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XTAL

JUNE
1946

Vol. 7 No. 5

GIVES YOU

CANADA'S
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HAM
MAGAZINE

complete coverage on Canadian amateur activities, technical and operating information, hints and kinks, the best and most reliable sources for ham gear, the best manufacturers in the radio world . . . it keeps you informed of what's what in official circles and regulations, and, in general brings you much closer to your brother VE than you've ever seen before . . . it speaks for you . . . The Canadian Radio Amateur.

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46 Dunvegan Rd. Toronto 12

XTAL

JUNE
1946
Vol. 7 No. 5

for the

radio amateur

THE CANADIAN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION
TORONTO, ONTARIO

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HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO.



XTAL
[C R Y S T A L]

JUNE
VOL. VII

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HILITES

Originally scheduled for, and described in April XTAL, Ve3AZI's close-spaced array adorns our cover this month.

Ve3BCF's Simple, Center-fed, multiple frequency antenna system on page 7 is sure to please all from cliff-dwellers to those in the wide open spaces!

Wilf Moorhouse comes up with another of his useful gadgets on page 8. Keep tuned to Ve7US for further efficiency, plus!

If you are still wondering about what's happening to War Surplus materials turn to page 12 and rest easier.

XTAL CONTROL

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Authorized as second class mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa,

THE days are here when we radio amateurs may again concentrate and work to bring Higher Standards in our chosen hobby.

It is known that radio amateurs all over the world played a big part to further develop the science of radio which did so much to bring World War II to an end.

We amateurs who gave our services to the Army, Navy, Airforce or Research Work, know to what extent we had to exert ourselves in order to come up to the demands for Higher Standards, both in the development and the operation of equipment.

Let us get out our handbooks or any good literature available, check up on radio theory, design, construction and good operating, then go on the air with a station we can feel proud of.

Do you know there are many "Listening In", all over the country at all hours? Most of us have listened in carefully on those of our bands now open to us and heard references made to "A Haywire Rig", "A Poor Receiver", or of one having, "Worked all week trying to iron out Bugs", in the transmitter and then go on the air with a "T4 Signal", or again, how one "told of a length of wire strung out along the hall floor for an Antenna". Many operators are heard forgetting to use the simple but correct ABC of operating procedure. There is much room for improvement.

Whether we QSO over the air or make a personal call, let us remember the Higher Standards we aimed at and achieved during the past six years when the amateur bands were closed to us.

We may say that this hobby of ours is an art, and requires skill and knowledge and still Higher Standards in order to keep it that way.

E.B.

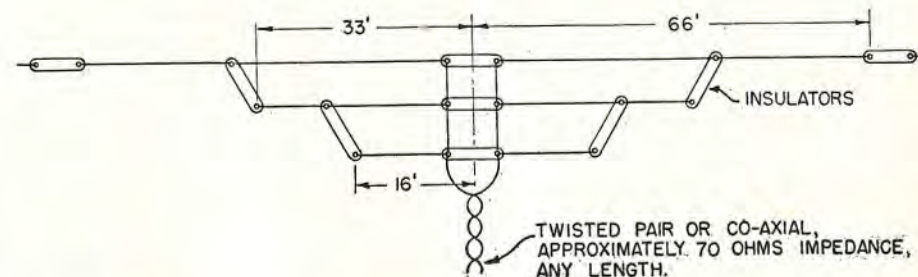
LATE BUT COMING!

MOST of you are probably wondering why this is the June issue of XTAL appearing at this late date. Like many others, difficulties have been experienced . . . pressure at our printer's and inability to obtain papers are only two. However, everything possible is being done in order to get back to our proper publication date, the fifteenth of each month, and we have every hope that this will be accomplished by our September or October issues. As planned at the first of this year, the next issue, July-August, will be a combined one. After that, and in 1947, it is intended to publish XTAL each month. Thanks for bearing with us.

As you know, XTAL depends upon you members for technical articles, photographs, news, and all the other items that go to make up your magazine. Don't forget, as trivial as a thing may seem to be, there are lots of other members who probably don't know about it, but would like to. With a membership of over 2200 at this writing there are at least 2200 of your fellow-members interested in your fig, your experiences and your ideas. Please let's hear from YOU.

A Simple, Centre Fed, Multiple Frequency Antenna System

by A. P. Davis VE3BCF (Ex-4HV)*



THIS article describes a simple antenna system which can be used on two or more frequencies when the higher frequencies are even harmonics of the lowest frequency. The harmonic relation does not need to be exact, and the system is no more frequency sensitive than the ordinary half wave doublet. Since our Amateur bands fall in this category, this system makes a very satisfactory antenna for the Amateur. I lay no claim to originating this system, as I believe it was reported in at least one magazine several years ago. However I have used it for approximately two years, and found it very satisfactory. The particular system described is the one I used for 20, 40, and 80 meters, but there is no reason why it should be limited to these bands. The sketch above gives most of the details of the system.

As can be seen from the sketch, this system is simply three half wave antennae, centre fed, all attached to the same low impedance, untuned transmission line.

On 80 meters, the 40 and 20 meter antennae present high impedances to the 80 meter signal, while the 80 meter antenna presents the correct 70 ohms. The transmission line is therefore properly terminated, and the power is radiated by the 80 meter antenna.

On 40 meters, the 80 meter antenna acts as two half wave antennae, end fed. This again presents a high impedance to the feeder, as does the 20 meter antenna. However the correct termination is provided by the 40 meter

*101 St. Germain Ave., Toronto 12.

antenna, and the power is radiated by it.

On 20 meters, the 40 meter antenna acts as two half wave antennae, end fed, and the 80 meter antenna as two full wave antennae, end fed. Both of these will therefore present high impedances to the transmission line but the 20 meter antenna will provide the correct termination, and radiate the power.

It will be observed that if the frequencies were not in the ratio of 1:2:4, these relations would not hold, and the system would not work.

Theoretically there is no limit as to how many antennae may be attached in this manner, if the frequency relations are observed. However, in practice, it will probably be found that three or four will be the limit. The attached antennae will, of course, introduce extra losses, and some directive effects. However, I had no difficulty making the antenna system load up on any of the frequencies, using an ordinary link coupling coil on the final tank coil. The effect on the tank tuning was negligible, indicating a proper resistance termination, and QSO's on the bands showed no marked directive effects.

Field strength tests would probably show up a slightly lower overall efficiency, and some directive effects, as compared with a half wave doublet, but from the results I got in using this system, I do not believe they will be serious. However, when conditions permit, I intend to make these tests and find out.

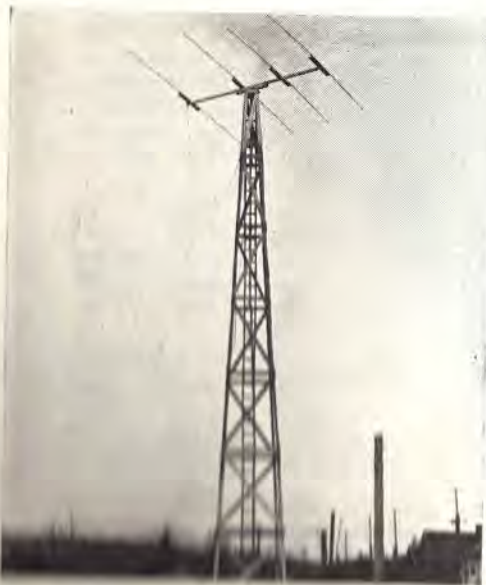


Fine looking stalwarts pictured above about to attack victuals were attending Electronic and Radio Parts Conference in Chicago's Hotel Stevens last May. CAROA ramrod S. B. Trainer Jr., is smiling face at extreme lower right. Goodly number of VEs here. Can you spot them?

SPEAKING OF PICTURES



XTAL NEEDS THEM
SEND THEM IN

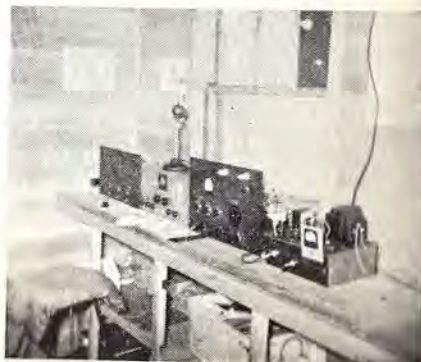


Fine, stoutest 100-foot-high beam of antenna. Source of trans-Pacific work with 50 Watts input! Picture credit to JAMES' up and going concern of "Quintuplet Photographers".



Ve3AEL's rig gives forth with 10 meter fone sigs. Is in projection booth as may be noted at extreme left.

Ve8AR is Whitchorse's RCAF ham station in the northcountry. Ex-3AGB is boss and always alerted for Toronto contacts on 10.



Report From The Nation

WE'VE HAD IT—the 1946 Field Day, that is! Blistered arms, well-roasted necks, stubbed toes and hay fever, barked shins and lacerated legs—but—at the same time we're so chock full of country ozone and violet rays that RFTN's Letterbox will be the proverbial clincher at the end of a perfect week-end. By the way, we sure would appreciate pictures and stories of Field Day doings among the gang. Club secretaries please note. From where we set up (beyond the 15th green at the Weston Golf and Country Club here in Toronto) we were practically surrounded by various Toronto Clubs operating divers and sundry rigs on all bands available. We gather that clubs from VE1 across to VES were active in a collective way. Let's have the stories of the unusual events . . . and the pictures. And speaking of pictures, the Emblem Contest has brought forth some really interesting designs. Competition will be heavy and hot. FB response gang. This too reminds us that Frances' picture has increased her fan mail to the proportions of a Hollywood star. The movie mecca hasn't ALL the pulchritude. Acres of country places and carloads of kittens have been offered to date. Woe is us if the click of a shutter and a slip of the lip steals our Frances away! Woe too, is VE3AEJ who asks what chance has his 807 when after a week-old ten meter dipole copper tubing in the form of a three element array appeared on the top of his house key clicks appeared in the surrounding neighbour's receivers! . . . 3BH squirts sigs from fifty foot poles astride a 6 x 8 shack . . . 7ALJ sez to be 4AGI is on 75 and 80 with 19 set . . . he sez that also in Ashcroft, B.C. . . . are 7XN/ex1XP, LARRY HIGGINS, 7SL with 75 foot sticks who wants us to pan the birds who insist on tuning up ON THE AIR and sez further that maybe we could start a subscription list to buy 'em dummy antennae! . . . 2LS finds XTAL for first time while visiting 2IM, result: member number 1876! . . . 7YF similarly sez that XTAL fell into his hands without knowing of its existence previously . . . He's member number 1873! . . . now, doggone if we're not absolutely convinced that FRAN is right . . . remember, she said that some mailmen are embryo hams! . . . 7KE is brass-pounder with B.C. Police, fresh out of Montreal with new XYL and the kind ya dream about too . . . she's after her ticket! To which we add, as in all cases . . . our 88 . . . Les used to pound brass on C.P. Empress liners. 3QB reminds us that our proof reading department is punk . . . and we agree. That "bull" in connection with our recent 80 meter contest was a bad one. In future Bert we'll try to be more careful . . . thanks to all the guys that took upon themselves the job of telling all and sundry that we really meant to conclude it Monday at the wee early hour of 3 a.m. . . . RFTN was in Montreal on a flying trip overnight recently and spent, along with 3ACL, a very pleasant eve with 3RO and GINNIE, who incidentally is a stunner indeed. Walker is the luckiest guy! 2DR was in the mountains on a vacation. He was fishing on the week-end of the contest we dedicated to him. Oh well, what is man without a hobby . . . or hobbies? 2HF dribbles away on 80 with a 6L6 and a two tube blooper and recently visited VE7-land . . . VO6F at Goose Bay is on 80 too but seems to have difficulty getting out. . . . 4AR is newcomer in Pine Falls, Manitoba . . . 5AQ will be found on 3618 kc in Rosetown, Sask. . . . 7GK/ex5GK sends postcard with picture of washing hanging on the Alaskan Highway . . . we wondered what they were going to use it for after the war! . . . 2DG/ex3ACN graduated from ole John McGill with sheepskin for Communications Engineering . . . FB Allan . . . Nice letter from 5AF tells us that 5GG has new tri-tet working FB at North Battleford and that 5WC of same QTH gets around with lil ten watter . . . 2FM is heard from Anticosti Island . . . 4MF gets XTAL overseas . . . 5VZ/6 at Kitscoty, Alberta (some day we're gonna gather up all these unusual QTH's and put 'em together in XTAL's Watts-In-A-Name Dept.) is active on 80 and works ZLAGA on same with 50 watts . . . he tells us that W200U/VE5 is now working from W3GNU/VE5's old QRA in

Hamlin, Sask. W3GNU/VE4 was last worked at Gimli, Manitoba . . . which reminds us that recent additions to VEOP's from across the border are W2NKD, 5CEA, 5CRE, 6QGI, 8IPD, SDR, UFJ/8, 9BRD, W0NED, W9KCY . . . Hail Uncle Sam! 7JV/exEJV just back from war years with the RCN is on again from Esquimalt . . . 3AHG bawls us out for being too harsh in editorial on gun jumpers . . . further adds in a lighter vein that PETE KUSHNIR at 5PK blessed with a location independent of power lines shouldn't have to be bothered with the noise that goes with them and sez brother gimme a three tube battery blooper out in the stix and keep all the multi-tube sooper-doopers hooked onto the noisy power lines . . . I lives on a farm too, and use a Briggs and Stratton engine and car generator rewound for 110 volts 25 cycles for power and when I shut it down to listen I can hear the wind blowing across the antenna in the background . . . he wrote to a local radio retailer for information on war assets genemotors and other ham gear and got a reply stating that they had electric fences at 15 bucks a throw! . . . sez he didn't know that the rural fellows were using electric fences to get on the air but dawgone if he isn't willing to try if somebody can prove it! . . . 3BCZ pounds brass, a mill on XTAL's mailing stickers, GT's Field Day rig, and sensors comic strips . . . 3FK has new 70 foot skywire for 18 watts . . . Between gardening, culinary duties, Jr-op-minding not to mention twilight softball we haven't heard much from 3TM of late —Fizzy is getting fuzzy! . . . 3DU is new ARRL SCM for Ontario Section . . . Makes London famous . . . it can now boast of a DCM for CAROA and an SCM for ARRL . . . 3ADR has eyes for six meters again . . . 3ANY and 3ATB do great work for six around Toronto but are very modest about it . . . likewise 3KM in Hamilton . . . G2IS feted RFTN and SAM at Toronto's famous Winston Keytery before leaving on eastern junket which took him to Gotham via Hartford and the ARRL gang HQ . . . 3AHE remains silent in Port Credit . . . public life's grottim! . . . AVW POKES THRU TO KANSAS CITY ON SIX METERS . . . AEU also haunts the mystery band . . . 3IK is heard again on 80 cw . . . "PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE" is QST's idea of a theme song for 80 meters XTAL adds "I DON'T STAND A GHOST OF A CHANCE" and all this business reminds BETTY QK of the little lad who came over as a baby sitter and bleated: "I won't stay unless your husband has a ham rig!" . . . watta hope! . . . 2CI is chief engineer at CJAD . . . 5OC is on ten most of the time . . . 5BQ and 5JG team up for co-operative effort . . . 3CAR would sincerely appreciate a word from 3AQC in Amherstburg, what power, what frequency, and possible sked . . . any help by anyone QSO AQC would also be appreciated . . . and so with the parting thought of "SWITCH TO SAFETY" and enjoy your summer vacation . . . and many long years of hamming to come. We'll BCNU next XTAL . . . 73.

ANTENNA COUPLING CIRCUIT BLUEPRINTS

The author of "Antenna Coupling Circuit Design," Mr. J. C. R. Punched, has kindly provided HQ with a supply of large blueprints of the charts which accompanied his article in December 1945, Jan.-February and March XTAL. They are now available for cost of 40c per set of three prints, sizes 9" x 12", 9" x 15" and 7½" x 10½". There is only a limited supply so shoot your money order in to HQ, or send stamps if you prefer.

War Surplus Material

IN XTAL, for June, 1941, mention was made that it might become possible to obtain certain gear from War Assets Corporation for our members. Almost a year has rolled around now, and although the subject has not been mentioned since, your Association has been in constant touch with the situation. In fact it was with the co-operation of the Association and the Radio Tube Committee that the Tube Committee advertisements appeared in XTAL in the past. This has given both our members and VE's at large an opportunity to obtain many transmitting tubes at extremely low prices.

However, the situation was, and is not the same in regard to such equipment as complete transmitters and communication receivers. There were vast quantities of many kinds of tubes to be disposed, but very few, if any, transmitters and receivers of much interest to the amateurs, have, as yet, been released to War Assets by the services. This does not mean that there will not be.

In an editorial in the February issue of QST, the situation in regard to war surpluses in the United States is explained, and it is pointed out that stories of wild disposals of billions of dollars worth of materials are completely unfounded. The same can be said to apply to Canada as well.

The policy set by War Assets Corporation in Canada is roughly as follows:

Firstly, the material must be declared surplus by the services or industry. Federal, provincial and municipal governments, including educational bodies have first opportunity, on priority, of securing the material; the manufacturers are then given the opportunity of purchasing their own products; (a) in order to protect employment in the industry, and (b) to ensure that trade marked or named goods reach the consumer in a satisfactory condition. Then recognized jobbers and dealers may purchase, after which any remaining is offered to the public.

Your Association has always felt that it should come under the category of "essential institutions," particularly in view of the great contribution we amateurs made during the war . . . that contribution, as a result of the learning obtained from owning and operating our

own stations in the years before the war. Nevertheless, it was not as easy as that. With the policies set by the government and by War Assets Corporation, many problems arose such as personnel to handle distribution, and the finances to purchase . . . cash before delivery.

Many amateurs and amateur organizations from Halifax to Victoria have brought pressure to bear on War Assets Corporation. We all felt we had a just complaint in view of the fact that many turned over equipment to the services early in the war for training purposes. Now, upon being discharged, or out of war industry, it is impossible to replace many items.

Recently permission has been granted whereby amateur organizations in Canada may deal directly with War Assets. However, as indicated above, the difficulties of obtaining cash in advance, and having sufficient personnel for handling present a major problem, if any quantities of materials become involved.

With the co-operation of War Assets an alternative method and proposed plan is offered (if, as, and when any materials of special interest to the amateurs, are declared surplus). After consultation with the original manufacturer a price will be established which will be charged to the wholesale dealer, and at the same time a maximum price fixed which he may charge the amateur buyer. Your Association being nation-wide has offered to accept inquiries for materials wanted by any VE's. These requests will be grouped by districts and classes of material as much as possible and forwarded to War Assets. They will then inform us, and we inform you, the names of the dealers in your district who may be in a position to handle your requests.

It should be borne in mind, also, that to date the bulk of useable equipment released to War Assets has been absorbed by federal priorities, or the original manufacturer, leaving little or nothing to go to the amateurs, or the general public. This does not, of course, mean that there will not be further releases from time to time, which will not be absorbed as before.

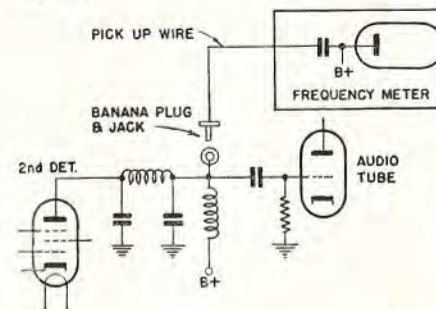
From the overall picture, we think you will agree that with the effort involved,

QSY to page 32

C W Monitoring

by J. S. Houston, VE5KJ#

The described C. W. monitoring system was in use at VE4KJ, on a T.R.F. receiver and later at 5KJ on a 5 tube double regenerative super, both of which used audio impedance in the plate of the detector (2nd detector of the super).



The electron coupled frequency meter is left running all the time that the transmitter tubes are lit. It is set to give a beat note with the transmitter carrier when the key is pressed. There is a banana plug fastened to the end of the 4 ft. F.M. pick-up wire, as shown in the illustration. This is plugged into a banana jack stand-off at the back of the receiver, which is wired to the top of the plate impedance transformer. It does not matter what frequency you are listening on, when you press the key the 1000 cycle beat note is fed into the receiver audio.

Even with a T.R.F., or regenerative receiver that blocks when the transmitter key is down, the transmitter-frequency meter beat note is there, and not objectionably loud either.

Monitoring every character sent makes for a better fist. You KNOW what it sounds like to the other fellow. Yours for better sending.

#Tyvan, Sask.

NEXT MONTH

Watch for results of "CQ CAR" Contest. This was one of the most popular all-Canadian affairs ever staged. We were disappointed at the number of participants who neglected to send in scores. They will be sorry too, when they see the prize distribution!

TRAFFIC NETS

ON page six of March XTAL we asked for suggestions and improvements on our proposal for an All-Canadian Traffic Field Organization. The fall season approaches and we should like to be prepared to put a newly established Communications Department into action. Appointment for District Communications Manager is still open for Saskatchewan. By this time ARRL nets and Trunklines will most likely be in operation once again. Cooperation with them will move traffic anywhere and most of all through Canada, a difficult thing up to this time. We urge you once again to consider these appointments as well as study in detail what this plan has to offer in the way of making an efficient nucleus for amateur communication in Canada. We urge you also to report your activities to your District Communications Manager

QSY to page 30

ATTENTION WESTERN AMATEURS

WE NOW STOCK A COMPLETE LINE OF HAM TRANSMITTING AND RECEIVING PARTS AS WELL AS ALL TYPES OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AND SOUND SYSTEMS.

WRITE VE4IO FOR YOUR AMATEUR PRICE LIST

**Electronic
Appliance Mfg. CO. LTD.**
1166 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.



DEAR OM

XTAL assumes no responsibility for statements made herein by its correspondents.

FOR THE past couple of months we have been quite taken with the idea of publishing more than our usual amount of letters to the Editor. With always an ear to the ground, XTAL is forever on the lookout for new ideas, criticism, and all the other things that go together to make up a better Association and a better XTAL. A rather obese Dear OM department this issue will familiarize our readers with what others think about things in general and thus give food for thought to our reading and writing gentry. We think it's a good idea now and again. Don't you?

* * *

Hi Oms:

Greetings from "G-land." This is pre-war 3IZ of Toronto. Received a few of your XTALs in a parcel from home the other day and they've stirred me into the long-dormant "ham" instincts once more. I'm sure glad to hear that the old game is coming to life once more, and I hope to be right in there too, before many months have passed. Right now I'm still busily engaged in "fighting" the battle of C.M.H.Q. Have had verbal QSOs with many Gs here, and many of them are active on 28 mc. (and a few buckshee on 14, I hear!). There is quite a bit of war-surplus junk on the market here, and some pretty nifty rigs could be grown out of it.

Sigmn. Porter, W. A.,
B78393,
1 Coy., C.M.H.Q. Sigs.,
Cdn. Army, England, VE3IZ.

Hello:

... When are we going to get next XTAL? I had several murmurs grumbling about not getting them ... and another thing, why is it that we don't get information concerning our frequency allocations or changes direct from

our own Government? I cite you the change from five to six meters. The boys only got that information after the Ws had been on for over a week, and from W hams at that. The same with the change in 'phone frequencies on 75 meters. It seems to me we ought to get that information direct from our own Government Department, either via VE3CAR, or notification from our own inspectors. Conditions are not always good to copy W1AW, and if you do you get information mostly about F.C.C. rulings as it affects the Ws. I have worked fellows away up in the bush country, such as VE3FL, worrying about and asking if any of us have received our new licenses yet, because he, or they, hear so many new calls they sometimes wonder if they are bootleg, hi!

Wally Hainge, VE3IB,
Box 143, Weston, Ont.

● Some XTALs of each issue do go astray. If you don't get yours drop a card and it'll be mailed pronto. Re Government band releases and changes, the Department of Transport office in Toronto, headed by Sam Ellis, always notifies XTAL immediately any changes come through, and these are published in XTAL as quickly as possible. When VE3CAR's new transmitter is completed, and 7 and 14 mc. are available, an Official Broadcast schedule is contemplated.—Editor.

Dear OMs:

... I want to express my hopes that XTAL becomes THE Ham bible for Canadians, and anything I can do to encourage other Hams and non-Hams to join C.A.R.O.A. I will.

Al Wilson, VE3AMB,
P.O. Box 80,
Scarboro Bluffs, Ont.

Dear Gents:

... A number of the local boys are quite interested in getting on "6" and "2" meters, so if anyone up there in Toronto, or other parts of Canada, are interested, please have them contact me to arrange tests.

Eric Bodley, VE3BBO,
514 Golden Ave.,
Highland Park, Ottawa, Ont.

● VE3AVW worked a WO on June 23rd. VE3KM was heard R9 in Toronto, calling "CQ DX 6 skip". Conditions for DX on "six" should be good for the next month. Please report any unusual contacts.—Editor.

Gentlemen:

Congratulations on your XTAL publication. At last, we have a medium for real expression and coordination in our Canadian amateur radio fraternity.

Our "hams" HAVE proven themselves, on the battlefield, the factory and in the laboratory. Every effort should be made to maintain their well-earned recognition. Why couldn't all the "hams" band together now and make this Association as strong a "league" as that of our southern brothers?

Your XTAL publication is to be highly commended. The articles and illustrations are interesting, clear, and up to the minute. Wishing you every success in your national drive.

J. Dohm, VE7AGY,
Rossland, B.C.

Dear Sirs:

... Have just put a wee rig on the air using the antenna coupling network described in your December issue. That article certainly saved me a lot of headaches. It works FB on 3.5. I might say a word about the rig, of interest to ex-army blokes. It is built on a mess-tin! They make an FB chassis for small lay-outs: here a 6V6 to an untuned 6L6. The ant. is all that is tuned! Works swell.

P. E. Brodribb, VE3AON,
The Hermitage,
Orillia, Ont.

Dear Gang:

... I am glad to see that on the January-February issue the "price 10c" has been left off. I figure it rates far higher than a dime per copy. From odd remarks here and there throughout the

text I gather that ye Editor is not really happy about the covers. I don't agree. The ones to date have been OK. The slight humorous twist is definitely original. I am just a little jealous of "youse guys" who are able to be on the air as of now, but I expect to be returning to the Land of Freedom within a month or so. Maybe you could squeeze in a word that I haven't forgotten old 3KP ... nor the swell job he did in getting us (3FT and I) on our way to a ham ticket. KP is a real OT and a top grade ham. Keep up the good work, and when I get home I will see what I can do to stir up a few more members and a few more \$\$\$\$\$.

Cpl. Bert Viney, VE3AZX,
R193180,
R.C.A.F., Overseas.

Dear Gang:

Received the April issue of our mag. today and must say that we would like to compliment you on the FB job ... seems bigger and better with each issue. Also a slap on the back (not too far down) for 3WX, whose contributive efforts are an added attraction. (Mental note! I must write him and pass along the dope from this end of the province.)

Fond memories were aroused by 2BN's retrospective musings ... when we were first hypnotized by the magic of radio ... 1919-20 ... stealing our mother's rolling pin on which to wind and build a slide tuner ... our first pair of Murdoch receivers ... the old UV200 ... Meyers and peanut tubes ... the old Crosley hinged plate variable condensers ... the glass plate condensers ... the flat brass weatherstrip helically wound for an O.T. ... the broom-handle spreaders for multiwire skywire and counterpoise ... the fascination of catalogues from Electro Importing Co., and Duck's of Toledo ... our first call 3QK (treat it with respect and reverence, Jon) we do not recall the prefix VE as mentioned by 2BN ... perhaps our memory does not improve with age.

As a living memory of those days we still have two large silver-plated dials (by Murdoch) on the top panel (a prominence well earned) of our transmitter cabinet today and despite their twenty some years are still as attractive as those of today. So, while we are a YS, as compared to 2BN, we do like to reminisce on our early experiences.

Good idea throwing the job of creating our own emblem at us, but you don't give some of the lads at distant points much time to give it much thought and get their ideas in. Sitting here doodling, we are enclosing a few suggestions . . . hope a great number of the boys do the same and help solve the problem. Glad to see our pre-war 'phone band restored and it sure is good to run into a number of the old 'phone gang. Have been neglecting brasspounding somewhat for which reason we hope to see some tfc nets in operation as an incentive to keeping the wrist exercised instead of the jaw.

Buck Morgan, VE3OI,
Belle River, Ont.

Dear Sirs:

I just finished reading through the April issue and I do think your article on the activities on the 80 meter band on March 31st is a bit strong. Heaven forbid that Ham adio should ever get to be a cut and dried cold-hearted BUSINESS, organized to the limit with rules and regulations. I believe the founders intended it to be an agent for the improvement of the radio art in general by application of individual enterprise and initiative, and the more laws and regulations we impose on this precious individual interest, just that much LESS will be our progress. Personally, I feel that the matter should not have been mentioned, or maybe JUST mentioned in passing in some other article; but to read such a tongue-lashing as this only lowers our faith in each other as conscientious "hams" and thus weakens the thread of mutual interest that holds us together.

T. R. Bachus, VE3AHG,
Port Rowan, Ont.

Dear Sir:

The collected comments in XTAL, QNT and RADIO NEWS, anent the so-called flagrant breach of regulations by hams who jumped the gun on 75 meters, March 31st, leaves me utterly cold. Having operated professionally for some time in the past, I personally could never consider such action, but speaking as an interested listener at that time I was very highly amused and believe that at least 75% of those who are now writing to the contrary were too. The mass jumping of the gun was no mere incident . . . it is an unobscured reaction

to the unjustifiable and totally unnecessary continuation of war-time restrictions in peace time. I have heard all the reasons and frankly think they are the bunk and for one am not afraid to say so. Every one knows the band was clear and no harm was done. I have listened to reams of praise for the hams who gave so magnificently of their hard-won technical knowledge in the last two wars and I have yet to see any concrete thanks for their very real contribution.

Stephen M. Jones, VE7XX,
2882 Lincoln Road,
Victoria, B.C.

QSLs

Dear Editor:

Would appreciate your publishing this letter in the first available issue of XTAL.

The ham bands are partially opened up again, and we are getting ready to work the ends of the earth, so perhaps a few words on how the VE3 QSL Bureau works will be of interest. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the boys for their words of praise and thanks for my work in the past and I regret that it has been impossible to answer personally all the letters I receive. I wish also to express thanks to Wally Hainge, VE3IB, who has handled hundreds of QSLs in the past for the Toronto area.

During the war there was very little doing, though a few envelopes were handled. About April 1st, a notice was enclosed in all envelopes left in the file. About 30 or 40 of these were returned undelivered. Shortly after a notice was mailed to 111 VE3s for whom I had cards but no envelopes. A number of these have also been undelivered. At the same time QSLs and envelopes for post-war QSOs have been coming in. These are being kept separate until about June 1st, when all pre-war QSLs will be removed from file and held until Jan. 1st, 1947, when unclaimed ones will be destroyed.

Now, for an account of how the work is done here. As the cards and envelopes are received they are dated and sorted as to calls. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CALL BE ON THE ENVELOPE, in order that the envelopes may be placed in the correct file. In the file there is an index card for each

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station for which cards or envelopes have been received with the QTH, or any other information, such as "send cards as received", "no SWLs wanted," etc. If the amateur resides in the Toronto area and has no envelope the cards received are sent to Wally Hainge about once a month. About once a year notices are mailed out to all hams who have cards and no envelopes in the file, even if it is only an SWL card. Sometimes I feel guilty in sending out a notice for an SWL card, but I have no way of knowing if the addressee wants it or not. My only course is to see that it is delivered and I hope those who have been disappointed in the past, and who may be in the future, will understand.

If any ham wants he can send me an envelope with such instructions as "send cards at once", "send cards once a month", etc., and I shall carry out these instructions as best I can.

The best size of envelope is one that is 4" wide by 5" to 8" long. I can supply and address these for 2c each. In this case the addressee must send me the postage as well as the price of the envelope and his call and address written plainly on a separate piece of paper. He can send me a number of 4, 3, or 2c stamps to be placed in his file to be used as required. Then, when these are used up a notice will be enclosed to this effect, in the last batch of QSLs mailed.

In closing let me say that the QSL file is right beside my receiver and any station can find out what cards are on hand by contacting me on the air. The operating times are irregular but I am on in the mornings about 7.30 to 8.15 and in the evenings 7 to 9.30. The crystals used here are 3895, 3835, 3808, 3643, 3604.5, 7059 and 7178.

Bert Knowles, VE3, QSL Manager
VE3QB

Dear OM:

Just a line to advise you that I received my Call VE7AFC today. Was on the air working a local within an hour of the ticket's arrival. As I am a shut-in, ham radio is going to mean a great deal to me. I only hope that I can, in a small way, live up to the fine tradition of amateur radio.

Bill McCarter, VE7AFC,
4684 West 8th Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Have been on the air a good many years and the following is my first complaint but think that an evening's listening on ten will convince anyone that it's time something was said, and the sentiments expressed by me are echoed by all CW men both here and in the States.

FAIR PLAY

From the days of the old spark transmitters amateur radio has been noted for the zeal displayed by the amateurs in the advancement of the art of radio. This has been reflected in the occupation of all the higher frequencies now in use as well as in numerous improvements in equipment developed as the need for it arose. The hobby takes many forms such as message handling, rag chewing, DX and experimenting with various types of equipment and antennas. Each and every one of these is part and parcel of our hobby and to obtain the greatest enjoyment for all we must have some consideration for the other fellows on the air.

Since the war we have so far been restricted to the two generally used bands 3.5 and 28 Mc., both good bands. Unfortunately some of us are so located that to work 80 meters is out of the question unless we use makeshift antennas that do little more than add to the QRM on that band. This leaves us only the ten meter band to operate in and, while generally it is erratic, it is still capable of producing some fine contacts, both DX and short skip. Unfortunately Canada and some other countries permit phone operation in the entire band and it is with this in view that the following appeal is made.

As you all know, CW stations through habit or necessity from phone QRM have, almost without exception, lodged in the 28000/28100 end and if you want to work CW you work in that part of the band or you can't get a QSO. Of late, there seems to be a movement on foot for a greater number of the Canadian fones to monopolize this section of the band with the result that CW is becoming almost impossible to work. I think the time has arrived for the fone men to examine the situation and ask themselves honestly why it is not possible to go into the higher section of the band and take the same chances with QRM that the CW man is forced to take. An-

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other point to be considered is that rag-chewing on the lower end of the band should be definitely out, as DX, while scarce, can and does pop through at all times and to finally snare a good DX station and have it ruined by a QSO that could be made by telephone or on 5 meters is not doing the hobby any good. Your regulations require that testing be done on a dummy antenna but to hear the mess some evenings leaves one with the impression that to most the meaning of "dummy antenna" is unknown. Finally modulation is limited to 100% which means a phone should not splatter over 100 k.c. the way a number of locals do.

So what say, fone hams, won't you spread out through the band and take your chances with the rest of us and use some discretion on cluttering up the air with purely local contacts. If you can't resist these, build up a low power job, go up into the high end of the band and ditch your 100 to 500 watt jobs to talk around town. Low power can and does get out you know!

Unless you will cooperate there will only be one alternative—we will have to petition to have a section of the band exclusively for CW the same as we are accorded in all other generally used bands. This can be avoided by fair play and will be far the best way of avoiding friction between fone and CW hams.

If your worthy magazine can see fit to print the above plea, it will be much appreciated by CW men, all of whom are complaining bitterly.

R. D. Carter, VE3QD,
304 Brookdale Ave.,
Toronto 12, Ont.

Gentlemen:

. . . Your little article re the un-sportsmanlike action by some of the "lids" amongst us, at the time 80 meters opened sure did hit the spit . . . the articles in XTAL are very well written and cover a field distinctly Canadian. The ADVERTISING also is definitely an asset to the paper as it does give lads like myself, living in a small town, an idea what goes on in the way of supply or equipment these troubled days.

Rolf Mathie, VE7SC,
Box 1083, Kelowna, B.C.

Dear OM:

Was wondering why I had not received any copies of XTAL. However, in the April issue I saw my call was listed in the "Lost Members" column, and then I remembered that since we last met I had married VE7EP and moved to Victoria. Yes, I was lost all right, but here I am safe and sound.

Gwen Vaughan-Smith, VE7NG,
3 Hollywood Court,
Victoria, B.C.

● Hm-m-m! We'd appreciate hearing from the other "Lost Members." See the list elsewhere in this issue.—Editor.

Dear OM's:

I will testify to VE5PK's letter as being quite accurate, he dropped a whale of a sig in here with that peanut whistle of his and we had quite a chat. Incidentally, I really enjoyed the 80 meter VE contest, but it took me several QSO's to find out what "CQ CAR" meant. Until Jon, at 3CAR, straightened me out, I thought you guys were bothered by the automobile shortage. I hope the enclosed application blank meant you accept furr-iners as members in C.A.R.O.A. If not a bona-fide membership for me, at least keep XTAL coming. I think it is fine. Any time you fellas have tfc for my neck of the woods just pass it along this way.

Jack D. Bock, W9KCY,
2249 N. 68th Street,
Wauwatosa 13, Wisc.

● C.A.R.O. has two classes of membership. Full . . . for licensed VEs, which entitles them to all privileges including voting in association affairs, and Associate . . . for non-licensed Canadians, and amateurs outside Canada.—Editor.

Editor, XTAL:

In unity there is strength; C.A.R.O.A. provides the necessary bond to weld the individual amateurs together into a solid effective block. It gives a sense of security to know that an organization is ready to speak with one voice on behalf of us all.

Joe Couvillon, VE3CQ,
Swansea, Ontario.

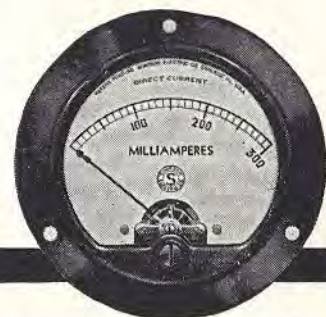
Dear Ed:

. . . keep up the good work, you are putting out a dandy magazine and, although under difficulties, would like to see the magazine every month.

G. R. Perry, VE4GP,
Box 470, The Pas, Man.

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● As was planned we are having a
combined July-August issue. This should
allow us to get back to publication dates
to start the fall. It's ten XTALS or bust
for 1946.—Editor.

Dear OM:

I have not received my copy of XTAL,
neither has 2MU. Wonder what happen-
ed? Something must have gone haywire
during the rush up there, as the "non-
paying guys" seem to receive their copies
and we don't. Please look into the above
as I would like to read the magazine.

Bill Skarstedt, VE2DR,
3821 Girourd Ave.,
Montreal 28, P.Q.

● You said it. Sorry! The "non-payers"
have had it!—Editor.

Dear OM:

Best of luck OM's . . . but hope we re-
tain some A.R.R.L. connections.

W. A. Seawright, VE3CE,
29 Park Home,
Willowdale, Ont.

Editor, XTAL:

The headline on your insert, "You've
Had It!" is just an example of what it
takes to jolt a lot of us guys into action.
I have been getting your swell mag since
December, 1945, and have been neglecting
to send in my membership dues. I'm sure
glad you decided to wake us up, as I'd
hate to do without the magazine even for
one issue. Thanks for your patience, I'm
sure it won't happen again.

Walt Ditmars, VE1DY,
Deep Brook, N.S.

Dear OM:

Who publishes a map or something
which shows all the different sections W
and VE etc., and their proper prefix?
Some of these new calls have a guy
stumped as to approx. location. So how
about you people making one up for dis-
tribution to the members. Make it big,
with plenty of colours, etc. It would sure
aid in dressing up the shack.

Tom McLaughlin, VE6QG,
11923-123rd Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

● Would a thousand or so of you like
something like this? What would you be
willing to pay for it?—Editor.

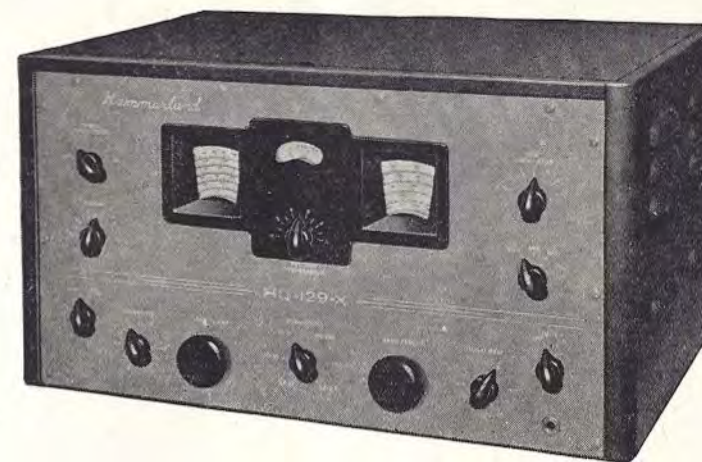
Dear OM:

. . . but will probably wind up on 80
some time this fall. Right now am QRL

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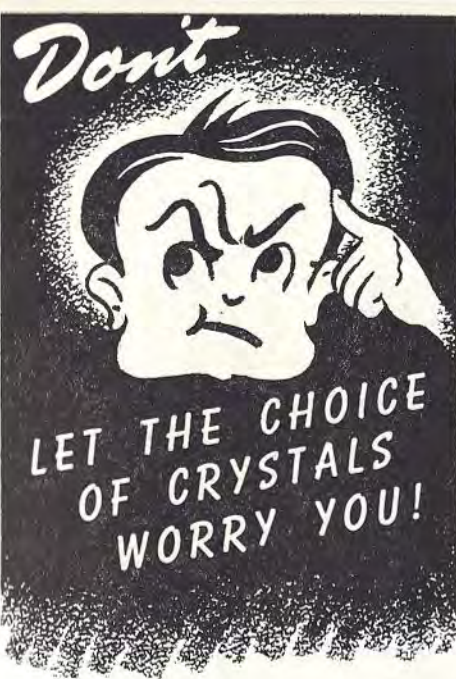
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F. T. Hodge, VE5QP,
Elstow, Sask.

● Nice going, OM.—Editor.

Dear OM:

I was especially interested to hear of your greatly increased membership which speaks volumes for the splendid work put in by you and your colleagues during the war years. Our own membership has risen from 3,500 to 11,000 since September, 1939.

The overseas subscription rate to the Radio Society of Great Britain is 12/6 and as you indicate some of your members are interested I am despatching a supply of application forms. During the war years a large number of VE's joined the Society and I am hoping that the number will increase as time goes on.

I cannot help feeling that now the war is over the C.A.R.O.A. should seek to be admitted to the I.A.R.U. as the National Society for Canada. The present arrangement may have been satisfactory before the war, but I believe that the time has come for Canada, like the other Dominions, to stand on its own two feet.

John Clarricoats, Gen'l. Sec'y.,
R.S.G.B. London, W.C. 1, Eng.

● HQ has a supply of R.S.G.B. membership applications. Send a card for one by return mail.—Editor.

Dear OM:

Here you are! If we can't get it for nothing I guess we'll have to pay for it.

E. J. Melhoff, VE5JG,
Box 195,

Swift Current, Sask.

Strathburn Frequency Monitoring Centre,
Office of the Officer-in-Charge.

Dear Ed:

Visited VE3BER at their Field Day location, Bayfield, Ont., yesterday, just to see what was "cooking" and had a very swell time. Was made most welcome by the gang who expressed regrets that I was the only "visiting fireman" which brings up the question, "What's the matter with the Hams in this neck of the woods?"

We used to have big doings at the Ottawa and Montreal district hamfests and the visiting firemen came from many miles around to join in the festivities and

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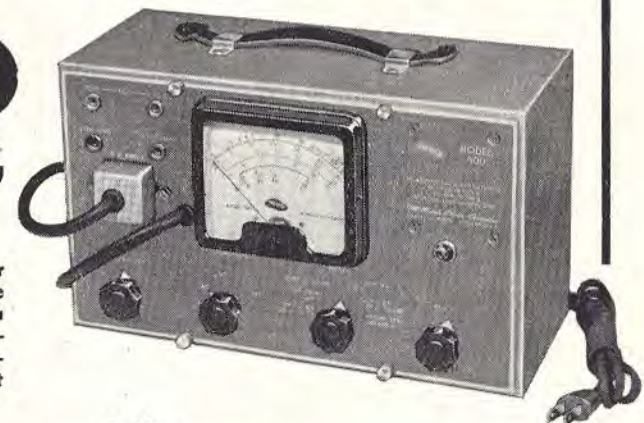
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what-not, but here was a shindig with good prior publicity in Xtal, and I the lone visitor—and on a Sunday too. A good rig, a nice bunch of fellers, swell location, private beach, swimming, an R.C.A.F. canteen and all the trimmings. 'Smatter, Ed? Don't the brethren of the itchy key care to congregate and circulate any more? Ham radio is not ham radio without its hamfests, get-togethers, visitations, criticism of the rig and what have you. I figured that after all these years of ham inactivity there would be a turn-out to the R.C.A.F. "do" which would have rated a Hollywood four-star "Super Colossal" category, but ND. Better get busy, Ed. and work up the proper spirit among the hams or, woe is me, ham radio, or the spirit thereof, has fallen on evil days.

Took a few photographs up there, which should be of interest to your readers, and am forwarding ferrotyped 5" x 7" projection prints of same, suitable for production of "cuts." You are welcome to use any or all of them, but please return them after your engraver has finished with them.

I have not yet received my April copy of Xtal and will be much obliged if you will forward same at your earliest possible convenience.

Should have mentioned that the prints are going forward under separate cover. The close-up shots of the interior of the truck are flash, and the others are by courtesy of King Sol, who did his darndest to make it a vy fb Field Day.

Thomas C. Wylie, VE3WY, O.I.C.,
Strathburn Freq. Monitoring Centre,
R.R. No. 1, Glencoe, Ont.

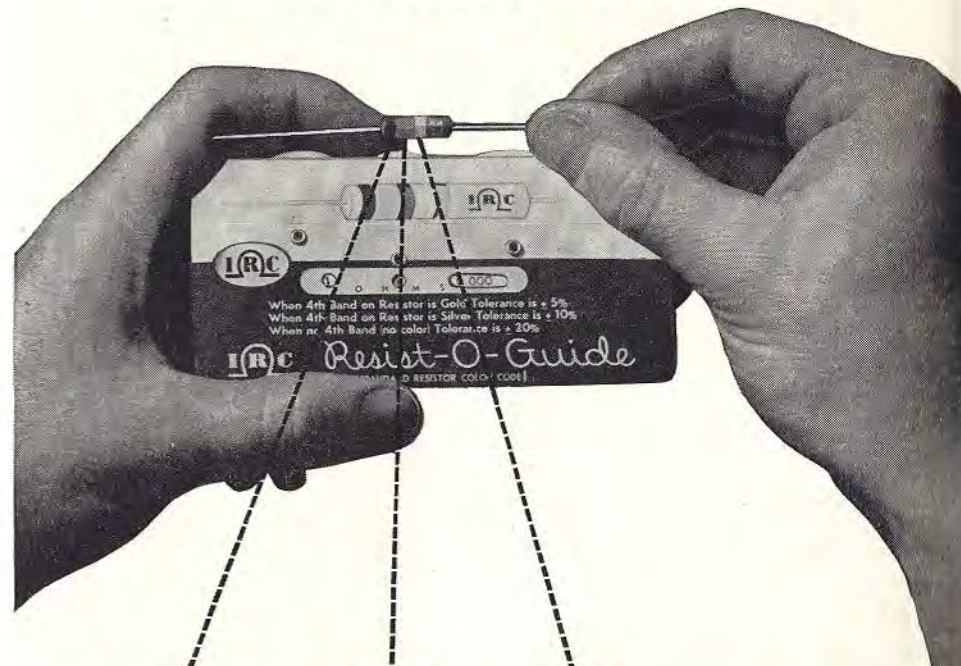
ATTENTION ALL VEs

We have been unable to deliver XTALS to those listed below because of incorrect addresses. If any of them or anyone knowing their whereabouts, will please send in the correct addresses, XTAL will be forwarded again. 2BZ, 2DP, 2EE, 2PR, 3AJD, 3AJY, 3AKG, 3ALH, 3AMB, 3AQD, 3ASU, 3BZ, 3GJ, 3JR, 3PQ, 3VA and the following old calls—4AEM, 4AFP, 4BF, 4QA, 5AAA, 5AAK, 5ADN, 5AEM, 5AHU, 5PW, G. E. Smith and Lance Holden.

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Kirkland Lake A.R. League, Ted Barker, 3ALU, 7 Baron St.

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E. S. Sticknew, 3QW, 183 King St., N., Waterloo.

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North Shore Radio Club, Whitby-Oshawa, Ted Brant, 3ADD, Box 427, Whitby.

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South Shore Wireless Ass'n, St. Lambert, P.Q., F. W. Grant, 2BI, 333 Mercille Ave., Montreal 23.
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West Side Radio Club, Toronto. Ed. Brown, 3AHV, 79 Boustead Ave.
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Winnipeg A.R.C., Jack Green, 4BQ, 186 Polson St.
Wireless Ass'n of Ont., Toronto; Art. Potts, 3MT, 33 Haddington Ave.
Yukon A.R.C., Whitehorse, Y.T., W. R. Williamson, 84K, Box 137.

CLUB SECRETARIES,

Above is a directory of VE clubs from coast-to-coast. If yours is not there, please drop the Association a line, giving your address and the names of the present officers of your club or association. If you are having a hamfest or shin-dig and want publicity, send it in to XTAL well in advance.

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in your section by the 15th of the month for publication in XTAL each month.
District Communication Managers of CAROA Communications Dept.:
Ontario—VE3WX—R. C. Hunt, 103 Garfield Ave., London.
Quebec—VE2DR—Wm. Skarstedt 3821 Girouard Ave., Montreal.
Maritimes—VE1KS—Ron. Hesler, P.O. Box 359, Sackville, N.B.
Manitoba—VE4AT—C. F. Vermander, 366 Lariviere Ave., Norwood.
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To all who have
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Amateur Call Book



Great difficulty has been experienced by our supplier in procuring paper stock and materials necessary to its publication. The first edition printing was completely absorbed by the W's leaving nary a single copy for you fellows. He advises that the coming Autumn Edition will be much more complete with foreign listings and worthwhile waiting for. Also that VE back orders for the first edition would be given attention as soon as the second (Summer) Edition is completed which should be by this reading.

FURTHER,

material and production costs have soared and typical of so many cases today they have found it necessary to increase the price of the Call Book. Of course all orders up to and including those received by June 15th will not be affected. We'll absorb the difference in these cases. However, from now on, THE RADIO AMATEURS CALL BOOK will cost, postpaid:

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we will all be better off to have the regular local dealers handle the materials and allow them a small margin of profits for their efforts in our behalf.

The list we compiled as a result of June, 1945, XTAL, is now most likely largely out of date, with many requirements being filled in some other manner since we got back on the air. However, we shall be glad to assist in any way we can, and if you still have demands, please advise, and they will be passed on to War Assets, and you in turn will be advised.

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