

Call Letter

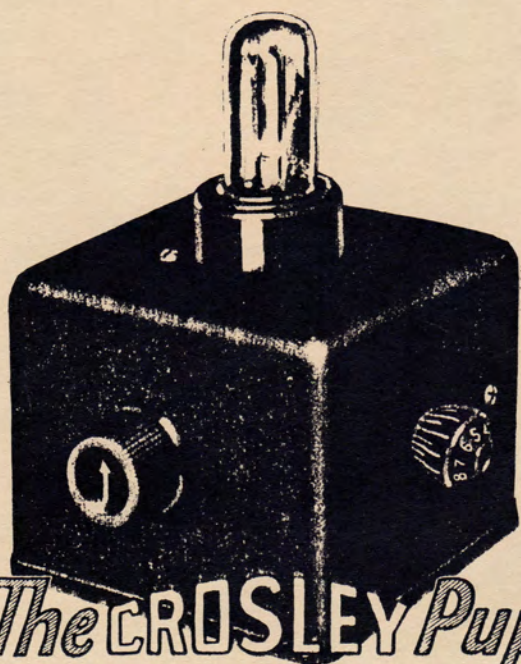
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, Portland, Oregon

Volume 21

February 1995

Number 2

**Don't miss the "Odd-Name" contest
at the February Meeting**



**A Genuine Armstrong Regenerative
double circuit receiver**



Crosley Advertisement - see page 5

More than two decades in print !

Northwest Vintage Radio Society

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

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

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974. It was originated with the founder Bob Bilbie and our first president Harley Perkins. Through several editors and with the assistance of numerous members the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

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

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

Society Officers:

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

The Society's address is:

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

January 1995

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The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

Word Processing, Binding, and Distribution,

Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517

Is your newsletter getting
to you in one piece?

If you have difficulty with
delivery, please contact
Gordon Phillips.

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

February Meeting

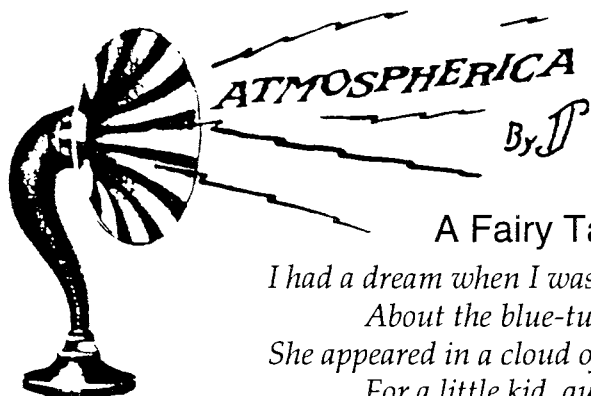
For our February 11th meeting, the officers have planned a contest. There will be ribbons awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The contest will be for radios of unusual, odd or unheard-of names. Please bring your radios if you have any of these.

SOUNDS OF NOSTALGIA February 12th 1995 At the Salem Fair Grounds. The theme of the NVRS display will be EUROPEAN RADIOS. 9:30 to 4 PM.

When you come to the February meeting, please bring any photos, clippings, souvenir programs, society memorabilia, etc. that you can donate to the society scrapbook. We currently have **nothing** from such notable events as the Georgia-Pacific Historical Museum or the World Forestry Center Displays from the early 80's, and are very very thin on photographs of society events, shows, or sales throughout the 80's and into the 90's. Dan Howard is currently sorting and mounting the material that we have, and any and all donations would be appreciated (the sooner the better, so that they can be interwoven with the materials now available).

Is this your last issue ?

- Membership dues are due at the first meeting of the year. If your dues are not current, the next issue of the Call Letter will be the last.
- Make sure to get your dues to Treasurer Ed Charman, Post Office Box 82379, Portland, OR 97282, by February 15th, so you won't miss an issue. This is your newsletter. Each issue it gets better. Don't miss even one!



A Fairy Tale

*I had a dream when I was small,
About the blue-tube fairy.
She appeared in a cloud of smoke--
For a little kid, quite scary !*

*She transformed my one-tube blooper
To a fancy Tyrman Ten;
My phones to a fancy speaker;
She twirled three times, and then --*

*She floated up the lead-in wire
And vanished into the night.
It took me several minutes
To quiet down my fright.*

*Then I tried to tune the Tyrman,
But it wasn't any use.
Our farmhouse wasn't wired yet,
So I had no A.C. juice!*

*I woke up sometimes later
And was happy as any king
That I still had my blooper set,
And batteries to run the thing !*

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

Meeting Minutes

By Ken Seymour

The January 14th 1995 meeting of the NW Vintage Radio Society was called to order by the new society President, Greg Bonn, at 10:02 AM, with 27 people in attendance. The minutes of the December meeting were accepted as published in the Call Letter. The society welcomed a guest, Ray from Coos Bay.

Good Wishes

Vice President Speed Feldschau said that he talked with Don Iverson and reported that Don was still having good and bad days. Members are still encouraged to give Don a call.

Old Business

Dick Dielschneider mentioned that the Society needs to set a date for the next fall swap show. It appear that there are potential conflicts developing. Potential dates of October 13 and November 11 were mentioned. However, it was decided to hold off on a decision until the February Society meeting so that Dick could check on the availability of the Multnomah Center.

It was also decided to hold the May swap show on the 13th, and a motion was passed to allocate \$300 for the advertising budget.

Gordon Phillips mentioned that a few members have not picked up their T-shirts that were ordered and paid for. So, those of you who ordered one, be sure to contact him at 503-234-3517.

New Business

Speed mentioned that there were tables left for next months "Sounds of Nostalgia Show" in Salem. Contact Speed at 503-390-3928 for details.

Jerry Talbott brought in the Society's television and VCR and mentioned that there were a few members who checked out some video tapes. He wanted to remind those members to please return them so others could check them out.

Dan Howard mentioned that a budget should be allocated to help pay for a society's display. This would be used to take to various shows around town to promote our society. A motion was passed to allocate \$150 for this purpose.

Leads & Needs

Gordon Phillips (503-234-3517) needs a Crosley book condenser and Lester Lewis (503-648-9730) needs a 25B5 tube.

Next Month

The next meeting will be held on February 11th at 10:00 AM.

THE CROSELY PUP

Tech Sloat, W7AHK

This popular little radio is in a metal box 4 x 4.5 inches and 3.5 inches in height.

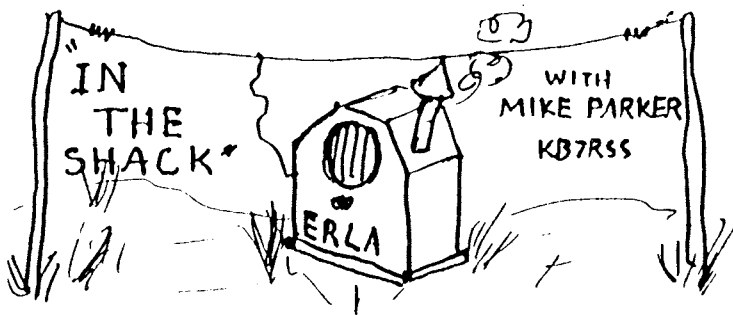
The control on the front panel is the rheostat. On the left side is the push pull regeneration control. On the right side is the Crosley book type capacitor control knob.

On the rear of the container is the grid leak and four wires for connection to the batteries. A 1.5 volt A battery and a 22.5 volt for the B battery. Four binding posts accommodate the phones, antenna and ground.

This is the same set-up as the Crosley model V, with the exception of the socket and tube. The tube socket is the UX type for the WD-12 tube, which is a WD-11 with a UX base.

The pup sold for \$10 in 1923. If you have the cardboard container it came in, you have a real prize.

Cover art is Crosley advertisement of the "Pup".



Recently, I purchased another seldom seen brand 1925 3 Dial "freak" A "MAGNUTROL" radio by Magnus Electric & Radio Co., New York.

I bought it "mail order" sight unseen through an ad in *Antique Radio classified*. The seller, hopefully will represent the radio accurately and the buyer will, hopefully ask the right questions about it!

You never really know what you are getting. Buying this way and this set was no exception. It had two common problems associated with many 1920's battery sets. (1) one of the audio transformer windings was open, which I will discuss in another article. And (2) The numerals and the increment marks were flaking off of the tuning knobs, which is the subject of this article.

You can do a couple of things in this case. Take the easy out and replace the knobs with a good set you have found, or restore the ones you have on the set.

In case of the Magnus radio, a little research by looking through my reprint of the *1925 Radio Trade Directory*, revealed that Magnus made their own knobs and didn't rely on the standard types made by companies like Kurz-Kasch or Na-Ald, etc. Restoring the original knobs was the only alternative.

Having made that decision, I purchased a *Lacquer Stick* paint stick from Antique Electronic Supply, 6221 S Maple Ave. TEMPE, AZ. 85283. The price was \$.90 plus S&H.

Ten Step Process For Battery Set Knobs

1. Set tuners to 0 or 100 or whatever position is easiest to access the knob set screw with a screwdriver.

2. Remove knob, brush out the dirt with a small, clean soft bristle paint brush. If the set screw is rusty, dab threads with one drop of light oil and work thread in and out. Soak a Q tip with a drop *Liquid Wrench* or WD-40. Dab the screw until entirely soaked and wipe it off to avoid dripping. This should preserve the screw and avoid future rust.

3. Peel paper off the end of the Lacquer Stick to prepare a clean, fresh surface. Apply end of Lacquer Stick to dial increments and numerals. Use a generous amount. Although this seems to waste it, it is the only way to insure uniform coverage.

4. Tapping the Lacquer Stick into the marks seems to work the best. A rubbing motion across them will tend to pull the material back out of the grooves. Tap the paint stick in until all marks are covered.

5. Let the dial dry for a period of time, allowing the paint to set up. Two minutes is too soon to wipe off and two days may be too long to wait.

6. My main objection to the Lacquer Stick has been it's color. It is too white! There are no original battery set knob numerals and increment marks as white as the Lacquer Stick! They don't make one in Ivory or off-white color; so, what to do?

7. Wipe off excess Lacquer Stick from numerals with a clean soft cloth using a careful one-way motion and turning over the cloth frequently. Do not rub hard but make sure Lacquer remains in grooves. This may require a careful re-application in some spots. Worn surfaces may be hard to cover and in worse cases, impossible.

8. After Lacquer Stick is rubbed off but still dry, apply the coloring agent for an old off- white look. At first, I used dust from the shop floor but found that we want clean off-white numerals, not dirty ones. Go to the spice cabinet in the kitchen and get a can of pure powdered mustard or tumeric (turmeric is

a bit to yellow). I sneaked this item into the shop to avoid an explanation to the wife of this "hair brained scheme" with her spices. Use your own discretion!

9. While lacquer in numeral marks is still tacky, rub mustard powder into the dial marks with finger. The knob will take on the 70 year old look it should have. Brush off excess mustard with a soft bristle brush. Reapply if necessary.

10. Install knobs on radio, setting tuning condensers to 0 or 100, whatever is easiest to access set screw. Position knob slightly out from panel to avoid rubbing. In case you have Kurz- Kasch two piece compression knobs with no set screw, common on many battery sets, use a small wrench to hold hexagon shoulder on dial face part of knob, while tightening the hex shaft nut with another wrench. Avoid slipping or over tightening. This type is rather tricky and you have to hold by hand, the tuning condenser in full mesh which is generally indicated at 100 on the dial. Screw on knob portion snug but not tight enough to twist dial past the correct setting. When tuning a 3-Dialer, do not try to adjust dials on the shafts to the same numeral for a peak station setting. A slight and sometimes wide variance, depending on the set is normal for these receivers. Log the peak station setting on a piece of paper or chart, i.e. KEX @ 20-22-24. Have some fun with that old radio. Train your pet monkey to use both arms and his tail to run all three dials!.....

See you next time, "IN THE SHACK" 73's Mike Parker

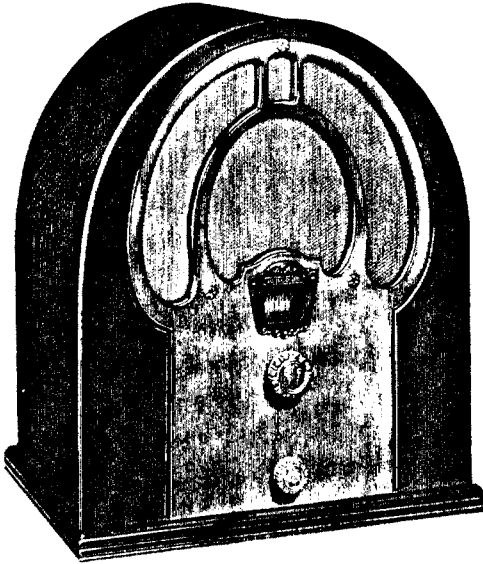
PHILCO JR.

**Genuine
Balanced
Superheterodyne**

\$ 18⁷⁵

**Complete with Tubes
TAX PAID**

Price slightly higher in Denver and West



The complete PHILCO line offers supreme value in all price ranges . . .

**\$18⁷⁵ to \$295
TAX PAID**

PHILCO REPLACEMENT TUBES IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY SET

Philco Translators Radio Superheterodyne (2) for radio sets used for 24 months or more complete, reliable and tax paid on sets equipped with normal \$49.50 AIE ELECTRIC Co. dry battery set \$15.95

THINK of it! A real PHILCO — a musical instrument of quality — for only \$18.75. Designed in the great PHILCO Laboratories to meet present-day broadcasting conditions.

A real superheterodyne radio of superb tone — able to receive broadcasts from a surprising distance — a radio superior to many sets selling at twice its price.

**A TRUE PHILCO
THROUGH AND THROUGH**

PHILCO Jr. is the latest development of the PHILCO research laboratories — built to precision standards in the great PHILCO factories. And it is designed to meet the safety requirements of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

PHILCO PHILADELPHIA TORONTO LONDON

PHILCO Jr. is in a most attractive cabinet of pleasing design, a Balanced Superheterodyne with genuine Electro Dynamic Speaker and Illuminated Station Dial — most unusual features in a radio so low in price. The new PHILCO High Efficiency Tubes are used throughout. PHILCO Jr. is a true PHILCO in every sense of the word — worthy of its honored name in appearance as well as in performance.

**A GENUINE PHILCO
AT AN UNHEARD-OF PRICE**

See this wonderful new PHILCO Jr. thrill to its superb tone and surprising distance range. Buy it. Take it home. Enjoy its splendid performance at a price that revolutionizes the whole world of radio entertainment! \$18.75 — complete with the new PHILCO High Efficiency Tubes — tax paid!

PHILCO
A musical instrument of quality



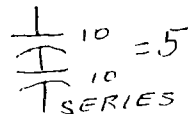
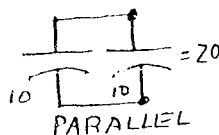
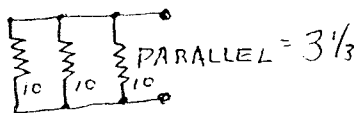
The Beginner PT 5

The BEGINNER will be a feature article in the Call Letter for the next two issues, courtesy of member Robert L "Bud" Larson W7LNG. Bud is a Chief Electronic Technician, U.S. Navy Retired.

Series and Parallel Circuits

Electrical devices can be connected in various ways for many purposes. For instance, by-pass capacitors may be in parallel so each one will serve at the frequency it works the best. Electrolytic capacitors are useful only so high in frequency, so you may find a paper, ceramic, or another type of capacitor there to pass the higher frequencies. This type of parallel connection is not what I have in mind for this lesson.

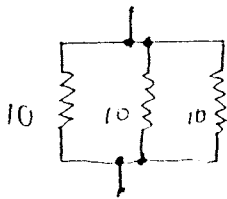
Filter capacitors may be parallel to obtain a larger value not on hand or maybe not even manufactured. To compute the total capacitance, just add them together. Example: 2 10 mfd. caps in parallel equal 20 mfd. total. Don't exceed the voltage rating of the lowest rated capacitor. It is best to use similar capacitors in parallel but there are times when this is not possible. I have a box full of filter capacitors that were connected together by a former ship radio operator. It has about a dozen various caps in series-parallel to get 3000-volt rating using 1000-volt capacitors in parallel to get higher capacitance, then three of these sets in series to get the high voltage rating. It has a big resistor tapped to split the voltage evenly. This is an example of using what is on hand to serve for one not available.



Resistors: To figure the total resistance of resistors in series just add the values together. It is best to use similar resistors in series to spread the power dissipation evenly. Example: You need 500,000 ohms. Putting five 100,000-ohm resistors in series gives that value and the power rating is five times that of one resistor. The voltage, being spread among many, can be five times higher too.

Resistors in parallel and capacitors in series use similar formulas. Don't let that word scare you, it's really easy. [Reciprocal of the sum of the reciprocals.]

The total resistance is equal to $R/1$ divided into one plus $R/2$ divided into one, plus $R/3$ divided into one, all this divided into one. Example: 3 ten-ohm resistors in parallel. Divide 10 into one and get $1/10$. Then add $1/10 + 1/10 + 1/10 = 3/10$. Divide .3 into 1 = 3.33-ohms.



TOTAL
 $3 \frac{1}{3} \Omega$
 (OHMS)

IF ALL THE SAME:
 DIVIDE VALUE BY NUMBER OF UNITS.

$$3 \overline{) 10} = 3 \frac{1}{3}$$



10 @ 1000V
 $10 = 3 \frac{1}{3}$ MFD.
 3000-V RATING

USE RESISTORS TO INSURE VOLTAGE IS EQUAL.

SWAP SHOP

WANTED- Philco Junior Cathedral model 80. Scott MacGregor (503) 661-1294 Crosley Book condenser. Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517.

WANTED- Collectors and those interested in collecting radio antenna insulators and lightening arresters. Join a group of enthusiasts from across the country who are forming an organization. call Dan Howard (503) 761-7799. WANTED- Tubes 25B5 7 pin audio output. 25N6 and 6J8 both octals. Lester Lewis (503) 648-9730.

WANTED- HICKOK model 600-A tube tester (will consider substitute) John Bookout (503) 644-0235.

FOR SALE- Wilson Gay model #53 Recordio Console record player and recorder. Make offer Lee Jensen (503) 289-9048.

WANTED- Heath DX-100 TRansmitter, 811 and 813 tubes. Ken Seymour (503) 248-7439 (days)

WANTED- Meissner Tube receiver, any tube compliment like the Traffic Master Scout or #7502 or smaller. Call Bruce Russell collect (604) 299-1116.

FOR SALE- Two RCA Radiola 106 Tapestry console speakers, self powered. One excellent, one with ripped tapestry. It has factory installed Radiola 33 radio chassis. Both for \$150.00. A tektronix scope-mobile, rolling scope cart. Fits tek 560 series and most other scopes. It has one drawer and two module compartments. \$40.00. Mike Parker (503) 235-7187.

WANTED- Hallicrafter SX-96 or SX-100. Jerry Talbot (503) 649-6717.

WANTED- Antenna insulators and lightening arresters. Auto-related radios. Dan Howard (503) 761-7799.

FOR SALE- Several plastic AC/DC radios, pocket transistors sets, Newcomb B-100 "school" radio (AC in cloth-covered cabinet), clock radios, 2-meter ham transceiver, 6-meter AM transceiver (Hallicrafter SR-46), 2 Eico tube testers, Knight signal tracer, etc, from 2 estates. Send large SASE for complete list. Bud Larson, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, OR 97504 (503) 773-5214.

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and Ease of Operation**

ANYONE can tune in a distant station without interference and obtain clear reception with an ATWATER KENT Receiving Set.

Selectivity -- range -- volume and simplicity of operation have made it the choice of families everywhere.

The clearness with which the ATWATER KENT Loud Speaker recreates will give you a new conception of tonal fidelity.

ATWATER KENT MANUFACTURING CO.
4965 STENTON AVE., PHILA., PA.



Collecting Antenna Insulators

By Bob Dennison, W2HBE

About ten years ago, I found an old antenna insulator and decided it would be fun to start collecting them. Through an ad, I met Jim Singleton, K2IRO, who gave me many of his duplicates and this encouraged me to continue. I now have 129 different antenna insulators and 37 lightning arresters. I prefer the glass and pyrex insulators. The rarest and most interesting ones are made of colored glass. I've been told that most of these were made in Mexico. The more common tints are lavender, pale green and light blue. But some collectors have found red, black, and other colors in saturated hues.

If you are lucky, you may find an insulator still in the box that it was sold in. Corwico insulators came in an attractive orange and blue box bearing an image of the insulator. The large Corning pyrex insulators also came in attractive boxes. It is always exciting to find insulators having unusual shapes or cross-sections. Also be on the lookout for insulators bearing the name or logo of the manufacturer or the city or country where it was made.

Antenna insulators have been made from glass, pyrex, porcelain, hard-rubber, electrose, steatite, and various plastics. Many made during the early wireless days were made of some sort of asphaltic compound that had a tendency to split or develop cracks. For an interesting article on early insulators, see QST, p. 24, May 1923.

[Bob's article was originally published in the quarterly newsletter of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club, and was republished in *Old Familiar Strains* an insulator and arrester newsletter edited by our own Dan Howard]

Calendar

Compiled by Dan Howard

February	11	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	12	NW Vintage Radio Display at Salem Sounds of Nostalgia Show
	18	Salem Ham Fair - Rickreall
	19	PSARA - Howard Page Demonstrates Gizmos - Seattle
March	4-5	Antique Show - Portland Expo Center
	11	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	12	Puyallup Ham Fair - Puyallup, WA
	19	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
April	6-9	April Car Swap Meet - Expo Center
	8	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	16	PSARA Meeting & Auction, Seattle
May	13	NW Vintage Radio Swap Meet 9AM
	14	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
June	3-4	SEAPAC Ham Convention - Seaside, OR
	10	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	18	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
July	8	Speed's Swap Meet, Keizer, Oregon
	15-16	Antique Show - Portland Expo Center
	16	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
	23	NW Vintage Radio Show, Forest Grove Concours D'Elegance
August	20	PSARA Annual Swap Meet, Seattle
September	9	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	16-17	Antique Show - Tacoma Dome
	17	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
October	14	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	15	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
	21-22	NW Vintage Radio Display, Expo Center NW Car Collector's show
	28-29	Antique Show - Expo Center
November	11	NW Vintage Radio Meeting
	19	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
December		NW Vintage Radio Christmas Party
	10	PSARA Meeting, Seattle
	16-17	Antique Show - Oregon Convention Center



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Whether you get your news direct from the capitals of the world or from Boake Carter right here in America, you'll hear it best with a Philco. For its reproduction is natural and life-like—through the marvels of Philco's Patented Inclined Sounding Board! Ask your dealer for a demonstration.

Listen to Boake Carter over key Columbia Stations. Also Philco's program from F. M. Q. Madrid, Spain (9.87 on your Philco dial) Sundays at 7 P. M., East on Standard Time.

American and Foreign Broadcast Receivers . . . \$39.95 to \$600

American Broadcast Receivers . . . \$25 to \$200

New Philco Auto Radios . . . \$39.95 to \$85

Prices slightly higher in some areas. All prices subject to change without notice.

**PHILCO REPLACEMENT TUBES
IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY RADIO**



PHILCO 16X . . . \$175

World wide reception plus tone such as only Philco can give. Philco's Patented Inclined Sounding Board is the greatest single development in scientific sound reproduction.

- 1. Excellent tone—the wide-ranging high notes up to ear level, giving richness and clarity, rather than flat.
- 2. In large halls and living rooms all low notes being mellowness and depth.
- 3. P. M. Q. All news and speech are distinct and normal, as if they were actually present in person.

And many other important Philco developments, including Tuning Bands, Bass Compensation, Tone-Tone Line Control, Philco Sharp-Line Past and Slow Motion Tuning, Super Class "A" Audio System, Auditorium Speaker, Shadow Tuning, Automatic Volume Control, Illuminated Station Recording Dial, Philco High-Efficiency Tubes, etc. Superior hand-rolled cabinet of genuine, costly woods.

A PHILCO RECEIVER IS A PURE AND SIMPLE PURPOSE-BUILT PHOTO-BOO



PHILCO

A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT OF QUALITY



The 
Thompson
MAGNAPHONE
Reg. U.S. Pat. Office

Your receiving set can be no better, in delivered results, than the loud-speaker you use with it. The THOMPSON MAGNAPHONE is an instrument that brings out the best that is in your set—because it is specifically designed and built as a radio loud speaker, not merely adapted from other purposes.

All that you've been seeking, and haven't found elsewhere in loud-speakers, is yours with the MAGNAPHONE—the volume, the tone quality, the natural reproduction of the original performance unmarred by mechanical distortion. You'll notice the difference instantly, when you plug in a MAGNAPHONE.

Here are a few features that make the MAGNAPHONE different, and better: cone-shaped special composition diaphragm vibrating equally over its whole area; two-to-one driving armature, reducing the permissible air gap 50%; laminated magnetic pole pieces and generously large magnet. These combine in a structure which forms a loud-speaker giving results so incomparably superior that the MAGNAPHONE is the instant choice of those who demand the best.

Price \$35.00—at Good Dealers, Everywhere

Ask your dealer to demonstrate the MAGNAPHONE—compare it with any other loud-speaker, from any standpoint—and you'll admit that Thompson's 14 years' experience in radio manufacture has produced the radio reproducer that satisfies your every requirement.

Manufactured by

R. E. Thompson Manufacturing Co.

Sales Office
150 Nassau St. New York

Factory
Jersey City, N. J.

Manufacturers also of the THOMPSON BALANCED NEUTRODYNE RECEIVER. Licensed under Hazeltine Patents