

VOL. 6  
NO. 6



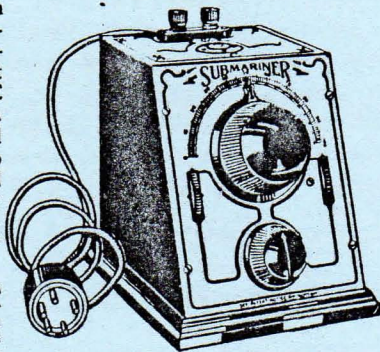
JUNE  
1980

# CALL LETTERS

## SHORT WAVE With Your Present Receiver

Experience reception on short waves, by attaching a "Submariner" to your present receiver, whether AC or DC. There is a model for every need and requires no changes of any kind to your receiver. Only a few seconds is required to attach or detach.

Users of "Submariners" in U. S. hear England, Holland, Germany, Australia and many other distant countries broadcasting. In addition to hearing broadcasting from these far countries, thousands of code messages have been received from every part of the world.



## THE SUBMARINER

has been sold in all parts of the world since 1926 and is not only the pioneer, but its many improvements enable every set owner to secure as efficient results as the best short wave receiver could give, with only a fraction of its cost. The "J" feature, an exclusive "Submariner" achievement, gives five times greater volume than any other adapter. Prices, AC or DC, are: Fixed wave band, 16-32 meters, \$17.50. Fixed wave band, 16-32 meters, "J" feature, \$22.50. Interchangeable coil model, 12-160 meters, \$22.50. "J" feature and interchangeable coil, 12-160 meters, \$27.50.

*Will be sent prepaid on receipt of price, or C.O.D. if \$1.00 accompanies order. Dealers and Jobbers write for sales proposition*

**J-M-P MFG. CO., INC.**

3432 Fond du Lac Avenue

Milwaukee, Wis.

**\*\* IMPORTANT \*\***

Craig Hoaglin has arraigned a very special event for our June meeting. He has asked Bob Lindahl to talk to us about assessing and evaluating old radios at the time of purchase. Mr. Lindahl has agreed to give this presentation at the sacrifice of another personal engagement. The primary qualification that Mr. Lindahl brings with him for this presentation is that he was a Line Repairman of old radios back in the 30's. He carries with him a long list of personal accomplishments.

Let's honor Mr. Lindahl with a good turnout on June 14. Bring lots of questions with you.

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the state of Oregon. Meetings of the Society are held on the second Saturday of each month, normally, at the Buena Vista clubhouse located at 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon. Meetings convene at 10 o'clock A.M.

.. ..  
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.. ..  
Call Letter Address: P.O. Box 02379,  
Portland, Oregon, 97202

# POWER SUPPLY

By  
Bobbie  
Kibler

The Community Club Awards "Pay Off Party" was held on April 28 with Chairman Virginia Ranken and Dorothy James attending. The attendance was the largest yet, and Portland had the largest turn-in of all the 218 markets across the U. S.

Hats were the theme again this year, and prizes were awarded for the most beautiful, comical, etc. Door prizes were given, and Virginia won one of these consisting of two Reser's salads and a dip.

The greatest surprise came when Virginia was called up on stage to receive a check for \$105.00 for the Buena Vista Club's participation in the CCA.

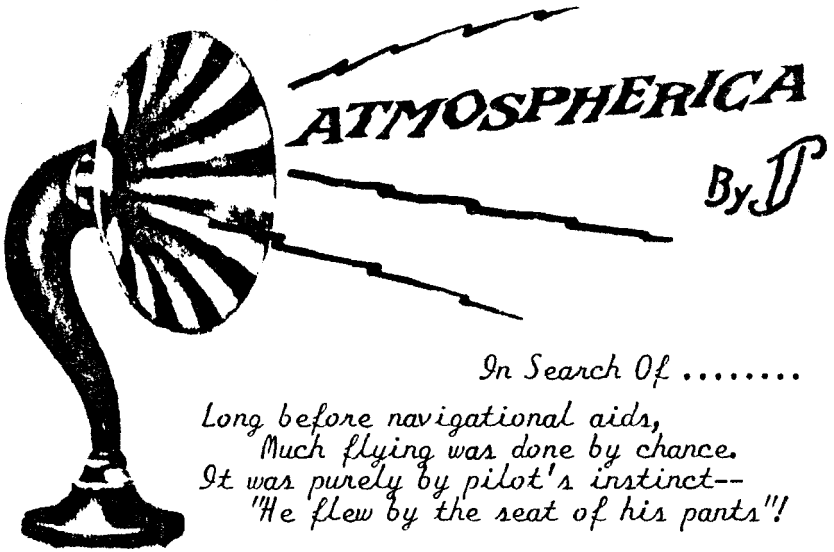
Thought I'd include this month some spring housecleaning tips published back in 1918 in Calumet Baking Powder Company's Reliable Recipes.

To Freshen Carpets--Before sweeping, scatter dry salt over the carpet. It brightens the colors and checks the ravages of moths.

To Protect Carpets from Moths--Apply gasoline freely to the carpet by means of a sponge, brush, atomizer or sprinkler. (a good way for a big fire)

To clean Mica in stoves, wash with vinegar and water.

To clean drain pipes, dissolve copperas and lye often in your drain pipes to clean them out and disinfect them.



In Search Of .....

Long before navigational aids,  
Much flying was done by chance.  
It was purely by pilot's instinct--  
"He flew by the seat of his pants"!

I suspect there's a parallel here,  
When in quest of good antique sets.  
Every Tom, Dick, and Harry inquire  
The direction of the choicest "bets".

I've an answer for every one,  
If you wish your luck to enhance,  
Work hard, look sharp, and then---  
"Just fly by the seat of your pants!"

\*\* \*\* \*

There's No Fool Like..

There was an old gaffer from Taft  
Who everyone thot was half daft.  
He was offered ten bucks  
For a Crosley Deluxe----  
And the nit-wit just stood there and laughed!  
\*\* \*\* \*

Mama Goose no. 6

Georgie Porgie, puddin' and pie,  
Tuned the Tada--- began to cry.  
What the Devil ails the kid?  
Daddy's got the batteries hid!

that's all kiddies, good nite!

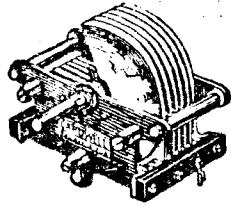
# Cardwell Condensers



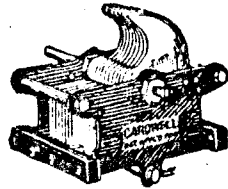
The Great Wall  
of China  
Built 3rd Century B.C.

**D**YNASTIES have come and gone. New peoples, new races, new civilizations have flourished and fallen. Through it all for over 2,000 years this great wall has nobly withstood assaults of man and the elements. So stands the Cardwell Condenser — ideals of strength, efficiency, craftsmanship.

The Taper Plate Type "E"



Type "C" for more long wave separation



### PRICES:

192E	.0005	\$5.00	173-C
169E	.00035	\$4.75	171-C
168E	.00025	\$4.25	170-C
167E	.00015	\$4.00	168-C

**The Allen D. Cardwell  
Manufacturing Corp.**  
81 Prospect Street - Brooklyn, N. Y.

**"THE STANDARD OF COMPARISON"**

W. GORHAM

# OUR PEOPLE

by HUGH RANKIN

Several members brought out some rare and interesting old time equipment and tubes for our May 10th meeting.

Joe Tompkins displayed some very old equipment which had been given him by a friend in Independence. His friend, now in his eighties, told Joe that when he was a boy his Father had used these parts in a workable set. I suppose back then it was referred to as a "wireless". Some of the parts are labeled "E.I. Co. - sold by Duck Co." and some are so old as to be almost unidentifiable. Joe also showed a 3 tube set by Tri City Electric Supply, which he got at an auction. It's in fine condition and uses spider web coils. He also had some old Forest Service gear, type SX radio phone.

Art Redman recently acquired a Steinite electric, Model AC which he had on display. Has 5 tubes and a rectifier tube. It is in excellent condition and Art says it required no restoration and worked fine right from the start. This is a fine compact set (for the times) with all components self contained in one table model cabinet.

A letter received from Mark Moore confirmed August 9th as the date for our meeting and picnic at Trolley Car Park. Admission charges are \$2.00 for adults, \$1.50 for children and seniors or a \$5.00 family charge.

On May 25 the personal Packard town car of Atwater Kent was scheduled to be offered at auction in Newport Beach, California. This is reputedly one of the most fabulous Packards of the classic era. Ordered in

1919 and built by Fleetwood, it was delivered in 1920 and embodied many advance styling ideas. It is a twin six, built on a 145 inch wheelbase, 9 inches longer than standard. The hood too, was longer and higher. It is a formal town car styling with open drivers compartment and a padded landau rear quarter top that could be lowered if desired. It is equipped with Westinghouse air shocks and the bumpers are round bars of rubber covered solid steel (betcha they would pass the 5 MPH test). It sported big drum headlamps and disc wheels, new ideas later incorporated in production line Packards. The car has never been restored but is in such excellent original condition that it is, even now, classed in the high 90 point range, a tribute to the superb care it received during its sixty year life. It must have been an impressive sight around the Philadelphia area with its liveried chauffeur and footman. This is only the second time that it has been offered for sale. Four years ago a Californian bought it at auction and apparently had considerable trouble getting it out of Philadelphia. Evidently Philadelphians looked upon it as a sort of civic monument and took a dim view of its leaving the city. I have no information on the auction, or what reserve was placed on the car, or if it even found a buyer. If it sold, my guess is that it would go for a very high five or even a six figure amount.

Our next meeting, June 14, will focus on odd brands of radio. Let's have a good turn-out ... bring out those sets with the long forgotten names and see who can come up with the "oddest".



# *Bits and Pieces*

Here is a little story which will be of interest to every reader of this magazine. I give it to you the way it was related to me:

Not so long ago a certain household called up the Service Department of the Telephone Company complaining that very frequently their phone went dead. Whenever this happened no outgoing calls could be made nor could incoming calls be received.

The woman of the household reported this a number of times. The 'phone company promptly sent over a serviceman. He took the telephone instrument apart, checked the ringer box, but could find nothing wrong.

It appears that the trouble occurred only in the evening - never during the day. Several other servicemen investigated the case, but the subscriber continued to complain until the case began to be a nuisance at the central 'phone office.

The record indicated that no less than four servicemen had gone to the subscriber, that everything had been checked carefully, yet the 'phone continued to go dead in the evening.

Finally one of the best troubleshooters was assigned to the case. After he had studied the complaint records he decided to make his call in the evening to ascertain the cause of the trouble. At the subscriber's home instead of looking at the 'phone instrument itself - which he knew was O.K. because the instrument had been checked several times already - he proceeded to make a careful inspection of the wiring.

He traced the line from the incoming house shaft through the hall to the apartment entrance of the subscriber, then followed each foot of wire through the hall and living room. Next he noted that the wire went into a room the door of which was closed.



He asked the lady of the household if he could enter the room. She assented providing he would make no noise, because her husband was asleep on the couch. The telephone man promised this and noiselessly kept on tracing the wire. Inside the den the wire ran alongside the door frame. About five feet from the floor the troubleshooter was amazed to find a pin which had been stuck into the phone line, thereby neatly shortcircuiting the wires! He removed the pin, tiptoed out of the room, dialed and got the operator.

He then turned to the lady of the house and smilingly told her that the cause of the trouble had finally been located: Someone in the household, he emphasized meaningly, evidently had a reason for shortcircuiting the line every night at a certain time. He then departed.

Verbal fireworks immediately flared. The outraged wife promptly awoke her husband and asked the reason for shortcircuiting the phone at night. The explanation was simple:

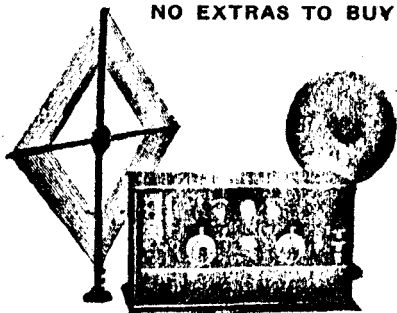
The lord and master - a harried broker - had a number of children and there were always dozens of calls when he took his nap. The 'phone bell next to his den kept ringing practically uninterruptedly with the family clomping back and forward noisily through the hall whenever the phone rang. So he thought up the simple device of shortcircuiting the line and getting some quiet into the household - and a reduced phone bill.

\* \* \* \* \*

This story has been excerpted from an article written by Hugo Gernsback in "Radio Craft" for February 1948. Hugo goes on in this article to describe the difficulty of troubleshooting intentional man made faults as opposed to "normal failures....of any technical device - be it a telephone, an automobile, or a radio".

W. De Vey

NO EXTRAS TO BUY



# The New Special 8-Tube Super Heterodyne

BUILT TO ORDER

## \$147.50

The most efficient receiver on the market. It is noted for its remarkable simplicity, ease of tuning, ability to pick up long distance stations. We use nothing but the highest grade materials. Buy the Best. Forget the Rest. Our guarantee goes with each receiver. Our reputation is behind the guarantee. Proven results places this set above all others. Open evenings.

Baldwin-Pacific Super-Het Parts Used in This Set  
IMMEDIATE DELIVERY ON RADIOLA SUPER HETERODYNE

### THE RADIO DEN

139 CLEMENT STREET

SAN FRANCISCO

PACIFIC 4810

# The Loud Speaker

We aren't doing a very good job of getting our local members to attend the meetings. We appreciate the support our club is receiving from out of towners, but we need to have more people attending from the immediate Portland area. Not only are you missing bargain prices on radios you wont find in antique shops or flea markets, but you are also missing tips on restoration or the opportunity to find that missing part you have been searching for. Many of our members have extra parts they are willing to share with fellow collectors. These parts are unavailable except through sympathetic members of the club. We feel our meetings have been outstanding and will improve with more cooperation on the part of our Portland area members.

(This has been adapted from The Broadcaster, the publication of the Kansas City old radio club.)

# YARN of the MONTH

## THE MELLOW TOUCH

RADIO introduces a new feature in this November issue—the "Yarn of the Month"—and would like to receive additions for future issues. There should be plenty of good yarns among the ham gang. How about that row with the b.c. down the street and the funny way that it ended? And remember the guy that was bootlegging your call and the measures that you took to run him down? The sea-going brasspounders' and the b.c. station operator's ranks should also be rich in good short stories of this nature.

Did you ever notice how nice the old-time tubes are when they're lit up? Take a squint at an 852 or a 211 or even a 210 sometime when they're glowin' soft and the filament transformer's hummin' gently, and see how warm and comfortable they look. Don't it kinda create a soothin' somethin' in your insides—like it's all nice and cozy in the shack and the rain oughta be pourin' down outside with the wind bangin' away and whinin' now and then; a light glistenin' on the shiny parts of the receiver panel and you sittin' there with the cans on your head tryin' to soak up the weak sigs through occasional sputters of static?

If you haven't got the plate power on, go stick your nose over the top of the tube where you can look right down between the grid and filament. Don't it look pretty? Don't it just *smell* good, somehow? Don't it stir up your imagination and make your blood tingle just standin' there lookin' at it and smellin' it and feelin' its heat? You're damned right it does. That's because those old tubes are alive and have souls.

But these here new kind of bottles, with all their grids and cathodes and such, they aren't like that. Everybody asks me what I got against the new tubes, which are bound to be so dang much better, and what can I say? Can I tell 'em they don't *smell* right? That they don't *look* like they was meant for radio hammin'? 'Course not; they'd think I was nuts.

But that's what's wrong, all right. They're too doggone efficient to look homey and comfortable, or to have that smell about 'em that marks a good ole bottle what's put in many a night reachin' out and grabbin' off the bacon

for you. They got no personality.

And that's what's the trouble with the whole works. We got young bloods all over the place that ain't got no respect for the dignity of the past. It ain't their fault; all they got is book-larin'. All they know is isolate this and link that and split-stator somethin' else. They fuss around about grid currents and modulation and drivin' power. What they are is Disciples of the Fourth Grid, and they're too dangd efficient to be worth anything to anybody but science. But what snarls my whiskers more than anything else is that after they've got their Distortion Specials splatterin' all over the bands, what do they do but talk about nothin'. Nothin' but nothin'! All that work for nothin'!

I dunno. You'd think these young 'uns would foller in the steps of their ancestors. Sometimes I catch myself wonderin' what ever dragged 'em into the game in the first place, if they can't get the essence of good-natured friendliness that used to cling around the ham bands. Mebbe they should oughta have it explained to 'em, like a funny story when some cluck don't get the point. Sometimes it loses its snap that way, but nobody can say I wasn't willin' to give 'em a chance!

The radio shack of a *real* ham has a kind of hominess, what with the tubes glowin' and transformers purrin' contented-like, and tobacco smoke driftin' lazy in the air . . . A little iron or tin stove with a red spot on its stummick settin' in a corner, busy keepin' the place warm while the wind howls and the storm beats outside . . . A couple of ops settin' around arguin' or just chewin' the fat, with mebbe a bottle and glasses on the table . . . Amps in the sky-wire, rich sigs rollin' out of the cans, and all is snug below and aloft.

That, you modern braves, is the essence of radio, its motive power and its life. Mebbe times are changin' and equipment with 'em, but what you need is to go poke your noses over them tubes and see if you can't smell some of the real thing.

By "Old Baldy"

# LETTERS

by TOM JAMES

Dear Tom and Members:

Just a note before I leave Stateside and head for the realm of the gimme-gimme birds, where radios are very hard to find. However on my list of all radio collectors I find one in Honolulu, and I will look him up if I have luck.

..... found a radio, see Olé column, (ed.)

I have been noting that consoles are getting fewer, at least it seems that way down here (Salem). I find that many are in poor repair, and if you are not sure of your merchandise you can take a dickens of a beating when it comes overhauling it.

I'm still looking for a Grebe case (prob. Mu-1 or Mu-2) Doug Eggert says he has a basket case which he might see fit to part with. Hope he has it next meeting.

..... See you all next meeting,  
humming Sweet Lelani, Joey

(above is an excerpt of a letter from Joe Tompkins, our active Salem member. Hope he doesn't have another one of those Golden Leutz nightmares like he had last time he visited the Islands)

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

Did you know that there was nearly a hundred radios sets in the twenties, which had dyne in the trade name, such as Messydyne for example. This little bit of trivia I gleaned from one of our sister club publications. Now, how many do you think used ola in the model name? And don't you wise guys come up with Kokac-ola 10, or the Rola-Bola B. Seriously, though, I came up with nine, not looking in a book or magazine. Expanded the list to sixteen after a brief search. What's your score?

tj/5/80



# Ole!

by

T.J.

Jim Mason came up with one of those "just across the road" deals, which goes to prove that the best collectables are not in a remote hamlet in Montana, to wit: a 14 dial home brew with 2 variometers and 2 untuned rf. stages; 2 boxes of '22, '23 magazines (radio); Radiola 28; mint loose coupler; Federal #20 audio amplifier; Radio catalogues '22-'23 from Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Hallock and Watson; N. W. Radio Mfg., Murdock and more; Old time spark transmitter parts; Misc. other goodies too. All of this for an Edison phonograph swap--Wow! Got a Radio Owl in another deal too.

Don Iverson blossomed out with a Radiola X, with good WD-11's, the set was sold in Linnton in 1925, just a couple of blocks from Don's present residence. Also nabbed by our "white capped" friend was a Splitdorf, Freed-Eisemann NR-5, an A.K. # 33, and an asst. of boxed tubes incl. 99's, 22's, and early ac types.

Bob Campbell picked up a Wright-DeCoster sprk., an official Browning-Drake which works like "Gang Busters", to repeat Bob's comment. Got in on a boxed tube deal too, finding a rare BR, 4v-199's, 2B7's, 30's, 33's, 47's, 6B5's, 46's, 53's, etc. to fill spaces in his collection.

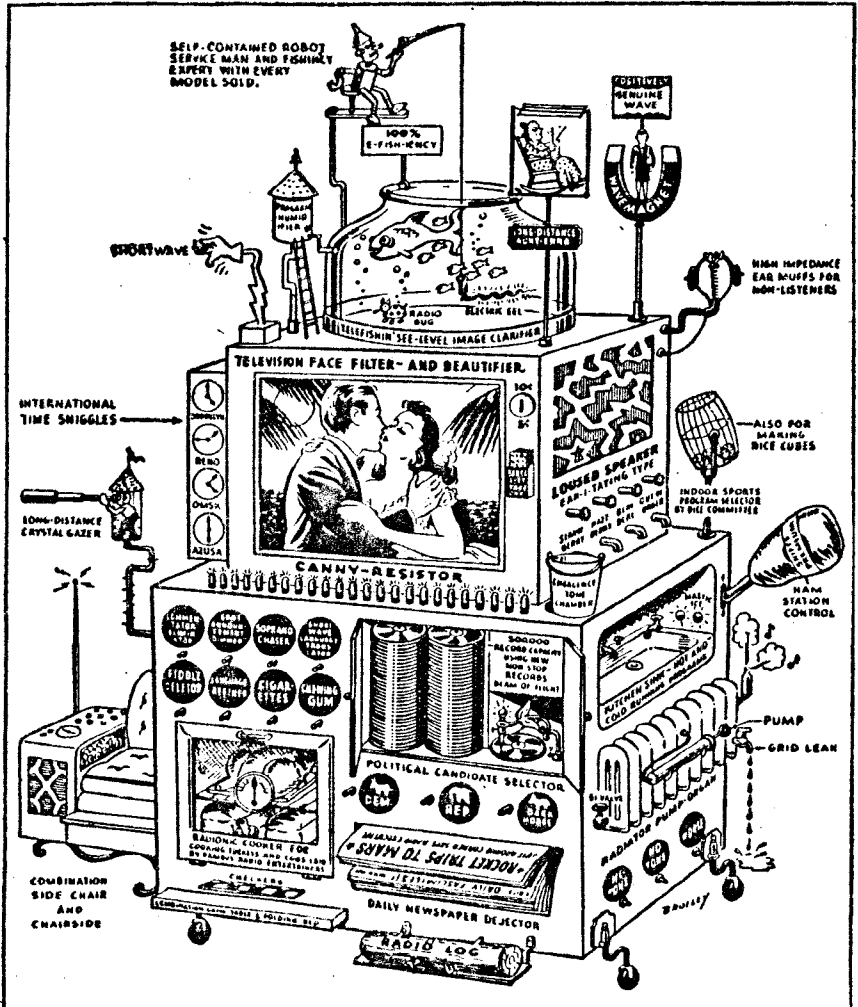
Joe Tompkins, in an excerpt from a recent letter, says he picked up a Crosley console of a type he never owned. Has big circular dial, pretty lites, etc. Joe says that this type always excites him. (always thought Joe was a Leutz devotee. /ed.)

That's about all I have notes on for this time, there is still a few good items around to be had and I'm sure that some of you members were going to let us know what they found, but just neglected to do it, or figured their "find" was too trivial to mention. Tell us anyway, it'll give someone a good laugh.

\*\* \*\* \*

A chap named Oliver Grieve  
Has a minor Majestic peeve.  
Found one in an attic,  
Which made him ecstatic,  
That's all the darn thing 'ud receive!

# CARTOON CLIPPINGS



This advance design of the Great Christopher model, (priced at \$14.92 in honor of the discovery of America by Columbus) was circulated last month by Zenith Radio Co., as a mild protest against fantastic reports of future receiver developments by radio executives and others. One dealer, it is stated, failed to see the joke and rushed in his check for a number of the "new models."

FROM RADIO-CRAFT for JULY, 1943

THANKS TO CRAIG HOAGLIN

# I Q Primer...

by THE PROF.

More Trusies and Falsies for the would-be wood-butchers among the membership:

1. Laquer thinner is great for cleaning your varnish and paint brushes.
2. Always use your sandpaper across the grain of the wood, to ensure a smooth base for your finishes.
3. A good glue for sticking the plys back together on your separated veneers may be made from vinegar and chalk, mixed 50/50.
4. "Cathedrals" were so named because of the superior tone quality of their time.
5. A good rule of thumb, in repairing vintage radio circuits, is to measure the leakage of all filter and paper condensers before firing up and running any length of time.
6. Always use a "tack" cloth to remove lint before applying varnish to any high gloss surface.

\*\* \*\* \*

Answers to the multiple-choice quiz last month are:

- A. Ferris wheel.    B. Ohm's Law for AC.    C. Detector tuning.  
D. R.F. Isolation.    E. Hazeltine.

\*\* \*\* \*

Barney Schmell calls his G.E. console "Tibet", because it's a poor lamination. ( oh well you guys know how Barn exaggerates. ed. )

# SWAP SHOP

COMPILED  
BY BILL DEVEY

WANTED: Radiola 3A. Craig Hoaglin,  
Forest Grove, Ph: 357-5393.

\* \* \* \* \*

FOR SALE: A.C. tubes for sale. State your  
needs. Art Redman,  
Ph: 774-9913

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED: 3 split rotor capacitor for  
battery set. Art Redman,  
Ph: 774-9913

\* \* \* \* \*

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-62.  
Frank Plaisted Jr.,  
Ph: 503-647-2339

\* \* \* \* \*

FOR SALE: Signal tracer. Works.  
Joe Tompkins, 3796 Hulsey Ave.  
Salem, Or., Ph: 362-8071

\* \* \* \* \*

FOR SALE Rider Repair Vols. 8 thru 15,  
\$40.00 or trade for old radio  
literature. Bill De Vey  
Ph: 635-6746

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED: Cabinet for Philco Model 20.  
Bill De Vey, Ph: 635-6746

\* \* \* \* \*

FOR SALE: Replacement Xfms. fit inside  
orig. shell for Radiola III,  
III-A, 20, Victor 7-1, 7-3, 7-30  
etc. \$6.20 ea + postage for 7  
lbs. S.A.S.E. for details. R.A.  
Goodman, 7943 Ponce, Canoga  
Park, Ca. 91304