Fig. 2

214-286-1673

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THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOBBYIST OF VINTAGE EL ECTRONICS AND SOUND

THEHORN SPEA



PHONOGRAPH CENTENNIAL 1877 - 1977

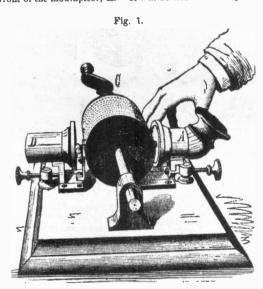
1877, FROM THE

Scientific American.

THE TALKING PHONOGRAPH.

Mr. Thomas A. Edison recently came into this office, placed a little machine on our desk, turned a crank, and the machine inquired as to our health, asked how we liked the phonograph, informed us that it was very well, and bid us a cordial good night. These remarks were not only perfectly audible to ourselves, but to a dozen or more persons gathered around, and they were produced by the aid of no other mechanism than the simple little contrivance explained and illustrated below.

The principle on which the machine operates we recently explained quite fully in announcing the discovery. There is, first, a mouth piece, A, Fig. 1, across the inner orifice of which is a metal diaphragm, and to the center of this diaphragm is attached a point, also of metal. B is a brass cylinder supported on a shaft which is screw-threaded and turns in a nut for a bearing, so that when the cylinder is caused to revolve by the crank, C, it also has a borizontal travel in front of the mouthpiece, A. It will be clear that the point



on the metal diaphragm must, therefore describe a spiral trace over the surface of the cylinder. On the latter is cut a spiral groove of like pitch to that on the shaft, and around the cylinder is attached a strip of tinfoil. When sounds are uttered in the mouthpiece, A, the diaphragm is caused to vibrate and the point thereon is caused to make contacts with the tinfoil at the portion where the latter crosses the spiral groove. Hence, the foil, not being there backed by the solid metal of the cylinder, becomes indented, and these indentations are necessarily an exact record of the sounds which produced them.

It might be said that at this point the machine has already become a complete phonograph or sound writer, but it yet remains to translate the remarks made. It should be remembered that the Marey and Rosapelly, the Scott, or the Barlow apparatus, which we recently described, proceed no further than this. Each has its own system of caligraphy, and after it has inscribed its peculiar sinuous lines it is still necessary to decipher them. Perhaps the best device of this kind ever contrived was the preparation of the buman ear made by Dr. Clarence J. Blake, of Boston, for Professor Bell, the inventor of the telephone. This was simply the ear from an actual subject, suitably mounted and having attached to its drum a straw, which made traces on a blackened rotating The difference in the traces of the sounds uttered in the ear was very clearly shown. Now there is no doubt that by practice, and the aid of a magnifier, it would be possible to read phonetically Mr. Edison's record of dots and dashes. but he saves us that trouble by literally making it read itself The distinction is the same as if, instead of perusing a book ourselves, we drop it into a machine, set the latter in motion. and behold! the voice of the author is heard repeating his own composition.

The reading mechanism is nothing but another diaphragm held in the tube, D, on the opposite side of the machine, and

a point of metal which is held against the tinfoil on the cylinder by a delicate spring. It makes no difference as to the vibrations produced, whether a nail moves over a file or a file moves over a nail, and in the present instance it is the file or indented foil strip which moves, and the metal point is caused to vibrate as it is affec-

ted by the passage of the indentations. The vibrations, however, of this point must be precisely the same as those of the other point which made the indentations, and these vibrations, transmitted to a second membrane, must cause the latter to vibrate similar to the first membrane, and the result is a synthesis of the sounds which, in the beginning, we saw, as it were, analyzed.

In order to exhibit to the reader the writing of the machine which is thus automatically read, we have had a cast of a portion of the indented foil made, and from this the dots and lines in Fig. 2 are printed in of course absolute fac-simile, excepting that they are level instead of being raised above or sunk beneath the surface. This is a part of the sentences, "How do you do?" and "How do you like the phonograph?" It is a little curious that the machine pronounces its own name with especial clearness. The crank handle shown in our perspective illustration of the device does not rightly belong to it, and was attached by Mr. Edison in order to facilitate its exhibition to us.

In order that the machine may be able exactly to reproduce given sounds, it is necessary, first, that these sounds should be analyzed into vibrations, and these registered accurately in the manner described; and second, that their reproduction should be accomplished in the same period of time in which they were made, for evidently this element of time is an important factor in the quality and nature of the tones. A sound which is composed of a certain number of vibrations per second is an octave above a sound which registers only half that number of vibrations in the same period. Consequently if the cylinder be rotated at a given speed while registering certain tones, it is necessary that it should be turned at precisely that same speed while reproducing them, else the tones will be expressed in entirely different notes of the scale, higher or lower than the normal note as the cylinder in turned faster or slower. To attain this result there must be a way of driving the cylinder, while delivering the sound or speaking, at exactly the same rate as it ran while the sounds were being recorded, and this is perhaps best done by well regulated clockwork. It should be understood that the machine illustrated is but an experimental form, and combines in itself two separate devices-the phonograph or recording apparatus, which produces the indented slip, and the receiving or talking contrivance which reads it. Thus in use the first machine would produce a slip, and this would for example be sent by mail clsewhere, together in all cases with information of the velocity of rotation of the cylinder. The recipient would then set the cylinder of his reading apparatus to rotate at precisely the same speed, and in this way he would hear the tones as they were uttered. Differences in velocity of rotation within moderate limits would by no means render the machine's talking indistinguishable, but it would have the curious effect of possibly converting the high-voice of a child into the deep bass of a man, or vice versa.

No matter how familiar a person may be with modern machinery and its wonderful performances, or how clear in his mind the principle underlying this strange device may be, it is impossible to listen to the mechanical speech without deceiving him his experiencing the idea that his senses are We have heard other talking machines. The Faber apparatus for example is a large affair as big as a parlor organ. It has a key board, rubber larynx and lips, and an immense amount of ingenious mechanism which combines to produce something like articulation in a single monotonous organ note. But here is a little affair of a few pieces of metal, set up roughly on an iron stand about a foot square, that talks in such a way, that, even if in its present imperfeet form many words are not clearly distinguishable, there can be no doubt but that the inflections are those of nothing else than the human voice.

We have already pointed out the startling possibility of the voices of the dead being reheard through this device, and there is no doubt but that its capabilities are fully equal to other results just as astonishing. When it becomes possible as it doubtless will, to magnify the sound, the voices of such singers as Parepa and Titiens will not die with them, but will remain as long as the metal in which they may be embodied will last. The witness in court will find his own testimony repeated by machine confronting him on crossexamination-the testator will repeat his last will and testament into the machine so that it will be reproduced in a way that will leave no question as to his devising capacity or sanity. It is already possible by ingenious optical con trivances to throw stereoscopic photographs of people on screens in full view of an audience. Add the talking phonograph to counterfeit their voices, and it would be difficult to carry the illusion of real presence much further.

DECEMBER 22, 1877.

A WONDERFUL INVESTION. - SPEECE CAPABLE OF INDEPURITE REPETITION FROM AUTOMATIC RE-CORDS.

It has been said that Science is never sensational; that it is intellectual not emotional; but certainly nothing that can be conceived would be more likely to create the profoundest of sensations, to arouse the liveliest of human emotions. than once more to hear the familiar voices of the dead. Yet Science now announces that this is possible, and can be done. That the voices of those who departed before the invention of the wonderful apparatus described in the letter given below are for ever stilled is too obvious a truth; but whoever has spoken or whoever may speak into the mouthpiece of the phonograph, and whose words are recorded by it, has the assurance that his speech may be reproduced audibly in his own tones long after he himself has turned to dust. The possibility is simply startling. A strip of indented paper travels through a little machine, the sounds of the latter are magnified, and our great grandchildren or posterity centuries hence hear us as plainly as if we were present. Speech has become, as it were, immortal.

The possibilities of the future are not much more wonderful than those of the present. The orator in Boston speaks, the indented strip of paper is the tangible result; but this travels under a second machine which may connect with the telephone. Not only is the speaker heard now in San Francisco for example, but by passing the strip again under the reproducer he may be heard tomorrow, or next year, or next century. His speech in the first instance is recorded and transmitted simultaneously, and indefinite repetition is

The new invention is purely mechanical—no electricity is involved. It is a simple affair of vibrating plates, thrown into vibration by the human voice. It is crude yet, but the principle has been found, and modifications and improvements are only a matter of time. *So also are its possibilities other than those already noted. Will letter writing be a proceeding of the past? Why not, if by simply talking into a mouthpiece our speech is recorded on paper, and our corondent can by the same paper hear us speak. Are we to have a new kind of books? There is no reason why the orations of our modern Ciceros should not be recorded and detachably bound so that we can run the indented slips through the machine, and in the quiet of our own apartments listen again, and as often as we will, to the eloquent words. Nor are we restricted to spoken words. Music may be crystallized as well. Imagine an opera or an oratorio, sung by the greatest living vocalists, thus recorded, and capable of being repeated as we desire.

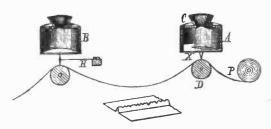
The invention, the credit of which is due to Mr. Thomas A. Edison, should not be confounded with the one referred

to by us in a previous number, and mentioned in our correspondent's letter. That device is illustrated on another page of this issue, and is of much more complicated construction. Mr. Edison has sent us sketches of several modifications and different arrangements of his invention. These we shall probably publish in a future number.

To the Editor of the Scientific American ;

In your journal of November 3, page 273, you made the announcement that Dr. Rosapelly and Professor Marey have succeeded in graphically recording the movements of the lips, of the vail of the palate, and the vibrations of the larynx, and you prophesy that this, among other important results, may lead possibly to the application of electricity for the purpose of transferring these records to distant points by wire.

Was this prophecy an intuition? Not only has it been fulfilled to the letter, but still more marvelous results achieved by Mr. Thomas A. Edison, the renowned electrician, of New Jersey, who has kindly permitted me to make public not only the fact, but the modus operandi. Mr. Edison in the course of a series of extended experiments in the production of his speaking telephone, lately perfected, conceived the highly bold and original idea of recording the human voice upon a strip of paper, from which at any subsequent time it might be automatically re-delivered with all the vocal characteristics of the original speaker accurately reproduced. A speech delivered into the mouthpiece of this apparatus may fifty years hence-long after the original speaker is dead-be reproduced audibly to an audience with sufficient fidelity to make the voice easily recognizable by those who were familiar with the original. As yet the apparatus is crude, but is characterized by that wonderful simplicity which seems to be a trait of all great invention or discovery. The subjoined illustration, although not the



actual design of the apparatus as used by Mr. Edison, will better serve to illustrate and make clear the principle upon which he is operating.

A is a speaking tube provided with a mouthpiece, C-; X is a metallic diaphragm which responds powerfully to the vibrations of the voice. In the center of the diaphragm is secured a small chisel-shaped point. D is a drum revolved by clockwork, and serves to carry forward a continuous fillet of paper, having throughout its length and exactly in the center a raised V-shaped boss, such as would be made by passing a fillet of paper through a Morse register with the lever constantly depressed. The chisel point attached to the diaphragm rests upon the sharp edge of the raised boss. If now the paper be drawn rapidly along, all the movements of the diaphragm will be recorded by the indentation of the chisel point into the delicate boss-it, having no support underneath, is very easily indented; to do this, little or no power is required to operate the chisel. The tones of small amplitude will be recorded by slight indentations, and those of full amplitude by deep ones. This fillet of paper thus receives a record of the vocal vibrations or air waves from the movement of the diaphragm; and if it can be made to contribute the same motion to a second diaphragm, we shall not only see that we have a record of the words, but shall have them re-spoken; and if that second diaphragm he that of the transmitter of a speaking telephone, we shall have the still more marvelous performance of having them re-spoken and transmitted by wire at the same time to a distant point.

The reproductor is very similar to the indenting apparatus, except that a more delicate disphragm is used. The reproductor, B, has attached to its diaphragm a thread which in turn is attached to a hair spring, II, upon the end of which is a V-shaped point resting upon the indentations of the boss. The passage of the indented boss underneath this point causes it to rise and fall with precision, thus contributing to the diaphragm the motion of the original one, and thereby rendering the words again audible. Of course Mr. Edison, at this stage of the invention, finds some difficulty in reproducing the finer articulations, but he quite justified by results obtained, from his first crude efforts, in his prediction that he will have the apparatus in practical operation within a year. He has already applied the principle of his speaking telephone, thereby causing an electro-magnet to operate the indenting diaphragm, and will undoubtedly be able to transmit a speech, made upon the floor of the Senate, from Washington to New York, record the same in New York automatically, and by means of speaking telephones redeliver it in the editorial ear of every newspaper in New York. In view of the practical inventions already contributed by Mr. Edison, is there any one who is prepared to gaineay this prediction? I for one am satisfied it will be fulfilled, and that, too, at an early date.

EDWARD H. JOHNSON, Electrician.

NOVEMBER 17, 1877.

FIND OF THE MONTH

My collection is going fine. About a month ago I found a Crosley Pup with a C.F. Cannon "Baby Grand" crystal set for \$75. The crystal set had the original box. A few weeks ago I picked up a statuette crystal set $9\frac{1}{2}$ " tall made of ceramic or plaster of a young girl with hair like Shirley Temple sitting on a block. The crystal set is mount-

BACK ISSUES The Horn Speaker

All 10 back issues for 1973...\$8.00 Single issues....\$1.00 each All 10 back issues for 1974...\$6.00 Single issue....\$.75 each All 10 back issues for 1975...\$5.00

Later, we should have complete volumes for 1972.

The Horn Speaker

Box 12 Kleberg, Texas

75145

For those who want to learn... ATTENTICE ANTIQUE RADIO COLLECTORS, EXPERIMENTERS, HERE IS OUR NEW HISTORICAL PACKAGE OF REFRINT LITERATURE !!!!!!! VERY RARE BOOKS, MANUALS, AND CATALOGS!!!!! You PACKAGE OF REFRIET LITERATURE SITES IN THE BOOKS, MANUALS, AND CATALOGS SITES Solve all your old time radio problems...save on the long distance phone calls inquiries, letters, and both of our valuable time. These rare books will enable anyone to repair, restore, find out about that unknown 1920-25 Kit radio, build from construction plane (like the old days) crystal sets, the first Marcound wireless sets and stations, one through 10 tube sets, any type of circuits, up to and inclining early mechanical Talevision Sets... se the same procedure a radio design engineer or technican uses: Most large old radio Catalogs list the radio model number and exact part numbers, technical specifications of that unknown or bad transformer...use this dista to secure a modern replacement, plus it is very educationals. If 100 PLAN TO DISPLAY your equipment, the judges will give you more POINTS with supporting LITERATURESSITISTICAL STATEMENT OF THE STATEMENT OF TH 9.

13. DOT THOSE WHO WANT TO TEMPONE.

13. DOT BELLY Match Madel to Super-Biberodyne Instruction and Operations Mannal Conference and Complete Rich Middle 10. Super-Biberodyne Instruction and Operations Mannal Conference and Complete Rich Middle 129855, 257, 518, 55, and 7958 RARE By page with Miller Training and Conference and Conferenc

assessessesses

ed in the back of the block on a bakelite panel. There are four switch points and just a wire going to the crystal, quite crude. The girl—is wearing a Shriners Fez and holding a staff. The only wording is "Baby Jacqueline" on the front face of the block. It is quite unusual! Do you know anything of it Some of the plaster is broken off the end of the staff but the wire reinforcing is there and my sister has ceramics as a hobby and says she can fix it like new and has the correct bronze coloring.

I enjoy "The Horn Speaker" very much. Keep up the good work.

Frank J. Heathcote 616 Barron St.

Logansport, Ind. 46947 Editor...I hope some of our readers know something about it.

Club News

Second Annual Mid Winter swap Meet and Flea Market of Old Radio gear will take place at The Indiana Vocational College, (Ivy Tech) 1315

E. Washington Street Indianapolis (just east of down town on US 40) WHEN-Saturday Feb. 26 at lla.m. Every one asked to bring extras for sale or trade. Plenty of indoor

1931 "CATHEDERALS"

A Compact Superheterodyne Midget Receiver

Description: This is an eight-tube superheterodyne receiver. It utilizes three screen-grid tubes and has a push-pull power output stage with two type -45 tubes. A feature of this set is the pair of extension speaker jacks that will per-



mit the operation of extra speakers beside the receiver speaker contained in the cabinet. No tools or changes in the circuit are required in connecting the extra speakers. Simply plug the speaker cord of the extra reproducer in the extension jack.

Usage: For the reception of broadcast-

ing.

Maker: Silver-Marshall Company. Chi-

Midget Receiver

Description—This model No. 69 superheterodyne midget receiver utilizes eight tubes, which include three -24 screen-grid tubes, two -27 type tubes, two -45 type tubes and one -80 type rectifier tube. It is equipped with a full-range tone control space with convenient space to parking lot off street west of building. Business meeting at lp.m. See you at Indy.

SOUTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO
AND PHONOGRAPH SOCIETY

The Southwest group is really starting to move. Since they have held a successful "meet" in 1976, their membership has grown and they are now getting ready for a set of by laws.

Bob Sullivan, the new president with the new secretary Glen Zook are working with a seven member excutive board to regulate the group in a more precise manner.

John Alford is the new vice president and Sam Canup is the new treasurer. Clarence Johnson was elected to serve on the board with the above and Jim Cranshaw, expresident and Walt Jackson, exsecretary.

LETTERS

Dear Jim:

Some months ago I got a near mint Pilot 3" TV but to my dismay the CRT was dead. After many letters & phone calls, I was able to get Allied Saks & Engineering, Pimento, Indiana 47866 to rebuild the 3KP4. The price of \$70. was rather high but worth it as they did a beautiful job. As a consequence, they have now added this

tube to their regular line. They will rebuild this type as well as most of the other early types so.I appeal to collectors of early TV's to send them an order if we expect them to continue.

Sincerely, Don Patterson Augusta, Georgia 30904

Dear Mr. Cranshaw:

Mr. Morgan McMahon in his Vintage Radio Newsletter, mentioned "The Horn Speaker" as an antique radio publication. I have become quite interested in antique radio/TV collecting & restoration, with about 20 sets in my collection - ranging from a 1924 RCA Radiola III to a 1946 Zenith 8COl dual-band FM/BC radio, plus old parts (Varicouplers, condensers, tubes & horn speakers).

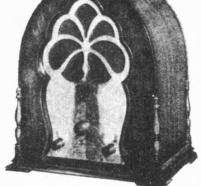
Therefore, I would be most interested in obtaining a sample of your publication, and information as to subscription rates, etc.

Incidently, I do antique radio cabinet & electronics restoration to authentic reproduction quality plus can locate antique sets in the Nebraska, So. Dakota, Iowa and Kansas areas for collectors wishing to buy certain models.

Thank you for your assistance. X
Holly E. Burke
1201 Happy Hollow
Plattsmouth NE 68048
Editor...Always glad to hear from a collector.

highly polished, matched walnut cabinet with a recessed panel of burl walnut houses

frequency amplitude pliodynatro provided with a tinuous (steples riable tone con with the new do



and a Magnavox dynamic speaker. A

the receiver chassis and reproducer.

Maker—Jackson-Bell Company, Los
Angeles, Calif.

Midget Receiver

Description—The new Super Buddy Doy is an eight-tube superheterodyne midget receiver using a pentode tube in



the power output stage, multi-mu tubes in the radio-frequency and intermediatefrequency amplifiers. The oscillator is of the pliodynatron type. The receiver is provided with a dynamic speaker, a continuous (stepless) static control and a variable tone control. It is also equipped with the new development known as the "tennaboard," which eliminates the necessity for both antenna and ground on local and powerful distant stations. The receiver and reproducer are housed in a one-piece moulded cabinet.

Maker—The Crosley Radio Corpora-

Mantel Receiving Set



tion, Cincinnati, O.

Description — A five-tube midget receiver which employs two -24 type screen-grid tubes, one -27 type tube, one -80 type rectifier tube and one of the new type pentode tubes in the power output stage. It is equipped

with a Rola dynamic speaker and a tone control. A walnut cabinet of modern design measuring 18 inches high by 15 inches wide by 9½ inches deep houses the receiver chassis and speaker unit.

Maker—Dubilier Clock Corp., 40 West 17th St., New York.

Midget Receiver

Description—A new model No. 90 Radiette nine-tube superheterodyne receiver offering several features usually encountered only in larger type receivers. It is equipped with push-pull audio amplification using two -45 type tubes, an antenna



pre-selector, local-distance switch, tone control and phonograph connection. It also includes a tandem detector which provides an improvement in tone quality and permits the use of greater volume without overloading. The receiver chassis and speaker unit are encased in a cabinet measuring 19 inches by 14 inches by 10 inches.

Maker—Keller-Fuller Mfg. Co., Ltd., 1573 West Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

1931 was a beautiful year for "cathedral" radios.
These radios are from Radio
News, July 1931. They were part of a trade show at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago in 1931.





by Fred I. Davis May 8, 1937

In a gala celebration that will mark his fifth year on the air, Jack Benny will revive one of seven of his old plays for the enjoyment of the radio audience on May 2. At the time of this writing, the voting by the listeners for the play to be re-presented is as follows;

"3h: Wilderness"......12,304

"Emperor Jones"............9,876 "Why Girls Leave Home"....8,440 "Charlie Chan At Radio City8.052 "Mutiny On The Benny".....6,733 "Code Of The Hills"......6,101 "Way Down East"......5,528

Your next six "Fibber McGee and Molly" shows will come from Hollywood because, during the past week, the famous team and their cast and gagman, Don Quinn, were signed by PARAMOUNT studios for a full-length feature picture. Filming begins on May 3rd on the picture whose working title is "This Way Please." Buddy Rogers and Shirley Ross will supply the love interest and Quinn will collaborate on the story. Jimmy Grier's band is to supplant Ted Weems' music while the radio show is in Hollywood, and for the first 4 weeks of the six, Hugh ("Silly Watson") Studebaker will

SHORT WAVE CRAFT for NOVEMBER, 1935

Front view of 18-tube Midwest "6-band" short-broadcast and long-wave receiver.

THE new 1936 Midwest panel is strikingly different from anything else on the market. Its modern, up-to-the-minute appearance is in harmony with the ad-

18-TUBE Receiver Has Unique Dial and Controls

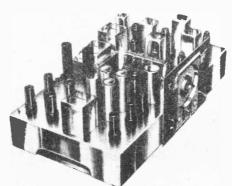
vanced engineering displayed in the radio itself. The engineers have not been satisfied to incorporate only the controls required to operate the radio in the ordinary way. They have insisted that any control which would add to the ease and accuracy in operating this new model must be adopted as standard equipment. The makers have discarded old-fashioned round control knobs in favor of streamlined chromium-plated levers, which not only add to the distinctive beauty but make it easier to handle. At a glance you can tell in what working position they are set. Every control used in the operation of this receiver is on the front panel where they are readily accessible. All adjustments are made with the seven controls on the front panel.

The Line-O-Lite is a thin pencil of light which points out with great accuracy the frequency the set is tuned to. There is no "parallax" in this system of pointers of the clock-hand type. Obviously, this is a fine improvement. Imagine the amount of effort required in keeping your station log accurately if you must always remember to look at the dial from the same position! No matter from what position you look at the dial, the line-o-lite will always read the same true frequency.

The Tun-A-Lite is a very sensitive light

quency.

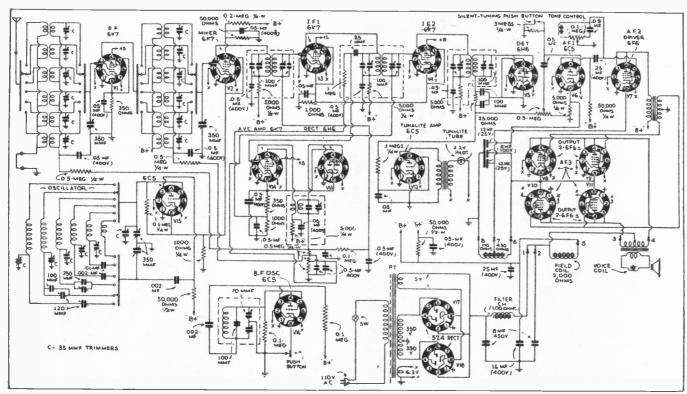
The Tun-A-Lite is a very sensitive light which is bright on either side of a station but which dims when a station is tuned in. It is dimmest when the receiver is tuned to exactly the frequency of the tuned station.



Appearance of chassis with 18 metal tubes. Range 4.5 to 2400 meters.

tion. The tun-a-lite is superior to meter and shadow tuning in three respects: The Tun-A-Lite is centered on the Linc-O-Lite frequency indicator and it moves automatically to which ever band you desire to use. Thus at all times, it is at the exact spot on the dial to which the radio is tuned

Tun-a-lite tuning is very accurate tun-ing because it takes advantage of the sci-entifically determined fact that the human eye is very sensitive to even very small changes in light intensity. The tun-a-lite



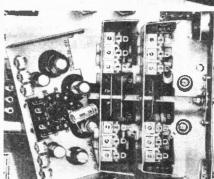
Wiring diagram of 18 tube latest model CC triple wave receiver. eiver. It tunes in short, broadcast and long waves up to 2400 meters! (No. 321.)

is designed so that very strong signals nearly put the light out and even very weak signals dim the light more than enough to be detected by the eye.

Six Bands—This receiver offers you a choice of six different bands, which cover completely without any gaps the tremendous range of frequencies from 125 kilocycles to 67 megacycles (i.e., 125,000 cycles to 67,000,000 cycles). The bands are lettered E—European Broadcast Band, A—American Broadcast, L—Low Frequency Short Wave Band, M—Medium Frequency Short Wave Band, H—High Frequency Short Wave Band, U—Ultra High Frequency Short Wave Band, The "Five Meter Amateurs" are found on the U Band.

The new triple calibrated dial takes the guesswork out of tuning! It assures easy, accurate, and rapid location of all stations. All six bands are calibrated clearly and to a large scale by Frequency. All six bands





Close-up of dial and controls, Below -View of band-changing switches.

are calibrated by groups, to avoid wasting time looking for stations in the wrong place. All short wave bands are calibrated in wavelength in meters because many stations still give their location by wavelength, instead of frequency. Hence, you do not have to remember the mathematical rela-

have to remember the mathematical relation between frequency and wavelength and interpolate from one to another.

Never are you in doubt about what band you are on because there are two band indicators. For your convenience, one is on the frequency calibrated part of the dial, and the other is on the meter calibrated part

Ninety-eight call letters of the most now erful stations in the United States, Canada, and Mexico are illuminated on the meter calibrated part of the dial, when you are using the American Broadcast Band (A band). Turn the dial until the Call Letter Indicator points to a station you wish to hear—and in it comes!

Moving to whichever band you select, this indicator shows what wavelength the receiver is on. On the American Broadcast band it shows you what station your cat is hydroging in set is bringing in.

There is a combined switch and volume

There is a combined switch and volume control, because the first two operations in tuning a radio are turning on the switch and adjusting the volume control. The volume can be adjusted to any desired value and yet the tone will remain perfect.

Tone Control: The unique tone control is especially designed so as to have no stops (i.e., it can be turned completely around as many times as desired). This feature adds much to the ease with which this control can be handled. Its wide range makes it possible for you to find the tone which suits your every mood.

The Six-Band Selector on the new Midwest receiver is noiscless and positive in op-

west receiver is noiscless and positive in op-eration. It automatically moves the Tun-A-Lite and both Band Indicators to which-

A-Lite and both Band Indicators to which-ever band is selected.

Silent Tuning Push-Button Control: A
new and very helpful tuning aid adopted
this year is the Silent Tuning Push-Buttor
Control. Push this button and instantly
the receiver becomes silent. Thus, phone
calls may be received, conversation carried
on or approximation approximated on or annoying announcements eliminated without disturbing any other adjustments of the receiver. Removing the pressure on the push-button will immediately restore your program at its previous volume and tone conditions. All noise may be avoided when tuning from one station to another by pushing this button. RADIO NEWS FOR JULY, 1931

Backstage in Broadcasting

Chatty bits of news on what is happening before the microphone. Personal interviews with broadcast artists and executives. Trends and developments of studio technique

TERMED "an experiment to awaken a desire for self-expression in music," the National Broadcasting Company has launched a unique series of semi-weekly programs to promote the study of piano playing. Sigmund Spaeth and Osbourne McConathy, prominent authors and lecturers on music, are conducting the programs. Mr. Spaeth directs the Saturday "Keys to Happiness" periods, while Mr. McConathy supervises the Tuesday "Music in the Air" programs.

The programs are neither "sponsored" nor "sustaining." A network representa-

tive tells us they come under the classification of "institutional." The broadcasts are offered free of all charges to associated stations, the NBC paying the wire-line tolls. In the case of "sustaining" programs, the member stations pay these



Sigmund Spaeth

The Radio Music Company, a network subsidiary, is prominently identified with the series and had published, for free distribution to listeners, charts bearing keyboard diagrams and specimen music bars to supplement the received programs. Requests for 55,000 charts reached the chain's offices within a few weeks. The charts are designed to fit into the slot behind the piano keyboard to facilitate the instructions of the invisible radio tutor.

Special emphasis has been placed by network officials on the fact that the series is not a "course," but merely a group of programs to prove the ease of learning to play. All applicants for charts are strongly urged to continue their piano studies under the guidance of a personal instructor. As a gesture of good will to music teachers, the network recently invited 600 piano instructors of the New York area to the Times Square studio for one of the Tuesday broadcasts. In addition to witnessing the microphone presentation, the assemblage was addressed by Merlin H. Aylesworth, president of the NBC.

A BROADCASTING executive recently remarked to us that all of the smashhits in radio were men. There have always been many female broadcasters who maintained high standards of popularity, but we must agree that no artist of the fairer sex ever approached the marks set



By

Samuel Kaufman

by Amos 'n' Andy, Floyd Gibbons and Rudy Vallee. Now, a National Broadcasting Company spokesman whispers in our ear that his network has realized this situation and is endeavoring to introduce new female artists on featured program spots.

Among the female headliners recently added to the NBC schedule are the Boswell Sisters—three of 'em—namely,



The Boswell Sisters

Martha, Connie and Vet. A network scout spotted the trio of Louisiana belles on a movie lot in Hollywood. After a brief tryout on a San Francisco station, the sizzlin', jazzin', harmonizin' sisters were dispatched to New York and network stardom. They arrived in New York in February and in two months their fan mail equaled that of stars of much longer standing. When we interviewed the girls in their own studio, we were surprised to find that they play every instrument used in a dance orchestra. Connie expects to conduct her own orchestra on the air in the near future. They compose music and frequently arrange their own orchestrations for radio programs and phono-

graph recordings. Their greatest pleasure in facing the microphone is the knowledge that Pa Boswell, down in New Orleans. is listening to them.

DALE WIMBROW, the Columbia Broadcasting System's veteran songster and ukulele player, has designed a sixstring ukulele recently put on the market. We ran into Dale in the WABC studios and he serenaded us with his new instrument. Dale tells us that he's not any longer publishing all the songs he composes for his programs. "While comedy and novelty songs may click far and wide on the radio," Dale remarks, "there is a limited demand for published copies." Dale carries a ledger-size scrap-book containing a complete record of his radio career. Ask him a question, and he thumbs the pages until he reaches the spot revealing the answer.

BEING in the vicinity of the Columbia studios one recent Wednesday evening, we decided to pay a visit to Miss Evangeline Adams during her astrological broadcast. We expected to find Miss Adams in the small studio usually designated for

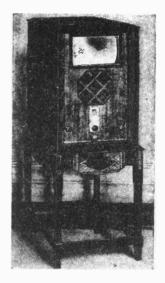
speakers and were somewhat surprised to be conducted into the largest of the chain's seven studios. Here were assembled the members of a sizable orchestra for the purpose of playing a musical prelude and finale to the program. Miss Adams, herself, sat at a desk and spoke into a cylindrical microphone lowered from the ceiling by a pulley arrangement. Miss Adams' thrice weekly program makes her the recipient of thousands of fan letters following each broadcast. The noted astrologer attributes her long study of the Zodiac to her scholastic love for mathematics, history and philosophy. She saw astrology as a field that included all of the subjects she favored, she said.

STARTING at the top and proceeding downward would not readily indicate progress. Yet in the instance of the Columbia Broadcasting System it reflects rapid growth and expansion. When the chain's headquarters were moved into the CBS structure on Madison Avenue, they occupied some of the tower floors. When additional space was needed, expansion to

AT THE '31 CHICAGO TRADE SHOW

Standard Television Receiver

Description—A new television console for the regular home reproduction of television pictures. It includes a short-wave television receiver, which can also be used to pick up short-wave broadcast programs for reproduction through the loud speaker which is a part of the console. The televisor portion of this set employs



a neon tube with a plate 2 by 21% inches, and a wide angle, especially corrected lens system which provides pictures 8 by 10 inches in size. The set is marketed complete for operation from a.c. lines.

Maker—Short Wave & Television Corporation, 70 Brookline Ave., Boston, Mass.

RADIO NEWS FOR JULY, 1931

the lower floors was necessary. The network's rapid growth and enlarged personnel demanded so much additional space that some departments have already been transferred to larger quarters as many as three and four times. Expansion is so speedy and transfers so frequent that it is quite essential to consult the directory board in the main corridor to ascertain whether or not the department you are seeking is still on the same floor as upon your previous visit.

THE return to the air of Norman Sweetser on the occasion of Rudy Vallee's recent personal appearance tour brought about numerous queries as to where the veteran N. B. C. announcer had been for the past year. Although he was



not on the air, Sweetser occupied an important executive network assignment to which he returned at the conclusion of the Vallee tour. Sweetser has been manager of the Times Square studio of . since its inception in the Spring of 1930. It is from this site that the Collier's, Camel, Clicquot Club and General Electric Hours are regularly heard. The site was previously known as the Frolic Theatre and is located in the heart of New York's amusement center. The auditorium accommodates 600 visitors and there has rarely been an empty seat during the presentation of any program behind the huge glass curtain separating the onlookers from the stage-

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The Murdock Company aptly called itself the "Standard since 1904"... a very early start. If you start an early wireless collection you will frequently see the name Murdock on earphones, loose couplers, varilable condensors, detectors, etc. Most collectors "covet" the Murdock one kilowatt spark transmitter, a beautiful item, deserving the choice spot of any collection.

Anyway a 1925 battery set carrying the name Murdock commands attention.

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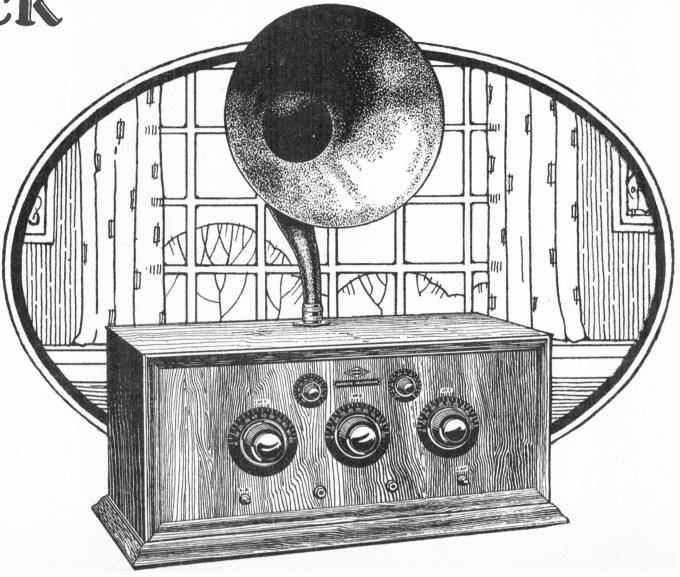
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Deadline: 15th of the preceding month.

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PROFESSIONAL-CW operators, retired or active, commercial, military, Gov't, police, etc., invited to join Society of Wireless Pioneers, W7GAQ/6, Box 530, Santa Rosa CA 95402.

"RADIO AGE," a radio magazine devoted to wireless and early broadcast eras. Contains interesting articles written by collectors, articles published in early radio magazines, lots of reprints of famous radio ads, and a classified section for buying or selling radio and electronic items. Subscribe at \$7.50 per year for ten issues.

Mail check or money order to Radio Age, 1220 Meigs Street, Augusta, Georgia 30904.

FOR SALE OR TRADE

FOR SALE: The Collins Wireless Bulletin 1909 \$50. Full year of 1909 in hard cover-old brass xtal detector holder \$25. Grebe 2 stage AF amplifier type Rork serial No. 1265 \$125. CD Tuska one tube regen. \$135. AK 90 Cathedral \$100. AK cabinet for model 20 compact 025. AK 2 stage type TA AF pod \$50. Wet cell round glass containers 5/425. Philco 71 Cathedral \$75. Old TV picture magnifier \$35. Jefferson tube rejuvenator OK \$25. Unusual old speakers. Dictagrande looks like cash register, wood with horizontally folded paper cone \$75. Belophonic round wood with side pillars set on mantel \$100. Utah brown plastic two piece resembles mushroom 50. Victor type E Talking Machine 250, beautiful oak with nice outside brass horn. Stephen C. Sideroff, Route 1, Box 47, Marlboro N.J. 07746.

FOR SALE: Philco wireless dialtype station tuner with type 30 tube nice - Drakes Radio Cyclopedia 2nd edition 1928, OK condition \$50. 1917 Valley Battery charger, OK condition charges 1 to 4 6V batteries \$75.00. June 1928 Radio News Dealers personal edition, OK condition \$20.00. Eight 1929 Radio News 540.00, nice 1927 Radio News Amateurs handbook, nice but loose cover \$15. Add sufficient postage. SASE please. MO or cash only. Steve Sideroff, Route 1, Dutch Lane Rd., Marlboro NJ 07746. Phone 201-462-7987.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL! Supertone "Super-Audible-Heterodyne", by Buckwalter Radio Corporation, Chicago, circa 1925. Similiar model featured in OTB, 17-3, page 19. One audio open, cabinet needs work. All 8 tubes are good. Unusual "printed circuit" wiring. Wish to work up a deal for AK board, Magnavox TRF-series, Scott, or ????. Cash difference, up or down. Polaroid available. Greg Dockter, 2519 Ave. C, Bismarck, N. Dak. 58501 (701) 223-0421.

BIANK BAKETITE STOCK cut to size, 1/8" to 1/2" thick. Fabricating and engraving services available. SASE for pricing sheet.
Norman A. Parsons, 22 Forest St., Branford CT 06405, Phone: 203 488-4267.

FOR SAIE: Sams Photofacts 1946-1954 set 1-80 in original envelopes, 81-230 bound, approx. 300 pounds, excellent condition \$200. plus shipping. Roger Schmitt, 114 Charles St., Michigan City, Ind. 46360.

TUBES, Radio magazines, Rider Manuals, Battery Radios back to 1920. Send SASE for your wants. Louis C. King, Route 4, Box 575, Seaford, Del, 19973.

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FOR SALE: Radios, tubes, speakers, parts, books, magazines and test equipment. Ask for list R-1-77, 50¢ & large SASE.
Krantz,100 Osage Ave., Somerdale N.J. 08083.

FOR SAIE: A-K 37, AC model, restored and complete with tubes, \$45.00.

Matching Type E speaker, \$25.00.

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FOR SALE: Solid-State power supply provides most needed "A", "B" and "C" voltages. Send SASE for special sheet. G. B. Schneider, 6848 Commonwealth, Parma Hgts, Ohio 44130.

WDll Adaptors, use UX199, 120 VT24. No wiring changes, Radiola III's battery hook-up included \$5.25 pp., 2 for \$9.25. Keith Parry, 17557 Horace St., Granada Hills CA 91344.

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SEND \$1.00 for the newly published booklet "A Pocket Guide to Antique Radio Collecting." Antique Radio Press, Box 42, Rossville IN 46065.

FOR SAIE: WD & 99 TUBES X99/20-\$5. V99/20-\$7. WDll-R-\$10. Send SASE for details. Hanson, 3h03 E. Broadway, Long Beach CA 90803.

WANTED

NEED audio transformer for a Crosley model 52 or reasonable substitute. Contact; Ed Doughty, 3865 N. Thomas, Freeland, Mich. 48623.

WANTED: Crosley 50 - Crosley 51-A two stage amplifier - Radiola Receiver crystal set. Aeriola 2 tube amplifier. Radiola 1 type ER-753A. Will buy or trade for these sets. Andy Anderson, 151 Nooks Hill Rd., Cromwell, Conn. 06h16.

WANTED: Pre-1930 radio, electrical, telephone, telegraph sets, parts, books, magazines, catalogs, service manuals, schematics etc.

Bill Nangle, 761 No. 29th St.,

Milwaukee, Wis., 53208.

WANTED: Any radio fan magazines.
Also, any radio magazine with commercial broadcast or star information. Examples - "Radio Guide,"
"Radio Stars," "Radio-TV Mirror,"
etc. Also Photoplay magazines. One or a hundred. Fred L. Davis, \$106
Skippy Street, Memphis, Tenn. 38116.

WANTED: AF 55 AC central tuning control with knob. Grid caps, collar and top caps. Any best suggestions for restoring tube shields metal to original look?
Darcy Brownrigg, Chelsea, Quebect JOX INO, CANADA.

WANTED: Radio phonos with magnetic pickup, Electrola 8-60. T. Grattelo, 2818 Central Ave., Alameda CA 94501.

WANTED: A.K. 33 three audio transformers, two interstage, one output. Cast-iron peg holder, forms for coil winder.
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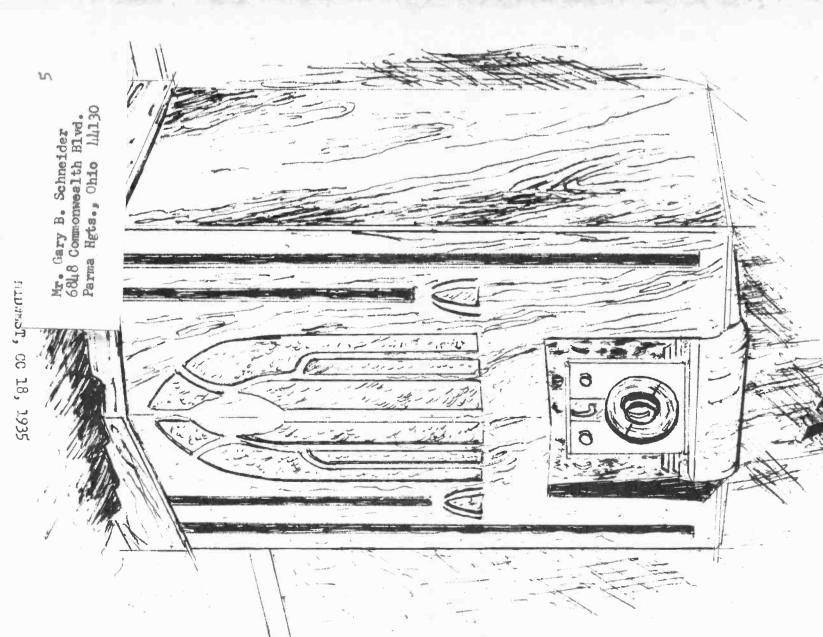
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