SKYWIRE

THE CANADIAN RADIO AMATEURS' JOURNAL

DECEMBER 1949

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

With Best Wishes

for

A Merry Christmas

and

A Happy and Prosperous New Year

THE TURNER COMPANY

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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Edited by - Fenwick Job, VE2TH

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SKYWIRE EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS ADDRESS

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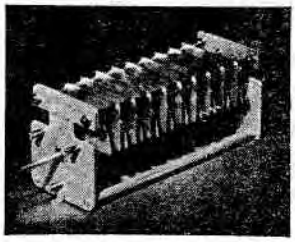
HAMMOND

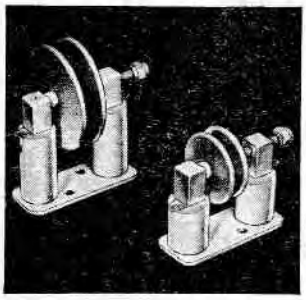
VARIABLE CONDENSERS

8000 SERIES -- For medium and low power transmitters Isolantite insulation with long leakage path. Straight line capacity type with three point panel or sub-base mounting. Available in twelve different models, solid or split stator types, with .0375'' and .080'' spacing and maximum capacities of 25 to 341 mmfd.



9000 SERIES -- For medium and high power transmitters. Alsimag 196 ceramic insulation with stator mounted above to reduce capacity to ground. Straight line capacity type with ¼'' shaft, three point panel and three point chassis mounting.

Available in twelve different models, solid or split stator type, with .080'' and .185'' spacing and maximum capacities of 28 to 510 mmfd.



NEUTRALIZING TYPE -- For modern low capacity tubes. Alsimag insulation with polished aluminum discs featuring spring loaded adjusting screw.

Two models available, both having a 7000 peak volt rating at minimum spacing and an 18,000 peak volt rating at maximum spacing. Type 8401 has 1 3/8'' diameter discs, and a capacity range of 1.9 to 4.7 mmfd. Type 8403 has 2 1/8'' diameter disc - capacity range of 2.2 to 7.8 mmfd.

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HAMMOND MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED

GUELPH, ONTARIO, CANADA

SIDEBANDS

An ever-increasing number of letters have been coming in from across this wide country of ours, asking us where we get some of our material for use in Skywire. Some of it is being written right here, of course.

But - a considerable amount of it is being purchased, on the outside, from the Canadian amateur who has taken time to drop us a line and send along a new idea, or way of doing something old. Why do we pay hard cash for this type of material ?? To lend more variety to the pages of Skywire and bring more pep and sparkle to these pages. No one person or group or city or section of this nation has a corner on all the ideas. Notice we said - material is purchased. Skywire pays for all acceptmaterial which is technical or constructional in nature, except strays and kinks. Payment is sometimes made for other types of material, but at a lower rate -- i.e. fiction and other stories.

The reason for this buying of your work is that we feel in this way we can show our substantial appreciation for the effort you have expended and the money you have had to pay for components. It thus becomes worth your while, if you have recently constructed something in which there might be a general interest among the hams, to send along the dope for possible publication.

You don't have to be a wonder at writing to have your ideas accepted. Just get the dope down on paper, make it complete and specific and we'll re-write it if this is necessary. Chances are it won't be at all.

Make your article as complete as possible. Tell the story of what you've done and it will be clear enough to the other fellows that they can duplicate what you've done. Put in everything you can think of and let us do the cutting, where needed. Payment is made per page, and the longer and more complete your article, the more you will realize on it. Send *good* photographs and diagrams. If you're a draftsman too, do a complete hob on the circuit, in some multiple of this page size, so it may be reduced photographically for reproduction. Good photographs add greatly to any story and if you can't make these yourself, in your crowd is some ham who can. Take a look at the other issues and the shots of equipment, the angles at which the photos were made, and you'll come close to what we need.

Send a complete parts list so that the other fellow will know what to buy and if he'll be able to get it in his part of the world. Include brand names with your list and you'll help the other man along.

Many ask what rates are paid by Skywire. Actually there's no hard and fast rule, but these vary according to the editorial budget, completeness and reader appeal and whether photos have been included. The usual payments are from $4.00 to $6.00 per page, as printed herein.

And now that Skywire is beginning to expand more and more with the passing months, we'd like photos of unusual radio applications

but *please* , don't send along station photos unless there is something very unusual or interesting about your set-up.

Just remember that it is up to you - Joe Doakes, and Mr. Average VE Ham to make a success, your all-Canadian Magazine - Skywire. It was said before, and it bears repeating, that the Canuck ham has just as much ability in his hobby, as anyone else in the world. But *you'll* have to do the proving of that belief and showing the rest of the world that we have what takes here, too.

In the past two months, there have been letters and articles from some parts of Canada, but other sections have been among the missing. Many of you have intended to write about some gimmick you built up, but you haven't yet gotten to it. Put it on the agenda for this week ?? *You have the ideas, all right - let us in on them, huh?????*

Now, to other things. With this December issue destined to arrive just about on Christmas Day, if the mails go through, we have changed the type face used in the magazine. Right at the moment, on proof reading and catching the errors, things aren't as pretty as they can and will be. But the story is that the new type did not arrive until later than anticipated, and learning to operate this new piece of equipment required to produce Skywire has not been exactly simple. Like a lot of machinery when first put into operation adjustments are needed to it, to get the best work, and this heap is no exception. If you'll bear with us this month and go through the pages with your tongue in your cheek, we'll do better next time. In spite of consistently finding commas where the letter E should appear and other minor transpositions which to say the least will make your reading rather novel, the situation is not entirely out of hand. We feel that the appearance of the type is such as to make your reading considerably easier and more pleasant and is therefore much to be desired.

So, in a last ditch effort, when time was at a premium, the entire issue has been done in the same type as is used by Coronet in the U.S. although they have a 15 year edge in experience on how to achieve maximum beauty therefrom.

Now, as the year ends, and another great period of hamming becomes a discarded log-book to each of us, it's time to do some thinking about what to do in 1950. There's no point in sermonizing, for it has all been said before. But you know what you *don't* like the other guy to do to you, and if you think of this when you press the switch to the big noise, the bands will be a little more pleasant to operate for us all.

A letter blew in from a Morrisburg ham which arrived too late for inclusion in in this issue, which bears on this subject of toleration. It's a nice friendly letter, without malice, and next month within these pages, perhaps it will give you something to stop for a moment and think about. We've all done it at one time and another.

To close the column for 1949, a final reminder that Skywire represents no organization or group. It's being published in *your* interest, and we kinda do hanker to hear from *you. How about it ??*

Merry Christmas to you and your family, and a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

73

Fenwick [signature]

Skywire

COMMAND POWER

by
Fenwick Job, VE2TH

It could be that this article will forever alienate all confirmed CW men but since there have been many circuits published for CW operation only it seems appropriate that there should also be something specifically for the yatata operators too.

The unit to be described end product of a lot of hard labor -- was the final design for a specific purpose, which in nearly two years of operation has done an excellent job and proved to be a more than worthwhile addition to the shack. Running at anything up to about one hundred and fifty watts input on phone and as an auxilliary and Field transmitter it has compared at all times very favorably with the so-called big rig which runs the limit.

The first thing considered was cost. If one transformer would do where two formerly might have been used, so much the better. Looking in the Hammond catalogue gave some mighty husky stuff, but nothing exactly as wanted. And so a letter was written to Fred Hammond to see if the needed units could be built. Fred said yes and shortly after this, the needed filament transformer arrived. Actually the power transformer was picked up on the surplus market, with crossed fingers that it was going to do the job. It did!!! But to duplicate the unit will require a specially wound unit for top performance. Fred may cuss me for suggesting this, but Hammond have always been wonderfully good about turning out not only exactly what you need in the shortest possible time, but also keeping the price to a very reasonable amount. This is a great service to the Canadian amateur, considering the amount of special engineering involved in such work.

For the record, the filament transformer used has special number 24,766 and has a 131 watt primary. While this may seem a lot, actually, rarely do you use the full capacity of the unit, and it thus runs along at a lot less power than that. The plate transformer should be a compromise between the Hammond 722 and 724. The reason is that you need about 425 mils available on speech peaks, and 650 volts on the final - a voltage that stays put and doesn't wobble around to any extent.

Don't get excited in view of the above current requirements about the fact that a 10 V 300 choke was used for the first section of the filter. Size was a limiting factor in its choice, but as Hammond stuff always seems good for at least a fifty percent overload without trouble, theoretically that choke was good for more than it would ever be required to handle.

That question of overload brings up one other point -- the rectifier used, or the pair of them indicated. Originally, the trick box was built with just one RK-60, but you should have seen the voltage on the final, under modulation. It went up and down like crazy, because of the overload on the single tube. So, a second

jug was hung in, parallelling the other RK-60. You know how these things are - you figure you *might* - *just might* - be able to get away with it, so you try.

Actually, provision had been made for the second tube in the filament transformer design, so it wasn't much of a job to hang the second one in there. The sockets used are the ceramic type for the old 210's and other similar bottles. There's a reason for this - they have top of chassis connections, and this means that you have a solid anchor point for the tube plate caps of the insulated type. Then, if sometime you're stuck for an RK-60, all you do is plug in a pair of 83's or 5Z3's and you're away again. That is not the best thing to do, according to tube manufacturers, because of peak voltages encountered, but every ham knows that the ratings are conservative !!!!!!!!!!!!

There's nothing unusual about the layout. The whole issue was crammed into a Cadmium plated chassis of the 12 by 17 by 3 inch Hammond variety. Cadmium was chosen because personally, the preference is for something easy to make a good solder connection on. It's tough scraping off paint and then going to it.

The photos on the opposite page will show the actual layout of parts, if it is desired to build something like the unit. Get all your parts together, including the VR tubes, and then set the works up on the top of the chassis and move the pieces around like a jig saw puzzle until all the pieces fit, and there's enough room around the tubes that need a free flow of air for ventilation. If you don't, tch tch!!!

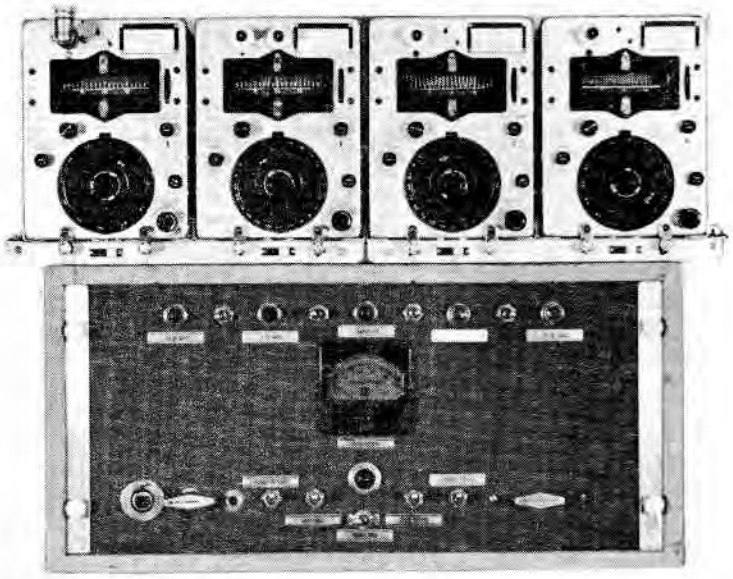
The only after thought, so, to speak in this gadget was the first speech tube. According to Hoyle (and I'd like to meet him) a carbon mike into a 6F6 was enough to drive the pants off the 815, but it didn't work out in practice, as it was too tough to get the mike voltage from the cathode circuits. So, a switch was made to the crystal mike and the 6SJ7 was fitted under the front corner of the chassis because this gave the shortest leads and avoided RF pick-up quite handily. Incidentally, T3 is a surplus transformer from the Bendix MB-28 A modulator section and the number on it is A-19,770. This had a convenient sidetone winding on which makes it possible to monitor the speech amp during transmissions, if desired. You may still be able to get this little unit from the Radio Center (see inside back cover this issue)

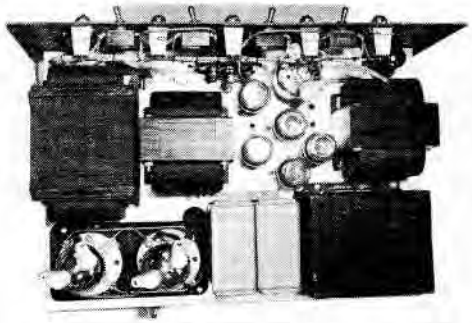
There are several other features which should be discussed, one of these - the filament by-pass switches, used to keep all four rigs at standby when using one band. The main ceramic switch was a big surplus job that many fellows bought because it looked so nice. So did I - and doped out this use for it later. It has five sections, two of which are used in parallel to ensure ample current capacity in the filament leads and the other ones switch the oscillator 210, the screen 300 and the final 665 volts (plus modulation) very nicely. Across the filament blades are wired single pole, single throw switches, so that, if you want to hop from one band to another, you turn on the filaments of the various rigs you are going to use, leaving the filaments on, and a band changing operation becomes simply a twist of the wrist on the main ceramic voltage switcher. You can move to 20 from 75 faster than you can say 20 meters.

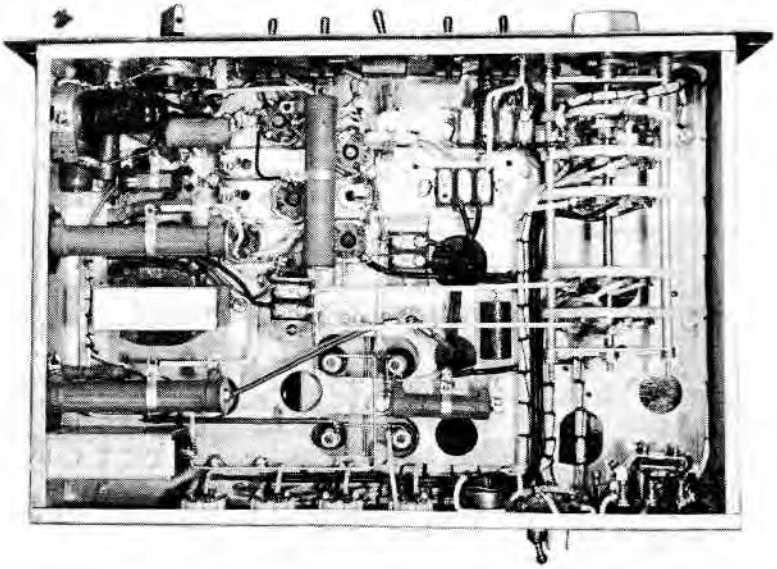
The four band set-up with instantaneous switching to any one of them by a single control. From left to right in the upper photo - 75, 20, 15 and 10 meters with an output power of close to a hundred watts. The power supply and modulator unit uses just one power and one filament transformer, plus usual filters, to develop seven totally different voltages required to operate these rigs.

By the use of filament by-pass switches across the main ceramic switching unit all transmitter filaments may be left in standby (ON) position and band-hopping at the flick of a switch becomes possible.

Below, and to the right are shown two more views of the powerhouse, with the necessary layout of parts to avoid crowding.

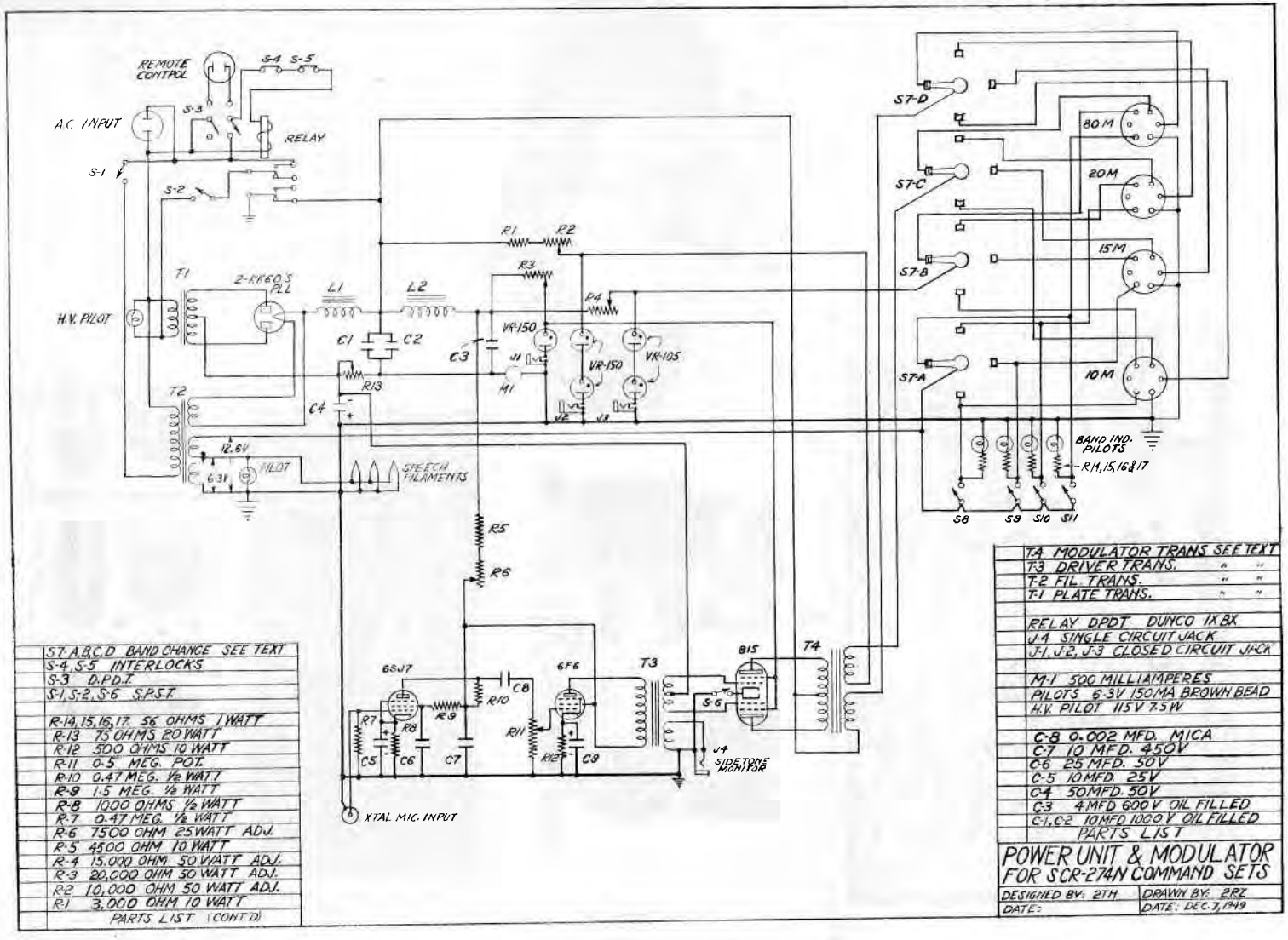






Under chassis view of unit, to the right. Note that the first speech tube had to be mounted on the underside, because of lack of space. Wiring was all done with the new plastic covered house wiring size twelve and fourteen, which is available in a variety of colors for coding the circuits. Solid wire was used in this application, but stranded will do as well.

The ceramic switch used was found on the surplus market, but standard types may be substituted in its place. Make sure the voltage rating is great enough.



S7 A,B,C,D	BAND CHANGE SEE TEXT
S-4, S-5	INTERLOCKS
S-3	D.P.D.T.
S-1, S-2, S-6	S.P.S.T.
R-14, 15, 16, 17	56 OHMS 1 WATT
R-13	75 OHMS 20 WATT
R-12	500 OHMS 10 WATT
R-11	0.5 MEG. POT.
R-10	0.47 MEG. ½ WATT
R-9	1.5 MEG. ½ WATT
R-8	1000 OHMS ½ WATT
R-7	0.47 MEG. ½ WATT
R-6	7500 OHM 25 WATT ADJ.
R-5	4500 OHM 10 WATT
R-4	15,000 OHM 50 WATT ADJ.
R-3	20,000 OHM 50 WATT ADJ.
R-2	10,000 OHM 50 WATT ADJ.
R-1	3,000 OHM 10 WATT

PARTS LIST (CONT'D)

T-4	MODULATOR TRANS SEE TEXT
T-3	DRIVER TRANS. " "
T-2	FIL. TRANS. " "
T-1	PLATE TRANS. " "
	RELAY D.P.D.T. DUNCO 1X BX
J-4	SINGLE CIRCUIT JACK
J-1, J-2, J-3	CLOSED CIRCUIT JACK
M-1	500 MILLIAMPERES
	PILOTS 6.3V 150 MA BROWN BEAD
	H.V. PILOT 115V 7.5W
C-8	0.002 MFD. MICA
C-7	10 MFD. 450V
C-6	25 MFD. 50V
C-5	10 MFD. 25V
C-4	50 MFD. 50V
C-3	4 MFD 600V OIL FILLED
C-1, C-2	10 MFD 1000V OIL FILLED

PARTS LIST

POWER UNIT & MODULATOR FOR SCR-274N COMMAND SETS

DESIGNED BY: 2TH	DRAWN BY: 2RZ
DATE:	DATE: DEC. 7, 1949

Of course, this hopping is possible if you are using different antennas for each band, but it's not hard to get one for each up these days, and an automatic switching system of relays will change them over from transmit to the receive position.

The small Dunco relay used is not entirely necessary but was an added embellishment for a specific purpose. It gave remote control of the rig from a main relay source, such as the main transmitter, if desired, and thus made possible the use of this unit as the V.F.O. etc. Actually, the main rig is designed with a high-power final on each band, with special relays switching all voltages around and rapid VFO switching was needed to make use of the speed available.

Now, for the adjustments required. If you have built the unit, and checked over the wiring to make sure that no explosion will occur when you toss the switch to the on position, plug in the tubes, and couple up a BC-696 or one of this series of transmitter and fire up the filaments with the voltage plug in the 80 meter socket and the main switch in this position and check for filament lighting. Check each band in the same way. Of course, if you have a low range AC voltmeter, lucky you, it is not necessary to check in the above outlined manner. Check operation of the filament by-pass switches by turning main switch away from the transmitter power plug in use, and flip it on. If the filaments stay lit, you're set.

To avoid a broken heart, blue language, and some dud tubes, then disconnect all transmitters from the power sockets and start to work to get the needed volts where they belong. It's always a good idea to borrow a small voltage tester for the job so you won't ruin your own. You have to get several voltages on the nose if the transmitters are going to operate in the proper manner. First of all, set the fifty watt bleeders (Clarostat used in this case, because they stand up well) as follows. R2 should, for 665 volts DC from the pack, be set at about two thirds of the way from its junction with R1, or at about 6500 ohms. R3 is set at about half way, and R4 so that there is about 8200 ohms in the circuit. In the smaller sizes the speech dropping resistor R3, and the bias resistor R13, you must set them arbitrarily and work on them until you get the voltage you need.

Now, here's the reason for the closed circuit jacks in the grounded end of all the VR circuits. It becomes a simple and safe matter to insert a 0-100 ma into the jacks J1 J2 and J3. If the proper VR tubes are in the proper sockets, you can turn on the plate voltage switch and start to adjust these bleeders for the final current you want. Before doing so, check to see that the speech tubes, including the 815 have all been removed from their sockets - they are worked on last.

Let's tackle the oscillator voltage of 210 first. The SCR-274 transmitters all use a 1626 oscillator tube, which is much the same as a 12J5, only more suited to RF work. The Handbook says that at 250 DC on the plate, 25 ma is the plate current. So, we'll assume that, at 210 DC our current will be about 21 ma too proportionately. Plug the milliameter into the jack for this circuit, switch on the power and set the current about 35 ma. This will give a current of about 15 ma through the bleeder, while the oscillator gets its share, and the VR tube will maintain its regulating action.

If anything, keep the current on the high side of 35 ma, rather than the low or there may be a tendency for the VR tubes to die out. They seem to need a ten mil current flowing to maintain any VR action. The current mentioned of 35 was obtained by adjustment of R4!!

Next adjust R2, with the milliameter moved over to J2. The 1625's at 300 on the screen will draw about 15 ma, so set R2 until the current on the meter is between 25 and 30 ma. The exact current in each case is nkt critical. And note that once these currents have been set, that a check-up with a voltmeter will show the voltages to be on the old nose.

The final adjustment is for the 815s' screen circuit for 150 volts. Since an 815 draws about 32 mils on speech peaks when used as Class AB, this is a lot tougher proposition. When you consider this 32 mil drain, plus the current for the VR tube, you debate about using a second VR-150 in parallel. But it isn't needed. Carefully set R3 until 43 ma shows on the meter, when plugged into J1. This is a slim margin for holding that screen down, because the VR tube is flickering around a little, but it does the job and yet remains within the current limitations to be passed through the VR tube, when the 815 cathode circuit is opened up.

The adjustment of R13 is done while a dummy resistive load is tied across the high voltage supply, so that a total of 335 ma is flowing from the plate supply. R13 is then moved until 15 volts negative has been obtained and the band is set in place and from this point on, is forgotten.

Someone is going to argue that under the varying current drain of modulation that the bias voltage is going to shift around too much. The voltage does move up and down a little, but at the same time not so much that this isn't a useable circuit that eliminates the need for a separate bias supply. At any rate one 815 has been in use for a long time and has yet to give up the ghost, even though the plate voltage is above the specs in all the books.

And while speaking of modulation, it might be well to mention that the mod transformer is a Hammond type 2067 and Hammond can probably tell you the best substitute for the Class B input, if you can't get the exact one mentioned.

Just checking the parts list again revealed that L1 and L2 are not indicated on it. The first choke, L1 is a Hammond 10 V 300 as mentioned earlier, and the second or L2 is a Hammond type 158.

In closing, because there are a great many of these Command transmitters in use, it is hoped that this circuit idea will be of use to some of you. One caution though -- when operating at high powered phone inputs, of about 150 watts there is a small amount of oscillator shift present when the rig is modulated. This disappears when the input is run down to between 75 and 100 watts, since at that power, oscillator loading is not as great.

If you're wondering about keying your rig we'll leave that up to you. Probably a small bias supply for the 1625 final will be needed, to hold the tubes down. If this is the case, you will note that one pin on each power plug is available for just such an addition!!!!!!!! Now, go to it -- and have fun.

ONE EASY MIKE!

by
Gene Hitchon, VE3AJS

Here's an idea for a novel mike that is in use at this shack. Checking it against more expensive types usually used by an amateur, it compares very favorably and anyone in almost any city can easily do a duplicate construction job at home.

Here in Belleville, we sell hearing aids and we often take in aids that are okay, but which have the batteries separate. So because the user wishes to have a newer type with the batteries self contained the change is made. These older types in common use have three tubes, resistors, condensers and so on, plus *a very good crystal mike in the case*.

Quite a number of these units accumulate in the shops where aids are sold and serviced just as they did here, and we like all other hearing aid dealers write them off as dead stock, although sometimes we are able to use the parts for repairs on a similar instrument.

Considering this ever growing pile, I wondered if there wasn't some use I could put them to. And then the thought hit me. How would one work as a ham mike??? Selecting one that was in perfect working order, I opened the case, removed all the resistors, condensers, and the other parts, but leaving the the mike and the supporting frame intact.

By the way, the mike is shock mounted, and responds particularly to voice frequencies. Across the terminals of the mike, I put a .0001 condenser and ran in the required length of mike cable, making it fast to the frame, using some of the soldering tie points to hold it securely. Then with a piece of tin foil, I completely shielded the inside of the case, hooking the mike up in the conventional manner.

When tried on the transmitter (I run 300 watts on 10 meters) I found that it worked better than either of the two other mikes I had, one of which was in the 25 and the other in the 35 dollar bracket. There was more gain, better voice quality, and it was easier to handle in the shack.

I promptly sold the other mikes I had and I've been using this unit now for more than six months with absolutely perfect results.

The point of this material is that every hearing aid dealer in the country must have a pile of these old units and he will be happy to part with them for a couple of bucks. And this isn't a great deal to pay for a good mike these days.

If you're stuck and don't quite know who handles hearing aids near you, I'd suggest you take a look through the yellow pages of the phone book, and you should come up with the right answer. Give it a trial, and then see how much nicer it is to be able to pin the little unit up near your chin, put your feet up on the shack table and have a real rag-chew without holding a heavy mike on a stand. That's for me!!

VE3AJS.

BIASING

by
Frank Kiss, VE6JQ, VE8NK!

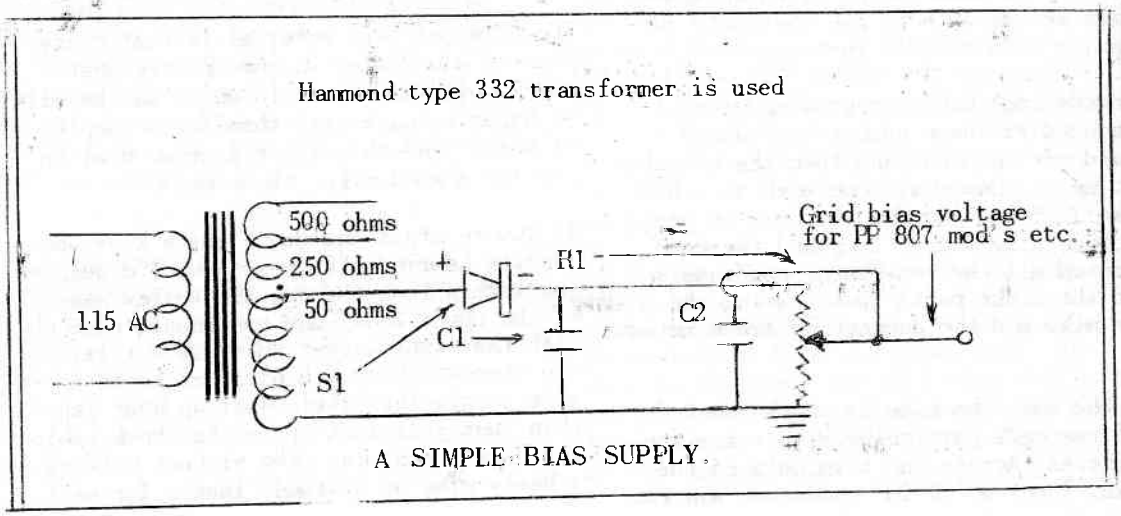
Here's something unusual in another of of those compact bias supplies that the boys seem to be most interested in today and which can be built easily from the odds and ends kicking around the shack.

As technician for a large inland water Marine Company, and designer and builder of all their equipment, I have used the circuit shown quite successfully in 4 different transmitters today, and it has not failed after months of continuous operation. All of these transmitters are equipped with 807 modulators and three of these have parallel 807's in the final. The fourth uses an 813.

The circuit shown below will operate 100 percent on such tubes and circuits that do not require more than say forty volt bias supplies, This outfit will put out 50 volts but as part of the resistance of the potentiometer is used as the filter, it is best not to, turn the slider right to the top.

There are no particular adjustments to the supply, which are required. Follow the diagram as illustrated and you'll be set. And you'll find that you get safety bias voltage you need, at an absolute minimum of cost.

For parts, you need a ten thousand ohm wire wound pot, a double 16 mfd 150 VDC filter, and a 100 ma. Selenium rectifier.



A SIMPLE BIAS SUPPLY.

VERTICAL RADIATOR

by

Johnny Powroz, VE2CL

After picking up an idea from the Royal Navy and the United States Navy equipment manuals, and giving it a real tryout, I'd like to pass it along to the boys, since it may help out some who in difficult locations like myself, have had trouble getting out well locally.

The world navies seem to use extensively on ship board, the vertical whip type of antenna. Available on the surplus market across Canada at a reasonable price has been a 34' sectional mast of the collapsible type. I believe it was a part of the more elaborate Tank Set installations. So far as I know, these masts are still available complete with base insulator and guys at a price around ten dollars.

Although theoretically the pattern is supposed to be a complete circle, the whip seems to operate with a good gain and get out well, in spite of the close proximity to tall buildings which it was felt would hamper the outgoing signal by absorption.

Located downtown where several all new steel structures have made their appearance, I found the antennas I had in use for DX work - a folded dipole and an end fed Zepp which had been giving fair reports in Europe, wouldn't let me have any local rag chews. The signal in and around town was right in the mud, and the closer the other fellow was to my location, the worse the signal became.

So, I tried the whip, after burning the midnight oil in hopes of getting a good solution to my problem. The whip was adjusted to 33½ feet, mounted on its own base insulator, guyed with clothesline to keep it up, and then fed with 72 ohm co-ax with the outer shield grounded. The antenna is parallel tuned with a B & W 20 meter JVL type coil with a 100 mmf condenser for tuning it.

Loading is quite easy to obtain and I found I could get the same results with 52 and 300 ohm lines as it had been possible with the 72 ohm material. You'll find you can get the final up to rating anywhere on twenty meters, as the whip is quite broad band apparently.

If you are stuck in a punk location, the vertical type of radiator is certainly worth a try, and it may put into some use, those surplus whips that are just picking up dust in the corner. If you are in need of any further information, write me at 1080 University Street in Montreal and I'll try to give you the right answers promptly.

DX PREDICTIONS

Prepared by C.B. McKee, Engineering Division, CBC International Service

On these pages are shown frequency predictions for amateur communications on various circuits to almost any part of the world, from most major cities here in Canada. Choose the city nearest you for your own DX use.

Figures shown indicate maximum useable frequency via F layer and thus do not consider effect of sporadic E which may enable unexpected and unpredicted distances to be covered on frequencies higher than those shown on the chart. The figures shown under the local times read direct in megacycles, indicating the amateur band which may be used.

PREDICTIONS FOR JANUARY, 1949!!

SACKVILLE TO	01	03	05	07	09	11	13	15	17	19	21	23 Hours
Europe	7	7	7	14	14	28	14	14	7	7	7	7 Mc/s
Africa	7	-	-	-	28	28	28	28	14	14	7	7
Caribbean	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	7	7	7
S. America	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	14	7
Australia	-	-	7	7	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
U.S.A. - West	14	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14
U.S.A. - Cent.	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14	14
U.S.A. South	7	7	7	7	14	14	28	28	28	14	14	7
Vancouver	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14
Watrous	7	7	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	7
Toronto	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	14	7	7
Montreal	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	14	7	3

MONTREAL TO	00	02	04	06	08	10	12	14	16	18	20	22 Hours
Europe	7	7	7	14	14	28	14	14	7	7	7	7 Mc/s
Africa	7	-	-	-	28	28	28	28	28	14	14	7
Caribbean	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	7	7	7
S. America	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	14	7
Australia	-	-	14	7	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
U.S.A. West	14	14	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14
U.S.A. Cent	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	28	28	14	14	14
U.S.A. South	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14	14
Vancouver	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14
Watrous	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	7
Toronto	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	7	7	3
Sackville	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	14	7	3

(continued on opposite page)

TORONTO TO : EST	00	02	04	06	08	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	hrs
Europe	7	7	7	7	14	28	14	14	7	7	7	7	Mc/s
Africa	7	-	-	-	28	28	28	28	28	14	14	7	
Caribbean	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	7	7	7	
S. America	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	14	7	
Australia	-	14	14	7	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	
U.S.A. West	14	14	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14	
U.S.A. Cent	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	14	14	14	14	7	
U.S.A. South	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	14	7	
Vancouver	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	
Watrous	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	7	
Montreal	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	7	7	3	
Sackville	3	3	3	3	7	14	14	14	14	14	7	7	

WATROUS TO: MST	22	00	02	04	06	08	10	12	14	16	18	20	hrs
Europe	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	14	7	7	7	7	
Africa	7	-	-	-	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	7	
Caribbean	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	7	7	
S. America	7	7	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	14	
Australia	-	7	7	7	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	
U.S.A. West	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	14	14	14	14	
U.S.A. Cent	7	7	7	3	3	14	14	14	14	14	7	7	
U.S.A. South	14	14	14	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	14	
Vancouver	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	
Toronto	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	7	
Montreal	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	7	
Sackville	7	7	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	7	

VANCOUVER TO: PST	21	23	01	03	05	07	09	11	13	15	17	19	hrs
Europe	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	14	7	7	7	7	Mc/s
Africa	7	-	-	-	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	7	
Caribbean	7	7	7	7	7	28	28	28	28	28	14	14	
S. America	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14	
Australia	14	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	-	28	28	-	
U.S.A. West	7	3	3	3	3	3	14	14	14	14	14	14	
U.S.A. Cent	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	7	
U.S.A. South	14	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	28	14	
Watrous	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	14	14	
Toronto	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	
Montreal	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	
Sackville	7	7	7	7	7	14	28	28	28	28	14	14	

We would like to hear from you DX men as to the accuracy of the above predictions each month. If you can take the time necessary to drop us a line, it would be very much appreciated by the author. Send reports to the Editor of Skywire, and they will be forwarded to McKee. !!

New Year Greetings

THE NATIONAL COMPANY,

George Magrath, SWL

C.L. Gagnebin	W1ATD	Victor Penney	W1MTS
Herman Bradley	W1BAQ	Donald Poulin	W1MXC
Lawrence Amann	W1BG	Dexter Atkinson	W1MYH
James Ciarlone	W1BHW	Martin Oxman	W1NYU
Calvin Hadlock	W1CTW	Ralph Hawkins	W1OEX
Harvey Poore	W1DKM	John Prusak	W1OFT
Seth Card	W1DRO	Austin Banks	W1ORK
Albert Porter	W1ESI	William McNamara	W1OTK
J. Francis Bartlett	W1EU	William Bartell	W1PIJ
William Osborne	W1EXR	Charles Coyle	W1PME
George R. Ringland	W1EYZ	Harry Paul	W1PMS
Don Hinds	W1FRZ	Richard Brayley	W1PRZ
Robert Murray	W1FSN	Hyman Kana	W1PSJ
Dave Smith	W1HOH	George Servente	W1PWG
John Baxter	W1HRK	Raymond Jordan	W1QIU
Vincent Messina	W1HRW	Harry Mayo	W1QFQ
Jack Ivers	W1HSV	S.W. Bateman	W1RX
Joe Rossi	W1HXY	Clark Rodiman	W1SZ
Edmund Harrington	W1JEL	William S. Doyle	W1TV
Alfred Zerega	W1JMK	Edward Braddock	W3BAY
Robert Williams	W1JOX	Arthur H. Lynch	W4DKJ
Frank Lopez	W1KPB	Raymond Lewis	W4JUU
William Martin	W1KUB	M.B. Patterson	W5CI
Richard Gentry	W1LEN	Ralph Hemeom	W6CYJ
John Stanley	W1LFF	Herb Becker	W6QD
Leo Green	W1LML	W. Clif McLoud	WØAZT
Francis Waden	W1LNV	Clyde Schryver	WØRPE
Richard Thurston	W1MFZ		

Xmas Greetings

FROM THE BOYS AT *Marconi*

Rupert K. Grant, 2QQ

2ET	JACK	Kingan
2ACU	RALPH	Letts
2RS	BOB	Foreman
2AEF	FRED	Hasell
2GK	BILL	Stygall
2OG	BOB	De Clercq
2EQ	TOM	MacGregor
2LR	BILL	Kokoskin
2AR	AL	Marshall
2RJ	JOE	Bowman
2CK	HAL	Houghton
2TY	FRED	Looker
2UK	JIM	Hastie
2AHF	JERRY	Locke
2WD	BILL	Duncan
2BQ	ERNIE	Stevens
2HT	JOHN	Nadon
2CR	HARRY	MacLellan
2AFF	HARRY	Liteplo
2KT	JOHNNIE	Brisbois
2WR	KEN	Wilmot
2XO	DICK	Bird
2LO	JOHN	Holland
2AGG	JOHN	Book
2RX	MICK	Morden
4CK	CHUCK	Tremblay
3ARF	BOB	Parsons
3US	JIM	Darbyshire
1AF	SAM	Sellars
1AC	ALF	Eavis
2HJ	ART	Wilkins
2GJ	FRED	Williams
2MN	HAROLD	Turner
2ED	CHARLES	Baker
2AEG	SID	Allen
7FF	GERRY	Nelson
7ACH	ALEC	Young

DX NEWS

There's plenty going on in the DX world this coming month of January, but before the details are we'd like to acknowledge a newsy bit of writing from Ray Sisson, VE3AEB who seems to have been working more than a little of the best. Thanks for all the QTH's, Ray, and keep those reports coming in each month. Rays list will be found at the end of this DX column.

Now, here are all the details on the BERU DX affair, as promised last month in these pages. The date of the BERU contest has been moved up for the first time, to the latter half of January, in 1950. This has been done, partly to permit effective use of those bands which, later in the year might be of little value for world wide communications, and partly to avoid clashing with other DX contests which are of an international nature.

There will be two periods of 24 hours each for the Telegraphy Contest, spread over two week-ends, and a separate 24 hour phone contest. Each of these contests will be divided into Senior(with maximum input 150 watts) and Junior(25 watt maximum) and both running concurrently. In addition, there will be a receiving contests section, to be held during the the phone week-end. This is the first time that such a contest not requiring a knowledge of Morse Code has been organized by the R.S.G.B. and it is hoped that a large number of SWL's will enter. A trophy or miniature cup will be awarded to the fully paid up member of R.S.G.B., scoring the highest number of points in each section. Certificates of merit will be awarded to the first three stations in each section, and also to the leading station in each prefix zone provided at least three entries have been received from the zone in question. A second certificate will be awarded for each zone from which ten or more entries have been received. A warning that the prefix zone chart requires studying as the prefix zones are now slightly regrouped. Entrants should take particular care to ensure that the entry is made *within eight days of the conclusion of the contest, complete with declaration and zone analysis sheet.*

Logs will be acknowledged on receipt and non-competitors are invited to submit check logs no matter how small. Any reports of off-frequency operation, or over-modulation, bad tone or other unethical procedure may result in disqualifications.

RULES FOR TRANSMITTING CONTEST

There are four sections to the contest -- Jr. and Sr. telegraphy and Jr. and Sr. telephony, as explained previously. The contest periods will be as follows. For C.W. periods - from 1700 hours GMT January 14th, 1950, to 1700 GMT on January 15th, and from 1700 GMT January with to 1700 GMT on January 29th. For phone, it's from 1700 GMT on January 21st to 1799 GMT on January 22nd. Those eligible are any British subjects in Canada who are members of A.R.R.L., C.A.R.O.A., M.A.R.C. or the Newfoundland A.R.C. Entrants who are not members of R.S.G.B. must certify that they are fully paid up members of their local society at the time of the contest. Contacts with ships and other unlicensed stations where licenses are normally available, will not count for points. Only the entrant will be permitted to operate during the contest periods.

Entrants must provide their own logs which together with the analysis sheet and declaration must be clearly typed or written. All entries must be postmarked within 8 days of the close of the contest or Jan. 30 for fone, and Feb. 6 for CW. Mail them to the RSGB Contests Committee, New Ruskin House, Little Russell St, London WC1. And no entries will be accepted after May 8th 1950. Judging will be done by Committee whose decision will be final. Operation is restricted to the following bands - 3, 5, 7, 14 and 28 mcs, which thus excludes 1.8, 21, 27 mcs, and all frequencies above 30 mcs. The CW contest is open for A1 transmission only and consistent reports of less than T8 will disqualify entrants.

Fifteen points will be scored for the first contact on a specific band, with a British Empire station located in a prefix zone outside your own. 14 will be scored for the 2nd contact on the same band, with the same zone, and so on down to the 15th contact which will score one point. Thereafter all contacts with that zone will score single points. This scoring procedure will be repeated on each band to encourage operation on as many as possible. Serial numbers must be exchanged and acknowledged for points to count. This serial number of 5 or 6 figures is made up of the RS or RST report, plus three figure groups of any numbers between 000 and 400 starting with say 187 for the 1st 188 for the 2nd and so on. Only one contact with a specific station may be made on each band during the contest.

And when the DX has all been worked, with the score all added up, you make out a declaration to send with the log which certifies that your station was operated in accordance with the rules and *spirit* of this contest, and you do agree to abide by the decision of the contest committee in the event of any disputes which may arise. If you aren't a member of RSGB, you must certify you are a fully paid up member of such and such a group, eligible for entry into the contest.

Logs should be set out in seven columns which are as follows: Column 1, the day of operation, 2 GMT and station heard 3, band used in Mcs. 4, call of station worked, 5, serial number sent, 6 serial number received and finally in column 7 the points claimed.

There's going to lots of good stuff on the bands - and if you're lucky, you'll have a worthwhile addition to the total countries worked. This contest is excellent because VE is a DX call, and by keeping your ears open, you can't very well miss. Now go to it, and have yourself a ball. And don't forget to write a note to Skywire, letting us know what you were able to snag. If writing comes hard stick a sheet of carbon paper on the underside of the log and send us the copy. WE'd like to know what you've hit.

Now for those DX QTH's from Ray, 3AEB! These are all choice numbers Ray has worked within the last month. How about your reports????????

ZS3O - Wm. Banfield, Post Office, Otjewarongo, South West Africa.
ZS9F - J.C. Warren, Box r, Victoria Falls, Southern Rhodesia.
EK8RW - Roy Winterbottom, c/o B.C.A. Tangiers, Africa.
CQ5NK - Box 271, Leopoldville, Belgian Congo.
FA3GZ - Maurice Jacquot, 76 Rue Le-Febure Alger, Algerie.
FF8FP - John J Faraci, c/p Pan American Airways, BP 583, Dakar, F.W.A.
HH2W - Herb Widmaier, Box A-117, Petionville, Haiti, W.I.

COUNTRYWIDE

Let's hear first this month from the VE6's around Calgary. Our reporter is Dot Ciccone, 6DF.

The annual banquet of the Calgary Amateur Radio Association was held Dec. 3, with about 125 guests present. Guest of Honor was MLA, Mrs. R. Wilkinson. The evening started well with a turkey dinner, and this coupled with a large bunch of balloons and Christmas trees, put the gang in a festive mood. The usual procedure of retiring the old Executive and installing the new, was carried out. And Neil Burtch, 6MY is again President. Ken Gush, 6JK is VP. Bob Lamb, 6RL is the Activities Manager. Dinner speeches were brief and a short summary by Neil Burtch gave a synopsis of the clubs work this past year. The club sponsored code class has added three xyl's to the licensed amateur lists - Dorothy Sargenia, 6OM, Molly Burtch, 6OS and Pinky Fleming, 6PF. George Sargenia, 6AO brought honor to the club during '49 by getting his DXCC and also by winning the DX CW contest. The large attendance of the Calgary hams at the Edmonton Fest was also mentioned and the rest of the evening was spent in dancing and rag-chewing. VE6DF.

From 5YF, Madolyn Sinclair, Saskatoon.

The October meeting of the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club was at the U. of S. when the Campus Club arranged a very interesting talk on radar. Floyd Vawter, the guest speaker was introd by Mervin Falk, Prexy of the Campus Club. Vawters subject was well presented, and greatly enjoyed by the members and visitors who were present. 5DR, President of the SARC welcomed out of towners, 5PA and xyl and 5VB all of Prince Albert, and 5HJ of Shellbrook. Come again gang. And - the Saskatoon gang are causing a lot of QRM these days with AJ and GG on all bands CW. GB accidentally got into the CQ contest and worked all W districts at the rate of one every four minutes. MQ and UC are both settled in new qth's and back on air. JF is working on 4 el beam from new Handbook formula. EW is QRL. FY is looking for Asia when he can get the rig away from YF. He's building new outfit at office in self-defense. FD tried low power - low success. He's back on 10 and 20 with old rig - hi. DR and EE are active fone net members, working all the bands. MC has new 10m beam but is also working 75 fone. RC is back at the old grind at the U. of S after VE4 work all summer. Welcome home Al. MV on 40 is busy studying and building. KQ deserting 20 cw and building 75 fone job. GR is still building and straightening out his ideas with local qrm - FY. DG pushing watts on 20 brass and mike. CJ still on 10. MJ new call, getting rig built up now. RJ and FL work 10 and 11. 73 for now gang and a very Merry Christmas with lots of DX for '50.

Ontario news, courtesy of Al Golding of Picton, and The Quinte QRM news.

Roy White, 3BUX, Prexy and ex3DI recently got his Old Timers Cert. from the ARRL. Roy was commercial op. 1st Cl. BUV worked first 10m DX. Chas hand was shaking so much making out card, he had spoiled 3 before postie could read it. AOP had beam raising bee. One guy needs new pants and another is studying plumbing. Glad to see ADJ back from the West coast. BCV and Harry McConnell are having TVI trouble between them. When Al is on 10, Harry has no TV pix. Take turns??

RR has a full head of steam on 10 now, so look to your laurels, boys. AAS has moved to new Foxboro highway and has been talking about going 160 for DX. Where has YP gone to ?? - not seen at meetings now. EHK having trouble with his 10 rig, says it sounds lousy. Hmm. BLY, back in town for weekend snagged some good DX. Someone let us know how ASD made out in SS contest. He was to do so, and hasn't yet. BLP has license but no rig on air. Get your feet wet, Jack. Did RW actually get some DX on his Diathermy machine ?? ABG busy on TV much of the time, hasn't been feeling well recently. Hope it's soon!! BGB got specs on the club auctioned 12" CRT, and we hear it is resting in state on the city dump. An aside to Goldy - hope to see you at the next meeting and try to bring John Head. Where is all the Campbellford mob ? Was it AMF's cold ? HL seems to be spending his time on a new vertical. Come out to club, every one, huh ??????????

From Monty Montgomery, 2KG has come a report on the Montreal area gang. Once more, the closing month of the year. And another request for more data on what is going on around town and in the suburbs. What about the news ?? For the last time in 49, let's look around the bands. MX thinks he has biggest mod xformer. 8 x 8 x 12 and 60 lbs - any bigger boys ? PD back on with 20m 8JK beam in use. WF finishing addition to home. Rebuilt house, and front end of his double conv. rec. with 100 kc IF's. IE is revamping speech amp, cutting the lows and highs. NA on nbfm on 11 is having fun. ACM out at Valois on 10 has a real pile of gear, including HRO and 3 el beam. AJA, former G ham is in St. Lambert, poking out loads of soup. SG working 80 CW for change finds band quite congested, Bill also uses mobile on 10 meters with Gonset converter. MG now has his own 75 meter antenna after long time sharing one with SA. AEL also got around to a new skywire (no pun intended) AEJ in Verdun working on nbfm, and using RF 27 unit for converter. KE on 10 fone was overheard working W3, and with short skip many W2's and W3's were being heard here. 1AA on his way to Ottawa, dropped in for day on 2ZF. AAU is now getting out on FM with four dipole antennas - 2 for each of 10 and 20. x8PH has now been given a first district call for working kut of Yarmouth. Bobs rig at Nottingham Island will be used by 8NG. AEL and WY got nice surprise the other night when they heard VQ4RF calling CQ on 10 at 11 p.m. Funny thing was a W4 was coming in on short skip. MK says working G's, on the high end of 10 is good fun. RC is working mobile on 50 mc and is also busy with Super Modulation. AQ is still working on his 50 mc unit. CT on 6 worked W4's for several nights, getting a big kick out of it. AJB did the same thing and got some nice 6 meter contacts. TR down in Cap De Maddline is going big noise with 4-125's. And that's all for this time gang, so until next month, and on behalf of the xyl and myself, may I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and a Prosperous New Year. 73. Monty KG

Here's a closing note for the column this month.

!!!!!!!!!!!!

So far, we have reports from most Canadian call areas, but we'd like to have more, and from ALL of them. How about what cooks in the first, fourth, seventh and eighth call areas, and in Newfoundland as well ???? Space will be made available in Skywire as much as needed monthly to print these reports, so if you'd like to keep the gang informed, get the club secretary or some other member to shoot along the information. Read it first in Skywire -- Editor.

LADIES PRESENT

A column for the xyl and yl and for an OM too who likes to know what other than ham radio is ha pening in the electronic world

A radar cooked sandwich is the latest thing in the serve yourself coin machine industry These machines serve freshly cooked roast beef frankfurters and hamburger sandwiches and they have been installed in a number of places in theUS with more to be installed as soon as off the production line The new machine was the talk of a recent Atlantic City convention and it was announced that this sandwich machine is the forerunner of other coin devices which will make it possible to have a complete meal without talking to a waiter or waitress The way the gadget functions is this The sandwich meat is pre cooked and immediately frozen The frozen meat is placed in a refrigerated section of the machine In another is placed the fresh bread And as soon as a customer drops a coin the selected meat is held briefly between a pair of radar tubes Radar energy then brings the meat back to its original condition cooked and it is then automatically slipped into the two slices of bread and delivered to you the buyer

Speaking of short wave radio doing a job other than in communications reminds us that short waves are also used in making the basis of nitrate fertilizers and a few other chemicals out of the air and other gas mixtures

Officials of a radio station in the town of McCalester Oklahoma say that a one hour Sunday night program of fiddle and guitar music is their most popular show It s called Prisoners On Parade and is unusual for one big reason The show is written, produced and directed by an all-prisoner staff and it comes by remote pickup from within the high white walls of the State Penitentiary The civilian supervisor is the only person connected with the show who isn t doing time The warden says that the men are being rehabilitated through their music

For instance the thirty one year old master of ceremonies Jim Easley is serving a life term for murder But a state pardon and parole board is considering his case this month and Easley is planning his own band if released The other members of the band are in the penitentiary for charges ranging from burglary to forgery By the way the Outlaws as they call themselves once played some tunes written by State Governor Roy Turner and Turner to even things up a litle did the singing

You may have read about Mississipp s broadcastin convict who is now off the air Frank Moody 28 used three small radio transmitters to promote clandestinely his efforts to gain legal freedom Those transmitters have now been dismantled and stored in the prison safe The Warden said that Moody has been deprived of his trusty privileges and has been transferred to a work camp about 8 miles from prison headquarters Moody is serving a 50 year term which mushroomed from a seven year sentence in 1939 for armed robbery Penalty for two escapes

(continued on page 29)

TRAFFIC LIGHTS

by

Bert Altherr, VE2GM

The new A.R.R.L. National Traffic System which went into operation on Oct-3rd is already proving to be a great improvement over previous traffic nets in that it combines these into one big system. Any net, phone or CW can now become a part of this great team, and in fact most of them have already come in as complete nets, or have been modified or joined with others to become an integral part of the N.T.S. which covers the whole continent. Its route runs North-South and East-West. Its organization is divided into three parts which are, in order of importance, *Section Nets, Regional Nets and Area Nets*. The *Section Nets* are the most important because it is at this level that traffic is fed into the system and also delivery of traffic is effected. The rest of the system is there to move traffic from any one Section net, to any other, no matter how close or far apart these Section Nets may be. Every Province in Canada now should have one or more Section Net. The coverage of the NTS is available to them, regardless of affiliation, and through the Region Net nearest them. In a few words, The Section Nets feed traffic to Region Nets, Region Nets feed either Section or Area nets; Area nets feed either other Region Nets, or other Area nets. Then in reverse, the traffic moves from Area to Region to section nets for delivery. A detailed mimeographed explanation of the NTS is available for the asking. Join the team and serve your community. Emergency preparedness is a must in every community where amateurs exist. There should be an Emergency Co-Ordinator in these places, and every amateur who realizes the importance of emergency service should be a member of the Amateur Emergency Corps. Organized emergency nets have without exception given valuable service in times of need. Be ready for the unexpected!!!

When storms and floods strike disrupting commercial communications facilities, it is the amateur who steps in and serves the vital needs of isolated communities. One large communications company in Eastern Canada has recognized this and is now attempting to place recourse to the amateur facilities on an organized basis. They have instructed their operating forces throughout their territory to become acquainted with the amateurs in their locality and in the event of disaster when normal facilities become disrupted, to contact the local amateurs for assistance. We should, on our part, stimulate this recognition of our value to the community by taking the initiative and advising these local utilities, such as power, telegraph and telephone that our services are at their disposal in time of need. See that those who are responsible for restoring commercial plants to working condition, know we are ready - and where and how to reach us. The extent to which we can be of service will of course, depend on the state of organization of our emergency nets, and our dependence on commercial or emergency power sources.

Here is an item sent in by VE2ZF, which took place on November 29th, 1949. A bit

of amateur service which should not pass unheralded took place this morning kn 14 mcs. VE8MJ, George Anderson of Lake Harbour, Baffin Island - the proud Daddy of a brand new baby girl, required medical advice for treatment of a minor ailment which was giving the baby some trouble. Alex Snider VE3PA took time out from work, and arranged with a Dr. Thompson to be at the rig at 3.30 that afternoon. Result- George checked with the Doctor by 14 mc. phone, as did the nurse at Lake Harbour, with direct benefit to little Miss Anderson. Here, as is often the case, amateur radio, plus the kindness of Dr. Thompson of Kirkland Lake, Ontario, enabled Georgi to obtain the badly needed information in minutes, which would have taken days or weeks by other means of communication from the North. Hats off to VE3PA for some nice work. Oh, yes, at latest reports, Mrs. Anderson, Baby and Dad are doing fine, thank yku.

Another example of urgent medical advice obtained via amateur radio came up in traffic on November 26th. A ham network, hastiuly improvised by three Eastern U.S. boys rea dily relayed a Minneapolis doctors diagnosis to a Munich Germany hospital where a soldiers child was critically ill. W1CNK, Don Sleeper overheard the c all for help from Germany in a message which said that Army doctors urgently needed the advice of Dr. H.D. Good stateside who had treated the youngster for an illness just before she had left to join her GI daddy- Sleeper got W1LAZ to maintain contact with the Army station and then tried for Minneapolis himself. Within an hour, Sleeper got the info needed, through WPSJX and then passed it back across the Atlantic. That's a fast service, and an inspiration to all hams who are even remotely interested in traffic work.

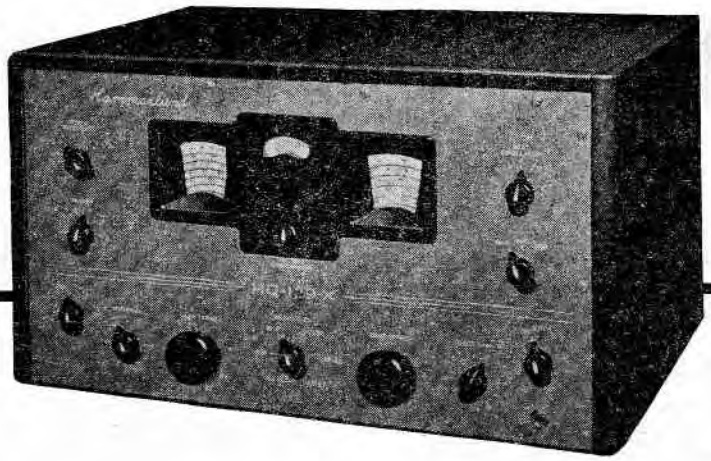
In a letter from Art Morlet, VE4AM, and Manager of Trunk Line I, an appeal for support from Canadian amateurs is made to assure the continuance of this all-Canadian Trunk line. It is the only trans-Canada net for traffic in existence, but unless more stations join it it is doomed to collapse. Trunk Line I has been in operation for over twenty years, and in that time has given yeoman service by passing thousands of messages. Because of its record, every attempt should be made to keep it going as an Express and Emergency route across Canada. VE1, VE2 and VE3 stations are especially required to close the long gap from Winnipeg to Halifax and St. Johns Newfoundland. Those interested can get all the dope from their SCM or RM, or you are invited t c write direct to Art Morley 4AM, 26 Lennox Ave., St. Vital, Manitoba.

There's something else to talk about this month in traffic, since the best wmnter period for ham activity still lies ahead. And that is, what to do in the event of an emergency when you are unable to get a direct route out of your town for yaur traffic.

There are traffic nets operating regularly, night after night, from coast to coast, and covermng the entire continent like a blanket. If you're in need of moving some emergency messages from your immediate area, perhaps the fastest method would be to call in to your Provincial Section Net on NTS and you'll get it out easily. Contacts are available through the Section Net to almost any point and it would be a very wise thing to keep posted in your shack the name, call and operating frequency and times of d eration of some member of the group. And you might also jot down the phkne number, in case yau are unable to contact him on the bands. A

We're interested in knowing what YOU are doing in traffic, so drop us a line in the near future. Let's build up the old traffic nets again and get rolling for the winter.

Skywire



Need we tell you . . .

what you see above?

However, did you notice in October QST how many of the "High Scorers" in the 1949 DX Contest used this receiver.

We are proud to remind you that HQ-129-X receivers are being completely manufactured in Canada.

Besides the HQ-129-X's superb ability to perform, it is now VE-made for VE's . . . Ask the VE nearest you, who has one, to let you hear it. Then you'll want to see your nearest Hammarlund distributor.

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HOW'S UR OBS IQ?

A.R.R.L. OBS

The following Official Bulletins are reprinted for your convenience. Keep right up to date by listening for the OBS in your own neighborhood.

Official Bulletin 216, November 16,49 ARRL now offers a new W1AW service. Following regular Bulletin periods, the latest information on predicted ionospheric disturbances will be given furnished by the Central Radio Labs. This forecast should be of value to all amateurs. It will help the operator on our lower frequencies to arrange his schedules for maximum effectiveness. DX men will be warned when long distance propagation is poor and VHF men will be able to anticipate DX chances associated with disturbed periods. This service is offered on a test basis. If you like it, write ARRL including ideas for improvement.

Official Bulletin 217, November 17,49 This bulletin is exclusively American in interest, dealing with proposed FCC rule changing, applying to U.S. hams. For further details, read QST....

Official Bulletin 218, November 28,49. In Canada , for General Manager of the VE ARRL Section in the recent voting--Alexander Reid, VE2BE was re-elected as CGM, and William W. Butchart, VE6LQ became the Alternate. All new director and alternate officers take office on January 1,1950. Congratulations, boys..

Official Bulletin 219, December 5,49. ARRL announces a 10 meter WAS contest to be held January 7, 8, and 14, 15. all amateurs in the Leagues Field organization are invited to take part. Phone, CW or both may be used. A certificate award will be given to the leading entrant in each ARRL section. Complete rules will appear in January QST. Send a postal or radiogram to ARRL Headquarters giving call of the station from which you copied this message and you will receive gratis convenient reporting forms for the WAS contest.

If you don't know the scheduled times and frequencies of the nearest OBS to you, such information may be obtained from your SCM. Get the news while it is still news, by listening for these Official Bulletins locally.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club is in high gear for the winter season, and we'd like to thank Mrs. Madolyn Sinclair, 5YF, for her report on Sask. activities. Her story appears on page 20, this issue. We note that the meeting place for the club seems to be the University of Saskatchewan, but have you a definite date or night each month for that meeting ?? How about some more data soon, Mad ????

Nice letter from 6DF, Dot Ciccone (seems the girls are always the secretaries) whose report on the doings of the Calgary gang also appears on page 20 of this issue. That December 3rd banquet of C.A.R.A. with 125 present sounds like a great time. Let's have the info on your regular meeting time and place for inclusion in this column.

The Quinte QRM blew in (publication of the Quinte ham clan) and an interesting account of activities in that section of VE3 land. You'll find more detail on page 20/21 also. Their December 7th meeting featured Stewart Warner Engineer, Neville Martin, speaking on applications of VHF. There were lucky door prizes, the best of which was a brand new receiver. Bet the meeting was jammed. Who won ??????

The Collingwood Amateur Radio Club of Vancouver sent a note to say the club meets at eight p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 5755 McKinnon St. and that there always a good program. Vancouver hams not already members are very cordially invited to drop in for the evenings mentioned. We'll be looking for that monthly report you've promised. And thanks, ABP for the additional note. You'll be hearing from us.

The next meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club will be in the Breadner Room of the Canadian Legion Building, Monday, January 30th. Please note this change of day of the week, necessitated by the fact that the room was booked for any other date desired. Scratch a circle around the nearest calendar boys on Monday, the 30th. As we go to press, the M.A.R.C. year-end meeting is just coming up, and like the Quinte group, there are to be several major and expensive prizes drawn for.

The L.C.A.R.C. Bulletin rolled in, all dressed up with a smart and colorful new cover, and with a lot of data on the VE1 area activities. How about some of you club secretaries jotting a few lines up this way, from all the towns and cities ?

Just a year-end reminder that every club in Canada is invited to use the pages of Skywire to publicize club meetings and activities without any charge. If your members are all receiving Skywire monthly, you might avoid the cost of a club bulletin!

HAMADS

Skywire Hamads must pertain to amateur radio. Rates are 20¢ per word, per insertion, for commercial advertisements for profit, 4¢ per word for non-commercial, non-profit ads by licensed radio amateurs, or experimenters. Full remittance must accompany copy. Print plainly; count address in ad. Do NOT send personal checks unless exchange is included. Send ads to address on contents page.

For sale - U.S. Army Signal Corps transmitter, BC-458A, tunes 5.3 to 7.0 mcs, and modulator, BC-456E, 10 dollars. Hammond Universal cabinet, 14 inches tall, two steel 14 inch panels, all new - 10 dollars. E. Beerling, 312-32nd Street West, Saskatoon, Sask.

Electro-Voice Cardax microphone like new condition. Guaranteed by the manufacturer for life - 20 dollars. Ron Hesler, VE1KS, Sackville, N.B.

MC-2-40-D Receiver with matching speaker, covering all bands, 490 kc to 30 mc., slightly used, perfect condition. 260.00 dollars. Write Box 100, Skywire.

Surplus Army No. 19 Set, Mark IV, complete with 12 volt storage battery, spare tubes etc. . . 35.00. . 305 - 55th Ave., Lachine, Que. - Zone 8-629.

Two Dynamotors - Both 6 volt input, delivering respectively 525 volts at 100 ma. and 250 volts at 90 ma. Made by Pioneer, slightly used, but in excellent condition. These two units will power almost any type of portable-mobile rig. What offers for the pair or singly. Write, VE2TH, Skywire, 284 Guilbault, Longueuil, PQ.

Get maximum circulation for minimum cost. Use Skywire Hamads to sell your unwanted radio equipment. A 25 word advertisement costing one dollar reaches almost half of all the Canadian amateurs -- brings results for you - and cash for your rig.

during his first four years ran the total to the half century mark.

There's never a dull moment for New York City's finest. Not long ago, two radio patrolment, went on a merry chase after a squirrel on 42nd Street, West of Times Square. The little animal had emerged from his nest on the top of a big electric sign and was romping up and down on the thing, over the entrance to a restaurant. The cops set a ladder against the sign and one climbed toward the squirrel nest. Just as the policeman got to the top of the sign, the squirrel made a big flying leap to the sidewalk and disappeared in the traffic.

Now you can disconnect the refrigerator and take it along with you on your auto vacation. That is, if you are equipped with one of the new portable suitcase refrigerators. The idea has been developed by Bob Ganger, a novelty shop man. The suitcase measures 22 by14 inches and it operates on alternating current. You disconnect the unit just before you leave and put it in the trunk, where its high powered insulation keeps the interior cold for hours. Ganger is now working on a power converter so the refrigerator can be attached to the car battery and so kept in operation during the trip. The tiny frig has two trays for ice cubes and one storage shelf. The aluminum outside is finished in a snowy white metallic paint, and the U.S. price is one hundred and thirty dollars. Want one ?

The first delayed reaction to atomic bombs reportedly have turned up among survivors of the blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. Doctor D. Cogan of the Massachusetts eye and ear infirmary says he and his medical co-workers in Japan, have in the past few months, discovered eye cataracts among blast survivors. Dr. Cogan reports that ten cases were found among 237 persons. He also said that other cataracts very likely will develop. Then he explains that while some are losing their sight, an operation may restore normal vision for all cataract cases.

The atomic energy commission has decided to turn over some of its research problems to a mechanical brain. It is an all electronic device, called a rapid selector and this machine can look up coded material in a special catalogue and then reproduce one hundred and twenty thousand items in a minutes time. That's just about as long as it takes a skilled clerk to check a dozen items.

Next time your man stops off at the local hangout for a glass of suds, drink to the capacity of Al Bowman of Boston. He's the Brewmaster for a Boston firm, and he estimates that, he has consumed over sixty-two thousand glasses of beer during his thirteen years as a professional sampler.

And, says Bowman as he smacks his lips at the thought -- This is a wonderful life and I just can't help loving the business.

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TELEVISION

Best gag this month about television was one in MacLeans magazine Two men stand at an apartment door and one is saying - What do you mean you don t let strangers in to see the television ???? I live here And the next best was one about a joe getting a lecture from his boss with the following pithy comments - Extra mouths to feed ? No excuse for a raise you assume that responsibility when you buy a television set !!!!!

So much for the lighter side of things Most of the year radio and television networks and stations differ widely on the program types they emphasize But about the time you are reading this there will have been an annual exception in that 85 million radios and three and a half million TV sets carried the most absorbing story of Christmas over all stations and networks Radio has the larger audience and the ability to circle the globe but television can provide a much more colorful offering Those of you within range of the U S TV stations have a big jump on the rest of Canada for this Christmas

In TV programming things are much different than ordinary sound radio Possibly the visual impact is much greater on the radio fan At any rate the BBC recently warned children NOT to watch a television horror play called the Duchess of Malfi The announcer said at the end of the BBC childrens hour -- Do not see it The play uses language which in present times seems strong and is therefore unsuitable for children Adults were warned that it included scenes that childfen should not see or hear The Duchess of Malfi was written by John Webster in the 17th century The plot which includes some strangling lunatics dead hands and a murder with knives is about a young and pretty duchess who is forbidden by her brothers to marry She weds secretly and is murdered by them The brothers finally go out of their minds TV???????

On this continent again television set sales in the United States are booming And Radio Daily reports shortages have developed in a number of lines But this has come as no particular surprise A survey in mid-October showed a sudden revival in demand for radio sets And it was predicted at that time that a shortage would exist at least in some models prior to Xmas Santa s advent has also transformed a rush in television set buying into a real stampede And many set makers are confessing that they were caught flat footed by the sudden scramble

Only last summer television sets were numerous on every dealers floor and buyers were scarce As a result the manufacturers cut prices and most of the dealers added a discount to that Now all major manufacturers are operating at capacity but even so the demand is outracing them on certain of the models they produce The RMA estimates that television sets are now coming out of the factories at the rate of 100 thousand a week - three times the figure of one year ago While it had been predicted that the total output for 49 would be two million the latest guess

now runs as high as two and three quarter million. Part of this increase has been attributed to lower prices. Most of it is unexplained, however, with the industry conviction that no home will be complete without television.

In the interest of television set sales the American Broadcasting Company is to protest a recent rule of the FCC barring non-linked aural-video telecasting. In commenting on the portion of this rule, banning the picking up of the sound of an AM or FM affiliate of a TV station, while a test pattern is being telecast, the net declared ; Broadcasting of a musical program is highly desirable as is facilitates the orientation of the receiving antenna to a degree which is not possible by the use of a fixed tone. Music and announcements of various types provide a strong sales aid in the demonstration of sets by dealers. And nothing would seem less inspiring to a prospective purchaser than a test pattern with a single tone behind it. At this stage of development in television, every effort should be made to increase the public appeal of the medium. In addition to the protest lodged by ABC, FCC had heard in similar manner from the National Association of Broadcasters and the Television Broadcasters Association, both protesting the ruling.

Heroes of the baseball field are finding that reputations made on the diamond can also pay off in front of a mike. A rash of appearances on radio and TV shows has been highly rewarding to better known ball players, and even the umpires have begun to muscle into the act. This latter has been much to the disgust of the many players, it may be added. Current rush from agencies for baseball talent beats old time practice of booking sports big names for tours of the circuits.....

So great is this interest that several players have agents to handle their air work. One of these is said to be Hank Sauer who turns everything over to his representative and will not talk terms himself. Jackie Robinson has a daily sports show of his own, and his latest guester was on the Toast of the Town, a video show. Stan Musial alsk has been on the same show. Ed Sullivan, the m.c. of the Toast of the Town had three big baseballers the week before this as his guests, too. They were Branca, Palica, and Furillo of the Dodgers. The trio did some close harmony on a song called the Brooklyn Dodgers Jump, and wound up by recording this number for Leslie Recs.

Again on the lighter side of the television news this month, was a letter to the Editor of Argosy, the complete mans magazine. It went something like this-- Are any of your readers in the market for a slightly used TV set, cheap. ??? The damn thing is making a fourth run movie house out of my home. Just a moldy old horse opera will bring the neighbours in like free pottery night at the Bijou.

Not content with abusing the cat, and dropping ashes on the carpet, they will complain bitterly about the bad programs. At least at the Bijou, they have to payhalf a buck.

The last time we saw a wrestling match on television, a beefy character insisted on demonstrating a fancy toe-hold on me. So, as I was saying, would anybody like a good television set, and cheap.

By the way, if you can get a copy of the Evening Telegram, or the Daily Star, both from Toronto, turn to the radio page, and look at the TV listings from Buffalo. Are we missing something ???

Season's Greetings

We welcome the opportunity the Holiday Season offers to express our appreciation of the patronage and good will of our friends.

A Merry Christmas to you and yours and every good wish for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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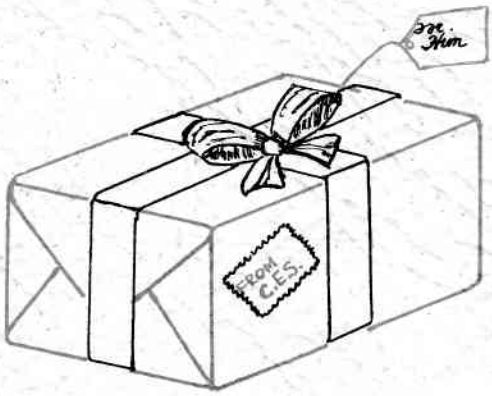

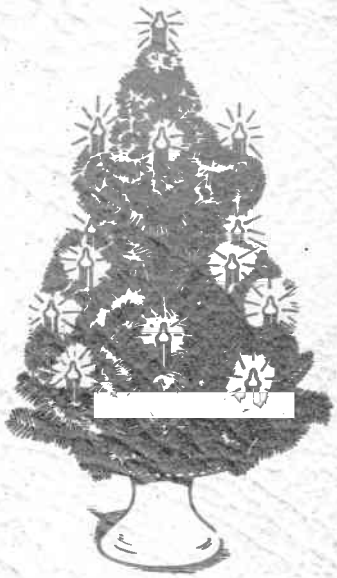

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