a line or phone me at HO, 3428 or 11 Cedar Ave., Toronto, Ont., you will get your name in XTAL, and that's good.

Also in my next article, I hope to be able to give you the gen on a contest with a prize. If the Ve's and W's can have contests, why not us?

A line from our American friends would be appreciated.

Rather than overdo it in my first venture, I will sign over off and clear.—73.

● If you have not written to HQ in response to last month's editorial, DO IT NOW.

### LAPEL BUTTONS

For CAROA Members

Do you know that any member can obtain one of these handsome buttons by merely writing to HQ CAROA, 46 St. George Street, Toronto and enclosing postal note for 75c. We will send immediately your own CAROA lapel button.

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## QVE

**CAROA Official Bulletins**  
**75 Meters Each Thursday**  
**9 p.m. Local Time**

The undersigned stations have been appointed as CAROA Official Bulletin Stations. Be sure to listen for your district OBS for latest messages and bulletins of interest to all Canadian amateurs.

Ve1GD—3835 Kc—H. A. Garland  
Ve2HL—380 Kc—J. W. Labelle  
Ve2DL—3827 Kc—R. Frenette  
Ve3QB—3835 Kc—W. B. Knowles  
Ve3CP—3775 Kc—T. Hunter  
Ve4KK—3820 Kc—B. Fowler  
Ve5FA—3848 Kc—W. A. G. Simpson  
\*Ve5GA—3847 Kc—W. T. Rogers  
Ve6OD—3801 Kc—E. A. Anderson  
Ve7FB—3825 Kc—H. E. Savage  
Ve8AS—3820 Kc—J. Spall

\*—10:00 p.m.

## MORE NEW CALLS

**Ve3BWW**—Jack Bernard Hill, 214 Tamarack St., Timmins.

**Ve3BWX**—Stuart Edward Charles Ellam, 125 Hanna Rd., Leaside.

**Ve3BWZ**—Francis Allan Gillespie, 164 Hendon Ave., Northmount.

**Ve3VY**—J. A. Levett, 35 Spruce St., Paris.

**Ve3BXA**—Robert J. Lang, 604 Windermere Ave., Toronto.

**Ve3BXB**—William N. Watterson, 34 Charles St., Hamilton.

**Ve3BXC**—Miss Ann Gray, Box 220, Geraldton.

**Ve3BXD**—Ralph B. Purser, 51½ North Front St., Belleville.

**Ve3BXE**—George K. Wong, 736 Stormont St., Peterborough.

**Ve3BXF**—Peter Epstein, 9 Peverill Hill S., Toronto.

**Ve3BXG**—Gordon Alan Prouting, 53 Highcroft Rd., Toronto.

**Ve3BXH**—William Charles Jackson, 931 Bruce Ave., Windsor.

**Ve3BXI**—Norman Ray Irwin, Stonehaven, Whitby.

**Ve3BXJ**—Franklin James Sinclair, c/o Radio Range Station, Armstrong.

**Ve3BXK**—Philip Hudson, 7 Edgar St., Welland.

**Ve3BXL**—Paul William White, 23 Chestnut Ave., Brantford.

**Ve3BXM**—Norman Francis Dickinson, Centre St., Wingham.

**Ve3BXN**—Robert John Newstead, 111 Cambridge Ave., Toronto.

**Ve3BXO**—T. G. Watson, 24 King St., Kirkland Lake.

**Ve3BXP**—William Duane Larcombe, 245 Airdrie Rd., Leaside.

**Ve3BXQ**—William John Hawkins, Lands & Forests, Geraldton.

## Dear OM . . .

Editor, XTAL:

The last meeting of the OARTA was "BCI Night" during which we discussed the present regulations and the various methods of filtering and eliminating B.C.I.

While it was agreed that practically all cases of BCI were remedial, it was felt that whether the amateur cleared up the trouble by the addition of a filter system to the receiver, or simply went off the air, the feeling still persisted in the mind of the BCL that the amateur was primarily to blame.

Our conclusion was that the present regulation, which includes simply that we must not "interfere with the reception of broadcasting" should be redrafted to cover sets of approved modern design, or in other words, having at least one stage of RF and an external antenna system.

This would not result in the amateur completely ignoring the complaints from owners of AC/DC's (after all, we must live with our neighbours!), but would make it clear that any corrective action taken on the part of the amateur would be as a favor.

Representation on the part of one club to the department of transport would not carry much weight, but if all clubs across Canada were to take action through CAROA, perhaps we would get results, and we would like to start the ball rolling!

Best of luck and continued success to CAROA.

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Association.  
F. H. Sheard, Pres., Ve3BCL

Seven Islands, Que.

Editor, XTAL:

I wish to send my sincere thanks to Ve3BOY, Ve3BQL in Toronto, Ve3ANL in Chesley and Ve2AV in Montreal. These operators did a "bang-up" job in passing an urgent message on May 19 from Seven Islands to Toronto and the reply received was indeed gratifying. Also my sincere thanks to Ve2TQ here in Seven Islands who after several hours of weak signals succeeded in establishing contact with the above operators.

In closing, my wife and myself send our warmest praise to the operators who made this possible.

Reg Cross, Ve2AEP/3BMA

## OVERSEAS HAMS

We have been pleased to meet two overseas hams in Toronto recently in the persons of GW2GV, who is now employed in the city, and VK2AE, who is doing some medical research for a year before returning via G.

### LEARN CODE this easy way

•This automatic INSTRUCTIONOGRAPH machine will teach you quickly to send and receive code (Morse or Continental). It comes complete with code tapes and instruction book, gives clear signals as fast or slow as you wish. Low Rental plans, clockwork models, for 1, 3 or 5 months. New machines for sale, Electric Models included. Write for folder giving full details.

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## The Amateur Dollar in 1948

NEARLY everyone has, at one time or another, wished that Canadian prices were on a par with those in effect in the U.S.A. Most consumer goods sell at a mighty attractive figure south of the border, albeit, old man inflation has drawn comparisons a lot closer these last few months, and in the automotive field there is little to choose from. That jalopy would probably cost you a hundred more, even in Detroit.

However, the gap widens when you open the door to your favorite radio parts jobber. Nearly every item, with the exception of a few staples also made in Canada, costs a good deal less. Most of us know why. But somehow, just knowing why doesn't ease the pain when one has to dig deep and see the sugar bowl hoard washed clean in one quick lather for an R9'er. On every item coming into the country from the United States, there is a duty of 20 percent. That is, if it's a radio part. On the aggregate value, our "dear friends" in Ottawa want another 8 percent.

Most manufacturers want to see prices to the Canadian amateur as low as possible. If your product is priced with the clouds, sales just naturally won't keep pace. Those manufacturers who cater solely to the ham radio field are anxious to price their products right down low within reach of the majority.

Roy Gray, genial representative for James Millen and Biley crystals in Canada, tells us of his activities in Ottawa in an effort to have duties reduced on amateur radio parts. Roy found the "powers that be" extremely cooperative. Reclassification on over two dozen Millen items puts them in the "duty free" class, and this saving means price reductions effective immediately at the local ham dispensary. Callaghan, Canada's representative at the Geneva conference, had quartz crystals slated for a nominal 10 percent duty. Ratification of the agreement by Brazil is all that's needed for further savings on an item as necessary for operation as the old pay cheque itself. There's spade work afoot to wipe out this 10 percent impost and put crystals on the free list. Then those Biley units will cost no more here than there. Oh! Oh! — there's still that 8 percent sales tax.

Thought we'd ask Roy about that Millen receiver. When and how much? Jim Millen says: "Not until we can deliver at prices within the budget of every Canadian amateur." Hope that's soon. If beef keeps on up the ladder, we're eating our HRO and no fooling!

● Please check the expiry date on the address of your XTAL. If it is in error, let us know at once.

# NOW! A REAL DX ANTENNA AT A NEW LOW COST!



For these bands:

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7.0 mc

14.0 mc

28.0 mc

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The folded dipole antenna section is Amphenol Twin-Lead No. 14-022. Conductors are "copper-clad" steel for strength to withstand wind, ice-loading, etc. The 75-foot lead-in is Amphenol 300 ohm Twin-Lead No. 14-056. It affords a perfect match, and is joined to the antenna with a weather-proof molded polyethylene jacket.

#### Radio Servicemen Note!

The 7 mc antenna may be trimmed to provide top reception on the shortwave BCL 9 or 12 mc bands. See your jobber today for complete information and prices.

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### The No. 74001 Tunable Coil Form

Another new Millen "Designed for Application" product is the No. 74001 permeability tuned, shielded plug-in coil form. Standard octal base of low loss mica-filled Bakelite, polystyrene 1/2" diameter coil form, heavy aluminum shield, iron tuning slug of high frequency type, suitable for use up to 35 mc. Adjusting screw protrudes through center hole of standard octal socket. Special extension terminals facilitate connection to base pins.

## JAMES MILLEN MFG. CO., INC.

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## HAM-ADS

Copy for Ham-Ads must be received before the tenth of the month preceding issue. Rate is 25 cents per line.

ARG ALL-WAVE RECEIVER—For 25 or 60 cycles with B.F.O. Ve3GV, HY. 5153. 130 Garfield Ave., Toronto.

QSL Cards Printed—1,000 1 colour, \$6.00; 1,000 2 colour, \$8.00. W. J. Wiskin and Co., 105 Princess St., Kingston, Ont.

WANTED—Reports of your summer rebuilding. If you think it is of general interest and contains some new wrinkles, XTAL wants the dope.

FOR SALE—S40, good as new, used less than 20 hours; reason for sale—have an NC-2-40 D; \$118.00. Dr. G. W. Davis, Sydenham, Ont.

QSLs for discriminating hams. Distinctive! Colorful. Highest quality! \$1.50 per 100. Samples 10 cents. Ve3QS Print, 344 Pape Ave., Toronto.

FOR SALE—Hammarlund HQ-129-X, used one month, \$285. Will ship C.O.D. Require battery-operated communications receiver. C. A. Clemens, Lloydminster, Sask.

FOR SALE—8-tube SS Rcvr. C/W power supply, speaker, calibrated dial. All in handsome black crackle cabinet. Ve3ANO, Art. Frazer, 470 Glenlake Ave., Toronto.

SCR-522 Transmitter - Receiver - Frequency range 100-156 Mc - uses two 832's push-pull in final - new condition - complete with 24-volt dynamotor, control unit - instruction manual, diagrams and all inter-connecting cables. Best offer over \$100. J. Hunter, VE3ANE, RA. 4975, 17 Edgewood Cres., Toronto.

1 HALLICRAFTERS Model S36, AM-FM/CW, 27 meg. to 143 meg., continuous, for rack and panel, less speaker; with Panadaptor connections and harness for use as a converter to a superhet IF at 5,225 kc. Cost \$447.50, will sell for \$200.00. Millen 9800 exciter with 40,20,10,11,6 meter coils and new 6L6 and 807 tubes, complete for \$45. Millen 90881 500-watt final with ten meter grid and six meter plate coil, less neutralizing condensers, wiring slightly changed but complete otherwise, for \$75. Ve7CN, Box 36, Prince George, B.C.

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