

the canadian amateur



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- Saskatchewan Amateur Radio League

From the Front Office

Many inquiries are received about the services and administrative detail of your national Federation and we will attempt to answer the most frequently raised questions in this column.

1. "What is my membership number?" At the top of your mailing label, you will note that there is a legend, such as "G - 034 - DEC 75". The records of the Federation are kept on a computer program and that legend is the identifier for each membership. The "G - 034" is the membership number with the "g" denoting that the member is located in Ontario ("A" indicates Newfoundland, "P" the North West Territories and Yukon, etc.) and the "034" the number that the computer has assigned to that membership. The rest of the legend denotes that the **last** issue of The Canadian Amateur that will be forwarded on that membership is that of December 1975. All the staff members of your Federation will bless you when you use the membership number in making inquiries, supplying information, etc.

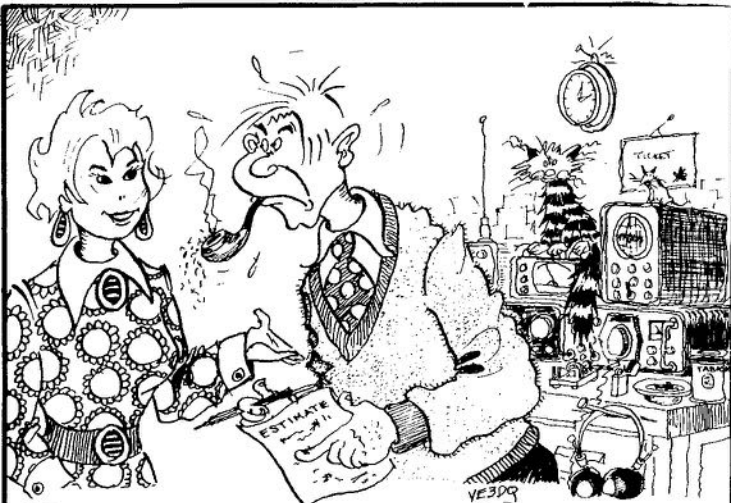
2. "What is the CARF News Service?" The CARF News Service supplies the Editors of provincial and club bulletins with news of the latest developments in Amateur radio. The basic idea behind the Service is that, if the Federation supplies these Editors with information, they will reciprocate and forward to the Editor of the Canadian Amateur items of news and comment of their area. Unfortunately this is sadly lacking, making our Editor rely on items contained in provincial and club bulletins that are received on the normal mailing list. By the time the item appears in the mentioned bulletins (publishing delays), and is received by Steve (postal delays), most of the items no longer have topical interest. Check with your Editor - if he is not on the Service's mailing list, get him to apply for same, and, if he is not forwarding items of interest directly to Box 356, Kingston, point out the many delays involved leading to a frequent lack of news items from your province of club area. If your club publishes a bulletin, please ensure that a copy is sent to CARF.

3. "When is CARF going to change to individual membership?" Our Legal Counsel, Mr. C. Grove, VE3CT, is hard at work preparing a submission to be put before the national Executive at their meeting in early April. This approved submission will then be forwarded to the Board of Directors and the Presidents of the provincial societies for ratification at the Annual Meeting in late May. When this is done, the amended By-Law must be approved by the Minister of Corporate Affairs before it can take effect. This procedure is necessary due to the federal corporate structure of the national body. When final approval is given, a date for initiation will be set (probably January 1, 1976) and the wheels will be set in motion to obtain nominations for Area Directors from the individual members and the elections of same to take place.

FROM THE DOC ANNUAL REPORT 73-74

There was a total of 334,571 radio station licences in force during the 1973-74 year, excluding commercial broadcasting stations--an increase of 12.7 per cent over the previous year; 85,337 GRS (CB) station and 13,784 Amateurs holding certificates.

SHORT-CIRCUITS

"SO IF YOU GET A NEW DOHICKY AND A THINGAMABOB AND A NEW WHATCHAMACALLIT TO UPGRADE TO ALL SOLID-STATE FOR A, QUOTE. MERE THOUSAND BUCKS, UNQUOTE, WHAT WILL IT DO THAT THIS, QUOTE, CRUMBY, BLANKETY-BLANK, OBSOLETE, TUBE JUNK, UNQUOTE, WONT DO?"

TRANS CAN NET (RTTY)

The Trans Can Net (RTTY) will be functional within about 30 days on a frequency, day and time to be announced. This will be a weekly 40-meter net to provide a trans-Canada traffic facility. Weekly bulletins from CARF Headquarters will provide the latest information. This net will function on 170 Hz shift. All stations will be welcome to QNI.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION VOTES TO RE-JOIN THE FEDERATION

At a general meeting held in Vancouver on February 16, the BCARA Inc. voted overwhelmingly to rejoin the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation from which the previous executive had withdrawn.

President Floyd Beardsell VE7HI, says that the next step is to clear the re-affiliation with the BC government, which is required under the BC Societies Act.

Once this formality is through, the Association will take the necessary steps with the Federation to re-join.

PUTTING UP A TOWER?

Amateurs in some municipalities have been told by civic authorities that their station antenna tower plans must be approved by them and a building permit taken out.

If you find yourself in this position you can point out that your antenna is a part of a federally-licensed transmitting station and as such is under the jurisdiction of the federal Department of Communications.

The authority for this is a 1970 letter from the federal Minister of Communications to an Ontario township clerk in which the Minister stated: "In the Privy Council decision in the reference as to the Regulation and Control of Radio Communication in Canada (1932 A.C. 304), it was held that the regulation and control of radiocommunication is within the exclusive legislative jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada under the BNA Act. We are advised

that this jurisdiction includes the authority to determine the character, use and location of apparatus for radiocommunication purposes, including antennas."

If you have encountered this problem and wish to have the full text of this letter send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with your request to CARF Inc., Box 356, Kingston, Ontario.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Canada is an active member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations specialized agency responsible for telecommunications. At the organization's Plenipotentiary Conference in Torremolinos, Spain, in September-October Canada was re-elected as one of 36 countries sitting on the Administrative Council the ITU's governing body.

(The Federation has appointed an ad hoc Committee to assist the DOC Preparatory Committee for the 1979 ITU Frequency Conference on Amateur frequency allocations. The CARF committee will seek inputs from Canadian Amateurs.

LOOKING AT THE LOG

DOUG VE3CDC

The recent participation of Amateurs in the Lockeport fire emergency in Nova Scotia reminded your Assistant Editor of a similar episode in the late forties. By odd coincidence, VE1FV was involved in the Lockeport emergency and that just happened to be my call when years ago, I was involved indirectly in a similar episode, when Shediac, New Brunswick had a disastrous conflagration.

The fire in that delightful resort town claimed the toll cable to the outside world as its first victim and with the flames about to rage out of control, the local authorities contacted Gene Fougere, who still holds the call VE1BB, to get help from the Moncton fire department. Much like the story on the Lockeport emergency, local reception conditions were not favorable, and Gene, who was running a surplus liberated C-33 (AT-3) on twenty metres finally snared an Alaska station, which relayed the call for help to a Boston amateur.

The Boston op called the Moncton fire department telephone and finally convinced them that the emergency was real so away went the fire trucks to Shediac, 20 miles away.

My part? Well, about two weeks later, by boss in the Commercial Department of the NB Telephone Co. came out waving a letter and suggested that since I was a radio amateur maybe I could answer it. It was from the Boston amateur, who somewhat sarcastically noted that he was pleased to assist in the salvation of Shediac, but he sure as heck objected to paying the \$3.50 for the long distance call to Moncton.

The episode ended happily; I sent a letter of commendation and thanks to him, and the telephone company refunded his \$3.50!

NO MORE PHANTOMS IN USA?

The FCC have come out with a proposal to have radio transmitters that operate between 25 and 960 mHz fitted with automatic transmitter identification systems (ATIS).

It would affect all of those rigs in Safety and Special Radio Services used and produced one year after the adoption of the proposal. This applies only to the US, where it would be welcomed as a measure to track down illegal operating practices. The measure proposed applies to CB but not Amateur rigs.



Canadian Repeater Advisory
Group

VE3CDC

UPDATES FOR CANADIAN REPEATERS

VE1GM, Yarmouth is now on the air on 6.34-6.94; VE1GT, Fredericton, 6.34-6.94 now has an autopatch. From the St. Lawrence Valley Council comes the news that VE3SVR has been relocated from Ingleside to Riverside Heights, between Cornwall and Morrisburg and will come up on its former frequency of 6.16-6.76 by the time this is printed. There is also a repeater in Cornwall (using the owner's call, VE3DJK) experimenting with the 6.16-6.76 pair, which it will relinquish to VE3SVR when it returns. Cornwall will probably surface this summer using either 6.58-7.18 or 7.78-7.18, with the latter favored because a 6.58 input would conflict with the simplex use of 6.58. In any event the Cornwall machine will await the relinquishing of the VE2RM of 7.18 output sometime this summer.

With two new machines on the New York side of the St. Lawrence on 6.31-6.91 and 6.22-6.82, the coverage on this stretch of 401 should be good. Further upstream on the St. Lawrence and the Lakes, Kingston proposes an additional repeater on 6.46-7.06 with orientation to north-east to cover 401 if Belleville, VE3KBR, changes from that channel to 6.40-7.00 to avoid interference from Toronto's VE3RPT.

Another proposal which came out of the St. Lawrence Valley Council noted that VE3NRR, Deep River may go to 6.16-6.76 to avoid present problems with VE2CRA Ottawa-Hull. A new repeater in Ottawa, VE3ORA, is planned for 6.28-6.88. It may be linked with VE3STP to extend coverage of that machine in Ottawa-Hull area. Proposed to be on the air in February.

Another rig will show up in Ottawa for a short test period of one or two months early this summer on 6.22-6.82. The Communications Research Centre of the DOC will turn it on to study the operation of repeaters. It will be moved out of the amateur bands at the end of the test and sent to Inuvik for other uses.

Moving out to the West Coast, the Victoria Repeater Group asks that all frequencies and call signs other than VE7VIC on 6.25-6.85 be deleted from our directory. That apparently takes out VE7BEL and its 6.22-7.54 combination.

Winnipeg, VE4XK is going to 6.46-7.06 on April 1.

CHANNEL SPLITTING

Repeater directories from the US show "channel splitting" is now being resorted to in order to relieve 2 metre congestion.

For example, between the input frequencies 1.46.28 and 1.46.34 we find 146.31. This 30 kHz between channels instead of 60 means narrow band equipment (plus or minus 10 kHz) is a necessity on these repeaters.

They are even splitting channels to 15 kHz between inputs, which for proper operation requires transmitters with only plus or minus 5 kHz deviation.

Here is an entertaining solution to the problems posed by "splitting" as seen in a recent "Hotline" published by 73 Magazine. A California amateur has "...suggested that all 15 kHz split repeaters be set up on the reverse pair from the 30 kHz channels. Thus the repeater input would be in the normal output part of the band and the output would be in the input part of the band. This would mean that only the

repeater receivers would have to have the very sharp filters to prevent adjacent channel spillover instead of every user of both the split 15 kHz channels and both of the adjacent 30 kHz channels.

Reports from virtually every active 15 kHz split channel repeater are that adjacent channel interference is a real serious problem. With these repeaters using reverse pairs the only interference experienced would be from an occasional nearby user of adjacent channel, which would normally be a rare event."

SKI MARATHON

The Canadian Ski Marathon, Feb. 21-23, a three-day trail skiing event from Lachute, PQ to Hull, PQ had an even better communications set-up this year.

Repeaters VE2RM Montreal and VE2CRA Ottawa-Hull and a remote control 52 simplex in a Gatineau hilltop should have provided solid links for patrol and emergency mark.

INTERFERENCE

The success of Repeater councils in frequency allocation and interference problems has made their efforts worthwhile. However, there have been occasions, fortunately very few, where friendly argument and then agreement has not quite succeeded. A recent such case prompted the following, from the Quinte Club bulletin; "...we had an interesting conversation the other day with a VE6 mobile VE3. He was amazed when he had difficulty reading (the local repeater) due to interference from (a high power regional coverage machine)...Although he does not like all the rules for repeaters in the US he was in favour of power limitations and control of antenna gain for repeaters. The type of interference we are getting...just does not occur in W land. One cannot help but wonder if some official guidelines in this regard would not be desirable."

Well, it can only be reiterated that DOC doesn't want to get into problems with repeaters such as the FCC in the US has. It expects us to "police" ourselves, but unless we can do so by means of agreement, then who knows what might happen if the DOC gets enough complaints.!!

AMATEUR IS PROFESSIONAL CLOCK-WATCHER

There is a Canadian amateur who is paid to be an on-the-job clock-watcher. VE3BCL, Sid Sheard, is the supervisor at the Canadian time standard radio station, CHU, located in Canada's capital city of Ottawa. (At 45 degrees 17' 47" North 75 degrees 45' 22" West, to be precise, if you want to calibrate your beam.)

The National Research Council of Canada time signals are broadcast over CHU with continuous transmission on three frequencies, 3330, 7335, and 14670 kHz. The power used is 3kW on the first and last frequencies and 10 kW on 7,335 kHz, fed to vertical antennas.

The frequencies and time signals are derived from a

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cesium standard which is checked daily against the Canadian cesium primary standard.

The time pulses marking the seconds consist of 300 cycles of a 100 Hz tone. The beginning of the pulse marks the exact second. The zero pulse of each minute is one-half second long, and the zero pulse of the hour is one second long. The pulses occur at the rate of one each second with the following exceptions:

- the 29th pulse of each minute is omitted.
- the 51st to 59th pulses inclusive of each minute are omitted. During this interval station identification and time is announced by voice.
- the 1st to 10th pulses inclusive are omitted on the first minute of each hour.

A voice recording of the time occurs each minute in the 10 second gap between the 50th and 60th second. It refers to the beginning of the minute or hour pulse that follows. The announcement is on the 24 hour system, alternating in French and English, the two official languages of Canada.

SOMETHING NEW IN SATELLITES

The Department of Communications' Communications Research Centre recently held an open house for press and teledia at its Ottawa facility to view the engineering model of the Communications Technology Satellite. The CTS, slated for launch in late 1975, was designed and made in Canada and is the world's most powerful communications transmitter.

The objective of the CTS experiment is to test the technology and applications of a new breed of **high-powered** satellites which, in contrast to the present low-power commercial birds which require elaborate, multi-million dollar earth terminals will be received on simple dish antennas, with a minimum of electronics, on individual receivers or TV sets.

Experiments, with the regrettable omission of formal representation of the Amateur Experimental Service (which was not invited to participate), whose interests take in broadcasting, telemetry for medical purposes, "tele-education", data communications and the technical evaluations of the operation of high-powered satellites and light-weight ground terminals will share use of CTS during its two-year life.

The satellite will be the first to operate in the 12 and 14 GHz bands, with its two-hundred watt signal. It uses a specially designed travelling-wave tube in the final although the rest is solid state. Power is derived from a unique pair of solar cell "sails" which will unfurl from within the satellite body, once its geostationary orbit, 22,300 miles above the equator, at about the longitude of Calgary.

Considering Amateur interest and skills in the moonbounce and OSCAR series of satellites, the exclusion of an Amateur organization from participation deprives the CRC of an extensive and knowledgeable observer corps for their technical experiments. Those interested in the possibility of building a relatively simple earth station, keeping in mind that the technology embraces the knowhow to bring Gigahertz signals down to UHF for a television or audio reception, should write to your Canadian Amateur Radio Federation, Box 356, Kingston, Ontario. If there is sufficient interest the Federation will probe the possibility of Amateur participation in CTS reception experiments, with the CRC.

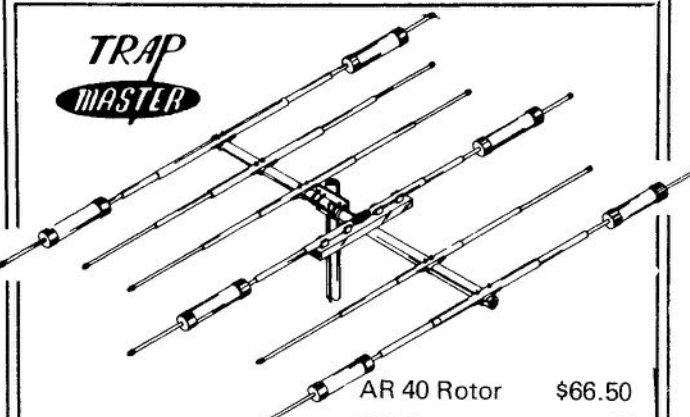
Fortunately, a number of the scientific and engineering personnel involved with the CTS program and CRC hold Amateur certificates, so it is reasonable to expect an understanding ear to any proposals. (The CRC Amateurs have VE3DRC as a club call and station.)

AMATEURS TO THE RESCUE

An article in the Kingston News (Ont) notes that twice, in a two week period Amateurs were instrumental in getting aid to stranded motorists in the area.

The first occurrence happened when a bus blew a tire about 7 miles from Napanee on Highway 401. Luckily an Ottawa Amateur was following the bus, called through the local repeater, VE3KER, and contacted Gord Offord, VE3CJJ the blind Ham in "The Hub of the Nation". In a matter of minutes, Gord had contacted Colin Edge, VE3CPK, in Kingston who phoned the local bus company and managed to get another bus on the way to pick up the stranded passengers. Gord meanwhile contacted the local office of the Ontario Provincial Police who sped to the scene to render what assistance they could.

A few days afterwards, a loaded transport truck jack-knifed on Highway 401 near Brockville, blocking both west bound lanes. Along came Bill Bushell, VE3DXY, who called through the Dexter, NY repeater and alerted Amateurs in Brockville and Kingston. OPP officers were quickly on the scene, re-routed a sanding truck and made a traffic lane around the disabled transport. The Kingston Amateur, Ralph Clifford, VE3UG, notified Bill's XYL of the incident and why Bill would be late arriving home.



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canadian capsule comment

CONVENTIONS

The 1975 Atlantic Convention will be held in Moncton and plans for the affair over the Labor Day weekend are already well advanced. News from the Maritimes is that the 1976 Convention will be held in Halifax.

VE7 NEWS

COMOX VALLEY WIRELESS CLUB NEWS

"OSCAR 7"

Have you heard OSCAR 7 yet? Launched into orbit mid-November, it is performing well. A new operating schedule has just been announced and the 10 meter downlink can be heard on odd numbered days. Here is how.

Check the calendar to see that it is an odd numbered day. Remember the 'day' starts at 1600 hrs local time (0001 GMT). Tune your receiver to 29.500 MHz, using the calibrator to make sure you are right on frequency. Work away in the shack writing out QSL cards, assembling a kit, yakking on 2 or 75, or whatever your pleasure is. At the worst you will have to wait nearly two hours, if you just missed the last pass. As soon as you hear CW from the OSCAR 7 beacon, try tuning between 29.4 and 29.5 MHz, and you should hear CW and SSB signals on lower sideband. I find the hours between 5 and 10 pm give good signals, peaking around 8 pm.

Now some basics. OSCAR 7 is about 900 miles up, which gives you about 20 minutes of use from horizon to horizon, at best. The further the pass is from your QTH, the shorter the time is that it is available. Your maximum radius of signal acquisition, assuming no BC mountains get in the way, is a little over 2000 miles, so theoretically you can hear and work DX over 4000 miles away. Not bad for two meters.

Orbit time is a shade under two hours (115 mins). If you hear it once, will you hear it again? Generally yes, one hour and fifty five minutes later.

You are hearing the output of a crossband repeater. A two meter signal in (uplink) gives a ten meter signal out (downlink). Signals in the 145.850 to 145.950 MHz range are rebroadcast between 29.500 and 29.400 MHz. Without getting too technical, it is designed to invert frequencies, so that an increase in uplink frequency causes a decrease in downlink frequency. That's why upper sideband two meter signals come out as lower sideband ten meter signals.

You could stick a suitable crystal in your two meter ricebox, key the 12 volt supply, and listen for your signal coming back on ten meters, although I doubt you will have much success with ten watts unless you have a beam pointed at OSCAR 7. Glenwood were peddling 144 - 145 MHz crystals cheaply recently. They may have some that cover the uplink passband. Don't use FM, it occupies too wide a portion of the available bandwidth, takes an unfair proportion of the power output of the satellite's transmitter, and who is going to be able to read it on an AM receiver anyway.

On even numbered days, the repeater B comes into use. This repeater accepts signals on 70 cm (432 MHz) and rebroadcasts them on two meters. Those who have a two

meter converter or a tunable VHF receiver can hear the downlink signals between 145.925 and 145.975 MHz on those even numbered days.

-VE7VL



-PHOTO OTTAWA CITIZEN

OTTAWA AMATEUR GETS KEY TO CITY

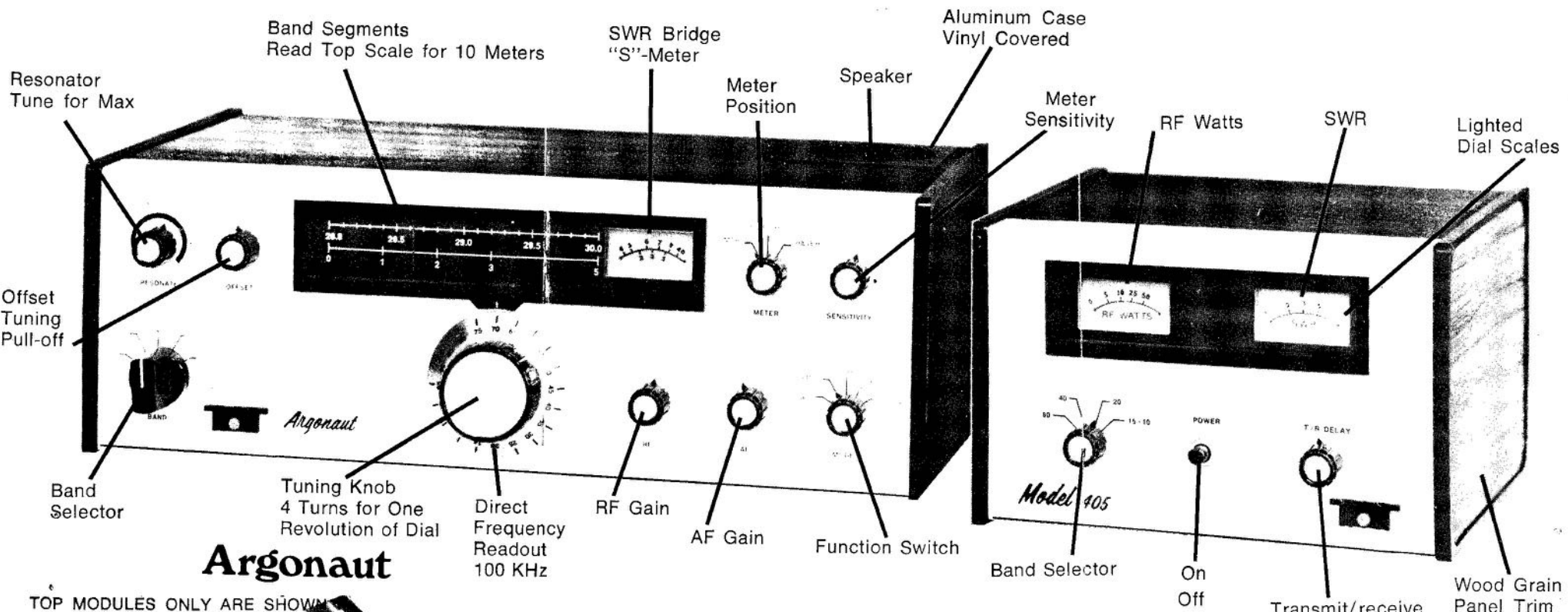
The Amateur fraternity embraces many professions and trades but it's a cinch that "Doc" (Maurice) Haycock, VE3LC, of Ottawa is the only one who is a former bandmaster, who founded a civic symphony orchestra and, to top it off, got the keys to the city in recognition of the accomplishment.

Not only that, but the Mayor of Ottawa designated February 24 as "Maurice Haycock Day" and presented Doc with a scroll, inscribed with a suitable commendation, on the tenth anniversary of the Ottawa Civic Symphony, plus a special concert in his honour at the National Arts Centre Opera House.

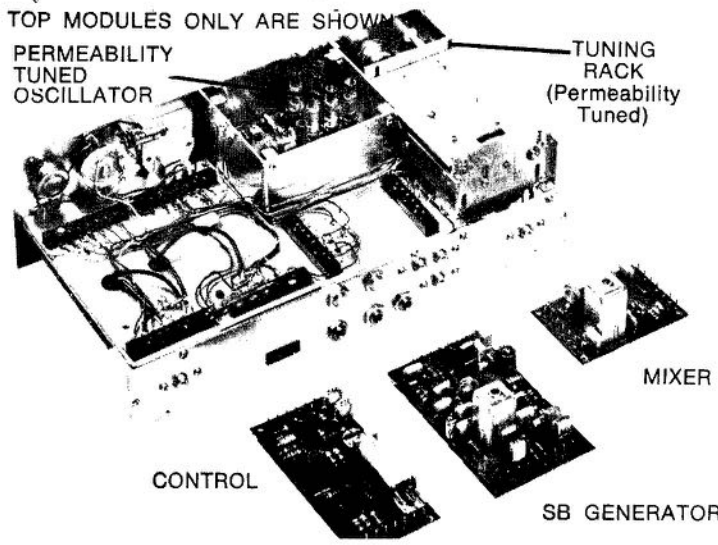
At mention of the Civic Symphony, Doc breaks into a broad smile as he recounts the story.

"The idea for a semi-professional orchestra had been in the thought process for some time after the demise of the Ottawa Philharmonic in 1960", he recalled. After launching a Youth Orchestra in 1960, with aid of other interested parties, the idea for a symphony orchestra jelled in 1965 and the response to the idea was good. Funds were limited but the first performance was well received and the orchestra was well on its way.

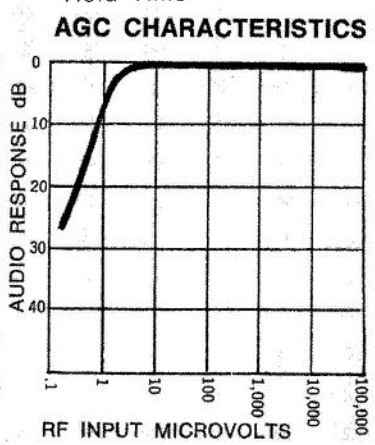
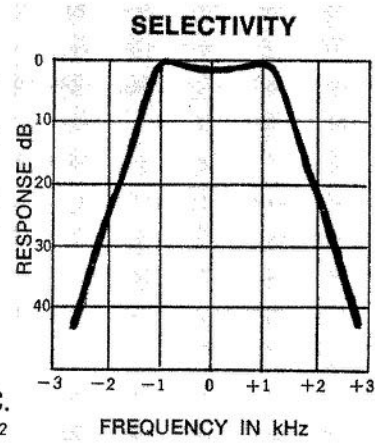
Back in 1926 Doc, who is native of Wolfville, Nova Scotia, gave up being a bandmaster in Halifax and decided



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to continue with his chosen field of geology. In 1926 he made his first trip to the Arctic and he has been a regular visitor to the North ever since. After receiving his doctorate from Princeton University in the US in 1931, Doc came to Ottawa to join the Mines Department of the Federal government. He got his Amateur certificate and license for VE3LC shortly after in 1933.

At this time, Doc developed another hobby besides music and started a career as an artist. As a side issue, Doc became interested in the Ottawa Philharmonic and although he didn't play with the orchestra he turned his technical talent to use and recorded many of its performances during the 1950's.

Besides these hobbies, Doc is an excellent photographer and his shots of the Arctic scene are indeed impressive. His paintings of the North, many of them done during his Arctic treks with A.Y. Jackson of the Group of Seven fame, are much sought after and enable Doc to keep going back to where he can work "portable VE8".

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

The Maple Ridge Amateur Radio Club, of British Columbia, is holding its second annual Hamfest July 11 - 12 - 13, at the Maple Ridge Fairgrounds.

Events scheduled for the weekend include: Technical seminars and displays; contests for the women and children, as well as the OMs; a hidden transmitter hunt; mobile judging; technical IQ quiz; homebrew equipment contest; commercial displays; two metre homebrew antenna contest; Saturday evening meal.

Registration: At the door, \$3.00 no meal, \$7.00 with Saturday meal. Preregistration available for \$6.00; cutoff date June 30.

Overnight parking for trailers and campers plus spaces for tents available for \$2.00, but no hook-ups.

VE7MRC will be monitoring 146.94/146.76/146.79/147.33 and 3970/3755 for talk-in purposes, from 1600 July 11 on.

Maple Ridge is located approximately thirty miles east of the city of Vancouver on the north side of the Fraser River. It is easily accessible by road and air. Highway 7 runs past the Fairgrounds entrance and there is easy access from the Trans-Canada Highway No. 1 via Fort Langley. A small plane airport is located a few miles west at Pitt Meadows with pickup available.

There is plenty of shopping nearby in Maple Ridge and easy access to Vancouver, western Canada's largest zoo, and other municipalities.

VE1 NEWS

LOYALIST BULLETIN

POCKET COMPUTER OWNERS BEWARE

Most pocket computers are powered by NiCad rechargeable batteries. These are good batteries, but they must be treated with care. If you run the batteries, or even one cell, much below 0.7 volt, there seems to be the danger of the weakest cell reversing its polarity and chemically burning itself out. If one cell does go dead, it is suggested you replace the whole string in series, or you may have further problems with cells burning out. If you can get a rundown battery to recharge a little, you may be able to cycle the battery back to health by recurrent discharging and recharging. It appears these cells may also remember how you treat them. Treat them ruggedly, and they will be rugged; treat them kindly, and they will wilt away.

RTTY CONTEST SUMMARY

The Canadian Amateur Radio Teletype Group - VE3RTT sponsored the 1974 14th Annual RTTY DX Sweepstakes in October honoring the "Winnipeg Centennial" 1874-1974, and was once again a popular event in the RTTY world.

There were 113 Logs received, 46 countries contacted, and some of the DXotic calls heard were: TF3IRA, Iceland; HZ1SH, Saudi Arabia; PZ1AP, Surinam; SV1EC, Greece; XW8HJ, Laos; and GW3IGG, Wales.

Several contacts were reported with XW8HJ but did not receive a number from him, while others had a completed contact. Many did not hear the African Continent, though there were 5 African stations reported, which made only 25 stations with WAC this time.

IU2ESB had the highest score of 3,505,384, this being Henri's final contest effort from that QTH, and will show up soon with a PY call. The highest multi-operator was DL0TD. Top Green RTTYer was W5NBI, Low Power again I5CLC using 25 w.

W3EKT made 44 contacts on 80 meters and the SWL Printer award goes to K1LPS/I8 with 811,100 Points.

Canadian participation was reported as 23 stations, and USA showed an increase in numbers, probably due to the counting of Canadian and USA Districts as country multipliers. We missed VE7UBC this year, and VE7YB with 496,300 points is the top Canadian Award winner. Also missing was V01EE who usually gives us the country multiplier of Newfoundland. No reports from VE4 Land who were having their Winnipeg Centennial Convention that same weekend.

The Logs were particularly well presented, one special mention being W5CEG, and on the distaff side we received FB log from Shyrl-K2OYG.

Countries contacted were; Alaska, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda Is., Brazil, Canada, Canal Zone, Chile, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, France, Geneva, Germany, Greece, Gaudeloupe Is., Hawaii, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Latvia, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, R.S.S.R., Saudi Arabia, Sicily, South Africa, Spain, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Tahiti, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Wales.

Anyone wanting complete contest summary and statistic report, send SAE to 85 Fifeshire Rd. Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2L 2G9. Will be looking for YOU in October 1975!

CALGARY CENTENNIAL AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

The year 1975 is the Centennial of the founding of the City of Calgary and the Calgary Amateur Radio Association, is arranging several events as part of the celebrations.

They will be hosting a convention August 1, 2 and 3 with a full program of varied events. The Government of Canada has authorized the use of the special call-sign prefix CY6 for all Calgary radio amateurs during the year 1975, and a number of operating events have been scheduled, all of which carry awards or prizes. Those of interest to Amateurs outside of Calgary are:

The Calgary Centennial Award - to be offered throughout the year 1975 only.

The Calgary Centennial Alberta QSO Party - April 1975.

The Calgary Centennial Mobile Contest - held during the week before the convention.

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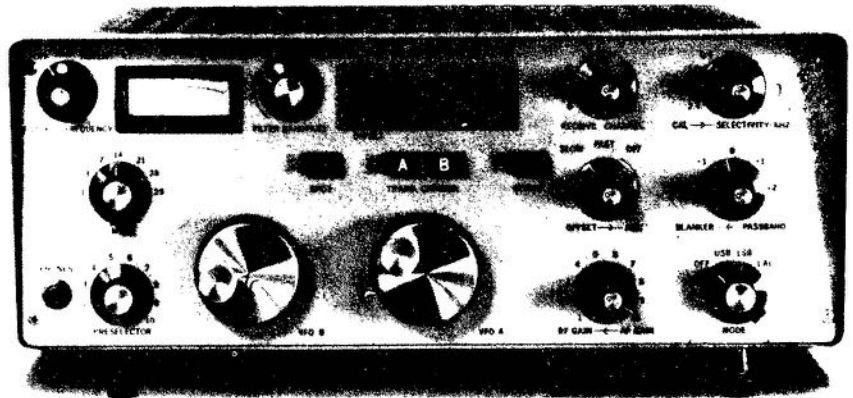
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The special guest speaker at the convention will be Dr. Owen Garriott W5LFL, the Science Pilot on board NASA's Skylab 2 Mission which orbited the Earth for 59 days during the summer of 1973, racking up about 28 million miles in the process. He is bringing along an exhibit that will show and explain a lot about space communications such as voice and telemetry. In addition four 20 minute movie films will be shown covering a number of experiments and observations made during the Skylab missions.

The Convention will be held in the Calgary Inn. Accommodations can be provided for camping or motels if you prefer. Late registration starts noon Friday, August 1. A swap-and-shop all afternoon will be held, (Note: All goodies-new or used from the US intended for sale must be cleared through Canada Customs); a get-acquainted party Friday evening; welcome and sessions Saturday; special interest group breakfasts and luncheons; dinner-dance and entertainment Saturday evening; ARRL Wouff Hong ceremony midnight Saturday; technical sessions Sunday; and to climax the meeting, a family barbeque at a ranch on Sunday evening.

A full-time separate program for the wives including visits to local centres of interest and a bus trip to Lake Louise in the Mountains, and most important--a fulltime sitting service for small children, and an active program for children over seven, including an all day and overnight stay at a nearby ranch. The Calgary Amateur Radio Association invites you to share part of your family's holiday with them and the rest of it exploring the incomparable scenery of western Alberta during the best time of the year.

For further information write immediately to '75 Convention, Box 592, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2J2.

CALGARY CENTENNIAL ALBERTA QSO PARTY

0700 GMT April 1, 1975 to 0700 GMT May 1, 1975, Calgary and Alberta Hams will work the rest of the world. One contact per band per mode.

Scoring for points outside Alberta:

1 point per Alberta Contact, 2 points per Calgary contact with special prefix, 5 points per Club Station contact CY6AO and CY6NQ, and 5 points per Oscar contact.

Scoring for Calgary and Alberta Stations:

1 point per contact, 5 points per Oscar contact and 0 points for Alberta contact.

Multiplier for Calgary and Alberta stations: 1 for initial contact with each Canadian, US, NZ, Australia, and Japanese Call District, and for each country exclusive of above as per ARRL Country List.

Initial contact only, regardless of band or mode. Alberta counts for multiplier only, but not for points.

Centennial Party Awards will be given to highest Calgary score, highest Alberta score (outside Calgary), highest score in each Canadian Province and Territory, highest in each US call district and highest in each country outside US and Canada.

Send Log Data: CY or VE6 Station and Operator, GMT time and date, and frequency. Logs to be posted by June 1, 1975 for Alberta stations, by July 1, 1975 elsewhere. Certified logs by QSL Managers O.K. Mail to CC QSO Party, Box 592, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2J2.

Report on the Open Forum in Toronto

The "Open Forum" of your national Federation, held in Toronto on March 1, 1975, was a tremendous success. Over 60 interested and concerned Amateurs registered with most taking an active part in the presentations made and the ensuing discussions. The head table consisted of the President, Vice President, Secretary and full Board of Directors (with the exception of Lorne Doreen, VE3SZ who was recovering from a surgical operation) and the Chairman, Len Sumner, VE3DOR.

The theme of the Forum was early given as "Appointment with Destiny" by George Davis, VE3BBW, who made the initial presentation, addressed to the Executive and Directors of the national body. The opening remarks by the Chairman pointed out that the Open Forum was the initial result of the determination of your national Federation to develop into the national organization for the Amateurs of Canada with input requested from individuals, clubs and other groups on the realization of this objective.

From the outset it was clearly evident that the Amateurs supported this objective and that it could only be realised by changing the present corporate set up of CARF to include control of policy and activity by the individual member. And that this control could only be achieved through the individual Amateurs electing a majority of the Board of Directors to represent the individual to the Federation and the Federation to the individual.

The Canadian Amateur has now become the Canadian national publication and many suggestions were made on its future content. These included columns devoted to

special interest such as YL, RTT, DX, Traffic, Emergency Communications, ATV, and the including of more technical articles dealing with simple home-brew projects using components that were readily obtainable in Canada. A number of points were made by the Amateurs attending. They want a Canadian national society that will speak and work for all the Amateurs of our country and that this society must stand on its own feet, independent of any foreign organization. The Federation was congratulated on having established a firm base from which to progress, having demonstrated that it has the necessary administrative, financial and organizational background with channels of communication to effectively consult with the Amateurs and work on their behalf and under their direction. It is now necessary for each individual Amateur to assess the Federation's position as Canada's national body and to support its development. The Amateurs are not being told how the Board of Directors will develop the Federation but are in the unique position of telling the Board how they want their own national body to function.

The relations between the Federation and the Director ARRL (Cdn Div) was briefly discussed but evoked little interest. The reasons behind the relegation of CARF's membership in IARU to a low priority were also discussed. The request of Mr. M.F. Yalden, Deputy Minister DOC, for the national Federation to work with a Committee on ITU Conference matters received unanimous approval as the proper place for the Federation to function on behalf of the Amateurs, in frequency allocation matters.

Questions were asked, answers were freely given and, from conversations between CARF officials and those attending, after the four hour meeting concluded, it was apparent the Amateurs would prefer to support the Federation with individual membership.

They were confident that CARF could do the job. They wanted a national body that does not depend on outside aid for survival. They felt that Canada has its own role to play in Amateur radio and it was up to the Amateurs of Canada to fully support this role.

Your national Federation was complimented on its interest and its support of the YL Amateurs.

The Federation expressed the hope that more YLs would be nominated and elected to positions of responsibility in the national body. Stella Broughton, VE6VF, is doing an outstanding job as director and spokesman for prairie Amateurs and YLs.

It is hoped that similar Open Forums may be held in other parts of Canada at an early date.

TECHNICAL TALKS



AN EASY METHOD OF CHECKING CRYSTAL FUNDAMENTAL FREQUENCIES

C. A. GREGORY VE3SR

Here's a little trick that is not new, nor original, but that I find very useful in this age of crystal controlled gear in the VHF/UHF bands, particularly if I wish to check a crystal for approximate frequency. For example - the other day I received a crystal for my 2 metre transmitter, which requires an 8 MHz rock, and the darn thing would not work. Used the set-up shown below in Fig. 1 using a Millen GDO, a coil of 5 turns, and a crystal holder. Started low in frequency and found that the "8 MHz" crystal oscillated in the 12 MHz region, which solved the problem of why no joy. (The GDO will give a very small and very sharp dip when the resonant frequency occurs, so go slow).

Figure 2 shows another set-up used when a more accurate frequency determination is required. I use a BC-221 as the signal source and many other types of calibrated generators can be used for this purpose. Use the GDO set-up in Fig. 1 to determine the ball park frequency and the set-up in Fig. 2 for the accurate frequency. Have checked this procedure with crystals of known frequency and come within 1 per cent, which is not bad.

FIG. 1

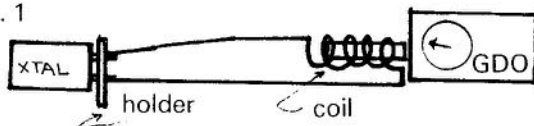
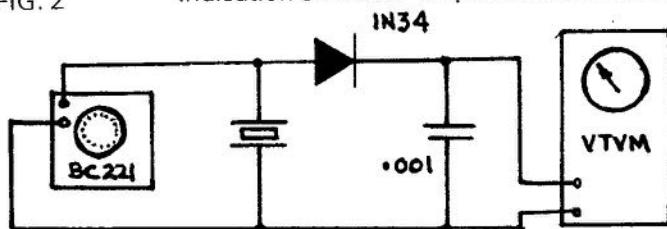


FIG. 2

Indication on meter is upscale at resonance



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Appendices cover a wide variety of lists, charts and agreements - important guidelines for all Amateurs.

The Canadian Amateur Radio Regulations is offered to you at a cost of \$4.00 per copy.

BANNED COUNTRIES LIST

Iraq, Khmer Republic**, Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, Turkey, Viet-Nam*, Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen.

* - Stations XV5AA, XV5AB, and XV5AC have been authorized to exchange communications with Amateurs of other countries.

** - Station XU1AA has been authorized to exchange communications with Amateurs of other countries.

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Note: All Commonwealth countries are eligible for reciprocal Amateur operating privileges unless evidence that a country does not grant reciprocal operating privileges to Canadian Amateurs.

Free

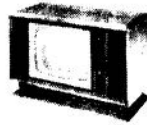
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