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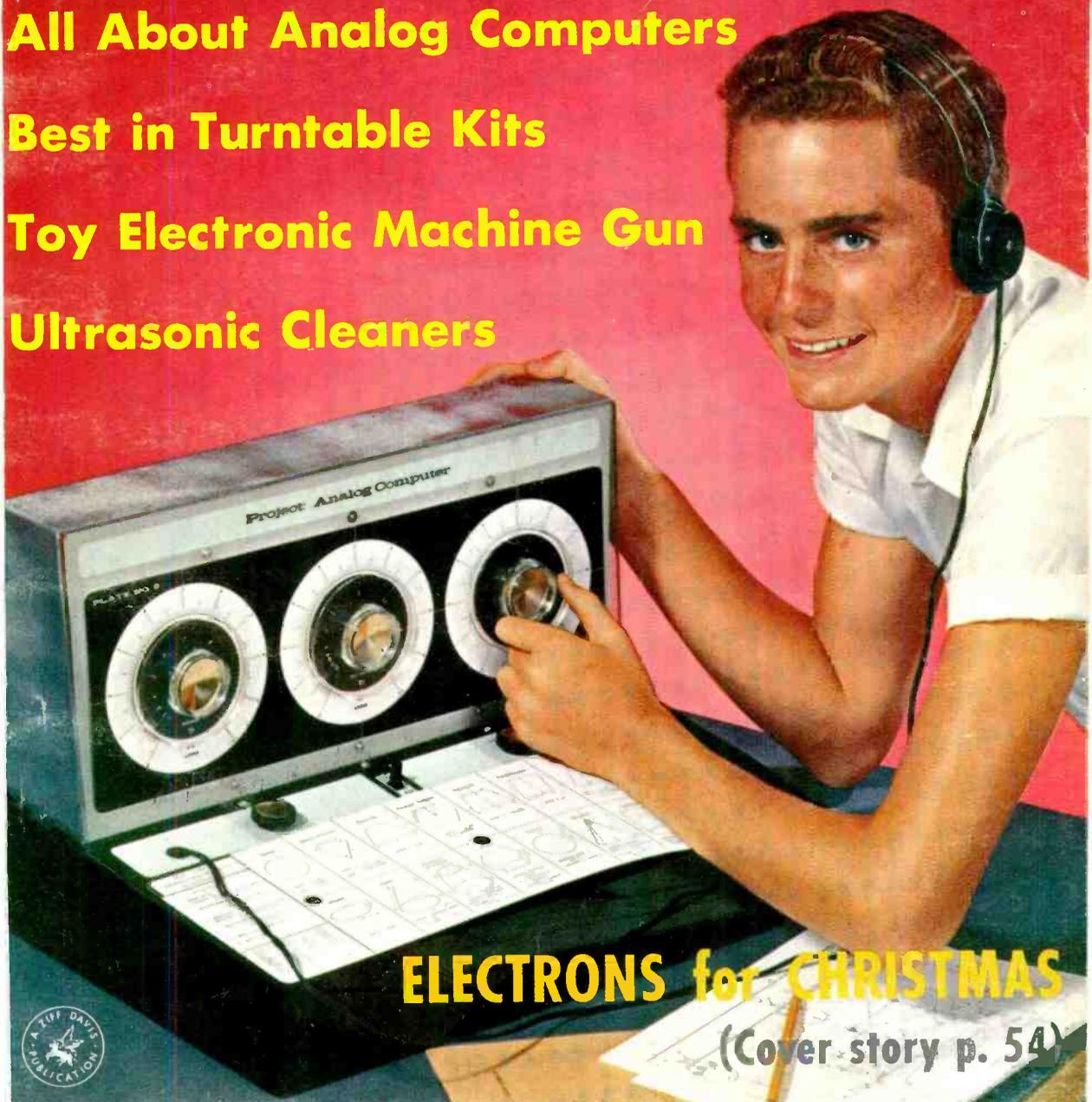
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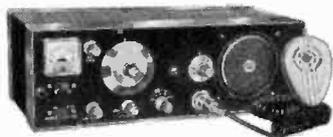
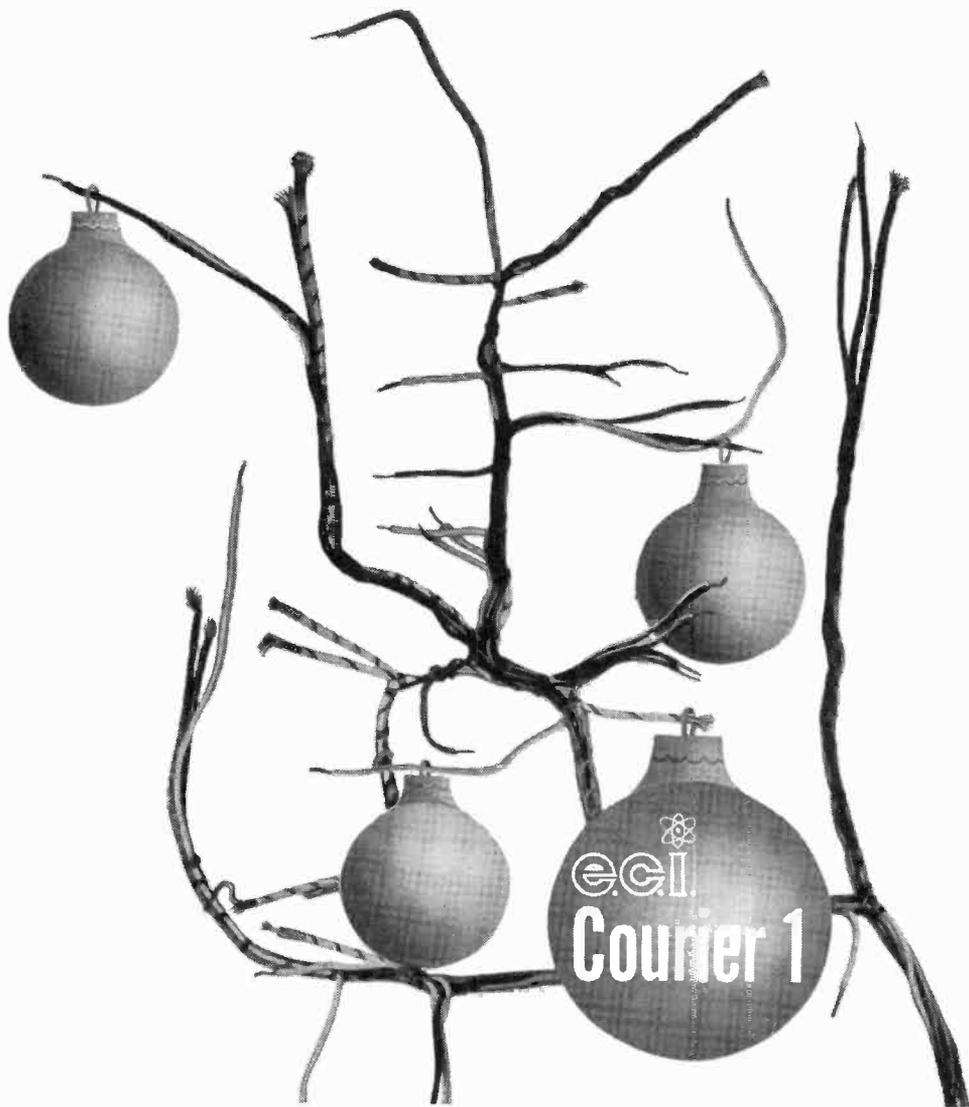
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VOLUME 15

NUMBER 6

DECEMBER

1961



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to Periodical Literature

This month's cover photo by Joe Petrovec
Equipment courtesy General Electric Co.

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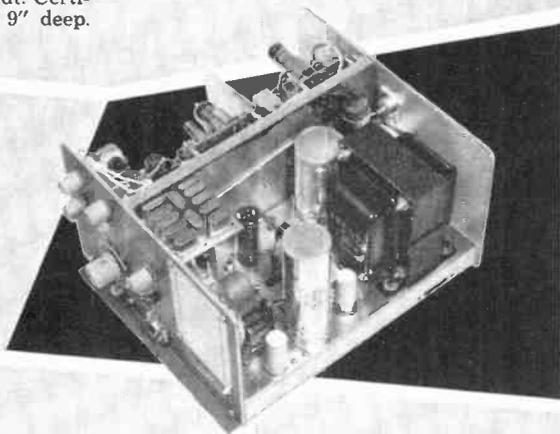
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UPI

POP'tronics

NEWS SCOPE



◀ **HEARING THINGS**—Milady's demands often make difficult problems in unheard-of fields. The Electronic Components Division of the Clevite Corporation, Bedford, Ohio, has come up with specially designed language laboratory headphones which can be adjusted to fit any head size, and even accommodate milady's fluffy coiffure. This comfortable, durable, single-unit headpiece was created to meet the growing demand for electronic equipment in more than 5000 modern language training centers in high schools and colleges across the nation.



UPI

◀ **CAUGHT FLAT-FOOTED**—A grim-faced patrolman seems about to give Ray Besasie of Milwaukee a ticket for driving without a steering wheel. Patrolman Arthur Coughlan of the Suffolk County, N.Y., police spotted Ray driving in his apparent highway "Kamakasié." The matter was cleared up when Ray explained that his "car of the future" was electronically controlled by special steering knobs. He drove it 1000 miles to the Custom Auto Show at Long Island Arena. Ray fast-talked his way out of a ticket, but what will happen if he blows a fuse?



Authenticated News

◀ **HOT BOX DETECTOR**—Trackside infrared scanner unit developed by the General Electric Company detects hot boxes on fast-moving trains. Previously, train crews peered from cabooses and locomotives to spot smoking overheated wheel bearings, or "hot boxes" to railroad men, as trains rounded curves. Now the infrared scanner, mounted in a rugged steel housing on extended ties, "senses" the temperatures of the wheel bearings—even at train speeds up to 70 mph. The temperature of each bearing is permanently recorded on a moving graph chart. Coupled into an extensive alarm system, a passing hot box will switch a train signal to a stop position, and flash light and audible signals at control points. Wonder if the system can detect cigar-smoking hoboes?



◀ **WEATHER SNOOPER**—Keeping tabs on the weather in the Gulf of Mexico is the job of a moored, unmanned weather station called the "NOMAD." Crammed on the NOMAD's 10' x 20' deck are weather detecting instruments, radio antennas, two masts, a large flashing beacon, and a buoy-type bell. Sensing devices measure air temperature, water temperature, wind speed and direction, and the direction of the ocean's surface current. Eventually, it will be possible to measure temperatures and pressures down to 1000 feet below the surface. Four watertight compartments house the maze of electronic equipment and batteries which enable the unmanned NOMAD to radio reports every six hours during periods of low winds, and at hourly intervals during periods of high winds. This is the first of many such weather stations to be employed in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by the U. S. Navy.



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PE-84

Letters

from our
readers

Capacitor for "Sweet Sixteen"

■ After building a slightly modified "Sweet Sixteen" speaker system, I suddenly found myself up against a blank wall. Where can I buy a 3- μ f. metallized-paper capacitor that is not an electrolytic? I'm unable to find such a unit listed in the Allied or Lafayette catalogs and have had no luck at the local supply houses.

ROBERT NICHINI
Elmsford, N.Y.

Both the 3- and the 12- μ f. metallized paper capacitors mentioned in "Sweetener with a Tweeter" (April 1961) are listed in the Allied industrial catalog. Either unit can be ordered by mail.

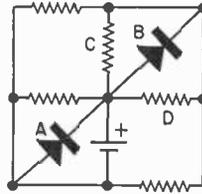
Diode Quiz

■ The "Diode Quiz" in the July 1961 issue is quite interesting, but I'm puzzled by the answer to problem 6. According to you, the answer is 2

ohms; but as I see it, there are only two effective resistors in parallel with the battery. This would make the total resistance across the battery 3 ohms.

GEORGE H. CUNNINGHAM
Clark, N.J.

The answer really is 2 ohms, George, and to prove it we've reprinted the diagram for problem 6. Notice that diode "A" is connected in reverse



across the battery and, therefore, may be considered to be an open circuit. The polarity of diode "B," however, is such that it does conduct—and it effectively shorts out resistors "C" and "D." This leaves the remaining three resistors (6 ohms each) connected in parallel with the battery. Accordingly the total resistance of three 6-ohm resistors in parallel is 2 ohms. Right?

Adapter for VTVM Leads

■ I believe that I've detected a mistake in the article "Adapter for VTVM Leads" (September, 1961). In describing the installation of the d.c. isolating resistor in the adapter, the author states:

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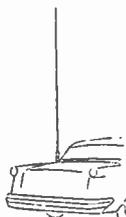
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Letters

(Continued from page 8)

"Simply wire it between the uninsulated jack and the phone plug's 'inside' terminal." The word "uninsulated" should be changed to "insulated."

I agree that this adapter makes a VTVM easier to use, but it does have one drawback. The purpose of the resistor mentioned above is to isolate the cable from the test voltage. Moving the isolating resistor from the probe into the adapter leaves the cable connected to the test voltage. In some cases, this is not permissible. When testing oscillator circuits, for instance, the added capacitance of the uninsulated cable may load the circuit enough to cause erroneous voltage readings.

Personally, I find no difficulty in using the usual three VTVM leads—and I prefer reliability to ease of operation.

JAMES R. SEBOLT
Springfield, Mass.

The word "uninsulated" in the last sentence of the article should indeed be changed to "insulated." Thanks for calling this to our attention, Reader Sebolt. And, as you say, experimenters working with sensitive circuits might be better off with the conventional three-lead system.

Starved Circuit Amplifier

I have just completed the "Starved Circuit Amplifier" (July, 1961), and am quite pleased with it. Because of the limitations of my spare parts box, I used a 6BH6 (it has curves almost identical to the 6AU6) for *VI* and an 8- μ f. capacitor for *C1*. Lacking a metal box, I made one out of Bakelite, and built a power supply (using a 6X4) as an integral part of the unit. I don't know the exact frequency response, but the amplifier sounds quite good and will overdrive an 8-inch speaker with the gain turned up.

ARTHUR R. STICH
Jackson, N.J.

While looking for a useful project to build, I came across the "Starved Circuit Amplifier." After completing it, I found that the amplifier (with the proper probe plugged into the input) made a fine signal tracer.

It may also interest your readers to know that, for private listening, a 3000-ohm resistor in series with a pair of 2000-ohm headphones can be substituted for *T1*'s primary winding.

MIKE EXNER, KN5KBK/WPE5BTN
Houston, Texas

Gonset 3002 Wanted

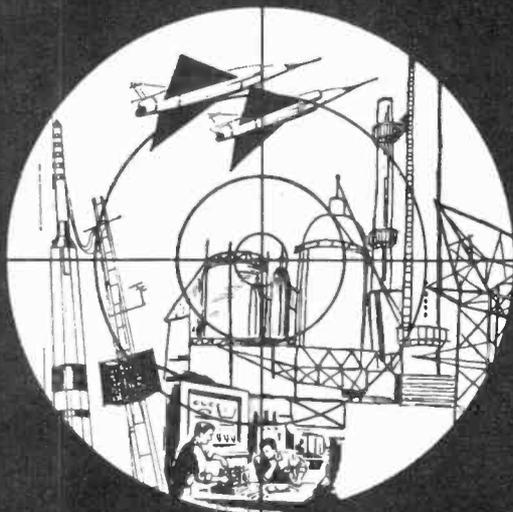
I've just read "New Life for Obsolete Converters" (April, 1961) and would like to acquire one of the used Gonset 3002's adapted by the author. Any leads you can give me as to the whereabouts and price of a good 3002 converter would be appreciated.

NORMAN BASH, WPE8DHU
2215 Beecher St.
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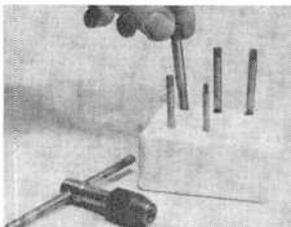
I am interested in: Home Study Resident Classes

Tips and Techniques



SOAP STORES TAPS

A bar of soap with a number of holes drilled in it makes a useful stand for storing taps. The soap holds the taps handy for easy selection and keeps them lubricated as well. For more durability, apply several coats of lacquer to the bar of soap. Otherwise, the soap would tend to deteriorate after it has been handled for a while.



—John A. Comstock

ERASER IS WORKSHOP AID

A Fibreglas typewriter eraser, available at most stationery stores, makes a useful ad-

dition to any workbench. With it, you can clean relay and key contacts, remove decals, and shine panels. Experimenters who like to build equipment in plastic boxes will also find that a Fibreglas eraser, when rubbed on clear plastic, provides a professional "frosted" effect.

—Bob Culter

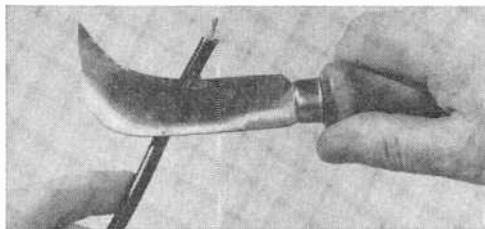
NON-WRINKLE DECAL COATER

The print coater packed with every package of Polaroid film is an excellent "fixer" for decals. Ordinary lacquer is apt to make decals wrinkle, but this compound won't. Just brush it on with the applicator and you'll have a permanent protective coating.

—James Arconati, KNØFBJ

LINOLEUM KNIFE STRIPS WIRE

A linoleum knife is a fine tool for stripping heavy wire. The curved blade and hefty



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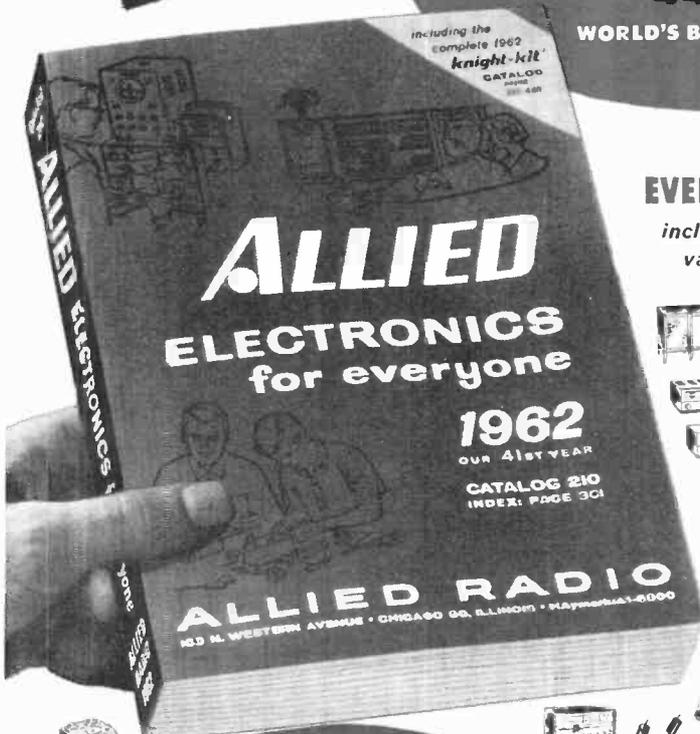
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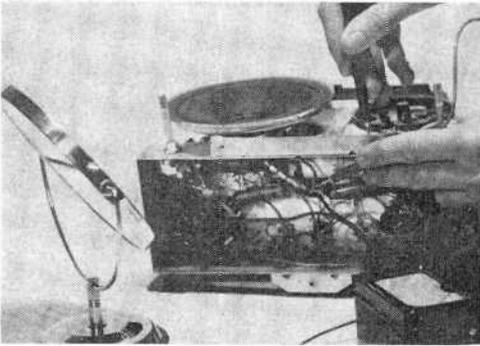
(Continued from page 12)

handle make it faster and easier to use than an ordinary pocket knife. You can pick one up inexpensively at any hardware store.

—Ken Murray

SHAVING-MIRROR SERVICING LIGHT

An adjustable stand-mounted shaving mirror makes an excellent device for illuminating the dark corners of equipment being serviced. Set the mirror so that it catches light from a window or lamp and reflects it



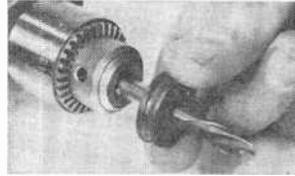
into the desired area. The two-way adjustment makes it easy to put the light exactly where you need it.

—John A. Comstock

GROMMET SERVES AS CHUCK GUARD

When using a hand drill on thin materials such as sheet metal, the bit usually breaks through suddenly and the chuck bangs hard against the work. To avoid scarring a chassis or panel, slip a rubber grommet over the bit. With this protection, you won't have to worry about putting too much pressure on the drill.

—Jerome Cunningham



SNAPS CONNECT WIRES

Unpainted clothing snaps are ideal light-weight electrical connectors. Just solder a half of a snap to each of the two leads to be joined. Such snaps are easily connected and disconnected, yet provide excellent contact and are not affected by vibration.

—Edward E. Brown

(Continued on page 20)

*How to buy
your first (or your last)
speaker system*

compare UNIVERSITY (in every price category) against all other brands.

If you demand bookshelf speaker systems with clean, undistorted bass... impact mid-range... flawless highs—then you'll *only* consider the University RRL bookshelf speaker systems. Here's how they work. The exclusive principle of Radiation Resistance Loading permits the highly compliant woofer to use only a small portion of its cone excursion to produce maximum sound output. This reduction in cone excursion virtually eliminates distortion and significantly lowers power demands on the amplifier. Result: the best available performance with a minimum loss of efficiency. Result to *you*: incredible sound that can be amply amplified by any amplifier with 10 clean watts.

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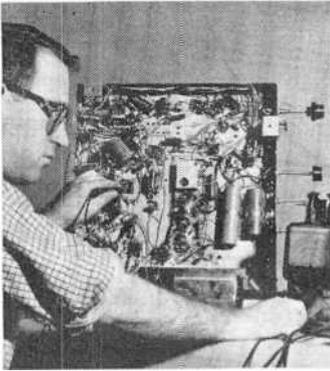
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Tips

(Continued from page 14)

THERMOS MIKE STAND

Families with small children always seem to have a large supply of extra junior-sized Thermos bottles. If your family is in this position, you can press one of them into service as a mike stand; just drill a hole in the cap and fasten the microphone with a small screw.

A round metal plate fastened to the bottom of the Thermos bottle minimizes the danger of tipping the mike—or spilling your coffee.

—Ross A. Sheldon, K5UCH



COMING NEXT MONTH



Our January cover shows a converter that's a cinch to build and a picnic to operate. Covering the rarely heard 150.8-162 mc. "police" band, the converter works with any FM receiver or tuner and can be built for \$20.

(ON SALE DECEMBER 28)

• STEREO SIXTEEN + 4

Remember the "Sweet Sixteen" speaker system (and who doesn't)? Its author, Jim Kyle, has again put his magic touch to a system containing 16 speakers—this time, for stereo!

• TD POWER SUPPLY

Here's an easy-to-build power supply that's expressly designed for powering tunnel-diode circuits.

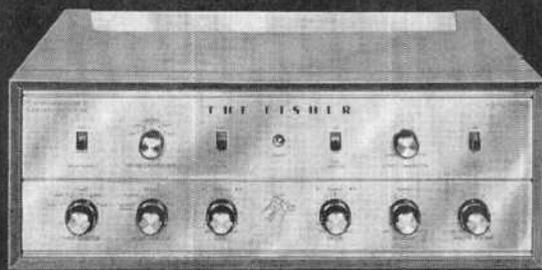
• IN-CAR FM FOR MFL

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Introducing a totally new approach to stereo kit design.

When the KX-200 Control Amplifier, first of the new line of Fisher StrataKits, made its appearance, the entire concept of high-fidelity components in kit form entered a new, exciting phase. For the first time, there are kits backed by a name with the tradition, acceptance and stature of Fisher.

Before Fisher could stake its reputation on a product completed by the purchaser, two requirements had to be unconditionally satisfied. First, the performance of a Fisher kit had to meet the same guaranteed Fisher laboratory standards no matter who assembled it—Fisher laboratory technicians or a *totally unskilled and inexperienced builder*. Second, constructing the kit had to be a pleasure, not a problem.

Fisher engineers have responded to both of these unusual challenges brilliantly, as will be evident to any builder of the KX-200 StrataKit. He will own the finest 80-watt Stereo Control Amplifier that Fisher knows how to make.

The StrataKit method of kit construction permits assembly by easy, error-proof stages (strata), each stage corresponding to a *particular page* in the Instruction Manual and to a separate transparent packet of parts, separately identified. Major components come already mounted on the rugged chassis, and wires are *pre-cut* for every stage—which means every page!

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proceeding to the *next* stage. There are no surprises with a Fisher StrataKit, only the pleasure of accomplishment and of effortless learning.

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*Less cabinet; slightly higher in the Far West.

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Please send me the following FREE Fisher literature:

- Complete details and specifications on the Fisher KX-200 StrataKit.
- The 1962 Fisher Handbook, a 40-page illustrated reference guide and component catalogue for custom stereo installations.

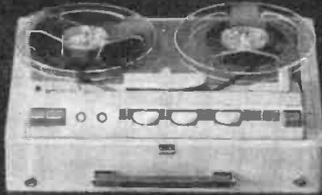
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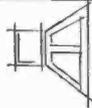
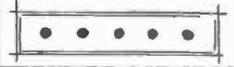
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SUPERSCOPE

The Tapeway to Stereo

Hi-Fi



Showcase

A quick look at
new products in the
stereo hi-fi field*

If you're the sort of audiophile who would rather remain seated in a comfortable chair than trot back and forth across your listening room to fiddle with controls, you'll be interested in *Clairtone's* new C 1000 R stereo receiver. Combining a stereo AM/FM tuner and a dual 35-watt stereo amplifier on a single chassis, the C 1000 R also has provision for wireless remote control as well as a multiplex adapter. Add the Model CXR remote control unit (actually a tiny



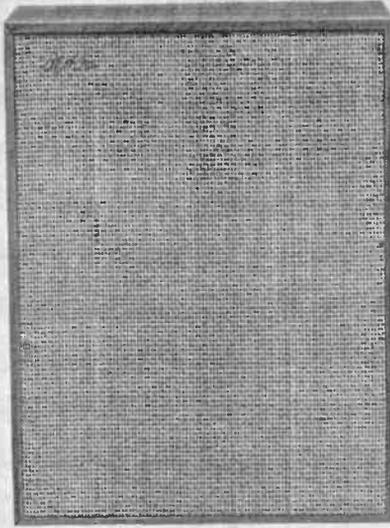
Clairtone C 1000 R receiver

wireless radio transmitter smaller than a carton of cigarettes), and you can adjust volume, tone, and stereo balance, even turn the stereo receiver on and off at will. The receiver boasts inputs for magnetic phono cartridge, tape, and TV set; outputs for stereo tape recording. The C 1000 R lists at \$438.90; the CXR control unit at \$159.95. Also available: a manually operated version of the receiver (Model C 1000) at \$394.95. . . . *Dyna Empire's* 980 tone arm is another boon for the audiophile who values operating convenience. Equipped with a magnetic self-lifting device that lifts the arm out of the groove at the end of the record, the 980 not only needs a minimum of attention but safeguards records as well. In addition, a calibrated knob permits "dialing" any stylus force between 0 and 8 grams, and a unique cartridge mount enables you to adjust cartridge position for minimum tracking error. A professional-type arm intended for quality installations, the 980 sells for \$50.00, complete with the self-lifting device.

A compact two-way speaker system from *Jensen* employs a special miniature woofer in conjunction with a 3" direct-radiator tweeter for response all the way to 14,000 cycles. Ideal for "extra-speaker" installa-

*Write to the manufacturers listed at the end of this column for more data on products mentioned

Always say you saw it in—POPULAR ELECTRONICS



No one will believe you built this Fisher Speaker System yourself!

Introducing the KS-1 Slim-Line Speaker Kit. You will have to do some strenuous convincing before anyone believes that this superb-sounding and elegant-looking Fisher loud-speaker system was home-built. A three-way system of this caliber would be important news even if it were factory-assembled, especially as it is of the new slim-line form, which requires ultrasophisticated engineering for top results. But, thanks to exceptionally careful and imaginative planning by Fisher engineers, you can build the KS-1 and have Fisher performance at an important saving

This is the only slim-line speaker system available in kit form and it is designed around the most advanced components: a 10-inch free-piston woofer with 30 cps free-air resonance and 4-lb. magnet structure; a 5-inch Acousti-Glas-packed midrange unit; separate super-tweeter; fully wired and balanced three-way LC dividing network with 1400 cps and 5000 cps crossovers; 18" x 24" x 5" cabinet packed with AcoustiGlas padding; and matching grille cloth.

You install the driver units, connect the network, complete the preassembled cabinet—and you

are the owner of a truly high-quality loud-speaker, which can be either wall-hung or placed anywhere on the floor or a shelf to blend harmoniously with your home decor.

The sound of the Fisher KS-1 will astonish you; it is extremely clear, with precise transients, as well as full and rich—quite unprecedented in a system of this size and price. Don't miss a demonstration at your Fisher dealer. Price, in birch or walnut, sanded and ready for your choice of finish, \$59.50*. Factory assembled, \$84.50*.

USE THIS COUPON FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION

Fisher Radio Corporation

21-52 44th Drive, Long Island City 1, N. Y.

Please send the following Fisher literature without charge:

- Specifications on the Fisher KS-1 Speaker Kit.
- 1962 Fisher Handbook, a 40-page illustrated reference guide and catalogue for custom stereo installations.

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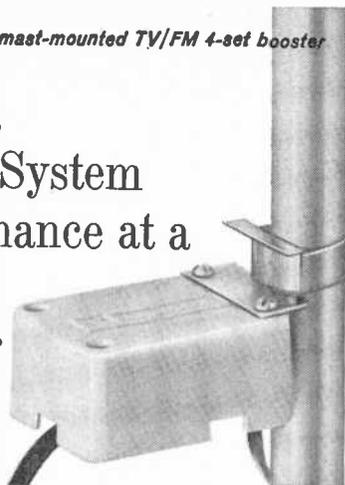
The Fisher

*Factory assembled in oiled walnut, \$89.50. Prices slightly higher in the Far West.

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- Eliminates costly installation of giant antenna arrays in most fringe areas.
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- No separate balun needed—matches impedance of antenna and TV sets.

ALL THIS PLUS . . . 4 set coupler incorporated in remote control power supply distributes fully isolated amplified signals for brilliant reception on up to 4 TV or FM sets. **GAIN: 1 Set**—up to 19 db on channel 2; up to 10.5 db on channel 13. **2 Sets**—up to 14 db on channel 2; up to 6 db on channel 13. **3 Sets**—up to 13 db on channel 2; up to 4 db on channel 13. **4 Sets**—up to 10.5 db on channel 2; up to 2 db on channel 13.



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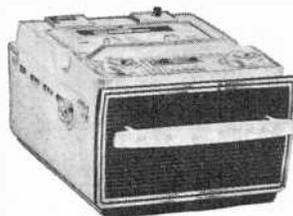
Showcase

(Continued from page 22)

tions, the X-10 is housed in an oiled walnut cabinet and measures a compact 7¼" x 13" x 4½". For convenience in extension speaker applications, there is a small knob on the front panel which can be used to adjust the volume level. The X-10 carries a power rating of 6 watts, a price tag of \$29.75.

If the idea of an all-transistor stereo system appeals to you, a 60-watt stereo amplifier from *Omega Electronics* may be the answer. Frequency response is a smooth 18 to 20,000 cycles, ±0.3 db at full output; hum and noise check out at 75 db below full output. As with any all-transistor circuit, tube microphonics, hum, and excess heat have been eliminated, and the use of direct-coupling and degenerative feedback further improve linearity. Master bass and treble controls allow simultaneous adjustment of both channels, and independent balance controls for both bass and treble are also provided. Other controls include mode, volume balance, blend, loudness, scratch filter, rumble filter, phase, and tape monitor. Price, \$229.00.

Three new *RCA* tape-cartridge recorders are compact, dual-purpose units weighing only slightly more than 13 pounds. Intended for use either separately or as attachments to existing monophonic or stereophonic hi-fi systems, the units all play *RCA's* tape cartridges—which require no threading and are simply placed in the machine much as a record is placed on a turntable. All three recorders operate at both 3¾ and 1½ ips, and all provide a safety interlock to prevent accidental erasures. The most inexpensive of the three, the "Prompter" (Model 1YB1), is a monophonic recorder priced at \$99.95. The "Trendliner" (Model 1YB2) is an improved version of the "Prompter," featuring a digital tape counter and a more precise magic-eye record-level indicator; it's priced at \$129.95. The "Fortnighter" (Model 1YC1), the stereophonic member of the trio, is priced at \$169.95.



RCA 1YC1 tape recorder

Clairtone Sound Corp. Ltd., Clairtone Bldg., 118 Rivaia Rd., Toronto 15, Ont.

Dyna Empire, Inc., Garden City, L.I., N.Y.

Jensen Mfg. Co., 6601 S. Laramie, Chicago 38, Ill.

Omega Electronics Corp., 10017 N. 19th Ave., Phoenix 21, Ariz.

Radio Corporation of America (RCA), 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N.Y.

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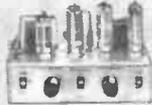


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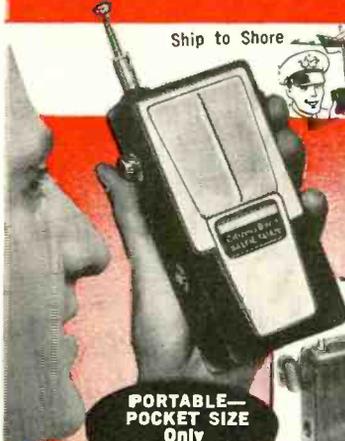
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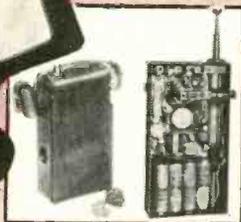


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Precision compact radio kit with everything you need for unexcelled reception. Size: 10x7x5".
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PK-543 **4.95**



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NEW
products

R.F. SIGNAL GENERATOR

A low-cost r.f. signal generator available from *Lafayette Radio*, 165-08 Liberty Ave., Jamaica 33, N.Y., is ideal for i.f.-r.f. alignment, audio signal tracing, etc. The Model TE-20 has a fundamental frequency output of 120 kc. to 130 mc. in six bands, and an extra harmonic band is calibrated from 130 to 260 mc. Frequency accuracy is $\pm 5\%$, and the built-in 400-cps audio oscillator has an output adjustable to 8 volts. Price of the signal generator, complete with test leads, \$27.95.



The EICO Model 722 VFO contains its own power supply and provides full coverage of the ham bands from 80 to 10 meters. The VFO's oscillator is of the electron-coupled, series-tuned Colpitts type; it feeds into a buffer-multiplier-output stage which provides isolation from the load and enough drive to accommodate any modern transmitter. A lever-type spotting switch is provided on the front panel and the slide-rule dial is large and easy to read. Model 722 is priced at \$44.95 in kit form, \$59.95 wired. (*EICO Electronic Instrument Co., Inc.*, 33-00 Northern Blvd., L.I. City 1, N.Y.)

SELF-POWERED VFO

The EICO Model 722 VFO contains its own power supply and provides full coverage of the ham bands from 80 to 10 meters. The VFO's oscillator is of the electron-coupled, series-tuned Colpitts type; it feeds into a buffer-multiplier-output stage which provides isolation from the load and enough drive to accommodate any modern transmitter. A lever-type spotting switch is provided on the front panel and the slide-rule dial is large and easy to read. Model 722 is priced at \$44.95 in kit form, \$59.95 wired. (*EICO Electronic Instrument Co., Inc.*, 33-00 Northern Blvd., L.I. City 1, N.Y.)



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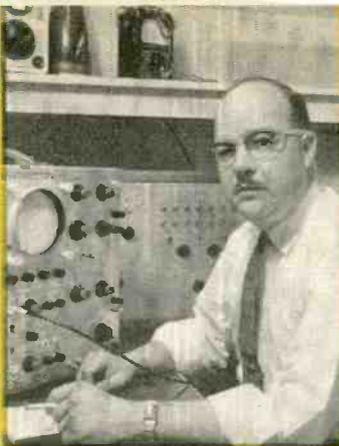
PIN STRAIGHTENERS

CBS Electronics, Danvers, Mass., is now supplying miniature-tube pin straighteners in three basic designs. Bench-mounted models are available in 7-pin (Model SH-17) and 9-pin (Model SH-19) types. A unit for pocket or caddy use (Model SH-79) com-



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products

(Continued from page 28)

biner, a 7-pin straightener on one end with a 9-pin straightener on the other. Also available is the Model SH-97P, which consists of a pair of straighteners (one 7-pin, one 9-pin) made to fit in miniature tube socket cut-outs. The devices range in price from 79 cents to \$1.18.

SINE/SQUARE WAVE GENERATOR

A de luxe audio generator, suitable for laboratory or service shop use, is being released



by Lafayette Radio Electronics Corp., 165-08 Liberty Ave., Jamaica 33, N.Y. The Model TE-23 sine-square generator produces both sine and square waves over a frequency

range of 20 cps to 1 mc. The output level over this range (except in the 0.01-volt position) is flat ± 1.5 db. Frequency accu-

racy is $\pm 5\%$ on all bands. Other features include separate step and variable attenuators for each waveform, dual cathode-follower outputs, and front panel meter to monitor r.m.s. output. Price, \$69.95.

SWEEP CIRCUIT ANALYZER

Intended for fast pin-pointing of TV sweep, sync, and high-voltage troubles, the Sencore



SS117 sweep circuit analyzer can be used with the TV set turned on and still in its cabinet. Provision is made for checking the horizontal oscillator, output transform-

er, output, and deflection yoke; the vertical oscillator, output transformer, and deflection yoke; the second anode voltage; and the sync and discriminator circuits. Other features include a 0-300 microampere meter for minimum circuit loading and steel carrying case with a full mirror in its removable cover. Price, \$89.50. (Sencore Inc., 426 S. Westgate Dr., Addison, Ill.)

(Continued on page 32)

FOR SHARPEST, CLEAREST VOICE TRANSMISSION WITH ANY CITIZENS BAND TRANSCEIVERS, SPECIFY THE TURNER 350C

Even the best citizens band equipment is no better than the microphone it uses. That's why more Turner 350C microphones are used as original equipment in CB than any other. That's why it will pay you to specify the Turner 350C when you buy CB equipment or replace your microphone.

■ The 350C is furnished with an 11' retracted (five foot extended) coiled cord. Hanger button and standard dash bracket are included for mobile rig mounting. Response: 80 to 7000 cps. Output: -54 db. Net price: \$10.08

■ See Turner microphones at your electronic parts distributor or write for complete information and the name of your nearest Turner distributor.



TURNER 254C FOR BASE STATION

Desk type ceramic mike operates by a touch bar off-on switch and lever lock on-off switch. Response: 80-7000 cps. Output: -54 db. Net price: \$14.10.

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Available in either National Blue steel cabinet or handsome custom of red walnut enclosure, the NC-105 features:

- Continuous coverage from 550 kc to 30 mc in four bands
- Large illuminated edge-reading "S" meter
- Efficient peaking Q multiplier
- Separate product detector/BFD for CW and SSB reception
- Bandspread calibration charts for all popular amateur and foreign broadcast bands
- National's famous noise limiter
- Separate R. F. and audio gain controls
- Built in 5" speaker and front panel headphone jack
- Full wave transformer power supply
- Exclusive short-wave tuner output



NC-105 in steel cabinet..... \$119.95

NC-105W in walnut enclosure... \$139.95

*slightly higher west of the Rockies and outside the U.S.A.

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The NC-105 AM broadcast and short-wave tuner output extends the versatility of hi-fi equipment, by allowing the audiophile to listen to (or tape) program material from all over the world!

Whether you are an amateur, SWL or audiophile, we invite you to see the new NC-105 at your local National dealer.

products

(Continued from page 30)

MULTIPLE-SOCKET TUBE TESTER

The Mercury Model 1100 tube tester checks over 2000 tube types—including Nuvistors,



Compactrons, and 10-pin types—for dynamic cathode emission, shorts, leakage, and gas content. Battery, voltage regulator, foreign, hi-fi, thy-

atron, and industrial types can also be checked. The tester's multiple-socket design eliminates complex switching, and a complete tube chart is located in the cover. Price, \$39.50. (Mercury Electronics Corp., 111 Roosevelt Ave., Mineola, N. Y.) -30-

SWL/QSL BUREAU

The SWL/QSL Bureau is a non-sponsored organization operating with the cooperation of the ARRL QSL Bureau. Its purpose is to handle incoming overseas SWL and QSL cards destined for W, K, and VE SWL's. When cards arrive with a complete address, the SWL is notified by post card and requested to send an SASE (business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope), with an extra stamp, to the Bureau so that the cards may be forwarded to him.

Many SWL and QSL cards arrive incompletely addressed, however, or addressed only to a WPE call-sign. Cards are presently being held for the call-signs listed below:

WPE1CLD	WPE3BUF	WPE6BJW
WPE1TV	WPE3CFT	WPE6OT
WPE1ZQ	WPE3CLT	WPE6PG
WPE2APU	WPE3NZ	WPE6UD
WPE2BCA	WPE4CHV	WPE7AIR
WPE2CQP	WPE4CIA	WPE7ALN
WPE2CSE	WPE4FM	WPE9AIR
WPE2CT	WPE5ACB	WPE9BHH
WPE2CVH	WPE5AWV	WPE9BKT
WPE2DEY	WPE5AWX	WPE9BNX
WPE2DJE	WPE5BDC	WPE9BPT
WPE2EAA	WPE5FW	WPE9CQV
WPE3GMT	WPE6ATO	WPE9OL
WPE3BDV	WPE6AXT	WPEØBJM
		WPEØLU

If your call-sign appears in this list, and you have not already filed your name, address, and WPE call-sign with the Bureau, send an SASE to: LeRoy Waite, WPE2AK, Manager, SWL/QSL Bureau, 39 Hannum St., Ballston Spa, N. Y. Upon receipt of the SASE, your card/cards will be forwarded to you.



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ONLY \$59⁹⁵

Enjoy the performance of the world's finest turntable at remarkably low cost. In only a half hour's time, using just a screw-driver, you can assemble a Stereotable with the same unsurpassed performance as factory-assembled Stereotables! Features the Rek-O-Kut custom-built hysteresis synchronous motor and exclusive Rekothane belt—for lowest rumble ever achieved—plus the design and engineering qualities that make Rek-O-Kut the unchallenged leader in the field.

K-33H—33 $\frac{1}{3}$ rpm \$59.95 net
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S-320 Stereo Tonearm 34.95 net
KB Walnut Base 14.95 net
APK-AUTO-POISE accessory
(makes Stereotable and arm
fully automatic) 49.95 net

Visit your high fidelity dealer now.
Literature on request.

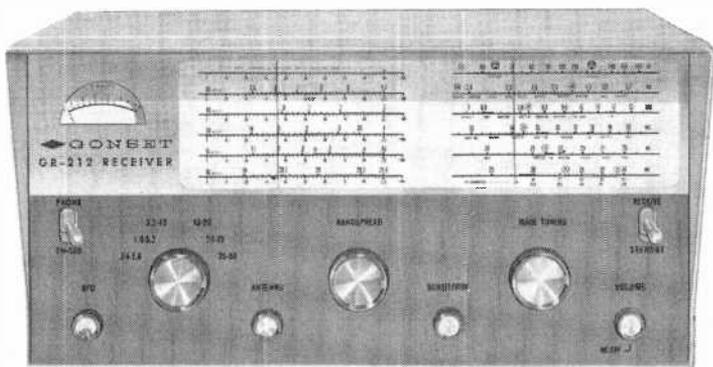


REK·O·KUT STEREOTABLES

Rek-O-Kut Co., Inc., 38-19 108th St., Corona 68, N. Y.

REK-32

SHORT WAVE LISTENERS! HERE'S YOUR BEST BUY IN A DUAL CONVERSION RECEIVER!



THE NEW GONSET GR-212

The only dual conversion receiver that is priced under \$100, the GR-212 provides the novice with superb performance at modest cost. It is designed for general coverage from standard broadcast through 34 mc band, including WWV, U.S. Bureau of Standards Time Signals, foreign & Voice of America.

Quality features include:

- Dual conversion for increased selectivity
- Variable BFO
- Sensitivity: at least 6db(S+N)/N at 1 uv. (mod. 30% at 400 cps) input on all H.F. Bands.
- Two full-vision, illuminated, slide-rule type dials provide instant identification of broadcast and short-wave frequencies.
- Panel-mounted "S" meter.
- Band-spread tuning knob is inertia fly-wheel weighted for smooth tuning.
- Separate band-spread dial for amateur bands.

Amateur net price **\$99⁵⁰**

For further information on the GR-212 and the name of your nearest Gonset distributor, fill out and mail this coupon!

COUPON: Please send me, without obligation, full information on the GR-212 dual conversion receiver.

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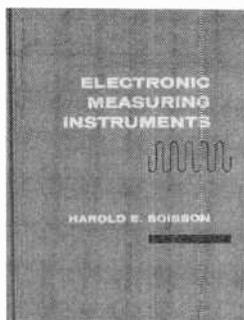
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ELECTRONIC MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

by Harold E. Soisson

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background for advanced work. The first six chapters deal with the theory and function of the basic components used in measuring systems, covering primary concepts, symbols, and nomenclature. The operation of each of the components making up a system

used to measure or control a laboratory variable is discussed in the remaining chapters. This approach gives the reader a complete picture of the component and system relationships.

Published by McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 330 West 42nd St., New York 36, N.Y. 352 pages. Hard cover. \$7.50.



HOW TO FIX TRANSISTOR RADIOS & PRINTED CIRCUITS (in two volumes) by Leonard Lane

This two-volume set originally appeared as a training course offered by an electronics home-study school. The books tell how transistors work and how they amplify, explain current and voltage gain, and analyze circuits. Both style and language are simple, and the material may be easily grasped by any one with a basic understanding of electronics. Practical applications and techniques are presented, as well as a solid background in theory. A handy



(Continued on page 38)

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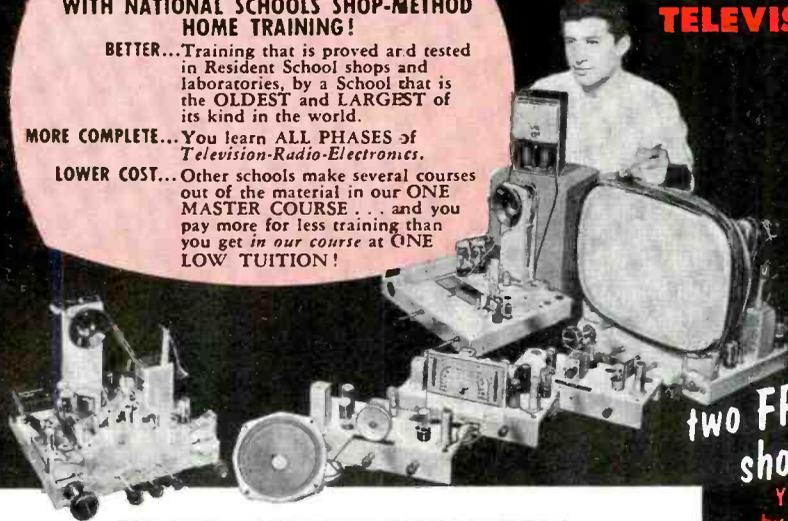
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Edgar Wesatzke

As field director of Berean Mission Inc., I have complete charge of our radio work.

With the expert advice and training I am receiving from you I can do my own repairs on our recorders and P.A. systems, besides keeping our radios going. My training from N.T.S. helps keep us on the air. I feel privileged to be a member of such a fine institution.

Rev. Enoch P. Sanford



Thanks to N.T.S. I have a business of my own right in my home. I am still in the

Air Force but I have paid for all my equipment with money earned servicing TV sets. Yes, N.T.S. gave me my start in television.

Louis A. Tabat

I have a TV-Radio shop in Yorkville, Illinois, about 4 miles from my home, and it

has been going real good. I started part-time but I got so much work that I am doing it full-time. Thanks to National Technical Schools.



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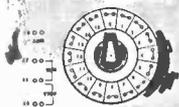
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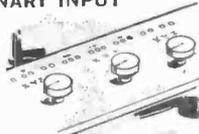


DECIMAL INPUT-OUTPUT



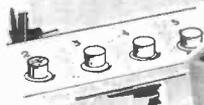
Motor-driven, sixteen position, non-shorting sequences.

BINARY INPUT



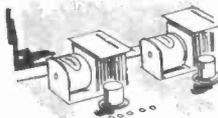
Transmits information for processing, six-primary, double-pole, double-throw switches.

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Bookshelf

(Continued from page 34)

reference section at the end of Volume 2, designed for "instant servicing," lists common troubles and cures.

Published by Gernsback Library, Inc., 154 West 14th St., New York 11, N.Y. 160 pages per volume. Soft cover edition, \$5.90. Hard cover edition, \$9.90.



FUNDAMENTALS OF UHF by Allan Lytel

This book represents a complete course in ultra-high-frequency electronics. Though written at the intermediate level, the text should prove valuable to the engineer who desires an introduction to the u.h.f. field. Antennas, wave propagation, generators, communications equipment, and test equipment and techniques for that portion of the spectrum from 300 to 3000 mc. are thoroughly examined, as are the relevant FCC regulations.

Published by John F. Rider Publisher, Inc., 116 W. 14th St., New York, N.Y., 160 pages. Soft cover. \$3.90.

New Literature

A 4-page illustrated brochure entitled "Why Stereo?" is available free from EICO Electronic Instrument Co., Inc., 3300 Northern Blvd., Long Island City, N.Y. The booklet explains the concept of stereophonic sound and gives details on various kinds of stereo sources. Methods of setting up stereo systems and converting monophonic systems to stereo are also discussed.

Many unusual ways to use tape recorders in business, professions, industry, schools, churches, and the home are suggested in the free Magnecord booklet, "207 Ways to Use a Tape Recorder." Also included are helpful tips on the operation of tape recorders and the handling and splicing of tapes. The booklet is available from Magnecord Sales Dep't, Midwestern Instruments, Inc., P.O. Box 7509, Tulsa, Okla.

Experimenters, amateurs, students, and engineers will be interested in a new catalog of electronic projects available at no charge from the Henry Francis Parks Laboratory. It lists the more than 100 projects for which the laboratory can supply circuit drawings, parts lists and notes. Just send a post-card request for the catalog to P. O. Box 1665, Lake City Station, Seattle 55, Wash. -30-

Always say you saw it in—POPULAR ELECTRONICS

How to get the most out of building Radio·Audio·Electronic kits

A new plan by Milton Sleeper, noted figure in electronics

"For a long time," Milton Sleeper explains, "I felt that a society should be formed for the benefit of everyone interested in kit building. There are clubs and leagues to represent and further the interests of stamp collectors, photo fans, and radio hams. Similarly, there should be a kit builders' society, and it should have its own publication to voice the opinions of the members, for the exchange of experiences, and to provide news and information on this fascinating hobby."

Now, at last, there is a such a national society. Here's how it came about:

THE R·A·E SOCIETY

Nearly two years ago, a group of kit builders in the Berkshire Hills area of Massachusetts—comprised of businessmen, lawyers, engineers, and bankers—elected Mr. Sleeper chairman of what they called the R·A·E Society, because the members were all interested in building Radio·Audio·Electronic equipment.

As news of the Society spread, people from far and wide inquired about joining. Letters came from high school and college students, and from men of many different professions. Their enthusiastic interest showed that the Society could be more useful to more people than had been anticipated.

Also, there were many requests for a Society journal to serve a membership growing to national proportions. That posed a problem, however, for it meant setting up offices for the Society, with a paid staff at a cost which could not be met from membership dues.

A SPONSOR FOR THE SOCIETY

Meanwhile, the original members had undertaken to work out their own ideas of components to be assembled from kits. Certainly there was room for many improvements, because no basic changes had been made in kits and instructions over the past 20 years.

They first made a study of the advanced designs and techniques now employed in commercial and military equipment. Then they applied their findings to the design of components to be assembled from kits, and to the preparation of error-proof instructions.

Their undertaking was successful beyond expectations, so much so, in fact, that a company—R·A·E Equipment, Inc.—was formed to produce kits from their unique designs. Then, logically, this Company assumed sponsorship for expanding the Society nationally, and for the Society's R·A·E Journal.

THE R·A·E JOURNAL

Publication of the quarterly R·A·E Journal is important to members of the Society because it provides two much-needed services. First, it is an open forum for the exchange of opinions, suggestions, and experiences. Through it, members can make their views known to the record, tape, and equipment manufacturers, the radio and TV broadcasters, and to the Federal Communications Commission.

Second, the Journal fills a growing need for more specific, less technical information on kit assembly, home workshop projects, plans for stereo and mono record, tape, and radio installations, correct operation of components, and testing methods. Also, since no advertising space is sold, the Journal can carry unprejudiced reports, free of commercial bias, on all new developments.

With Milton Sleeper as editor, you will certainly find the Journal interestingly written from cover to cover, easy to understand, elaborately illustrated, and handsomely printed on fine paper. Please note that only members of the Society will receive the Journal. No copies will be sold.

YOU ARE INVITED

You are cordially invited to become a member of the R·A·E Society, an organization that started from the activities of a dozen kit building hobbyists, and is now growing into a national institution.

Membership is open to high school and college students, to men of all professions, and to hobby-minded women, too. Whether you are a beginner, an experienced kit builder, or an advanced enthusiast, you are welcome to join the Society, and to share in the privileges of membership. By applying for membership now:

- You will take part in various group activities and opinion polls
- You will receive accurate, advance information on new radio, audio, and electronic kits
- You will qualify to serve on one of the Advance-Test Panels, and if you are selected you will receive a free R·A·E kit in return for writing a report on it
- You will receive the four annual issues of the R·A·E Journal
- You may use the buy, sell, and swap columns of the Journal without charge
- You will receive an official membership card identifying you with the R·A·E Society.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP NOW OPEN

For a limited time (expires January 31, 1962) you can join the Society as a Charter Member. Dues for the first year are only \$1.00. This entitles you to receive the Journal for one year, and to enjoy all the other benefits of membership.

Use the coupon below or your own stationery to apply for Charter Membership.



Milton Sleeper originated the idea of step-by-step kit instructions and picture wiring diagrams in the 20's. A pioneer radio engineer and manufacturer, he is an author and magazine publisher, founder of High Fidelity magazine, and a recognized authority on kit design techniques.

[R·A·E SOCIETY (sponsored by R·A·E Equipment, Inc.)
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[Yes, I want to take part in the Society's activities,
 to receive the R·A·E Journal edited by Milton
 Sleeper, and I want to qualify to serve on one of
 the Advance-Test Panels. I enclose \$1.00 for
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[NAME]
 [STREET]
 [CITY & ZONE STATE.....]

[I understand that I am not required to purchase any
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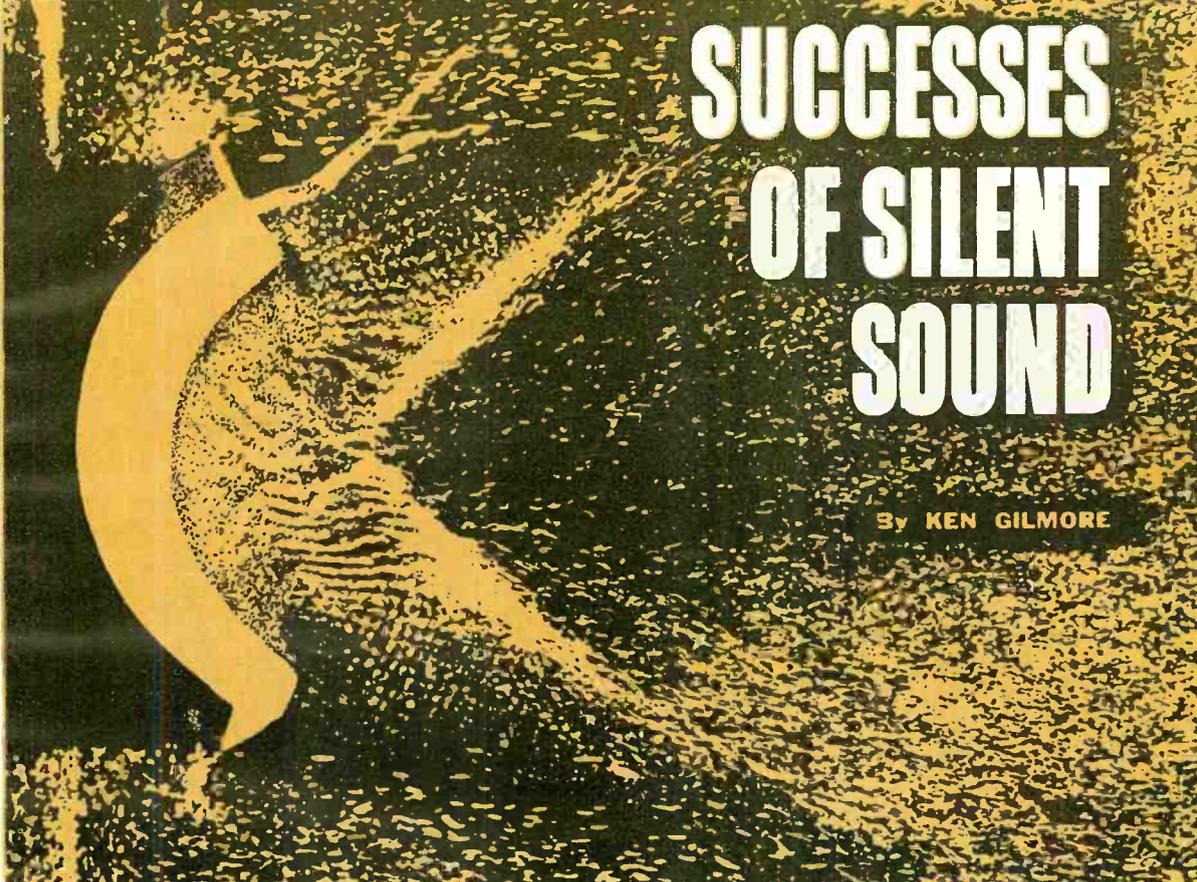
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ULTRASONICS



SUCCESSES OF SILENT SOUND

By KEN GILMORE

LAST May 16th, President Kennedy strained his back while planting a tree in Ottawa, and was again victim of the effects of an old back injury. To relieve the pain and promote healing, his doctors prescribed doses of "ultra-sound."

That same day, a housewife in Fresno, Calif., dipped her dinner dishes into an ordinary-looking sink full of clear water, pulled them out after a few seconds, and put them in a rack to dry. In spite of her apparently sloppy housekeeping, the dishes came out antiseptically clean.

That night, millions of Americans all over the country were pressing buttons on cigarette-case-sized remote control units and watching their TV sets across the room change channels and turn themselves on and off.

These seemingly unrelated incidents are linked by a common bond: they all had something to do with ultrasonics—sound above the range of human



Branson Instruments

One of the most popular applications of ultrasonic energy is cleaning. Above, a hospital worker cleans surgical instruments by dipping them in an ultrasonic bath. Instruments are cleaned better, faster, than with hand-scrubbing method.

Another use of ultra-sound is checking fat content of beef on the hoof, as is being done at Colorado State University.

Colorado State University



Westinghouse

Even dried egg yokes can be "brushed" from your most prized china with ultra-sound. Prototype dishwashers, such as this Westinghouse unit, have proven successful in consumer tests across the country, but they are still too expensive for the average home.

ULTRASONICS

hearing. And newly discovered ultrasonic tools and techniques are now revolutionizing hundreds of industries. For example:

- Brewers "pump" ultrasonic sound through bottles of beer before putting on the caps. The ultra-sound makes the brew foam violently, releases all trapped air, and renders the beer immune to oxidation and spoilage during storage.

- Warehousemen have found that even low levels of ultrasonic sound drive rats crazy. After being subjected to such treatment for a day or so, the rodents give up and move away—permanently.

- Space workers now perform thickness measurements on missile nose cones—which must be machined to exact tolerances to withstand the heat of re-entry—quickly and easily with radar-like ultrasonic gadgets. The thickness, accurate to thousandths of an inch, is read directly on a television-like tube.

- Railroad men check rails, car wheels, and other massive steel parts with a similar radar-like detector which spots flaws and cracks far better and faster than older methods.

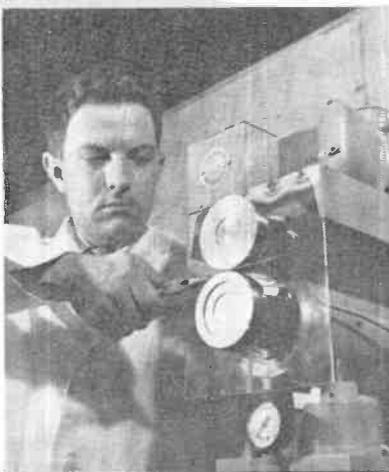
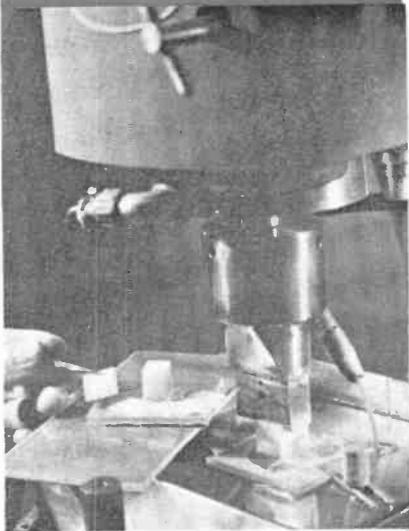
Why Silent Sound? Ultrasonic waves are useful largely because we can pack tremendous power into them. Sound we can hear could do many of the same jobs, but it would split eardrums for miles around. We don't often think of sound as having physical power, but it has. When we drive units with the tremendous energy levels used in ultrasonics, the results can be spectacular.

Take ultrasonic cleaning, for example. Dip anything dirty into a tank of water being agitated by ultrasonic waves, and the sound energy literally tears the dirt off. This tremendous cleaning power comes from a phenomenon scientists call cavitation. As the powerful ultrasonic waves vibrate through a liquid, millions of microscopic bubbles continuously form and collapse with such terrific force that they create pressures up to 20,000 pounds per square inch. The ferocious scrubbing action of the collapsing bubbles blasts the dirt off the surface to be cleaned.

Today, hardly a manufacturing industry exists that doesn't use some type of ultrasonic cleaning. In one factory, a

Industrial applications of ultra-sound are many and varied. The Raytheon Company, for example, employs the ultrasonic impact grinder below to slice blocks of quartz into thin sheets for use as crystals in receivers.

Raytheon



Westinghouse

Ultrasonic welding machine pulls strips of metal between vibrating rollers which literally pound the strips into a single sheet. Process generates no heat and is suitable for such hard-to-weld metals as aluminum foil, which would be damaged by temperatures of more conventional welders.

Intricate designs can be reproduced in glass or ceramic with ultra-sound. A counterpart of the design appears on an oscillating tool or die, which drives liquid abrasive into the work-piece to cut the material.

Raytheon



dirt- and grease-coated gas turbine rotor is dipped into an ultrasonic bath, to be pulled out a few seconds later shining and clean. In other plants across the country, all kinds of parts—printed-circuit boards, electric shaver heads, and thousands of other items—come out of their ultrasonic baths with every tiny crevice literally sparkling.

Hospitals throughout the nation now use ultrasonic cleaners to scrub surgical instruments. Dr. George W. Dana, director of the North Shore Hospital in Manhasset, Long Island, was amazed when he used an ultrasonic unit for the first time. "It even took off stains we thought were a permanent part of the finish of surgical instruments," he said.

The energetic bubbles are so small that they can sneak into tiny holes and crevices impossible to clean by other methods. Scouring the tiny, hairlike tube through a hypodermic needle, for example, is a snap.

From Hours to Minutes. Before the advancement of ultrasonic techniques, one large manufacturer of camera lenses kept a staff of 24 women busy around

the clock cleaning lenses. The delicate glass discs are coated with a sticky pitch to hold them steady during the grinding process, and getting the pitch off was a nasty job. Now, the company dumps the whole batch into an ultrasonic cleaner and scours an entire day's output in jig time.

Likewise, delicate jet engine nozzles used to be discarded when they began to show signs of clogging, since there was no practical way to clean them reliably. Today, with ultrasonics, they're as good as new in minutes.

Some watchmakers now offer a while-you-wait cleaning service for your watch. They flip the back off your time-piece, dip it in an ultrasonic tank, dry it with a blast of hot air, put in a few drops of oil, then return it to you. The process is both fast and cheap.

A cash register maker now cleans assemblies of 5000 complex parts in 7½ minutes without dismantling a single part; previously it took a skilled man days to do the job. Auto servicemen are installing ultrasonic cleaners, too; your carburetor, among other complex assem-

blies, can be cleaned in seconds without being dismantled.

From Egg Yokes to Soup Cans. Within a few years you may be able to buy a dishwasher that blasts even dried egg yoke off your most fragile china without damaging it. Various companies have been promising this one for several years now, and test models operate beautifully. Some makers are also predicting ultrasonic washing machines for your clothes, but this is still further in the future. The holdup: nobody has been able to get the units down to a moderate price.

Even air can be cleaned ultrasonically. Aim a beam of silent sound through dirty air and the vibrating waves jam tiny floating particles together, causing them to accumulate in clumps and drop out. This technique has already been incorporated in many industrial smoke precipitators, and recent experiments at Orly Field near Paris, France, indicate that it can also be used to disperse fog. The trouble to date is that enormous amounts of power are needed to cover a large area—an airport such as Orly Field, for example.

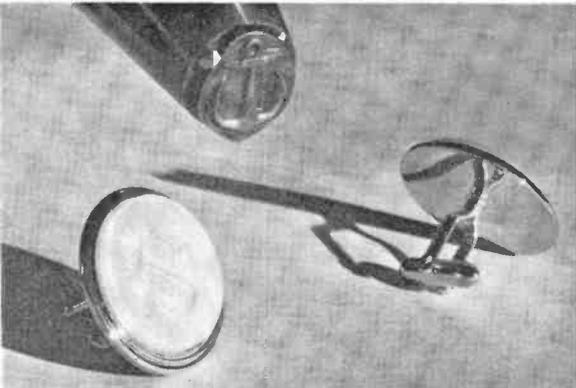
Crewmen aboard atomic subs are warned of hull leaks by ultrasonic liquid

detectors. A tiny ultrasonic probe vibrates freely in open air. But when you cover its tip with water, the vibration stops, and an alarm goes off. The same detector will keep ground crews alerted to the fuel level in the tanks when America's giant rocket, the "Saturn," blasts off for outer space. Meanwhile, back on planet Earth, one soup manufacturer has tested the same indicator as a fool-proof method for determining when soup cans are full.

Meat and Milk, Too. The Reflectone Corporation of Stamford, Conn., has perfected a method of tenderizing meat with ultrasonics. The powerful waves pound tough cuts of meat into tender steaks without producing the flabbiness chemical tenderizers sometimes do. Silent sound helps produce better steaks in another way, too. Researchers at Colorado State University rigged a gadget to shoot low-powered ultrasonic waves painlessly into beef on the hoof—the returning echoes tell how much fat and how much "meat" is on the critter.

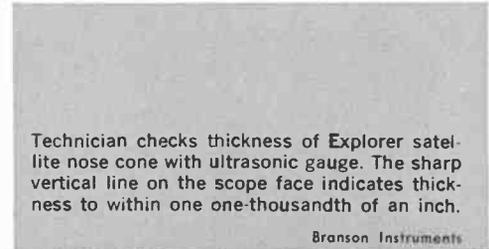
Ultrasonics will soon produce a better cup of coffee. Treat green coffee to a dose of ultrasonics before roasting, and the silent sound blasts a series of microscopic holes through the beans. During

ULTRASONICS



Raytheon

Mother-of-pearl intaglios for these cuff links were machined from the tool shown above the set with an ultrasonic device. Jade, spinel, agate, synthetic ruby, sapphire, onyx, and other stones can also be inexpensively worked into beautiful jewelry by means of ultra-sound.



Technician checks thickness of Explorer satellite nose cone with ultrasonic gauge. The sharp vertical line on the scope face indicates thickness to within one one-thousandth of an inch.

Branson Instruments



roasting, heat penetrates more evenly, driving out oils that can cause rancidity.

Some dairies are now using ultrasonic homogenizers. As an added advantage, the ultrasonic waves go to work on bacteria, killing most of them. Experimenters think it may soon be possible to forego pasteurizing altogether and count on just a single blast of ultra-sound to homogenize and pasteurize milk simultaneously. One company recently patented an ultrasonic gadget which sends a signal zooming through a tank of milk, checks the returning echo, and comes up with an automatic analysis of its nutritional value.

Welding and Drilling. A new machine by Westinghouse actually welds metals by ultrasonic energy. Two pieces of metal are run between a couple of rollers vibrating at ultrasonic speed. The intense vibration breaks down the surface molecules of the individual pieces where they come together and causes them to interlock.

Nobody but a comedian would have suggested drilling square holes a few years ago. But ultrasonic drills can now drill them square, star-shaped, in the form of a cuckoo bird, or what have you. A shaft driven up and down thousands

of times a second, but with a movement so slight you can't even feel it, does the job.

The "drilling" is accomplished by flowing a slurry of abrasives between the shaft and the material to be drilled. The shaft comes down, strikes the abrasive particles, and causes them to dig into the material like a flock of frantic woodpeckers. In no time at all, a hole the exact shape of the drilling shaft is punched through.

Unlike other methods, the drill doesn't even have to be as hard as the material it is drilling. Naturally, this leads to spectacular tricks. With an ultrasonic setup, you can drive a fountain pen through a pane of glass or slice off a piece of extra-hard steel with a cheap pen knife.

Wartime Development. Ultrasonics, now going to work in literally hundreds of ways, has been known for years. Perhaps the first practical application was the so-called "silent" dog whistle. Dogs can hear it but people can't.

Men first put ultrasonics to work—past the "dog whistle" stage, that is—in World War I when a French scientist named Paul Langevin built a sonar machine for detecting submarines. The

ULTRASONIC PRIMER

An ultrasonic generator is nothing more than a signal generator (much like the one on a radio-TV workbench, only designed to cover a different frequency range), plus an amplifier, and a transducer. This last item is a gadget which converts electrical energy into sound waves. The speaker in your hi-fi setup is a transducer and does the same job, although at different frequencies.

There are two kinds of ultrasonic transducers in general use—piezoelectric and magnetostrictive. In the first, an oscillating current is applied to a crystal, which vibrates, sending out ultrasonic waves. The magnetostrictive head, by contrast, takes advantages of the fact that certain metals—nickel, for example—will expand and contract in the presence of a magnetic field. Surround a nickel rod with a coil hooked to the output of an oscillator, and the bar expands and contracts at the oscillator's frequency rate, again setting up ultrasonic vibrations.

Ultrasonic generators range in power from a few watts for flaw testing, thickness gauging, and similar uses, up to as much as several thousand watts for heavy industrial cleaning, drilling, and so on. Frequencies used in most industrial processes range from 20 to 50 kc., since it takes considerably more power above that rate to do the same job. Medical applications, however, often use sound in the 500-kc. to 3- or 4-mc. range.

ULTRASONICS

war was over before Langevin refined his invention enough for practical use, but when World War II came along, sonar was further developed. And after the war, the strange properties of ultrasonic sound began to be turned to dozens of industrial tasks.

Both Sperry Products and Firestone Tire and Rubber were early users of ultrasonic waves as flaw detectors. Ultra-sound travels readily through solids, but with difficulty through air. Beam a small ray of ultrasonic energy through a piece of steel, and if an air bubble is present, an echo comes bounding back. The time the echo takes to return shows an operator where the bubble is. Firestone originally used this technique to spot defective tires. Today, it's standard practice with manufacturers of parts ranging from locomotives to ball-point pens.

The Field of Medicine. Perhaps the most dramatic post-war gains in ultrasonics took place in the field of medicine. One of the first doctors to use the new therapy in the U. S. was Dr. John H. Aldes of Los Angeles.

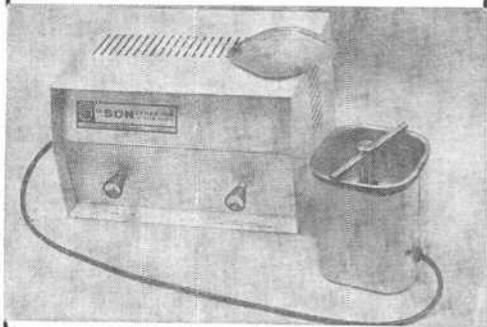
A few years ago, after tests on himself and his co-workers, Dr. Aldes tried ultrasonics on a patient, a 67-year-old widow, so crippled by one type of arthritis that she had to be carried into his office. Dr. Aldes applied treatment after treatment, but nothing happened. He was almost ready to give up when the woman suddenly noticed that she could move one hand a little. A few months later she walked into Dr. Aldes' office under her own power.

Today, ultrasonics is standard treatment for certain kinds of arthritis in hospitals all over the country. It never cures, of course, since there is no known cure for arthritis. But it does frequently bring dramatic relief from pain and it can limber joints after all other treatment has failed.

In recent years, medical uses for ultrasound have multiplied. A woman's hand, severely lacerated during childhood, was so covered with stiffened scar tissue that it was completely immobile. Doctors

(Continued on page 94)

LOW-COST CLEANING WITH ULTRASONICS



Ultrasonic cleaning equipment is available in a wide variety of sizes, shapes, and prices. The lowest priced item on the market as this is being written is the "diSONtegrator System Thirty." Manufactured by Ultrasonic Industries, Ames Court, Plainview, L.I., N.Y., it costs \$69.95, complete.

The diSONtegrator System Thirty has a 30-watt oscillator operating at about 90 kc. Tuning is broad, and the ultrasonic signal is basically FM. The oscillator is built around a single type 826 tube. A one-pint capacity cleaning tank features a working compartment measuring 3 $\frac{5}{8}$ " x 3 $\frac{5}{8}$ " x 3" deep.

This small ultrasonic cleaner has been used in the POPULAR ELECTRONICS laboratory for several months. When employed with the proper detergent—ammoniated for glassware, jewelry, eyeglasses, etc.; copper brightener for copper or gold; alkaline for rust removal, etc.—the unit performed with astonishing efficiency. Small electronic parts that could not be adequately cleaned without disassembling were made to shine as if brand-new. In fact, brand-new parts were cleaned also, to remove any traces of soil left from packaging and shipping.

A slightly larger version of this low-cost model is available for \$99.95. It is called the diSONtegrator System Forty, and includes a one-half gallon cleaning tank (measuring 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" deep).

Transmit without a license?
 You can—with this
 “flea-powered”
 27-mc. rig

THE ROOF HOPPER

By HARTLAND B. SMITH, W8VVD

MENTION a hundred-milliwatt transmitter to the average hobbyist, and he's likely to think of an anemic handie-talkie or a puny phono oscillator. But a “flea-power” rig can provide solid-copy signals over a distance of several miles, and the license-free transmitter illustrated on the following pages has done just that. Designed to furnish maximum possible transmission range, the “Roof Hopper” complies with all pertinent sections of Part 15 of the FCC Rules and Regulations.

What does “Part 15” have to say about unlicensed transmitters? Just this: that they are legal, provided that they meet the following requirements:

“(a) The carrier of the device shall be maintained within the band 26.97-27.27 mc.

“(b) All emissions, including modulation products, below 26.97 mc. or above 27.27 mc. shall be suppressed 20 db or more below the unmodulated carrier.

“(c) The power input to the final radio stage (exclusive of filament or heater power) shall not exceed 100 milliwatts.

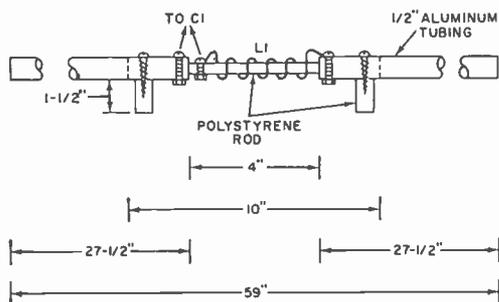
“(d) The antenna shall consist of a single element that does not exceed 5 feet in length.”

Transmitting Setup. Since even a simple dipole is 17 feet long at 27 mc., the 5-foot limitation on antenna length would

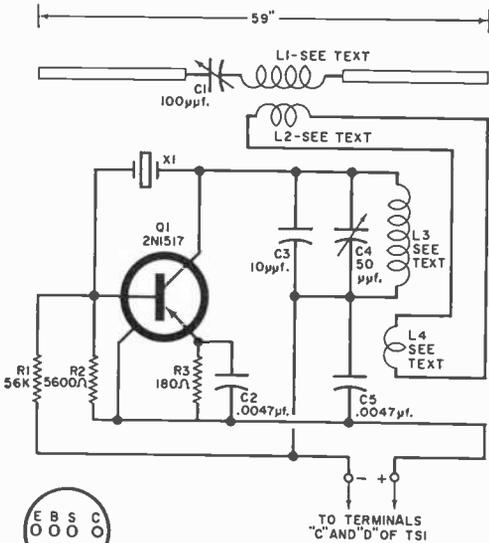
seem to rule out an efficient radiating system for an unlicensed transmitter. However, if a loading coil is inserted at the center of a 5-foot element, a surprising amount of energy will be radiated by the 5-footer.

Another “problem” is the fact that a long feedline between transmitter and antenna is not permitted by Part 15. But nothing in the Rules precludes mounting an unlicensed transmitter on top of a pole and then operating it by remote control from a more convenient location. And that is just what was done with this rig.

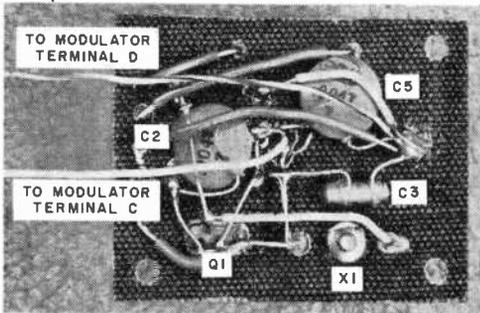
With the transmitter mounted near the antenna and with a suitable loading coil at the center of the antenna, the op-



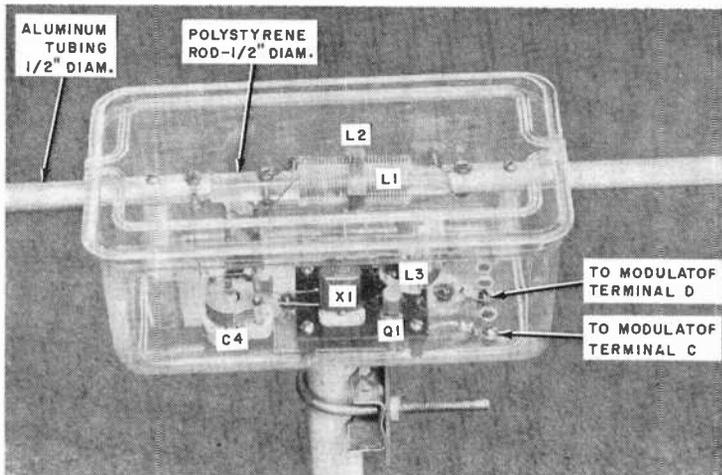
Antenna for the Roof Hopper consists of two lengths of $\frac{1}{2}$ " aluminum or copper tubing joined with a polystyrene rod. Drawing above shows location of antenna loading coil L1 as well as all dimensions.



Schematic diagram of r.f. portion of transmitter. The FCC Rules require that X1 be grounded for a frequency between 26.97 and 27.27 mc.



Most components in transmitter are mounted on small phenolic board.



Complete transmitter assembly, including antenna and transmitter "chassis" shown at left above, is attached to a mast or other support with a common TV antenna mount. Care must be exercised when drilling holes in the methylstyrene dish.

HOW IT WORKS

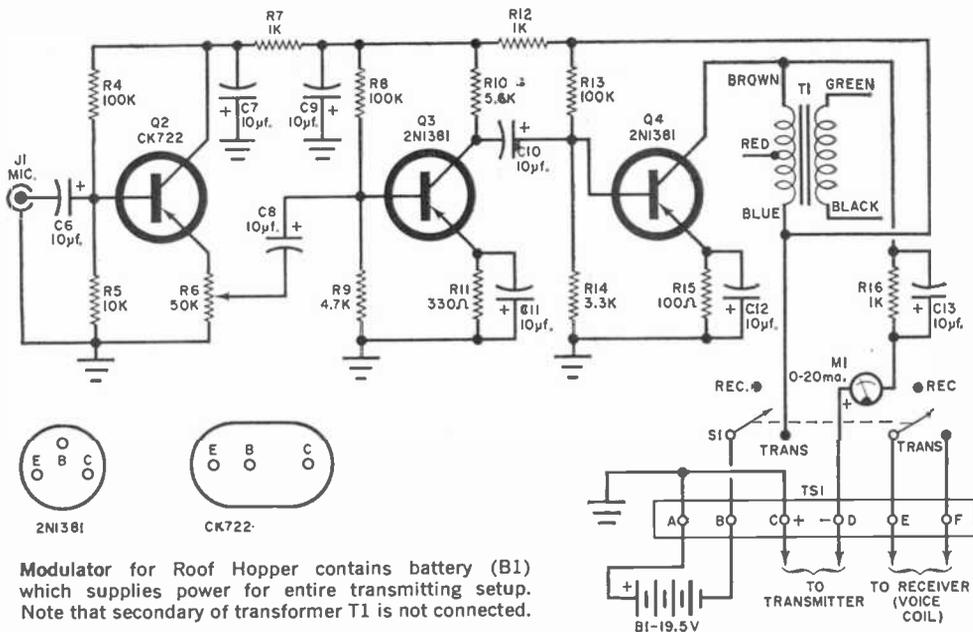
Transistor *Q1* and its associated components comprise a standard Pierce oscillator circuit which functions as a low-power transmitter. The circuit oscillates at the frequency of the quartz crystal (*X1*) due to collector-to-base feedback through *X1*; *L3* and *C4* are tuned to the output of the oscillator, which falls in the 27-mc. band. Radio-frequency energy in *L3* is link-coupled to *L1* via coils *L4* and *L2*; *L1* and *C1* resonate the antenna to the 27-mc. band, making it appear, electrically, as a full-sized dipole.

In the modulator, transistors *Q2*, *Q3*, and *Q4* amplify the voltage generated by a microphone connected to jack *J1*; power from battery *B1* passes through the primary of *T1* (which serves as a choke) on its way to the transmitter. The amplified speech signal also appears across *T1*'s primary, where it alternately increases or decreases the transmitter's d.c. supply. This action causes the transmitter's output to vary in accordance with the signal from the microphone.

The voltage drop across *R16* prevents the power input from exceeding the legal limit (100 milliwatts). As the current increases, the voltage applied to *Q1* falls, and the current-times-voltage product never quite equals 100 milliwatts. At the recommended operating point of 7 ma., input to *Q1* is approximately 87.5 milliwatts.

erating range of this setup is more than satisfactory. Provided that the transmitter has been mounted high and in the clear, and provided that the receiving installation is an efficient one, you should have little difficulty maintaining communications at distances of 3 to 5 miles in the average metropolitan area. Naturally, performance over a line-of-sight path or over water will be even better.

Construction. The r.f. portion of the transmitter is housed in a 3" x 4" x 8" methylstyrene refrigerator dish known as a "Crispy-tainer." (Similar containers are sold by most dime stores and supermarkets.) The clear plastic is brittle



PARTS LIST

B1—19.5-volt battery (13 size "D" flashlight cells in series)
 C1—100- μ f. variable capacitor (Hammarlund APC-100 or equivalent)
 C2, C5—0.0047- μ f., 600-volt disc capacitor
 C3—10- μ f., temperature-compensating, tubular ceramic capacitor (Centralab Type TCZ or equivalent)
 C4—50- μ f. variable capacitor (Hammarlund APC-50 or equivalent)
 C6, C7, C8, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13—10- μ f., 25-volt miniature electrolytic capacitor (Aerovox Type SRE or equivalent)
 J1—Microphone jack (Amphenol 75-PC1M or equivalent)
 L1—30 turns of Barker and Williamson 3011 coil stock—see text
 L2, L3, L4—9 turns of Barker and Williamson 3016 coil stock
 M1—0-20-ma. milliammeter (Emico Type RF-2C or equivalent)
 Q1—2N1517 transistor
 Q2—CK722 transistor
 Q3, Q4—2N1381 transistor
 R1—56,000 ohms
 R2, R10—5600 ohms
 R3—180 ohms

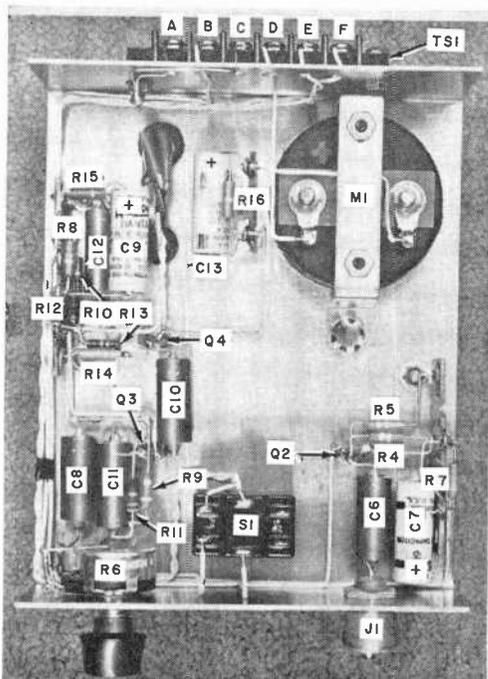
All resistors
 $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt

R4, R8, R13—100,000 ohms
 R5—10,000 ohms
 R6—50,000-ohm potentiometer, audio taper
 R7, R12, R16—1000 ohms
 R9—4700 ohms
 R11—330 ohms
 R14—3300 ohms
 R15—100 ohms
 S1—D.p.d.t. toggle switch
 T1—Transistor output transformer: primary, 500 ohms, CT; secondary, 3.2 ohms (Argonne AR-119 or equivalent)
 TS1—6-lug terminal strip
 X1—27-mc. 3rd-overtone quartz crystal—see text
 1— $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $5\frac{3}{4}$ " open-end aluminum chassis (Bud CB-1629 or equivalent)
 1— $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{4}$ " Bakelite board, $1/16$ " thick
 2—12" lengths of $\frac{1}{2}$ " polystyrene rod
 1—55" length of $\frac{1}{2}$ " aluminum or copper tubing
 1—TV antenna mast mount (Telco 8800-U or equivalent)
 1—3" x 4" x 8" plastic refrigerator dish (Tri-State "Crispy-Tainer" or equivalent)
 4—Transistor sockets
 1—Crystal sockets
 Misc.—Nuts, bolts, metal spacers, solder lugs, insulated tie points, knob, etc.

and tends to crack or split quite easily, so exercise caution (not brute force!) when applying a drill.

In case a crack develops in the plastic during the construction process, you can prevent it from spreading by painting it with polystyrene cement or Q-dope. Other materials are easier to work with, but this particular plastic is recommended because of its good r.f. characteristics.

A TV antenna mount, bolted to the bottom of the box, serves as a convenient means of fastening the transmitter to a mast or other high support. Plastic tape can be used to seal the lid of the box against rain and snow, and four $\frac{1}{4}$ " drain holes drilled in the bottom will allow condensed moisture to escape during humid weather. As a finishing touch, several coats of rust-proof paint can be applied to the nuts and bolts pro-



Placement of parts on modulator chassis is shown in photos above and at right. Author used relatively large chassis to have plenty of room for wiring.

truding through the bottom of the box.

A $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{1}{4}$ " piece of thin phenolic board, supported on $\frac{1}{2}$ " spacers, serves as a chassis for the one-transistor transmitter. This method of construction combines the compactness of a printed circuit with the simplicity of ordinary hand wiring.

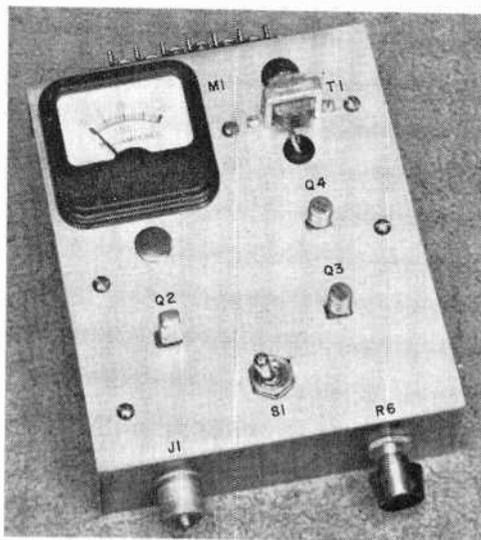
All parts except *C1*, *C4*, *L1*, and *L2* are mounted and wired before the chassis is installed in the box. Don't forget to provide leads for later connection to *C4* and *L2*. Also, be certain to include power leads long enough to reach the screws which extend through the bottom of the plastic box—these screws serve as terminals for the cable running between the transmitter and modulator.

The antenna is made up of two $27\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces of $\frac{1}{2}$ " aluminum or copper tubing, mechanically joined by a 10" length of $\frac{1}{2}$ " polystyrene rod. The diameter of the rod, for a distance of 3" from each end, must be filed down to allow insertion into the tubing. This leaves 4" of exposed polystyrene at the center of the antenna, over which *L1* is positioned; *L2* is then slipped over *L1*. The antenna

passes through $\frac{1}{2}$ " holes drilled in the ends of the refrigerator dish, and additional support for the radiator is provided by $1\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces of polystyrene rod.

The modulator is built on a $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $5\frac{3}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " open-end chassis. A 19.5-volt battery, consisting of 13 size "D" flashlight cells connected in series, furnishes power for the transmitter and modulator. Since there is no standby current and the total drain while on the air is less than 20 ma., cost of operation is under a penny an hour.

Adjustment. Temporarily set up the transmitter in the clear, away from metallic objects. Connect the battery to terminals *A* and *B* of the modulator,



and run a pair of wires to the transmitter from terminals *C* and *D*.

Next, attach a crystal or ceramic microphone to *J1*, and turn on *S1*. The tune-up process is a bit tedious, because the adjustments interact with one another, and you will have to step away from the transmitter after each slight change to avoid body capacity effects.

As *C4* is tuned from minimum to maximum capacity, *Q1*'s collector current (as indicated on *M1*) will vary from a low of around 5 to a high of 10 or more, if the transmitter is operating properly. Adjust *C4* to produce a meter reading of 7 ma., then tune in the transmitter's signal on a 27-mc. receiver. Speak into the mike and advance *R6* until your

(Continued on page 105)

Turntable Kits Grow Up—BIG!



Fairchild 440-2K



Rek-O-Kut K-34H



Thorens TDK-101

By **OLIVER P. FERRELL**

Editor

*Dual- or single-speed turntables
can be assembled in 30 minutes*

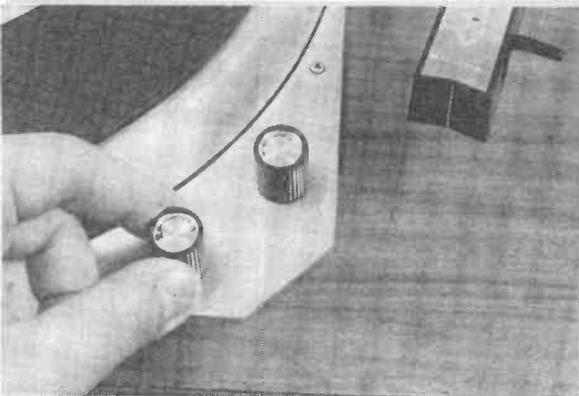
FIVE YEARS AGO it would have been unthinkable to suggest the home assembly of a hi-fi turntable. Gradually, however, turntable kits did appear on the market. Some were awkward to put together, most of them looked like "kits," and practically all left much to be desired in terms of rumble, wow, and actual speed performance figures.

Well, times have changed. The "kit" look has been lost; the performance of these units now approaches or equals that of factory-assembled units; dual-speed operation can be had; and, wonder of wonders, you can assemble the whole turntable in 25 to 50 minutes! Further-

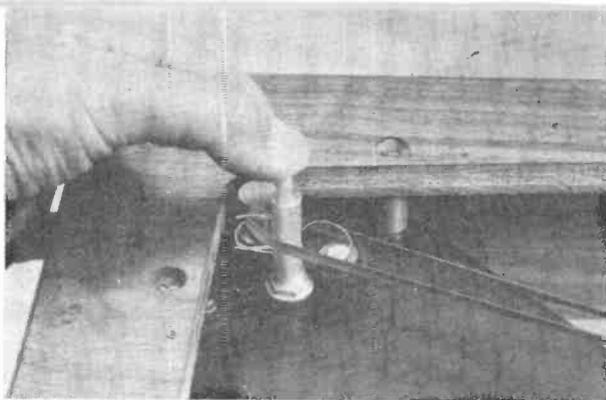
more, you can realize a saving of from \$12.50 to \$20.00!

This article will give you a "quick look" at several of the presently available turntable kits: the Fairchild 440-2K, the Gray PK-33, the Rek-O-Kut K-34H, and the Thorens TDK-101.

Belt Drive and Speed Adjustment. All of these kits use some sort of belt drive to spin the turntable platter and damp out motor vibration. In the Fairchild, Gray, and Rek-O-Kut units, the belt is wrapped around the periphery of the platter out of harm's way, and the motor is directly coupled to the belt by means of friction drive. Turntable speed is gov-



When using the Fairchild 440-2K, be careful not to confuse speed control knob (nearest tone arm head) with on-off switch which has identical shape.



On the opposite corner of the Fairchild turntable is the speed change plunger; when it is depressed, belt moves down motor drive shaft for 45 rpm.

erned by the diameter of the motor drive shaft and the periphery surface of the platter as well as the rotational speed of the motor itself.

The Gray and the Rek-O-Kut kits each use a hysteresis synchronous motor. This motor is not affected by most voltage fluctuations in the a.c. line and needs no *speed correction* adjustment as long as you have 60-cycle current. Because of this one characteristic, many hi-fi enthusiasts consider a hysteresis motor *the motor* for stereo reproduction.

The Fairchild 440-2K and the Thorens TDK-101 turntable kits make use of well-built four-pole motors. Unless your household line voltage swings over too great a range, a good four-pole motor will operate at a constant speed for weeks on end—without once needing a speed check. However, both the Fairchild and the Thorens units must be initially set to speed; this is readily accomplished in each case with strobe discs supplied by the manufacturer.

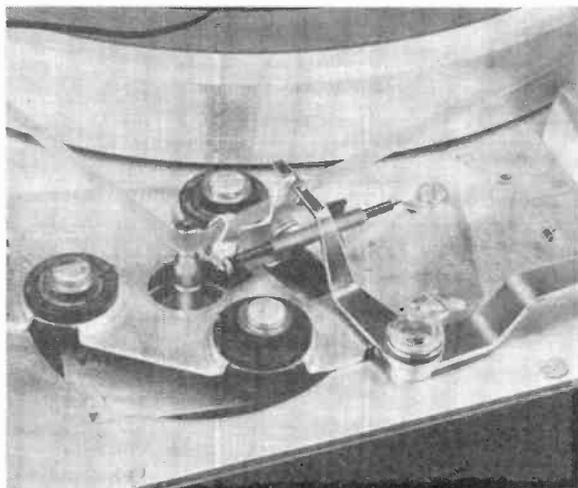
The Fairchild speed adjustment is a really *new* idea and has a lot to say for itself. The 440-2K motor is designed so that it would ordinarily run just a little too fast, but the speed is held down and accurately adjusted by introducing a d.c. bucking voltage into the motor windings. This d.c. component is obtained from a small selenium rectifier that the constructor solders beneath the base of the turntable. In our tests, the speed of the 440-2K could be set anywhere with precise control from 32 to 35 rpm. When set to 33 1/3 rpm, it maintained this speed during a 24-hour *run-in* period.

In all of the Thorens turntables—in-

cluding the TDK-101 kit—is a development this company has pioneered: a 2-step drive arrangement consisting of a belt between the motor and a pulley which, in turn, drives an idler on the inside of the platter. To allow for turntable speed adjustment, the pulley has a canted surface contacting the idler which is raised or lowered by a mechanical linkage. This sounds more complicated than it really is; once set, the speed will remain constant for long periods of time.

The Fairchild and Rek-O-Kut turntables are dual-speed devices (33 1/3 and 45 rpm). In each case, arrangements have been made to shift the drive belt

Belt drive on the Rek-O-Kut K-34H is also moved up and down motor shaft in order to change speed. Lever action is "positive," and the unit's operating speed is clearly marked on the turntable panel.



between two different diameters on the motor shaft pulley. The system is fool-proof—although the shifting must be done while the platter is spinning.

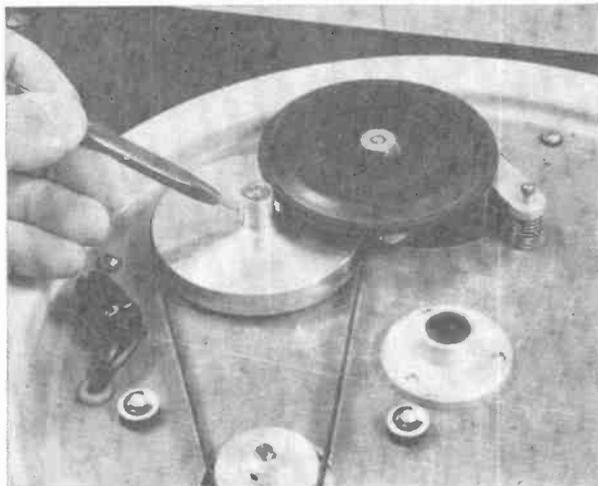
Cost and Assembly Time. The dual-speed turntables (Fairchild and Rek-O-Kut) cost \$55.00 and \$69.50, respectively. Finished bases are \$19.95 for the 440-2K and \$14.95 for the K-34H.

The Rek-O-Kut unit can be assembled—from unpacking the shipping container to plugging the K-34H into your hi-fi set—in 25 minutes. It needs no soldered connections, and your overall saving will be about \$20.00. Dollar-for-dollar, this kit is a premium buy.

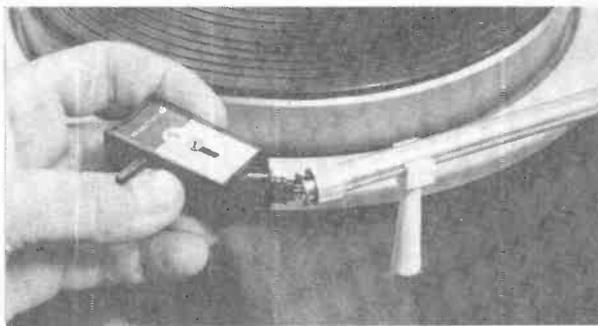
The Fairchild unit has several soldered connections, but it can be put together in about 45 minutes, and you will save \$15.00 by assembling your own. The solid construction of the 440-2K, plus the electronically variable speed adjustment, makes this kit the best four-pole, dual-speed turntable you can buy.

The Gray Model PK-33 and the Thorens TDK-101 are both single-speed units costing \$49.50 (base, \$17.95) and \$47.50 (plus \$10.00 for the base), respectively. We did not have an opportunity to assemble the Gray kit, but suspect that it can be put together in about 40 minutes. The Thorens TDK-101 requires 55 minutes to assemble. Both offer a saving of \$12.00.

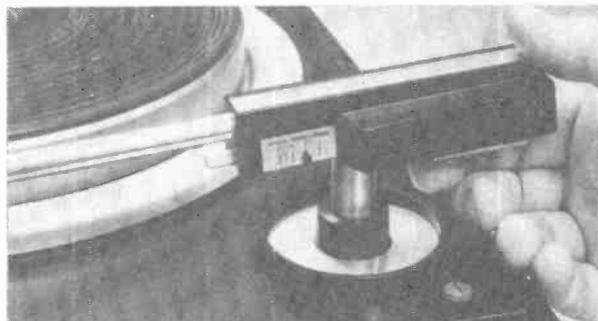
Speed control on the Thorens TDK-101 consists of a mechanical arrangement to raise or lower a pulley. In photo, pencil points to cone-shaped section of this pulley, which varies the idler speed.



December, 1961



On the Shure M232 tone arm, cartridge shell is securely fastened to arm by a threaded key shaft. Screw in top of shell sets cartridge stylus overhang.



The M232 arm is statically balanced by a counterweight which is adjusted by knurled knob under arm. Tension is set by spring adjustment to 3 grams.

—Shure Model 232 Tone Arm—

The turntable kits pictured in this story were all tested with the same tone arm—the Model 232, available from Shure Brothers, Inc., (222 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, Ill.), for \$29.95. This tone arm might best be called a *semi-kit*, since it is delivered to the purchaser in four parts.

To assemble the Model 232, a $\frac{3}{4}$ " hole is drilled through the turntable base. A template on the side of the package easily spots the distance between turntable spindle and the mounting hole for the arm. A mounting base for the arm is screwed or bolted to the turntable base. The tone arm pivot post is inserted, and your stereo cartridge height and static balance adjusted.

Stylus pressure can be set according to scale on the side of the arm; a cable containing stereo cartridge connections plugs into the bottom of the pivot and goes to your amplifier. Total wiring time: 15 minutes.

By LOUIS E. GARNER, Jr.



BEST BUYS IN EL-ED KITS

*Combine your Christmas giving with
ELectronic kits that EDucate*

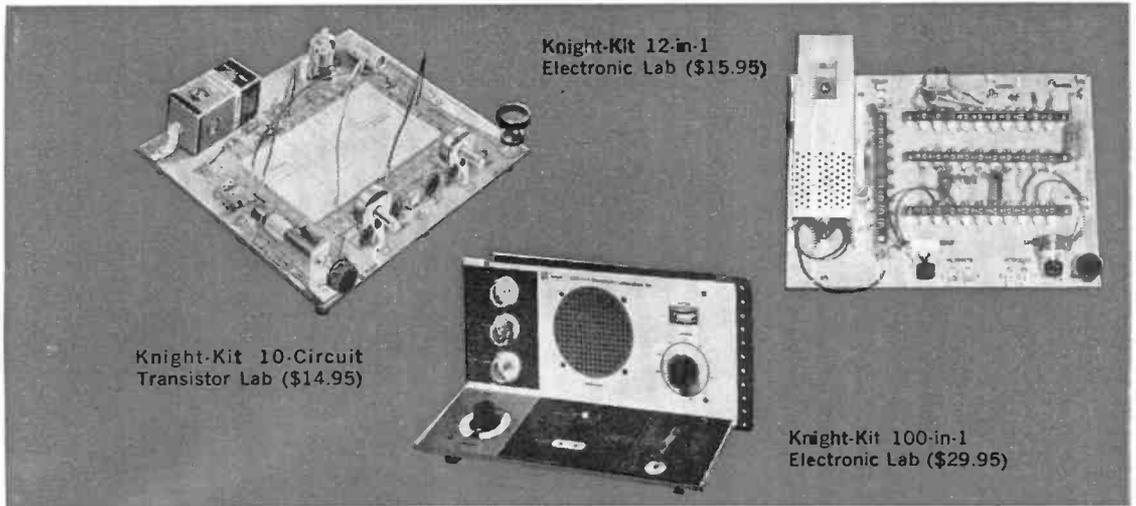
AMERICA'S "secret weapon" in the "war" for scientific supremacy may well turn out to be a group of cleverly designed toys. On this "battlefront," our "shock troops" are our scientists and research workers. Our "line troops" are our engineers and technicians. And our "ready reserves" are our active science and engineering students. All are backed by a reservoir of youngsters and adults who are keenly interested in science and technology and who could pitch in and work as technicians if the Cold War should ever become "hot."

Unfortunately, the study of science has never been overly popular—at least in the past—since most people, adults and children alike, seem to feel that it requires too much "work." On the other hand, if we think of science education as "fun"—as an "adventure" or a "game," it has a lot more appeal. Science projects can effectively challenge other and more pointless "games" for a youngster's time and, at a more advanced level, they can form the basis for a wide range of adult hobbies.

Recognizing the importance of science-

oriented individuals to our nation's future survival, a number of progressive manufacturers have introduced toys, construction kits, and hobby items that offer much more than just a "scientific flavor." In addition to having high "play" and amusement value, these new items can do much to develop interest in science and to lay a sturdy foundation for future education and training. Some of them have been on the market for a year or two, but a high percentage are brand-new and are being presented to the public for the first time this holiday season.

Currently available toy and hobby items in the science field may be divided into three broad groups: (1) those which emphasize "play" value and, therefore, may be classed as *toy kits* even though they are valuable in establishing initial interest; (2) those which apply about equal emphasis to "play" and educational values and might be called *experimenter's kits*; and (3) those which emphasize the educational aspect (*educational kits*) and, although fun to work with, can be used for quite serious train-



**Knight-Kit 12-in-1
Electronic Lab (\$15.95)**

**Knight-Kit 10-Circuit
Transistor Lab (\$14.95)**

**Knight-Kit 100-in-1
Electronic Lab (\$29.95)**

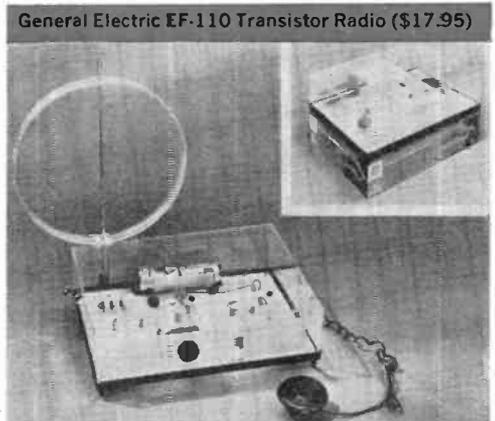
ing. Let's take a look at some of the current electronic items in each of these three groups.

"Toy" Kits. As a general rule, the "toy" kits are characterized by the fact that they primarily consist of a single project; educational experiments with the completed project may or may not be outlined. Only simple tools (which are frequently included in the kits) and limited skills are needed for assembly. Nonetheless, these kits help teach the builder how to recognize components and symbols and provide some background in circuit operation.

The *Heath Company* is offering several kits of this type, including an intercom, three different transistor and diode radio kits, a simple two-way "walkie-talkie," several wireless microphones or "radio broadcasters," and an electricity kit suit-

able for assembling a simple battery-operated motor. Dubbed the "Heathkit Jr. Science Explorer Series," these kits retail from \$2.95 to \$29.95.

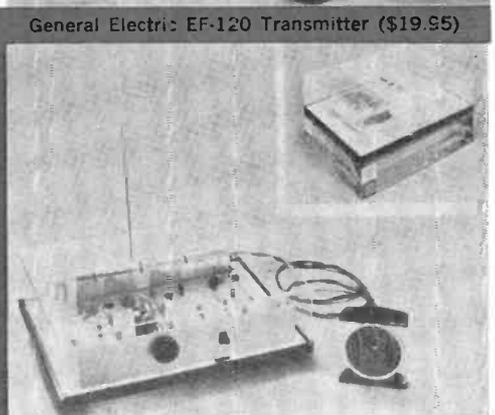
Well known as a manufacturer of



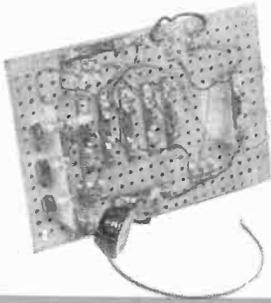
General Electric EF-110 Transistor Radio (\$17.95)



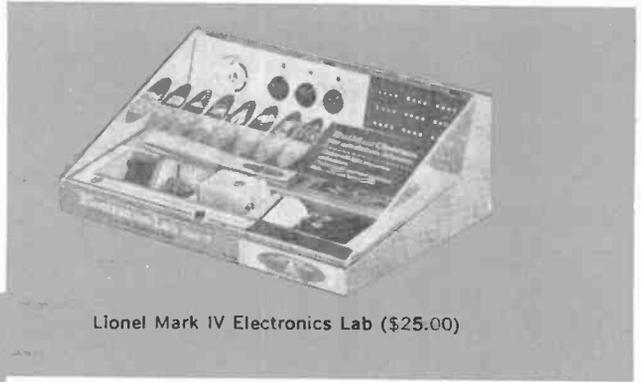
General Electric EF-140 Analog Computer (\$29.95)



General Electric EF-120 Transmitter (\$19.95)



Radio Shack 30-in-1 Transistor Experimenter Kit (\$18.95)



Lionel Mark IV Electronics Lab (\$25.00)

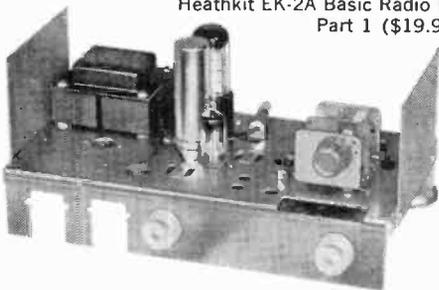


Lionel Bell Telephone (\$9.95)

Heathkit R-120 Electronic Experimenter's Lab No. 1 (\$12.95)



Heathkit EK-2A Basic Radio Kit Part 1 (\$19.95)

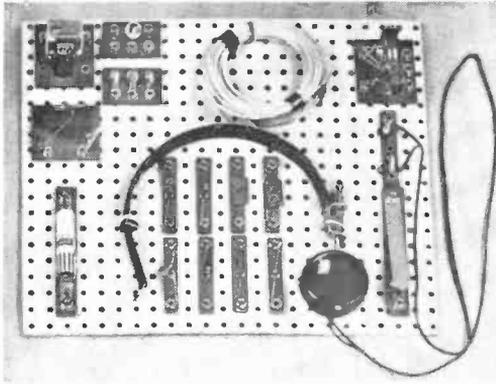


model trains, the *Lionel Corporation* recently introduced a number of toys called the "Famous Inventors Series." Listing at \$9.95 each, these sets permit the recreation of working models of such famous inventions as Edison's electric light, Morse's telegraph, and Bell's telephone. A display bust of the inventor is included with each set.

A newcomer to the science toy field, *General Electric Company* has developed an extensive line of single-project kits. Offered through regular retail outlets, they include a transistor radio at \$17.95, a radio transmitter at \$19.95, and an intercom at \$24.95. All use standard electronic components and are designed for low-voltage battery operation to prevent accidental shock.

Several firms, including *Remco Industries, Inc.*, and *Stuart Manufacturing Company*, are offering low-cost (\$1.00, typically) pre-packaged science sets for counter and rack distribution. And a number of manufacturers have introduced true electronic toys which are valuable for stimulating interest in science but which are not educational items in themselves: *Emenee Industries, Inc.* manufactures a transistorized audio amplifier/speaker system dubbed the "Powermeg;" *Bell Products Company* produces several electronic items, including the "Futura" transistorized tape recorder which retails at \$29.95; *Infrared Industries, Inc.* is distributing a two-way communications device called the "Astro-Phone," which permits conversations over invisible beams of infrared light.

Experimenter's Kits. Most of the "experimenter's kits" are called either



Superex Electronics Lab (\$19.95)

"workshops" or "laboratories" and permit the user to conduct a variety of experiments or to assemble a number of different projects. Their educational value is quite high, since the worker becomes familiar with many different circuits. Standard electronic components are used, although circuit interconnections are generally made with short lengths of hookup wire and spring- or clip-type connectors to avoid use of a soldering iron.

Depending on the manufacturer, the kit parts may be assembled on a peg-board "chassis" or in a fancy plastic cabinet. Typical projects include audio amplifiers, radio receivers, wireless microphones, limited-range transmitters, light-controlled relays, timers, burglar alarms, code practice oscillators, and various types of test instruments. Prices range from under \$10.00 to approximately \$40.00.

Three experimenter's labs are offered in Heath's "Science Explorer Series," ranging from a 6-project kit at \$12.95 to a 20-project workshop at \$49.95.

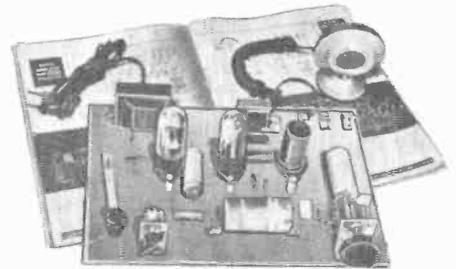
Lionel's "Electronics-Lab" line-up includes four sets, ranging in price from \$9.95 for the 25-experiment "Mark I" to \$25.00 for the "Mark IV." All feature attractive plastic cabinets and clear plastic covers.

The A. C. Gilbert Company, another famous name in the toy field, is responsible for six electrical and electronic sets, including two "electrical engineering" sets for motor, light, and telegraph experiments; three transistor kits; and an electron tube kit. The Gilbert electronic

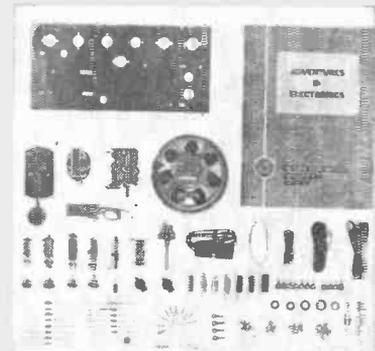
(Continued on page 108)



Science Materials Center Analog Computer (\$16.95)



Lafayette 10-in-1 Lab (\$15.50)



National Radio Institute "Adventures in Electronics" Kit (\$18.50)



NRI Code Practice Oscillator (made from above kit)



*Transistors provide startling sound effects
for Junior's small artillery*

ELECTRONIC MACHINE GUN

By MARTIN H. PATRICK

WOULD you like to delight your child by making his toy machine gun sound like the real McCoy? You can do the job with a couple of transistors, a discarded door buzzer, and a minimum of other components. Built into any toy machine gun having room enough to house it, the circuit produces a loud "rat-tat-tat" which is startlingly like that of a real weapon. For a variety of effects, the pulse rate is adjustable over a wide range.

The Circuit. Essentially a direct-coupled amplifier, the circuit uses two complementary transistors ($Q1$ and $Q2$). Collector-to-base feedback between *nnp* transistor $Q2$ and *pnp* transistor $Q1$ is provided through an *RC* network consisting of $R1$, $R2$, and $C1$. The values of the latter components were chosen to make the circuit oscillate, or pulse, at a low rate. Potentiometer $R2$ allows adjustment of the rate of oscillation.

The coil of a door buzzer serves as the collector load for $Q2$, and the buzzer armature is pulled in (with a loud click) and released each time a pulse passes through the system. The buzzer's "breaker" contacts are removed and bypassed so that the coil is always in the circuit regardless of the armature posi-

tion. Power for the device is provided by battery $B1$ through switch $S1$.

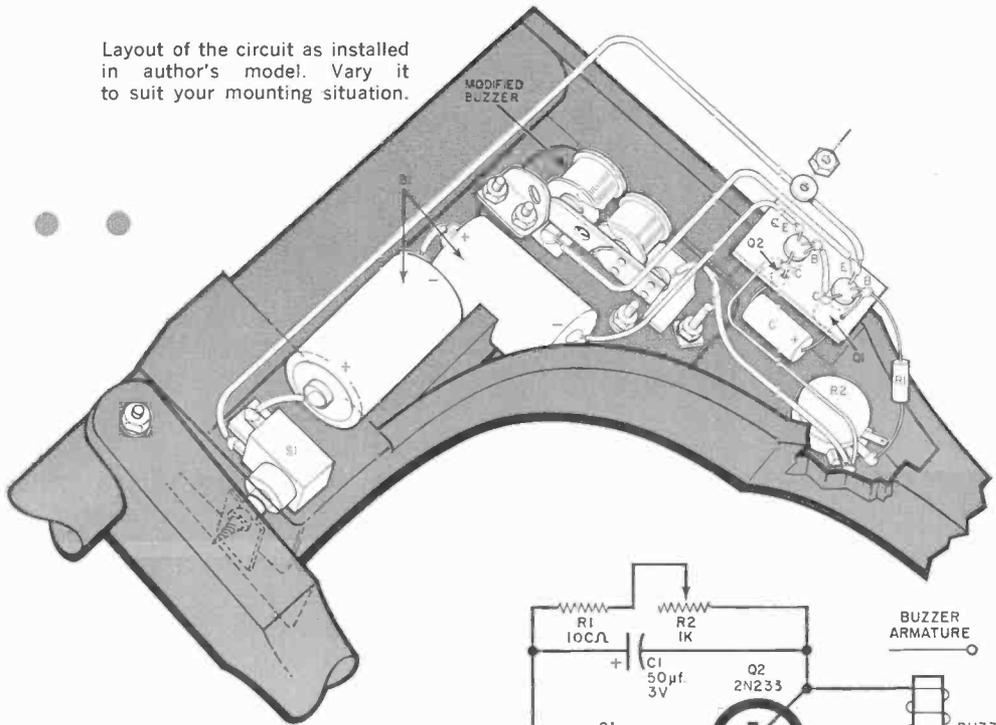
Construction. Building techniques, of course, will vary with the toy machine gun being adapted. The author elected to construct his gun from some scraps of wood. The photographs and pictorial diagram will serve as a rough guide for anyone wishing to duplicate it.

In the author's model, capacitor $C1$ and the sockets for transistors $Q1$ and $Q2$ are mounted on a 1" x 1½" piece of perforated board. This board, and the door buzzer, are fastened inside the stock of the gun with machine screws. Potentiometer $R2$ is mounted so that its stubby shaft passes through the stock.

Switch $S1$, which is of the push-button type, is placed just behind the hinged front "trigger," and is depressed each time the trigger is pulled forward. (The mechanical arrangement of the trigger in your gun might be such that a lever-operated snap-action switch would work better.) The two flashlight cells making up battery $B1$ were installed without benefit of a holder, the leads having been soldered on directly.

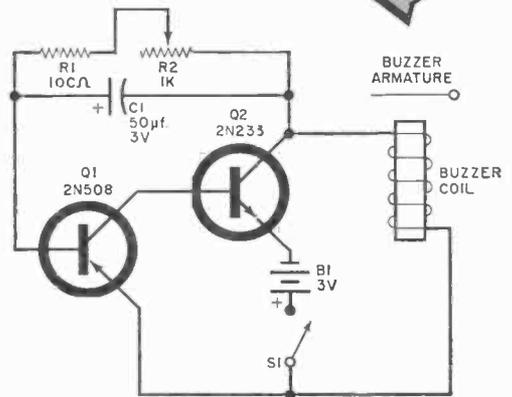
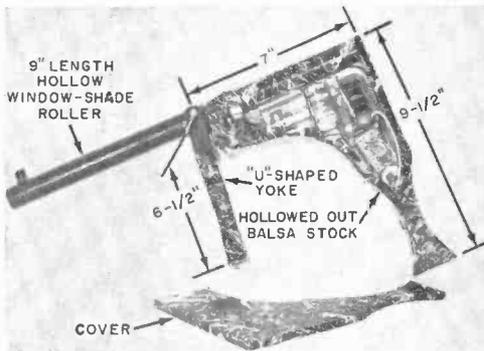
Again, the author's model is intended only as a guide. Your parts layout may be quite different, depending on the

Layout of the circuit as installed in author's model. Vary it to suit your mounting situation.



Oscillator circuit is essentially a direct-coupled amplifier; R1, R2, C1 provide the feedback.

A few key dimensions for those who wish to construct a machine gun similar to the author's. Contact paper gives a "marble" effect.



PARTS LIST

- B1—Two 1.5-volt flashlight cells in series (Burgess Type 1 or equivalent)
- C1—50- μ f., 3-volt electrolytic capacitor
- Q1—2N508 transistor
- Q2—2N233 transistor
- R1—100-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor
- R2—1000-ohm potentiometer
- S1—S.p.s.t. push-button or snap-action switch—see text
- I—Door buzzer, modified—see text
- 1—Toy machine gun or materials for homemade version—see text
- Misc.—Perforated board, wire, solder, hardware, etc.

mounting space available in the gun you're using. The wiring is not critical and, if it's necessary to separate the components, the longer leads required will not affect the circuit's operation. If your machine gun should be constructed of metal, however, watch out for shorts to the case.

Buzzer Modifications. Before installing the buzzer, remember to remove the "breaker" contacts and connect the coil so that it's in the circuit at all times. In addition, to give the modified buzzer a crisp snap-action sound, mount a metal stop behind—and just touching—the armature.

Hobnobbing with Harbaugh

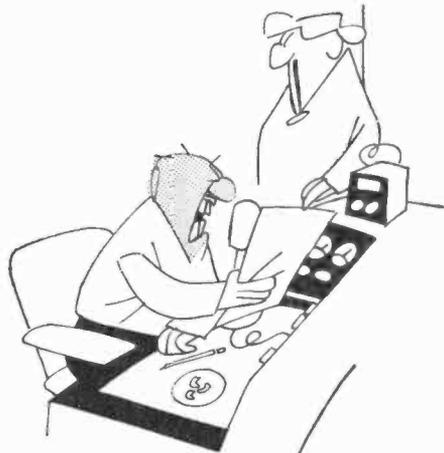
Key Clicks and
Mike Splatter



"Just tell him it's a ham buddy
from Jersey."



"You'll get ho ho ho! I told you
to go out and buy gifts for the kids."



"That's silly. How do you know that
Khrushchev's listening?"



"No, we're not making it into
a fallout shelter!"

Harbaugh



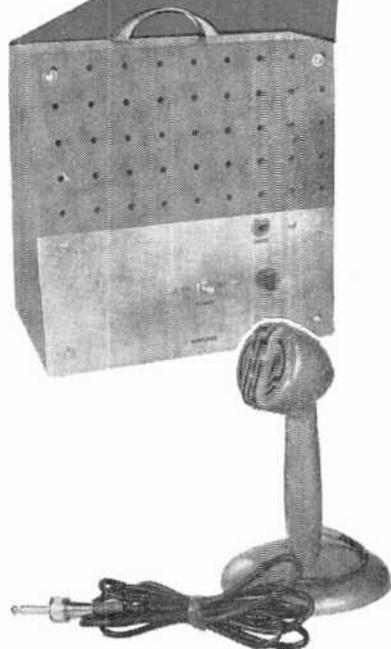
"So you're the lightest mobile kilowatt
in the country; so what?"



THE AUDIO PACK

By E. G. LOUIS

You'll use this portable sound system for everything from a phono to a junior-sized p.a. amplifier



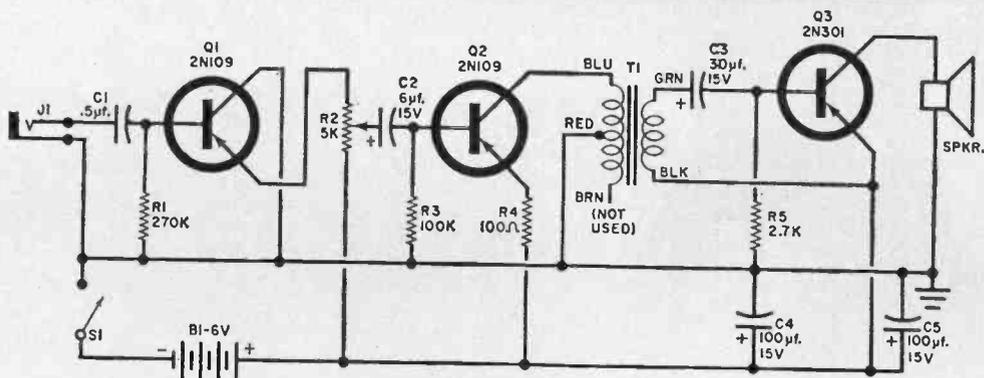
WHETHER you're an advanced electronics hobbyist or just past the "novice" stage, you should enjoy building and using this multi-purpose audio system. It's completely self-contained—the transistorized amplifier and battery power supply are mounted in the same case that houses the speaker.

The "Audio Pack" has a high-impedance input and adequate output volume for schoolrooms, clubs, or homes. You'll find it useful for p.a. work, as a booster amplifier for small radios, as part of a record-playing setup, or for amplifying the sound of musical instruments. It can even be pressed into service as an audio signal tracer or as a test amplifier for checking crystal phono cartridges and mikes.

Construction. The three-stage transistorized amplifier is assembled on a small metal chassis measuring approximately 1" x 4" x 2". Follow the general layout shown in the photographs when mounting the components.

A small "L"-shaped bracket (measuring approximately 1" x 1", with a $\frac{3}{4}$ " mounting lip) is used as a heat sink for power transistor Q3. Be sure that the holes for the base and emitter pins are large enough to prevent shorts.

A lockwasher-type ground lug is placed under one of Q3's mounting nuts to serve as the collector terminal. Since the entire bracket is



Schematic diagram of three-stage transistorized amplifier. If desired, power output can be doubled by replacing 6-volt battery B1 with a 12-volt unit, as explained in text.

at collector potential, it must be insulated from the main chassis with fiber washers. Check with an ohmmeter to be sure that there is no continuity between the bracket and the chassis.

In carrying out the wiring, all leads should be kept as short and direct as possible. Make the connections to Q3's base and emitter pins via small clips (these can be obtained by breaking up a used 7- or 9-pin miniature tube socket). Since the PM speaker, battery B1, and jack J1 are external to the chassis, it's necessary to provide leads to reach them. Make the battery and speaker leads 10 - 12" long; the lead to the jack should be a 4 - 6" length of shielded cable.

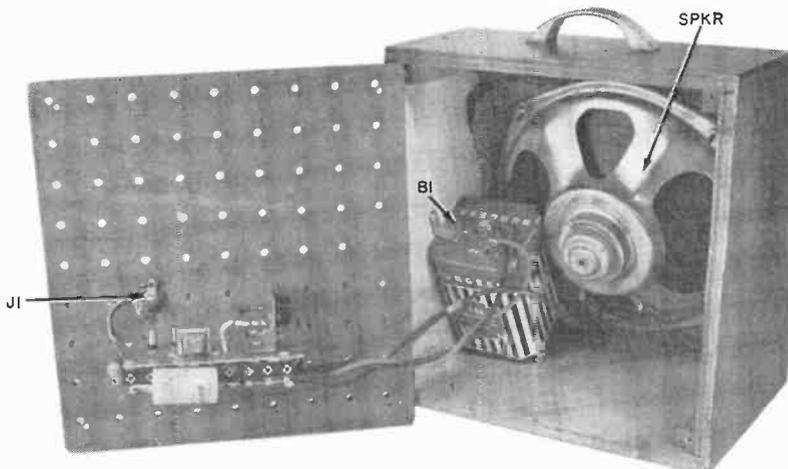
Final Assembly. A standard sloping-front wall baffle, of the proper size to house the speaker, is used as a combination cabinet and carrying case. Rubber

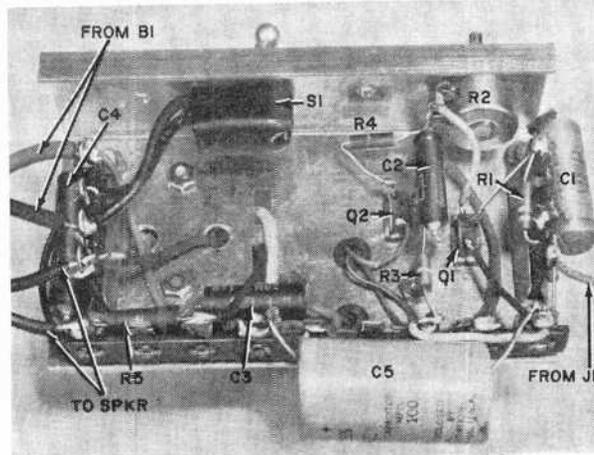
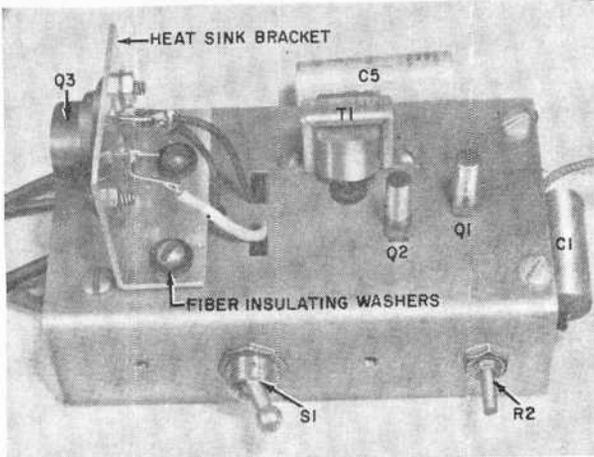
feet are mounted at the wide end—normally the top—of the baffle, and a small metal handle is attached to the narrow end.

The PM speaker, an 8" to 12" unit, is mounted using ornamental-head machine screws. Battery B1 is wedged into the case at a slight angle and secured in position with a small "L" bracket. The two-piece back consists of a section of ¼" perforated hardboard with a smaller panel of aluminum bolted to it—the hardboard provides a stiff, solid back without muffling the speaker, while the aluminum panel adds a decorative touch and provides an electrical shield for the amplifier's input.

Holes should be drilled in the aluminum/hardboard panel for switch S1, potentiometer R2, and jack J1. The mounting nuts for S1 and R2 could be used to hold the amplifier in place on the

Standard wall baffle houses amplifier, speaker, and battery; perforated hardboard serves as back for baffle and supports amplifier and jack J1 as well as operating controls S1 and R2.





Top and bottom views of amplifier chassis. Note use of fiber washers to insulate chassis from heat sink for Q3.

The "Audio Pack" is a self-contained audio amplifying system using a 3-stage transistor amplifier. Signals applied to input jack *J1* are coupled, through capacitor *C1*, to the base of transistor *Q1*. This transistor is connected in a common collector (emitter-follower) circuit which provides a high input impedance. Base bias for *Q1* is furnished by resistor *R1*, and gain control potentiometer *R2* serves as the emitter load.

From *R2*, the signal is coupled to the base of driver transistor *Q2* through capacitor *C2*. Resistor *R3* supplies *Q2*'s base bias, and resistor *R4* introduces a small amount of degenerative feedback to improve the frequency response and reduce distortion. Half of transformer *T1*'s primary winding is the collector load for *Q2*; the other half is not used.

Transformer *T1* matches *Q2*'s comparatively high output impedance to *Q3*'s low input impedance. From *T1*, the signal is coupled—through capacitor *C3*—to the base-emitter circuit of *Q3*. Base bias for *Q3* is taken from resistor *R5*, and the speaker serves as the collector load. No output transformer is required, since the output impedance of *Q3* is low enough to be comparable to the impedance of the voice coil winding of the speaker.

Power for the unit is supplied by 6-volt battery *B1*, and bypass capacitors *C4* and *C5* prevent possible interstage coupling through *B1* or through the circuit wiring. In this way, the possibility of oscillation and squealing is reduced and distortion is kept to a minimum.

panel, but the author secured it with a couple of sheet-metal screws. When the amplifier has been mounted, install and wire *J1* and connect the leads to the battery and speaker.

Your Audio Pack is now complete, and it remains only to fasten the back panel to the baffle with wood screws.

Operation. To use the Audio Pack, just plug the mike, phono cartridge, or what have you into *J1*, snap on *S1*, and you're in business. Volume is set to the desired level with *R2*.

To avoid acoustic feedback when working with a microphone, speak in a slightly louder than normal voice, keep the mike close to your mouth, and turn the volume up only as far as required. It's also necessary to keep the microphone and speaker as far apart as possible.

The Audio Pack, as described above, delivers a healthy fraction of a watt. Should more power be desired, it can be obtained with a 12-volt supply source; simply use two 6-volt lantern batteries (wired in series) instead of one. No circuit changes are necessary, and power output will be increased to a little over a watt. The instrument's weight and cost of operation, of course, will be increased as well.

PARTS LIST

- B1*—6-volt lantern battery (Burgess *F4H* or equivalent)
- C1*—0.5- μ f., 200-volt paper capacitor
- C2*—6 μ f.
- C3*—30 μ f.
- C4, C5*—100 μ f.
- J1*—Open-circuit phone jack
- Q1, Q2*—2N109 transistor
- Q3*—2N301 transistor
- R1*—270,000-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor
- R2*—5000-ohm audio-taper potentiometer
- R3*—100,000-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor
- R4*—100-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor
- R5*—2700-ohm, 1-watt resistor
- S1*—S.p.s.t. toggle switch
- SPKR*—8" to 12" PM speaker, 3.2-ohm voice coil
- T1*—Transistor transformer; 500-ohm CT primary to 8-ohm secondary (Argonne *AR-164* or equivalent)
- 1—1" x 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " miniature aluminum chassis (Bud *CB-1626* or equivalent)
- 1—Wall baffle to fit speaker
- Misc.—Perforated hardboard, sheet aluminum, carrying handle, rubber feet, transistor sockets, terminal strips, etc.

On the Citizens Band



By DICK STRIPPEL, 2W1452

A SHORT ITEM in our September column caused a veritable avalanche of mail. We stated that the impedance of a simple "quarter-wave whip" mounted on a car was not 52 ohms, but closer to 22 ohms; and that by feeding this antenna with two pieces of 52-ohm coax, in parallel, a better match could be obtained. Because of the number of questions which were raised, a short exploration of mobile antennas seems to be in order.

Antenna Facts. In the first place, a half-wave dipole has an impedance at its exact center of about 73 ohms—in free space! Since a quarter-wave antenna is nothing more than "half a half wave," its impedance should be about 36 ohms over a perfectly conducting ground plane right under the feed point. But this is where the trouble comes in.

With a fixed-station antenna, the horizontal rods form a predictable ground effect—one you can count upon when you match it to your transceiver. However, the mobile whip has no such ground reference point, and many variables enter into the ground effect of a simple mobile whip. The first, and most important, is the physical size of the car; obviously, a pickup truck is going to have a different ground effect than a sports car.

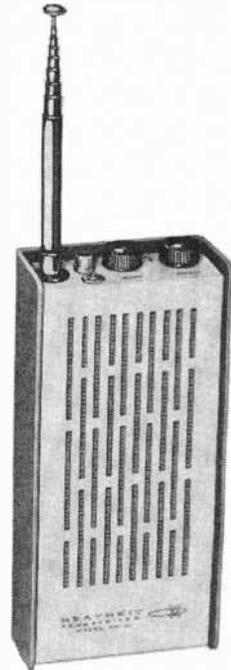
Another factor which cannot be ignored is the actual composition of the earth over which the vehicle is parked or moving—most pavements are excellent insulators, so the true ground (electrically speaking) might be a foot or more under the pavement. The height of the vehicle above the surface itself is also important.

None of these factors can be reduced to a mathematical function that can be inserted into the various antenna formulas. For some years, electronics engineers have used 22 ohms as a compromise impedance for quarter-wave mobile antennas in the 25-40 mc. region. This

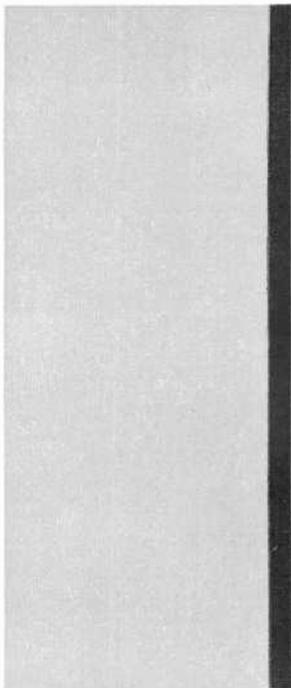
would represent an average-sized vehicle driving over a common pavement, with a ground of average conductivity slightly more than one foot below its surface.

In the end, the only way to match your transceiver to your mobile antenna is to apply the methods outlined in the article entitled "Getting Peak CB Performance," which appeared in the May 1961 POPULAR ELECTRONICS (page 58). The procedures described in this article apply just as well to mobile installations as to stationary ones.

New Products. The Heath Company, Benton Harbor, Mich.—the outfit which almost single-handedly gave CB radio its initial push with the now-famous Heath CB-1—has added a deluxe 9-transistor hand-held transceiver to its line. More advantages are claimed for the GW-21 than for units selling at twice the price. The transceiver boasts a crystal-controlled superhet receiver with r.f. stage, squelch and noise limiter, and astounding sensitivity. The transmitter section delivers 100 mw. to the final, allowing complete license-free operation with another similar set. Housed in an attractive, two-tone aluminum cabinet, the GW-21 has only three simple controls:



(Continued on page 110)



*Now you can
take your first step
into the
fascinating world
of electronic brains*

An Introduction to ANALOG COMPUTERS

By JULIAN M. SIENKIEWICZ
Managing Editor

FOR CENTURIES man has been utilizing simple analog devices to solve mathematical problems by analogy. In other words, numbers are converted into something else which can be worked with more easily than the numbers themselves. One everyday example is the slide rule, which converts numbers into distances, then reconverts the summed distances into numbers, providing a solution. Anyone who has multiplied two numbers on a slide rule will testify to its operating ease, rapid solution, and remarkable accuracy.

This article will go one step beyond the slide rule and describe a direct-reading analog computer which will solve simple addition and multiplication problems, extract roots, and perform trigonometric operations. So simple is this computer that it could be called an "electronic slide rule."

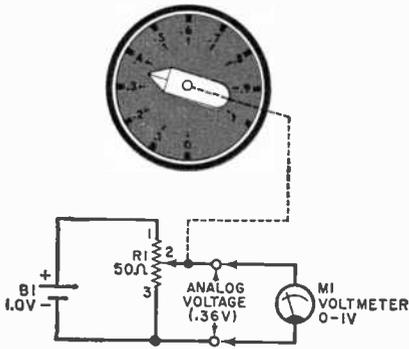


Fig. 1. A potentiometer can be used to convert dial settings to correspondingly equal voltages. When the dial is set at .36, the wiper picks off .36 volt d.c.

Voltage Analog. An ordinary potentiometer will help us see how a number can be converted into a voltage analog. Figure 1 shows a simple circuit of a potentiometer, $R1$, connected in series with a battery, $B1$. Rotating the dial pointer on the shaft of $R1$ causes the potentiometer wiper to "pick off" a voltage proportional to the dial setting.

In Fig. 1, the dial is calibrated from zero to one and the voltage supplied by the battery is 1.0 volt. Thus, in this particular instance, the dial setting indicates the voltage at the wiper of the potentiometer. A voltmeter connected at the output terminals of this circuit will indicate the setting of the dial—0.36 volt would mean that the dial is set at 0.36 unit. The voltage is an analog voltage, since it may represent a dial quantity of 0.36 acre, quart, or even light year.

Multiplying. In Fig. 1, a voltage analog for the number 0.36 was developed at the wiper of $R1$. It can also be said that the supply voltage across $R1$ was multiplied by 0.36. Thus, 1.0 volt times 0.36 will be 0.36 volt. If a voltage other than 1.0 volt were supplied by $B1$ in Fig. 1, we would be multiplying the supply voltage by the dial setting.

This apparent ability of potentiometers to multiply can best be seen in Fig. 2. Battery $B1$ supplies 1.0 volt across potentiometer $R1$. Dial A is set at 0.36 so that analog voltage A developed at the wiper of $R1$ (0.36 volt) is applied across potentiometer $R2$. Dial B is set at 0.50 so that the voltage at the wiper of $R2$ will be only 0.50 times the voltage across

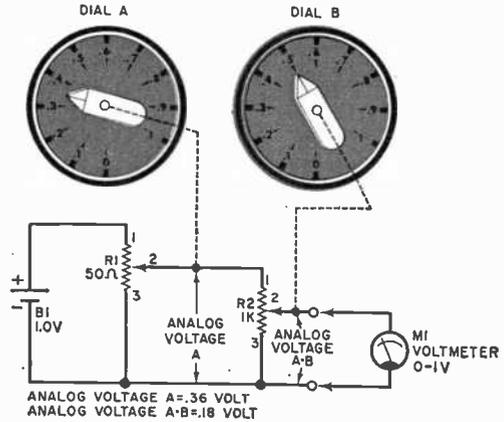


Fig. 2. Two cascaded potentiometers develop voltage analog equal to product of the dial settings.

$R2$, or simply 0.36×0.50 . The voltage developed at the wiper of $R2$ is appropriately called analog voltage A-B, and voltmeter $M1$ will indicate this voltage to be 0.18—the product of 0.36 and 0.50.

Loading Error. Looking again at Fig. 2, you will note that the value of potentiometer $R1$ is 50 ohms, whereas potentiometer $R2$ is a 1000-ohm unit. The reason for this is quite simple, provided you down-gear your thinking from analog computers to simple d.c. networks. Figure 3(A) corresponds to Fig. 2 when

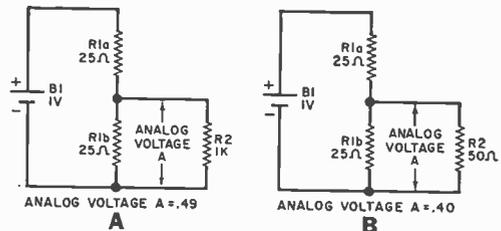


Fig. 3. Circuits showing cause for loading error (A) when $R2$ is 1000 ohms, (B) when $R2$ is 50 ohms.

the wiper of $R1$ is set at 0.50 or mid-position. Hence, $R1a$ in Fig. 3(A) represents the "top half" of $R1$ in Fig. 2 (the portion between terminals 1 and 2). Likewise, $R1b$ represents the "bottom half" of $R1$ (the portion between terminals 2 and 3). We know from the dial setting that analog voltage A should be 0.50 volt. However, let's see what analog voltage A actually is in Fig. 3(A).

First, since $R1b$ and $R2$ are in parallel, their combined resistance is approxi-

mately 24.4 ohms. Using Ohm's law, we find that the voltage drop across $R1b$ (in parallel with $R2$) is approximately 0.49 volt. This means that $R2$ in Fig. 2 will tend to lower the true value of analog voltage A and introduce a small error. In the case cited, the error is only 2%—not much for this simple computer circuit.

In Fig. 3(B), the value of $R2$ was selected as 50 ohms solely to illustrate the loading effect of $R2$ on $R1b$. In this instance, the combined resistance of $R1b$ and $R2$ is approximately 17 ohms. Again resorting to Ohm's law, we find analog voltage A developed across $R1b$ and $R2$ to be approximately 0.40 volt. Compared to the desired analog voltage of 0.50, the loading effect of a 50-ohm potentiometer will introduce an error of 20%—an excessive amount for most purposes.

It should be evident, then, that when two potentiometers are connected as shown in Fig. 2, the second one ($R2$) should be many times larger than the first one ($R1$). However, do not be tempted into believing a potentiometer with a very large resistance—one megohm, say—will completely solve our loading problem. Even if the resistance value of the second potentiometer is very large, a voltmeter connected across its wiper and bottom terminal will also cause a loading effect and hence introduce error. This is due to the resistance of the voltmeter itself—usually only several thousand ohms.

Galvanometer Indicator. One method of removing the loading effect of the voltmeter ($M1$) used in Fig. 2 is to replace it with an indicator that requires no current to indicate the analog voltage developed by a potentiometer. Such a device is the galvanometer indicator shown schematically in Fig. 4.

Close inspection of the circuit in Fig. 4 reveals that current will flow through galvanometer $M1$ whenever the wipers of potentiometers $R2$ and $R3$ select voltages that are not equal. This condition causes the galvanometer pointer to deflect either to the left or right of its normal "center rest" or "zero deflection" position.

Since dial B is preset to "some number" input, as described earlier, it remains for dial C to be adjusted until the voltage at the wiper of $R3$ equals the

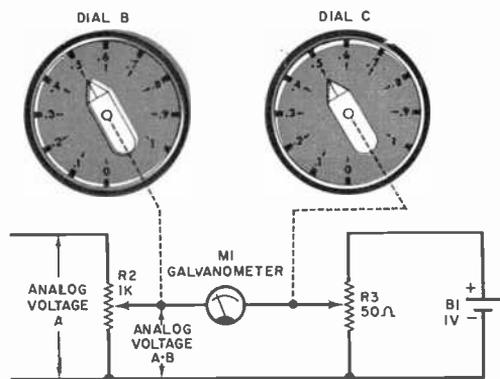


Fig. 4. No loading error occurs when voltage on wiper of $R3$ equals analog voltage $A-B$, or .5 volt.

voltage at the wiper of $R2$. When this occurs, the voltage drop across the galvanometer is zero, resulting in zero current through the galvanometer and no deflection of the meter's pointer. Dial C , which is calibrated to convert the voltage picked off by $R3$ to numbers, indicates the correct value of analog voltage $A-B$. Since the electrical components $M1$ and $R3$ draw no current from $R2$, there is no loading on the analog circuits and no errors are introduced into the electrical computations by the galvanometer.

An important fact to note in Fig. 4 is that potentiometer $R3$ has a value of 50 ohms. This is permissible, since (1) $R3$ does not load the computer circuits when the correct answer is set on dial C and (2) the lower value is desired so that when an incorrect answer is selected the deflection of $M1$ will be large due to the large currents flowing through the galvanometer movement. This large deflection due to an incorrect answer enables the computer operator to adjust dial C accurately for a galvanometer null or zero deflection. In operation, of course, the galvanometer deflects either to the right or left of its center position, depending upon whether the wiper of $R3$ is positive or negative with respect to the wiper of $R2$.

Complete Circuit. The simple analog computer circuit shown in Fig. 5 is identical to the one used in the analog computer kit made by the Edmund Scientific Co., Barrington, N. J. (see Fig. 6) and is the culmination of the circuits shown in Figs. 1 through 4.

Two interesting points should be noted:

Fig. 5. Schematic diagram of a three-potentiometer analog computer with a galvanometer (MI) null indicator. Switch SI is depressed in order to read MI.

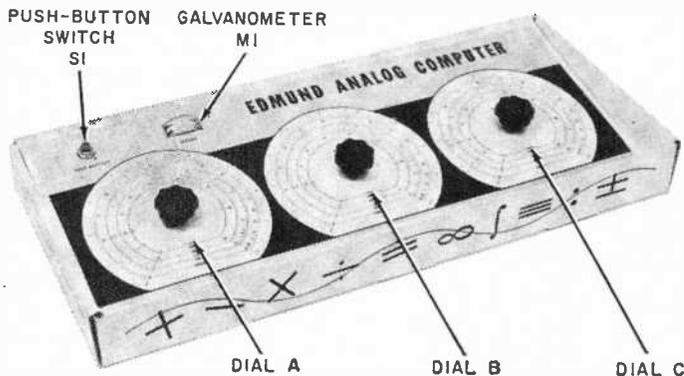
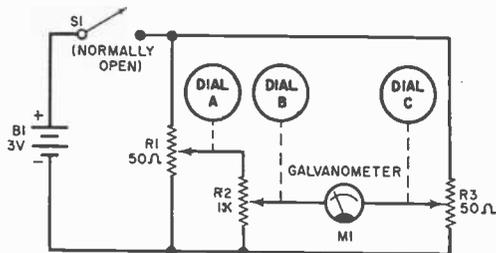


Fig. 6. Circuit components seen on front panel of Edmund Analog Computer are identified here. Each dial has four concentric scales.

the first one is that the battery voltage of *B1* is 3 volts. Previously in our discussion, we used a "1-volt" battery for *B1*. This variance in voltage suggests that the voltage of *B1* is not critical, as is actually the case.

Examine Fig. 5 carefully and note that *B1* is connected across two resistive legs: the summed resistances of *R1* and *R2*, and the resistance of *R3*. Galvanometer *M1* is used to detect a zero voltage difference between the resistive legs exactly like its counterpart in the Wheatstone bridge. Therefore, as long as the two resistive legs receive the same voltage, its value is unimportant.

The second point to be noted in Fig. 5 is that a switch (*S1*) has been added. This push-button switch is nothing more than an on/off switch for reducing battery drain. It is depressed only after dials *A* and *B* have been set to desired values and dial *C* is being adjusted so that the galvanometer indicates a null.

Sound Null. Another good way to determine when the analog computer is tuned to a null (correct answer), is to listen for it rather than look for it. In the Edmund computer, a null can be seen when the galvanometer is not deflected. In an analog computer kit made by General Electric (see cover photo),

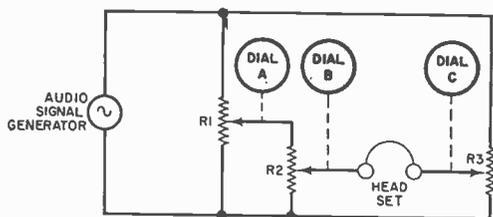


Fig. 7. Simplified schematic of G.E.'s "Project 4" computer. Headset is used to detect sound nulls.

the galvanometer has been replaced with a headset; since the headset can only detect audio signals, the computer potentiometers are powered by an audio signal generator and not by dry cells. Except for these two changes, the General Electric analog computer kit is electrically identical to the Edmund kit.

Figure 7 is a simplified schematic drawing of the G.E. analog computer circuit. To operate, the computer potentiometers are preset to fixed input quantities and the "answer" potentiometer (connected to the *C* dial) is rotated until the audio sound is no longer heard in the headset.

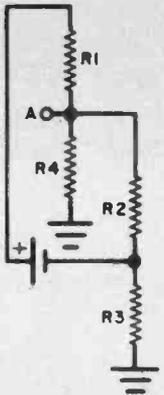
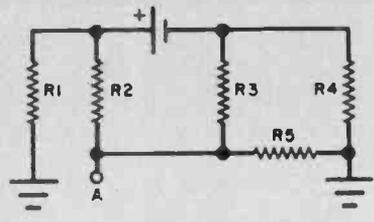
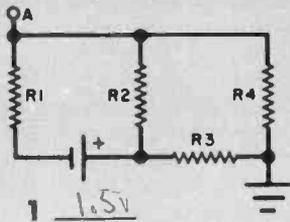
Dials. The dials for both the Edmund and General Electric kits are accurately calibrated so that many complex prob-

(Continued on page 95)

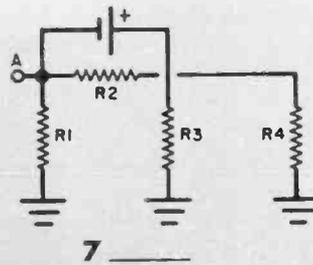
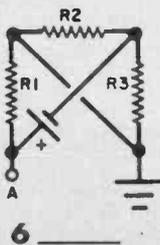
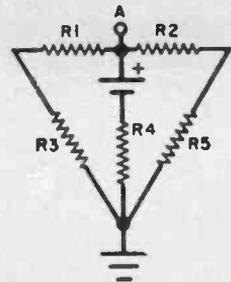
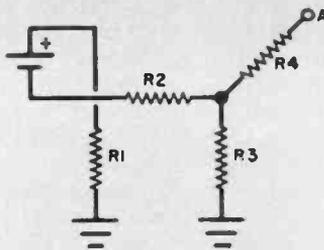
VOLTAGE QUIZ

By ROBERT P. BALIN

Can you determine the voltage and polarity of point A with respect to ground in each of the seven circuits shown below? All resistors measure six ohms and each battery produces six volts d.c. You'll find it helpful to use pencil and paper in working out the problems. Write the answers in the spaces provided under the diagrams.



(Answers appear on page 92)





Build the

WHIRLY-GIG

By LEE MARTIN

A novel d.c. motor that puzzles even the experts

LIKE to baffle your friends with electronic gadgets? Enjoy tinkering with a device that is both novel and educational? Then build the "Whirly-Gig"* and tempt your friends into explaining "How It Works."

The "Whirly-Gig" contains none of the components ordinarily found in a miniature motor; yet there it is, whirling around gaily for hours, powered only by two flashlight cells. What is its immediate value? Perhaps none, but it will serve as an excellent conversation piece, a window-display attention getter, or even as a classroom teaching device.

Start construction by making the yoke or support for the two Alnico bar magnets. Make certain that you observe correct polarity with the magnets; should you have doubt about polarities, simply place the magnets end to end so that they attract rather than repel one another.

The yoke must be made of some non-ferrous metal, such as aluminum. And once constructed, the entire yoke assembly can be glued together with a fast-drying airplane glue, then painted.

After the paint has dried, drill or punch two small holes through the aluminum; these holes should be just large

enough to allow a heavy needle or piano wire to pass through, and in a line so that the needle point or wire end rests exactly at the apex or top of the yoke.

A solid block of hardwood into which the needle or piano wire is inserted serves as a support and should be fastened to the top of the aluminum chassis box with brass screws. Be certain that the rotor revolves freely with a minimum of friction: "painting" the needle point or wire end with a graphite pencil will reduce excessive drag.

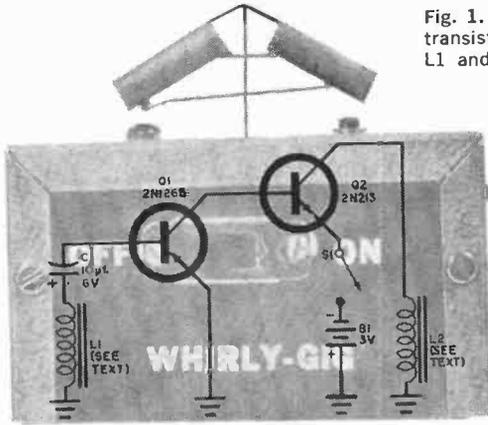
Almost any low-voltage relay coils rated at anything from 1½ to 6 volts will serve for *L1* and *L2* (the original coils were taken from two telephone-type relays). To make the right connections to the coils, connect a dry cell to *L1* and bring a compass near the end that will be closer to the bar magnet. The North-seeking point of the compass should be drawn to it; if it is not, reverse connections to the dry cell.

The terminal of *L1* to which the negative side of the battery has been connected should now be grounded, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Then repeat the test for the second coil, *L2*, connecting its "negative" lead to the collector of transistor *Q2*.

To operate the "Whirly-Gig," close the switch and set the rotor spinning in either direction. If the unit has been constructed correctly, its rotor will continue to twirl hour after hour. —30—

*Although it operates on somewhat different principles, the "Whirly-Gig" is similar to a "Super-regenerative Electronic Motor" developed by Dr. Harry E. Stockman and manufactured by the SERCO Company, 543 Lexington St., Waltham, Mass. The SERCO motor runs for weeks on a single flashlight cell and is intended for educational purposes.

Fig. 1. The "Whirly-Gig" features two transistors in a complementary circuit; L1 and L2 are telephone relay coils.



PARTS LIST

- B1—Two 1½-volt flashlight cells in series (*Burgess Type 1 or equivalent*)
- C1—10-μf., 6-volt electrolytic capacitor
- L1, L2—Relay coils, 1½ to 6 volts, 60 ohms
—see text
- Q1—2N1265 transistor
- Q2—2N213 transistor
- S1—S.p.s.t. toggle switch
- 1—4" x 2¼" x 2¼" aluminum chassis box
(*Bud CU-2103A or equivalent*)
- Misc.—Alnico bar magnets, aluminum strip, wooden block, large needle or piano wire, hookup wire, solder, hardware, paint, airplane glue, etc.

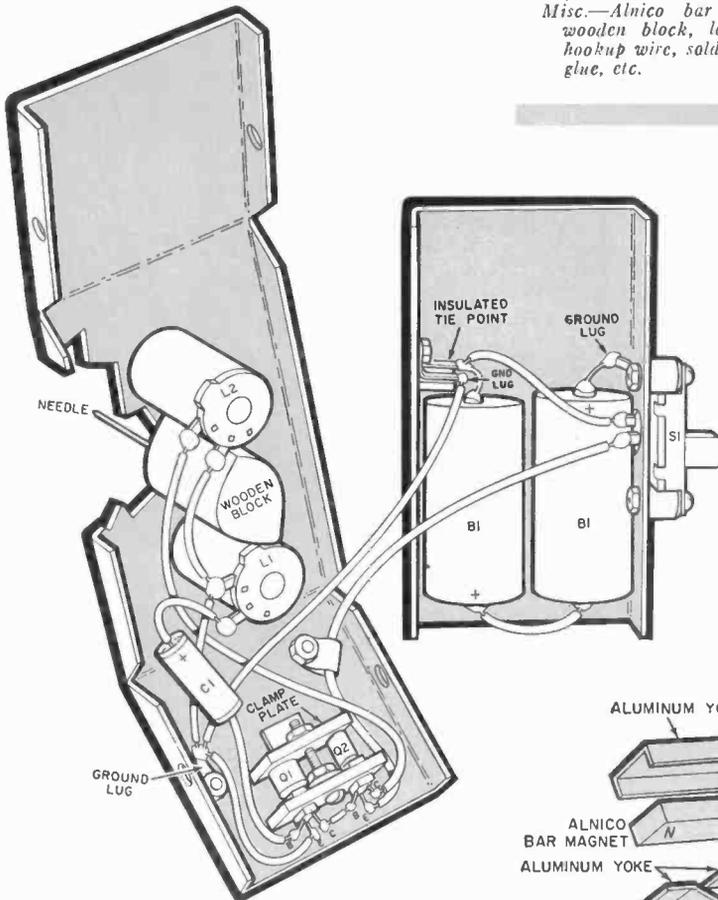
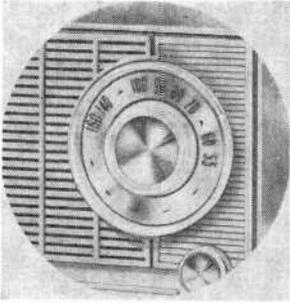


Fig. 2. Construction is straightforward, and all details are explained in text. Wooden block supports needle which serves as shaft for magnetic rotor.

Fig. 3. Exploded view of rotor assembly, showing placement of parts. Yoke must be made of aluminum or other non-ferrous metal.



BIGGER BASS FROM BROADCAST SETS

By R. H. DECKER

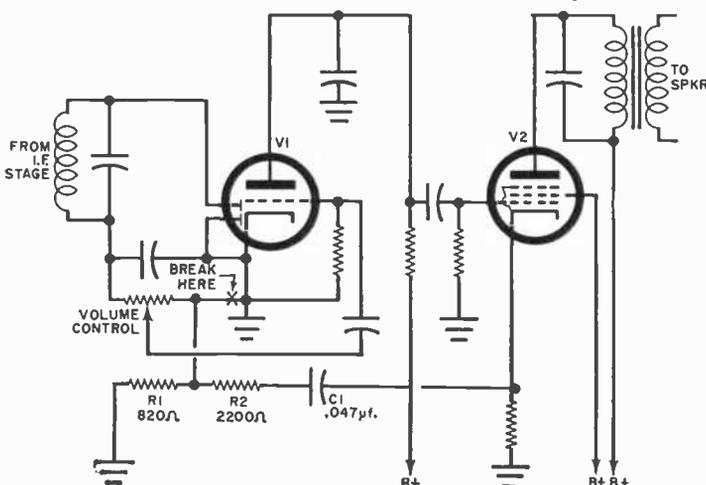
HERE is a simple circuit that will enhance the tone of most older a.c./d.c. broadcast receivers. The components were selected to give negative feedback at mid and high audio frequencies, with progressively less feedback at lower frequencies. This results in bass boost plus a reduction in distortion to improve the overall audio quality of the receiver.

The schematic diagram below shows the audio section of a typical receiver, with added components and wiring changes indicated in color. As you have no doubt guessed, *V1* is a twin diode/hi-mu triode employed as a second detector and first audio amplifier stage; *V2* is a beam-power tube employed as the audio power output stage which drives the speaker. Before installing the circuit, remove the chassis from the cabinet and compare the original wiring with the diagram below. If the two circuits differ appreciably, it might be wise not to attempt the modification.

Note that one end of capacitor *C1* is connected to the unby-passed cathode resistor of *V2*. If this resistor is bypassed, i.e., if there is a capacitor connected in parallel with it, the bypass capacitor must be removed in order for the circuit to work properly.

Check the modifications carefully, then re-install the chassis in its cabinet. Turn the radio on and tune in a station with a musical program. You should be pleasantly surprised at the improvement in sound quality.

-30-



The audio section in most older a.c./d.c. receivers is similar to the circuit shown here; tube *V1* is typically a 12SQ7 or 12AT6, tube *V2* is often a 35L6, 50L6, or 50B5. Although the necessary components can be easily added to older radios, it's usually more difficult installing them in receivers which employ printed-circuit boards.



Across the Ham Bands

By
HERB S. BRIER
W9EGQ

HOW TO DEVELOP C.W. OPERATING SKILL

IF YOU RECEIVED your General Class license today, would everyone in the General bands immediately recognize you as a newcomer? Even though one purpose of the Novice license is to allow new hams to gain c.w. operating skill through experience, many Novices don't take full advantage of the opportunity. Below are a few sound hints on how you can improve your operating procedures.

Form Good C.W. Habits. In the days before the advent of the Novice license, new hams and old-timers did not operate in separate bands. New hams could automatically pick up good c.w. operating habits by imitating the old-timers they worked. Today, however, Novices seldom work old-timers. In fact, lots of new Novices don't even listen in the General Class parts of the c.w. bands—the average code speed is just too high for their copying abilities. As a result, many Novices pattern their operating habits on what they hear in the phone bands.

Make no mistake about it, there is nothing wrong with phone procedures *in the phone bands*. But in the c.w. bands, they are just too slow. For example, why laboriously pound out "I missed your location in the QRM (interference)—please repeat it," as was heard recently by W9EGQ in the 40-meter Novice band? "QRM. QTH?" says the same thing in 1/7th the time.

An easy way to learn good c.w. operating procedures is to study the booklet "Operating An Amateur Radio Station." Since this booklet is part of the ARRL packet "Gateway To Amateur Radio," you probably already have a copy. If not, you can obtain one from The American Radio Relay League, Inc., 38 La Salle Road, West Hartford, Conn. If you can practice what you learn from the book with a Novice friend, so much the better.

Join a Net. Several training nets operate in the Novice bands for the express purpose of helping Novices become good operators. Joining one is another way to improve your operating skill.

The Indiana Training Net, for example, meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1800 to 1900 CST on 3745 kc. Except for its code speed (5 to 7 wpm),

Novice Station of the Month

Jim Buchanan, KN8WPI, R.R. 2, Box 138, Kalamazoo, Mich., submitted the winning entry in this month's Novice photo contest. As you can see, he has assembled his station mostly from kits; in the picture are two Heathkit receivers, the AR-3 and the Mohawk, a Heathkit DX-35 transmitter and a 6-meter converter. Jim's favorite Novice bands are 40 and 15 meters. Though his 40-meter folded-dipole antenna is only 20 feet high, it has not prevented him from working most of the U.S.A. and several Canadian hams.



Jim will receive a one-year free subscription to P.E. for his photo. If you'd like to try for a similar award, send us a picture of your station—preferably showing you at the controls, and include with your entry some information about yourself, your equipment, and your activities. You may be one of the lucky winners. Entries should be sent to Herb S. Brier, c/o POPULAR ELECTRONICS, P.O. Box 678, Gary, Indiana.



A good bet for low-power c.w. operators is the Heathkit HX-11 transmitter. Crystal-controlled, it covers amateur frequencies between 3.5 and 29.7 mc. in five bands. The power input is 50 watts.

the training net is operated exactly like the regular Indiana c.w. net. It's under the guidance of an experienced net control station (NCS)—usually W9TT. Members can borrow net crystals upon paying a 25-cent deposit.

Any station within range is invited to join the ITN. Simply listen long enough to get on to the "ropes," then report in when the NCS sends "CQ QIN"—the net call. You can contact Bert Summers, W9VAY, Net Manager, 127 S. 15th St., Chesterton, Ind., for more info on the ITN.

A little listening on the 80-meter Novice band in the early evening hours will locate similar nets in other parts of the country. Incidentally, *Across the Ham Bands* would like to hear about other Novice-band nets from their managers.

Code-Proficiency Runs. The ARRL has scheduled code proficiency qualifying runs for December 6 and December 15. The one on December 6 will take place at 10 p.m. PST over Station W6OWP on 3590 and 7129 kc. The December 15 run is scheduled for 9:30 p.m. EST and 9:30 CST over Station W1AW on 3555, 7080, 14,100, 21,075, 28,080, 50,900 and 145,800 kc.

C.W. Transmitter. The new Heathkit HX-11 crystal-controlled c.w. transmitter is especially designed for Novice and other low-power amateur c.w. operators. Covering the amateur spectrum from 3.5 to 29.7 mc. in five bands, it features a full 50 watts input and a built-in low-pass filter to minimize possible TVI

(television interference). Extra contacts on the HX-11's *Transmit-Receive* switch permit single-switch control of the station antenna changeover relay and receiver, and there are provisions for external VFO control for General Class users. The HX-11 nets at \$43.50 when ordered directly from the Heath Company, Benton Harbor, Mich.

SIMPLE, STABLE VFO

Designed to give the ham who has graduated from the Novice ranks the advantages of a stable variable-frequency oscillator at minimum cost, the VFO described here feeds into the crystal socket of low-power 3.5- to 29.7-mc. crystal-controlled transmitters. With switch *S1* in the 80-meter position, the VFO's output frequency is 3.5 to 4 mc. (plus a slight overlap on either end of the band). Turning *S1* to 40 meters doubles the frequency. The higher frequency output is normally used for transmitting on all bands above 80 meters.

Construction. The VFO is housed in a 5" x 4" x 3" aluminum utility box. Refer to the photograph for the general parts layout. Exact location of the components is not critical, but it is important that they be firmly mounted. Be sure also to use a pair of cable clamps to anchor the power and output cables to the box.

For precise frequency adjustment, a vernier dial such as the Millen 10039 should be installed on variable capacitor *C1*. A plain dial with a large knob works surprisingly well, however.

Tubes *V1*, *V2* and *V3* are mounted on top of the box so that the heat they generate will not cause the VFO to drift. For the same reason, power resistor *R2* should be mounted either on top of the box or in the power supply.

The power to operate the VFO can be obtained from your transmitter's *Accessory* socket or from a separate power supply. In either event, power requirements are 6.3 volts, a.c., at 0.65 ampere, and at least 375 volts, d.c., at 30 ma. Adjust the slider on resistor *R2*—with the power off—to compensate for different voltages. The resistance should be 34 ohms for every volt above 300.

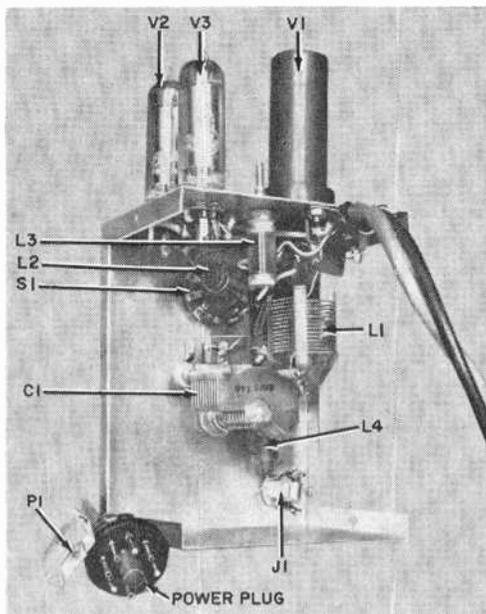
Adjustment. Double-check the wiring, then connect the VFO to its power sup-

ply and set switch *S1* to 80 meters. You should now be able to hear a signal on your receiver at somewhere around 3 or 4 mc. If all is well, use the receiver as a guide to center the 3.5- to 4-mc. band on the VFO dial. This adjustment is made by removing $\frac{1}{4}$ -turn at a time from the ungrounded end of *L1*.

Next, close up the VFO box and insert plug *P1* into your transmitter's crystal socket (or into the separate VFO socket—if there is one). Let the VFO warm up for about a half-hour and turn the transmitter on (leaving the final off). If the transmitter is not provided with a separate switch for the final, remove

the tubes from that stage. Listening to the output of the transmitter's intermediate stages on the receiver, calibrate the VFO dial for each of the two bands.

Before carrying out the dial calibration, however, the calibration of the receiver itself should be carefully checked—especially at the band limits. If you
(Continued on page 96)

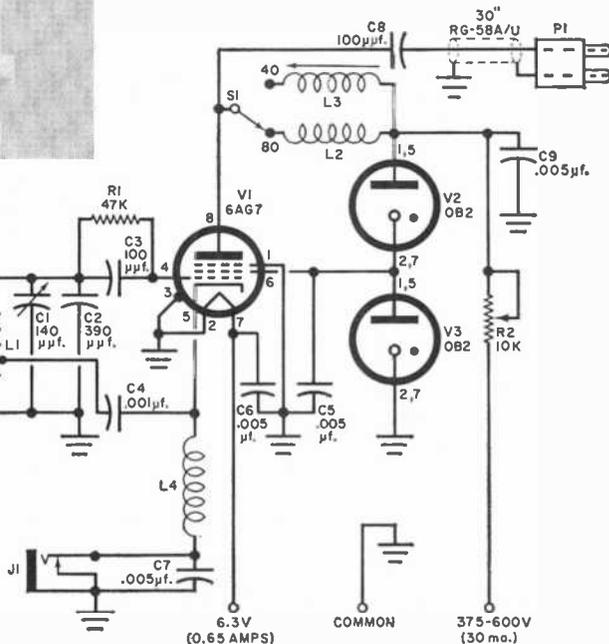


Completed VFO may be powered from transmitter or from separate supply. Use a power plug to suit your supply source; an octal type is used here.

Circuit of VFO is designed around a 6AG7 tube. Plate and screen voltages are held constant by means of two OB2 voltage-regulating tubes.

PARTS LIST

- C1*—140- μ f. midget variable capacitor (Bud 1876 or equivalent)
- C2*—390- μ f. silver mica capacitor
- C3, C8*—100- μ f. mica capacitor
- C4*—0.001- μ f. mica capacitor
- C5, C6, C7, C9*—0.005- μ f., 600-volt ceramic capacitor
- J1*—Closed-circuit phone jack
- L1*—15 turns of #20 wire, 1"-diameter, 15/16" long, tapped 4 turns from grounded end (B&W 3015 Miniductor stock, or equivalent)
- L2*—55- μ h. r.f. choke (Stancor RTC-8668 or equivalent)
- L3*—34 turns of #28 enameled wire, close-wound on a Miller 4400 (or equivalent) $\frac{3}{8}$ "-diameter, slug-tuned coil form
- L4*—1-mh. r.f. choke
- P1*—Plug to fit transmitter crystal socket (Mosley 301 or equivalent)
- R1*—47,000-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor
- R2*—10,000-ohm, 25-watt adjustable resistor
- S1*—S.p.d.t. phenolic or ceramic-insulated rotary switch
- V1*—6AG7 tube
- V2, V3*—OB2 tube
- 1—5" x 4" x 3" aluminum utility box (Bud CU-2105A or equivalent)
- 1—30"-length of RG-58A/U coaxial cable
- Misc.—Dial, tube sockets, terminal strips, power cable, cable clamps etc.



BBS



Need a code practice oscillator?

Convert a BC-451-A control box into

... the Black Box Special!

By **BASIL BARBEE** W5FPJ

THIS little transistorized code practice oscillator was designed around a readily available BC-451-A radio control box. Costing less than \$2.00 at most large surplus outlets, the compact black box was so well suited for the purpose that it seemed a good idea to call the finished unit "The Black Box Special."

Among the parts provided in the BC-451-A are a 4-position rotary switch, which is used to control the frequency of the completed oscillator, and a key jack. In addition, there's even a handy test switch which can be used as an auxiliary code key.

The author purchased his control box from the Atlas Equipment Co., 227-231 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City 8, Mo. Your favorite surplus dealer probably has the item in stock also.

About the Circuit. Two complementary transistors ($Q1$ and $Q2$) are wired in a simple, direct-coupled amplifier circuit. The capacitor ($C1$, $C2$, $C3$, or $C4$) selected by switch $S1$ provides feedback between the collector of *pnp* transistor $Q2$ and the base of *nnp* transistor $Q1$, causing the circuit to oscillate. Frequency of oscillation is controlled primarily by the selected capacitor, together with resistor $R1$; the larger the capacitor, the lower the pitch.

The speaker also acts, through battery $B1$, as a collector load for $Q2$. A standard code key, plugged into jack $J1$, is placed in series with the negative bat-

tery lead. In addition, the oscillator may be keyed with switch $S2$, which is connected in parallel with $J1$.

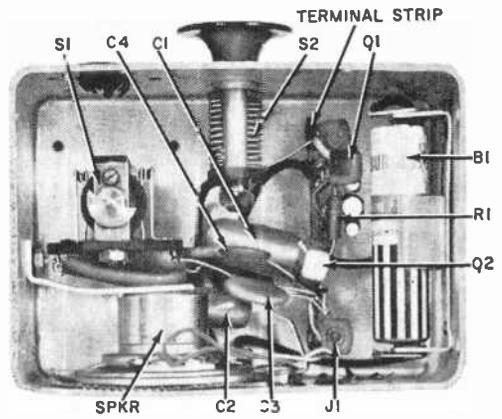
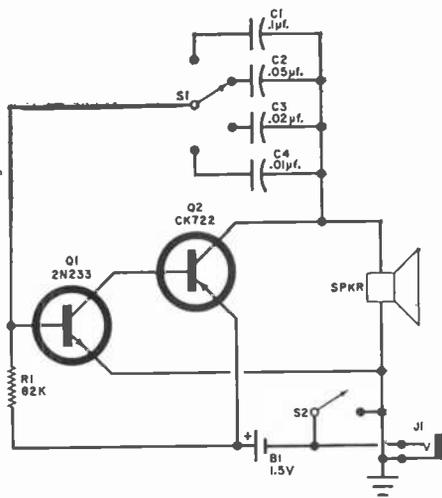
Construction. Begin by removing all components and wiring from the BC-451-A. Remove the two metal nameplates (located at the top and side of the black box) as well. The 4-position "transmitter selection" switch ($S1$), "key" jack ($J1$), and the test key ($S2$) will later be re-installed in their original openings. The other components can be put aside for future projects.

With the box "cleaned out," place the battery holder and terminal strip approximately as shown in the photo above, right, and drill appropriate mounting holes. The speaker mounts in the

PARTS LIST

- $B1$ —1.5-volt penlight cell (Burgess Type Z or equivalent)
 - $C1$ —0.1 μ f.
 - $C2$ —0.05 μ f.
 - $C3$ —0.02 μ f.
 - $C4$ —0.01 μ f.
- } all capacitors
} 50-volt ceramic
- $J1$ —Open-circuit phone jack*
 - $Q1$ —2N233 transistor
 - $Q2$ —CK722 transistor
 - $R1$ —82,000-ohm, 1/2-watt resistor
 - $S1$ —Single-pole, 4-position rotary switch*
 - $S2$ —S.p.s.t. push-button switch*
 - SPKR.—2" diameter, 8-ohm PM speaker
 - 1—BC-451-A control box—see text
 - Misc.—Six-lug (two-grounded) terminal strip, holder for $B1$, screen wire, wire, hardware, etc.

*Part of BC-451-A control box



Oscillator circuit is quite simple, and fits compactly in BC-451-A case. Wiring is straightforward, but terminals on some components are hard to reach and leads must be soldered on before installation.

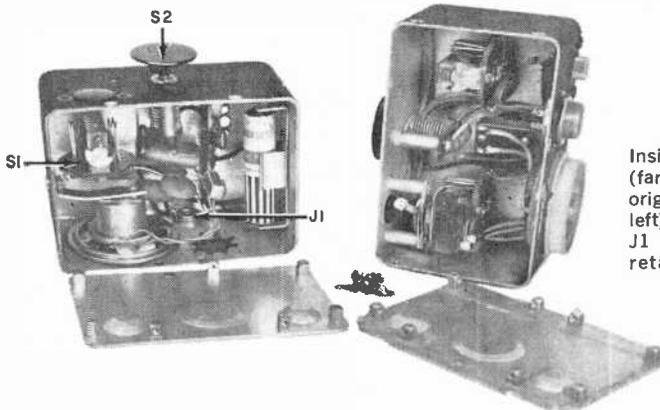
opening formerly occupied by the 18-pin male connector and is protected by a 2" square of screen wire placed between it and the opening. An "L"-shaped clip bent from a $\frac{5}{16}$ " x 2" strip of metal holds the speaker in place; make a 90° bend in the strip $\frac{5}{16}$ " from one end and drill a hole to accommodate a 6-32 screw in the tab thus formed. Locate the clip so that it presses tightly against the back of the speaker, then mark and drill the mounting hole.

Now you're all set to begin the wiring—which is simple and straightforward. Some of the components, though, are quite difficult to reach once they are mounted. Be sure to solder all leads to inconveniently located terminals before

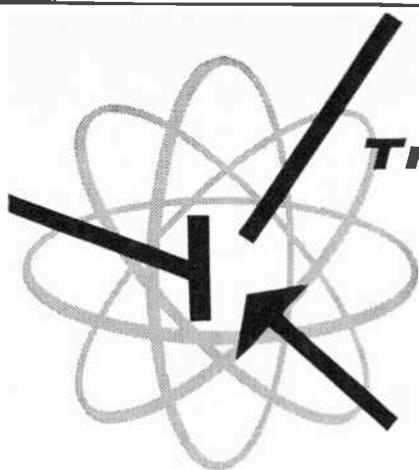
re-installing *S1*, *J1*, and *S2* or mounting the battery holder, the terminal strip, and the speaker.

When the wiring is completed, you may want to pretty up the unit a bit by covering some of the larger holes with plug buttons. The unwanted labels engraved on the front panel can be concealed with a dab or two of black paint.

Using the Oscillator. Just plug in the penlight cell (being sure to observe the proper polarity), and the BBS will be ready to go. To key it, simply depress switch *S2*; for regular code practice sessions, of course, you'll want to plug a standard key into jack *J1*. Switch *S1* will give you a choice of four different frequencies. -30-



Inside view of completed unit (far left) as compared to the original BC-451-A (directly left). Switches *S1*, *S2*, and jack *J1* are the only components retained in the conversion.



Transistor Topics

By LOU GARNER

WITH the Holiday Season almost upon us, chances are you're faced with the rather pleasant chore of selecting gifts for your family and friends. On this note, don't forget that electronic construction kits make ideal gifts. Keep in mind, too, that they carry a double "measure of pleasure"—they are fun to assemble and, later, may become prized possessions. And if the recipient isn't fond of electronic construction, you can add a personal touch to the item by assembling it for him or her!

Kits are available from such well-known manufacturers as Arkay, Paco, Heath, and EICO, both direct and through local and mail-order distributors. In addition, many mail-order firms feature a number of kits under their own "house brands."

Most companies offer a variety wide

enough to suit every taste and need . . . receivers for general gifts, hi-fi equipment for music lovers, tape recorders for teen-agers, test instruments for students and experimenters, educational kits for youngsters, ham gear for amateur radio operators, intercoms for the home, marine electronic equipment for yachtsmen and fishermen, and automobile instruments for sports-car enthusiasts.

If you're looking for something a little

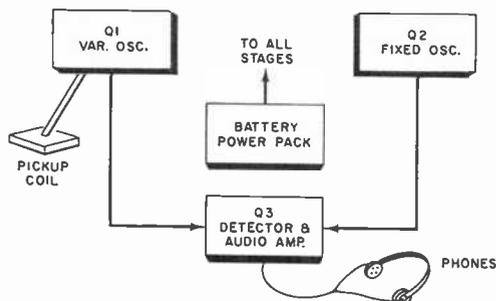


Fig. 1. The Model 100T metal locator, produced by Electronic Applications Co., employs two oscillators and a detector/amplifier. Metals alter inductance of pickup coil (see photo), changing frequency of Q1's oscillations and tone heard in headphones.



different, you might consider a transistorized metal locator. Up-to-date commercial versions of the famed mine detectors used in wartime, these instruments have become increasingly popular as a result of the Civil War centenary. In fact, nearly every mail brings one or more reader inquiries about such units.

The Model 100T metal locator is typical of currently available instruments. Offered by Electronic Applications Co., (P. O. Box 8, Arlington 10, Va.), it operates for up to 3000 hours on a single set of batteries. With suitable "search heads," it will detect a gold sample as small as 0.04 square inch at a depth of a few inches, and large objects (such as a treasure chest) at depths of up to six feet.

The 100T is furnished complete with batteries, headphones, and a general-purpose search head for \$49.50 in kit form, or \$59.30 factory assembled—both prices are less postage. Special-purpose search heads for large and small objects are available as optional accessories, and a modified version for underwater use may be had at a somewhat higher price. The latter instrument, incidentally, can be used at depths of up to 50 feet.

Three *pn*p transistors are employed in the 100T, as illustrated in Fig. 1. One of these, *Q1*, serves as a variable r.f. oscillator, with its frequency determined by the pickup coil in the search head. Transistor *Q2* is used as a fixed (but adjustable) oscillator, while *Q3* serves as a combination mixer/detector and audio amplifier, driving a pair of standard magnetic headphones.

In operation, *Q2* oscillates at a frequency slightly different from that of *Q1*. The resulting "difference frequency" is detected and amplified by *Q3*, and heard as an audio beat note in the earphones. When the search head (pickup coil) is moved into the vicinity of a metal object or piece of ore, its inductance changes, shifting *Q1*'s operating frequency and causing a corresponding change in the tone of the beat note signal. With practice, relatively small changes in beat note tone may be distinguished quite easily.

Yours truly has personally examined a Model 100T metal locator, checking out its performance under varying conditions. The kit version is easily assembled

in an evening or two, following the detailed instructions and illustrations furnished in the manual. Transparent "overlays" assist in locating parts on the etched-circuit board, and the completed unit is easy to adjust and use.

Reader's Circuit. Having tried and rejected a number of "wireless broadcaster" circuits, reader J. O. ("Jack") Pettit (533 N. Alfred St., Los Angeles 48, Calif.) decided to try his luck at developing a circuit of his own. His goal was a

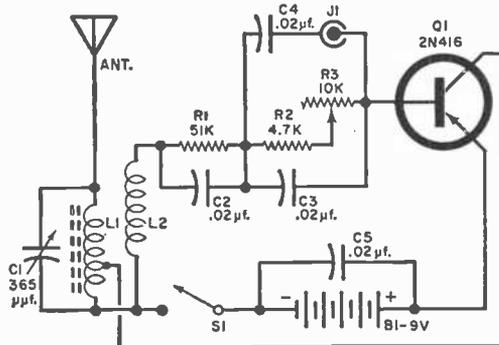


Fig. 2. "Wireless broadcaster" circuit developed by reader Jack Pettit. Housed in a plastic box, the unit is small enough to be mounted almost anywhere.

unit capable of transmitting at distances up to 40 feet, permitting him to listen to code records played on his hi-fi phonograph and received on a small radio far enough away so as not to disturb other members of his household. His efforts met with success . . . resulting in the circuit shown in Fig. 2.

Referring to the schematic diagram, a *pn*p r.f. transistor, *Q1*, is used in the common-emitter arrangement as a "tickler feedback" oscillator. Operating frequency is determined by tuned circuit *L1-C1*, while *L2* provides the feedback necessary to start and sustain oscillation. Transistor *Q1*'s base bias is furnished through a series network made up of *R1*, *R2*, and *R3*, bypassed by *C2* and *C3*. The audio signal is introduced through *J1* and blocking capacitor *C4*. Power is furnished by a single 9-volt battery (*B1*), controlled by *S1* and bypassed by *C5*.

Standard, readily available components are used throughout. Coil *L1* is a Miller Type 2001 ferrite loop, while *L2* is made

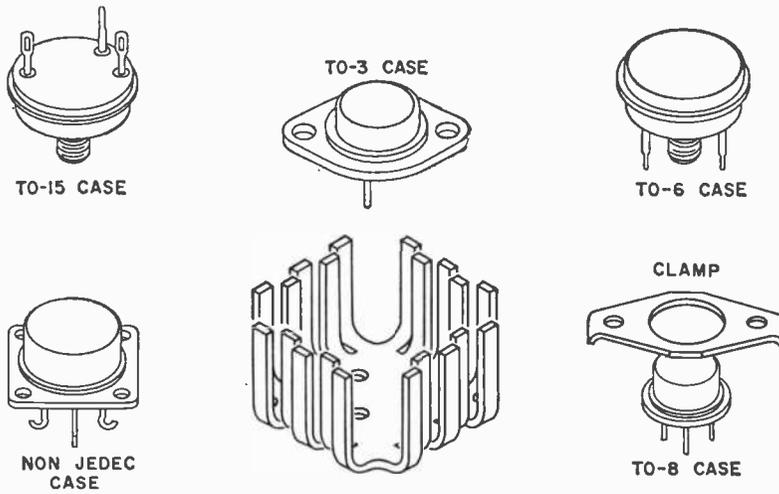


Fig. 3. The Type U-P heat sink, a product of International Electronic Research Corp., is shown surrounded by the transistor cases with which it can be used.

up of 15 turns of #24 enameled wire wrapped around the center of the coil in the same direction as $L1$'s windings; $L1$'s lower lead is connected to $L2$'s upper lead. Capacitor $C1$ is a miniature 365- μmf . variable; $C2$, $C3$, $C4$ and $C5$ are 100-volt tubular capacitors, but small ceramic units should work as well. Resistors $R1$ and $R2$ are $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt units, while $R3$ is a miniature potentiometer of the type used for hearing aids. Jack $J1$ is a standard RCA phono connector, $S1$ any s.p.s.t. switch, and $B1$ any standard 9-volt transistor battery—a Burgess 2N6, for example.

Jack assembled his original model in a 3" x 4" x 1" plastic box, mounting $L1/L2$ on the outside lid. He used a 35"

length of heavy wire as an antenna, terminating the end in a banana plug. For an audio source, he used a magnetic cartridge coupled to $J1$ through a small preamplifier, but a medium- to high-output crystal cartridge should give satisfactory results without a preamp.

In operation, $R3$ is adjusted for "cleanest" modulation, while $C1$ is set to deliver a signal at a "dead" spot near the middle or upper end of the AM broadcast band. If difficulty is encountered in obtaining oscillation, $L2$'s connections should be reversed.

Product News. The International Electronic Research Corp. (135 West Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, Calif.) has announced a new "universal" heat sink that can be used with most power transistors (see Fig. 3). Type No. U-P is suitable for both natural and forced air cooling.

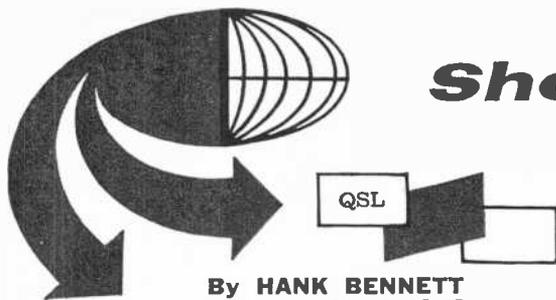
A late release from the Heath Company (Benton Harbor, Mich.) describes a new laboratory-type transistor tester capable of performing a thorough d.c. analysis of all transistor types and checks of diode characteristics. Switches and controls are provided to permit accurate tests at biases from 1.5 to 9 volts at collector currents up to 15 amperes. Identified as kit No. IM-30, the instrument sells for \$54.88, f.o.b. Benton Harbor.

A fully transistorized FM converter for automobile radios has been announced by the Automatic Radio Manufacturing Co. (122 Brookline Ave., Boston, Mass.). Featuring six transistors

(Continued on page 112)

Recently introduced by the Heath Company, the Model IM-30 transistor tester is available in kit form.





Short-Wave Report

DX'ING THE VOA AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM

THE amateur radio program broadcast each week by the *Voice of America* is beamed to all corners of the earth, and DX'ers everywhere are invited to participate. A 15-minute show, it features news of the ham bands, interviews with operators from around the world, propagation forecasts, and technical discussions of interest to amateurs, SWL's, and other radio enthusiasts.

The broadcasts are written and voiced by Bill Leonard, W2SKE; the producer is Gene Kern, W2BAK; and the propagation forecasts are prepared by Bill Dulin, W4ETT, and George Jacobs, W3ASK. Reports on the ham show, which has its own distinctive verification card, may be sent to either of two addresses: Bill Leonard, P. O. Box 29, Geneva 12, Switzerland; or Amateur Radio, Box 922, Washington 4, D. C.

Here is the complete current schedule showing broadcasting times (EST), frequencies, station call-sign or location, and direction of the beam. Please bear in mind that this schedule is subject to change. (You can request periodic schedules from Washington address above).

Sundays at 0230-0245: 5955 kc. (WDSI1) to Europe; 6025 kc. (WLW06) to N. Africa and S. Europe; 6080 kc. (Tangier-3) to Middle East, 7205 kc. (Tangier-5), 9615 kc. (Tangier-2), and 15,205 kc. (Tangier-10), to Europe; 9740 kc. (WLW05) to W. Africa; 9770 kc. (WLW02) to N. Africa and S. Europe; 11,785 kc. (Tangier-9) to Middle East; and 11,805 kc. (WLW01) to N. and W. Africa.

Fridays at 1615-1630: 6145 kc. (Okinawa-5), 7160 kc. (Okinawa-1), 9665 kc. (Okinawa-2), 9770 kc. (Malolos-1), 11,960 kc. (Malolos-2), 15,150 kc.

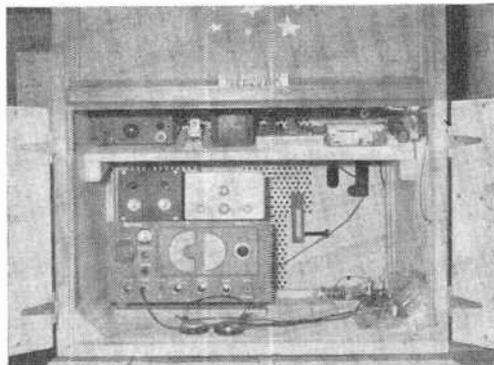
(KCBR5), 17,770 kc. (KCBR1), and 21,740 kc. (KCBR4), to the Far East.

Sundays at 1730-1745: 3980 kc. (Munich-6), 6140 kc. (Munich-5), 9520 kc. (Thessaloniki-4), 9615 kc. (Tangier-2), to Europe; 6185 kc. (Courier-1), 7125 kc. (Courier-2), 7205 kc. (Thessaloniki-3), and 9630 kc. (Munich-3), to the Middle East; 9555 kc. (Munich-2), 11,960 kc. (Munich-1), 15,440 kc. (Munich-4), 17,710 kc. (WLW01), and 21,610 kc. (WLW02), to West Africa.

Sundays at 2230-2245: 11,830 kc. (WBOU4), 15,330 kc. (WBOU6), to the West Indies and Eastern South America; 11,890 kc. (WLW01), 15,205 kc. (WDSI1), 15,290 kc. (WLW02), to Latin America.

There is one additional broadcast frequency used for medium-wave DX'ers: 1250 kc. (Courier-A) beamed to the Middle East on Sundays at 1730-1745. This would be a good catch for anyone in the United States.

(Continued on page 97)



David L. Sporre, WPE2DWK, Plainfield, N. J., built his equipment into an old TV console. He receives on a Lafayette HE-10, aided by a Heath Q-Multiplier, and can switch to any of six antennas.



By
JOHN T. FRYE
W9EGV

Carl and Jerry

The Bell Bull Session

IT WAS a Sunday evening in early December, and half a dozen young men were standing in the hall outside the locked door of Carl and Jerry's room on the third floor of the H-3 Building at Parvoo University.

"Knuckle the door again," one of them suggested. "In those notes Carl and Jerry said to be here at 7:00 sharp for a 'Bell Bull Session,' whatever that is. It's after seven now."

At this moment Carl stepped into the hall through the stairway doors. Jerry, puffing a little from the climb, was right behind him.

"Sorry we're late, fellows," Carl apologized as he unlocked the door and waved the visitors inside. "Jerry and I were at the library, and time sort of got away from us."

"Okay, but what's all this about?" a chubby redhead named Jack asked as he took possession of the single upholstered chair in the room.

"Yeah, what's a 'Bell Bull Session'?" a lanky boy from Texas drawled from where he sat on the floor. "Most of the bull sessions I've sat in on get around to women sooner or later, but down Texas way we feel it's a little caddish to name names. Who's this Bell co-ed? Do we know her?"

"Oh, yes, you know her," Jerry answered with a grin; "but let me explain. All of you are friends of Carl or myself or both; and all of you share our deep interest in electronics. We think we've found something that will be as intriguing to you as it is to us, and we want to share it with you. The 'something' was developed by Bell Telephone Laboratories. That, plus the fact that we thought a little mystery might help lure

you up here tonight, is the reason we called this a Bell Bull Session."

"Boys, it looks like we've been had!" Tex drawled with a good-natured grin.

"I'm hoping you won't think so when you leave," Jerry answered, and then dived right into his theme. "You see, the behavior of radio waves has always been hard for me to keep straight in my mind; yet one must understand this subject thoroughly in order to have a clear knowledge of such things as resonance, impedance-matching, standing wave ratio, and antenna theory. I was talking to my high school science teacher back home about it recently, and he suggested that I build a wave machine as described by Dr. John N. Shive, Director of Education and Training of the Bell Labs, in his little book called *Similarities in Wave Behavior*. This booklet tells how to build the machine and describes several experiments that can be performed with it. Well, Carl built one, and that's what we want to show you tonight."

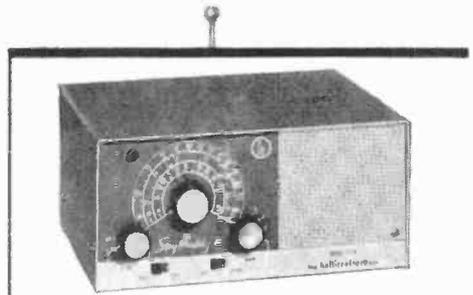
CARL HAD PLACED a long board on one of the study desks. Fastened in a row to the top of the board were about a dozen narrow isosceles triangles of heavy sheet metal with their planes at right angles to the length of the board. A narrow portion of the bottom of each triangle had been bent over to form a foot for fastening the triangle to the board. The top of each triangle had been clipped off and a shallow U-shaped notch had been filed in the top of the resulting trapezoid. All of these notches were perfectly in line and at the same height.

Carl stepped to the clothes closet and carefully lifted out a flimsy, jiggling ar-

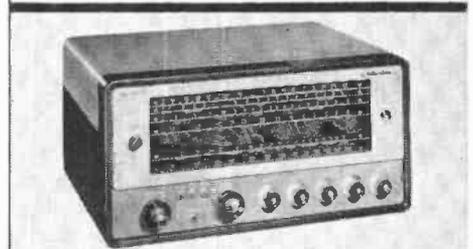


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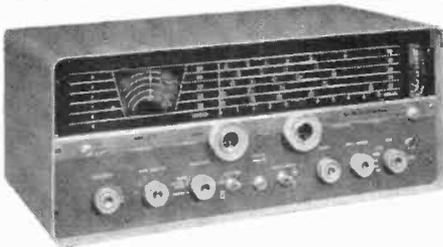
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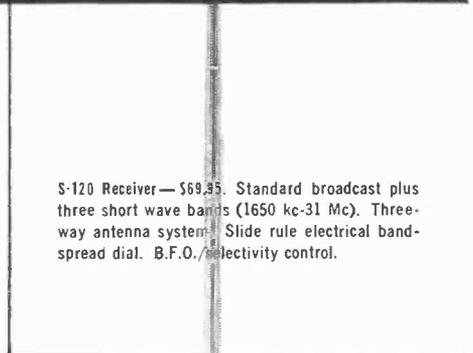
S-119K Sky Buddy Receiver Kit—\$39.95. S-119 (factory wired and tested) \$49.95. Standard broadcast. Two short wave bands (2-5.5 Mc. and 5.7-16.4 Mc.). Superheterodyne circuit. Transformer-type power supply.



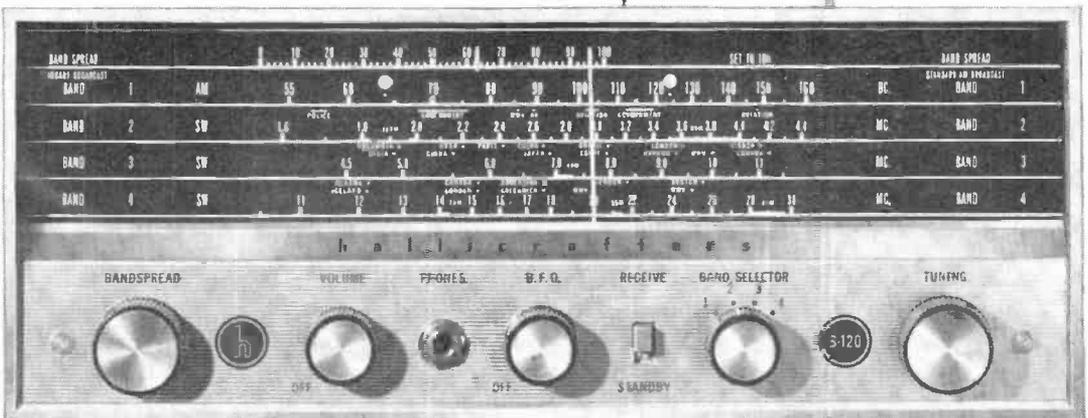
SX-62A Receiver—\$395.00 Standard and FM broadcast. Three short wave bands (1.62 Mc-109 Mc). Excellent audio. Slide rule dial. Single tuning control. Automatic noise limiter. Uses R-4E speaker. (\$19.95)



SX-110 Receiver—\$169.95. Standard broadcast. Three short wave bands (1550 kc-34 Mc). Slide rule electrical bandspread dial. Built-in "S" meter, antenna trimmer, crystal filter. Uses R-48 speaker (\$19.95).



S-120 Receiver—\$69.95. Standard broadcast plus three short wave bands (1650 kc-31 Mc). Three-way antenna system. Slide rule electrical bandspread dial. B.F.O. selectivity control.



Export Sales: International Division, Raytheon Mfg. Co., Waltham, Mass. Canada: Gould Sales Co., Montreal, P. Q.

rangement of closely-spaced slender metal rods fastened at their centers to a still smaller central metal spine. Grasping the spine by its ends and holding the array taut, Carl carefully lowered the spine into the notches of the sheet-metal bearings.

"This thing is rather simple to build," Carl explained. "The spine is a three-foot length of .042-inch steel drill rod. There are 70 18-inch lengths of .042-inch steel drill rod fastened to the spine a half-inch apart. They are soldered to the backbone exactly at their centers, parallel with each other, and at right angles to the backbone. But if you want to build one of these machines yourself, I strongly recommend that you order a copy of *The Student's Edition of Similarities in Wave Behavior*, by Dr. John N. Shive, from the Williams & Wilkins Company, Science Series, 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore 2, Maryland. You can't get the booklet anywhere else, and it only costs 35¢ postpaid. It shows you how to make special jigs for holding the rods in position while you're soldering them, how to conduct many interesting experiments with the machine, and how to understand the significance of these experiments."

"This last is very important in the opinion of Dr. Shive," Jerry smoothly scooped up the conversational ball. "He says science is more than just knowledge; it's a method. You *can* gather facts in the aimless way that your car radiator collects bugs and butterflies in summer; but a scientist carefully selects his specimens and studies them carefully, looking for similarities and differences, searching for clues that will make what is new and puzzling fit into the knowledge he already has. The scientist is forever trying to reduce observed phenomena to a least common denominator.

"To him, therefore, a wave is a travel-

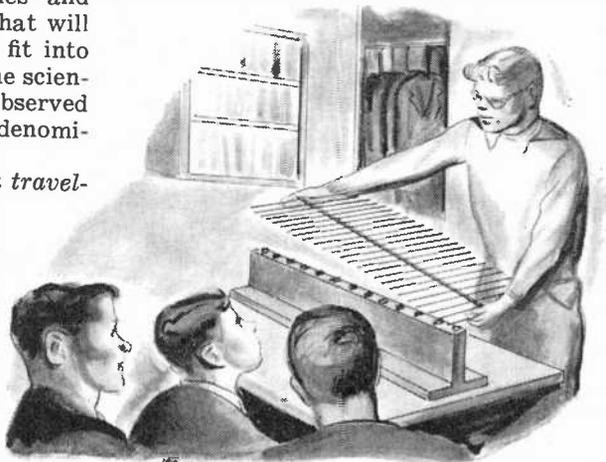
ing disturbance of a medium from its normal condition. So, in view of that definition, mechanical waves, sound waves, light waves, and radio waves are seen to behave alike. In each case the passage of the wave disturbs the conducting medium which returns to rest after the wave has passed. By studying mechanical waves in this machine, therefore, we can understand the behavior of other waves whose actions cannot be readily seen."

He reached over and pumped the end of the first cross arm of the machine up and down once. A smooth undulation ran slowly up and down the array of steel rods until it gradually died away.

"That wave you see moving the rods is actually a twisting and untwisting of the steel spine," Jerry explained. "The rods soldered to the spine reveal the movement of this torsion wave along the spine by the up-and-down motion of their ends as the twist-untwist I applied at one end of the spine travels along its length. The wave I started with a 'pulse' is a damped wave. It is damped by three kinds of friction: air resistance to the up-and-down motion of the cross arms, rolling friction of the central backbone in the bearing notches, and hysteresis friction in the backbone itself. This damping gradually absorbs the energy of the wave, and it dies out."

"You talk about the 'energy of the wave,' Jack interrupted. "Can you use that coat-hanger marimba to prove waves transport energy?"

Jerry did not answer, but both he and



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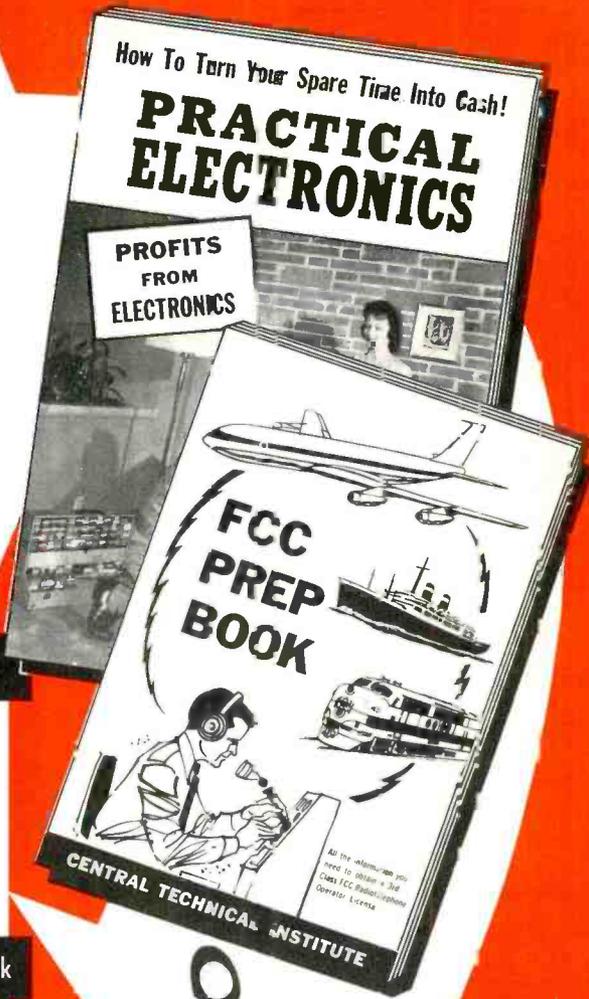
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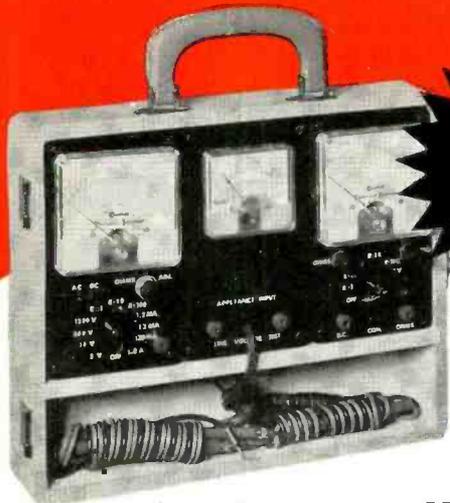
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Carl wore smug smiles as the latter took a small stand out of a drawer. This stand had a little toothed and dogged wheel at its top. The axle to which the toothed wheel was fastened had a string wrapped around it with a weight suspended on the end.

Carl clipped a little piece of stiff wire to the cross arm at the far end of the machine. Then he carefully adjusted the bent end of this wire so that each upward movement of the cross arm pushed the toothed wheel around a notch and enabled the dog to catch it; each downward movement let the end of the wire slip down and engage another tooth. The result was that when the end of the cross arm at the near end of the machine was moved up and down and the waves so produced traveled to the other end, the up-and-down movement of the last rod caused the toothed wheel to revolve, raising the weight.

"Guess that answers the question," Jerry said. "Obviously waves *do* carry energy. Just as energy contained in the mechanical waves raised that weight, so



sound waves vibrate our ear drums, the energy of water waves stirred up by Hurricane Carla late last summer battered down dock installations along the Texas coast, and energy carried by light waves from the sun changed the orbit of Echo sufficiently to upset predictions about how long the satellite would last. But
(Continued on page 90)

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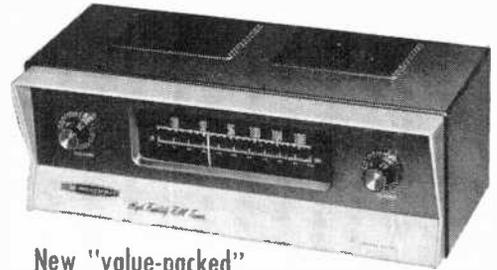
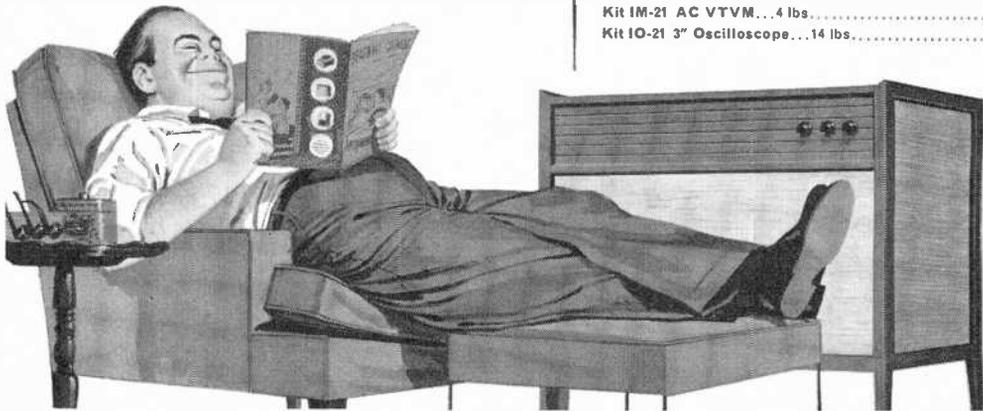
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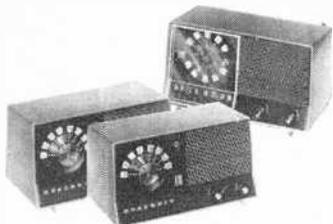
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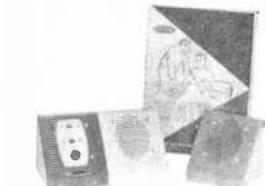
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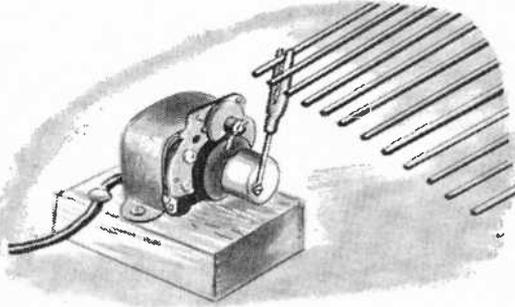
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Carl and Jerry

(Continued from page 87)

enough of these damped waves, Carl; let's send some c.w."

CARL WAS ALREADY placing a small synchronous motor driving a speed-reducing gear train beneath the end of the wave machine. A little drive rod was connected between the rim of the slowest-moving gear and the end rod of the wave machine. When the motor was turned on, this rod was moved up and down at a constant rate of about two complete up-and-down movements per second. After a few seconds the tran-



sients died out and the waving ends of the rods settled into a definite pattern of regularly spaced, smoothly varying intervals of maximum and minimum movement.

"That's a pretty picture of a standing wave," Carl said admiringly. "The quiet rods represent nodes of the standing wave and the ones moving the most represent loops. While the pattern of the standing wave *does* stand still, it's actually produced by the interaction of two traveling waves—one going down the machine from our continuous-wave generator, the other coming back after being totally reflected from the unterminated opposite end.

"These two waves combine by adding their energy algebraically," he went on. "When one is trying to raise the end of a rod while the other is trying to push it down, they cancel each other and we have a node. A quarter of a wavelength away—nodes are a half wavelength apart—the two waves work together to produce a maximum movement of the rods. Notice that the first node is a

quarter of a wavelength away from the far end of the machine. Now watch what happens when I clamp that end rod firmly so it can't move."

As he did so, the pattern changed on the machine. Now a node appeared at the clamped rod, and a loop appeared a quarter of a wavelength away. The whole pattern shifted endways to accommodate this change and still retain its regular spacing.

"Hey!" Tex exclaimed, "that's exactly what happens in a coax line when you change from a short-circuited to an open-circuited condition. But if you terminate the coax in a resistor equal to its characteristic impedance, you get rid of the standing waves. It's too bad we can't hook a resistor across the far end of that machine and see what happens."

"But we can!" Jerry declared as he took still another piece of apparatus out of the drawer. It consisted of a stiff wire soldered vertically to the center of a thin metal disc. This disc was lowered into a can of water, and the rod was clipped to the last rod of the machine.

"This dash pot arrangement represents mechanical resistance," Jerry explained. "By connecting it to the rod at different distances from the spine, we can change the impedance match between it and the machine in the same way changing the length of the gamma rod on a beam antenna alters the impedance the antenna presents to the coax feeder."

He disconnected the motor and sent a single wave down the machine. A small reflected wave came back. He changed the position of the dash pot clip and tried again. The reflected wave was smaller. Finally he found a position for the clip where no reflected wave could be seen. Now when the motor was connected and started, waves could be seen marching down the machine and disappearing at the far end. All their energy was being absorbed by the dash pot. No standing waves were present.

"I'll be doggoned!" Tex exclaimed. "That little old section of picket fence certainly lets me see clearly some things I've tried to picture in my mind for a long time. Can you do anything else with it?"

"Oh, you can perform lots more ex-

periments with a wave machine," Jerry answered. "You can see what happens when you have an abrupt change in impedance in a line, and you can make a mechanical impedance-matching transformer that will cancel this effect. You can study the relation between wave energy and wave amplitude. You can prove to yourself that the speed of waves in an elastic medium is independent of amplitude. But I'm afraid that will have to wait for another evening. I don't like to be a party-pooper, but Carl and I have to spend two or three hours on graphics before we turn out the lights tonight, and I've the feeling we'd better have at it."

The fellows got to their feet and filed out of the room. Jack stopped in the doorway to say, "Thanks a lot, fellows. I must have rocks in my head, but I actually enjoyed your Bell Bull Session. I'm coming back again to ask that quivering Ouija board of yours some more questions about wave behavior."

CARL AND JERRY quickly cleared away the equipment, and then both

boys seated themselves at their respective desks and prepared to study.

"You know I believe the guys really *did* enjoy our little show," Carl said over his shoulder. "I'm glad but a bit surprised. That was dangerously close to studying."

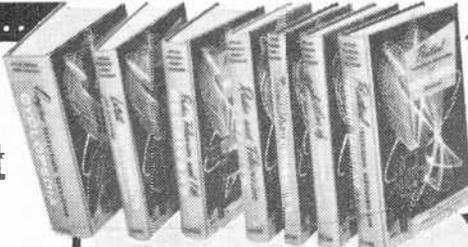
"I think really learning something for sure is pleasurable," Jerry spoke slowly as he opened his book. "It's half-learning that leaves you full of questions and doubts and breaks your back. When you master an idea, when your mind completely wraps itself around the subject and understands it perfectly, all sense of work and effort disappears in a feeling of power and accomplishment."

"Personally, I get a real blast out of knowing that radio and light waves traveling 186,000 miles a second and sound waves traveling a little better than a 1000 feet a second are blood brothers to those waves moving up and down our wave machine. There is something so beautifully simple and *right* about the whole thing."

"I feel the same way," Carl agreed as he turned on his desk lamp. -30-

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VOLTAGE QUIZ ANSWERS

(Quiz appears on page 69)

In each problem, the schematic diagram shown on page 69 must be redrawn for the sake of clarity. The solution to the problem should then become apparent. Remember that each resistor is six ohms.

1 Kirchhoff's law

states that the algebraic sum of the products of the current and resistance in any closed path in a network is equal to the voltages connected in the same path. Setting up two simultaneous equations, we solve for current I_2 , then determine the voltage drop across R_4 which is voltage A :

$$(1) 6 = 6I_1 + 6(I_1 - I_2)$$

$$(2) 0 = 6(I_2 - I_1) + 12I_2$$

Now separate variables I_1 and I_2 :

$$(1) 6 = 12I_1 - 6I_2$$

$$(2) 0 = -6I_1 + 18I_2$$

Divide equation (1) by 2 and add equations

(1) and (2):

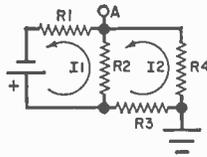
$$3 = 15I_2$$

$$I_2 = 0.2 \text{ ampere}$$

Now solve for voltage A :

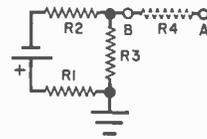
$$E_a = R_4 \times -I_2$$

$$E_a = 6 \times -0.2 = -1.2 \text{ volts}$$

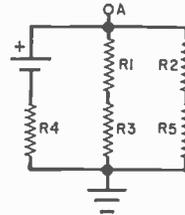


4 Redrawn, the circuit is simplicity itself.

It is easy to determine the current flowing through the loop consisting of the battery, R_1 , R_2 and R_3 ($\frac{1}{3}$ ampere). The voltage at point B is determined by the IR drop across R_3 (-2 volts). Since no current flows through resistor R_4 to point A , both point A and point B are at the same potential: -2 volts.

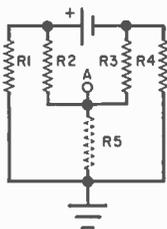


5 A glance at the redrawn circuit suggests that resistors R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_5 be combined mathematically into one resistor (found to be 6 ohms) and, resorting to Ohm's law, the voltage at point A is $+3$ volts.



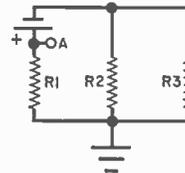
2 The symmetry of the redrawn circuit suggests that voltage A is at ground potential (or 0 volt).

Remove R_5 from the circuit and note that currents flowing through resistor branches R_1 - R_4 and R_2 - R_3 are equal. Hence, the voltages at the midpoint of both branches are equal or point A is at ground potential. Now insert R_5 (which could be any value from zero ohm to infinity). Since point A is at ground potential, no current will flow through R_5 . This can be proved using Kirchhoff's law and setting up three simultaneous equations.

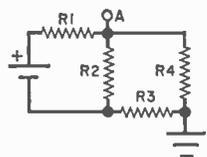


6 The original schematic, impressively complicated in appearance, becomes straightforward when redrawn as above. It is simply a problem of combining resistors R_2 and R_3 mathematically and computing current flow.

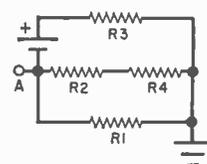
Once done, the voltage drop across R_1 is computed to be $+2$ volts.

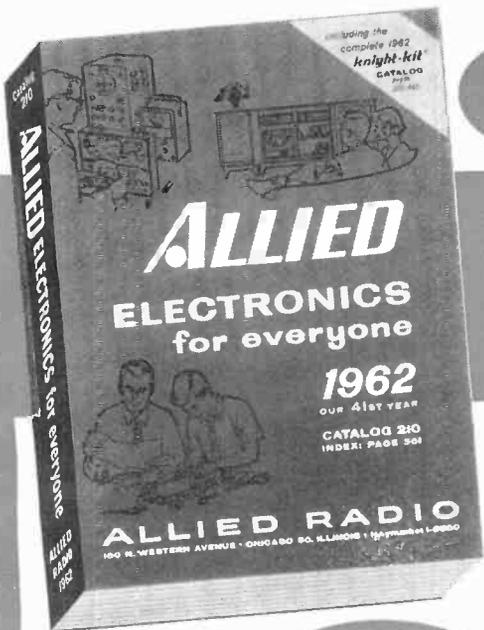


3 The redrawn version of the schematic is identical to the one shown above in Answer 1 except that the battery is connected backwards. So, voltage A is the same as in Answer 1 except for a change in sign, or $+1.2$ volts.



7 Here again it is wise to combine resistors R_1 , R_2 and R_4 mathematically into one resistor and then resort to Ohm's law. The current through R_3 is six-tenths of an ampere. Thus, we find that the voltage drop across the R_1 , R_2 and R_4 resistor combination is $+2.4$ volts.





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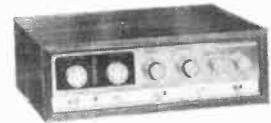
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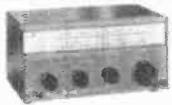


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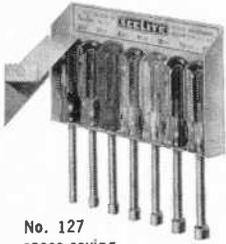
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Ultrasonics

(Continued from page 46)

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An ultrasonic dentist's drill has been tested in the Air Force, and patients report less pain than with conventional drills. Some types of brain surgery—using powerful, tightly focused beams of ultra-sound to destroy pinpoint areas deep within the brain—have also been successful.

One novel use: a slim ultrasonic transducer has been installed in a catheter—a tube that can be inserted deep into our bodies. The transducer is guided until it nudges a gall or kidney stone, then turned on. Like an ultrasonic drill, the minute but fierce ultrasonic pounding painlessly batters the stone to powder so that it can be eliminated with normal body wastes. Up to this time, such stones had to be removed by surgery.

Other Successes. While accounts of current accomplishments of ultrasonics continue to mount, scientists find new applications almost daily. Among recent ones:

- Experiments show that one of the oldest problems of the sea—barnacles on ship bottoms—may be solved by ultrasonics. Give the hull a continuous low-power dose of ultrasonics, and the barnacles find it too uncomfortable to settle down.

- Finer grain films have been made by subjecting the liquid emulsions to a shot of ultra-sound before they harden. The sound breaks the particles of silver halides into even tinier particles. Sharper, clearer pictures are the result.

- One company has perfected a way of using powerful beams of ultrasonic sound to sterilize foods after packaging, doing away with the need for heat or other conventional preserving techniques.

So numerous are the applications of ultrasonics that it's anybody's guess as to what's next. But you can be sure of one thing: even the sky is no limit for the magic of silent sound!

—50—

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3CB6	6AC7
3CF6	6AF4
3CS6	6B8
3LF4	6BA6

6BC5	12A8	25Z5
6BC8	12A05	25Z6
6BD6	12AT6	26
6C4	12AT7	35A5
6C5	12AU6	35B5
6C6	12AU7	35C5
6CB6	12AV6	35L6GT
6CD6G	12AV7	35W4
	12AX4GT	35Y4
	12AX7	35Z5GT
		37
		39/44
	19BG6G	42
	19T8	43
	24A	45
	25AV5	50A5
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Analog Computers

(Continued from page 68)

lems can be performed. The similarity of the dials found in each kit can be seen in Fig. 8.

The Edmund dials include a linear scale plus logarithmic and trigonometric scales, whereas the General Electric dials have in addition "squared" and reciprocal scales. Instruction manuals provided

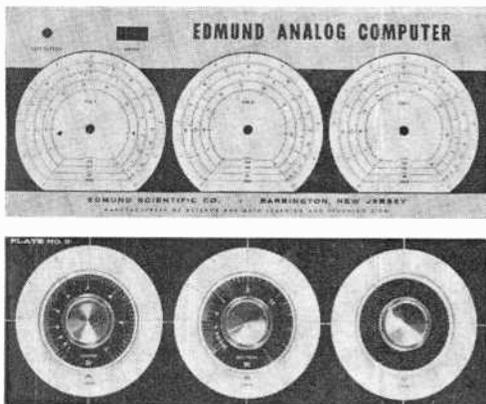


Fig. 8. Dials on Edmund Analog Computer have four scales each, while G.E.'s kit has more but unclutters scales by using removable dial scale plates.

with both kits give detailed instructions on how to use these dials to solve many typical problems closely related to electrical technology and science.

A Fraction of the Field. The "ground floor" introduction to analog computers which you have just read naturally covers but a very small fraction of the total analog computer field. Besides potentiometers, meters, and switches, manufacturers of analog computers also use synchros, two and three-dimensional cams, linkages, gears, and complex electronic circuits to perform the countless specialized functions the human mind may require of a machine.

If you find the subject of analog computers interesting and this ground floor introduction just whets your appetite, you might want to visit your public or school library. Each day, more and more books on this timely subject are being placed on library shelves. Look for them, and be kind to that gent who beat you there—he may be the author of this article!

-30-

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Across the Ham Bands

(Continued from page 75)

don't have the accurate signal generator required to do the job, perhaps you can enlist the aid of a ham who does. Failing in that, your transmitting crystals can be used to spot-check the receiver calibration. With the latter method, though, you can't be sure of the exact band limits—so it's best to stay away from them when using the VFO.

After the VFO is calibrated, turn on the transmitter's final and tune up the rig at about 14,200 kc. (using the 40-meter position of switch *S1* on the VFO). Then adjust the slug in coil *L3* for maximum transmitter output.

Operation. On 80, 40, and 20 meters, your transmitter should work just the same with VFO control as with the crystal. On 10 and 15 meters, however, the VFO output may be a bit low for maximum transmitter output. A *gentle reminder*: a Novice license does not authorize VFO operation.

News and Views

Don Kuykendall, KN5KYG, 1019 Usher St., Ft. Worth 16, Texas, has been applying his educated fist to his key for two months. Twenty-four states—17 confirmed—and Cuba are in his logbook. Forty meters is the band, a Heathkit AT-1 is the transmitter, and a Hallicrafters SX-28 is the receiver. . . . **Stanley E. Goff, KN8BDH**, 624 Summerlee Ave., Oak Hill, W. Va., modestly forgot to tell us how many states he has worked. But he worked them with a home-brew transmitter running 38 watts. Either a Hallicrafters S-53 or a "surplus" BC-454 receiver transfers incoming signals from the antenna to the loudspeaker. . . . **Stan Jaffin, WV2SUY/WA2SUY**, 69-30 198th St., Flushing 65, N. Y., constantly amazes the 2-meter gang in the New York City-Long Island area with the signal his modified Heathkit "Two-er" puts out. No doubt his 10-element Hy-Gain beam antenna helps bend the S-meters. Stan receives on a Hammarlund HQ-140 tickled by an AMECO Nuvisor 2-meter converter. If all goes well, Stan's home-brew 100-watter soon will be carrying WV2SUY/WA2SUY's message even farther.

Winston Jones, KN4CWQ, 125 King St., Apalachia, Va., runs 50 watts to a home-built 1625 transmitter, constructed with the help of W4ZXT. Fifteen states worked on 40 meters his first week on the air prove that the transmitter is operating. A Heathkit AR-3 does the receiving. . . . **Jack O'Connor, KN9BLW**, 1716 Washington St., Manitowoc, Wis., pours 60 watts into his home-brew transmitter on 40 meters. Jack's 28-state total is especially interesting; 26 of the states

were worked on an 8' center-loaded Master mobile whip. While not as effective as the dipole he now has, the whip antenna obviously got out. Jack receives on a Hallcrafters S-40A helped along with a Heathkit QF-1 Q-Multiplier.

Neal McEwen, K5ZJP, Hurst, Texas, worked 33 states as a Novice and has added 13 more as a General. A Sonar SRT-120 transmitter and a Hallcrafters SX-110 receiver share time on a Mosley V-4-6 vertical antenna. Of interest to other owners of 2-dial ham receivers (like the SX-110) who lack 100-kc. crystal calibrators will be Neal's old-but-good method of putting the receiver's bandspread dial on calibration. After setting the bandspread dial to the frequency of one of his transmitter crystals, he carefully adjusts the receiver's main tuning dial until he hears the transmitter oscillator in the receiver. Presto! The bandspread dial's calibration is on the nose for that band. . . . Hear about the \$1400 code practice oscillator? **John, K9QJF**—who is a music teacher—reports that the father of one of his students is teaching the lad the code on a Hammond organ! Wonder which he practices the most—his music or the code?

How about *your* "News and Views," pictures, and suggestions for construction projects for next month? Send all mail to Herb S. Brier, W9EGQ, POPULAR ELECTRONICS, P. O. Box 678, Gary, Indiana. Merry Christmas to all! 73,

Herb, W9EGQ

Short-Wave Report

(Continued from page 81)

The following is a resume of current reports. At time of compilation all reports are as accurate as possible, but stations may change frequency and/or schedule with little or no advance notice. Please send all reports to P. O. Box 254, Haddonfield, N. J., in time to reach us by the eighth of each month, and be sure to sign your WPE call letters. All times shown are Eastern Standard and the 24-hour system is used.

Algeria—R. *Alger*, 9686 kc., is noted at 0200-0230 with Arabic program of native vocals, instruments, talk, and more music; abrupt s/off at 0231. (WPE0AE)

Austria—OEI41, Vienna, 9540 kc., is heard well at 1900-2053 with experimental broadcasts of music, apparently beamed to N. A. Another, lower-powered xmtr comes on at 2055 and continues with music. This is dual to 15,255 kc. (WPE4BC, WPE4FI, Ed.)

Belgium—New frequencies for Brussels to N.A. include 9725 kc. (replacing 15,335 kc.) at 1615-1800 and 9705 kc. (replacing 11,805 kc.) at 1815-2000. The latter may have QRM from ZYZZ24, Brazil. The DX program is still aired on Saturdays at 1930. (WPE1AZL, WPE2FRK, WPE2FUD, WPE3BWM, WPE3BZK, WPE4FI, WPE5AVN, WPE8BBL, WPE8CUS)

Bermuda—DX'ers needing this country



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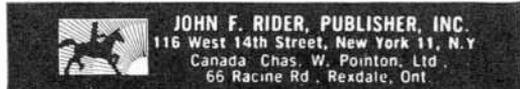
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should try for medium-wave outlet ZBM, Hamilton, 1235 kc.; it is noted at times in eastern areas from 2230 to 0005 s/off. Another outlet is ZFD76, St. Georges, 16,132.5 kc. This one can be heard during early evenings with a test recording, and the QSL is a beautiful color photograph of St. Georges. According to QSL information, the xmtr is rated at 3000 watts, the antenna is a rhombic type, and emission is double sideband. (WPE1BDB, WPE3CHJ, WPE4DMX)

Bolivia—R. Cobija, Cobija, 4483 kc., has moved from 4497 kc. It is heard weakly with a request program at 2029 in Spanish. S/off time is now 2107. R. El Condor, CP15, 6125 kc., La Paz, is tuned from 2220 to 2340 s/off in Spanish; North American DX'ers will have a rough time logging this one for it is barely audible in Brazil! (PY2PE1C)

Chile—R. El Morro, Arica, 6130 kc., was noted with commercials around 2245; some music was heard at times; s/off at 2300; all-Spanish. (PY2PE1C)

R. Soc. Nacional de Agricultura, Santiago, has been noted on 12,000 kc. at 2130-2300 with news, music, and many ID's; all-Spanish. (WPE4DMX)

Congo—Leopoldville was noted on a new frequency of 15,248 kc. and heard well at 1400-1600 (Sundays to 1800) with Home Service relay. (WPE4FI)

Cuba—Havana has moved down to 15,300 kc. where it has been noted at 1200-1400 in Spanish, Eng., and French, with about 40 minutes of each. (WPE2FGX, WPE4BC)

Denmark—Copenhagen operates on 9520 kc. to N.A. at 2030-2130 and 2200-2300 and on 15,165 kc. to S. America at 1730-1830; to the Far East at 0400-0500; to S. Asia at 0930-1030; and to Africa at 1140-1240. They relay the Home Service at 1240-1615, also on 15,165 kc. (WPE1AZL, WPE1BDB, WPE3BIK)

England—London's new schedule to North, South, and Central America, S. E. Asia, India, Pakistan, and Ceylon is as follows: *Special Services* to Canada and USA at 0930-1200 on 17,810 kc. (from 1100 on 15,310 kc.) and to the Caribbean at 1715-1745 on 15,140, 15,070, 12,040, and 11,750 kc.; *Portuguese* to Brazil at 1800-1915 on 11,820 kc. (also to the area south of the Amazon on 15,260 kc.); *Spanish* to S. America (south of the Amazon, excluding Peru) at 1915-2115 on 15,260 and 11,820 kc., and to Central America, South Caribbean areas, and S. America (north of the Amazon, including Peru) at 2015-2115 on 11,820 kc. (to 2215 on 9600 kc., 2115-2215 on 6110 kc.); to Mexico at 2015-2115 on 9600 kc. (to 2215 on 6050 kc.); *General Overseas Service* to S. E. Asia, India, Pakistan, and Ceylon at 1800-1815 and 2045-2115 on 9510 and 7110 kc. and at 1900-1930 on 9690 and 7110 kc.; to Canada, USA, and Mexico at 1615-1715 on 15,375 kc. (to 1915 on 11,780 kc.), at 1630-1930 on 12,095 kc., at 1715-2115 on 9510 kc., and at 1915-2200 on 6195 kc.; to the West Indies, Central America, and S. America (north of the Amazon, including Peru) at 1500-1715 on 17,870 kc. (from 1615 on 15,070 kc., from 1700 on 15,140 and 12,040 kc.), at 1745-1845 on

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15,070 kc. (to 2115 on 12,040 and 11,750 kc.) and at 1800-2200 on 9580 kc.; to S. America (south of the Amazon, excluding Peru) at 1500-1745 on 17,740 kc. (to 2115 on 15,110 kc.), at 1800-2200 on 12,040 kc., and at 1845-2200 on 9510 kc.; to South Georgia at 1715-1930 on 11,860 kc. (WPE3NB, WPE9DN)

Ethiopia—Radio Voice of the Gospel, P. O. Box 654, Addis Ababa, has begun operations with a 1000-watt xmtr using rhombic antennas beamed north-south and east-west. While the new schedule is subject to change upon receipt of new xmtrs from Switzerland in 1962, the present schedule reads: 0800-1000 on 15,315 kc. to S. India and Indonesia;

SHORT-WAVE ABBREVIATIONS

B/C—Broadcasting	QRM—Station interference
Eng.—English	QSL—Verification, verify
ID—Identification	R.—Radio
kc.—Kilocycles	s/off.—Sign-off
kw.—Kilowatts	VOA—Voice of America
L.A.—Latin America	xmsn—Transmission
N.A.—North America	xmtr—Transmitter

1000-1100 on 9540 kc. to the Middle East; 1100-1200 on 9740 kc. to Tanganyika, S. Africa, and Madagascar; 1300-1400 on 11,970 kc. to the Middle East; 1400-1500 on 6140 kc. to Ethiopia; and 1500-1600 on 11,880 kc. to W. Africa. Future plans call for broadcasts in 27 languages. (VE1PE3L, Sweden Calling DX'ers)

Finland—Pori, 15,190 kc., has rescheduled the N.A. xmsn at 0630-0900, replacing the afternoon time used during the summer. (WPE4FI)

Germany—Here is the new and complete schedule for *Deutsche Welle*, Cologne. *Main Program*: 0145-0445 on 21,650, 15,275, 11,795 kc. to Far East; 0445-0745 on 21,705 and 17,815 kc. to Japan; 0745-1045 on 21,730 and 17,875 kc. to Middle East; 1100-1400 on 15,405 and 11,795 kc. to Near East; 1215-1515 on 15,275 and 11,715 kc. to Africa; 1415-1715 on 11,925 and 9605 kc. to West Africa; 1730-2030 on 11,945 and 9735 kc. to South America; 1900-2200 on 9640 and 6100 kc. to Eastern N.A.; 2045-2345 on 9735 and 6145 kc. to Central America; 2200-0100 on 9640 and 6100 kc. to Western N.A. *Second Program*: 0500-0630 on 21,650, 17,845, and 15,405 kc. to Far East; 0300-0430 on 21,735 and 17,815 kc. to Japan; 0845-1015 on 17,815 and 15,275 kc. to Near East; 1030-1200 on 17,815 and 15,275 kc. to Africa; 1230-1400 on 15,285 and 11,905 kc. to West Africa; 1530-1700 on 15,405 and 11,795 kc. to South America; 1515-1845 on 11,795 and 9605 kc. to Eastern N.A.; 1900-2030 on 9605 and 6145 kc. to Central America; 0000-0130 on 9735 and 6145 kc. to Western N.A. (WPE2BDQ, WPE2DPR, WPE4BWM, WPE4FI, WPE5AUU, WPE6BZM, WPE7YB, WPE8DNJ, WPE8MS, WPE9DFK, WPE9DHN, WPE9DN, WPE0BTN)

Guatemala—TGHC, R. Universal, Guatemala City, 6140 kc., is a rarely reported station. Try for it around 0010-0045; pop and marimba music. (WPE2FGX)

Station TGQA, 6110 kc., and TGQB, 11,700 kc., both operate at 0755-2300 (Sundays at

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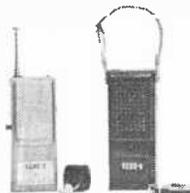
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1255-2100). Reports go to *R. Nacional*, Quezaltenango. They verify with a blue-and-white pennant that has the station call-sign on it. (SM)

After a five-year absence, TGWA, Guatemala City, is back on 9760 kc. at 1900-2300 with marimba music and announcements in Spanish. (WPE4BC, WPE4FI)

India—The Hindi Service, originally thought to be for the West Indies, is actually

SHORT-WAVE CONTRIBUTORS

- Stephen Ray (WPE1AZL), Stoneham, Mass.
- Robert Anderson (WPE1BDB), New Britain, Conn.
- William Gehan (WPE1CWT), Bangor, Maine
- Neil Foster (WPE2BDQ), Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Frederick Jennings (WPE2DPR), Bronx, N. Y.
- David Listort (WPE2FGX), Elmont, N. Y.
- Henry Marbach (WPE2FHU), White Plains, N. Y.
- David R. Markus (WPE2FMR), Depew, N. Y.
- Howard Sinberg (WPE2FKK), New York, N. Y.
- Henry Moore (WPE2FUD), Bronx, N. Y.
- Richard Reynolds (WPE2FYF), Livingston, N. J.
- Charles Craft (WPE3BK), Lansdale, Pa.
- T/Sgt. Dorsey Wood (WPE3BWM), Washington, D. C.
- Robert Reinecker (WPE3BZK), Chester, Pa.
- James Pieklo (WPE3CHJ), Conshohocken, Pa.
- John Wilson (WPE3NB), Wilmington, Del.
- Grady Ferguson (WPE4BC), Charlotte, N. C.
- Mike Vanacore (WPE4BWM), Tampa, Fla.
- Sim Broadfield (WPE4CCO), Rocky Mount, N. C.
- David Pope (WPE4DJN), Crescent Beach, S. C.
- Roger Legge (WPE4FI), McLean, Va.
- Johnnie Adams (WPE5AFU), El Dorado, Ark.
- John Frazier (WPE5AUU), Tyler, Texas
- Chilton Goodale (WPE5AVN), Cleburne, Texas
- Matt Collins (WPE6BZM), Los Angeles, Calif.
- Bill Lund (WPE6CJ), Manhattan Beach, Calif.
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- Robert Kipp (WPE8BBL), Detroit, Mich.
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- Mike Kander (WPE8AIS), Dayton, Ohio
- Thomas Farr (WPE9DFK), Villa Park, Ill.
- Ray Komejda (WPE9DHY), Niles, Ill.
- J. P. Arendt (WPE9DN), Aurora, Ill.
- John Beaver, Sr. (WPE0AE), Pueblo, Colo.
- Terrance Colgan (WPE0AOW), Atchison, Kansas
- Scott Zucker (WPE0BTN), University City, Mo.
- George Buchanan (WPE0VB), Webster Groves, Mo.
- Giacomo Perolo (PY2PEIC), Bauru, Brazil
- Gregg A. Calkin (VE1PE1L), Saint John, N. B.
- Edward Graff (VE2PE1AB), Montreal, Quebec
- Halid Carim (VE3PE1LA), Ottawa, Ontario
- Jorge Faccini (JF), Maracaibo, Venezuela
- Samuel Marsh (SM), Baltimore, Md.
- Shortwave Messenger*, San Diego, Calif.
- Sweden Calling DX'ers, Radio Sweden*, Stockholm, Sweden

for the Fiji Islands and is aired at 0200-0300 on 21,700 and 17,705 kc. (WPE8MS)

Ireland—E. J. Roth, Director of *R. Eireann*, advises that the Irish Army—and not *R. Eireann*—is presently broadcasting to the Congo for Irish Troops on 17,544 kc. at 1100-1110, 1130-1140, 1200-1210, 1230-1240, and 1255-1300. Reports go to Lt. Col. M. Pure, c/o C Barracks, Curragh Training Camp, Dublin. (WPE8CUS, WPE8MS)

Israel—SWL's who like to tune off-beat channels might try for 4XA73 on 13,720 kc. Operated by the Posts, Telephone, Telegraph & Radio Administration, this station is noted irregularly with a test transmission tape. The power is 20 kw., the antenna a rhombic one. Reports go to M. E. Berman, Director of Engineering Services (Radio), 37 Yahuda Hayamit Street, Tel Aviv/Yafo, Israel; QSL

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J. Stalitis, of 25 Poplar Pl., Waterbury, Conn., writes: "I have repaired several sets for my friends, and made money. The "Edu-Kit" paid for itself, I was ready to spend \$240 for a course, but I found your ad and sent for your Kit."

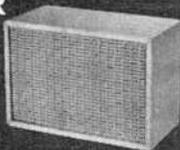
Ben Valerio, P. O. Box 21, Magna, Utah: "The Edu-Kits are wonderful. Here I am sending you the questions and also the answers I have had. I have been in Radio for the last seven years, but like to work with Radio Kits, and like to buy Radio testing equipment. I enjoyed every minute I worked with the different kits; the Signal Tracer works fine. Also like to let you know that I feel proud of becoming a member of your Radio-TV Club."

Robert L. Shuff, 1534 Monroe Ave., Huntington, W. Va.: "Thought I would drop you a few lines to say that I received my Edu-Kit, and was really amazed that such a bargain can be had at such a low price. I have already started repairing radios and phonographs. My friends were really surprised to see me get into the swing of it so quickly. The Trouble-shooting Tester that comes with this kit is really a find and I find no trouble, if there is any to be found."

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by letter, and don't forget to include return postage! (WPE5AFU)

Jamaica—This is another country with no s.w. outlet. Try the medium waves for Galina on 750 kc. at 2100-0000, or Montego Bay, 700 kc., at 2100-0000. These two stations are dual for the most part, with music and news. (WPE4DMX)

Monaco—*Trans-World Radio*, Monte Carlo, has been noted on 11,710 kc. at 1105 with an Eng. ID, then into native language. According to their latest schedule, Eng. is given at 0130-0200 and 1400-1510 daily on 7185 kc. (WPE4BC, WPE8MS)

Peru—*R. Minería del Peru*, a new station, is noted on 6204 kc., all-Spanish, with closing from 0000 to 0015 (later on Saturdays.) Location is unknown; the call may be OAX4U, dual to medium wave outlet OAX4E. They have a request program, with time checks, at 2300. (PY2PEIC)

Portugal—Lisbon operates at 1645-1845 on 12,080 kc. and at 1315-1430 on 6025 kc., both channels being new frequencies, the latter in parallel with 17,895 and 15,380 kc. and in English. The S.E. Asia xmsn in Eng. can be tuned at 0815-0900 on 21,495 kc. (WPE2FHU, WPE2FM R, WPE2FYF, WPE4BWM, WPE4FI, WPE6CKV, VE2PEIAB)

Sudan—Omdurman was heard at 0000 on 9600 kc. in the Home Service with Arabic music, talks, and news. The ID is *Huna Omdurman*. (WPE0AQW)

Sweden—Hörby is operating at 2000-2115 and 2130-2245 with N.A. broadcasts on 9725 kc., replacing 11,805 kc. (WPE1CWT, WPE4FI, WPE6BZM, VE3PE1LA)

Thailand—According to the *World Radio Handbook* and *Radio Australia's DX* program, there is a new station in Thailand with the ID *This is Experimental Station SEATO*. Operating on 6315 kc., the station broadcasts in Eng. and Thai until 1005 s/off. (WPE6CJ, WPE8HF)

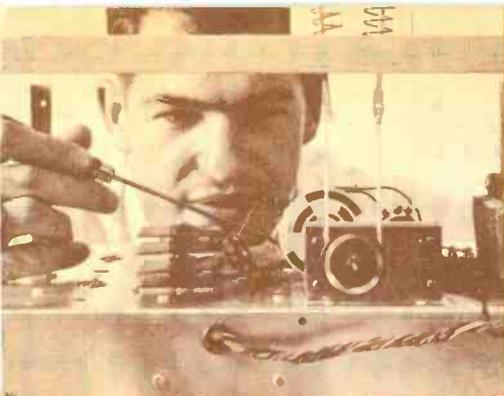
Tunisia—*R. Tunis* is noted on 9635 kc. at 1600-1620 and 2100-2300 in Eng. and around 1720 with Arabic chanting. (WPE2FGX, WPE4CCO, WPE0VE)

United States—A new short-wave station in Puerto Rico is under construction with operation slated to commence late in 1961. Other details are lacking. (*Shortwave Messenger*)

If agreements are reached, the *Voice of America* plans to build a powerful station in Sardinia, and a second one in Turkey. The seaborne station "Courier" will be set ashore in Rhodes. New stations will also be set up in Greece and Cyprus. In December, 1962, the new station in Monrovia, Liberia, will go on the air, and at the same time the Greenville (N. C.) station will begin operations to Latin America. Surveys for a Far East broadcasting center have been made in Australia, Philippines, and Christmas Island. (*Sweden Calling DXers*)

Venezuela—*Radio Clube Venezolano*, Seccional Zulia, Maracaibo, is broadcasting a program over *Radio Popular* (YVMG, 4810 kc., and YVMZ, 9530 kc.) Sundays at 2000. All reports are welcomed and will be verified. Reports go to the address above, c/o Apartado 1019. (JF)

-50-



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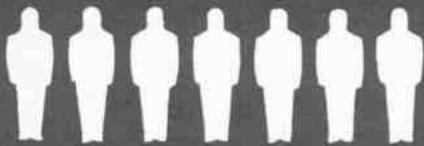
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"I OWE MY SUCCESS TO NRI" says Cecil E. Wallace, Dallas, Texas. He holds a First Class FCC Radio-telephone License and works as a Recording Engineer with KRLD-TV.



MARINE RADIO OPERATOR is the job of E. P. Searcy, Jr., of New Orleans, La. He works for Alcoa Steamship Company, has also worked as a TV transmitter engineer. He says, "I can recommend NRI training very highly."



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The Roof Hopper

(Continued from page 50)

voice comes clearly from the receiver's speaker.

A field strength meter is required to peak the transmitter to maximum output. If you don't have access to one of these gadgets, insert a 0-1 ma. milliammeter and crystal diode at the center of a 27-mc. dipole.

Tune *C1* for a maximum reading on the field strength meter. If this occurs when the capacitor plates are less than 50% meshed, *L1* is too large; remove a quarter turn at a time until maximum output is achieved with *C1* at approximately two-thirds of full capacity. If all of *C1*'s capacity is required, *L1* lacks sufficient inductance and it will be necessary to add a turn or two.

Vary the position of *L4* with respect to *L3*, again trying for the greatest field strength reading. If necessary, retune *C4* to bring *M1*'s reading back to 7 ma.

When you're satisfied that no further increase in field strength can be achieved, install the transmitter on a mast above the roof of your house, and locate the modulator and battery in a convenient operating spot. Standard TV "twin lead" makes a suitable interconnecting cable between the transmitter and modulator. As a precaution against lightning damage, ground the mast and apply an arresstor to the twin lead.

Reception. A transistorized super-regenerative receiver will easily detect the transmitter's signal from at least a mile away. To obtain consistent results over greater distances, however, you will need a more sensitive receiver. Either a communications set of the type used by hams and advanced SWL's or the receiving portion of a CB transceiver will be satisfactory. A less expensive alternative is a CB converter placed ahead of a broadcast receiver.

It's also important to employ a good receiving antenna. Unless you can afford a 27-mc. beam, your best bet is a 17-foot horizontal wire, insulated at the center and connected to the receiver via 72-ohm twin-lead. Stretch the antenna between two tall trees and try to position it broadside to the direction of the sta-

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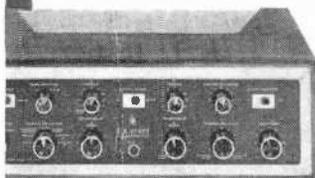
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OF TECHNICIAN _____

Before putting the Roof Hopper on the air, you must have it examined by a competent technician (holder of a first- or second-class radiotelephone license) who can certify that it complies with Part 15 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations. The technician must sign a certificate (such as that above) which must be permanently attached to the transmitter.

tion you're attempting to pick up. A ground plane or other vertical antenna is not recommended.

If you wish to "kill" the output of your receiver while transmitting in order to prevent unpleasant audio feedback, connect modulator terminals *E* and *F* across the speaker voice coil. Then, when *S1B* is thrown to the *Transmit* position, the speaker will be shorted out and no sound will issue from the set.

Operation. A low-power device such as the "Roof Hopper" can only communicate with other unlicensed low-power devices and must not be used to contact CB, amateur, or other licensed stations. Further, no call letters may be employed. And even though a license is not required, this unit is subject to FCC Rule 15.210 which states that "the operator of a low power communication device . . . which causes harmful interference to an authorized radio service, shall promptly stop operating the device until the harmful interference has been eliminated."

Unlicensed transmitters are not required to operate on specific channels. Consequently, you may pick any spot between 26.970 and 27.260 mc., but **NEVER** use a crystal ground for a frequency outside this range!

-30-

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rodes—Pentodes—A.C. Plate Resistance—Transconductance—Amplification Factor—The Pentode Voltage Amplifier—Operating Point—Cathode Bias—Distortion—Beam-Power Vacuum Tubes—Audio Output Stage. **CIRCUIT CONSTRUCTION HINTS.** Checking Components—Fixed Resistors—Capacitors—Transformers and Coils—Vacuum Tubes—Where To Buy—Test Equipment—Vacuum Tube Voltmeter—Oscilloscope—Signal Generators—Tools—Soldering—Chassis Construction—**BASIC VACUUM TUBE CIRCUITS.**

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Best Buys in EL-ED Kits

Continued from page 57)

sets are offered under the brand name "Erect-tronic" and they feature printed layout sheets which show the location of the individual components as well as the wiring used in each project.

There are several "lab-type" kits in the G. E. educational series, including a basic electricity lab (Model EL-20) at \$14.95, a transistor lab (Model EL-10) at \$9.95, and an advanced electronics lab (Model EL-30) at \$39.95. The latter kit permits the assembly of some 40 different projects and experiments.

Multi-project kits are offered by a number of other firms, including *Progressive Edu-Kits Inc.* with its 20-project "Edu-Kit" and *Superex Electronics Corporation*. Superex produces an 18-project kit which features special templates and screw-type connectors, permitting the assembly of any project with only a small screwdriver.

In addition to the national manufacturers who sell through many retail and

mail-order outlets, a number of the larger mail-order electronics distributors offer experimenter's kits under their private brand names. *Lafayette Radio*, for example, distributes a 20-in-1 transistor kit (KT-173) for \$18.95 and a 10-in-1 lab kit (KT-36A) for \$15.50. And *Radio Shack Corporation* offers a 30-in-1 transistor experimenter kit for \$18.95.

Several kits are offered under the "Knight" label by *Allied Radio*, including a 10-circuit transistor lab kit at \$14.95 which features an etched circuit board, a 12-in-1 electronics lab using vacuum tubes at \$15.95, and a new 100-in-1 electronic lab at \$29.95. The last item features an attractive console-like front panel and a peg-board vertical "chassis" for project assembly.

Educational Kits. The kits that emphasize educational and training features do so, generally speaking, without detracting from their play or "fun" value, and the items still have a lot of appeal for both youngsters and adults.

An outstanding entry in this class is G. E.'s new EF-140 analog computer kit (see front cover). Selling for \$29.95, it

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1R5	5AV8	6AQ7	6BG6G	6CG7
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1X2	5U4	6AUSGT	6C17	6C17
2A4	5U8	6AU6	6BN6	6CN7
2B4	5V4G	6AUB	6BQ6GT	6CQ8
2C5	5V6GT	6AVSGT	6BQ7	6CR6
3AL5	5X8	6AV6	6BR8	6CS7
3BC5	5Y3	6AW8	6BS8	6CS7A
3BN6	6AB4	6AX4GT	6BY5G	6CU5
3B76	6AC7	6AX5GT	6BZ5	6G6
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teaches both mathematics and electronics and includes "memory" panels, an indicator, and a three-transistor amplifier.

Utilizing many of the principles found in correspondence school training kits, the "Adventure in Electronics" kit offered by the Conar Instrument Division of the *National Radio Institute* features such projects as a theremin and a metronome as well as more familiar radio receiver, transmitter, and audio amplifier experiments. Conventional construction techniques are employed, giving the builder practical experience that can be used in assembling more advanced kits and magazine projects. The "Adventures in Electronics" kit sells for \$18.50.

Heath has available several more advanced educational kits, starting with a basic test instrument, the EK-1, at \$19.95, and extending to the EK-2A and EK-2B, each at \$19.95 (plus postage). Once the experiments are completed, the latter two kits may be combined to assemble a 6-tube, 2-band superheterodyne receiver.

Finally, the *Science Materials Center* distributes a number of educational kits, including a basic physics laboratory which provides over 100 experiments in electricity, magnetism, and static electricity, and two computer kits—the "Brainiac" K-30 computer circuits laboratory and the "Calculo" analog computer laboratory. —30—

WHO'S WHO IN ELECTRONIC KITS

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General Electric Co., 1001 Broad St., Utica, N.Y.
A. C. Gilbert Co., Erector Square, New Haven 6, Conn.
Heath Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.
Infrared Industries, Inc., Box 42, Waltham 54, Mass.
Lafayette Radio Electronics Corp., 165-08 Liberty Ave., Jamaica 33, N.Y.
Lionel Corp., 15 East 26th St., New York 10, N.Y.
National Radio Institute, 3939 Wisconsin Ave., Washington 16, D.C.
Progressive "Edu-Kits" Inc., 1186 Broadway, Hewlett, N.Y.
Radio Shack Corp., 730 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 17, Mass.
Remco Industries, Inc., 113 North 13th St., Newark 7, N.J.
Science Materials Center, 59 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N.Y.
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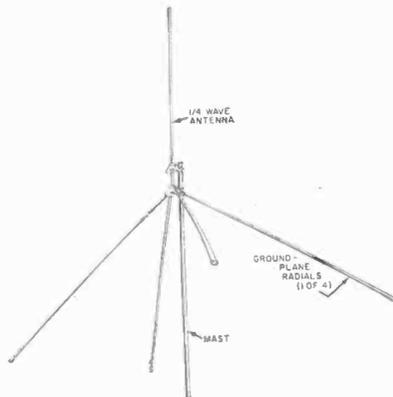
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On the Citizens Band

(Continued from page 64)

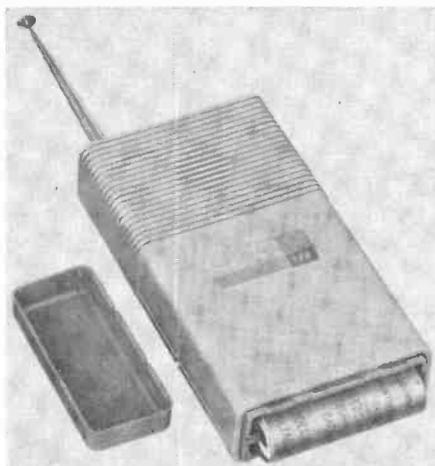
and push-to-talk switch. The Heath people say that it's quite simple to build since all the parts mount on a diagrammed circuit board.

The Antennex Div. of Clear Beam Antenna Corp. has announced a new series of base station CB antennas. The first, Model GP-1, is a ground plane, designed



to match 52-ohm coax accurately, while the CBY-3 is a three-element yagi for "point-to-point" communications (it has a highly directional radiation pattern). Both antennas fall in a price range which will, according to the manufacturer, attract the users of economy transceivers and transceiver kits.

Osborne Electronic Sales Corp. has introduced a "high-powered" all-transistor portable transceiver. Rated at one full watt input, the unit represents quite



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a breakthrough in current transistor transceivers. It weighs in at only 28 ounces, including batteries which have a useful life of up to 18 hours before re-charging is necessary.

CB Book. Now we're in the book reviewing business! John F. Rider Publisher, Inc., has recently released a book by Allen Lytel which is devoted entirely to CB radio. "Citizens Band Radio" is geared for the user, the prospective buyer and the service technician who repairs CB equipment. It's written from a purely practical standpoint, and theory is held to an absolute minimum.

Particular emphasis is placed on the FCC Rules and Regulations, installation of units, antennas, and circuit analyses of certain popular transceivers. At \$3.90, this book represents an excellent investment for the CB'er who is shy on technical knowledge but doesn't want to be burdened with a lot of technical talk.

Club Notes. The Bux-Mont (Pa.) Citizens Radio League recently had Captain Wm. G. Beyer, of the Philadelphia Police Radio Division, speak at one of their meetings. He told how useful radio is in time of emergency, outlined the various procedures followed, and so forth. . . . The Qui-Co Citizens Radio League (Reading, Pa.) reports a recent election of officers. Bob Hoffman, Jr., is president, Charlie Bulp, vice president, and Peg Hoffman was elected secretary-treasurer. . . . The Racine (Wis.) CB Club has been conducting Civil Defense drills Monday evenings on channel 22, with the approval of the FCC and CD authorities. This club is also drafting a CB "code of ethics," which we'll try to present in a future column. . . . The Williamsport Citizens Band Club boasts a member with a Second Class Commercial license, and the club—as a unit—has purchased a frequency meter for crystal checks. A small fee is charged for frequency-measurement tests, and the service is open to non-members as well as members. This is one activity we would like to see more clubs engage in. . . . The Pioneer Valley Five Watters (Holyoke, Mass.) reports that one of its members has designed a CB booster with RCA Nuvistor tubes. Using a cascode arrangement, the booster will add about 10 to 20 miles of reception radius to almost any receiver.

-30-



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Transistor Topics

(Continued from page 80)

and five diodes, it's designed for operation on a standard 12-volt, negative-ground auto system and tunes the entire FM broadcast band (88 to 108 mc.). The converter delivers an output signal at 800 kc., which is then delivered to the car's regular AM radio. It has a sensitivity of 2.5 microvolts for 20-db quieting.

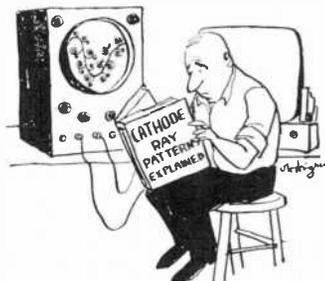
A general-purpose silicon transistor with a 5-watt power dissipation rating and capable of handling up to 40% of the jobs done by most available transistors has been announced by RCA (Semiconductor Div., Somerville, N.J.). Designated as Type 2N2012, it is manufactured using a combination of triple diffusion and planar techniques. According to RCA, this unit represents a significant step towards the development of a "universal" transistor.

Lower Prices. Plagued by limited budgets, most hobbyists try to avoid using the more exotic semiconductor devices. Where possible, they will use germanium "experimenter's" transistors instead of, say, silicon types, even though the latter units have far superior temperature characteristics than the former and much lower leakage.

Until recently, such tactics were justified, since silicon transistors carried price tags in the 12- to 20-dollar range. Now, a major manufacturer (Texas Instruments, Inc., Box 5012, Dallas 22, Texas) has announced a new series of low-cost npn silicon transistors. Unit prices range from \$1.75 to \$5.65.

That's the story for now. Next month, yours truly will be digging out his old crystal ball again . . .

—Lou



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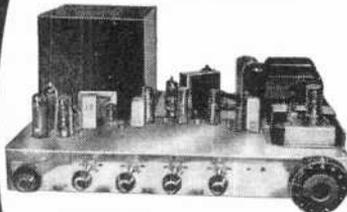
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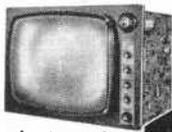
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Receivers	Make		Model	
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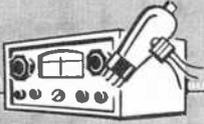
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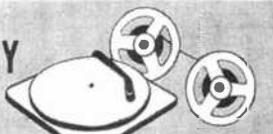
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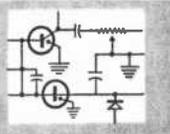
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1S5	.51		6AM8	.78	6KE	.53	12DL8	.85			
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5BR8	.79	6CM7	.66	12AU7	.60	25W4	.68
5CG8	.76	6CN7	.65	12AV6	.41	25Z6	.66
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4CY5	.71	6CS6	.57	12AX7	.63	35B5	.60
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5J6	.68	6CU6	1.08	12B4	.63	35W4	.42
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5T8	.81	6DB5	.69	12BA7	.84	36AM3	.36
5U4	.60	6DB6	.61	12B06	.50	50B5	.60
5U8	.81	6DE6	.58	12BE6	.53	50C5	.53
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5V6	.56	6DK6	.59	12BH7	.77	50L6	.61
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6A84	.46	6E8	.94	12B97	.76	70Z5	.69
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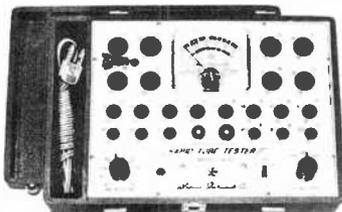
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