

VOL. 6
NO. 12



DEC.
1980

CALL LETTER

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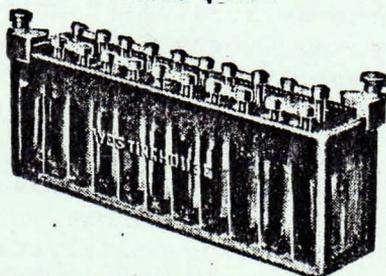
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Los Angeles

From Radio Doings, August 3, 1923 for
Los Angeles. Contributed by Peter Young.

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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 the Buena Vista clubhouse located at 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon. Meetings convene at 10 o'clock A.M.

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POWER SUPPLY

We're planning a festive Christmas party again this year. Any goodies that you ladies out there can contribute will be much appreciated. We hope to have a table laden with all sorts of holiday edibles. Coffee, tea and punch will be served as usual. No charge this time, gals and guys; everything's "on the house."

It was decided that a \$3.00 limit should be put on our exchange gifts, marked either for male or female. Remember, each person brings a gift so that he or she can receive one. They can be radio related or not. Also, we will be having door prizes, and tickets will be given out for these.

Please plan to attend. It'll be fun!

If you hurry, you'll still have time to bake this fruitcake for the holidays. Makes 12 cups of batter or 4 lbs. of cake.

Applesauce Fruitcake

3 C. applesauce	4½ C. sifted flour
1 C. shortening	4 tsp. b. soda
2 C. sugar	2½ tsp. cinnamon
1 lb. dates	1 tsp. salt
1 lb. raisins	1 tsp. nutmeg
1 lb. walnuts	½ tsp. cloves
¼ lb. candied cherries	½ C. light corn syrup
¼ lb. " pineapple	¼ C. water
¼ lb. citron	Candied fruits & nuts

Combine applesauce, shortening and sugar in 2 qt. saucepan; mix well. Boil 5 min., stirring occasionally. Cool well.

Place dates, raisins, walnuts, cherries, pineapple and citron in 6 qt. bowl.

Sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, salt, nutmeg, and cloves over fruit mixture. Mix until all fruit is well coated. Stir in cooled applesauce mixture; mix well.

Bake 2 hrs. 30 min. or until done. Cool in pan 10 min., then on rack. Let mellow 2 weeks before cutting. To glaze, combine corn syrup and water; bring to boil; then remove from heat and cool. Pour over loaves & decorate.



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

The Dilemma

Christmas Day 's two weeks away,
With New Year coming next,
My savings low 'n I'll have you know
The problem's got me vexed!

How can I get clear free of debt,
And solvent once again?
By spending less? Well then I guess
I might salvage five or ten.

I could hock a set, my Radiette,
To a lowly antique store,
But I'd shed a tear, and then I fear
I'd buy it back once more!

I've sold a few to friends I knew,
But mostly trades in kind.
I bought a Grebe, (not a "freebie")
And I'm broke and in a bind.

Our V. R. S. is to blame I guess,
The darn hobby ever grows.
It may seem strange, but I'll never change,
For I love old radios!

*** ** * * * * *

Mamma Goose # 8

Little Jack Horner sat in the corner,
Tuning his Super Regen.
He twiddled the dials
And burst into smiles;
And said, "Old Major's done it again!"

SAMPLE BALLOT FOR 1981 ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT:

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DON IVERSON _____

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TOM JAMES _____

Remember - Dues are due in December.

Full Membership \$12.50

Associate Membership \$10.00

OUR PEOPLE

by HUGH RANKIN

Seems like only a few days ago the temperature was in the 80's and 90's and we were trying to catch an elusive breeze ... now ... Christmas is just around the corner, which inspires me to urge all members to attend our next meeting on December 13th. Not only will our Christmas party be held at that time but officers will be elected to serve for the coming year. The Power Supply is planning special refreshments and door prizes. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped gift for the grab bag ... something within a limit of \$3.00.

Joe Tompkins brought his English radio, a PYE, to the November meeting for display. A three tube regenerative, it appears in excellent condition. The cabinet is of unique design, I guess you might call it an English cathedral, with volume and tuning controls on the side.

Back in the Spring of 1941 the radio industry suddenly became aware of a great new potential market for portable radios ... the men who were leaving for military service. "Radio Today", a trade magazine of the time, made extensive surveys and elaborate plans to capture this market. Portables had been generally available on the market probably since 1937 or '38 but never promoted so intensively. It was estimated that about 1,500,000 men would be in the armed forces by July 1941. Many newspapers, especially in smaller towns, published lists of those leaving for service. Sales and service personnel were urged to use these lists to contact families and friends toward providing a portable for the service man. However, it was recommended that the donor first determine conditions as to space, power and regulations. The most appropriate set for service personnel was the 3-way portable

which would run on batteries when necessary, or on AC current, which was available in practically all barracks and tents. Zenith was a popular portable of the time with its airplane luggage type case and wave magnet antenna. Many of these are still around. Philco, RCA, Emerson, Knight, Sentinel and others followed similar ideas but with different case styles and coverings.

"I heartily endorse novelty radios but I think they should have some utility value as well". Such was the gist of an article by Hugo Gernsback in an early 1941 issue of Radio Craft Magazine. He cited the brief case radio, a complete set installed in an ordinary brief case. This was first offered as a hobby project about 1931 or '32. Manufacturers picked up the idea and eventually it became quite desirable, not only for its novelty but also for its utility. Gernsback had many ideas for novelty/utility radios ... smoking sets with humidors, ash trays and an electric lighter; liquor sets with decanters, glasses and other paraphenalia (some of our members have these sets in their collections). A bedroom radio with clock activated radio, night light, and a memo pad with electrically lighted pencil for those who woke in the middle of the night with brilliant ideas to jot down. Another, called the "Childrens Radio", required a nickel or dime dropped in a savings bank to operate the radio. A crafty idea and I wouldn't think too popular. Gernsback deplored the fact that manufacturers of early clock radios failed to distinguish between A.M. and P.M. and used only a 12 hour time base instead of 24. If you set the alarm for 7 A.M. that's what you got again at 7 P.M. His suggestions for a 24 hour basis are pretty much standard today.

Radio Doings

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Los Angeles, Cal.

(Entered as second-class matter, November 25, 1922, Los Angeles, California
Post Office, Under Act of March 3, 1879)

Copyright by H. A. Horwood, 1923

Five Cents a Copy

Two Dollars a Year

Vol. III

Los Angeles, August 3, 1923

No. 5

As with the remainder of the public, all Radioland is filled with a sincere sympathy for the President in his illness, and with a regret that he is unable to come to our glorious Southland. We must admit, however, that a certain part of this grief is not untinged with selfishness. By that we mean that a large part of our regret is a disappointment at not having the pleasure and opportunity of hearing President Harding and imbibing wisdom therefrom.

Radio fans, however, have a real consolation that is not shared by the less fortunate part of the public, for even though the fan is not able to hear the President in person, those who have Radio sets may hear him on the air at some future time. This fact, that a human message may be transmitted directly from one man to an audience numbering millions is of incalculable importance.

It seems to us that Radio is going to be THE big political medium of the future. Just as the newspapers have a large part in moulding public opinion today, so Radio may be expected to point the votes of the future. News, that in the past had to be slowly taken off the wire and translated into ink and papere, may now be received direct, without a moment's loss of time. Statesmen are now able to speak directly to a public numbering millions. What is of more importance, they reach the most progressive element of the public, the people who are Radio fans form the most advanced element in very community in which they are found; they form the element that is ever ready to test out that which is new, and promises to better human existence.

We, for our part, look forward to the next campaign as the most interesting in American history, and the first in any history that was conducted in great part "on the air."

Radio fans, however, while disappointed in not being able to hear our Chief Executive, have heard General Pershing, another of our big men. His message was indeed a timely one.

All the Year for Two Dollars

Do not miss a copy of RADIO DOINGS. Have it mailed every week to your home. Simply sign the blank below. Mail it to us or pay your dealer and let him forward it to us.

RADIO DOINGS, 308 Van Nuys Building, Los Angeles, California:

Inclosed find two dollars for subscription to RADIO DOINGS for one year.

Name _____

Address _____

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"Out of the Air"

By Loudspeaker

WBAP, Fort Worth, Texas, is discontinuing musical programs from August 1 to September 17. Evening concerts will be resumed on the latter date.

KDZE, the Rhodes Company of Seattle, has been transferred from Class C to Class B. This station has been assigned a wave length of 455 meters and its power 500 watts. This adds another high-power station to the Pacific Coast which should be clearly heard all over the Pacific and Western states. We hope to be able to print their weekly program shortly.

The Canadian Department of Marine has issued a license for the erection of a high-powered press radio station at St. Margaret's Bay, Nova Scotia, near Halifax, to C. F. Crandall of the British United Press, acting for the American publishers committee. For over a year a group of American papers, including New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and other dailies, has been operating an experimental radio station at Dartmouth, across the bay from Halifax, for the reception of wireless press reports from London and Europe, and relaying them by land lines to the newspapers.

We wish to sympathize with our good friend "Uncle Remus" on the loss of the "possum" sent him by an admirer. We know exactly how he feels about it. He had his mouth all set for a fine dinner when the news came that his "pet" had met an untimely end. It seems that Mr. "Possum" was sent to Uncle Remus in care of The Times, his admirer not being familiar with the address in "dark-town," the crate that contained the juicy morsel was not of very substantial construction, and, being lonely and fearsome, Mr. Possum proceeded to eat his way out of his prison. The following morning he was reported A.W.O.L. and an S.O.S. call was immediately broadcasted and the police communicated with. No results. Some five days later possum was picked up on the sidewalk in front of the Times Building with a dead pigeon in his mouth. Upon receipt of the news Uncle Remus hastened to the scene, but too late; another dark gentleman having arrived in advance. Too bad, Uncle Remus, better luck next time.

The Director of Telegraphs at Venezuela has announced that bids will be asked for the erection of a new high-power radio station at Caracas in the near future.

Commander R. R. Mann, U. S. N., has relieved Commander J. J. London as superintendent of Atlantic Coast Naval Communications. He is in charge of both radio and land line circuits.

Captain R. W. McNeely has been designated to relieve Commander S. C. Hooper as chief of radio section, Bureau of Engineering. Commander Hooper left to become fleet radio officer under Admiral Coontz on July 14.

C. E. Dunbar, sales manager of American Radio Research Laboratories of Medford, Mass., is a recent visitor to Los Angeles. This company is the manufacturer of the Amrad sets and parts.

Max L. Lowenthal, president of the Globe Commercial Company of San Francisco and secretary of the San Francisco Radio Trades Association, called on us last week. He is very optimistic about the outlook for radio this fall.

Miscellany

Mr. Editor

Some stupid jerk sure got my dander up with that article he wrote ridiculing AC radios. He wrote an article about *How* great it was to have a collection of dumb old radio tubes and at the end made the statement that even one AC radio would be boring to look at.

I suppose he is one of those battery nuts. Those things never were any good and as proof of that statement is the provable fact that as AC radios were manufactured people discarded the battery sets by the millions. You had to be a Homo-Octupie to operate one of those what with 3 knobs all having to be set individually just to get close to the stations frequency. And then there were the filament rheostats, one for the RF and one for the Audio. I once saw a set that had 5 rheostats, practically one for each tube. I never did figure out how one determined whether he needed more RF gain or more Audio or vice versa. At any rate when all those knobs were set to where they should be you had the damndest racket coming out of the speaker- squeaks and squalls along with static.

On the other hand with an AC set you had only one knob for tuning and one knob for volume control. This volume control also had the on off attached, very convenient. The battery set some times had a switch if you could find it.

And you did not have to wonder if you needed more RF or Audio, the AVC circuit took care of that. The sensitivity and selectivity were far superior to the battery radios. And the reproduction was out of this world in the AC sets. Some were good from 30 to 20,000 cycles.

The battery sets I have heard sounded like they were good for from 1,000 to 3,000 cycles. And the cabinets on the AC radios were a piece of furniture. They were designed for acoustics and beauty. The battery sets cabinets looked like either the packing crate the rest of the radio came in or else a coffin for a cat or dog. In the truly golden age of radio You could listen to radio stations all over the world. For those who had a hard time remembering what was the stations frequency they came out with automatic tuning and put a little card by the pushbutton. Just push the button and presto there was the station. No trying to remember is KGW the first dial on 60 the second dial on 58 the third dial just a smidgen past 59 and a half. And then there's this problem of knowing whether you need more RF or more Audio. Then for the perfectionists there was the tuning eyes so you could get righth on the station. I could write all night of the superiority of the AC over the battery radio.

But I am not biased in anyway, if you want to collect the second best, collect battery radios. At least you will be one step ahead of those guys who think the sun rises and sits on crystal sets. Hell those things are nothing more than kids toys.

AC radios forever.



LETTERS

The Call Letter again received a letter from old faithful - Joey Tompkins down Salem way

Dear Bill,

This month I ran into a couple of finds that might be worth mentioning in the paper. I came across a huge Sparton Console with 17 tubes spread around an upper and lower deck. The lower deck contains the power supply and audio. The whole thing runs real good. Also found a Western Electric three tube amplifier Model 7-A. That doesn't sound like much but the three tubes are big as tennis balls - each with a tip!

Thats all for this month.....

Joey

Olé!

by

T.J.

Comes now the last [!]OLÉ of the year, with a pretty good bunch of radios accounted for. At least they are not in some "landfill", which is what our Society is all about.

Don Iverson came up with a nice M R (-12 Michigan receiver. It is a tuned grid-tuned plate regenerator with two audio stages, and 2 very unique tuning knobs (or rather tuning "handles") which he displayed at the last meeting; a real worthwhile item in this class. Also Don got three W D-11s, which were in boxes that the owner discarded because of his notion they were too dirty (?) add a Stromberg-Carlson 1-A Neutrodyne to the lot and that's that, Whoeee!

Frank Plaisted came up with another SX Hallicrafter, namely the SX-25 Super defiant. (strange how I seem to put SX and Essex in the same category) Thus adding yet another nice short wave receiver to his collection of Hallicrafters.

A loose-coupler, from the Duck company, was secured by Jim Mason. This is a much more prestigious item than a Browning-Drake, or goose-neck horn! Jim ought to get some good Dx now that he has the wherewithal, like the S O S messages some of our members send out when they're a-sea with problems. Anybody found any good coherers lately? Jim's latest acquisition just points up the vast changes in radio technique since 1916.

** ** *

"Give a poor man a tube for his radio and he'll ask for the batteries" : Old Proverb

** ** *

Barney Schmill crossed a Super-Wasp with a Crosley Pup and got a hot little Trav-ler!

** ** *

That's all folks----

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



I Q Primer...

by THE PROF.

I'm going to try one more word-charade on you and hope you won't be bored to death. These little puzzles come in various forms and have been around for a very long time. This one spells out a familiar radio name.

My first is in puzzle,
My second in Freed;
My thirds not in Christmas
But surely in needs.

My fourth is in coil,
All green and classy.
My fifth is in tuner
But never in chassis.

My fifth is not found
In Crosley or Kent,
But always in phase,
With a zilch in cement.

My whole is a name
From the twenties, around,
And if you look sharp,
The ads still can be found.

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

The answer to last month's puzzle was Chelsea. I don't have the history of this company at hand but they made some rather good radios through the twenties. I believe our member Joe Tompkins found one Chelsea recently, but they are not as numerous as many contemporary receivers. If anyone has the story of the rise and fall of the Chelsea, let us know. It's quite likely that the crash of '29 had it's influence on the departure of many manufacturers from the scene.

SWAP SHOP

COMPILED BY

BILL

DEVEY

WANTED: Coils or coilforms for National
SW 3. Manual or copy for same.
Bill De Vey

#

FOR SALE OR Perfect rebuilt Hallicrafters
TRADE: SX 28 and good SX 42.
Bob Campbell, Ph: 648-7331

#

WANTED: Escutcheon for 1st Echophone
Cathedral (don't know model #)
Robert Teague, Ph: 653-0077

#

WANTED: Cabinet to fit chassis with
front panel 26"x7".
Jim Mason, Ph: 644-2343

#

FOR SALE: Good looking and good playing
Radiola III with 2 good 99
tubes with adapters. \$80.00
or trade.
Joey Tompkins, Ph: 362-8071

#

WANTED: I need vernier dials for the set
I traded for which has both knobs
broken. Both are 4"x5" overall
with two bolts holding them to
the panel and a friction drive
capstan operated by the tuning
knob. Joey Tompkins,
3796 Hulsey Ave., Salem Or..
Ph: 362-8071