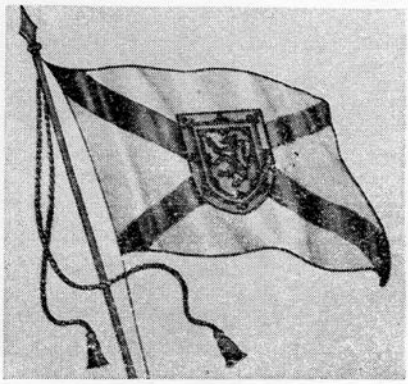
The CANADIAN AMATEUR

Vol. 1 No. 4 Published in the interests of the Radio Amateurs and Experimenters of Canada

April, 1959

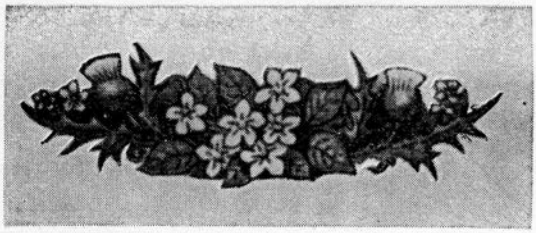
A Salute to Historic Nova Scotia



NOVA SCOTIA has the proud distinction of being the only Province of Canada and the first Colony of Great Britain to possess, through Royal Charter, a flag of its own. The Flag of Nova Scotia traces its orgin to the Charter of New Scotland granted in 1621 to Sir William Alexander (afterwards the Earl of Stirling) by King James VI of Scotland and James I of England. The flag bears a blue cross on a white background with the Coat of Arms in the centre.

Nova Scotia's National Floral Emblem, the Trailing Arbutus is shown below. The fragrant pink and white flower blooms in the spring and grows in profusion throughout the province.

OUR COVER this month shows Hon. G. I. Smith, minister of highways, left, presenting the first set of call letter plates to Hugh H. Corkum, VE1VN, Lunenburg. Mr. Corkum is president of the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association. Also present was E. S. Campbell, centre, registrar of motor vehicles for Nova Scotia. Mr. Campbell is also an amateur and holds the call VE1QQ.



The Canadian Amateur

VOL. 1 No. 4. APRIL, 1959

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EDITORIAL

Coming to the east coast in April with the Canadian Amateur magazine to pay tribute to you wonderful Nova Scotians is a great pleasure for your editor in many ways. First, it gives him an opportunity to boast about the little journal—to tell about its phenomenal growth—pushing toward the 1,000 circulation mark in three short months! But far more important to tell about the giant who is waking up—flexing his muscles and sizing up the situation—The giant that is the spirit of the Canadian radio amateur!

Hundreds of letters from Canadians everywhere are pouring in, from school boys, from businessmen, from leaders of industry and from our top government officials—and without one exception, they all agree—a strong, fearless publication for the radio amateurs of Canada is long over-due!

Your editor is especially grateful to the many offices of the Department of Transport throughout Canada for their interest in the journal. Having the honour of placing the Canadian Amateur magazine, through Mr. Baldwin, the Deputy Minister, in the Department's library, is most gratifying and encouraging. Because of the impossibility of answering all the wonderful letters individually, please accept the heart-felt thanks of those of us who are trying to give our fellow Canadians a much needed voice.

American friends everywhere are helping your "Canadian Amateur" become strong and able. For instance, this grand note from Hayward, California— "Dear Editor John, Congratulations on a superb job! I knew you could do it with a little encouragement and lots of joshing. Sign me up for a year and if I can stand it for a year, who knows? You might have a life membership! Hi. All the best, Paul Brogan, W6USG." Eighteen States are already represented in our files! How can we lose with folks like that reaching out a helping hand?

Speaking of help, we were practically submerged with material from VE1RJ, Cyril Boudreau, who is with the Halifax Chronicle Herald. You must admit he does a great job of reporting for amateur radio.

The real fire-ball of the east coast turned out to be none other than that quiet, mild mannered, Aaron Solomon, VE1OC. Aaron caused more activity, more news, more pictures to come in than two other provinces combined!

Nova Scotia, you can well be proud of Cyril Boudreau, VE1RJ, and Aaron Solomon, VE1OC!

Now, while you are becoming better acquainted with some of our Nova Scotia friends, Pat and I must get ready to say hello to VE2-land, the province of Quebec.

—VE7JB

A Message From The Premier of Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Brown:

It gives me great pleasure to extend to the Canadian amateur radio operators greetings from the Province of Nova Scotia.

The amateur radio operators form a fellowship which transcends provincial or national boundaries. You share in a communication of interest which binds you together in friendship.

In addition, however, your members perform a most useful function, in that they constitute a communication link which may be called upon in times of emergency or disaster.

May the pleasure you derive from your activities only be exceeded by the service you perform.

Yours very sincerely,
Robert L. Stanfield.

THE RI SAYS . . .

By J. E. Kitchin, VE7KN — Supervising Radio Inspector of B.C.

It has been observed while listening on the phone bands that the methods of spelling words varies a great deal. It is of course one's privilege and there is no objection at all to anybody using any word he wishes and which will facilitate getting the message across to the receiving operator. However, responsible authorities have come up with a phonetic alphabet and, in fact, there are three of these "official" alphabets in addition to one devised by ARRL, which are intended to be used in order to avoid discrepancies and errors in pronunciation, enunciation, and transcribing.

Thus, a transmitting operator might say "F for fine" and the receiving operator (who has QRM, QRN, QSB and a poor receiver) might copy it as "S for sign". The alphabets are intended to overcome some of these difficulties. This calls to mind the story about the elevator servicemen who were instructed to say either "raise" or "up" when they wanted the elevator raised. One of them said "higher." Somebody down below shouted "Fire". Somebody else turned in an alarm and five fire engines responded.

One may wonder why there are three alphabets and the answer, naturally, is that it is human nature to want to change something that somebody else has done. (How many of us think we can improve on the design or construction of that Blooper 99 we just saw!). So, although there is an "International" alphabet which uses the names of well-known places, such as Amsterdam and Zurich, there are other alphabets in use in the United Kingdom and in North America and, consequently, we have "able to zebra" and "alfa to zulu".

It is noted that some hardy folks even use part of one alphabet and part of another so the word "for" comes out as "Florida oboe romeo" while "to" is either "tare oscar" or "tango oboe" instead of "tare oboe" or "tango oscar". Confusing isn't it? And if it **isn't** confusing, we can muddle it up a bit by not only using an official alphabet but mixing in the ARRL version (e.g. Victor echo seven king nancy! ! !). The North American alphabet authorized for use on Canadian ships and aircraft stations and should therefore have more practical value so it is given below.

alfa	november
bravo	oscar
charlie	papa
delta	quebec
echo	romeo
foxtrot	sierra
golf	tango
hotel	uniform
india	victor
juliett	whiskey
kilo	xray
lima	yankee
mike	zulu

Editor's Note:—If you hear a YANKEE full of WHISKEY asking me to FOX-TROT—call me JULIETT BRAVO!

Letters to the Editor

IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!

Dear Sir:

In a recent issue of "The Canadian Amateur" I noted an article on the ITU. This dealt with the Atlantic City Convention of 1947. May I bring to the attention of Canadian amateurs a few of the facts of life concerning amateur frequency allocations.

First of all, the Dept. of Transport represents Canada at these conferences. The conferences agree on a series of regulations which are binding on all member countries. In 1947 the U.S. and Canada were behind the amateurs 100 per cent and there is no reason to think they will be otherwise at Geneva in 1959. However, (JUST SUPPOSE) a majority of the countries of the world decide by a margin of 70 to 20 against to increase the fixed service allocation by 300 kc/s. This goes to a working group or sub-committee who try to get an agreement as to where the 300 kc/s is to come from. Eventually, the sub-committee recommends that the 300 kc/s must come from the world-wide amateur bands of 20 or 40 meters. THIS IS ADOPTED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE ITU COUNTRIES. Canada and the U.S. vote against it but are outvoted. In region 2, Canada and the U.S.A. can say we will NOT reduce the amateur bands but the rest of the world do. What would 20 meters be like less the lower 300 kc/s for DX? How would you like a megawatt facsimile transmitter on 14150? The point of this letter is as follows in case you have missed it:

(a) The DOT and hence Canada support the AMATEUR ALLOCATION.

(b) Canada has ONE vote and could be outvoted.

(c) If it came to a squeeze, which would

(Continued on Page 38)

"The Northern Messenger"

By Aaron D. Solomon, VE1OC

It's because of people like "Brit" Fader that our pastime has become to mean so much to so many. It is a privilege to "belong" to the same fraternity.

Without a doubt the best known and most popular ham in Nova Scotia and the Maritimes is Le Britton J. Fader, VE1FQ. Not only is he well known "down east", but throughout the world, where his cheerful voice and distinctive signal are eagerly awaited and sought after.

Le Britton Fader or "Brit" as he is best known, was born some 45 years ago and was educated in Halifax. While attending high school Brit sold morning newspapers on a newsboy's route. In this manner he was able to earn enough money to build his first radio. He obtained his license in the early thirties and his first transmitter consisted of a pair of 45's in a TNT circuit. His first receiver was a home built two tube regenerative receiver which was later replaced by a national SW-3.

After graduating from high school Brit served behind the counter of Manning Equipment Ltd. on Argyle St. in Halifax, where he dispensed radio parts. He was quick to learn the stock and was always lending a helping hand to the newcomer in radio with many practical suggestions. In those days radio parts were not plentiful and much improvision was necessary.

During this period of the thirties Brit was active on 160 meter phone and later on 20 meter phone. He has continued to be one of the main stays of Canadian Amateur phone. One of Brit's first undertakings in ARRL organization was that of the VE1 QSL Manager. As an example of his work in this field, from the 1st of January 1959 to date he has handled well over five thousand QSL cards, not only for the VE1 district but all Canadian districts as well. Since his name appears first in the Call Book, it is natural for foreign QSL managers to dispatch all Canadian QSL cards to Brit.

During World War 2 Brit served in the Canadian Army Signal Corp. Immediately after the war he toured Holland and the Netherlands with a concert party under "Uncle Mel", Mr. Hugh O. Mills of Halifax. Brit was in charge of sound effects and lighting. This is his second hobby. To-day he can be found at the Halifax Forum working on lighting, during the week when Ice Capades are playing in town.

In 1946 Brit began 20 meter phone skeds with the Northland. Using a home built transmitter with an 810 in the final, a home built three element beam and an RME 9 D receiver. The three element beam became a landmark on Halifax's Henry St.,

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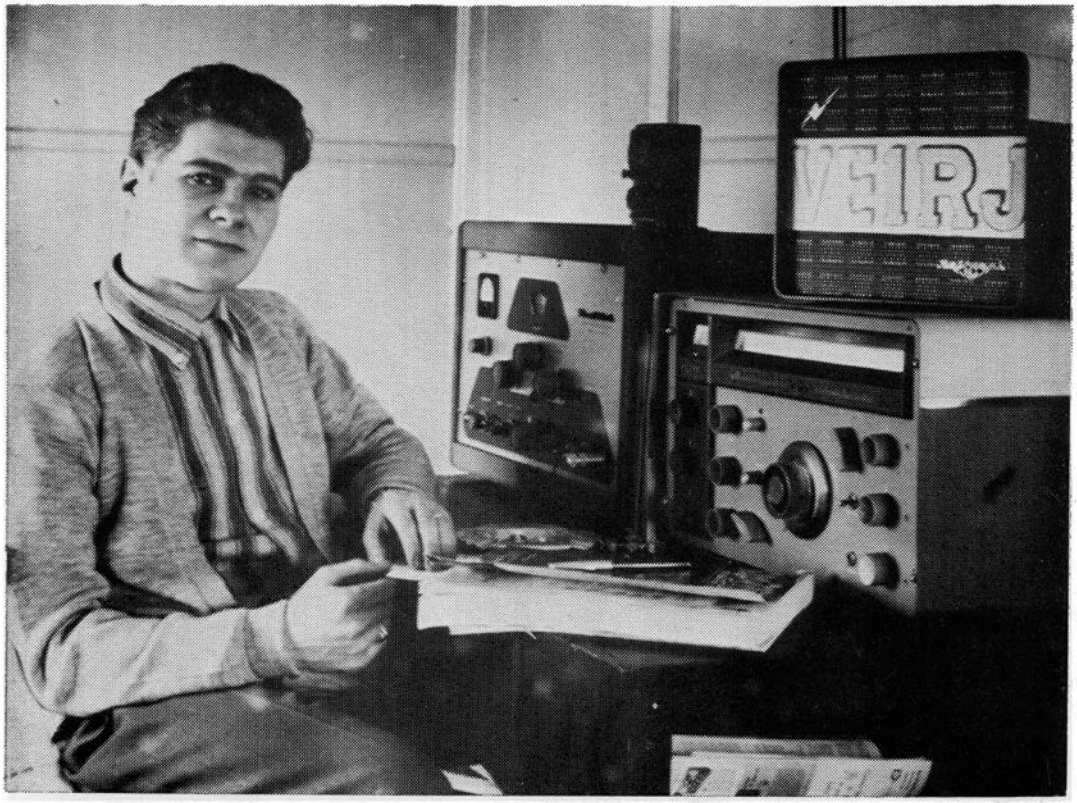

I Was There!

By CYRIL BOUDREAU, VE1RJ

It was a day like any other . . . except I WAS THERE!

Where? Down at the radio inspector's office! Just imagine me ready to write my amateur radio examination!

The date was January 17, 1958.

I could go back approximately 10 months to the day when I dropped in to see my uncle, Rev. C. H. Boudreau, VE1HY. There he was calling CQ on c.w.

Still my memory flashed back to the time, about ten years ago when our teacher in school asked us to try to learn the Morse Code. We had little home-made "buzzers" from room to room and very crudely made whistles. Imagine the fun, noise and confusion we had in sending messages (?) from one room to the other. The real confusion came in the school yard when no less than ten teams of twos were sending little messages with those whistles (which, by the way, would easily make the screech of the police whistle blush).

Henry, VE1HY, started to send a bit of code to me (very, very slow). I could copy about two or three of every six or seven letters he'd send. And that was after ten years!

It wasn't long!

Something kept saying "Cyril, this is it!" Two weeks later I had a Hallicrafters S-85 in my room on the desk that I was lucky to get at the local auction shop for the little price of 5 KCs! (the price of the desk, that is).

For months (nine to be exact), every Wednesday afternoon, Henry (God bless him) sent c.w. to me and helped me on the theory. Slowly, but very slowly, the speed increased. Incidently, the YL (God bless her, too) let me go home quite often just in time to tune in W1AW.

In October, 1957, I received my long-awaited DX-100. Oh, there must have been a million parts! Me, put THAT together? Hi. It took me exactly five and a half hours to check the parts against the parts list in the manual.

However, with much patience, prayer, burns, mistakes (sure!) and the good help of my YL, Regis, the DX-100 was finally completed!

The code was a little shaky but I thought I could copy well enough to pass my exam. I also felt I knew enough theory. (You know enough of that stuff?)

And now back to the . . . radio inspector's office!

My hands were shaky, my stomach upset, I thought I had forgotten my own

(Continued on Page 34)

ACQUAINTING OUR YOUTH TO AMATEUR RADIO

United Church Young People's Association at ham shack of VE1VN. Rev. McDonald, Jeffrey Cook, VE1VN, Jane McDuff and Leslie Mason.

The Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association

By Hugh H. Corkum, VE1VN

The Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Assn. welcomes your fine magazine, "The Canadian Amateur" and congratulates those responsible for this fine effort put forward for the benefit of Amateur Radio in Canada.

Already it demands a prominent place in my ham shack and with our combined assistance it will be a great success.

It is indeed a pleasure to be asked to give the suscribers of the "Canadian Amateur" a short write-up on the history and activities of the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association.

Three years ago at the Maritime Section A.R.R.L. Hamfest held at Bathurst, New Brunswick, 14 amateurs from the Province of Nova Scotia gathered together in one of the siderooms of the Convention Hotel away from the general activities and commotion of the very lively Hamfest for the purpose of forming a Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association.

Thus, the Association was born within the hour with our departed friend, the late Dr. Leo Doucette, VE1FH, of Cheticamp, Nova Scotia elected president and yours truly elected Secretary.

The association was formed to join together radio amateurs and those interested in amateur radio to promote any idea, development or activity that shall be for the betterment of amateur radio in general. To bring about a better acquaintance among the amateurs throughout the province. To act as a public relations body in order that the general public may be accurately informed of the use and value of amateur radio activities in a community or area but not for the purpose of carrying on any trade, industry or business.

A membership drive was started immediately throughout the Province with the result that we had 150 members within 6 months. There are only 430 call letter holders in the Province of Nova Scotia so we did gather together a good membership

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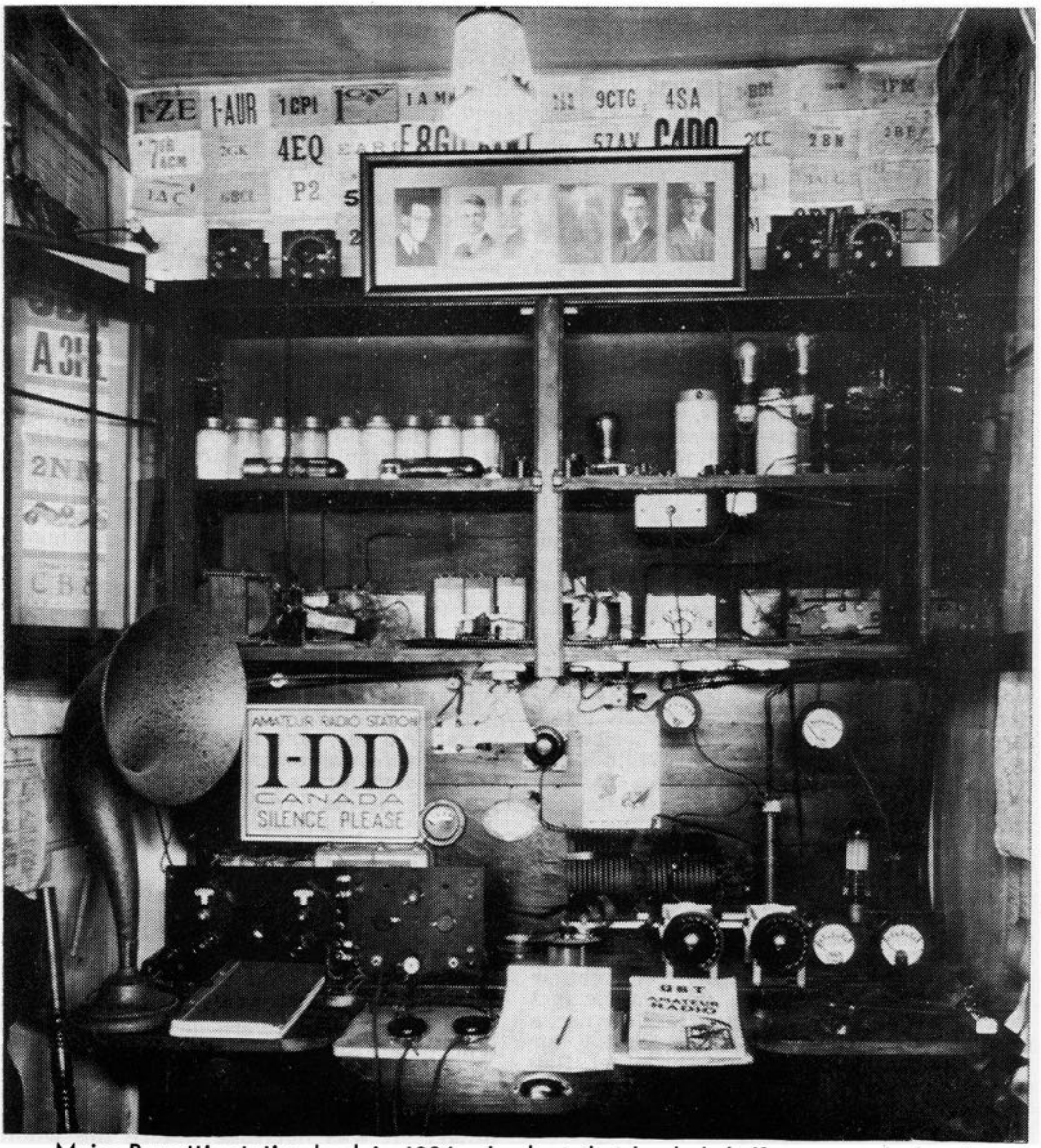

Major Borrett's station back in 1924.—Look at that loaded shelf, preserved plums!

CQ de VE1DD . . .

By Major Wm. Coates Borrett, VE1DD

Just recently after some time off the air I have returned to the most fascinating hobby of calling CQ and have found that with modern equipment the whole world is at your fingertips, and to my surprise have worked all continents in the first month. The greatest pleasure however has been in contacting some of my old friends who I have known on the air for almost forty years.

It is only natural that I should find myself looking back over the years and comparing conditions with the early days of Ham radio and in some things I see great improvements such as the ease with which trans-Atlantic amateur communication is carried on every day, and in fact I have worked so many Europeans and in the other direction so many Australians that unless they soon put someone to the moon, there will be no new worlds to conquer.

No longer does one have to search from

two hundred meters down to find a DX station to answer your long and frequent calls, but just let one short CQ go and the chances are about a dozen stations will answer right on your frequency and away you go into rag chewing.

Many of the present day hams cannot imagine what it was like back in the 1920's and at the request of a number of them hereabouts and I hope of interest to others far afield in Canada I would be so brave as to talk about the good old days of Ham radio, and tell how the first Trans-Atlantic ham contacts came about.

While phone especially SSB is simply marvelous today, and something I intend to try my hand at one of these days, back in the early nineteen twenties, I might explain here that the amateurs of Canada and the U.S.A. did not use Telephone to any extent, and in fact their licenses did not allow them to do so on the wave lengths that were used for international two way communication between amateurs. If one dabbed in phone work he had to go up on a higher wave where he would not interfere with the other amateurs operating on telegraphy. When it is known that there were some thirty thousand amateurs in the U.S.A. and Canada, it can be well understood that telephony, which if not well done, would be the cause of much interference and therefore it was not welcomed in the amateur ranks out here. While many of the Hams had the equipment, we felt that the professionel broadcast stations were looking after that part of the game very well and that there was not too much to be gained in knowledge of special benefit by a bunch of amateurs cluttering up the already much filled ether, with a lot of chatter which could be said just as well on telegraphy with much less power. Another point also that tends to stop the amateur using phone around these parts is the fact that it is against our regulations to use a gramophone for broadcasting except for testing during the middle of the night. Rag chewing had not become the popular pastime it has assumed today, especially with modern SSB sets with which two way back and forth conversation goes merrily on, and groups of amateurs get on a net and all join in, an unheard of procedure of the nineteen twenties.

Enough of what we thought in 1923 and lets get back to the early days, and let me tell you about the first Trans-Atlantic Amateur Transmission.

During December 1923 a celebrated French Amateur, Leon Deloy of Nice had just returned home from a visit to the United States and had made special tests on a wave length of about one hundred meters with the American Radio Relay League and on a certain night they had arranged to try two way communication. Most of the work up to that time had been on two hundred meters, and it was doubted at that time as to the chances they had of success. It was my good fortune to be home on the night that they were to make that test. I was preparing to go out as a matter of fact when the test came off and was in the act of shaving when my telephone rang and a good friend of mine, Mr. Arthur Greig of Canadian Amateur Station c1BQ called me to tell me that he had just tuned in on a Frenchman calling U.S.A. Any of you having heard European or Australian stations for the first time know the thrill that goes up and down your back when you get such a DX for the first time. I enquired what wave they were on and he told me that he thought the Frenchman was on about one hundred meters. I will never forget the excitement that evening. I rushed to my receiving set and tore off turns and turns from the secondary coil of my receiver and stuck it back in the set. I had no idea what number of turns I would need to receive on the unheard-of wave length of one hundred meters in those days. Luck was with me however, for as soon as I stuck the coil in and gave the secondary condenser a slight turn I heard that never to be forgotten 25 cycle fluttery note of f8AB calling u1XW. It was no trouble to get u1XW afterwards and thanks to my friend I had been lucky enough to listen in on the first amateur two way working across the herring pond. I might tell here for the benefit of the married radio amateurs a little story in connection with this event. All the time that I was listening in friend wife was dressing and calling out to me to hurry up as we were expected out to play bridge and while I arrived at the bridge party just in time, I don't think I will ever be forgiven for the rotten game that I played that night. All I could think of was the fluttery note of f8AB sending Dah Dah Dit Dit—Dit Dah—Dah Dit Dit Dit.

That evening was the start of much work and alteration on my radio sets. While we were glad to hear the Frenchman ,both my friend and myself were determined to get hold of an Englishman as soon as possible and we spread the news next day to some ten Halifax amateurs, who looked upon us at that time as something above the ordinary. It was not long before the whole ten were tearing their sets to pieces and the race began. Who should be the first to work an Englishman. c1BQ soon settled that question for it was only a matter of a few nights when he had been in two way communication with g2OD, the station of that now celebrated English amateur, Mr. E.J.Simmonds of Gerrards Cross. The rest of us who had not quite so much power as 1BQ struggled on and it will give you some idea of our enthusiasm when I tell you that I called every night up until around 2a.m. until Feb. 11th, 1924 when to my great pleasure I was answered by that well known English amateur station of Mr. Gerald Marcuse of Queens Park, Caterham, who told me my signals were strong. Among the pioneer English radio stations that I have heard during those wonderful

See "Early Amateur Radio" Page 32

Improving the Economy Receiver

By INGRAM McCALLUM, VE3DWN

The general impression received by the listener on today's Amateur bands is that hams are a bunch of millionaires, who own hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment, including the very latest model super-duper quadruple conversion, super-sensitive, super-selective, super-stable, high fidelity, stereo-sound receiver. Some actually do. Most, however, seem to have receivers that would run from two to five hundred dollars when new, and include such features as double conversion, selectable sideband, s-meter and crystal filter.

There are however many of us who must "make do" with what is commonly known as "A receiver of the hundred dollar class". These receivers, generally speaking, have one stage RF, two stages IF, and are single conversion jobs. They do a very adequate job, but of course they cannot compete with the more expensive models. I must point out that, although I am speaking of commercially built sets, excellent results have been achieved with many "home brew" receivers. Most amateurs, though, shy away from building receivers. Possibly this is due to the increasing complexity of receiver circuitry.

The main point to consider, in judging a receiver's performance are selectivity, sensitivity and stability. It must dig one signal out of the QRM, even if that signal is very weak, and stay tuned to it. Improvements in all three departments have been effected with the station receiver at VE3DWN, a NC-88, and are offered as a starting point for others who wish to "beef-up" their own.

SENSITIVITY: To be sensitive, a receiver must have a good signal-to-noise ratio. For this reason the NC-88 has one stage RF and two stages IF amplification. The "Sensitivity" control is a potentiometer which controls the grid bias of both the RF and IF stages, simultaneously. Most of the tube noises in a superheterodyne is generated by the converter or mixer stage. This, of course, is amplified by the IF stages. The desirable condition, therefore, is plenty of amplification **ahead** of the mixer, and just enough amplification following it to maintain a good signal-to-noise ratio. It was decided, therefore, to have separate gain controls on the RF and IF stages. This would allow the RF gain to be run wide open on all but the strongest of signals, while the I.F. gain could be cut back until the desired noise level was reached. The joker in the deck was that the receiver was not to be "spoiled" for trade-in value later on. (Footnote 1).

The solution is shown in Fig. 1. The pot used as a sensitivity control was removed (and put away for possible later re-installation) and in its place was mounted a dual pot, each section having the same value as the original (10 K). One section was used to control the RF amplifier, and the other controlled the IF amplifiers. For CW or SSB reception, the RF gain is run wide open on all signals unless blocking takes place, while the IF gain is usually kept near minimum. The results are amazing. For AM reception the controls are both run wide open, and the audio gain is cut back.

SELECTIVITY: The most common approach to increased selectivity is the addition of a Q Multiplier, and this approach

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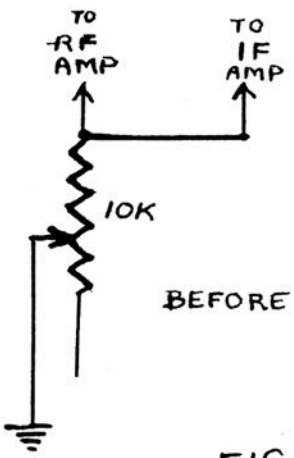


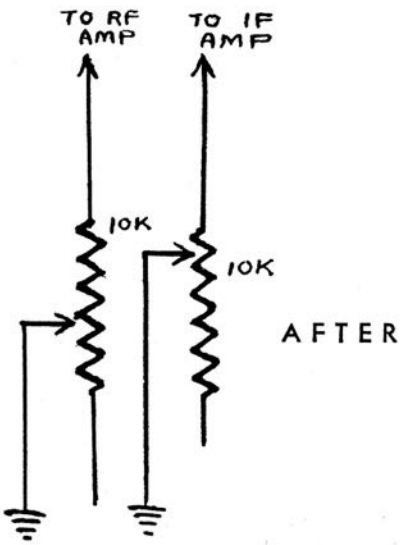


FIG 1

Toronto Radio Hams Canada's Top Talkers

A group of 112 Toronto men, whose voices reach around the world, today have a silver trophy to prove they can shout farther faster than anyone else in Canada, should disaster strike.

Toronto's Nortown Amateur Radio Club made 733 radio contacts in a single day with other ham radio operators to become Canadian winners of a continent-wide competition with emergency broadcasting equipment. Club president Russell Buckley accepted a two-and-a-half foot high silver trophy from Harry Buchanan, of Canadian Marconi Co., which donates the annual cup. The presentation took place on March 22, at the Club's 10th Annual Banquet.

Portable broadcasting equipment, powered by batteries or generators, is set up in temporary sites outside the city during the Canadian Amateur Radio Clubs Annual Field Day. Last year, close to 40 Canadian clubs competed in the 24 hour marathon test.

The Nortown group racked up 4,740 points, in a scoring system based on the contacts made and type of transmitters used. Their shortwave conversations went as far north as Baker Lake, Northwest Territories; as far south as Cuba; and into every one of Canada's 10 provinces.

Canadian Marconi, has donated the cup since 1952, in recognition of the valuable disaster service amateurs preform. Members of the Nortown group hold more than 30 personal citations for maintaining emergency radio service during Hurricane Hazel and other disasters. They previously won the Marconi cup in 1954.

Mr. Russ Buckley, VE3UW, president of the club (on the left), receiving congratulations from Mr. Harry Buchanan, Canadian Marconi Company, as he receives the trophy on behalf of the club.

Mrs. Harry Buchanan with the lucky winner of a National NC-60 Receiver, featured door prize at the banquet, Mr. Harold Benson, VE3HB. This receiver was donated by Canadian Marconi Company.

MARITIME NET IS FAVORITE

By Cyril Boudreau, VE1RJ

"Calling all stations of the Maritime Net. . . this is VE1—, net control" . . .

The time is 1900 hours AST (7:00 p.m.) any night of the week . . . In cities, towns, villages (and even in the odd automobile) of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, amateur radio operators are ready to report in to the Maritime Network.

The Maritime Network is a gathering of operators "on the air"; everyone having his radio communications receiver and transmitter set to the network frequency. In this case the frequency is 3,750 kcs, in the amateur band. A "master-of-ceremonies" station has a roll call and, in turn, calls every ham who wishes to participate. This station is known as the NCS (Net Control Station).

FAVORITE MEETING PLACE

The primary purpose of this and many other networks is to relay messages, urgent or otherwise, via ham radio and give general radio announcements—also a meeting place for fellow "hams" from three Atlantic seaboard provinces.

The operator of the Net Control Station on most nights is the operator of amateur radio station VE1FQ, L.J. (Brit) Fader. When Mr. Fader is unavailable other amateur "master of ceremonies" are Richard O. Archambault, Kingston, Michael Goldstein, Halifax, and Murray Banks, Kingston, operators of radio stations VE1ABJ, VE1ADH and VE1GA, respectively, among others.

As the net control station calls the roll, participants call in to say whether they've any traffic (messages). If the station called has no formal (or informal) messages to be

relayed or delivered, he simply says he is QRU—meaning "I have no traffic."

Amateur radio serves as one of the main connections between Sable Island and the Mainland. Every night on this network, John Weir, operator of radio VE1ABV can be heard passing along, or accepting, messages. Similarly messages for Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, western and northern Canada and the U.S. are accepted on this Maritime Network to be passed on and relayed to similar nets in other cities.

Previous to the local net, the Newfoundland Network takes place at 6:30 p.m. AST. Operators throughout Newfoundland and Labrador call in to this net—again there being no obligation to call. The Net Control Station is E. O'Hara, operator of VO1BU situated in St. John's. (Whereas Canada is issued the letters VE as the official prefix for an amateur experimental station, Newfoundland is issued with the letters VO1; Labrador VO2.) Members of each net may contact each other after or before "net-time."

Previous mention was made of hams reporting in to the net from their automobile. A station may be operated as such and is referred to as a "mobile station." Licensing and rules of operation are the same as for a home (fixed) station. The word "mobile" must be added to the operator's call sign at all times when operating as such. Usually radio transmitters and receivers for mobile operation are small and compact. The range of contact is normally concentrated within a few hundred miles, although there are exceptions.

A few weeks ago this writer kept contact with a mobile station close to 20 minutes—George R. Nettifee, Elmhurst, Illinois, operator of station K9IHQ (mobile), who was on his way to work. In 1957, the late Dr. L.P. Doucette, Cheticamp, C.B., was driving home from a sick call when he heard a station calling him after having called CQ (general call to any station)—quite outstanding when you consider that the caller was operator of TI2HP, situated in San Jose, Costa Rica!

Did you ever see such a self-satisfied look on anyone's face as that of Dick, VE3NG, Ontario's top-notch SCM? And no wonder—The world at his finger-tips, two second ops, Georgie and Ernie watching his every move, and the beautiful boss, Marg, VE3DZA, in complete control of the whole operation! Dick just missed the VE3 edition and almost got squeezed out of this one. We'll tell you more about him and his family in a later edition.

The Mt. Fairweather Story

PART 4

By George Kitson, VE7ALE

The kids are getting closer by the minute to their big moment. We hope Ken is rested and not too nervous—he will soon be carrying everything necessary for the station (including ALE) up the side of the mountain. George, no doubt, has lost much weight by now and Ken will have to look twice to make sure he has him in his (Ken's) pack-sack! . . . Let's take a peek and see what's going on.

The plane taxied to a spot 100 yards off shore and anchor was dropped. We dared not go in any closer for fear of touching the tender dural hull on a hidden rock. The crew broke out the collapsible rubber life raft, inflated it and dumped it over the side. Then started the tedious task of unloading our radio gear, grub for Ken and I, then the climbers packs. A small outboard motor was used to propel the raft. As there is a continuous surf running, it was quite a trick to go in so far, swing the raft around and let the sea run you onto the beach. Then one man had to wait for just the right moment, jump ashore with the painter (a chunk of rope for you non nautical blokes) and then as the next wave lifted the raft in closer, pulled for all he was worth and took it clear. This worked fine for a couple of trips, then Jake, who was Skipper of the raft, miss-judged it and a wave broke right over the stern, deluging the motor and that was that. From then on it was a case of using paddles. However, by 5:30 p.m. the landing was completed. The plane left and we were on our own.

We then met two other members of the expedition, Mike Rothery and Kelly Duncan, CBC Producer and Cameraman respectively, who had proceded us by privately chartered plane. Mike and Kelly had done some exploring while awaiting our arrival, and had found a pathway leading to an old surveyors campsite. We went and looked it over. For a campsite it was ideal, tucked into a depression of land and surrounded by spruce trees. That was the trouble, too many trees, we would never be able to get our antennas up through them. We went further inland, about 300 yards. There we found a natural clearing with a small lake fed by a stream. It was perfect for what we wanted. We started right in. Some of the climbers started pitching tents and others started cooking supper. Ken and I with the assistance of two climbers, started to get our 75 meter antenna up. It was quite a job. We had chosen two trees which appeared perfect for our needs, and after considerable work of threading the ropes over the underbrush, climbing smaller trees and clearing branches that the rope had snagged on, finally got them in the clear. Snapped the antenna on and hauled it up. Oh no! The dratted trees were about twenty feet too close together. With the added weight of the coax feed line it sagged like a sick clothes line. In his disgust, one of the boys threw his end of the rope out of the trees and of course it snagged on a dead limb and all the pulling in the world would not free it. Just then an explosion was heard, someone made a flying tackle and grabbed Ken around the ankles. He was just about to take off and in the temper he was in, most certainly would have gone into orbit. Two and a half hours of hard work wasted. As it had started to drizzle we quit for the night, leaving everything as it was. We had supper and huddled around the stove and swapped a few lies and then crawled into our sleeping bags for some shut eye.

The camp came alive again about 5:30 a.m. Everybody keen to get to his particular task. With one or two suggestions from Paddy the Captain, some started to get the climbers' packs ready, others started breakfast cooking, others pulling the tents down and taking two (one for the radio shack and the other for living quarters) for Ken and I over to the other side of the lake, where we had decided would be our best location. Ken and I of course, to our antennas. In this we had the assistance of climbers Russ Yard, Joe Hutton and Paul Brinkert. Paul a man in his early fifties was sure an eye-opener when he put his climbing abilities to tree climbing. It was an education to see him combine footwork with shoulder and arm muscles. To get up into the tree, he would first throw his climbing rope oves a limb, give it a pull to see if it was secure and would then start to walk up that tree just as you and I would walk along the level ground. It took him about one and a half minutes to complete the climb. He freed the snagged rope and we moved to the new location.

About this time someone banged a five gallon can—breakfast. We downed it, and the climbers were ready to take off mountainwards, leaving Rus and Joe to help us get our 75 skyline up. That did not take us too long and we then bade Rus and Joe goodbye for one month.

We unpacked our gear. It seemed to have travelled OK. By judicious use of our packing cases and pieces of planking Ken had salvaged from the beach, we were able to construct a presentable operating table. We positioned the gear. First the Hammerlund 140X then the DX100, next Ken's RME 4350 and finally the DX35. Outside we positioned the Onan about 100' from the shack, ran the power cable in and

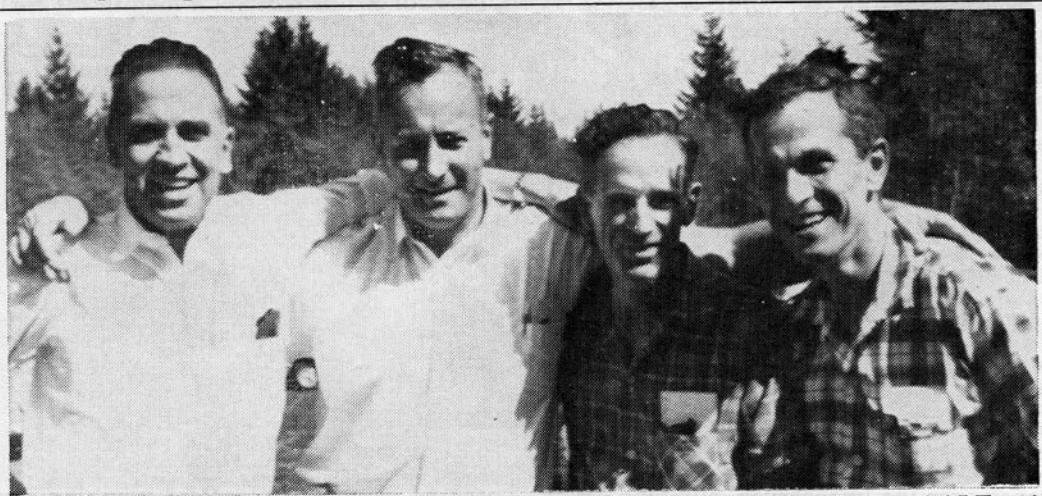
hooked it up. We were working against time as we had a sked with the climbers at 11:30 a.m. to test out the little portable. We cranked up the power plant and were in business .The rig was loaded up on 3850 kc. and receiver tuned to the same frequency. This spot on the band had been chosen, because that is where "The Panhandle Net" holds forth each evening, and we reasoned that if the skip took us out of the picture, then the people on the net would be able to copy and in that manner we would be in touch with the mountain. However, this did not happen but we thought it was a wise precaution.

I glanced at my watch and saw we had a couple of minutes to wait. We sat in front of the receiver and watched the S meter intently. Dead on 11:30 the needle flew up to S9. What would the modulation be like? With bated breath and crossed fingers, we waited. Then—Dennis's voice at a very Q5 saying VE7BCC portable KL7 this is VE7AEW portable KL7, how do you copy? Our breath whistled out in unison and I flipped the switch on and answered in the prescribed manner. The first test had come off OK. True, the transmission was only from a few miles up the beach but at least it showed that nothing had jarred loose on the trip up.

The portable gear was a Transceiver, manufactured by the Humble Manufactoring Co. of Vancouver. It is known as the P12. Has an output of 2¼ Watts, Pi net and matches approximately a ¼ wave dipole. With normal use the batteries have a 6 weeks life. The Xmtr draws 180 volts and the receiver 90 volts. Total weight with batteries 22 lbs.It is used extensively by Forestry Depts. and in mining. Has a normal operating range of 100 miles. Now if it would work equally well up at Base camp, all would be well.

We had pre-arranged that for the first two or three days, while the climbers were working up to base camp, we would turn the gear on, on the hour in case we were needed.And at 4 p.m. we heard our call sign being called. VE7BCC/KL7 this is Canadian aircraft 11075 calling you. Swiftly we turned on our rig and answered him. It was our Canso which was up over the mountain to make the parachute drops of the climbers gear. They reported that the ice field on which it had originally been chosen to make the drop, was in such a rotten condition, due to a mild winter, that it would be too dangerous for the climbers to attempt to retrieve it. They were requesting an O.K. on an alternate site. This we gave immediately, and told them we would notify the climbers on our next contact. *At 5:44 p.m. the aircraft again called us and informed us they had made their last run, and the drops had been successful. They were headed for Lituya and would unload our gasoline supplies. A few minutes later they thundered over and landed in the bay. We quickly unloaded the gas. They wished us success and took off. They flew up the coast and we heard them calling VE7AEW/KL7 to tell them of the change. They turned and flew over us heading south, and as they passed over us the pilot waggled the wings as if to say good-bye for a month. We were truly on our own. **—To be Continued.**

Editor's Note: * This is believed to be the first time in Canadian amateur history that an event of this nature has taken place between the Armed Services and the amateurs, and was only done by virtue of its semi-emergent nature.



The reason for the sad expression on the faces of **Left to right**—George, 7ALE, of Fairweather fame; Jim, 7AIK, the Nanaimo club's firey secretary; Phil, 7GR, one of Nanaimo's up and coming businessmen, was, that just a moment before the picture was taken, were high-pressured into parting with considerable green stuff, by the snickering RCC certificate holder, 7ZM. This took place at the last British Columbia Amateur Radio Association's open forum and picnic held just outside of Nanaimo—Oh yes, he got my last three bucks, too! But I'm not sorry, I have wanted to join R.S.G.B. for a long time!—7JB.

Halifax Amateur Radio Club

By A. E. Wesley Street, VE1EK

Back in the early 1920's and early 30's an association existed: Maritime Amateur Radio Association, embracing a few hams of VE1 land .Meetings held principally in Halifax area where the majority of its few members resided. As the number of Halifax hams increased and joined it became apparent that the name M.A.R.A. had served its purpose and didn't embrace the three provinces as its name implied.

Thus the change of name to Halifax Amateur Radio Club evolved early in 1933 with about fifteen members. The first slate of officers (if my memory is correct) was: Pres. VE1BC: Vice-Pres. VE1AW: Secy. VE1DH: Assistant Secy and Treas. VE1EK. Meetings were held in available homes of members and odd to relate third Fridays still remain our regular meeting nights after all these years. Also of the above calls VE1DH is the only inactive member.

To our select circle, by-laws and constitutions were drawn up not so much for immediate but for future needs. However, more arguments ensue over by-laws than any ordinary subject—and so it was with H.A.R.C. over the intervening years.

Little progress can be recorded over the next year but our number increased to around 22 at the end of 1934. Elections were held and new officers took over from January meetings.

In 1935 it was ventured to obtain opinions from outside VE7 hams on a ham fest. Those that replied showed keen interest so plans were formulated for the big event over the first week-end of June—King George V's birthday. Our first venture meant hard work but this green bunch had enthusiasm so at the opening dinner Saturday night at the Lord Nelson Hotel, 89 sat down in banquet style. Our guest speaker was Major W. C. Borrett, VE1DD and the late Joe Fassett (10-AR) anecdoting on old events. Joe conducted the initiation in the R.O.T.A.B. VE1EB and 1YL, two YL ops first, who then aided Joe in initiating the OM's. About twenty-five received their R.O.T.A.B. certificates. Alec, VE2BE, attended and for the first time many of us met Alec, who over the years has not missed a Halifax convention.

Sunday saw a large number attending the picnic and sports at Bedford. The baseball game, married versus single, was exciting. To this day the single men claim victory by one run ,but the dispute still goes on. Did we lose our amateur status as Alec, VE2BE, playing a fine game was reported as a former semi-pro. 5 meter gear was in evidence and worked well but on Monday, the Memorial Tower at North West Arm was used as a control, about 130 feet high. At the base of the tower a contest was run off to determine who first could get an oscillator going. Only wire, cond. tube, socket and small parts were used without the aid of solder or pliers The winner was VE1BC, and VE1AW very close in second place. The picnic officially wound up at noon on Monday with everyone feeling happy over its success. New friends made at this event have been kept over the years..

Affiliation with A.R.R.L. was made in 1935. Future conventions under A.R.R.L. sponsorship were conducted in 1937 and 1939. At one time in our history our members were 100 per cent A.R.R.L. members. Up to 1939, from about 1936, we had been meeting at the Y.M.C.A. and operated a fixed station in a closet-sized space where traffic was handled three or four nights a week. Power was low but interest high.

When war broke out in 1939 and put an end to amateur operations, the H.A.R.C. decided to keep up its monthly meeting. This was a wise move indeed as Halifax—an East Canadian port—was known to all our allies—also enemies. During the war years visitors from all over Canada, U.S.A., the Commonwealth, and numerous countries, attended our meetings. Space at the Y.M.C.A. was limited, and through the good graces of a ham employee, Moirs Ltd., generously provided us with lots of space in their cafeteria building for the duration. A high ranking naval officer from Brazil, PY1HQ, and two of his officers well remember the pleasant evening spent at the H.A.R.C. as he had remarked later in a q.s.o. with the writer. Other Halifax hams have reported the same thing with a number of European amateurs. Thus, during this period of radio inactivity, we made more radio friends by personal contact—many to be long remembered.

Returning to ham activities in 1946, H.A.R.C. members talked of a ham fest. It finally developed and was held over Labor Day week-end. It proved a success and we renewed old friendships and made new ones.

In 1949, Halifax celebrated its Bi-Centenary (1749-1949), and H.A.R.C. went all-out on a celebration. We also held our 5th ham fest which was again held over the Labor Day week-end. This one was more elaborately planned. We mustn't overlook the important part played by the ladies and from their efforts to stay organized, they still meet monthly as the "Dit and Dah Club"—Not as the name implies but as a social group. This convention was so successful that the club suffered a monetary setback which occasioned future caution. This year we have planned to hold the Maritime Convention in Halifax.

Before the war one of our most enthusiastic members joined the R.A.F. in 1938.

During the war he was cited for bravery and credited with knocking out important enemy trains in North Africa on several occasions. On his last swooping raid anti aircraft batteries finally felled him and the grave of VE1FO, Doug Smith is located in Misura, Libya. In commemoration and remembrance — a tribute to his memory, VE1FO is the station call of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club.

We have no permanent quarters where a station can be set up but take part annually in that all important phase of ham radio—Field Day. We have made some good scores and developed keen contest operators and made ourselves heard over the continent. (Look for VE1FO in June).

Since 1946, until disbanded, A.F.A.R.S. was well represented by club members and we were privileged to use quarters for our meetings provided by the R.C.A.F. up until last year.

Since Civil Defence has come into being the H.A.R.C. has provided, through its active members, communications on amateur frequencies. Each year has shown improvement and our affiliation with Halifax Co-Ordinator, Major J. Vickery is of highest order. Last year on field day the Civil Defense provided their 40 foot trailer as our headquarters. Jim Vickery accompanied us and enjoyed watching us do our stuff under the most abominable radio conditions yet experienced on Field Day.

Let us transgress back to April 1936 when the Moose River Mine disaster held nation wide interest. Down to Moose River went VE1DQ and two assistants. VE1AW was operator at the Halifax end for 96 continuous hours and required manning in shifts by club members. Traffic was handled for the Canadian Press and our efforts and results were highly commended by the C.P. Amateur Radio seemed so worthwhile.

Public service has proved an important part in member activities. Over the years numerous events can be recalled with iced telephone and telegraph lines down, missing aircraft, ships in distress, etc. Detail on these has not been recorded as repetitions occur but only mentioned as a general and expected duty performed.

In our history there have been many picnics, socials with ladies, smokers, etc., plus assistance to budding hams in code and technical classes. Up to 1939 code classes over the air were provided with other stations, re-broadcasting them for three band coverage. With these and other events barely covered, the writer can be excused if dates and events may not be exact. News over a 27 year period on memory alone can tax the sharpest memory—while mine is anything but.

Some local criticism is bound to occur. However, the Halifax Amateur Radio Club is here to stay and to its present members I have presented only a casual history. To the traditions set over the years, we will strive to set a higher goal through your efforts and contributions to assure greater progress in our Club.

Nova Scotians Praise "Canadian Amateur"

By Cyril Boudreau, VE1RJ

With the editions of "The Canadian Amateur" in general and the Nova Scotia edition in particular, comes the satisfaction of knowing that us Bluenosers have another way of expressing our thoughts, reading about our fellow hobbyists and maybe follow the odd diagram, check with the TVI expert and just have another magazine to keep on that all important file.

Since this is our first opportunity to express ourselves in an "all-Canada" magazine, this writer would like to present a few "one-line" quotes on "The Canadian Amateur" and a Canadian journal in general.

Following are the opinions of a few amateurs questioned at a recent meeting of a local radio club:

"A bit far away from the Maritimes, but a nice thing to have."—VE1JK.

"Good idea—high time Canadian amateurs got together."—VE1AEW.

"It will really go places."—VE1YE.

"Good thing to have."—VE1OI.

"Full support as long as it does not compete. but co-operate with similar journals." —VE1AFB.

"The group deserves the congratulations of all Canadian hams for their spendid efforts in making a strictly Canadian publication." — VE1WL (president of Halifax Amateur Radio Club).

"Well done! Hope it really continues to be representative of Canada."—VE1QV.

Well it seems as if the general opinion of this part of the province is pretty well behind the journal.

Being fairly new at this wonderful hobby and not too well acquainted with any previous attempts at the publication of a Canadian magazine, this writer (and many many other amateurs) believe that without the co-operation of all hams, not much can be done.

Why not at least drop a few lines of comment to the editor and tell him what you think? It's criticism that helps to make a go at a thing like this. What kind of literature would you like to see? Through your comments and opinions the magazine then knows what you'd like to read about.

TO ALL AMATEURS: Please keep in mind that the ARRL (Maritime section) convention will be held in Halifax on the Labor Day week-end, Sept. 5, 6, and 7th. This is going to be a "bang-up" Hamfest. Something for everyone from 2 to 102!

More details will be forthcoming in later editions.

Concluding for this time, we, in Nova Scotia, would like to once again assure the journal the best of support and say—"Very well done!"

The YL Page

By Lois Gillespie, VE7AUF

From the rugged coast of British Columbia to the sandy shores of Nova Scotia is a long, long way. It is not so long ago that communication between the opposite sides of our country was almost as difficult as communication now is between our planet and Mars! But times have changed—first, the distance has been decreased by ever faster methods of travel, and then electricity and electronics bridged the gap, until now we can feel right next door to any part of our vast country.

And, with ham radio, we're really neighbours! A YL operator in B.C. is just as likely to have a chat with another YL in Nova Scotia as she is to gossip over the back yard fence with the woman next door. Much more likely, in fact, hams being what they are! Provided she can find one, that is! The skip is not too co-operative, and we don't hear too many YLs from Nova Scotia in VE7-land. We understand that, out of approximately 430 licensed hams in that province, over 15 are YL operators, so we know that they are there—somewhere! And we hope that conditions will permit more frequent contacts in the coming months.

In the meantime, we envy them! What a wonderful wealth of European DX they must be able to hear and work! Do they ever manage to tear away from the rig long enough to attend such mundane duties as meals and mending?

RADIO WIVES

Halifax OMs are very fortunate, it would appear. Some XYLs are not altogether in sympathy with their OM's hobby, but the Halifax XYLs are right behind their men!

Away back in 1946 they formed an association to help the OMs, and work with them, in an ARRL convention. They organized under the name of "Ladies' Dit and Dah Club," but this name proved too cumbersome and was soon changed. They are now known as the Halifax Amateur Radio Wives Association. The club consists of 13 members who have been continuously active since its inception, and we use the word "active" advisedly. Not content with helping their OMs at the occasional convention or gathering, this club undertakes yearly projects such as supplying Christmas packages to needy families, or furnishing bundles for a local welfare home, etc. Monthly meetings are held at the home of the members in rotation, and each season ends with an annual members' dinner and an election of officers for the coming year.

Committees are now being formed to take part in the forthcoming Maritime ARRL convention to be held in Halifax on September 5th, 6th, and 7th. The present officers include Ada Crowell (XYL of VE1YL, treasurer. Another licensed YL in the club is Sydney Johnson, VE1WJ.

This club appears to be unique, in that it is the only one of its type, as far as we know. We think it is a most commendable record for a group of this kind to be so continuously active for such a long period, especially with thirteen of the original members still active, and we greatly admire each one of them for the splendid work they are doing. Good luck in your present project, girls, and we will be looking forward to hearing a report of your activities in the convention in September.

SHOOTING THE BREEZE . . .

That is what one of Alma's certificates is for. Alma is Alma Hills, VE1MY, of Truro, Nova Scotia.

Alma, whose picture is on the next page, has been a licensed YL since October, 1938. She was a member of the Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club at that time, but moved to Truro in 1949, and has been a member of the Truro Amateur Radio Club since then, serving for three years as secretary-treasurer. She is now on the social committee.

Besides her Breeze Shooters Certificate, Alma has five Public Service Awards and is an honorary member of the Atlanta Radio Club, Atlanta, Ga. Her OM is Bill, VE1KK, but their children's interests seem to lie in other fields, with one son in the R.C.A.F., one studying law at Dalhousie University and a daughter training as a nurse.

Alma uses a home-built transmitter, on all bands, running 200 watts. This was built by her OM, and, as the accompanying picture will show, he made a very fine job of it. The receiver is an AR-88, and they use a four element beam on ten with doublets on 75, 40 and 20 meters.

Alma's chief activities outside of her home are church work and ham radio. We hope to see you soon on the air, Alma, and thank you very much for your letter.

SPARKLES OF HAPPINESS. . .

Is what the club is called, and that is what they try to give, to the crippled children and handicapped people, under the present leadership of Dell, VE3AJR, and her OM, Loris. We have just received a copy of the third issue from Dell, and

One of the most active among the Nova Scotia YLs is ALMA, VE1MY, of Truro.

very much appreciated the article on the Canadian Amateur on page 10. Thank you, Dell and Loris.

ACROSS THE LINE. . . DX YL

Have any of our YL readers earned this award yet? We were surprised to learn from YLRL Harmonics that twenty-two YLs in the States had, some with several stickers attached. We would be interested to hear from any of our readers who have qualified. Did it take you long? And was it as hard as it sounds (to us)?

WORKS 100 COUNTRIES

As though to bear out what was said above, we have just received some information about Mary Snell, VE1ME. Mary lives in Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, where there is quite a concentration of YLs.

Mary has worked about 100 countries, and we hope to hear more about her activities in this direction in a later issue. Mary is not just a DX hound, though. She holds a 25 WPM code proficiency certificate and two public service awards.

She received her Amateur license in 1938. Mary uses a Band W transmitter also a Harvey-Wells, with a SX28A receiver and a long wire antenna, plus a 20 meter Hammond beam. Let us hear more about that DX soon please Mary.

'WAY DOWN IN TEXAS. . .

This is the source of a letter from Donnie, K5IRB. Our Editor persuaded her to send a picture, and elsewhere on this page you will see this southern YL in her attractive ham shack. Donnie just misses being one of an all ham family, the OM is K5JYC and the eldest son, Ed, is K5ERJ (now living in Indiana), but the younger son possibly suffering from overexposure, is not interested in ham radio at present!

Farms, too, come big in Texas, and Donnie and her OM farm 1000 acres. They use a Viking II transmitter with an HQ-150 and a three-element beam. They work 75, but 15 meters is Donnie's favorite, and there you will find her for your Texas YL contact.

Who wouldn't envy Donnie her smart and roomy ham shack! Donnie is K5IRB, and that call on the card attached to the speaker is that of her son, Ed.

NOTICE

Because of the growing demand for the Centennial edition (first) of the Canadian Amateur, it may be necessary to reprint another 5000 or more copies. A list of those requesting this issue is being filed and we plan reprinting at a later date.

THANK YOU FRIENDS . . .

The Canadian Amateur gratefully thanks "Radiogram" published by Scott Radio Supply, 266 Alamitos Avenue, Long Beach, California, for the fine write-up that appeared in the April edition.

"Sparkles of Happiness" official publication of The Sparkles of Happiness Club, also gave us a tremendous lift in their 3rd issue. The Club is devoted to Charity in aiding crippled chilldren and the handicapped and the Bulletin is mailed free to all who make a contribution to The SOHC Joy Charity Fund. Address mail to:
Dell & Lorin Daykin, P.O. Box 40, Ruthven, Ontario, Canada.

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club also gave us a boost in the Feb. Club Bulletin Our sincere thanks go to the members of this well-organized group for their fine display of enthusiasm.

40 Meter Phone Sub-Band

By Verne J. Read VE7EH

Forty meters is the only one of our five most popular bands, eighty, forty, twenty, fifteen, and ten, which does not have provision for Canadian phone operation separate from the United States allocation. Why is this? Well, in the past, amateurs were persuaded that forty must be kept clear for c.w. type of emission. Originally this was undoubtably a sound policy, for in the days of T.R.F. receivers and loop modulated phone transmitters, one strong A.M. station blocked out the entire band. Not so today. Modern transmitters and receivers have brought a change in all that.

In Canada, the amount of c.w. operation between 7100 and 7200 kc/s is extremely light, and is comparable to the sale of refrigerators in Antarctica. Then why not open 7100-7200 kc/s for Canadian phone stations? We need such a band. The present 7200-7300 kc/s is almost hopeless for our use with the thousands of U.S. stations crowded into this band.

We need this phone band for provincial and inter-provincial contacts during those long periods each day when eighty and twenty meters are useless for the purpose. We need it for DX work because the present band is full of foreign broadcasting stations in addition to the multitude of American amateurs, and because most of the foreign amateurs must work on the low end of the band. Other countries of the Commonwealth, for instance Australia and New Zealand have phone privileges at the low end of forty. Why not Canada?

How can we obtain these privileges? It is my belief that the Canadian Government will assign us any phone sub-bands we wish, if we can prove what we want. How can we prove it? By the voice of the Amateurs in Canada. Let's put it to a vote. How can we vote? Through one of two means, the "Canadian Amateur" or A.R.R.L.

In the past A.R.R.L., through the Canadian General Manager indicated in correspondence with this writer that in his opinion there is virtually no interest on the part of Canadian amateurs to widen our 40 meter phone allocations. He stated that Vancouver was the only place in the country where he had ever heard such a proposal advanced!

It is difficult to believe that amateurs in this country are satisfied with the present restricted phone allocations on forty. From personal observations of our seven popular bands, particularly since the second world war, it is my opinion that there are several times as many Canadian amateurs using phone as there are using c.w. If this is so then has not the time surely come to increase the width of bands available for this type of operation? In fact is the time not long overdue?

The question may arise, would not a fifty kilocycle increase taking in the portion between 7150 and 7200 kc/s be sufficient? No, for two reasons—First, the extensive activity by the novice class of amateurs in the United States in this part of the band would be almost as harmful to Canadian phone operation as would the U.S. phone stations between 7200 and 7300 kc/s. Secondly, there is considerable foreign broadcast operation in the 7150 to 7200 kc/s segment.

It may also be asked, then would not a 50 kc/s phone band be suitable? No, because this would mean 2 additional band edges to avoid with the subsequent increase in frequency measuring difficulties between 7100 and 7150 kc/s. Far better that one continuous phone band be established to extend from 7100-7300 kc/s.

Will the remaining 100 kc/s be sufficient for Canadian c.w. stations? Yes, even during the periods of heaviest activity such as occur in the sweepstakes or VE/W contest most of the c.w. operation is between 7000 and 7100 kc/s.

If all of these arguments are logical then it would seem that something should be done quickly to rectify the present discrimination against Canadian phone operation in the forty meter band. Since this is purely a Canadian problem it would appear to be in order to take action through our national magazine, The Canadian Amateur.

Let's find out how many Canadian amateurs are for the proposal, and how many against. A referendum vote through the printing of a ballot in the "Canadian Amateur" will tell us conclusively whether or not Canadian amateurs are interested in a separate phone allocation on forty meters. Such a vote would I am sure carry much weight in any proposal presented to the Department of Transport for the widening of our forty meter phone band.

VE3AXO of Dryden, Ontario, sends us this little anecdote:

One day not long ago, having a miserable head cold with the usual accompanying nasal obstruction, I decided to call a C.Q. on ten meters. Receiving no reply, I was sitting around the shack feeling quite sorry for myself when suddenly our next door neighbor rushed into the shack all excited saying she had just heard me on her AC-DC radio. Hm-m-m, I thought, B.C.I. trouble!

"Yes," she said, "you were calling someone by the name of Ted, but I can't remember his last name."

"Well," I said, "that puts me in the clear—must have been another ham in Dryden!"

"No," she said, "I'm sure it was your voice. I heard you call C.Q.—whatever that is—and then you said—oh yes, I remember now, his name was "Ted Beaters!"

JUST LOOK

that are being

A COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER!

THIS IS IT! ! ! There is one thing all amateurs agree on, "If you can't hear 'em, you can't work 'em!" We set out to find what the modern thinking is among amateurs regarding the word "Amateur" and by golly, we think we will know when the contest is over! — **See page 32.**

A TRANSCEIVER

Value — $700.00!

—Brand New!

"The Ham Shack's" contribution. This terrific Transceiver has two Pioneer Dynos, is 12 volt and will handle two hambands as is, plus broadcast receiver.

A HI-GAIN

3 ELEME

10 METE

Bill McCarter's 3-Beam is a beaut a battleship and cracker!

This magazine wants your thoughts on a very contentious question:

What is your opinion concerning the word "AMATEUR?"

DO YOU FEEL IT IS TIME WE GOT OUT OF A RUT?

DO YOU THINK IT IS A FITTING NAME FOR OUR HOBBY?

For the best letter, for or against a change,

We will award a Grand Prize!

All you have to do is write a short letter, 300 words or less, expressing your viewpoint on the subject and mail to:

"THE CANADIAN AMATEUR"
10328 Trans-Canada Highway,
North Surrey,
New Westminster, B.C., Canada

K at the PRIZES !

g offered in this Contest!

N)—
IENT
TER BEAM!

3-element, 10 mtr
uty. It's built like
d is hot as a fire-

A Beautiful —
VOLT - OHM
METER!

The V-O-M will do everything but mix the batter for you — It's a honey!

A Johnson
SIGNAL
SENTRY

Taylor Pearson & Carson have added a Johnson Signal Sentry to our list. A read handy gadget!

More

Prizes

Coming!

CONTEST RULES:

Entrants must be amateurs to win Grand Prize.

There will be other valuable prizes awarded to runners up.

A consolation prize will be awarded for the best letter to anyone not licensed but interested in ham radio.

All letters will be judged carefully by a panel of three prominent amateurs who's decision shall be final.

All letters must be legible and contain 300 words or less.

Contest closes June 22, 1959, and winners' names will appear in the July issue.

All letters to become property of "The Canadian Amateur" who shall retain the rights of publication.

Jinglebells

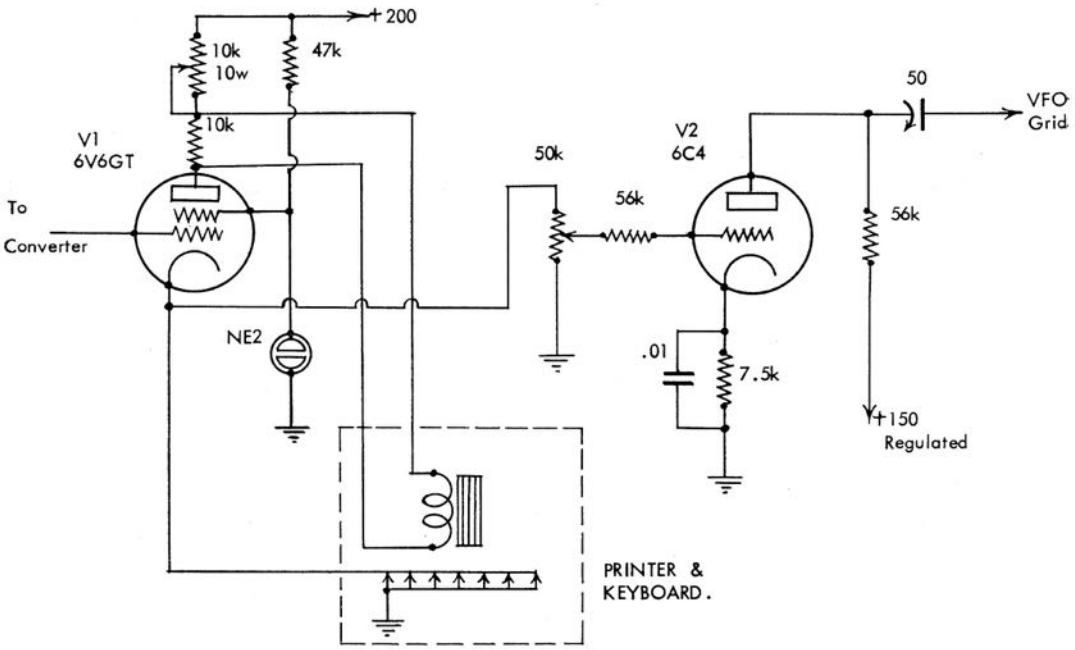
By JIM HEPBURN
VE7KX

AMATEUR RADIOTELETYPE

In an earlier article describing a simple "Convertor" unit for the reception of RTTY transmissions, mention was made of a connection brought out from the printer keyboard for the control of frequency shift keying of a transmitter for the transmission of RTTY Signals.

Referring to the accompanying diagram, V-1 is the output or keyer stage of the "Convertor" unit described earlier and the cathode of this tube is brought out through the keyboard contacts to ground. Operation of the keyboard keys the current passing through this stage; and through the printer magnet coil; and at the same time a regulated D.C. voltage of approximately 50 volts appears across the open keyboard contacts

This keyed voltage is applied across a 50K potentiometer in the grid circuit of a reactance modulator V-2, which can be added to any conventional amateur station V.F.O. In this case, a 6C4 triode is used, this could be any medium amplification



triode, the 6C4 was selected because it is small, rugged, excellent for R.F. work and can be tucked away on a small bracket or added to the chassis of any small V.F.O. without space problems.

This reactance modulator is in effect a variable condenser connected across the V.F.O. grid coil and it moves the V.F.O. frequency when a D.C. voltage is applied to its grid. This simple reactance modulator is not linear in operation, but fidelity in the audio sense is not necessary, we are only concerned with two positions, on or off. The installation of this modulator in the V.F.O. should follow good construction practices necessary with any part of the V.F.O. tuned circuit, the modulator is part of the frequency determining circuit, rigid mounting, short leads and adequate ventilation are required for good frequency stability.

On the application of a positive voltage from the keyboard to the reactance modulator grid the V.F.O. will shift to a lower frequency. The amount of shift will be determined by the grid potentiometer setting and the setting of the 50 PFD coupling condenser. This condenser should be set at the minimum capacity required for full 850 cycle shift at the low end of the lowest frequency band, and will seldom require readjustment. As any frequency multiplication in the transmitter following the V.F.O. will also multiply the shift in the same ratio it is necessary to reset the shift potentiometer control when changing

bands; thus this control should be mounted on the V.F.O. front panel for convenience.

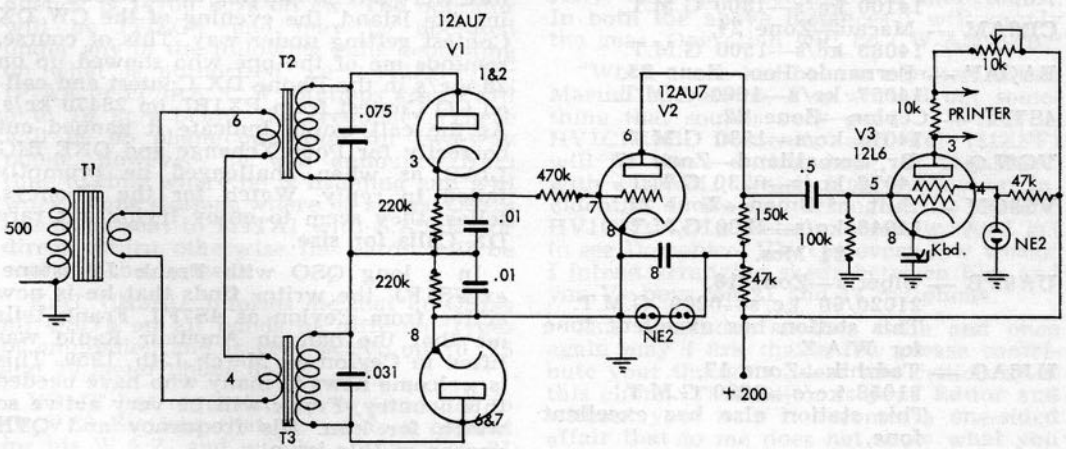
This reactance modulator can also be used on a crystal oscillator, but crystals are stubborn brutes to shift, so considerable frequency multiplication may be required to obtain adequate shift. However, crystal control is usually desired on the higher frequency bands where sufficient multiplication is available following the oscillator stage.

If not already fitted in the teleprinter machine a "break" switch or push-button is required in series with the keyboard contacts so that we may secure steady "mark" or steady "space" conditions for calibration of the F.S.K. shift. The shift in the V.F.O. frequency on the application of a space signal can be measured with an accurate R.F. frequency meter, such as a BC-221, but a large portion of the 850 cycle difference in frequencies is swallowed up by the two fat audio nulls on each side and it is usually necessary to listen to the sixth or eighth harmonic of the V.F.O. and frequency meter signals where a proportionally sharper zero beat can be heard. The V.F.O. signal can also be fed into a receiver fitted with a beat frequency oscillator and the shift of the audio beat note compared with a calibrated audio signal generator. However, as frequent checks of the shift will have to be made when changing bands or even a change of more than 50 kc/s in the V.F.O. setting of the same band, a quick method of checking shift is required. The fastest and easiest method is to check the V.F.O. with the station receiver and the convertor fitted with an oscilloscope as described in previous article. The V.F.O. should be capable of being turned on separately from the transmitter and the V.F.O. signal in the receiver adequate on all bands for a quick check that the V.F.O. frequencies are lined up with the convertor filters before any transmission is made on the air.

Alternatively the receiver beat frequency oscillator control can be calibrated to measure shift frequencies quickly in the following manner:

1. Find and mark the centre position of the B.F.O. tuning control (if the receiver manufacturer has overlooked this detail).
2. Tune in a strong steady carrier to zero beat.
3. Move the B.F.O. control until the beat note reaches 850 cycles (again a calibrated audio oscillator is a handy tool around a RTTY station) and mark this position.
4. Repeat on the other side of the B.F.O. control.
5. Or: Have another amateur RTTY station transmit alternate mark and space signals 850 cycles apart and mark the B.F.O. control for the three zero beats.
6. Or: Tune in a commercial RTTY station known to be using 850 cycle shift. Consider his signal as two c.w. signals 850 cycles apart and juggle the receiver tuning and B.F.O. until the 3 zero beats can be found and marked on the B.F.O. control.
7. To check the station V.F.O. shift tune to zero beat on the centre B.F.O. mark, press the "break" button and see how closely to the outer B.F.O. mark the V.F.O. zero beat shifted. The signal may move to either side of the B.F.O. control depending on whether the receiver mixer oscillator is above or below the received frequency on the band in use.

The transmitter output should not change when keying the F.S.K. reactance modulator, if a difference does occur then the V.F.O. is on the ragged edge of oscillation and improvement badly needed. Components in the transmitter should be operated at ratings similar for phone operation, steady R.F. power is being generated for considerable periods of time. RTTY is guaranteed to quickly weed out those overloaded or old tired components that have been getting by on c.w. for years! ! !



This Schematic refers to previous installment of "Jinglebells" in the February issue.

DX

By Bill Wadsworth, VE7ZM

Spring has arrived, but the DX, as usual, held back by poor conditions in general on all bands, still manages to produce it's share of good ones, even though they are not as frequently to be found so far this year as in the past.

The conditions during the last PHONE and CW week-ends of the ARRL DX Contest were extremely good despite the propogation reports of radio storms forecast for the two week-ends. The higher frequency bands produced the most, especially 21 and 28 Mcs. On 3.5 and 7 Mcs conditions were only fair, although the activities of KS4BB on 3.5 Mcs (worked by the writer with 150 watts in a mad throng of W's) and KM6BL were two brighter moments. Ten meter conditions showed typical one-way transmission and if one were to select a weak signal and call it he invariably came back with a strong report.

Our tip for this month is for CW Operators. A very short call will raise twice as much DX as an ARM BREAKING CALL such I have heard by many VE Operators. Survey yourself when you hear the DX Station answering one of your friends and see if perhaps you wasted needless calling power, to say the least created Needless QRM.

A list of good catches are herewith as follows for the many who still need them:

14 Mcs.

FB8ZZ — Kerguelen Islands—Zone 39, 14030 kc/s—1700 G.M.T.
UG6AG — Armenia—Zone 21, 14130 kc/s—2000 G.M.T.
HS1E — Thailand—Zone 26, 14165 kc/s—1630 G.M.T.
HS1C — Thailand—Zone 26, 14100 kc/s—1300 G.M.T.
CR9AM — Macau—Zone 24, 14085 kc/s—1500 G.M.T.
EAØAF — Fernando Poo—Zone 35, 14057 kc/s—1600 G.M.T.
4S7FJ — Ceylon—Zone 22, 14018 kc/s—1530 G.M.T.
VQ6LQ — Br. Somaliland—Zone 37, 14076 kc/s—0230 G.M.T.
VS9OM — Sult. of Oman—Zone 21, 14048 kc/s—1300 G.M.T.

21 Mcs.

UA9VB — Siberia—Zone 18, 21020/90 kc/s—0200 G.M.T. This station has excellent fone for W.A.Z.
UJ8AG — Tadzhik—Zone 17, 21058 kc/s—0230 G.M.T. This station also has excellent fone.
VP8CX — Falkland Is.—Zone 13, 21245 kc/s—0200 G.M.T.
CR8AC — Port. India—Zone 22, 21180 kc/s—0230 G.M.T.
AP2AD — Pakistan—Zone 22, 21195 kc/s—0300 G.M.T.
XZ2SY — Burma—Zone 26, 21210 kc/s—0330 G.M.T.
PX1YR — Andorra—Zone 14, 21215 kc/s—2030 G.M.T.
FM7WS — Martinique—Zone 8, 21207 kc/s—0200 G.M.T.

28 Mcs.

XW8AL — Laos—Zone 26, 28442 kc/s—0200 G.M.T.
9M2GA — Malaya—Zone 28, 28350 kc/s—0000 G.M.T.
DU7SV — Phillipine Is.—Zone 27, 28392 kc/s—0030 G.M.T. Volt. is Crystal controlled on this frequency.
ZS8I — Basutoland—Zone 38, 28305 kc/s—1900 G.M.T.
VQ5DM — Uganda—Zone 37, 28255 kc/s—1830 G.M.T.
VU2CQ — India—Zone 22, 28328 kc/s—1700 G.M.T.
9K2AZ — Kuwait—Zone 21, 28410 kc/s—1730 G.M.T.

The Serrana Bank expedition finally got under way after delays due to various reasons. They were on c.w. and s.s.b. on all bands, although W9JUV gave considerable time to 28650 kc/s on s.s.b. and W4KVX spent much time on 21050 kc/s, c.w. As is usual all such expeditions are preceded by jokers who persist in trying out the new call ahead of the scheduled appearance, but due to the considerable publicity given this station one immediately appeared on the first day at the appointed hour on 21 mc/s, c.w. and worked a goodly number of stations. The gang were delayed due to no sextant and running out of fuel and therefore were late in starting after finally finding the Island, the evening of the CW DX Contest getting under way. This of course, reminds me of the one who showed up on 28 mc/s in the Phone DX Contest and called CQ Contest from PX1BL on 28470 kc/s. As the call would indicate it panned out correctly for Poor Xchange and ONE BIG LIAR as when challenged he promptly failed to reply. Watch for the Phoneys, fellas, they seem to enjoy trying out rare DX Calls for size.

In a long QSO with Frank Johnstone, ex-VS1FJ, the writer finds that he is now active from Ceylon as 4S7FJ. Frank tells me that the ban on Amateur Radio was lifted in Ceylon on March 15th, 1959. This is welcome news to many who have needed this country. Frank will be very active so watch for him. His frequency and QTH appear in this issue.

Danny Weil is active from Grenada as VP2GDW and he has finally reached his final destination despite the tragic loss of

Yasme II. Regardless of the loss let us all bemoan the fact that had we given Danny a bit of sleep instead of so many after him, he would have been awake at the helm and Yasme II would now have been on its way to rarer Pacific Islands, which we regret must now await further DX-peditions.

Two VK boys will operate from CRIØ at the end of May or early June for a two weeks period. They promise lots of action and their operation will be mainly on 21 mc/s. Frequencies and times will be advised when final details are worked out.

VK9NT informs me that he has again put up his 6 meter Quad and would like the 6 meter DXers to watch out for him on 50040 kc/s.

From Paul, VQ8AD, comes an outline of what to expect from VQ8 land. VQ8AJC of the Chagos Islands is now in Mauritius. VQ8ASR, whilst still on Rodriguez Island is QRT owing to pressure of work and the lack of a rig, however VQ8AQ has to frequently go to Rodriguez and is going to arrange activity as VQ8AQS. VQ8AH and AV are active daily from Mauritius on 21 mc/s phone.

If you work VS9OM, adhere to the QSL instructions and DO NOT send your cards direct. His position is difficult, to say the least, and his QRT permanently will be hastened by ill advised sending of cards other than by the proper channels.

The Editor General has been quiet this month, and this Editor suspects that he is snowed under with your subscriptions and other attendant duties. It is quite a treat to neither hear complaints nor ill advised remarks that he usually casts my way. All the kids like Jelly Beans and John is such a loveable fellow, especially amongst the YL fraternity.

The Pelagic Islands will be on starting at 2000GMT April 24th to 27th. If all goes well ARRL may see fit to award this new country status so don't pass it up, The frequency is 14100 kc/s on cw. The operator will be ITIZGY and may be operated under any of the following calls depending on what is authorized, i.e.:—ITIZGY/IP; IPIAA or ITØAA. C.W. Stations are to call 5 to 10 kc/s below the frequency. There will be no phone operation for two-way phone, however, he will announce from time to time where he is listening and will work phone stations where he states. QSL's are to be sent to ITITAI with S.A.S.E. for direct return otherwise the cards will be sent via the bureaus.

Karl. UR2BU. informs me that he QSL's all QSO's on all bands or different types of emmission and is very active on 10, 15 and 20 meter phone daily.

VS1JF has requested me to announce to all VE8 Stations that he needs a contact for his W.A.Z. and will be on daily on 21 mc/s on or near 21050 kc/s between 1600 and 2000 GMT looking for VE8s or VO2s. VQ4AQ of Nairobi, Kenya is making up a complete broadcast on world amateur activities for a special program to be broadcast over the C.B.C. in Canada. Further details of this outstanding event and boost for Amateur Radio will be announced shortly.

MP4BBW will visit Trucial Oman for a 2 day stand with S.S.B. so please watch the high end of 20 and 15 for him as it must be a rush affair and may not be able to g i v e much notice. M y informant, MP4BCC tells me it can happen anytime after the 12th of April, 1959.

MP4DAA of Das Island is readying action for 21 mc/s and will be available on the band shortly with A.M. Phone so this one should become a little easier for the phone gang.

A wonderful break for the Canadian Amateur magazine has appeared in the form of Maxwell "Santa Claus" Meyers, W2BIB. Mack is God's gift to the DX man and the following scoops have just been received from him.

EA9 DX-pedition is official. The operators will be Jose, EA4FU and Angel, EA4GA. The call EA9NNJ has been applied for to favor the North New Jersy DX Association. Both the operators are official members of the Spanish Military. It is planned to ship gear to Ceuta and then air-lift it to Ifni by the Spanish Military for use by Jose and Angel. Everything is all set for Mid-May or early June dependant upon Angel's return from the States, where he is now located (Fort Monmouth Radar Training School). and he arrived from Spain April 5th. Frequencies to be used have not been decided upon as yet. A special V Beam will be used to give the VE-West boys an apportunity to snag this luscious morsel. More details to follow.

Mack writes further, "I have arranged the DX-pedition for 9NA in Nepal. This is being established presently and one of the operators will be I1ZFF, Fel, of Rome, Italy. This is scheduled for mid-August. In both the above instances I will supply the gear. Operation will be CW-AM-SSB."

"While there has been a number of San Marino operations, I've worked out something that sounds very good . . . that is, HV1CN/M1. Domenico and Fel (I1ZFF) will be there during June, at the latest, with a KWM1, which I am supplying. Incidently I h a v e arranged t o handle HV1CN's QSLs, details to follow. As I get to see Domenico, HV1CN every few weeks, I intend arranging skeds between him and you Ve boys, on 21 and 14 mc phone."

This concludes another issue and once again may I ask that a few please contribute your thoughts. ideas and criticisms of this clumn. This Editor is your Editor and without your help it becomes a one-sided affair that to me does not show what you really are thinking.

How about some pictures, stories and otherwise of some of you DXers in VE

land so that I can have the Editor show you off to our subscribers and let them see what they have been fighting in their efforts to keep on top!

DX Addresses for those in need:

I1EZZ/M1—Via I1DFC.

ZS5RO/ZS7—Via W8UMR with S.A.S.E.

4S7FJ—Frank Johnstone, R.A.F., Katunayake, Ceylon.

HH6OG—Box 14, Aux Cayes, Haiti. (This is a Catholic Mission and your donations will be in an excellent cause).

PY7HS—Eduardo Jorge Silva, Avn., Duque de Caxias, 1154 Maceio, Alagoas, Brazil.

EL2G—Walter Upshur, Dept. of Justice, Monrovia, Liberia.

VK9NT, VQ3HH, ZB2I, VQ3CF, JZØHA, 9G1BQ and VK9BW—all via W2CTN with S.A.S.E.

VP2GV—Brandon Hall, St. Andrews, Grenada.

VK9LE—Via VK6MK.

PZ1AP—Arnold Polsbroek, Box 547, Paramaribo, Surinam, S.A.

ZD7SE—Via W4ML with S.A.S.E.

VS6DO—QSL via the Bureau ONLY.

As a final parting may I tell Martin Rosenthal, VE3MR, that he has finally won a convert and Martin I will join the ranks of S.S.B. fraternity before the end of the month.

Best regards and good DX, VE7ZM.

CANADIAN DXCC STANDINGS AS TO FEB. 15, 1959—Incl. CW/FONE TOTALS

269
VE7ZM

241
VE7GI

237
VE2WW

230
VE3RE

220
VE1EP

214
VE6NX

212
VE3DIF

210
VE3QD
VE1PQ

209
VE7HC

202
VE3AIU

200
VE3AAZ
VE6VK
VE3JZ
VE7SB

199
VO1DX

195
VE8AW

193
VE7YR

190
VO6EP

187
VE7JB

183
VE2NV

180
VE4XO
VE7VC
VE7VO

173
VE3PK

172
VE3IJ
VE3ES

170
VE7MD

164
VE1HG

163
VE5RU

162
VE2YU

160
VE3IR

156
VE3DKY

153
VE3ZW
VE6KX

152
VE3ADV

151
VE2BV

147
VE3HB

146
VE5JV

143
VE1NH

142
VE1EK

141
VE2WA
VE5KG

140
VE1EX
VE2YA
VE5QZ

136
VE7AIH

131
VE1PA

130
VE3BHS
VE3SR
VE3TB

126
VE3EU

125
VE5GF

123
VE3KP
W1LRK
/VO1

120
VE3AGC
VE3DR
VE2BR

119
VE7KC

118
VE7EH

117
VE7ZZ

116
VE7CE

115
VE2CK

114
VE3BZ

113
VE1DB
VE2BK
VE3ACS

112
VE3XY

111
VE2APH
VE3EHR

110
VE5TK
VE7EH

109
VE4DB
VE7AHG
VE7KJ

108
VE6GD

107
VE1ZZ

106
VE3AHV
VO1B

105
VE3ANH
VE3IG
VE3KE
VE3YV
VE6AO

103
VE1BK
VE3BWY
VO6U

102
VE1BV
VE3BUR
VE3QE
VE3RM
VE6FK
VE7OJ
VE8OW

101
VE1CU
VE1OK
VE1OM
VE2ATD
VE5DR
VE6JR
VE6MN
VE6MZ
VE7YE

100
VE1EA
VE1GJ
VE1NE
VE1YB
VE2AFC
VE2KZ
VE3ARS
VE3BMB
VE3QB
VE3OR
VE5VL
VE7AAD
VE7CN
VE7ZK

CALL AREA LEADERS

VE1EP	VE4XO	VE7ZM
VE2WW	VE5RU	VE8AW
VE3RE	VE6NX	VO1DX

Civic Officials Present At Opening of Sydney Clubroom

By Cyril Boudreau, VE1RJ

"Just hold on a while, boys. The mayor and the other dignitaries are coming in the door now," came the voice over the speaker.

The audience, one that could not possibly all be seated in one room, was scattered from Bathurst to Halifax and Yarmouth to Glace Bay!

"Impossible!" you say.

Not at all. The audience consisted of amateur radio operators (and many "short-wave" listeners) from the three Maritime provinces, listening in on the Maritime Network frequency (3,750 kilocycles) to the official opening of the new Sydney Amateur Radio clubroom on Bridget street in Sydney.

Civic dignitaries were present along with fellow amateurs from the surrounding area close to 50 in number. Several contacts were made with operators throughout the Maritimes and highlights of the evening were contacts made with the Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, Hon. Walter Hyndman, (well-known operator of amateur radio station VE1BZ), His Worship Mayor Edwin G. Johnston, Charlottetown; Mayor Russel Urquhart of Sydney, present at the Sydney Club.

Rev. C. H. Boudreau, operator of VE1HY sent congratulations to the club and to the two mayors and Lieutenant-Governor from Halifax Mayor Charles A. Vaughan who was unable to listen in due to civic duties.

WELL-KNOWN HAM

The master of ceremonies for the evening at the clubroom was Murdock (Mac) MacLean, well-known in ham radio circles as the operator of amateur radio station VE1FR.

The officers of the Sydney Amateur Radio Club, which by the way is licensed under the call VE1AEP, are: president, Howard MacKay, VE1WI; vice-president, Richard Foote, VE1ST; secretary, Hector MacKinnon, VE1HT, and treasurer, Howie McPhail, VE1LA.

A Radio Operators Restricted course designed to train personnel enrolled in Civil Defence as Radio Operators will be held in the lecture room (302) at the Police headquarters, 105 Brunswick St. on the four Thursdays in March starting at 8 p.m.

This course is sponsored by the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and is being set up to train candidates to the standard required by the Department of Transport, to enable them to obtain the certificate "Radio Operator Restricted", commonly known as ROR. This certificate will permit the holder to act as a Civil Defence communicator on specific commercial Radio Frequency bands, and to operate certain types of radio equipment on behalf of civil defence. It will also train another group as telephone operators in procedure and correct message writing.

Instructors for this course will be: Major E. J. Vickery, director of Civil Defence for Halifax; S. E. Frederick, Communications officer Halifax Civil Defence; Ray W. Wilson, Radio Officer, Halifax Civil Defence and president of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club; Norman Weedmark, CD instructor and Ian MacLeod, H.A.R.C.

The course will cover such subjects as the participation of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club in civil defence, requirements for "Radio Operators Restricted", CD message forms, a review of Phonetic Alphabet (NATO), microphone technique and many other subjects leading to the ROR certificate.

Albert Duberger, operator of amateur radio station VE2HB in Quebec City related this story of cooperation among hams and police patrols which took place earlier.

A Montreal couple had left that area for a vacation trip to Florida, when one of the family at home passed away. Police were notified and immediately a search was started for the Montreal car.

Highway patrols in the U.S., along with

Bouquet Department

Marv, VE7AKD, and his XYL Katy, have just returned from Palm Desert, where they were enjoying a well deserved rest. Marv recently retired from active business, (my inside information is that Katy insisted that he give up his work and come home to help landscape their acreage in British Properties, the amount of rock and dirt that has to be moved would cost something unbearable, and no one knows better than Katy that Marv has moved a lot of it in his day.) Welcome home folks.

VE7AKD has earned a spot in this column, that should fill the whole magazine. It was Marv who supplied the first kick in the pants to your Editor. It was he who said. "QUIT-UR-BELLIACHIN, take this, get the H- - - out of my office and do something with it! While the dream of a national Canadian Amateur Magazine had been with me for many years, I will never forget the push that Marv supplied that helped to make it a reality.

police of several cities were asked to help in the search for the Montreal car.

Mr. Duberger, with other Quebec and Montreal area radio amateurs, put their stations on the air and called the neighboring states of Vermont, New York, North Carolina, down to Florida.

"We finally ended up getting in contact with the couple in Orlando, Florida," said Mr. Duberger. "They were notified of the death of their relative and returned immediately."

"We appreciate the help that we received from all concerned in locating them. Operators of amateur stations W2BFH, K2ARU and W4BFC along with Canadian operators of VE2AAH, VE2AG, VE2AJS and VE2CX (many stations on the frequencies used were also very helpful) are to be commended for a job well done."

And to wind this up, keep in mind that this is "Hamfest" year. Amateurs from Eastern Canada and many parts of the U.S. will be in Halifax on Labour Day weekend.Final arrangements and further plans will be discussed later.

A reminder here to please keep the frequency of 3,750 kilo-cycles clear between 1830 (6:30 p.m.) hours and the end of the Maritime Network. The Newfoundland Net at 6:30 and the local net at 7:00 p.m. find it easier to conduct traffic (messages) when the frequency is clear and thus can speed up roll-call and the transfer of formal or informal messages.—"73"

"DO THOSE FELLAS KNOW IT'S 3 A.M. HERE?"

"It's the hobby of hobbies"—So says amateur operator Rev. C. H. Boudreau, D.D., assistant at St. Stephen's Church, shown above at his station.

Radio Hams Strive For Various Prized Awards

By Cyril Boudreau, VE1RJ

"We are situated about 20 miles from the closest glimpse of civilization and amateur radio is our only connection with the outside world," came the voice over the radio speaker.

The voice was that of one of two Roman Catholic missionaries, at a Benedictine monastery in Puerto Rico.

The words were addressed to local amateur radio operator Rev. C.H. Boudreau. D.D.. assistant at St. Stephen's Church, and Rt. Rev. W. Leo Murphy, P.P., D.P., St. Stephen's, who was listening in with Fr. Boudreau.

"You might be interested to know that you are also talking to two Canadian Roman Catholic priests." said Father Boudreau in return. . . and thus was the beginning of a pleasant "rag-chew" between Halifax and Puerto Rico.

Fr. Boudreau. known to many over the airwaves as "Henry", (all amateur operators address each other by their first name, be they company executives, doctors, priests, princes or school boys) has had his amateur radio license since January, '57. He was awarded the call letters VE1HY after passing the required examinations by the Department of Transport.

Since then he has communicated with over 3,000 "hams" in 79 countries from Baffin Islands to Santiago, Chile; Hawaii to Moscow; and from Melbourne, Australia to Capetown, South Africa.

Father Boudreau is presently working for two awards issued by the American Radio Relay League in West Hartford, Conn. One is the WAS (Worked all States) certificate and the other is the DXCC (a certificate showing that an amateur has made, and confirmed, contact with 100 countries).

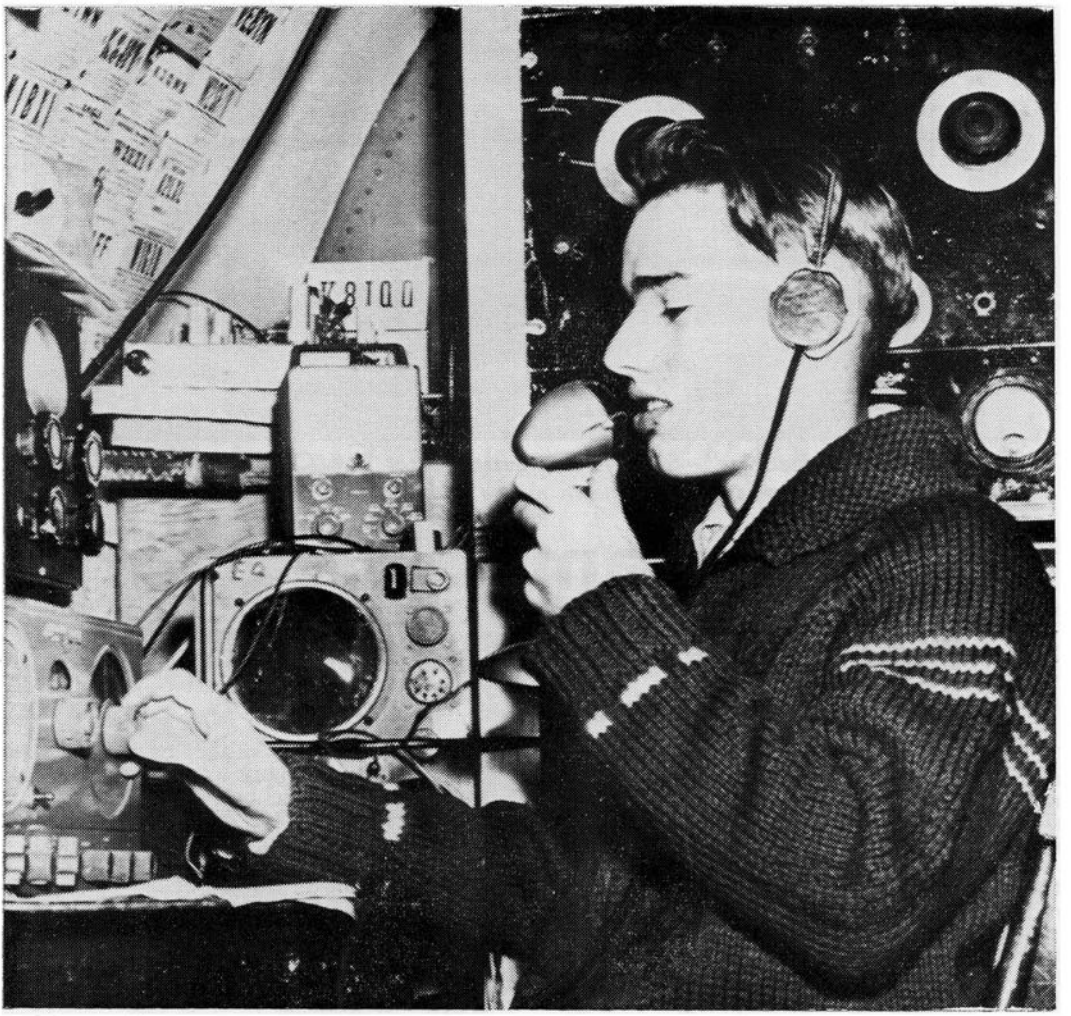
Of the former, Fr. Boudreau says "I still

(Continued on Page 34)

Youthful Ham Operator Boasts Unique Station

By CYRIL BOUDREAU, VE1RJ

Ever wonder what it's like to carry on a direct conversation with a fellow in Belgium, chat about weather conditions with a worker on the DEW (distant early warning) line in the Yukon Territory or just find out what's new in San Diego, California—all without leaving the comforts of your own home? It's done every day all over the world! Who pays the long distance rates? Nobody, because it's done by amateur radio, or more commonly known as "ham" radio.



Bob Schultz, VE1HF, chats from old abandoned Hudson bomber.

LINKED IN DISASTERS

This fraternity has existed ever since the end of the First World War and is increasing yearly as more people become aware of its importance as a link in communications during times of disaster, floods, etc. and of the enjoyment derived from it when used as a hobby.

Of all the "ham" operators in Nova Scotia, 18-year-old Bob Schultz of Lower Sackville, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Schultz and student in radio and television

at the Halifax County Vocational High School, carries on with his hobby the same as any other ham in the province, with one difference. That difference is in the location of Bob's station—it is situated in an old abandoned Hudson Bomber, formerly a roadside canteen, off the Sackville highway.

Bob received his license to operate an amateur station in November, 1957.

An amateur radio station, such as that owned and operated by Bob Schultz, consists primarily of a transmitter (to the uninitiated this is a piece of radio equipment that sends your voice or the dots and dashes of the International Morse Code over the airwaves), a shortwave communications receiver, a microphone, a telegraph key and an antenna—the latter being anything from a long wire to a more elaborate (and expensive) "beam".

It should be mentioned here that any person may listen to any conversation on any frequency, but if it is desired to operate a transmitter and thus take part in these conversations, an examination must be written and the station must be licensed with the Government.

Depending on the type of receiver a person has, he may listen to standard broadcast, shortwave, police, marine, amateur and many others. The amateur "band" is the one on which Bob and all other hams operate.

EARNS HIS LICENSE

To obtain his license, Bob had to learn the International Morse Code (the receiving and sending of code at a speed of not less than 10 words per minute), study basic radio theory (have a knowledge of the Canadian and international regulations governing the operation of an amateur station. Regulations require one to be a British subject and to be 15 years of age.

On having passed his examination, Bob was awarded a Certificate Of Proficiency In Radio (Amateur Class) granted by the Minister of Transport under the provision of the Radio Act and a license to operate his station.

Bob was given call letters by which he identifies himself "over the air", the same as any other radio station. In Canada all call letters awarded the amateur begin with the letters VE. Following the letters is a number determining the region from which the licensed amateurs operate. Number 1 designates the Maritimes; Number 2 is for Quebec; 3 for Ontario, etc. Again following these two letters and numbers are the operator's own letters issued by the Department of Transport. Bob's call letters are VE1IF. (Every country has it's own prefix . G for England, F for France, K and W for the United States—all included in a list of approximately 200 prefixes or more).

There are radio men, engineers, doctors, lawyers, politicians, members of the clergy, students, janitors and even housewives who have their amateur radio licenses.

A few notables among hams are such men as General Curtis LeMay, cigar-chewing former head of the U.S. Strategic Air Command, and popular U.S. radio personality, Arthur Godfrey.

Under Canadian regulations, a newly licensed ham must remain on Morse Code (restricted to the use of his telegraph key) for one year. Then after another set of exams he may make use of his microphone. Bob at the present time is at this stage and plans to take his second exam "as soon as I can copy the Morse Code at a speed of 15 words per minute" (the speed required for the second exam).

The maximum power output of an amateur transmitter must be under 525 watts. In the U.S. the maximum is 1000 watts.

The cost of such a station?

A neat little station, one that will possibly limit operations to within the North American continent, due to low power, can be had for anywhere between $150.00 to $200. A newcomer is advised to try to build his own transmitter if possible and thus have a better knowledge as to its operation and care.

Bob has a commercially built receiver, a medium powered transmitter, five different antennae and scores of radio parts and tubes. The station is neatly laid out in the mid-section of the aircraft and behind the door upon which are the words "Amateur Radio Station VE1IF", Bob talks to newly made friends—whether they be in Europe, South America, or just a few miles away in Sackville.

Celebrates 31st

How many of you have found yourself trying to describe the thrill of your first QSO? Particularly to a SWL! It just can't be done. Oh, you can talk about it, wave your arms and grow misty-eyed, but there is something indescribable about the first time you hear your call sign come back at you, whether it be from the next block or from Tibet!

Two old timers met on the air a short while ago, to relive that wonderful moment. . . "This is my first time on the air. . . Ah, my name is Dave, and, ah, my call is VE4GO. . . How do you copy me?"

"Fine business Dave, and I am very happy to be your first contact, welcome to the Amateur fraternity, my name is Charles and you have my call rite, VE4 Able Charlie . I hope this is the beginning of many more QSO's in the future."

Dave was experiencing that unforgetable something Amateurs anticipate and then proceed to blow apart when it happens!

It was a birthday of 31 years that Charles was helping Dave to celebrate, March 11th was the date. Dave is now VE5GO and Charles is VE3GS, now in Port Arthur. Congratulations kids, hope we are around to hear you celebrate your "Golden Anniversary."

nights were the following: 2KF, Mr. Partridge of London, 2SZ, Mr. Goyder, Mill Hill School, 5BV, Mr. Ryan of Wimbledon, and 2SH, Mr. Hogg of London. I cannot remember any others at present. All the above should have their names placed high in the hall of amateur radio fame, and heading the list should be 2OD and 2NM who by their untiring efforts pushed their signals through here every night for months without missing a single night and encouraged us to try night after night to connect with them.

By March, 1924, five out of ten amateur stations in Halifax district had held two way communications with the Old Country and as a mark of distinction we formed a society called the Royal Order of Trans-Atlantic Brasspounders, or R.O.T.A.B. for short, into which only those who had held two-way communication across the Atlantic could become members. Each member was allowed to put the word ROTAB on his cards which were sent to stations they have had two way communication with or have heard and it was not long before the idea took on and today there are many cards going all over the world with the word ROTAB printed on them.

Night after night the whole ten stations in Halifax would come on and call such as the following: CQ, CQ, CQ, gc, 1DD, 1DD, to try and hook an English station. It will be noticed that in between the CQ and the station call of 1DD that the letters gc were used. This was a scheme that turned out to be very useful. All Canadian stations had, in those days, the letter "C" before the call and all English stations had the letter "G" before their call and by sending c.g., all English stations knew that it was a Canadian station calling CQ and trying to get in touch with England. By this system we were able to recognize what countries were on the air among amateurs and if we had any tests or messages for any special country we could immediately get attention in the direction we wanted.

From these first two way tests with England many friendships have sprung up. G2OD and C1BQ were like brothers in a very short time and it was very interesting to listen to them discussing technical details of different types of transmitters, receivers, etc., over a distance of nearly three thousand miles, just as many of the readers of this magazine do in the morning on the train or bus in to the city to work.

In addition to the many friendly chats and tests that we held by radio, we would send letters following up some point that had been mentioned by radio, and nothing did more to create a feeling of comradeship than these two-way tests.

In these early days I often wondered what the fellow at the other end looked like and it has been my privilege since then to see most of these early English amateurs in person since that date. By constant working we got to know what each man thought about different subjects in radio and it was surprising how near to my imagination the different English amateurs turned out to be, from the idea of them I had formed from contacts by radio. It was very funny of course at times. I would get the idea that one would be old and another young and I must say that in this point I often got the wrong idea. Whatever I thought however, it made me all the more anxious to see them and one night in contact with G2NM I suggested to him that I would like to see him in person and a few nights afterwards when I called CQ-GE 1DD, great was my joy when I got hold of 2NM again and he announced that he was sailing for Canada in a couple of weeks time and would call to see me.

The story of how we met and how we went to visit some famous USA amateurs and further work accomplished by the ROTAB's is another story in itself. In the meantime I would advise all interested in radio, that if they want a real thrill, to learn the International Morse Code, get a license and give us a call. As the amateur says in radio telegraphy, QRV QTC? After around forty years of amateur radio, the same thrill and interest is ever present in this wide world hobby—Boy, and what a difference in gear used today from that of yesteryear!

NEW GEAR DEPARTMENT

RME's New 4350A COMMUNICATION RECEIVER

This new column starts off with a bang! I am as thrilled to tell you about the 4350A, as you will be to win it! ! !

Yes, that is the contest first prize! And I can truthfully say it is a honey, because I have had it on my operating table long enough to become acquainted with it. It is just jam-packed with value and will do just about everything!

was followed. A Heathkit QF-1 was used, and the phone jack on the rear panel of the receiver came in handy here. It happens to be near enough to the mixer to utilize for coupling the VF-1 to the NC-88. The .01 mfd. condenser coupling the jack to the 1st audio stage was removed, and in its place a short length of small dia. coax was run to the mixer plate. It was decided that the necessary addition of an octal socket to the rear apron to supply plate and filament voltage to the Q Multiplier stage would not detract from any trade-in value the receiver might have .

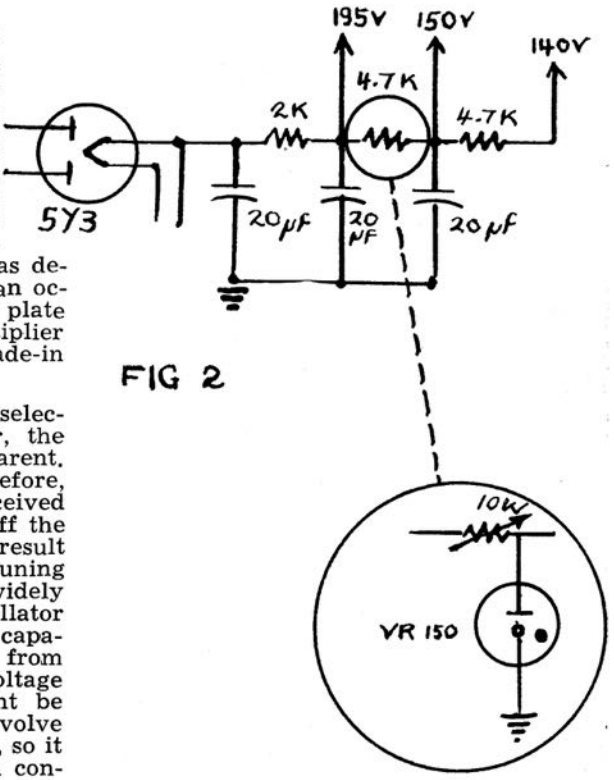


FIG 2

STABILITY: With the increased selectivity afforded by the Q Multiplier, the drift of the receiver soon became apparent. Although not especially noticeable before, the drift would now cause the received signal (especially on CW) to move off the peak of the IF response curve. The result was that the receiver required tuning every few minutes. The three most widely used methods of stabilizing an oscillator are; use of temperature-compensated capacitors, isolating the tuned circuits from heat-producing components, and voltage stabilization. The first method might be tricky to apply, the second would involve major changes in the layout of the set, so it was decided to try the third. After a considerable amount of experimenting, a VR 150 voltage regulator tube was working on the "Breadboard", connected by haywire leads to the squawkbox. It was found that WWV would remain zero beat to the BFO for a much greater length of time with the VR tube than without it. The VR tube would have to be incorporated, but I was reluctant to punch the chassis for another socket - - besides, there really wasn't much room on the power-supply end. Figure 3 shows how the socket was mounted by drilling only three small holes in the chassis. Figure 2 shows the minor circuit changes necessary. The resistor shown in the small circle was removed and the resistor and VR tube shown in the larger circle hooked up in its place. The resistor used was a 10K 10-watt unit with a slider. It is adjusted until the maximum VR tube current flows with no external load. (Usually 30 or 40 mills).

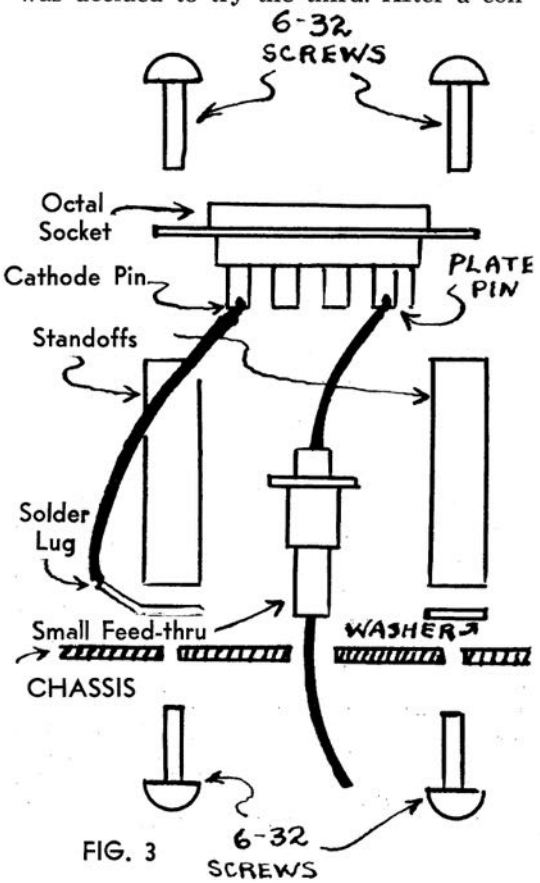


FIG. 3

The above changes have effected a marked improvement in reception. Possibly they can be used to advantage by others with this type of "hearing aid." More important, they may give someone a better idea. Getting the most from your receiver will help your QSO's as much as adding a kilowatt. "You can't work 'em if you can't hear 'em."

(Footnote 1) It is generally agreed that the buyer of a piece of Ham gear prefers it to be in original "factory" condition. Unmodified circuitry and unmarred cabinets are most desirable if gear is to be traded in on new equipment.

The Scotsman's Wee Corner

Wee, sleekit, cowrin', tim'rous Beastie,
Oh what a panic's in thy breastie,
For ma wee story lies in ruin,
Crushed by ane that's close pursuin'.
If ye wud ken why aem au agley
Take a look along the way.

TRANSLATION — The Scotsman regrets to announce that (so and so's) article "x x x x" has stolen (och!) all his thunder on stabilizing the Scotsmans Special converter and in fact, describes the modifications more completely. As McSqueak blawed his way out the door however, he did announce that the A.V.C. would have to be removed from the mixer tube of the receiver to permit the I.F. feedback to work right on c.w. reception.

He also added that a good 12 volt power supply for testing mobile equipment could be built around a Heathkit transformer part no. 54-25 (about $8.00).

Next month—A twa Meter Converter.

REV. BOUDREAU, VE1HY—Continued

need Vermont, Wyoming and Nevada for WAS and for 100 countries, I have 79 contacted and 66 confirmed."
(All ham operators have cards upon which are their call letters and other information relative to proof of contact with another station—these cards, in radio telegraph abbreviations, are known as QSL cards).

One other certificate which Fr. Boudreau is working on is that of the Flamingo Club. This club comprises 10 amateur operators from, in or around, Miami, Florida. Upon contacting (and confirming) these 10 members, an amateur receives a certificate and a crate of oranges.

Displayed on the wall of Fr. Boudreau's office, in which his station is located, are numerous certificates—one issued by the Communications Department of the American Radio Relay League nominating him Assistant Emergency Co-ordinator for Halifax County, a certificate from the Radio Society of Great Britain, electing him a member, and a Rag Chewers' Club certificate. This last one is awarded any ham operator who carries on a conversation for one-half hour with any other ham and the same reported to the ARRL headquarters in West Hartford, Conn.

Shortly after receiving his license, Fr. Boudreau was appointed vice-president of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club.

Asked what he thinks of "ham" radio, Fr. Boudreau says "It's the hobby of hobbies. I've had many of them in the past years and this one is the most enjoyable and satisfying."

"I WAS THERE!"—Continued

name for a while! Then the exam was finally over!

I had passed! I had passed!

Coupled with the fact I had just ordered myself a brand new National NC-300, I felt like Walt Disney when he sold his first cartoon!

The calibration part of the xmtr was done by another good friend, VE1HC, Howie Wyman. Why didn't I do it myself? Well, now that, my friend, is a long story. I'm no whiz when it comes to fixin' things and especially calibrating. The fact is I trusted ole Howie exactly umpteen times more than myself.

Ah, as every ham knows, that period of waiting for the call sign . . . that was a long wait!

After two weeks of waiting and waiting I started to call home every day at about the time the postman would be in the vicinity of our house.

February 6th, 1958! That was the day! My call was VE1RJ!

I found out at 11:48 a.m. and at 12:07 (I go to lunch at 12:00 noon—the seven minutes are the time it took me to get there) I was in the local printing shop ordering my QSLs! Is this a record?

With the help of VE1HY and many local other ham friends, I had my first honest-to-goodness QSO with VE1UQ, Fred in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Well, there you are! All hams know the rest of the story.

You get a call from further and further and when a fellow in Honolulu answered my CQ . . . well, I got to work at 9 a.m. instead of 8:30, bragged about it all month and, as I say, you all know that wonderful feeling of accomplishment! After all, the guy was in Honolulu and I was in Halifax! (Let's see, he gave me 569!)

Due to space, or I should say lack of the stuff, my antenna is only a windom. Only a windom? The thing only cost me roughly $3.50 but I worked 56 countries and 44 states all in about 800-plus contacts. It's not the best antenna, but it works. And I've had fun. Isn't that the important thing?

CYRIL BOUDREAU—Born in Port Hood around 1934, first born son of Dr. Gabriel Boudreau, then a young struggling physician in his first years of practice. Five years later, the Boudreaus moved to Belle Cote, Inverness County and then to Chéticamp, where Cyril went to grammar school and spent his boyhood days.

Cyril went to St. Mary's University for a few years, followed by a draughtsman course and a radio course. He finally found a job at the Herald & Mail as proofreader.

He became interested in ham radio mostly through his uncle, VE1HY, and after a while managed to pass brilliantly his exams for his license as VE1RJ. His interests in radio led him to write several stories on ham radio and radio operators, finally accepting the position as correspondent for the Canadian Amateur.

The Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association—Continued

when you consider the fact that quite a percentage of call letter holders are not active.

We became incorporated and received our By-Laws on April 17, 1957.

Our first objective for the betterment of amateur radio was a great challenge and called for a great deal of work as you might have guessed by this time it was: Call sign plates for Nova Scotia amateurs.

This project was started in earnest early in 1957 and a committee of 6 members was chosen to compile statistics and material for a brief to be submitted to the Hon. G. T. Smith, Minister of Highways for the Province of Nova Scotia and on December 3, 1958, the association was informed by the Honourable gentleman that he was happy to inform us that it appeared feasible to grant our request for call sign plates to all amateurs in Nova Scotia having pleasure cars registered in their own name.

A party wihch is gaining favor in Nova Scotia is the annual visit of Santa Claus to net control of the NSARA. He arrives the Sunday before Xmas in all his splendour and talks to all the harmonics within hearing distance who are fortunate enough to have amateur XYLs or OMs. (Wonder who enjoys the party the most—the harmonics or the OMs!)

A total of 160 amateurs have made application for call sign plates for the year 1959 and we hope to be displaying them by the time this issue of "The Canadian Amateur" is distributed across Canada and all amateurs in Nova Scotia sincerely appreciate the privilege that has been granted them by the Province of Nova Scotia.

The present slate of officers are: Pres., Hugh H. Corkum, VE1VN; 1st Vice-Pres., Murray Banks, VE1GA; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mac McLean; Secy-Treas., Jim Carr, ADM; Our annual meeting is held at Ham Fest time over the Labor Day week-end during the Maritime Section ARRL Convention at which time we elect our officers for the year, also every Sunday afternoon on 3750 kc/s at 4 p.m. a regular meeting is held. An important function of the weekly meeting is the swap shop, under the capable supervision of VE1AAR, Lou Darres who has information at his fingertips on anything from an 807 tube to a Globe King transmitter.

All our members have dedicated their stations to assist in Civil Defence and in any emergency that may arise at any time throughout the Province. Also we do encourage the youth of our Province to become interested in amateur radio.

Several other worthy projects are appearing over the horizon, so although the history of the association is young we do look forward to the future with the thought and confidence that the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association will have a worthy part to play for the betterment of the "King" of hobbies—Amateur Radio.

Hugh H. Corkum, VE1VN.

If you notice a VE5 with his call sign car license plates, don't blow a gasket. It just happens to be one of the four VE5s who live in the town of Lloydminster, half of which is in Alberta and half in Saskatchewan.

As the world now knows, the Alberta Government recently awarded the VE6s their special license plates. You know those four lucky stiffs, running around with VE5 plates might create a lot of interest in the right places in Sask!

To VE4TT, Ted, in Winnipeg, an orchid or two for his tremendous spirit, Canadian that is. He must accept a bucket full of credit for whatever success your little book has had. Through his efforts the Canadian Amateur Magazine now has a lovely YL correspondent, VE4PE, Peggy, who incidentally is entitled to wear her corsage for having recently acquired her class "A" license. Peggy will soon be stealing a lot of the spotlight a certain very smooth operator has been basking in for many years. Don't feel too badly about it mother, you will have your memories!

A SILENT VOICE

Della, VE3DMX, XYL of Pat O'Shea, passed away rather suddenly on April 10th. We grieve with you Pat in your Sadness.

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and, the RME 9 D also became a legend. With it he was able to hear VE8 signals that no one else in VE1 land was able to do. He used the RME receiver until the last two years when he acquired a collins 75A3. It must have been with great misgivings that Brit retired the RME as he did the national SW-3. He still has possession of these receivers.

When Brit began his skeds with the Northland the only people up there were the Dept. of Transport operators manning the weather stations, a few scattered R.C.M.P. and the Hudson Bay Co. men. There was no Dew line—this came into being in recent years. At first people travelled from far and near to Brit's ham shack to be able to talk to relatives in the North. Later, Brit was to have the first workable phone patch in the Maritimes. He used the phone patch to enable those in the North to speak as far South as Florida and California. He spared no effort and expense to allow these phone patches to go through. Day after day, week after week and month after month VE1FQ could be heard on 20 meter phone working the VE8's. He has handled so much Northland traffic that he has been dubbed "The Northern Messenger". What would have been work for anyone else was for Brit Fader a great source of pleasure.

Some of the places which Brit has had regular contact include Lake Harbour, Resolution Nottingham and Baffin Islands. Some of the personage who were operators in these remote spots like Dick Vaughn, Al Wilson and Mic McWilliams have since become successful executives in their respective businesses.

In addition to his 20 meter work, Brit also found time for 75 meter phone. In the late forties and the early fifties Brit used a BC-696 command set running 8 watts. With this low power he has been heard all over the Maritimes, always Q5 and at times up to 20 B over 9. It was always with a great deal of surprise when he informed the ham on the other end of the low power he was using.

When time from his work as a postal employee allowed (he works on a shift) Brit always called in on the Maritime phone net on 3750 kc, which meets nightly at 1900 hours AST. He became the acting net controller of this net and for the past three years it's net control.

He has a wealth of information at his finger tips and cheerfully undertakes all requests. He was one of the original members of the Air Force Amateur Radio System which constituted the start of organized net operation in the Maritimes.

Some of the awards which Brit acquired through the years are Royal Order of Trans-Atlantic Brass Pounders (pre-war award when working across the pond was really something), DXcc, WAS,WBE OPS, Old Timers Club, RCC and many other meritorous awards. He's been offered the position of SCM, Maritime Section but has turned this down due to his many other activities. He is a charter member of the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association and a staunch supporter of the American Radio Relay League.

Last August 1958 the crowning point came to the career of Brit Fader. Always considered a confirmed Batchelor, he took unto himself an XYL in the charming person of Gwen. They set up home at Sackville, Nova Scotia and now the VE1 district is very fortunate not only to have a QSL Manager but a very efficient assistant QSL Manager.

You will be hearing further from Brit Fader, as he has undertaken to be chairman of the Publicity Committee for the Maritime Section, ARRL convention to be held in Halifax, N.S. over the Labour Day week-end Sept. 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1959. Knowing Brit as we do we know he will do a bang up job as usual.

Canadian Amateur Radio should salute Brit Fader, VE1FQ. He has contributed much that is worthy of his time and energy to ensure that a job worth doing, was done and done well. We can use many more Brit Faders in the hobby of Amateur Radio.

We were very fortunate in getting this snap of Aaron Solomon. He seldom stays in one place long enough to permit anyone to get him on film! The well-formed crown in the foreground belongs to VE7PS, Bob Shaw.

Nova Scotians Receive Special Call Sign Car License Plates

BY J. KEITH YOUNG

If perchance an unwary pedestrian may notice an automobile passing with licence plates of the correct color but an odd mixture of letters and numbers, let him not call a policeman, for these plates are in order. But those letters? Merely the call letters of an ardent "ham" radio operator, possibly a member of the rapidly growing Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association.

Formed in 1956, this association became incorporated in May, 1957. One of it's first big projects was to obtain special call sign plates for members' automobiles. Many of the States in the U.S. as well as the provinces of Quebec, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta already have issued such plates to be used only by such amateur radio operators.

Nova Scotia has followed suit this month. Presentation of the first set of call letter plates were made by Hon. G. I. Smith, minister of highways, to Hugh H. Corkum, VE1VN, Lunenburg. Mr. Corkum is president of the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association.

Amateur Radio Operators are always ready to step in and help in communications whenever disaster or emergency demands their aid. In order to obtain an amateur licence, the operator must pass examinations and obtain a certificate of proficiency in radio granted by the Minister of Transport under the provisions of the national Radio Act. Then, providing all rules and regulations are complied with and the annual licence fee is paid, the licence to use radio is issued annually. Of course only certain airwave frequencies are allocated to the amateur bands.

A network of these amateurs stretches from Cheticamp to Yarmouth, thus covering the entire province. There have been many times when amateur radio has been put to good use; times when lines were down and other communications were inefficient. Remember the Moose River disaster many years ago? The many 1957 storms such as Hurricane Edna? Civil Defence and military searches for downed planes? Literally dozens of examples could be brought to mind in which the importance of the "ham" operator has been recognized and heeded.

Now they have been granted the privilege of having call letter plates issued for pleasure cars and registered in their own name.

All administrative work in connection with obtaining this privilege was done within the association, the president, Mr. Corkum, acting as association registrar. Each member wishing to have these call letter plates had to pay a fee of $3 over and above the regular registration fee.

ANNOUNCING ! ! !

A NEW TRANS-CANADA CW NET ON 40 METERS!

It is efforts such as this that help justify our existance. Let's assist these boys in every way possible. Good luck, fellows.

Starting Monday, April 20th, at 1900 Pacific Standard Time, on 7110 kc/s, the following high powered stations will commence handling traffic for all parts of Canada. For British Columbia, VE7TF; for Alberta, VE6WG and VE6XG; for Saskatchewan, VE5AJ. The call of the Manitoba control will become available in a few days. These boys are top-notch traffic handlers—You can't throw too much at them . . . Try it! Their motto, "WE WANT TRAFFIC!" More details next month.

—7JB de 7TF.

We Got To Go Where The News Comes From

During a recent QSO (something of a rarity now for me), I was asked by a rather slow speaking buddie, "Why do you jump all over like a jack-rabbit — wouldn't it be better to take each area in turn?"

I hope my answer explains my jack-rabbiting! I was definitely going to do just that—introduce "The Canadian Amateur" magazine to each province in turn, until all had received their dedicated copy. But the little book has to go where the news is! The provinces that are co-operating most, must receive their copy first.

—The Editor.

VE4 Published Early Canadian Magazine

Did you know that a certain VE4 published a magazine back in the 1920s? He called it "Canadian Wireless." Did you know that I am going to twist his arm until he screams, "OK, OK, I'll give you permission to use them!" Did you know, say, I'll wager there's a lot of things you didn't know in those wonderful old books that Darby, VE4EI used to publish! .....

LETTERS to the EDITOR

IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!

(Continued from Page 3)

you rather lose—300 kc/s from 40 meters or 300 from 20 meters?

(d) Region two (Canada and the U.S. and the South Americas) could refuse to agree to a world wide change and leave 40 and 20 meters as they are today but wouldn't 20 be lonely without the Gs, KAs, KRs, SMs, ZSs,, ZLs, etc., etc.

If the DOT were forced to ask "What'll it be boys, 40 or 20" where do you stand? Have you ever told anybody? No! Why? Who should you tell? Well the National Canadian Representative for Canada is Mr. Alex Reid of the ARRL. He is the only National Representative. We do not have a Canadian organization. The closest is this magazine which boldly says "The Cana dian Amateur." All right, then get behind it. Send your letters to the Editor. Send him a subscription also, the magazine is not printed free. Send him some technical articles—write from Halifax to Vancouver and from Aklavik to Windsor. Make your voice heard on paper before you lose it on the mike or key.

73, A Canadian Amateur.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE 1.4 MC BAND OF AMATEUR FREQUENCIES

Gentlemen:—

With respect to the above, we the undersigned, after careful consideration feel that the prime objectives to be achieved by increasing the American (U.S.) telephony privileges to cover that portion of the 1.4 Mc band from 14,200 Kc to 14,350 Kc will only result in severe hardship and a deterioration of international goodwill.

As it is apparent that the basic aim is to protect the 1.4 mc allotment for North American amateurs when these frequencies come up for review at the Geneva Convention this year, we feel that the suggested move or increase of phone privileges for U.S. amateurs is not justified at this time in the manner put forth.

We would propose that this basic protection could be achieved by the complete revision of the various emmission allotments for the 1.4 Mc band in the following manner:

14,000 kc/s to 14,350 kc/s A1
14250 kc/s to 14350 kc/s A3

And that the above be the operating frequencies alloted to U.S. amateurs.

In the above change as suggested all international relations will remain amicable; and further, it is noteworthy that this proposed basic principle of allotment has already been used in the 2.1 mc and 2.8 mc bands. Thus a unified system would result on the higher frequencies if this proposal was implemented.

The FCC must give thorough consideration to the fact that the 1.4 mc band is the most used international amateur band in existence and that the high power privileges of U.S. amateurs more than offset all the **combined** allowable power limits of all other countries' amateurs.

It must be borne in mind that any increase in phone privileges for high-powered stations is only going to restrict the low-powered members that operate at present. Thus we feel, that the suggested change is no solution to amateur frequency problems.

Yours Sincerely,
R.F. Stephenson, VE7VA
Secty. for Cowichan Valley Radio Club
(VE7ANK)

Dear Sir:

Every now and then, someone offers criticism of the c.w. operator, and, on some occasions, has gone so far as to suggest that he be denied the use of the so-called "Phone bands."

To a certain degree, I am in accord with the phone man. There should be a band set aside for the exclusive use of those who prefer to telephone to each other. for that is all it really is. There should be International agreement on such a band, and c.w. men denied the use of it.

I feel that if this were to be done, the phone man would have to think of some new suggestions which would shield him from other phone men. One hears carriers thrown on the air without any check whatever being made as to whether or not there is already an occupant of that frequency. It is far from pleasant to go to extra trouble to make contact with a friend on a certain frequency, and to then have an ethereal whistler kill all conversation with his nonsensical chirpings, puffings, and "Hallo-o-o-o-o, test," not bothering to give his call, until he has assured himself that he is going out on the air, no matter how or where. Then, he will retire from the air waves, and leave his victims fuming. No c.w. man can mess up a frequency in such a manner, unless he is a local, with a powerful transmitter. The opponent of c.w. will also have to devise schemes to correct the fellow who, on phone, waits until the exact second one is getting a vital piece of information, and then slams his carrier on the frequency, and shouts, "Break! Break! Break!" It would never do for him to wait until he knows one operator is turning it over to the other, and then do his dirt.

When an emergency arises, as is far from probable, the c.w. man will be of just as vital importance as the phone man, and can be depended to throw himself into things with as much sincerity of purpose as anyone. It is a bit funny to note how popular the c.w. man is when contacts are wanted, during some contest! After it is over, he should be relegated to another band, however.

I would like to see suggestions from sensible operators as to how what may turn into a nasty situation can be remedied, thus keeping careless and unfeeling c.w. men from getting the remainder of us into a situation where we are considered

to be nothing better than a nuisance to anyone and everyone. We are not ALL bad.

A. E. S. Whittaker,
(VE1RT, on c.w.)

The Editor:

The article by Verne J. Read, VE7EH, on page 9 of the March issue of the "Amateur" that we have read from cover to cover, is alarming. Why it is necessary to even think of chopping the ham bands is a mystery to me. This assumes that that is what the European block is aiming at.

Just for ducks, when I read the article, I went to the receiver, which is an SX-25, and is in very good condition, to see how cluttered the spectrum is outside the ham bands. I carefully tuned the whole spectrum from 1.7 mcs to 40 mcs, and it took a good hour and a half. There are spaces of a hundred or more kc/s that had nothing but cosmic noises and the mutterings of radio stars, sewing machines, electric shavers, etc. Anyone that doubts this statement should try the tuning bit sometime. Incidently, while I was on this hunt, there were plenty of DX stations on the ham bands, particularly on the 14 mcs band. I heard a UA3, a YO, and others, so that if signals like that were getting through, anything commercial with I assume, much more power than hams use, should have been all over the spectrum if they think that they are so crowded that they need more spectrum. But friend, there were very few of them.

Let us remind one and all that in this half of the world the hams are using the ham bands all around the clock. Even on 80 meters in the daytime. When 10 meters is out for skip contacts people are using it for what it will allow on ground wave.

So Western Hemisphere Hams, let us raise our voices against any chopping of the ham bands.

Wm. Douglas, VE3BRI

Dear John:—

After reading the DX column (by Bill Wadsworth) I have come to the conclusion that DX exists only from 14 mcs and higher. This is definetly not so. I enjoy chasing DX on 80 and 40 meters, even if it entails sitting up in front of the receiver all night without making a contact. On 20, 15 and 10 meers its not "is my signal gtting there," its "can I overpower the QRM." I have only had my license 18 months and my new DX-40 transmitter for 8 months. The receiver is a NC-88 and QF-1, so I have had only one winter's DX chasing, but I am very pleased and proud of the results.

For example (using dipoles for 80 and 40 meters) on 80 meters c.w., countries heard, 22; and countries worked, KH6AFI, KV4AA, VP5FP, KP4CC, VP7BT, KM6BL, VK2APL, VP9CR, EA8BF and PY7AN.

On 40 meters c.w., countries heard, 34; and countries worked were PY1, 2,4 and 7, G3, VP5-Trinidad, KP4, ON4, YV5, VP3, VP7, VP2, VK2 and 5 and ZL1.

I agree wholeheartedly with Bill's advice that to listen is to catch DX. This philosophy netted many a DX station, by using a well timed short call. Most of the DX listed was worked during January, February and March, 1959. So possibly in the future, his DX column might include some low frequency catches.

I am not a member of one of the large Toronto ham clubs, but I do belong to the Skywide Amateur Radio Club (Mimico) with its thirty members.

So three cheers for the Canadian Amateur Magazine and hope to receive many more interesting issues in the future.

Henry Ostrowski, VE3CGL

Message from the SCM of Ontario

First of all a comment on the use of the phonetic alphabet. From an enquiry made by ARRL, of it's officers, it was shown by actual replies that the ICAO list (Bravo-Whiskey-Fox-Trot etc.) has only a twenty percent or acceptance thus far, in amateur Radio currently free to choose between word lists. One only has to listen to the 75 meter phone band here in Ontario and the percentage is less.

In another vein, we refer to the license plates for Hams in Ontario. Over a year ago your SCM instigated a move to approach our Provincial Government. In this regard, after obtaining over 700 names, all licensed operators and with the help from a committee that was formed, and with the assistance of **many** MP's and MPP's we approached Queen's Park and paid a visit to the Registrar General, Mr. McNab. All our efforts were in vain. The number of protests that this gentleman had, would take hours to write. They have their system (it's numeral) and they will not repeat **NOT** change for hams, Firemen, Civil Defence, or any other group whether they deserve it or not. That is according to Mr. McNab, who incidentally, is a very fine gentleman, and gave us a chance to place our requests on his desk. That's as far as it got. Now after a year has passed, the Department is making some change. What they are we cannot say other than Mr. McNab's office has been broken into five sections and that is all we know. There are some indications that the department concerned was considering the IBM system similar to that of Quebec. If this is the case, it might be possible to obtain our plates. Several groups are beginning to get together and attempt to do as we were trying to do. It is to be hoped that someone may reach the peak some day, I hope so. I trust that whoever gets the green light will not forget the work attempted by previous groups. Other committees headed by Bill Choat, VE3CO, and another by Keith Russel, VE3AL, all reached the same block as ours did. That gentlemen, is the situation regarding the plates.

We read that our lucky cousins in Alberta, have the green light for VE6 plates. That's three provinces so far.

May I wish all you and yours the very best of Health and Happiness. It's a pleasure to serve as your SCM.

Dick Roberts, VE3NG, SCM, Ontario.

SWAP and SHOP

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FOR SALE—55 albums of stamps. These were collected at the Universal Postal Union Congress held in Ottawa, 1957. They are bound in various types of leather, etc., and include Commonwealth countries, Iron Curtain countries, etc. Catalogue value about $1400.00. Highest offer accepted. Write VE3ATU, 2408 Drury Lane, Ottawa 3, Ont.

12th ANNUAL NORTH BAY HAMFEST—June 26, 27, 28. Canada's friendliest and best Annual get-to-gether of amateurs, YLs and XYLs and the kids. Three fun-filled days and nights on the shores of beautiful Lake Nipissing, for the whole family. Reservations and information—write Jack Barnaby, VE3TX, c/o Radio Station CFCH, North Bay, Ont.

FOR SALE—Complete 400 watt station & accessories .Will sell in whole or part. Write for lists. John McKnight, R.R. 4, Kitchener, Ont.—VE3AQZ.

FOR SALE—RME 4350A rcvr., one year old with RME 4301 SSB adapter (new), $325 or best offer—VE4DE, Aeradio/Marine Stn., Fort Churchill, Man.

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SELL OR SWAP—Hallicrafter SX43 rcvr. with matching speaker DX100. Excellent condition.—VE3TS, P.O. Box 662, Sarnia, Ontario.

FOR SALE—Hallicrafters S40A, $75.00. Heath DX35, $60.00. McCurdo Silver Vomax V.T.V.M., $20.00. Marconi C1 frequency meter, $25.00. 5 band, 12 volt car radio, $25.00.—Art Steers, 250 - 21st East, Prince Albert, Sask.

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FOR SALE—3 element-20 Mtr. "Plumber's Delight" beam, Coax, Control Cable and prop-pitch motor, Selsyn indicator. Complete, $50. and:

THIS IS A STEAL—DX100 in beautiful shape, 225.00 cash. Call or write "The Ham Shack"—See address in ad on cover.

ANYONE having an extra copy of Vol. 1, No. 1, would you please forward to J. H. Brownell, VE4BU, Box 24, Pointe du Bois, Man., and advise this office.

Walt Burdine, W8ZCV Sets World Record

Walt Burdine, W8ZCV, of Waynesville, Ohio, and former editor of the Novice column in CQ magazine, has been on the air on 6 meters for 1427 days as of 27th of February, 1959. On April 2, 1959, he will start his fifth year on the VHF bands and he is going to try to make contacts on 50, 144, 220, and 440 mc/s to start his 5th year. We believe this to be a world's record now and it will take some doing to break it.

Submitted by Theodore W. Midlam Sr., K8GKF, Editor, R-F Carrier, Dayton Amateur Radio Association.

South American Is Eager Stamp Collector

Ike, VE7AQQ, wants us to make known the fact that HK3FV, Tino, Box 10519, Begota, Colombia, South America, is an avid stamp collector. Tino would like very much to hear from similarly stricken addicts . . . silly, isn't it? . . . Just a minute, say, don't I hear 7U2AA in there? The louse—wonder what I have to do to get a QSL out of that guy???

Answer to Crossword in Feb. Issue

RME COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Built BY Hams FOR Hams

RME 4350A RECEIVER AND MATCHING RME 4302 SPEAKER

You get everything you want and need in the RME 4350A Receiver: Dual conversion; single dial, two-speed tuning for easy, smooth operation; high selectivity and rejectivity; 100 kc crystal calibrator for close settings. It's laboratory engineered for maximum performance under all operating conditions.

$349.00 Amateur Net.

Perfect companion to the 4350A is the RME 4302 Speaker, styled and finished to complement it. Housed in sturdy steel case with cast aluminum front panel. Operates with any receiver having 4 ohm output terminals. 24.50 Amateur Net.

RME 4301 SIDEBAND SELECTOR

The RME 4301 Sideband Selector provides easy selection of either sideband on suppressed carrier transmission and the excellent passband characteristics make it ideal for reception of AM phone and CW. It adds as much as 15 db of sensitivity to the receiver. An excellent companion to the RME Receivers 4350A, 4350, 4300 (it plugs in directly), it can be connected to *any* receiver using a 455KC IF.

Complete with built-in power supply, the 4301 has an extremely stable BFO, balanced detector circuit and accurate phase shift network. Adder and subtractor circuits for single sideband selection of either upper or lower sideband separately, double sideband exalted reception or normal receiver operation. Panel mounted rotary switch provides instantaneous switching between upper and lower sideband with 40 db attenuation of unwanted sideband. **$105.00 Amateur Net.**

RME DB23 PRESELECTOR

RME DB23 substantially improves the performance of any receiver! Provides minimum gain of 20 db throughout all ham bands from 3.5 to 30 mc with substantial image rejection, better than 7.5 db signal-to-noise improvement over that of receiver alone. Employs three 6J6 twin triodes as neutralized push-pull stages in a unique combination of selective and wide-band RF amplifiers. Permits optimum use of mechanical, crystal or audio filters. Input circuits match any standard antenna. **$69.50 Amateur Net.**

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