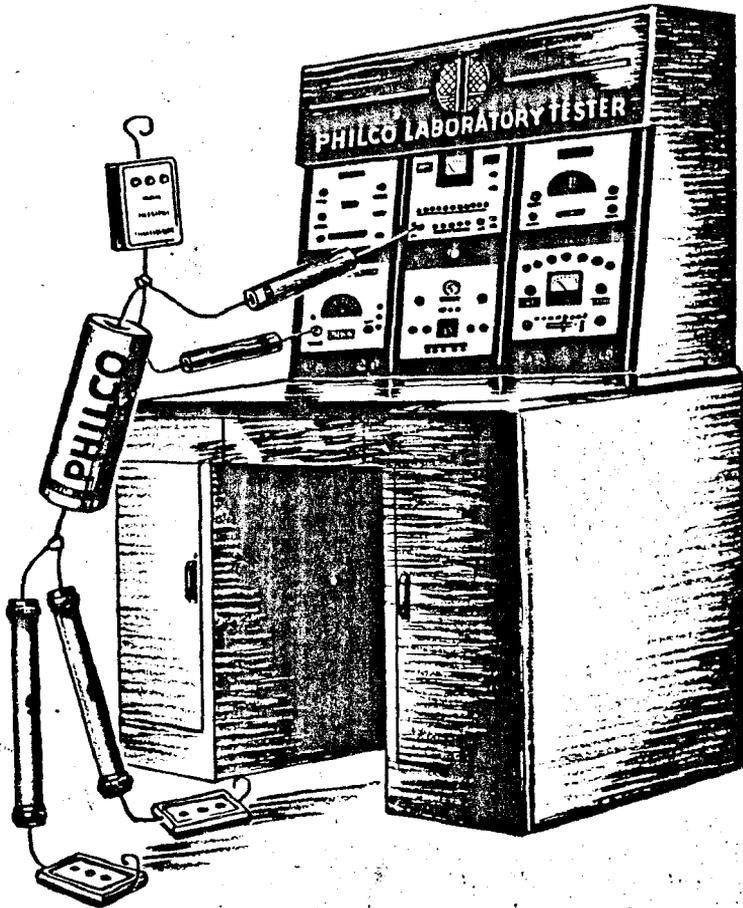


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# CALL LETTER



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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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Feature articles are contributed by members under various by-lines. Please send all contributions to the editor.

\*\* \*\* \* \* \* \*\* \*\* \*\*

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## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 1982

The regular monthly meeting of the NWVRS convened at the Buena Vista club house on October 9, 1982 with President Bill De Vey presiding. The minutes for the meeting of September 11 and the Treasurer's report were read. Both were approved and accepted. Visitors and guests were introduced and it was a pleasure to welcome several from out-of-town.

GOOD AND WELFARE: Member Doug Warren expressed his thanks for the get well card sent to Mrs. Warren. Tom James reported that he had learned of the death of member John Wood of Vancouver, Washington, further information was not available at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: Tom James presented the club radio project with parts mounted and now ready for wiring.

Jerry Talbott furnished further information on securing badges; the cost to members would be \$5.85, which would pro-rate the cost of the template. The manufacturer requires a minimum order of 25 for which the cost to the club would be \$146.25. Badges would be prepared exclusive of the individuals name, which would be inserted as they were ordered by the members.

It was reported that the Golden Hours radio repair project was progressing nicely. Many sets have been repaired with only a few still to be done.

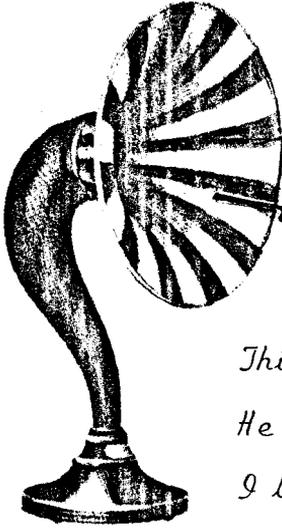
### NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Mason reported a RCA radio-phono for sale at City Liquidators for \$165.00 and they will probably accept an offer.

The display scheduled for the November meeting will be radio memorabilia ...things that look like radios but aren't ... like banks, coaster sets, salt and peppers, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M. to continue with the swap meet.

Hugh Ranken, Sec.



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

Der Dummkopf

This is the tale of "Holstein Hank",  
And what he set out to do.  
He was dubbed a "bucolic fellow",  
By a pedant that I knew.  
I looked up the word bucolic--  
"From the Greek word ox," I read.  
It fitted the man exactly  
In body and mind--'nuff said.

Hank ordered up a radio kit  
From the Sears and Sawbuck book,  
And everyone laughed and hooted  
At the silly step he took.  
One has to have a certain flair;  
Lots of scientific zing--  
And something besides alfalfa  
To wire up that sort of thing!

A few weeks later I went down to  
Hank's batt-board bungalow,  
And caught him stomping to the tunes  
From his home-built radio!  
I asked him, "Was it difficult  
To make such a dandy set?"  
"Hell no, a guy from town did that,  
To settle his dairy debt!"

\*\* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\*

Sound reasoning  
I complained to a friend of mine,  
Who had sound Amps. to sell,  
About the awful volume that  
These monsters could yell.  
He answered with a grin, that he  
Sold Hearing Aids as well!

# **SPOTLIGHT ON RADIO'S PAST**

I had the opportunity to appear on KB00 Radio last week to talk about the days of early radio with my host Ross Reynolds.

Apart from anecdotes and observations, I got the chance to discuss with him the Northwest Vintage Radio Society and something about the hobby we all share. This was not only enjoyable for me but gave our Society some public exposure.

During this brief time on the air I became interested in some portions of "radio's past" that I hadn't, to date, thought about. I hope that in the next few months I can use this page to talk about some of the voices, dates, and memories that are the "good ol' days of Radio".

I am still looking forward to displays and chances to display our hobby. If you have any suggestions in either of these areas please give me a call !

Dick Karman

288-1285

# *Bits and Pieces*

The October swap meet was, in my opinion, one of the best we have ever had, not only from the standpoint of attendance but for the variety and quality of material offered. Ad Manager Jerry Talbott is to be commended for his efforts in promoting the event. It was gratifying to see many members who had not attended for some time and to welcome several visitors and guests, many from out-of-town.

\* \* \*

The first political figure to use radio extensively on a Nation wide scale was president Franklin D. Roosevelt. In July 1932, soon after accepting the Democratic nomination for the Presidency, Roosevelt turned to radio. This nation wide hook-up, in which he undertook to explain the aims of the Democratic Party, was said to be the first for a presidential candidate. Thru the desperate times of depression and the hectic years of WWII he turned many times to radio. Whether or not one agreed with what he said his charm and personality was not to be denied.

What follows is a condensed report of an F.D.R. broadcast in the summer of 1933 by Norman Siegel for Radio Stars Magazine.

"Picture a humid, sticky evening in Washington; the temperature had reached 96 degrees and at broadcast time had cooled only slightly. We meet in the executive quarters of the White House and are taken to the diplomatic reception room. Oval in shape, about the size of an ordinary large living room, it has been converted into a combination radio and movie studio. The room is divided into four areas ... one for radio personnel, another for newsreel apparatus and a third for reporters and visitors. The fourth contains the desk from which the President will broadcast. It is similar to most execu-

tive desks except for the five holes in the top which accomodate the microphone cables, two mikes for NBC, two for CBS and one for the movie sound track. The room is full of relics from another day, heavily framed portraits and busts of historical figures. Three minutes before broadcast time the President enters. He is wearing a white linen suit and creamcolored tie and looks remarkably fresh despite the high temperature and long day filled with appointments. He puffs at a cigarette in a long holder and seems less concerned about the broadcast than anyone else. Then you hear the announcers, Carleton Smith for NBC and Robert Traut for CBS: 'Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States.' Reading from large typed sheets, his voice clear and firm, he is talking to the largest audience ever to listen to a broadcast ... but, he speaks as if addressing each listener individually. He interrupts himself midway to ask 'where's the glass of water? It is a very hot evening in Washington, my friends!' The water is right in front of him and he knows it, but he uses this as an interlude, a bit of showmanship. He then continues and finishes his message a few minutes ahead of the allotted time.

The room is then turned into a movie studio. Five klieg lights are lit, adding to the heat and the President repeats his speech for movie cameramen and news photographers!!

\* \* \*

Plan to attend our next meeting, November 13th. The display will be radio memorabilia. Let's have a good turn out.

Hugh Ranken

## Auto-Radio

The one time phantom of auto-radio is rapidly materializing. Predictions by leaders in the industry indicate that radio sets will eventually be sold largely by automobile dealers. Several prominent motor companies have already distributed radio sets through their dealers, and radio producers are making arrangements with individual dealers for distribution.

One of the big difficulties of the radio manufacturers has been that of securing proper representation in the smaller communities. Few of the stores found in the average village or small town can afford to keep a complete line of sets in stock, and the advertising devoted to them is, of necessity, limited. The automobile dealer, however, is accustomed to going out and selling his product, and is trained to recognize the necessity of servicing the commodity he sells. It seems, therefore, only natural that a large part of the future of radio sales should rest with him.

The handling of radio receivers will enable automobile dealers to pass more comfortably through the winter months; always a difficult period for car sales, and an excellent one for radio.

On the other side of the Atlantic the fame of auto-radio is also growing. A Paris taxi-driver reports that, since he has equipped his cab with radio, he is able to persuade even the most impatient riders to remain calm and contented in traffic jams, and that by tuning in love songs amorous couples can be easily enticed into taking rides.

###

From Radio News for March, 1930.  
Page 787.

Contributed by Art Redman.

*In Memory of John Wood*

*We don't know what the purpose  
When Grim Reaper makes a choice,  
There's no explanation really  
When he sounds his dismal voice.  
And we only feel remorse  
When a fellow man departs,  
But his absence only sharpens  
His grip upon our hearts .*



REMOVING DENTS IN WOOD

Many service men know this wrinkle, but others may not, hence it is offered here for what it is worth. Wood cabinets (and other furniture) often have dents produced in them by a sharp blow by some blunt instrument or utensil.

If the wood is thereby compressed, but not gouged out and thus removed, it can readily be repaired like new by following this simple method. Take a cloth or paper towel and moisten it. Place it over the dented portion, and apply a hot iron on top of it. (Even a soldering iron will do in an emergency.)

Steam will be evolved, and as fast as the paper or cloth dries out at any one spot, move it around so that another moist portion is placed over the dent. Continue steaming, with an occasional glance at the dent. After a few minutes it will be found that the wood fibers have swelled up to their original position, and the dent is entirely gone. A little varnish or polish will make the erstwhile dent completely invisible.

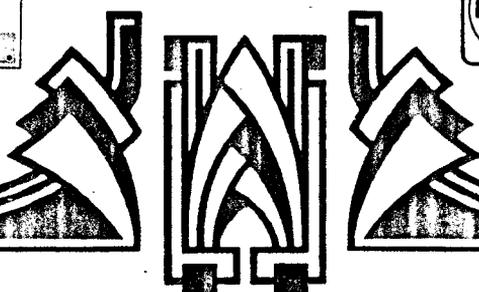
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W

# Old Time Radio

MODERN SET IS USED BY KFJR

During the past few months so many verifications of reception have been received by Ashley C. Dixon & Son, from extremely distant points, that not a little local interest has been aroused as to the construction and operation of station KFJR.

The transmitter itself is what is known as a master oscillator, power amplifier circuit. The nominal rating of the power amplifier tube, which feeds the modulated radio-frequency energy into the antenna circuit is 50 watts. At present the input into this tube is about 160 watts, giving a theoretical output of about 80 watts. The antenna circuit, as indicated by a Weston thermocoupled ammeter is 3.5 amperes.

This circuit was the first of its kind to be used in Portland and conforms to the very latest practice in factory built transmitters. The new high power stations are all of the master-oscillator, power-amplifier type.

Inductive coupling is used between the transmitter and the antenna circuit. This means, more amply stated, that there is no metallic connection between the set and the antenna or radiating system. The coupling space between the power inductor and the antenna inductor is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches. This extremely loose coupling results naturally in a loss of indicated radiation. But it also acts as a harmonic and side band filter, keeping the actual wave emitted extremely sharp and well-defined, and preventing the radiation of any false wave or harmonic. Radio KFJR has, since its installation, been noted for having a sharp wave, which can easily be tuned out by receivers within a short distance of the station.

On the other hand, the 3.5 amperes in the antenna, being all effective radiation, and with a high percent of modulation, gives KFJR a consistent range of over 1000 miles with loudspeaker

reception. This is not theory but fact, attested by nearly 2000 letters from fans outside the state of Oregon, which have been received by Dixon during the few months that KFJR has been operated with its present power. Eliminating the over-enthusiastic fan with his "program came in fine" report, reports of actual reception and identification of musical selections have been received from New York City on the east, San Diego on the south, Hawaiian Islands on the west, and Fairbanks, Alaska on the north.

But the average fan is more interested in what he is able to hear from a station, rather than a semi-technical description of the transmitter. So we will tell in a few words just how KFJR reproduces its most famous offering, "Music of the Masters".

The studio itself is a comparatively small room, 12 by 18 in size. No drapery is used to deaden the walls, the windows only being covered. However, the ceiling is extremely low, and the entire surface of the room is finished in a rough sand coat plaster. The low ceiling and rough walls prevent the disagreeable echo usually noticed in undraped studios, and at the same time provide for the faithful reproduction of all the delicate overtones, and half-tones, necessary to give a rich, natural sound to the music as received by the listener.

(to be continued)

From the Radio Section of the PORTLAND TELEGRAM, January 30, 1926.

# # # # # # # #

Nominations for officers for the coming year, in addition to the slate presented by the Board of Directors, may be made at the November meeting.

# Ole! by T.J.

In going over the past year or so in the Ole' column, I was struck by the fact that in spite of the lateness of the period when radio collecting was fashionable, there is still a steady trickle of pretty good items showing up. Hope it continues for a long, long time.

Jerry Talbott: 1937 Zenith 8S129, large Tombstone; 1936, Webster-Chicago 26A portable AC phonograph; 1949 Mitchell "Lullaby" bed-lamp radio.

Hugh Ranken: Zenith Trans-Oceanic #G-500, with original operating guide and schematic, good condition electronically and physically. Garage sale item.; also Western Royal radio/phono. table model W533, 78 RPM only, single play, needs work but can't complain as the zero price was right! Moving sale.

Bob Teague: Philco console # 111, nine tube chassis with Hi-boy cabinet, with doors, in excellent shape.

Doug Warren: 1938 Zenith console, mint condition, mod. 95367; Zenith # 6R886, 1947 radio/phono. comb.

Don Iverson: 8-01As and 1-00A, all new in cartons; Rauland interstage transformers; Radiola III balanced amplifier.

\*\*\*\*\*

We have a new radio in the fold, but it is not one found in an old attic, garage sale, auction, friend, antique shop, or other. It is unique in the annals of vintage radio clubs. It is a "Logo-Gem" created with parts from members of the club. A listing of the donations will appear in the Call Letter at a later date. It is now complete and operating, except for the cabinet which is under construction, I understand, by another member. (More later tj.)

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# CARTOON CLIPPINGS

OH, MAN!



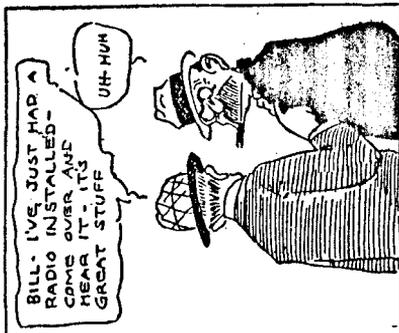
BILL THIS RADIO-  
PHONE IS GREAT  
STUFF—DID YOU  
EVER HEAR ONE?

NAH



BILL YOU MUST COME UP  
TO THE HOUSE SOME  
EVENING AND LISTEN  
TO OUR RADIO OUTFIT.  
GREAT STUFF

UH!



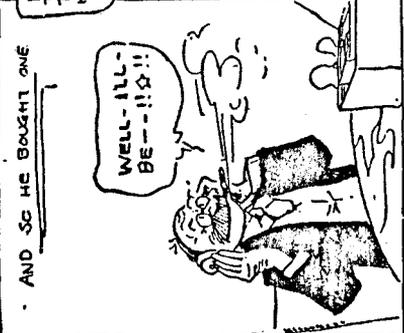
BILL I'VE JUST HAD A  
RADIO INSTALLED—  
COME OVER AND  
HEAR IT—IT'S  
GREAT STUFF

UH-HUH



OH WELL I'VE BEEN OVER  
TO THE BOSTONS AND HEARD  
THEY'VE GOT THAT MARLBURST  
AND THEY CAN'T USE HAVE ONE?  
WHY CAN'T WE HAVE ONE?

YOU'VE GOT THE  
BUG TOO EN!



AND SO HE BOUGHT ONE

WELL—ILL—  
BE—!!?!!



HANK YOU OUGHT  
TO COME UP TO  
THE HOUSE AND  
HEAR MY RADIO  
—IT'S GREAT  
STUFF

WHY CERTAINLY  
WE'VE GOT ONE  
—I'VE BEEN  
TELLING

BILL THINKS  
I'VE GOT A  
CRABBY  
SOMETHING

HE'S A  
MUT  
SUBJECT

BRIGGS

# Yesterday II

Vote by Radio! Why not?

New York, 1926

The radio referendum may, in a few years, be provided for by legislative enactment. Until the result of such a referendum becomes binding on elected representatives, the radio appeal for the sentiment of the voters may be expected to have an important part in interpreting the wishes of the electorate and in influencing the action of the law maker.

Governor Smith says: "The American Democracy covers so vast a territory that we must heartily welcome an art that brings it's executives and legislators into the most immediate contact with the public they have been elected to serve. The advantage is double. It expedites the sending of an intimate message to the whole body of citizens and it secures to the speaker a more prompt and frank expression of personal opinion than he could obtain in any other way. Thus there is preserved a mutual relationship that is of especially high value as new problems arise which can best be solved by a renewed meeting of the minds.

"Recent experiences in broadcasting matters of public moment have given me a new sense of close fellowship with my fellow citizens; their many replies have been a help and an inspiration in seeking a solution to the questions which an executive can conscientiously answer only in the full light of the common thought."

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One would suspect that public broadcasting was tailored specifically for the use of the political aspirants who make such eloquent use of this media (radio and it's cousin, TeeVee) to bamboozle the gullible public. It is a sort of great equalizer for the candidates; It makes the most questionable of office seekers seem so plausible to the listeners that they lose perspective, oftentimes, and make a bad decision. I suppose that is the only contact many of us have to a candidate for office, such is the anonymity of many aspirants to a nice city/county/ state/ natl. position with a cushy salary. Heck, maybe I should get on radio (TV) and run for something; I've got a lot of good (?) words I could throw at my opponent!

# SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE

Tektronix 570 tube tester, curve tracer, manual, accessories - \$200. Bill DeVey, 635-6746.

FOR SALE

Atwater Kent Kiel table and model 60 radio. Table needs refinishing - radio works - \$85; Crosley Super Trirdyn Special battery radio, cabinet refinished - \$65 less tubes: Tiffany Tone cathedral (c. 1930, made by Gilfillan cabinet original, radio repaired, works well. \$95. Jim Mason, 90 N. W. 150th Ave., Beaverton, OR 97006. 644-2343.

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## Want Ads

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PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION

### ITEMS WANTED:

FLYBACK OR (PREFERABLY) ENTIRE POWER SUPPLY FOR SPARTON MODEL 4940TV TELEVISION SET; 117 V.A.C. ISOLATION TRANSFORMER. RIDER'S VOLUMES 1 & 2. KEN KORHONEN, SEATTLE. 932-9363.

POWER SUPPLY FOR 1949 ZENITH 10" TM "PORTHOLE" TV. HAROLD HAGEN, SEATTLE. 633-3990 OR 634-1155.

### ITEMS FOR SALE:

MISC. TUBES & SPARE PARTS. DARRELL FORSBERG, SEATTLE. 363-0754.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: MISC. CHASSIS: GREBE, MAJESTIC 90-B, PHILCO, GRUNOW TELEDIAL 1291, VICTOR R-32 (TWO!); SOME WITH FAIR TO ROUGH CABINETS. JOHN AIKIN, OLYMPIA. 866-8407.