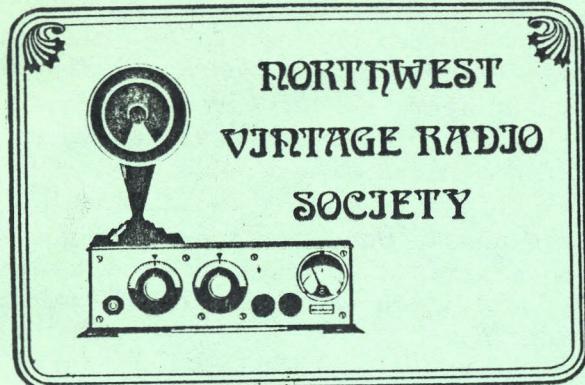
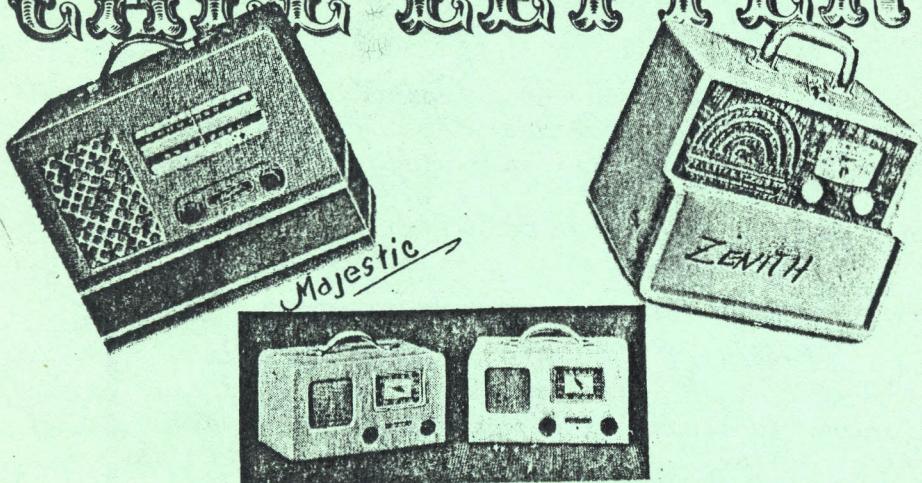


VOL. 5
No. 6



June
1979

CALENDAR



A slight change of pace for the theme at the next meeting at Oregon City will be the dear old portable radios. Tube type only, no transistors please!. Some of these were barely portable when complete with batteries. Some required an aerial wire to operate satisfactorily. Their real popularity waned considerably after the advent of good automobile radios. I havn't seen many of these sets around, what have you got?

In order that you be alerted in good time, the July meet will have vacuum tubes as the theme, so there is time yet for finding those elusive WD-11's, and De Forest's early experimental jobs.

Notes from the cuff-----

Quite a few of our earlier copies of the Call Letter had entries about "finds" of the month. In the late issues, however, it seems no one has found anything of consequence at all! None-the-less, in my conversation with the members, there have been quite a few sets picked up in late months that we havn't so much as whispered about. Many of these were a bit rare and good acquisitions to any collection. Some undoubtedly cost more than earlier "finds", but none the worse for all that.

Most of our members have shied away from the larger cabinet types, though many have an excellent tone and otherwise superior features, mainly because the darn things just take up too much space to store.

I have not seen too many good "cathedrals" in the marketplace, probably because they are targets of the antique (?) crowd as well as Vintage Radio freaks.

Please let Hugh Ranken or myself in on any good things you'd care to brag about in your collecting.

your Ed.

*** Call Letter ***

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings of the Society are held on the second Saturday of each month, normally. At ten AM at the Buena Vista clubhouse, 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon.

Editor-in-Chief..... Tom James
Feature articles by members are indicated under the various headings.

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OUR PEOPLE

by
Hugh

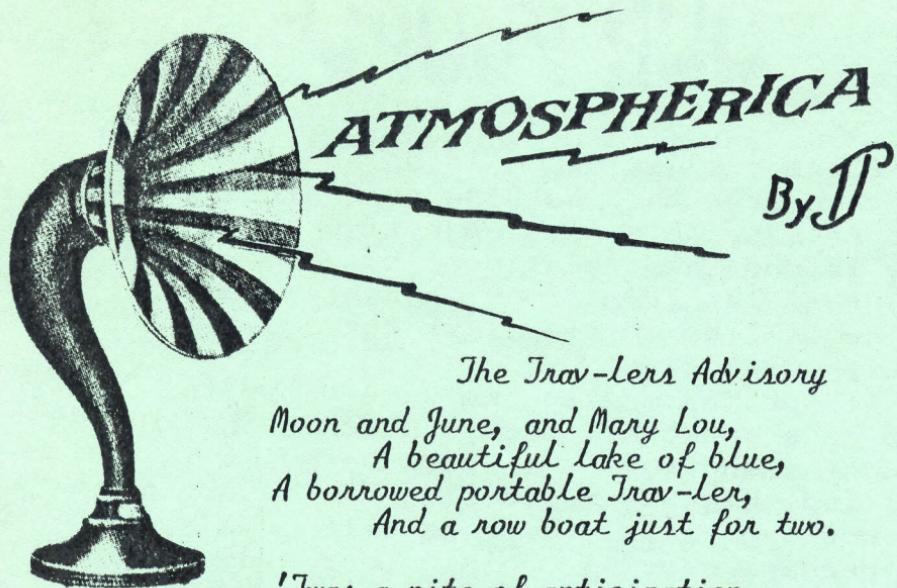
President Jim Mason is on an extended vacation trip thru Washington State and down into Kansas. His main objective is to visit many friends and relatives, but old radios are never far from Jim's thoughts and I'll bet he will be on the alert for additions to his collection.

At our May meeting we were happy to have as a guest Mr. Harris Hutchinson. He brought a one tube set which he built in 1921 and which he would like to restore and get working again. Hope he will come again and perhaps consider joining our club.

The June meeting will feature a display of portable radios. Our membership must account for a number of these sets which were so popular in the 30's and 40's. If you have sets in this category bring them to the meeting on June 9th - it will make an interesting exhibit.

The early 1920's were the great formative years for home radio. Almost every family was involved in building or acquiring a receiver. Crystal sets were the big thing and their designs were legion --- single and double slide coils, loose couplers, variocouplers, etc. Reception was generally quite good thru a good set of phones like Holtzer-Cabot, Murdock or Brandes. Always there was discussion as to the merits of different crystals. Of course there were the more affluent who could afford a 5 tube battery outfit with horn speaker. They were the envy of all, despite the squeaks and squawks and tempermental moods of the set and the problem of keeping the battery up to standard. Then came power suppliers and finally, about 1927, the full AC set which eliminated this headache.

See you at the next meeting, June 9th.



The Trav-ler's Advisory

Moon and June, and Mary Lou,
A beautiful lake of blue,
A borrowed portable Trav-ler,
And a row boat just for two.

'Twas a nite of anticipation--
Planned for many a day.
The stage was set for romance,
Nothing now stood in the way.

I rowed to the far shoreline,
Where shadows of pines took note,
As we murmured sweet nothings, and
Little waves lapped at the boat.

There was a question to ask her,
Soft music could help turn her head;
I tried to tune in the set, then,
But the dad-gummed battery was dead!

Mary Lou is now in old Spokane,
I think she is single yet;
I only hope where her father is---
The one who lent me the set !

Rank Order

Our radio-tube gavel's unique;
Made of ironwood, maple, and teak.
A rap of this hammer,
Will silence the yammer,
And strike fear in the hearts of the meek !

POWER SUPPLY

BY
Virginia

The Kiblers (Chuck and Bobbi) had a California vacation in May. Hope they didn't get trapped by the gas shortage there. We need you in Oregon, folks!

June 19th will be the last meeting for the Buena Vista Club for the summer. Everyone will be busy with vacations and canning and freezing the results of home gardens. No new projects are planned until fall, but do keep on saving labels and sales slips for the Community Club Awards.

Strawberries are coming onto the market now and perhaps you have forgotten about -

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, OLD STYLE

4 cups pastry flour	Teaspoon soda
Tablespoon sugar	Pint sour cream
$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt	or rich milk
1 egg	Strawberries, powdered sugar
Little warm water	
4 tablespoons butter	Heavy cream

Sift flour twice with salt and sugar. Chop in the ice cold butter. Dissolve the soda in tablespoon warm water and stir in the sour cream, add with the well beaten egg. Mix into a soft dough. Handle as little as possible and roll out rather thin. Cut into large rounds with pot lid. Put one in baking pan, spread with soft butter. Put the other on top of it. Bake 20 minutes in hot oven. Pull apart, cover bottom cake with a thick layer of ripe strawberries crushed and sweetened. Cover with second cake and cover top of this with berries. Dust with powdered sugar and when ready to serve pile with whipped and sweetened cream.

Included in the May issue of the Call Letter, was a pair of pictures, one of a KGW 1952 promotion gimmick, and the other of Oregon's first comm'l. radio station. These came from the Oregon Historical Soc. thru the efforts of Mark Moore. Mark intended to have an article prepared for the June issue along with other pics of the KGW scene. But unforeseen delays came up, so we shall wait until later for Mark's contribution.



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LETTERS

Our faithful correspondant from down Salem way dropped the following note on his latest experiment in the gentle art of Vintage Radio collecting.

..... now that fuel is getting too expensive to drive far with a free heart without constantly ogling the gas gauge, and hunting that elusive item, the open gas station with a supply of gas to sell, I have decided on a new field of experiment to flush out that darned Golden Leutz. I had often thought that if one were to go into a neighborhood of old houses, park the car and proceed from house to house conducting an old-radio survey in a pleasant low key manner, that someone, somewhere will have a radio, or at least give a lead to one. Well I tried it out with mixed results, but I'll do better next time around.

The first person answering my rap was a lady of considerable stature and of the older vintage. I asked about a radio she might have in terms of my survey, and she snorted Radio? What for? I patiently repeated the reason. Yes, she said we had one once, had a horn and---- her face mellowed with the memory---it's been gone a long time---- I thanked her and left.

The next house, with weathered roof and sagging front porch. I rattled the old mechanical ringer, and was confronted by a fellow with a bare belly. I made my pitch and he called up the stairs to his wife who made her appearance dressed with nearly the same attire; yeah, we had an old one, it was a beautiful set, played so sweet but it's gone now, gosh only knows where. She looked a bit wistful as I said goodbye.

The next place housed two exuberant newly-weds who lived with his mother. Nope we don't have one, wished we did for ourselves though, and then with a pleasant farewell, I left, satisfied that my experiment could work, and will try another time.

So much for now-----

Joey

Here's a little item from the Radioscope Magazine from the files dated July, 1925:

Bow Bells are coming to America--

A Cockney is a person born within the sound of the Bow Bells. That's the old definition, but if it still holds true the cockney clan takes in a few millions of people who didn't know they belonged, for in this year--for the first time in the history of the world--The Bow Bells were heard in America.

Big Ben measured up 100% with all it's 13 tons when the British Broadcasting Company, the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, and the Radio Corporation of America, decided to experiment with international broadcasting. The chimes of Big Ben boomed out the midnight hour from the Clock Tower, 300 feet high, on the British Houses of Parliament, and were heard plainly in New York. station WJZ also broadcast two hours of dance music by the dance orchestra of the Hotel Savoy.

The chimes of Big Ben were carried over a land wire from London to Chelmsford, about 30 miles, and then sent out from Station 2LO on a 1,600 meter wavelength. They were picked up at Belfast, Me., and again broadcast on a 122 meter wavelength, from Station IXAL. Picked up at the experimental station of the Radio Corporation of America at Van Cortlandt Park, they were relayed by land wire to a broadcasting station, WJZ and broadcast again on a 455 meter wavelength.

The orchestra could be heard quite distinctly in "Let Me Alone", the Prince of Wales' favourite tune for dance music during his visit to America last year, and in several other popular American selections.

The Radio Corporation of America afterward issued a statement, saying that the experiment may result in bringing programs from Buenos Aires, Paris and stations in the Far East to American radio fans. It added: "Enough progress has been made to enable us to say that we have now definitely entered upon an era of international broadcasting which will eventually bring the entertainment, music and speech of other continents to every home in America."

"Australians in the remote bush danced after dinner to radio music that came to them from Pittsburgh, a distance of about 11,000 miles," says a story emanating from New York. We presume the Australians referred to, are a part of the white population of the continent. However, if the program included much of the current jazz, it is a pity the Bushmen couldn't have been escorted to the vicinity of a loud speaker. The music would have sounded so familiar and homelike, that they would have felt that at last they are coming to their own and are contributing their share toward the world's advance in modern culture.

-----Detroit Free Press

The British Mullard tubes (valves)

In the United States we think of Radiotrons when we turn to vacuum tubes, not that there are no other tubes to be had, but because the Radiotrons are in such general use. In England, on the other hand, the amateurs think of Mullard valves. The British amateur makes use of the Mullard tubes made for receiving purposes. These tubes, or valves, as they are called, are made in a variety of types. The most common type is the type R, which has an over all length, including pin contact members, of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches and a bulb diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. It works best on a filament voltage of 4, and 60 to 80 volts between the plate and filament. In the K type, which is somewhat more compact, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ volts are required for the filament, and 20 to 30 volts for the plate circuit. This particular type is suitable for use in radio frequency amplifiers. The D type is a slightly soft tube designed for use in detecting or rectifying signals prior to audio-frequency amplification. It operates best at about 5 volts filament, and 20 to 30 volts for the plate circuit. The electrodes of the Mullard tubes are made from sheet nickel, and molybdenum and tungsten wire. The Mullard valves or tubes for transmitting purposes, have bulbs made with silica, which not only reduces the danger of breakage but also permits bringing the container nearer to the filament and grid so as to reduce the size of the tube.

----- Radio Broadcast Magazine, June 1922

EDITORIAL COMMENT

This will be the twelfth issue of Call Letter for your present editor, although I've turned out a few issues in emergency role at times in the past. This is the time that the membership will be advised that they should search their ranks for a successor to the post of editor. I will be available as editor until December of this year unless a new candidate is selected prior to that time. However as long as the membership is amenable, I will contribute the Atmospherica feature, and other items as I have in the past. As first with our first editor, Bob Bilbie, And then Bob Hay, I feel that a great deal more input from the members at large could make the job much more pleasureable for your editor. Items promised for the current issues failed to show up at deadline, Please for input fell on dead ears---Someone else will send something in---and yet I hear from some, "why don't you do thus and so". Well you'll have the opportunity to exercise your gripes to the next editor. Hugh and Virginia Ranken, Bob Hay, Joe Tompkins, Bob Campbell, Jim Mason, Craig Hoaglin, Doug Eggert, and a few times our associate members, and a token attempt from a few others, have given their support to the Call Letter. Nearly a hundred others have been ample in their criticism, either passively or voiced, and it "do seem" that among those others, there is one who could make this Call Letter, a real literary gem among vintage radio publications.

Now that you have been alerted, it is up to those who attend meetings now and then to bring the subject up for discussion and disposal as new business, and to seriously act now. I will give ample time to any new editor as to procedures and methods we have used, and I suppose Mr. Hay will do likewise, as he helped me on my maiden trip.

So much for the editorship, now for a new feature (?) that I would like to introduce: How about a brag column. As mentioned elsewhere in the Letter, we should tell the members what we have found in the past month or so, to sort of keep the pot boiling in the matter of collecting old radios--- don't you agree?

Yours etc.,
John E. Peterson Jr.



Dear Barney -

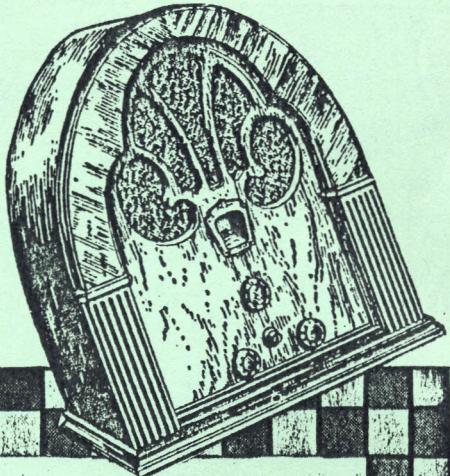
When I place my hand near
my condenser it hurts. What
should I do?

Lucy Wyre

Dear Lucy -

I've never heard of a hand
howling, but if it continues
you'd better see a doc.

Love
Barney Schmitt



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- 1923 -

13

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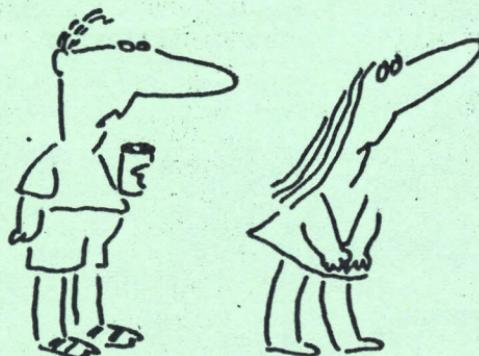
CARTOON CLIPPINGS



Every time I tune in Frank Sinatra—it squeals.

RADIO-CRAFT for APRIL 1947

"Well, why didn't you
marry Gene Autry?"



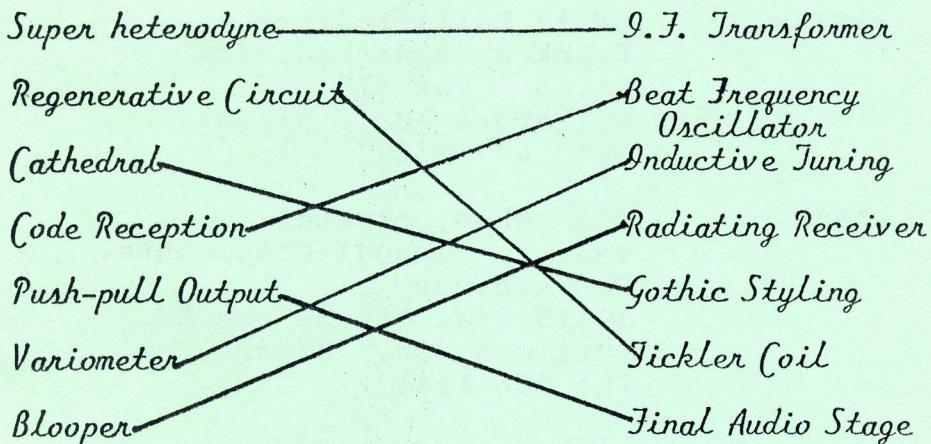
the I.Q. trimmer by Glenn

Tru-er-Jaults-----

1. 0,00, 000, etc. indicate the quality of sandpaper.
2. Laquer-thinner is a good paint brush cleaner.
3. A turkey, or chicken feather makes a good casein-glue spreader for plywood separations on cabinets.
4. It isn't necessary to remove speaker, grillcloth, and chassis from a radio cabinet, when using steel wool on the finish.
5. Gentian Violet and Creosote mixed, make a good substitute for walnut stain.

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

Last months match-ups---



Radio announcer: "Blanks ladies wear has a special on Garners padded bras---these garments are the finest, beware of imitations!"

SWAP SHOP

compiled by Hugh Ranken

- WANTED:** Majestic Model 20
power transformer or
complete chassis.
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and
Case for 10 tube Philco
console.
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Salem, Or. 97302
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- WANTED:** SX-17 Hallicrafters.
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