

# Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society Portland, Oregon

Vol. 21

August, 1995

No. 8

**Summer  
Radio  
Sales**

**Page 9**

More than two decades in print

# Northwest Vintage Radio Society

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 the Society has been dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of "vintage radio" and wireless equipment.

Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$15.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974. It was originated with the first president and continues to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that supports the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. Guests are welcome at all Society meetings and functions (except board meetings)

Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows and radio sales which are advertised in the Call Letter and are held in and around SW Portland.

## Society Officers:

President	Greg Bonn	(503) 642-5097
Vice President	Speed Feldschau	(503) 390-3928
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Ken Seymour	(503) 642-9115
Board member at large	Ed Pittaway	(503) 645-2883
Call Letter Editor	Dick Karman	(503) 281-6585
Museum Curator	Frank Rasada	(503) 246-3400

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society  
Post Office Box 82379  
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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# August 1995

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### The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

Word Processing, Binding, and Distribution,  
Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517

## **Summer Deadline 20th of the month prior to publication.**

The Call Letter is the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Circulation is limited to the membership and guests of the Society. The Society is not responsible for the material contributed for publication, nor the quality, timeliness or accuracy of the items offered for sale in the SWAP SHOP. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

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# The Meter Meeting

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By Pete Petersen

The Pantages Theater stood three stories tall and towered above all the other businesses along the main street that ran through the center of my old neighborhood. The Pantages was elegantly decorated inside and out, and had a marquee that spelled the name of the current feature in a thousand lights. Uniformed usherettes with flashlights in their white-gloved hands guided patrons to their seats

Broadcast station KYZ's aerial stretched high above the theater, supported between two steel towers mounted on opposite corners of the roof. A powerful 250 watt transmitter filled most of a small room upstairs near the theater managers office. The transmitter was operated remotely over four or five telephone lines from an office and studio downtown. The lines each labeled as to it's purpose, plugged into a little switchboard connected to the transmitter. One line carried the program being broadcast. Another controlled the emergency shut-off switch, and the rest were connected to meters in the downtown office so engineers there could monitor the transmitter. An engineer from the office came regularly to inspect the transmitter and also came at the first indication on a meter that something was amiss.

Early one summer an engineer named Harold, who had just graduated from the state technical college, was given responsibility for the transmitter. During his walks through the theater lobby on his way upstairs for periodic inspections and adjustments he was noticed by several of the usherettes. He especially impressed Helen, a quiet, intelligent young woman who had been an usherette for several years and who was well acquainted with theater operations.

Harold made increasingly frequent visits to the transmitter as the summer went on. Usually the problem he came to fix was minor. Often just a loose plug in the switchboard. After finding a loose plug to be the problem several times he reported the occurrences to the chief engineer who shrugged it off as caused by vibration from passing trolley cars.

Helen seemed to be especially good at guessing when Harold would come to the theater and managed to be where he would notice her. Soon they were dating and as fall turned to winter, Helen and Harold announced their engagement.

Later Harold received a promotion that kept him in the office and another young engineer named Victor was assigned to inspect and attend to the transmitter. During an afternoon matinee when work was slack, one of Helens' friends, an usherette named Julie, came to her and told her that she had seen Victor several times and was attracted to him. She wondered how she could meet Victor and asked how Helen and Harold had become acquainted. With a secretive smile on her face, Helen led Julie upstairs to the transmitter room. After looking around to be sure she would not be overheard, Helen revealed her secret. She pointed to the transmitter's makeshift switchboard and whispered "When you want Victor to come around pull one of the plugs half way out."

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## Northwest Vintage Radio Show & Sale

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Plans are being made now for the November 11th, 1995 Northwest Vintage Radio Show and Sale at Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, Oregon.

To Reserve A Table

To Volunteer to Help

To Get The Details

Call Dick Dielschneider at (503) 246-1062

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# Fun With Radio

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When voices and music come a newspaper tossed casually onto a chair — well, the shock is almost too much for a nervous man. It's good for a lot of laughs, and it is easily done, too — in a number of ways.

Perhaps the simplest is to make a condenser-type loud speaker out of the paper. This is done by taking two sheets of tin foil (the kind that comes in packs of cigarettes will do, but the larger pieces are better) and solder long leads to them.

The newspaper is placed upon a chair, and one piece of foil laid loosely between two pages. The other piece of foil is similarly laid between the **very next** two pages, so that only one thickness of newspaper separates the two pieces of foil. (Fig. 1)

It is best to have the foil good and smooth. It may be flattened by laying it on top of a perfectly flat desk or table, and covering it with a piece of paper. The rounded part of the bowl of a tablespoon is then rubbed firmly over the paper, which must be held so it can not crumple. The way to do this is to hold the spoon in the right hand and to use the left hand to hold the paper flat. If you always rub away from the left hand, the paper will not crinkle. Fig.2A shows how this is done.

The connection of the wires to the tin foil is likewise easily made. You cannot solder to tin foil satisfactorily; it melts too readily. Therefore crumple one corner of the foil and wind the scrapped end of the wire around it, as shown in Fig 2B.

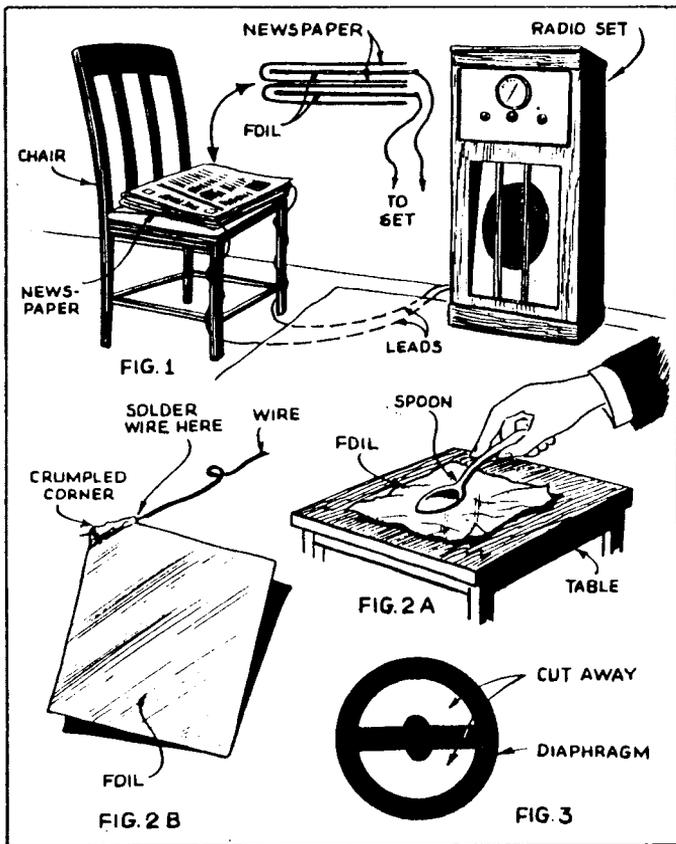
Finally, connect the primary of the set-up transformer, such as an old audio frequency transformer, across the output of the radio set. Connect the two wires from the tin foil to its secondary windings and tune in a program. The paper will talk. If it tends to rattle too much, lay a thin magazine on top of it. This will reduce the rattle and the volume.

Another type of talking paper can be made of an old head-phone unit. For this one, best results will be had by soaking the sheet of newspaper in water to which a little glue has been added, in order to stiffen it. The paper then must be hung up to dry — if you lay it down to dry, it will stick to the surface upon which it rests.

While it is drying, remove the cap from the headphone and cut away the center part, as shown in Fig 3, leaving just enough at the rim to hold the diaphragm. This must be done with considerable care in order to avoid cracking the cap which would make the unit worthless.

When this job is done, and the paper has dried, the paper is attached to the center of the diaphragm with a drop of sealing wax, which may be taken from the top of a discarded "B" battery. If no sealing wax is available a small lump of beeswax or cobbler's wax — the size of a grain of wheat — will do as well.

(This exercise was published by Hugo Gernsback in 1938.)





# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## Fertility Rite

*Lucy Wyre had a Philco  
In Nineteen forty two.  
It was made in twenty-six,  
But Lucy made it do.*

*In the fall of fifty-seven  
The Philco quit for good,  
So she bought a new one  
Though we thought she never would.*

*Now the old one's up for sale  
And it won't be choice pickens,  
Since she's kept it in the hen house  
As a roosting place for chickens !*

History: Twenty years ago everyone remembered the scratchy reception of the 30's and 40's. It was blamed on atmospheric conditions, defined as the cause of breaks in serious reception. Atmospheric conditions soon were referred to as "atmospherics." Founding member Tom James thought that our newsletter should have some breaks in serious reception and started to write poetry, titled first **Atmospherics**, and later as **Atmospherica**. Tom and his wife, Dorothy, are gone, but the *Call Letter* continues to publish Tom's works as a *break in serious reception*.

# ANTIQUE RADIO SWAP MEET

Sunday, August 20, 1995  
9 AM to 1 PM

Shoreline Museum Parking Lot  
N. 175th & Linden Avenue, North Seattle

(One block west of Aurora Avenue, or  
one mile west of Interstate 5, Exit 176)

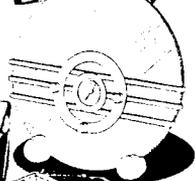
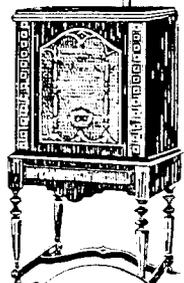
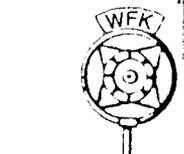
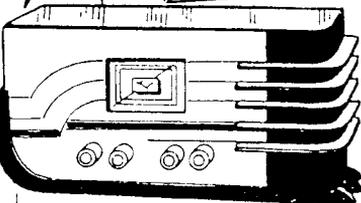
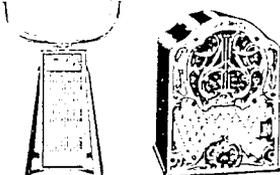
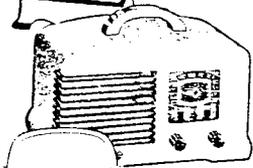
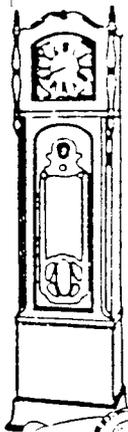
Tune in to the largest vintage radio event  
in the Northwest, featuring:

*Tube, transistor & novelty sets  
Deco plastics • TV's  
Test Equipment • Parts • Tubes  
Restoration & Repair Service Info*

**FREE ADMISSION**

Collectors, hobbyists and sellers alike  
are invited to buy, sell and trade  
old radios and related gear.

Bring a table or tailgate.  
Plenty of parking.



A community event sponsored by the  
**PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION**

P. O. Box 125 Sashomish, Washington 98291 (206) 568-2698

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# In Memory

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Your Editor was composing this letter to Della Phillips the week before she passed away:

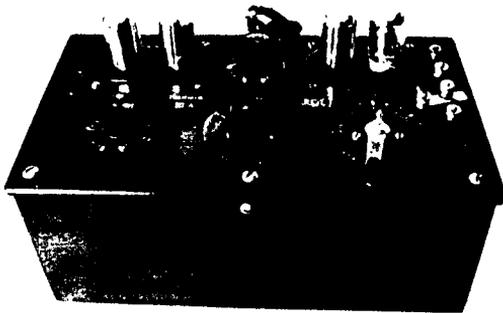
Dear Della,

On behalf of the members of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, I want to thank you for all of your giving. You give Gordon to us several times a month to help type the Call Letter. You have given Gordon to us the 2nd Saturday of every month for years while he was a Society officer and helping with meetings. You give of your home every month for the mailing party. And now, while you're not feeling well, you lend us your care giver and loving husband to continue in many of these service to the Society, when I know that his care means so much to you. We appreciate you and want you to know how much we appreciate "Gordy."

Very Sincerely Yours,

Editor

Della passed from us in the last week of July, after a short hospital stay, losing the battle to what was preliminary identified as lung cancer. We offer our sincere condolences to Gordon.



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## Wireless Quote Requested

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The *Book Of Firsts* credits David Hughes as developing the first system of radio communications in Great Britain. Hughes exhibited his system to Sir William Crookes in 1879. Crookes alluded to the experiments of Hughes in an article published for the Fort-Nightly Review of February, 1892. This article was read by J.J. Fahie who was doing research for his book *History of Wireless Telegraphy*, 1899.

In a resultant letter to Mr. Fahie, Hughes, very graciously acknowledged the work of several researchers who, in the interim, had discovered the same things that Hughes had demonstrated ten years prior. He also described his heart-break when he could not persuade the Royal Academy of the existence of radio waves. (The text of the letter is printed in the April 1981 Call Letter of the NW Vintage Radio Society.)

Instead of being remembered for his discovery of radio, today Hughes is remembered for the invention of the microphone. His earlier work lead to this recognition, but like the radio, the microphone was never patented and thus the working of the microphone was given freely to all the world to use.

(This story was originally provided by member Art Redman, and is quoted in its entirety in the April, 1981 Call Letter.)

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## Portland Ham Fair

### Set For This September

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By Gordon Phillips

The Portland Ham Fair will be held at Portland Meadows at 1001 N.E. Schmeer road. This is the first time that it has been held there. The date is September 16th & 17th, 1995. A table rents for \$12.00 each plus a \$5.00 per person registration fee. If interested call Ed at 257-4822 and he will send you a registration form.

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## Summer Radio Sales

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### **Dick Howard**

Dick Howard will be hosting a Radio Sale at his home at 9999 SE Frenchacres Dr. in Portland, on Friday August 11th (members only) and Saturday, August 12th. On Friday members of PSARA, NVRS and CHRS are welcome to come between 6 and 9 PM.

On Saturday the sale is open to the public from 9 AM to 3 PM. The sale features Vintage Radio, Vintage TV and early Ham Equipment. If you need help on directions call Dick at (503) 775-6697.

### **Sonny Clutter**

Sonny Clutter will soon be moving and needs to downsize his excellent collection. Sonny has a little bit of everything, and a lot of quite a few things. Go shopping for early televisions, phonographs, battery radios, Catlins, consoles, table radios, and even a juke box. Add to your own collection and help Sonny get ready to move. Call Sonny at (503) 254-9296.

### **Puget Sound Antique Radio Association**

August 20th is the date -- see enclosed flyer !

### **California Historic Radio**

The California Historic Radio Society is sponsoring a Radio Sale on Saturday, October 7th. Preliminary information did not include a location, but for more details call Norm Braithwait in Redding California, (916) 246-4209.

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# Swap Shop

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## WANTED

Crystal Sets. Have many radios to trade for crystal sets. Galen Feight (503) 231-9708.

Eico Model HF65A Mono Pre-amp. Jerry Talbot (503) 649-6717.

Hallicrafters SX-28 or 28A and S-36A receivers. Ken Seymour KA7OSM, (503) 306 7439 (days or evenings).

Dial pointers, and parts for the Nordon-Hauck Navy Super C-10. Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585.

Thumb wheel Tuning Dial for a Crosley model 56. Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517.

Tuning dial for Silver Marshall Mod 30 Walt Humbird (503) 642-0202.

Cutting needles for Webcor type older type records. Glen Bricker 1030 N.11th St. Cottage Grove Or. 97424 (503) 942-3717

Philco parts. Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928

AK Breadboard, at reasonable price Gerry Hale (509) 627-6319

Chassis for Sparton Poco Club, Call letter for Mike Radio, Jem Star Doll (similar to Barbie), Admiral B&W TV Chassis model # 12x12 & 17DX11. Jim Gianacos (206) 784-9417 or 228- 9398.

Grunow 801 Console, Darrell Forsberg (206) 363-0754

Old radio Station and program memorabilia, prizes books, thermometers, calendars, etc. with call letters. Paul Bragg (306) 456-8631.

Old Tube CB Sets and Crystals. R. Bartlett (206) 365-3056.

6T5 Eye Tube, new old stock. Steve Metzenberg (206) 941-06992818 S. 284 Federal Way, Wa. 98003

WWII and earlier military radio equipment and manuals. Forest Service radio pre-1950 fishing vessel radios, old or recent, especially Pacific N.W. built & manuals or advertising materials. Beginners Kit built radios with 1-3 tubes or transistors. Will pay to ship or will be in Seattle twice a year. Hugh Miller 250 S 900E #4C Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Hallicrafters R42, R44, PM23 speakers; Hallicrafters S-200, S-210, S-107, S-53A Receivers; National N98SW Receiver; TMC GPR-90, GPR-92 Receivers; RML DB-22A Preselector. Steve Posey (206) 361-1967.

Vertical Transformer 800V CT, 6.3V 5A, 5.03A R. Atwood (360) 779-1480

Cowan Publishing Co. Book "Command Sets" from about 1958. Russ Lawton (206)-362-1708.

PRE-20s Radio receivers. Steve Von Talge (206) 527-2829 or 783-2543

Parts for 1942 ZENITH 12-H-689: (Insignia) that goes on the square dial glass with a hole in it. Jerry Cappoen (206) 874-5490.

1938 Zenith 15-U-270 Console. Also interested in consoles from 20's-40's. Debi Freal. (206) 334-7753

6A5 Tube, New in box, RIDERS or National Union Volunes 1, 21, 22. Steve Metzenburg (206) 941-069.

1920's Old crystal detector, Old Receiving tubes for collection (duds OK) 1920's thru 50's. Gil Arroyo (206) 244-2344.

TUBE TEST data charts for precision tube master series 10-12 Bill Dymont (206) 782-3563.

## FOR SALE

Reluctantly reducing the size of my collection. Wood, plastic, consoles, and many others including early TV's must go. Sonny Clutter, 14407 NE Fremont St. Portland, OR 97230, - (503) 254-9296.

For Sale: Over 200,000 tubes, panels, speakers, chassis, electronic surplus and supplies. **R5-D3 Surplus. Bob Lee, 6111 SE 82nd Ave. Portland, Or. (503) 774-6560.**

Model 414 B&K TV Analyst with probes and manual: Model 455 B&K Cathode Rejuvenator with manual and charts; Model Y33 Sencore Flyback Tester with manual; Model CG 141 Color Generator with manual; Hickock Tube Tester Model 532. Various pieces of test equipment. **Glen Bricker, 1030 N. 11th Cottage Grove, Or. 97424 (503) 942-3717**

Over 200,000 tubes, panels, speakers, chassis, electronic surplus and supplies. **R5-D3 Surplus. Bob Lee, 6111 SE 82nd Ave. Portland, Or. (503) 774-6560.**

1942 Zenith 6G601M cloth-covered with wavemagnet and Sailboat grille \$40; Zenith 7C05 AM/FM 7 tube, wood cabinet \$35; RCA 6-XD-5 plastic radio with nipper grill, 2-tone green, \$40; Knight signal tracer, \$5; and many more **Bud Larson, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, Oregon 97504; (503) 773-5214**

Mirror for Sparton Bluebird. I had 2 made, one for my set and I will sell extra for best offer. Jerry Talbot (503) 649-6717.

## LEADS

Hallicrafter SX-62, \$25; a set of Riders, Call Don Knotts (503) 648-1738.

1936 Grunow console with shortwave, Call James Hall (503) 306-4371

Zenith 16 inch TV with turntable. A console. Ed Charman (503) 654-7387.

Setchel-Carlson TV (with owners manual) - 1960 Webcor Tape Recorder - 1957 James Mossman (206) 522-1772.

Philco Model 42-1013 Radio-Phonograph console. Picture no. 157 in Philco book. \$50.00, or best offer. Vivian McNamee (503) 245-9625.

Philco's (3) Consoles and some wood table radios. Need tender loving care. **Roger (206) 347-8674.**

LOOKING FOR SWITCHES for a Telefunken Americana 5436. Please call with any information Estella Howe,(503) 235-2456.

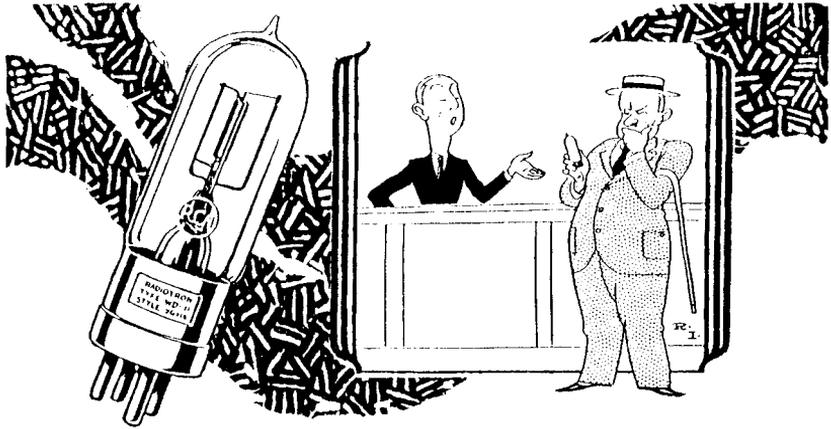
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## Calendar

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Compiled by Dan Howard

- |           |       |   |
|-----------|-------|---|
| August    | 20    | PSARA Annual Swap Meet, Seattle   |
| September | 9     | NW Vintage Radio Meeting  |
|           | 16-17 | Portland Ham Fair, Portland Meadows<br>1001 NE Schmeer Rd. Portland, Oregon |
|           | 16-17 | Antique Show - Tacoma Dome  |
|           | 17    | PSARA Meeting, Seattle  |
| October   | 14    | NW Vintage Radio Meeting  |
|           | 15    | PSARA Meeting, Seattle  |
|           | 21    | Ham Swap Meet, Polk County Fair<br>Grounds. Rickreall, Or.                  |
|           | 21-22 | NW Vintage Radio Display, Expo Center<br>NW Car Collector's show            |
|           | 28-29 | Antique Show - Expo Center  |
| November  | 11    | NWVRS Annual Fall Swap Meet   |
|           | 19    | PSARA Meeting, Seattle  |
| December  |       | NW Vintage Radio Christmas Party  |
|           | 10    | PSARA Meeting, Seattle  |
|           | 16-17 | Antique Show - Oregon Convention Center                                     |



# “Are those Tubes Genuine?”

All Radiotrons Now  
Reduced to \$4.00

It isn't a genuine WD-11 unless it's a Radiotron.

It isn't a genuine WD-12 unless it's a Radiotron.

It isn't a genuine UV-199 unless it's a Radiotron.

It isn't a genuine UV-200 unless it's a Radiotron.

It isn't a genuine UV-201-a unless it's a Radiotron.

The question is heard at every radio counter: “Is it a genuine Radiotron?” Almost every dependable manufacturer uses genuine Radiotrons in his sets. Everyone who builds his own knows enough about radio to know that nothing else but the genuine will do. And the man who replaces used-up tubes in his set knows that to get the same performance, he must have the same tubes—genuine Radiotrons only. So everybody asks “Is it genuine?” And asks to see the marks that prove it—the name “Radiotron” and the “RCA” mark.

Radio Corporation of America

Sales Offices, Suite No. 111

211 Broadway, New York

10 So. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

433 California St., San Francisco, Cal.



This symbol of  
quality is your  
protection

# Radiotron

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.