

JOHN SCOTT-TAGGART, F.Inst.P., A.M.I.E.E.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1925.

MAJOR JAMES ROBINSON, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.Inst.P.

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PERCY W. HARRIS, M.I.R.E.

Vol. I. No. 6.

### WEEK'S NEWS AND NOTES THE

### A NEW BROADCAST STATION.

HAVE you heard 5BG? I understand that this is an experimental station at Chelmsford belonging to the B.B.C. I wonder whether these experiments are the result of the many complaints from Essex and S.E. England which have been received, consequent upon the removal of 5XX to Daventry? The engineers are working with a power of 10 kw., and use a wavelength of 400 to 420 metres.

### BROADCASTING FROM UNDER THE SEA.

Chatting to an old naval friend the other day he told me that under-water transmission was recently suc-cessfully tested by a diver under the North Sea, off Heligoland, who broadcast his impressions. The transmission was heard well at Hamburg, and further ex-periments are to be carried out via Hamburg and Bremen.

### IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Listeners in England may, when criticising the amount of 10s. charged for the necessary licence to possess a receiving set, congratulate themselves that they do not live in South Africa! Although the South Africa listener has only the choice of three stations\_Capetown,

**RELAYING AMERICA** THIS WINTER.

By Captain P. P. ECKERSLEY,

SEE PAGE 263.

Durban, and Johannesburg-he has to pay a fee of £2 5s. In view of the heavy charge, arrangements are made for a series of "easy payments." "Grousers" may like to bear in mind the well-known phrase, "Count your blessings one by one . . . "

### THE POPE TO BROADCAST.

I understand that in the near future the Pope, at Rome, will broadcast for the first time. An address will be re- "



Captain P. P. Eckersley, the Chief Engineer of the B.B.C., who writes in this Issue upon "Relaying America this Winter."

OUR NEXT ISSUE. **REORGANISING BRITISH** BROADCASTING. By Captain H. J. ROUND.

layed from the Vatican to the Rome station.

### A NEW CONTROL.

I hear that 2LO is to have a new I hear that 2LO is to have a new control. An operator, sitting in a sound-proof cabinet, will be able to control simultaneously the broadcast from two states. It is will also be able to elimit the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, an innounce the mext item while the everybe dy's voice but his own, and the everybe dy set the everybe dy

vita delay or hi sourt . Loss of convenience t. sp d-up will be noticeable. It is this attention to minordetails, I thak, which makes for a melodi us whole.

# AN TE BROADCAST

I am rather looking forward to the d-Air Concert which will be broadcast from 2LO on November 10. Two aeroplanes of the Im perial Airways, Ltd., will provide entertainments in provide entertainments in their saloons as the machines are in flight. These will be picked up by a ground station, and re-broadcast. One air liner will take the Savoy Band, and the other a group of theatre artists, and for half an hour enter-



### THE NEW WIRELESS EXHIBITION.

Looking in at the Wireless Exhibition on Saturday, which was opened at the Royal Horticultural Hall, I was just in time to hear Commander Kenworthy's opening speech. In the course of his remarks, he stated that the Exhibition represented 75 per cent., at least, of the British wireless industry, and that every article shown was of British manufacture. Some idea of the growth of the industry could be gained from the fact that it had a turnover of £10,000,000 a year, and was increasing. As it is a trade which calls for many skilled hands, it is pleasant to hear of work being provided for many who would, perhaps, be unemployed under present conditions.

### AN INNOVATION.

I am inclined to hand a little bouquet to the staff of the Cardiff station for their enterprise. The trid soft and artists are "on tour" in their district to enable listeners to see how their nightly programme is produced. Who not a the concert or enterta on ent is n in some public has maximum as in the white and s relayed to the strain by hand and the adeast, all for this a between the B.B.C. and

# LOTD ... EAKER.

140

I hear that there is to be installed I hear that there is to be installed at the entrance to Chernov, rg Harbour what it is stand will be the largest loud-speaker more world. It has been designed for the process of warsing shipping during the seather, and is intended to hear interesting, in yiew of Capt. Bound's recent article on loud-speakel possibilities. Never-theless, interested though I may be. theless, interested though I may be, I'm rather pleased I don't live near Cherbourg!

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

007

**Reorganising British** 

Broadcasting

Some Vitally Important Suggestions By Capt. H. J. ROUND, M.I.E.E.

ORDER YOUR COPY TO-DAY.

......

CALL SIGN.

Making the Catwhisker "Stay Put" By C. P. ALLINSON.

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NE of the great drawbacks of the O crystal detector, especially that employing a catwhisker, is the fact that when anyone accidentally knocks against the table the contact is lost, thereby interrupting the reception of broadcast programmes. With some crystal detectors, such as the carborundum type, which employs a steel point

Commander Kenworthy listening-in at the Exhibition which he opened on Oct. 10th at the Horticultural Hall.

with a very heavy contact, it takes a considerable shock for this contact to be disturbed, but with the usual type employing a catwhisker, a very slight jar may be sufficient to knock the catwhisker off the sensitive spot of the crystal.

### Stable Contacts.

There are various methods of obtaining a stable contact which may be

tried. The object of these methods is to fix the point of the cat-whisker so that even though the instrument may be jarred, and thereby perhaps altering the position of the arm carrying whisker, the the point does not move from its position on the face of the crystal. One method that may be employed 13 to stretch a small piece of muslin or butwith a wide mesh, just over the sensitive surface of the crystal.

serves to keep it in position.

alternative method that has been sug-

A new form of aerial! A flock of starlings visited London recently, and during their flight rested upon the aerial of the old 2LO at Marconi House.

An

zincite type, are less liable to suffer from vibration than the catwhisker type, as a fair amount of pressure is usually employed with these. This is usually sufficient to prevent the con-The catwhisker is pushed through the mesh of this material, which thus tact from moving, except in the case of very heavy blows or excessive vibragested is, having found a sensitive spot tion.

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Other substances

that may be used are

plasticine, putty or vase-

line. This last, which



whisker arm is moved, may be locked tightly together, thus preventing the joint from shifting; but this method is not likely to give sufficient protec-tion against a strong knock, as the spring of the catwhisker itself will suffice to allow the point to move.

Detectors in which two crystals are used, such as the copper pyrites

is a mineral oil, does not appear to impair the contact at all. Sometimes a crystal detector has a small lock-nut, by means of which the two pieces of the ball socket through which the cat-

point of the catwhisker and the crystal itself, and thereby destroy the contact entirely. Another disadvantage is that if paraffin wax or candle grease is used, it may make the surface of the crystal greasy, and thus impair its rectifying proper-

ties.

on the crystal, to run round some

molten sealing wax or candle wax, so as to seal the contact in position. This

must be done very carefully, or else

some of the wax may run between the

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I F there is one thing which is really fascinating in wireless, it is making attempts to receive trans-Continental programmes. The result is fairly hideous and, speaking for myself, if I have a local programme good and clear, I would, after a hard day's work, prefer to close one switch and settle down to listen to it. Many disagree with me, and as it is a matter of personal opinion and not fact, I am not even in a position to argue about it.

### Linking the World by Wireless.

Admittedly, at any rate, if we can begin to get some results which give us the chance of understanding speech, we shall be a step nearer that ideal of world linking, when there will be little difference between a programme S.B. from New York to Europe, and another from our local studio. We should not, and we shall not, leave a stone unturned to investigate the mysteries of night distortion, fading, and so on, and we seek to prove whether the inter-Continental wireless link should be on long wave and high power or short wave and high power. Certain it is that high power looks at present to be a sine qua non.

### More "Midnight Oil ! "

We are going to experiment on the subject this winter, and when a lot of folks are usually in bed, we shall try and persuade them to sit up to listen to us experimenting. It is usually only the "fan" who is keen enough to evolve a "hook up" which will give



It is expected that Keston will do good work in connection with linking the world by wireless during the next few months.

him results from, say, KDKA, but we want the great mass of the listeners of Britain to hear what we are doing.

### A "Visit" to Keston.

I visualise our scheme this year as something rather more elaborate than last. I see someone who knows what's going on down at Keston, where our new receiver is erected, and, 'phones on ears, will talk into a near-by microphone, superimposing his remarks on top of the American re-transmission. Thus: "That was a good atmospheric." "I wish to heaven that oscillator would go and burn himself, and his set, and all that is his!" and so on while you listen to America. I like to think that I've invited ten million people into our little hut at Keston, and that they have all got 'phones on, and that I am able, perhaps, to tell them what is happening.

### Apparatus.

As to the actual apparatus to be used for KDKA, there, again, we are making fairly elaborate plans to try out all sorts of sets—super-heterodynes, the plain detector with note magnification, and even the straight high-frequency circuits, if they will stabilise nicely.

The aerial will be interesting, and, following our line of last year, we shall try the Beverage type. This aerial is a wavelength long—a rather cumbersome affair for 4,000 metres

(over two miles), but more able to be visualised in terms of the short waves we shall try for—63 metres for KDKA. It is usually only a few feet high, and has to point in the direction from which signals are coming.

The great trouble, of course, is not to get a good signal — anyone can do that; the noise can be terrific. The trouble is to get quality. Night distortion is a persistent bugbear, and one that seems almost impossible to cure.

The well-known station KDKA, which we all hope to hear again this winter.

### Night Distortion.

We are expecting this year that at KDKA they will give us still more power—possibly 50 kw., I hear—and they are taking great precautions to stabilise the wavelength under conditions of heavy modulation.

In some experiments we did on night distortion it was proved that wave constancy—absolute wave constancy maintained by an independent drive was necessary to overcome night distortion. It wave however, that short waves

There is a inclusion of the states will inclusion in the source of the states will inclusion in the states is a source of the states in the source of the so

At any rate we have a chance this year of trying some of a new 300-50 metre stations in the state sof bond 50 kw, power and we, with our Beverage normals is all sets, and so on cannot curve redistortio, we still have the state shorter and shorter waves, and, if they fail, long waves.

### What Keston will do.

Keston will be arranged to have other types of aerials and receivers as well, and by this means, with supersonic and straight high frequency circuits, we hope, too, to attempt to relay European stations. When we do this, may we ask you to remember that we are experimenting, and that you are overhearing an experiment. The time is not yet when we can guarantee the wireless link as securely as we can the wired.

We shall not rest till the job is done. Meanwhile the Keston listening post gives us a useful place in which to experiment; our stations give us a useful means of allowing listeners to overhear our attempts however feeble, to find out about it all.





David Edward Hughes, F.R.S., one of the earliest pioneers of wireless.

SIR .- I have read Mr. Morse's admirable article, entitled, "Did Mar-coni Invent Wind" which apnber of your peared in the f test pleasure, journal, w as it raises 1 of world-wide s the immortal interest, naz. whose genius and an to telegraph by what is some flottein waves some 17 years before the mustrious Marconi came to F gland? The answer to this set by is that he was one of those model, silent investigators whose res. 's and experiments in physical soin and whose fundain physical scient and whose funda-mental discovery of valuable inven-tions have series of benefited man-kind, that he David Edward HUGHES—will deubtles be regarded by posterity as one of the great glories of our race.

### Humility.

Mr. Morse truly says that " a man's work may be recognised by scientists the world over, while the man himself, especially if he has that humility which is the usual concomitant of genius, may be practically unknown in his own parish." Now, this was exactly true of Hughes, who some years after he had been rewarded and honoured by well-nigh every civilised country in the world, except his own, and had been the honoured guest of the Emperor Napoleon III at Versailles, and of the Czar of Russia at his Summer Palace, Czarskoizelo, was claimed by Huxley to be his greatest discovery.

### Practical Demonstration.

Mr. Morse quite correctly explains that in 1879 Hughes gave a practical demonstration of radio, remarking that "there can be little doubt that had be not been denied the slightest encouragement or support he would to-day be remembered as one of the WHO INVENTED RADIO?

This interesting letter from Professor Henry J. Spooner, F.G.S., who knew Professor Hughes personally, explains the pioneer work done by that Scientist in the development of wireless. Hughes, using an interrupter and a small battery as the transmitter and a carbon microphone as a detector, succeeded in performing some very interesting experiments in wireless transmission and reception. He was however, discouraged.

benefactors of mankind, but he is dead, and—except by a few—forgotten."

### A Personal Friend.

Forgotten ! The pity of it ! Happily I can claim to be one of the few, as he was my dearest and most intimate friend during the last twenty years of his life, and I think your readers would like to hear something about the lamentable incident that retarded progress in wireless some 17 years. But before attempting to deal briefly with this matter, I should explain that during many years I was a member of the charming coterie of which Hughes was president, and that the great physicist, his devoted wife, and myself, met daily, always spending our holidays together in England or abroad; indeed, we were staying at Brighton for the Christmas holidays when he caught a slight cold which, on our return to town, soon took a bad turn, and the dear fellow passed away in January, 1900, deeply mourned by the scientific world, and a large circle of friends and admirers. I may add that I had the honour of being one of the pall-bearers at his almost public funeral. I mention these facts to make it clear that I was privileged to hear, day by day, over a very long period, almost every incident of interest relating to his brilliant labours.

### The Discovery of the Microphone.

As to Hughes' pioneer work in wireless, it should be explained that following on the world-adoption of his typeprinting telegraph instrument, his next notable achievement was the discovery of the microphone in December, 1877, and in May, 1878, he com-municated to the Royal Society particulars of his researches and experiments on this remarkable instrument, which may be said to form the foundation of telephony, and it is now generally known what an important feature of wireless the microphone is. But it was a revelation, in 1898, when Hughes showed how that even the footfalls of a common house-fly, as it walked over a board, could be heard with unmistakable distinctness at a telephone miles away.

### Wireless.

It is a long story of intensive research in this fascinating field which led up to the triumph of surcessful aerial transmission in December, 1879, when, at the invitation of Hughes, a small party, including W. H. Preece, F.R.S., Sir William Crookes, F.R.S., Sir W. Robert Austin, F.R.S., Prof. W. Gryll Adams, F.R.S., and Mr. W. Groves attended at his residence in Portland Street, W., to see the results.

### A Distinguished Assembly.

This was followed by another demonstration on February 20, 1880, when the party included Mr. Spottis-woode, Pres.R.S., and the two Hon. Secretaries of the R.S.-Prof. Huxley and Sir George G. Stokes. They all saw the experiments upon aerial transmission, which were most successful, the results being heard upon a telephone in connection with the receiving microphone. The transmit-ter and receiver were in different rooms, about 60 ft. apart. At first the distinguished scientists seemed astonished at the results, but towards the close of three hours' experiments Prof. Stokes said that all the results could be explained by known electromagnetic induction effects, and therefore he could not accept Hughes' view of actual aerial electric waves, unknown up to that time, but thought he had quite enough original matter to form a Paper on the subject to be read at the Royal Society.

### Discouraged.

On the departure of the distinguished visitors Hughes became so upset and discouraged at his inability to convince Stokes of the truth of these aerial electrical waves that he declared nothing would induce him to read a Paper on the subject, and he never did. In fact, he felt so much wounded and annoyed that he was on the point of throwing a large pile of manuscripts relating to these discoveries on the fire when Mrs. Hughes rushed forward, and was just in time to rescue them.

### Drifting.

The profound Cambridge mathematician little knew how this one great unfortunate mistake in his brilliant life was going to retard the progress of a great discovery and invention for nearly two decades; for although Hughes continued his work he drifted into researches on magnetism and was content to sit and see others rediscover what he already knew without making a single claim to priority; but is it not sad to think of how much his golden silence cost the world?

(Continued on page 293.)

# WHAT IS A LOW-LOSS COIL?

### By G. P. KENDALL, B.Sc.

It is at first surprising to see how popular low-loss apparatus has become, but upon considering the improved results obtained with apparatus of this type the reason is not far to seek.

THE "low-loss" fever seems to be gaining on us apace, and so long as we keep a sense of proportion about it all, there can be no doubt that our sets will be all the better for it. For some years now I have been preaching that one of the most crying needs of wireless development was concerned with the improvement of the commonly used types of tuning coils, and it is most encouraging to note how the widespread adoption of the phrase "low-loss" has directed attention to the really very great possibilities associated with the reduction of the admittedly high losses in tuned circuits.

### Advantages.

Within the last few months quite a large number of new types of coil have been devised, many of which really justify the appellation "low-loss," since in them the more important losses have been reduced in a very considerable measure, and no doubt many of the readers of WIRELESS will have discovered for themselves by now that these coils open up interesting possibilities of improved signal strength and greater sharpness of tuning.



### A pair of low-loss coils for shortwave work.

I think, in view of the fact that innumerable new coils to which the label "low-loss" is being somewhat indiscriminately applied are appearing upon the market and being described in yarious places, that it is desirable that every user of such coils should have a general idea of what to look for in a design which he is informed is a "low-loss" one. There are certain quite well understood features which should be present in a lowloss coil, and I will endeavour to give a simple acc

give a simple account of the more important of these in the lines which follow.



### A simple method of supporting an air-spaced winding.

Now, at the outset, we must become acquainted with the expression "high frequency resistance," since this is a convenient way of summing up the effect of all the losses in a coil, and saves time in referring to them. The high frequency resistance of a coil is capable of a very similar definition to that employed for the ordinary direct current resistance which we hear about in elementary electricity and magnetism, and we may say that it is a measure of the degree to which the various losses set up by a coil oppose the flow through that coil of a high frequency current The higher the losses of various sorts, the greater is the high frequency resistance of the coil.

### Low H.F. Resistance.

What we are trying to do, then, in producing a low-loss coil, is to design and make one whose high frequency resistance is as low as possible, and with this point firmly in mind, we will proceed to consider some of the sources of loss, and try to get an idea of their relative importance.

There was a time when there was a tendency to assume that if a coil was wound with thick wire, say, No. 16 gauge, the resulting inductance must be one of low resistance, but this idea is a quite erroneous one. It is quite possible to wind a really very high loss coil with thick wire, while one of a moderately fine gauge may yet be one of quite high efficiency, although  $\bar{1}$  do not wish to imply that the very highest degree of efficiency can be attained without a fairly robust gauge of wire,

The "Three-step" coil is one for which enamelled

wire is suitable.

### Only Surface of Wire Used.

We must real that the high frequency resistance of a fill depends, as one of its fators, use the crowding effect upon the name of the wire of the high free our ents, since we must remember that the currents do not flow through our part of the wire to any appreches extent. They crowd entirely upon the surface, and if there are other wire in the neighbourhood bearing, currents, they crowd upon that part of the surface which is as far as possible from the other wire in question. Thus we see that if we crowd a large number of turns into a small space, the currents will ten to confine themselves to quite small areas upon the surface of the wire, and the resistance of the coil is very much increased.

### "Skin Effect."

Here, then, we have one of the rules which is regarded as an essential in a low-loss coil: the turns must be separated from one another to a considerable extent, in order to keep down what is called the "skin effect." To keep this trouble down to the smallest possible dimensions, it is generally considered that a single layer coil, with the turns spaced slightly apart, approaches to the ideal.

Granted that the condition just laid down is present in the coil, we may next consider the question of the gauge of wire with which it is wound. Now, recent investigations seem to show that the use of thick wire is not of such extreme importance as it was at one time thought to be, and the problem is not a simple one, yet it may be re-

# What is a Low-Loss Coil ?-continued.

garded as a safe rule that our low-loss coil should have a fairly robust gauge, such as Nos. 24 or 22 or 20, No. 20 being commonly used in some of the better types.

### Insulated or Bare Wire?

The covering employed upon the wire is not a matter of such great importance as it was in the more compact types of inductance, since the turns are not to touch one another at any point, and it is quite possible to use bare wire. As a matter of fact, enamelled wire seems to be coming into its own once more, for it is almost ideal for such coils as the ones we are considering. It serves the useful purpose of protecting the surface of the wire from corrosion, and that is all.

Given that we are to work with a coil of the single-layer variety, with the turns spaced slightly apart, the question of the shape of the coil arises. This factor is capable of influencing the efficiency of the coil to a quite



While we are considering the shape of the coil, it should be mentioned that the ratio of the length of the coil to its diameter is also a moderately important factor, since this again affects the amount of wire which must be coiled up to produce a certain amount of inductance. A coil which is very short in relation to its diameter can be taken as somewhat more efficient than one which is longer and of a lesser diameter. This factor only assumes really important proportions when somewhat exaggerated cases are taken. In general, the common ratios of length to diameter give coils which do not fall far short of the ideal one of the exactly correct length-todiameter ratio.

Another factor of moderate importance is the one commonly referred to as dielectric loss. We must remember that in constructing a tuning coil it is generally necessary to use a certain amount of insu-

lating material,

either to separate

the turns from

one another, or

to support our

single-layer wind-

ing. For example, the coil may be wound

upon a tube, an l this tube must be of some insulating material." Skeleton Formers. Now, all the i n s u l a t i n g materials suitable for our pur-



These coils were designed for transmission upon short waves.

serious extent, since if a given length of wire is coiled up in different ways some shapes will produce a coil of greater "inductance" than others. Naturally, we aim at producing the highest inductance for a given length of wire, so that we can tune to the desired wavelength using the minimum length of wire.

### Shape of Coil.

Without troubling the reader with the reasons, it may be said that a cylindrical coil, that is to say, one with a circular cross section, achieves our end to the best advantage, and a square one is least desirable. Intermediate between the square and the true cylinder is the many-sided shape, such as the hexagonal type. These are fairly effective, since they approach the shape of the cylindrical ideal, and they are used to a considerable extent in the case of coils wound on a skeleton former. p o s e produce losses when they are included in what is called the electro-static field of the coil, and the extent of this loss will vary in accordance with the quantity of material so included, the part of the field in which it is placed, and the particular characteristics of the material which we are using. These losses I have not found experimentally to be of very large proportions upon the broadcast band in comparison with others which take place in the coil, but they are yet worthy of consideration.

In a good low-loss coil, therefore, we shall expect to see that the amount of dielectric material has been considerably reduced below the amount which would obtain if the coil were simply wound upon a piece of tube or consisted of a mass of wire with insulating material between the turns.

For example, there are a number of skeleton-type formers consisting of rods or strips mounted be ween two end rings which are very popular at the present time, and there is no doubt that they are well worth while if we are seeking really high efficiency. Bearing this point in mind, that is to say, that the construction should be



Instead of using a complete skeleton former the turns may be supported on separate strips of ebonite.

such that there is as little insulating material as possible in use, we see that our low-loss principle must be extended to the method of mounting the coil, since if we take a really good low-loss inductance, mounted upon certain types of plug-and socket arrangement, we may quite possibly be introducing rot worther losses.



Three important features of a lowloss coil. A denotes the fairly robust wire, B the spacing between turns, and C the small amount of dielectric supporting material.

To sum up, then, we look in our lowloss coil to see these main features present:---

1. A fairly robust gauge of wire. 2. A spaced-out winding.

3. The minimum amount of insulat-

ing material in the field of the coil. 4. An approximately correct length to diameter ratio.





### KGO, the Station at Oaklands, Cal.

W HATEVER effect the new art of radio may have upon education —its influence is far larger than one can imagine—there is no question that it has had a stimulating effect upon our interest in geography. I wonder how many adults could have told you of the actual position of such towns as Hilversum. Konigswusterhausen (although this is really a suburb) or many others which give daily programmes, prior the meaning them by radio?

### A Universal Desire.

In America this identification of place names has gone forward to an

extraordinary degree, owing to the multiplicity of broadcast stations and the almost universal desire to "get distance." In previous articles I have indicated how exceptionally well wireless programmes carry through the ether of the United States, for which reason when conditions are favourable it is comparatively easy to receive stations a thousand miles away.

A year or two ago scarcely anyone had ever heard of Fort Worth, Texas, yet to-day millions of Americans could locate it in a second on the map, for this locality possesses a broadcasting station which is heard throughout the whole of the States, and indeed, is eagerly sought by listeners in New York as a proof of the efficiency of their particular set. Oaklands, California, is another locality made famous by broad-

easting, which during the winter months can frequently be heard even in New York.

### Requirements for Long Distance Work.

Given the right atmospheric conditions, there are two other requirements requisite in long-distance working (assuming, of course, that the transmitting stations are doing their part). The first is sensitivity and the second sufficient selectivity to be immune from the interference of the local station when the distant station is sought. The reason for the selectivity and sensitivity I have already indicated in previous articles.

### The Distance Craze.

I have often been asked whether this hunt for distance is due to dissatisfaction of the local programme or whether it is merely the joy of receiving distant stations. I am quite satisfied in my own mind that the craze for distance is due entirely to the pleasure of just hearing the distant stations, and I am quite sure that 99 per cent. of the distance hunters do not care two pins what the distant station is playing or sending



The apparatus room at WJZ, New York, one of the stations which we may hear this winter relayed from Keston.

out, provided he announces himself at reasonably frequent intervals. The reception of distant stations in America resembles the reception of distant stations in this country atmospherics, interference from all kinds of noises, mar the reception there just as they do here. Although in America, as here, there are still some advertisers who endeavour to create the impression that their sets can receive a station hundreds of miles away in such a manner that you might mistake it for the local station, the more discrete manufacturer has long since given up any illusion on this matter.

### Manufacturers' Views.

That the average listener really wants long distance reception and not merely to be able to choose from among the locals, is proved by the fact that almost without exception this season's receivers are made to contain two stages of really efficient highfrequency amplification. How many British sets are so equipped? Since I began writing this series of articles I have heard from several manufac-

turers that, as there are not the number of stations in England that there are in America, our sets do not need to be anything like so selective. I really think this is quite the wrong attitude to take. Having used two or three of the best American re-ceivers in England during the last few months I have come to the conclusion that the higher the degree of selectivity in the receiver (so long as this is accompanied by sensitivity) the greater is the pleasure that can be derived from its operation. In my opinion, in most parts of England a really good valve set should give the listener the choice of three B.B.C. programmes (excluding Daventry) reproduced in such a manner as to make any one of them a real pleasure to listen to. This is what the public wants and will ultimately get.







LISSEN TI TRANSFORMER



LISSEN T2 TRANSFORMER



LISSEN T3 TRANSFORMER



LISSEN L.F. CHOKE

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BUILD A BETTER AMPLIFIER



ERE ONE DOUBTFUL as to the merits of the Igranic Low-Loss Square Law Variable Condenser one has but to note the type of circuits for which this instrument is recommended by well-known experts on receiver construction to be assured that here at last is available a laboratory instrument, and at a reasonable price.

In the September issue of Modern Wireless three Igranic Low-Loss Variable Condensers were specified for "The Harmony Four," an instrument for which the author claims surprising volume, purity, and very sharp tuning. In the same issue appear also particulars of "The America Three" by yet another author in which Igranic Low-Loss Variable Condensers are also given pride of place. This circuit, as its name implies, being designed for the reception of American stations.

In Wireless Constructor of the same month Igranic Low-Loss Variable Condensers were employed by yet another author for a Low-Loss Reinartz Circuit, a selective single-valve receiver.

These three examples serve to show the favour in which this highly efficient Igranic Radio device is held when longer range and greater selectivity are required.

Build Igranic Low-Loss Square Law Variable Condensers into your next receiver-your dealer stocks them.

	1	1	MAD	E IN	FOUR	SI	ZES:			
Capacities				Price	Cap	acit	ies			Price
.00015 mfd.		 		19/6	.00	05	mfd.	 	 	24/-
.0003 ,,		 		21/-	.00	I		 ••	 	27/6

These are the reasons for the super-efficiency of the Igranic Condenser :---

I,OW LOSSES.—Special method of mount-ing fixed plates reduces dielectric losses to an absolute minimum,

2. LOW EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE con-nected to moving plates by means of flexible spiral conductor ensures positive electrical contact and noiseless operation.

3. EARTHED ROTOR. - Moving plates electrically connected to frame of condenser-pro-

IGRANIC RADIO DEVICES include:-Honeycomb Duolateral Coils, Variable Condensers, Fixed Condensers, Filament Rheostats, Intervalve Trans-formers, Variable Grid Leaks, Variometers, Vario-Couplers, Coil Hoiders, Potentio-meters, Combined Instruments, Vernier Tuning Devices, Switches, Valve Holders, etc., etc. All carry the IGRANIC guarantee. vides adequate shield and eliminates stray capacity

vides adequate shield and climinates stray capacity effects.
4. SMOOTH ACTION ensured by special ball bearines. Facilitates precise tuning adjustment.
5. SQUARE I.AW OR STRAIGHT LINE. Specially shaped plates give straight-line tuning relations between dial settings and wavelengths.
6. ROBUST CONSTRUCTION.—Fixed and moving plates of heavy gauge brass sheet. Perfectly rigid and will not warp.

METAL FRAME.—Adequate shielding and strength are provided by a frame of specially pre-pared hardened aluminium alloy.

8. INSTRUMENT FINISH.—Highest quality scientific instrument finish, handsome combined tapered knob, and 4-inch "Bakelite" bevelled dial. 9.—EASY TO MOUNT AND CONNECT. Drilling templates provided with each condenser. Soldering tags to facilitate making connections.

> STOP PRESS!

For the "Coastal Three" described in the October issue of Modern Wireless Igranic Square Law Condensers were again specified.



Works : Elstow Road, Bedford

WIRELESS. 271



T HOUGH the public are apparently quite unsuspicious, there exists an underworld in the wireless trade, just as in the motor, cycle, gramophone, or other trades. It is from this we have the flood of unsatisfactory and often useless apparatus and component parts imported. I think that I voice the opinion of the majority of readers when I say that, unless one buys a branded and wellknown make, it is often extremely difficult to purchase even a really reliable condenser.

### Unsatisfactory Components.

A short time ago my curiosity led me to purchase a condenser at ten different shops in London, presumably responsible dealers. I submitted each to a laboratory test, and found that



## An inferior coil was the cause of all the trouble!

in no single case was the capacity that with which it was marked. This set me thinking that the public were being greatly misled, either wilfully or by ignorance, and that the time has come when the unknown, irresponsible manufacturer should be eliminated, and that all component parts should be such as will bear a test. I bought other parts with results equally unsatisfactory, and one day last week I was invited by a friend to see and test a very expensive set he had just purchased, and of which he was justly proud.

### A £70 Set and not a Soldered Connection !

From the first moment I put on the 'phones I saw that, though there were results, they were about 50 per cent. of what they should have been. I wanted to unscrew and open the beautifully polished cabinet in which the set was enclosed, but my friend demurred, fearing lest I might scratch the polish. At last I prevailed upon him to allow me to investigate, and I at once realised the seat of the trouble. The wiring inside was wretchedly carried out, and there was not one single soldered contact! And



The only place for a poor H.T. battery is the dust-bin!

the cost of that set was something in the neighbourhood of  $\pounds70!$ 

This sort of thing is highly unsatisfactory and reprehensible. Many of the small "garret manufacturers" are ignorant of the most elementary laws of radio, and unable to describe the difference between inductance and capacity, or between an ohm and a farad, and employ workmen of similar ignorance. Parts are made by ruleof-thumb without any testing apparatus available, neatly finished, boxed up with imposing terminals, and boldly marked what they are supposed to be. In this way shoddy and worthless apparatus masquerades as good and reliable material.

### A Warning to the Home Constructor.

A man buys one of these inefficient condensers, for example, introduces it into an expensive set he is making, and, when complete, he has the chagrin of finding that his chosen circuit gives only poor results, far below his neighbour's, which cost only



Poor telephones spoilt a whole evening's enjoyment.

half or less to construct. He little dreams that the very attractivelooking condenser is the seat of all the trouble. Only if he puts the faulty condenser into another set known to give good results with the same circuit, or if he suspects it and has it tested, will he discover the source of the trouble.

### Telephones (?)

I have been shown telephone earpieces which, on being unscrewed, have been found to be wound at haphazard with what has seemed to be any piece of old wire in the workshop. As for resistance, well, such instruments may be anything from 150 to 10,000 ohms. Imagine the difficulties of an amateur with an otherwise capable set in possession of such earpieces, the light, perhaps, differing from the left. The average listener to broadcasting possesses no technical knowledge, hence he takes all for granted and accepts in good faith everything offered to him, quite un-



### Generally shoddy and worthless apparatus imported from alien sources.

aware that he is getting results only half as clear and loud as he should.

It should not be thought that I am accusing the wireless trade in general of supplying the public with dud goods. Far from it. I take up the cudgels against the backstreet, irresponsible and generally alien manufacturers, who buy from men who have no technical knowledge, and who, for example, work according to a formula of, say, so many turns of wire. They make the turns irrespective of the gauge of the wire.

### Something Ought to be Done.

My contention is that all condensers, either fixed or variable, verniers, transformers, couplers — in fact, everything "behind the panel" should be tested before it is marked and sold. By this means we should not have our sets marred by one faulty part of the apparatus, as they sometimes are, and we should obtain increases in selectivity, range and volume, reduce noises, improve quality.

### THE WIRELESS UNDERWORLD-Continued.

and make it easier perhaps to stop our sets from radiating to the annoyance of our neighbours.

The British radio trade is a large and increasing one, and must very shortly, if properly conducted, eclipse that of the United States. If the present state of affairs is permitted, however, and the underworld allowed to flourish, we shall quickly see a diminution in volume, and the public enthusiasm be lost.

### An Old Hand.

As an experimenter in radio over nearly a quarter of a century, I have at heart the interests of the science, and that of the amateur who is entertained by it. I have been through all the experimental troubles in the early spade-work of radio-telephony, by which my bank balance was sadly de-

pleted by failure after failure and the ruining of much expensive apparatus. Practical experience over a long period has learnt me, and my fellow-workers in the field of those earlier days, that only by the best and most accurately calibrated apparatus can the best results be obtained. Therefore it irritates me, and, no doubt, it disgusts everyone with a radio set, to think that this underworld of ignorance which fattens upon and profits by the lure which radio has for the average man or woman in search of evening entertainment and instruction for which he or she is prepared to pay, should hand forth rubbish which is not only worthless, but which upsets the results otherwise obtainable on the average sets, and which at the same time competes with British-made goods.

# Wireless for Ships Lifeboats

**R**ÉADERS will remember that there appeared in WIRELESS No. 4 a very interesting article entitled "Some Famous Wireless Rescues," which gave an account of how several thousands of lives have been saved by the prompt response of other ships to the S.O.S. calls of sinking and disabled liners.

In some cases it will be appreciated that a distress call is not always tively but a short time since the ss. Trevessa gave us a too vivid example of this possibility, a fact which is probably familiar to most readers. An interesting development in the

An interesting development in the direction of locating and picking up lifeboats of wrecked vessels has recently taken place, in that the Board of Trade has recently introduced regulations which prescribe that ships' lifeboats must under eer-

tain conditions carry wireless receiving and t r a numitting apparatus of fairly long range.

The photo-graphs accompanying this article show a type of wireless installation for this purpose, manufactured by the Radio Communication Co., Ltd., and a short description of it may be of interest. The apparatus consists of 250 - watt a

The apparatus is protected from the weather, access to the instruments being given through a special sleeve, while a port-hole permits the operator to see what he is doing.

sufficient to protect passengers and crew from terrible privations. What happens, for instance, if the doomed vessel sinks before the rescuing ships arrive? In such circumstances her human freight take to the lifeboats and drift perilously until picked uppossibly a matter of several days if the wreek occurred off the beaten track! In this connection it is relatransmitter working on 600 metres, and a three-valve receiver employing one detector and two stages of low-frequency amplification with variometer tuning over a 500-700 metre wave-band. A special threeposition switch allows either transmitter or receiver to be used, or power to be cut off altogether. The receiver and transmitter are totally enclosed and protected against seawater, rough weather, etc. The controls can be seen through a circular window and access to them is gained by means of a waterproof sleeve.

by means of a waterproof sleeve. A large storage battery provides the H.T. and L.T. for the receiver, and in addition drives the motor alternator for the transmitter. It is interesting to note that a crystal detector is provided as an alternative in the receiver in case of emergencies.



### The installation is self-contained, the masts being about 22 feet high.

The aerial masts shown have a height of about 22 ft. above water level. Recent tests have shown that the installation can send telegraphy signals capable of being heard on a 1-valve receiver without reaction over a distance of 300 miles under favourable conditions. The minimum range required by the Board of Trade is 80 miles.

PRESERVING TERMINALS ......

The original lustre of new terminals may be retained by dipping them in pure shellac varnish. The head need only be dipped and not the screwed shank. The contact faces should be tightly gripped together before dipping to prevent the varnish reaching them. Do not unscrew until the shellacked surface is quite dry. A similar process may be employed with the use of enamel. If shellac is used, the terminals will assume a yellowish but bright appearance which will remain for a considerable time.

F. O. R.



# 'EVERYONE'S MENTAL TOOL-BOX."

### Jerome K. Jerome Tells Readers How To Make The Best Use of Their Brains.

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is the increasing

popularity of Pelmanism. Well-

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women advocate

and advise it. Thousands of

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of the

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LERIGH & Fry. the country JERO"E K.JERO"E, people of every the distinguished author, who recommends Pelmanism to very one who whiles to make the full est use of his or her brain. ing their Efficiency the distinguished for the brain.

estuse of his other brain. Ing their Efficiency and consequently their Earning Power by this means, and are training their minds and developing their intellectual and business powers with the aid of the wonderful "Little Grey Books" issued by the Pelman Institute.

### How to Use Your Mental Faculties.

This excellent sign of the times promises well for the future, for, as that accom-plished writer, Jerome K. Jerome, points out, Pelmanism should be the basis of all education.

"Every youngster," he writes, "comes into this world provided with a fine box of tools necessary for his life's work. It is neatly packed, and nothing is missing. He carries it in his brain. It contains CONCENTRATION, OBSERVATION, IMAGINATION, OBSERVATION, IMAGINATION (the mother of enter-prise), ORGANISATION—quite a number of usef I tools, mostly ending in 'tion.' And, above all, MEMORY.

"Properly employed, they will enable him to accomplish any task to which. Fate may call him. But nobody shows him how to use them.

### Making Full Use of the Brain.

"'Oh, that's all right,' we say, 'he'll find out in time.' So he does, with luck, towards the end of middle life, after years of bungling and despair. But by a little help in the beginning, by the help of Pelmanism, by showing him

- -how to employ and become deft in the use of his brain ;
- -how to observe truly and perceive rapidly;
- -how to concentrate his attention and arrange his ideas;
- -how to think and how to reason :
- -above all, how to remember,

he might have been a useful member of society from the beginning.

"As it is, he has to trust to hearing about Pelmanism. I am more than willing to help in making it known to him. He ought to have been taught it when he was young. The sooner he takes it up the better for him and the country. It won't turn him into a genius. It won't put more brain into him than the Lord gave him. But-

"it will enable him to make full use of the brain he has been given.

"Most of us at present are wasting it."

### Remarkable Reports.

Reports received daily from readers who have taken up Pelmanism prove the soundness of Jerome K. Jerome's advice. Here are a few extracts taken at random from letters received by the Pelman Institute describing the benefits secured as a result of practising this wonderful system.

- A Merchant states that Pelmanism has enabled him to rise from an employee to an employer.
- A Clergyman states that his preaching has improved.
- A Journalist reports a "substantial in-crease of salary" and a vast im-provement in Concentration, Memory and Mental Alertness.
- A Clerk states that he has been promoted three times.
- An Artist writes: "The results are wonderful. What I have gained could never be called costly even had I paid £50."
- A Woodworker reports an increase of 50 per cent. in wages.
- A Shop Assistant reports a great improvement in Observation, Memory, Concentration and "all-round efficienev."
- An Assistant Cashier states that he has secured a better position.
- A Manager reports an increase of 200 per cent. in salary.
- A Salesman reports that Pelmanism has given him "increased self-confidence, more tenacious memory, and a rise of £145 per annum."

Thousands of similar eases could be mentioned. More will be found in the copy of "The Efficient Mind," which will be sent you, gratis and post free, on writing for it to-day.

This book contains articles by many of the most celebrated people of the day, and shows you how you can enrol for a Course of Pelmanism on the most convenient of Pelmanism on the nost convenient terms. It will be posted free to any address on application to the Pelman Institute, S8, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.I.

Readers who would like to eall at the Institute and see the Consultant are heartily invited to do so. The Consultant will be very pleased to have a talk with them on any matter affecting their personal efficiency, and no fee will be charged for his advice.

### THE MOST PERFECT SYSTEM OF MIND TRAINING. .

The Pelman Course, which is so strongly recommended by Jerome K. Jerome, and other well-known authorities, including :---

Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch Lord Riddell The Rt. Hon. J. M. Robertson Mr. E. F. Benson The Baroness Orczy Maj.-Gen. Sir F. Manrice

The Rt. Hon. T. P. O'Connor, M.P. Sir Harry Johnston Canon Hannay Mr. Bart Kennedy Dr. Ethel Smyth Sir L. G. Chiozza Money and

Mr. Max Pemberton Sir Theodore Cook

is based on the unique experience gained by the Pelman Institute, in training the minds of over 500,000 men and women of every age, type and position in life.

Needless to say, the Pelman System, with all this wonderful experience behind it, is universally admitted to be the most perfect system of scientifically training the mind that has ever been devised.

### Thinking Constructively.

The present Pelman Course embodies the results of the latest discoveries in Psychology in a practical and easily assimilated form.

Swiftly and surely it eradicates such mental defects and "handicaps" as :--

Forgetfulness
Brain-Fag
Inertia
Weakness of WH
Lack of Meas
Mental Depression

Indecision Shyness Irrational "Fears" Lack of System Procrastination

Mind-Wandering

which interfere with the effective working power of the brain. And it develops in their place such valuable qualities as :--

-Concentration	-Organising Power
-Observation	-Directive Ability
-Perception	-Forcefulness
-Judgment	-Self-Confidence
-Initiative	-Self-Control
-Will-Power	-Tact
-Decision	- Reliability
- Resourcefulness	-Business Acumen
and a Re	liable Memory.

Above all, it develops Driving Force, Energy, and the power to think creatively, consecutively and constructively.

It is simple and easy to follow and only takes up a few minutes daily. As the "Little Grey Books " are printed in handy " pocket-size," you can study them in 'bus or train or in odd moments during the day.

The Course is fully described in a book entitled "The Efficient Mind." In order to obtain a free copy of this book, just fill up the following coupon and post it to-day to the Pelman Institute, 88, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

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Bretwood Grid-leak and Condenser, 50,000 to 15 megohms, guaranteed. Price 4/

CALLERS. We stock every-

WIRELESS. 275





The battery for the detector is housed within the box.

THIS article describes how to make a complete carborundum detector unit, which may be used in conjunction with any existing crystal receiver, it being necessary in this case to short the crystal on the receiver itself. The unit is also use-ful as a stand-by detector, as owing to its stability it may always be relied upon once it has been properly set or adjusted.

### Material.

The material required will be as follows :

- Potentiometer 600 ohms-Shipton.
- 3 Telephone terminals . .- Nickel.
- 4 W.O. terminals . . . . . . . . ,



Fig. 1.-The panel should be marked out and drilled in conformity with the above drawing.

### Construction.

The panel is drilled as shown in Fig. 1, all the holes being 4B.A. clear, with the exception of the potentiometer mounting hole. Details of the detector are fully

### By H. BRAMFORD.

A useful detector which may be used as a stand-by.

given in Fig. 2. The carborundum crystal is fixed into the cup with Woods metal and the spring is made from tempered steel.

### Assembly

The wiring and assembly are given in the first figure, and for purposes of simplicity the work should be comof simplicity the work should be com-menced by first mounting upon the panel the four W.O. terminals,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$ ; next, the telephone ter-minals  $T_2$ ,  $T_4$  and  $T_2$ . Terminal  $T_6$  is a small pillar terminal. The crystal cup is mounted in the position indi-ted and the accemble is completed cated, and the assembly is completed with the fixing of the potentiometer. The connections to be made from

the underside of the panel are as



# Fig. 2.—The tension of the spring is adjusted by moving the head of $T_8$ .

follows :- Terminal T, is connected externally to the crystal set. Terminal T2 is connected to T5. Terminal  $T_{\sigma}$  is used only for connecting either a link or extra phones. Terminal  $T_{\tau}$  is equipped with a flexible lead, the end of which is equipped with a valve pin, upon which a white Clix panel bush is attached between the two securing nuts. Terminal  $T_4$  is equipped with a flex lead in a similar way, the panel bush in this case being black. A wire link connects m way, the panel bush in this case being black. A wire link connects  $T_a$  and  $T_a$  on the upper side of the panel. Connection is made from  $T_a$  to one of the potentiometer terminals (Fig. 1). The other potentiometer terminal is equipped with a flex lead and valve pin with a red Clix panel bush. Final connection is made from the potentiometer switch arm to the crystal cup.

### Batteries.

The two batteries are connected in series. A 4B.A, clearance hole is first punched in each of the battery tags. The positive tag (short) of one battery is then secured by means of a valve socket to the negative of the other

cell. The remaining positive and negative tags of each battery are then equipped with valve sockets. Plug P1 is inserted into battery B1-negative.



Fig. 3.-The theoretical connections of the unit.

P2 into B1 and B2 centre or common socket, and P<sub>3</sub> into B<sub>2</sub> positive (Fig. 3). Circuit.

The theoretical circuit is shown in Fig. 3. Here the terminal and plug and socket numbers correspond with the numbers given in the other diagrams, for purposes of reference.

### Operation.

To operate the detector connect terminals  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  to the telephone terminals of the set and short the original detector with a piece of wire. The three telephone terminals enable two pair of phones to be used if desired. If one pair of phones is used, connect them across  $T_s$  and  $T_r$ .



The tension of the steel contact upon the carborundum crystal is regulated by means of the head of terminal Te (Fig. 2), upon which the spring rests. When the unit is not in use the link between terminals  $T_a$  and  $T_4$  should be removed, otherwise the cells will be given unnecessary use and eventually become used up.



Since the commencement of the Broadcasting era, no more useful or more popular device has been introduced than the Polar Cam-Vernier principle—which has added infinitely to the simplicity of fine tuning, and appeals to any listener who appreciates soundness of design.

The Polar Cam-Vernier Device (Patent No. 17838/25) is illustrated diagrammatically above. This diagram shows: (A) the "driven" member—coilholder or condenser, etc.; (B) the friction disc; (C) the centre spindle and rotating plate carrying pin (D) engaging in slot in intermediate plate; (E) the cam, integral with the intermediate plate, carrying an eccentric pin which engages in slot in driven member A.

This device, which occupies less than 3/16 inch in thickness, gives 10 degrees of "vernier" movement (about 1 to 8) at any portion of the sweep—at the end of which the positive movement operates.

### The 'Polar' Cam-Vernier Variable Condenser

embodies the principle described above—both rough and vernier adjustments being registered

on scale. The vanes are designed to give true squarelaw readings when working with parallel capacities (e.g., self-capacity of inductance coil) and scale readings are continuously proportional to wavelengths. Single - hole fixing, low-loss ebonite endplates '001 mfd., 12/6; '0005, 11/6; '0003, 10/6.



The 'Polar' Cam-Vernier Coil-Holder

is made in three types: Type "J," the most popular, made of best grade ebonite, nickel-

plated fittings; can be locked in positive drive by pulling knob outwards; twoway 6/-, 3-way 9/6. Type "N" has in addition a rotary movement as well as swing, giving extremely fine variations from closecoupled to right-angled loose position; 2-way 11/-, 3-way 17/-, Basket-coil Typelighter in construction-2way 4/6; 3-way 7/-.

Q

Sold by Radio Dealers everywhere. In case of difficulty write to:-Radio Communication Co. Ltd.

34-35, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

October 24, 1925.



THE world has always contained a large number of confirmed borrowers, the kind of fellows who are just as ready to touch you for half-acrown at sight as to call round in the evening and beg the loan of your lawn mower or your step-ladder. Some people, in fact, seem to have brought to a fine art the process of living without possessing anything worth talking about. But never in the history of the world has borrowing been quite so extensively practised as it has been since the coming of wireless!

### Wireless and Morals.

Everyone is agreed that wireless has devastating effects upon the moral character of any man, and nowhere is the truth of this better seen than in the perfect orgy of borrowing which has been observed of late in all classes of society.

### Well-known Excuses.

The best people, of course, always return what they have borrowed after a more or less lengthy lapse of time.



When they do so they explain so charmingly that the filament of the borrowed valve was broken before you lent it, or that it was a good thing that the transformer let them and not you down by burning out, that you really cannot be angry with them.

### "Quid Pro Quo."

If wise you treasure up their honeyed words in your memory and make use of them next time you return something in what we may call a slightly second-hand condition. In wireless there are not, as in other matters, two sharply defined classes, the borrowers and the lenders. Since everyone is a borrower, it follows naturally that everyone must also be a lender, though some people are more so than others. One of the most generous lenders that I know has, to the best of my belief, never spent a penny upon wireless apparatus in his life. If you go round to his den you will find it simply stacked with every kind of component that you can imagine. He has several receiving sets of various sizes in full working order, and every kind of valve from the peanut to the most expensive power valve. He will lend you almost without your asking for it, practically anything that you want. Should you desire a coil of particular size he will offer you a selection; this one belong-



"... Return something in a slightly second-hand condition ..."

ing to X, that one to Y, and that one to Z. He will ask you to return them to their owners when you have finished with them.

### A Friendly Tip.

It occurred to me some time ago to try to discover the reason for my friend's enormous success as an acquirer of wireless material. He is not a particularly charming man; m fact, I should have said off-hand that he was not the sort of person to whom anyone would ever lend anything. But there it is; his den looks like a wireless shop. After long and strenuous investigation, I have at last hit upon the secret, and I now divulge it for your benefit, reader, in case you should combine a passion for wireless with an overdrawn bank account. His procedure in the first instance was simplicity itself. He borrowed from various friends a volt-



meter, an ammeter and a milliammeter. Thus provided, he found the rest perfectly straightforward. If, for example, he coveted the very expensive transformer with which Joskins had provided himself, he would look at it critically and say, "Yes, its appearance is all right, but I rather wonder whether it contains enough wire. Do you know the d.c. resistance of the primary and secondary windings?" Joskins, of course, did not, but after a short talk with my friend he became convinced that he wished to know this more than anything else in the world. The borrower therefore took the transformer home, and had the use of it for quite a long time, explaining when Joskins met him and asked him when he was going to have the information that he sought that these jobs took a good deal of time and had to be most carefully done.

### Obliging with Valve Curves.

When it was known that my friend might, if you asked him nicely enough, be induced to take valve curves, he was simply snowed under with valves of all kinds and with requests to provide their characteristics.

Since he first started on his career he has made considerable advances in the scope of his operations. Having borrowed a wavemeter, he now undertakes to calibrate inductances, high frequency transformers or complete receiving sets. He has always several wavemeters in stock since he verifies the calibration of these for his friends, who are vastly obliged to him for his kindness. Now that he has added a borrowed "megger" to his equipment the ebonite question no longer troubles him at all, since he has always ample supplies at hand.

### His Only Worry.

The only worry my friend has at the present time is that his house is really too small to accommodate the



### • . . He'll succeed in borrowing the president's house . . . ."

enormous stock of materials, components and complete apparatus that he has accumulated. He has let it be known that he is so cribbed, cabined and confined that he cannot carry out his work properly, and the other members of the community, realising the splendid work that he is doing for them by testing and calibrating, feel that it is a thousand pities that his style should be cramped in any way. The president of the wireless club is a bachelor, who lives in a house that is really many sizes too large for him. There is at the moment a movement on foot to induce the said president to lend his house to my friend and to move himself into the latter's smaller quarters. So far the president has not adopted quite the unselfish attitude that one would like to see in such cases, but I have little doubt that before long my friend will have succeeded in borrowing his house.



### A Popular Conductor.

T is a considerable time since Sir Landon Ronald has conducted a concert for the B.B.C., and Sunday's programme, therefore, will have addi-



### Mr. Dale Smith.

tional interest. It will form the tional interest. It will form the greater part of the afternoon pro-gramme, Sir Landon conducting the Wireless Symphony Orchestra. The programme offers abundant variety, including Wagner's "Rienzi" Overture, Elgar's Andante for Strings, a

Mozart Symphony and Svendsen's "Carnival in Paris." At 4.30 Mr. E. Le Breton Martin, whose talks on birds and country lore have become known, will read "The Song of Honour," a poem by Ralph Hodgson, set to music by L. Stanton Jefferies.

The second half of the programme is essentially English in character. It includes the late Mr. George Butter-worth's Rhapsody, "A Shropshire Lad." The composer, it will be remembered, lost his life in the Great War, and it is worth noting that Vaughan Williams' "London Sym-



### Miss Doris Vane.

phony " included in last Sunday's programme is dedicated to the young man's memory.

### Unique Features.

On the religious side, the peal of bells from Croyland Abbey will be broadcast, and a Roman Catholic address by Rev. Father Bampton. The

secular programme will be shared by the J. H. Squire "Celeste" Octet, now led by Mr. Bernard Reillie, the singer being Mr. Denis Noble, the B.N.O.C. star, and Miss Edith Penville the lady flautiste, as soloist.

### Storm and Calm.

As a rule, it is said, that the calm comes before a storm, but Monday's programme intends to reverse this aspect, and depict the emotional con-trast of Storm and Calm. "The Flying Dutchman" Overture makes an excellent beginning, and a very beautiful programme follows, ranging through the best specimens of Beeth-oven, Rossini, Elgar, Debussy and Grieg. The artists are Miss Mary Foster and Mr. Harold Williams. The latter, in addition to being one of the best known singers on concert and radio platforms, has just come fresh



### Miss Vivien Lambelet.

from his operatic triumphs with the B.N.O.C. at Leeds and Glasgow.

### Labour's Wireless Concert.

Under the ægis of the Daily Herald a special programme is to be broadcast on Tuesday, in which items will be supplied by the Workers' Chorus and Bands of various Labour centres. It should prove interesting.

### The Cart Before the Horse.

So many people, apparently, prefer cross-word puzzles and guessing com-petitions to listening to the music for itself alone, that it is not surprising that another query programme has been arranged for 2LO on Wednesday. On this occasion listeners are invited to think of the name while the work is being performed, and before the an-nouncer gives it at its conclusion.

### Continental and Chamber Music.

For those who like Continental pro-grammes, fresh opportunity will be given on Thursday for an hour, from 8 to 9 o'clock. Later, the Chamber Music Concert will be devoted to works by the young British composer, Miss Rebecca Clarke. Although well-

known on the classical concert platform for her performances as viola soloist, Miss Clarke has written some very interesting music, including a sonata for her own instrument, the



Miss Nellie Norway.

viola, and piano, and movements from which she will play to-night, with Mr. Bryan at the piano. An Instrumental Trio will also be played, with Miss Marjorie Hayward as violinist, Mr. Bryan piano, and the well-known 'cellist, Miss May Mukle, who has just returned from America.

### Those Good Old Times.

I am not sure that we should really appreciate the prosy old Victorian days, but at any rate on Friday next we shall have an opportunity of hear-ing some of its music. Firstly, a selection of Victorian ballads has been arranged by Robert Chignell, himself a well-known composer as well as a singer. Then a little scena laid in a mid-Victorian drawing-room will be heard, especially written by Tyrone Power, and after which I expect we shall enjoy the contrast, but secretly thankful that those " good old days " are dead and gone.



Mr. Harold Williams.

Later, as an additional contrast, will come that charming singer, Miss Vivien Lambelet, and Miss Toni Farrell, with some of her syncopated "pianologues," followed at 9.30 by a performance of Sea Shanties, sung by members of the Seven Seas Club, and relayed from Anderton's Hotel.

# THE GIFT OF TONGUES.

### By ANTHONY SOMERS.

I HAVE discovered a remarkable method of learning Foreign Languages, a method for which I have been looking all my life. I only wish I had known of it before; what toil, what drudgery, what disappointment I should have been saved !

It has sometimes been said that the British people do not possess the "gift of tongues." Certainly I never possessed that gift. At school I was hopeless. When the subject was French or German, Latin or Greek, I was always somewhere near the bottom of my form. And yet in other subjects— English or History or Mathematics —I held my own quite well. I have now come to the conclusion—my recent experience has convinced me of this—that the reason I failed to learn languages was that the method of teaching was wrong.

Now, although I never could "get on " with Foreign Languages, I have always wanted to know them-especially French. I have wanted to read the great French authors in the original. I have wanted to read Racine and Victor Hugo and Balzac, and that great critic whom Matthew Arnold so much admired, Sainte-Beuve, in French, and not merely through the medium of a characterless translation. Besides, I have wanted to spend holidays abroad without being tied to a phrase book. And so I have often tried to find a method which would really teach me a Foreign Language. And at last I have found it.

### How to Learn Languages.

Some time ago I saw an announcement entitled "A New Method of Learning French, Spanish, Italian and German." Of course, I read it, and when I saw that this method was being taught by the wellknown Pelman Institute, I wrote for one of their books on the subject, and this so interested me that I enrolled for the Course in FRENCH. And, frankly, it has amazed me. Here is the method I have wanted all my life. It is quite unlike anything I have seen or heard of before, and its simplicity and effectiveness are almost startling.

Consider, for example, this question with which the book (which, by the way, can be obtained free of charge) opens.

"Do you think you could pick up a book of 400 pages, written in a language of which you do not know a syllable—say, Spanish, German, Italian or French—and not containing a single English word, and read it through correctly without referring to a dictionary ?"

Most people will say that such a thing is impossible. Yet this is just what the Pelman method of language instruction enables one to do, and so remarkable is this method that I shall be greatly surprised if it doesn't revolutionise the normal method of teaching languages in this and other countries.

The Pelman Language Courses are based upon an original yet perfectly sound principle, and one of their most striking features is the fact that they are written entirely in the particular language (French, Spanish, Italian or German) concerned. There is not an English word in any of them. Even if you do not know the meaning of a single Foreign word you can study these Courses with ease, and read the lessons without a mistake, and without "looking-up" any words in a French-English, Spanish-English, Italian-English or German-English dictionary. This statement seems an incredible one, yet it is perfectly true, as you will see for yourself when you take the first lesson.

### Grammatical Difficulties Overcome.

Another important fact about this new method is that it enables one to read, write, and speak French, Italian, Spanish or German without bothering one's head with complex grammatical rules, or burdening one's memory with the task of learning by heart long vocabularies of Foreign words. And yet, when the student has completed one of the Courses, he or she is able to read Foreign books and newspapers and to write and speak the particular language in question accurately and grammatically, and without that hesitation which comes when a Foreign Language is acquired through the medium of English.

The Pelman method of learning French, Spanish, Italian or German by correspondence is fully explained in four little books (one for each language), and I strongly advise those who are interested to write for a free copy of one of these books to-day.



Everyone who wishes to learn FRENCH, SPANISH, ITALIAN or GERMAN without difficulty or drudgery should post this coupon to-day to the Pelman Institute (Languages Dept.), 88, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1. A copy of the particular book desired will be forwarded by return, gratis and post free.

### FREE APPLICATION FORM.

### To the PELMAN INSTITUTE (LANGUAGES DEPT.),

88, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1. Please send me a free copy of "HOW TO LEARN FRENCH"— "HOW TO LEARN GERMAN"—"HOW TO LEARN SPANISH"— "HOW TO LEARN ITALIAN" (cross out three of these), together with full particulars of the New Pelman Method of learning languages.

NAME		
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Dull Emitter Valves cost 14/- each. It takes a 2-valve Set to operate an ordinary Loud Speaker. Valves need renewal when burnt out. The Crystavox uses no valves—it works straight from your Crystal Set.



A high tension battery will cost about 15/-. It will last about six to nine months according to the size of your Set and the amount of current it requires. The Crystavox uses no valves and therefore requires no high tension battery.



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During Broadcasting hours our Mortimer Street Shewrooms are now demonstrating the Crystavox. If you cannot call and would prefer a demonstration at your own home write to the Sales Department at our North Acton Works. No charge is made for any private demonstration within five miles from Marble Arch and you will be placed under no obligation to purchase,



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means of the wonderful Crystavox. Here is a supersensitive Loud Speaker, which for purity of tone and economy of upkeep, is absolutely unrivalled. In fact, it requires no valves or accumulators-just attach it to your Crystal Set in place of the headphones and you will obtain a volume of sound sufficient to fill the entire room. No technical skill is required. Think what this

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use it-its simple mechanism is proof against mishandling. Try this Test: Try this fest: Owing to the wide variation of 1 cal con-ditions it is not possible to guarantee that every Crystal set will work a Crystavox. The test is this : Tune in to orrestest strength and For those fortunate enough

to live within easy reach of a Broadcasting Station, the use of a Crystavox with a Crystal Set is by far the cheapest, most reliable and most econo-

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rest is this i function of the first strength and hold the headphones 12 inches from the ear. If the signals can still be heard your Set is sufficiently powerful to operate a Crystavox.



Gilbert Ad. 3747

October 24, 1925.

and repeat the process with the second former. One of them will form the rotor and the other the stator. We

We

will deal with the rotor first.



THE set to be described was built at a cost of about 2s. 6d. The circuit is the common variometer circuit (Fig. 4). The panel is of threeply wood, well dried, 8 in. by 6 in., and is drilled as shown (Fig. 1). The only part which requires a detailed description is the variometer, which is constructed on the D-coil principle. This principle may present some difficulty to the beginner, but is easily explained.

### The Coils.

Consider the well-known type of variometer in which a ball rotor is made to turn inside a tube stator in such a way that the windings can be made to run in the same direction as those of the stator or in the opposite direction, thus increasing or decreasing the inductance of the variometer and thereby raising or lowering the wavelength. Such a rotor is shown in Fig. 3 (a). Now suppose that the ball is cut in half along the dotted line and the two halves laid side by side on the table. We shall now have two coils, one in each half of the rotor,



Fig. 1.—The panel is made of threeply wood and drilled in compliance with this drawing.

the windings of which will be seen as in Fig. 3 (b). Now if we flatten one side of each coil we shall get two coils



as in Fig. 3 (c). These are the socalled D-coils, and we can wind them flat, one on each semi-circle of a circular disc. If we wind another two coils

AERIAL AERIAL

Fig. 2.—Wiring details together with instructions for connecting the coil windings.

on two semi-circles of another disc to represent the stator, we can bring the discs very close together, and by making one disc rotate immediately above the other, we can obtain the full variometer effect. This we will now proceed to do. We shall have to wind two coils for the stator and two for the rotor. We cut out from a sheet of fairly stiff cardboard two circular discs, each 5 inches in diameter, and we cut 9 slots in each half circle as in Fig. 2. Seven slots are cut radially, each approximately one inch in length, and two other slots as shown. We now wind 25 turns of 24 s.w.g. double cotton-covered wire basket coil fashion, starting at slot 1, leaving about 4 inches of wire loose. Having reached slot 9, we do not carry on to the other side, but go straight across to slot 1 again, and so on till 25 turns have been wound. We bring the finishing end of the wire out through a small hole made in the cardboard former and cut, leaving about 8 inches of wire free for connecting purposes. We wind the other half of the former in the same way



Fig. 3.—Showing how the construction of the flat D type of coil is based on the method of winding the rotor of an ordinary variometer.

securing the disc between two nuts, one above and one below. (at X on

### A CRYSTAL SET FOR 2s. 6d.-cont.

the rotor in Fig. 2). Under the top nut secure the outside end of one of the windings ( $A_2$  in Fig. 2). Pass a



Fig. 4.—A simplified circuit of the receiver. 4B.A. screw through the disc from

below at Y and secure with a nut.



Fig. 5.—Showing how the adjusting handle is mounted.

Under this nut secure the outside end of the other winding, baring the wire



A few methods of providing a panet dial with reading indicators are given in the diagram. A short description of each suggestion is as follows:—



### Some suggestions for dial indicators.

A. Here a straight line is scratched on the panel with a sharp scriber, the indentation thus formed being filled with white enamel.

B. Here an ordinary countersunk screw is secured to the panel, the slot in the head of the screw acting as an indicating line. The surface of the screw head may be made to come dead flush with the lower external rim of

in each case, of course. The rotor is now complete. The disc forming the stator is secured to the panel by a 2B.A. flanged bush passing through a hole in the centre. Under the flange secure the *inside* end of one winding. The inside end of the other winding is secured under the nut on the screw at the edge of the panel (see wiring diagram, Fig. 2). The outside end of one of the stator coils goes to the aerial and the outside end of the other to earth. The rotor is now mounted over the stator by passing the 2B.A. rod through the bush and securing it on the front of the panel by a spring washer and nut, locking it with a second nut. The knob and pointer are then added. A piece of rubber-covered flex is used to connect the screw Y on the rotor (Fig. 2) to the bolt near the edge of the panel to which the inner end of one of the stator windings is secured. The distance separating rotor and stator should be about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. The photo-graphs show the complete set with the panel mounted on four wooden teet.

### Results.

Excellent results have been obtained with this set, equal to those given by a more expensive commercial set. The writer tested the wavelength range of this receiver with a wavemeter, and October 24, 1925.

found that it tuned from about 285 metres to 520 metres, thus covering the whole of the B.B.C. band of wavelengths. The signal strength at four miles from 2LO is excellent. The receiver, however, is not designed to receive 5XX.



The wiring of the receiver is extremely simple,

the condenser dial. If the screw head is painted black the slot will stand out clearly.

C. Here a piece of white celluloid is cut to a shape similar to that shown and glued to the surface of the panel.

D. Here the process is similar to that mentioned in suggestion A, only a small indentation is made with a fine drill instead of a scratch line.

E. Here a piece of thin brass is cut and bent to shape as shown. It is secured to the panel by means of a 6 B.A. screw.

• F. Here an ordinary pin is forced through a fine hole in the panel from the underside, the pointed end being bent over as shown. F. O. R.



A few methods of taking tappings from low-loss coils are described in this article. Each method is illustrated in the diagram.

A. Here we have a simple method of tapping a coil wound with enamelled wire. First scrape the enamel off the portion of the coil which is to be tapped. Twist a piece of bare wire around the scraped part of the coil as shown, and then solder. This method has the advantage of not injuring the coil. B. Here the tapping is made by means of the wire, which is used in the inductance itself. This suggestion is very adaptable for bare wire coils. Each tapping is made by means of a twist as shown, which is formed during the process of winding, at the desired intervals. The projection thus made is suitable for clip connections. C. In this case small brass tags are

C. In this case small brass tags are soldered on to the winding as shown. The winding may be covered, enamelled, or bare, insulation being removed where the tag is soldered.



### Some easily made coil tappings.

D. Here a piece of square wire is shown bent at right angles and soldered on to the winding. The latter two suggestions are for use in conjunction with clip connectors.

B. R. A.







HE Dubilier Condenser Co. 1925) Ltd. manufactures the largest condensers in the world, using the best dielectric in the world (*i.e.*,

Mica) in the largest Condenser factory in the World.

Our factory at Acton is illustrated above, together with the largest Condenser in the world, which was manufactured entirely by us at our works.

The fact that we produced the first practicable mica condenser is evidence of our ability as experimenters and pioneers, while the further fact that we are to-day, after twelve years of development, the largest manufacturers of wireless condensers in the world is evidence of the outstanding quality of our products.

The Dubilier Condenser Co. (1925) Ltd., manufactures :- Fixed Mica Condensers, Variable Air Condensers, Anode Resistances, Grid Leaks, the Dubrescon Valve Protector, the Ducon Aerial Adaptor. the Minicap Switch, and the Mansbridge Variometer. The Company are also sole concessionaires for the Mansbridge Condenser.

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October 24, 1925.



MANY people regard a crystal set as being an appliance to which it is necessary to only connect an aerial and earth and telephones before the best results are obtained.

Broadly speaking, this understanding of things is correct, but nevertheless the execution of things must be done with care if the *best* results are wanted. Obviously, the crystal set itself must primarily be of good design and construction, and for the purposes of this present article it is assumed that the reader already possesses such a set and wishes to get the best possible results from it.

### Crystals.

In the first place, the crystal used in the receiver must be of a good type with plenty of sensitive spots. In this connection it is as well to have by one a number of pieces of crystal of the many well-known varieties now on the market, which may be tried, retaining that piece which gives the loudest results.

As to the handling of the crystal, this has been dealt with so many times before that, beyond saying that the crystal should be kept free from grease and dust, I will leave the subject alone, referring the reader to the article, "How Crystals are Ruined," which appeared in No. 2 of this journal, for any further information on the subject which may be desired.

### Catwhiskers.

The next point to receive consideration for the best results is the matter of the catwhisker, and though almost any thin wire may be made to give results, it is nevertheless necessary to conform with certain requirements before the best are obtained. In the majority of adjustable crystal detectors the loudest signals are obtained when the catwhisker is resting but lightly on the surface of the crystal, and to attain this end the catwhisker should be light and springy—that is, slender, not too stiff, and not too short. The material from which the catwhisker is made may be almost any metal, such as gold, silver, or one of the alloys, and the point which makes contact with the actual crystal should be as clean as the proverbial new pint

### The Aerial.

So much for the set itself, and we will now turn our attention to the aerial and earth system.

Dealing with the aerial, this should be the best it is possible to crect in the circumstances available, and though many readers will no doubt obtain good results with, say, indoor arrangements, it is nevertheless a fact that if it were possible to substitute the indoor aerial with a good outdoor aerial, the good results at present obtained would be considerably outclassed.

In crystal reception the main requirement is good loud signals from



When modern crystals are used, the catwhisker should generally rest lightly upon the crystal.

the local station, and in order to get these results the aerial should be high, clear of trees, walls, roofs, and other such things which reduce the effective height of an aerial. It is not in any way necessary to exceed the permitted length of one hundred feet, but the very best use should be made of that length. The lead-in should be kept well away from the side of the house, and where the wire enters the house through the window frame a leadingin tube should be used of sufficient length to still give clearance from the side of the house and window-sill.

### The Lead-in.

On the "inside" of the leading-in tube, that is in the room where the set is used, the connecting wire from the tube to the aerial terminal of the set should be as short and direct as possible, at the same time keeping it free from the walls, floor, and so on.

It has, as a matter of fact, been my experience to meet crystal-set users who have actually nailed this lead-in round the wall, from the leading-in tube to the set, "because it looks neater!" In such a case as this why insulate the aerial outside the house when it is to be fixed to the walls of the house on the inside?

### The Earth.

Another point which should receive careful attention is the earth conection, and this should not, as in many cases it does, run parallel and close to the internal portion of the aerial leadin. In some cases I have known the two wires to be twisted together for reasons of tidiness !

The actual connection to earth should be a good one, and if a waterpipe is used it should be ascertained that water does actually flow in the pipe all the time. Just because the pipe goes in the ground is not always indicative of a good earth, and care should be taken to see that water is always present; a gutter-pipe, for instance, is of little use.

### Conclusion.

In closing, it is recommended that the telephones used in conjunction with a crystal set shall be of the most sensitive type which personal financial ability will permit. In valve reception one may perhaps be permitted to lose a little signal strength on account of the loudness of the signals, but in the case of a crystal set it is as well not to "waste" any volume whatsoever, and for this reason a really sensitive pair of telephones should always be used.

# RUBBER FEET FOR YOUR WIRELESS CABINET.

.....

It is a good plan to fix rubber feet to the bases of wireless set cabinets, and the small, round rubber blocks sold as door stops are very suitable for the purpose. They may be fastened to the wood by screws and washers, and protect table tops from damage as well as minimising the effects of vibration of the shelf or table on which the set is standing.

P. H. W.

Concelling States

# STABILITY

The greatest asset of a crystal detector is stability. The lack of stability in the ordinary type of catwhisker was one of the reasons why so many enthusiastic crystal users decided to adopt valves; the disadvantage of the very limited range of crystal reception has been practically overcome owing to the large increase in the number of broadcasting stations throughout the country, with the result that if stability could be assured, the unequalled purity of crystal reception could be enjoyed by all.

Now the R.I. Permanent Mineral Detector is the solution of all crystal difficulties. In this famous detector, a small selected piece of mineral having special properties is mounted in a metal cup embedded in Wood's metal. No catwhisker of any kind is employed; contact for rectifying purposes being made with another crystal mounted on a spring plunger which maintains a good pressure against the special mineral. This combination ensures absolute stability and perfect rectifying contact.

The use of a spring plunger fitted to one of the elements enables the point of contact between the crystals to be moved if desired, although searching for sensitive spots is unnecessary since the contact surfaces of both crystals are uniformly sensitive.

You are not purchasing something which has not been tried; to-day there are well over 100,000 in use, and this component has received the universal approval of the whole of the Technical Press. In addition it is marketed by a firm whose name R.I. stands for the best in Radio.

The R.I. Permanent Mineral Detector is manufactured in two different forms. The ordinary type is provided with a pair of supporting clips for mounting the component either above or below a panel; **PRICE 6/-** complete with metal brackets and screws for mounting. The other form is designed for one-hole fixing, and is provided with a detachable ebonite cover which protects the adjusting knob when in position. **PRICE 7/6 complete**.



# \* THE MARK OF BETTER RADIO \*

Write for the new R.I. Blue and Gold Catalogue 'ree on application.

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P.C.7



October 24; 1925.



WITH the coming of winter many w constructors who up to now have been content with the reception of their local station will be asking what type of receiver they ought to make in order to be able to receive some of the more distant broadcasting stations.

Of course, the number of stations that can be received by any set largely depends upon circumstances, and a set that will, when used in a certain part of the country, bring in all of the main B.B.C. Stations may, on being taken to another locality, only bring in a few of the same stations. However, given a normally good spot for reception and an averagely effi-cient aerial and earth system, the receiver to be described will give good results.

### General Design.

The receiver is a compact two-valve set employing one high-frequency valve coupled to a detector by the well-known tuned anode method, reaction being direct on to the aerial.

The photographs show that only five terminals are provided, the reason being that the battery connections are made by means of flex leads which are brought out at the back of the cabinet. The three terminals on the left-hand

when the shorting strap is open and the aerial is connected to A2, the con-denser will be in series. The coil denser will be in series. holder at the top of the cabinet carries the aerial and reaction coils, while the holder on the right-hand side is for the anode coil.

The components required to construct the set are listed below, and



All dimensional details should be strictly adhered to.

for the convenience of those readers who wish to duplicate the original receiver the names of the various makers are given. Of course, components of other makes may be used, provided they are of reputable manufacture.

> One ebonite panel 11 x 6×1 (Grafton Electric, Ltd.).

> One suitable cabinet and baseboard ("Camco ").

> One " Lotus " twocoil holder (Garnett and Whiteley & Co., Ltd.). One single coil holder

(Goswell Eng. Co.).

Two Utility variable square law condensers .0005 µF and .0003 µF capacity (Wilkins & Wright).

Two Microstats. (Wates Bros.).

Five terminals.

valve holders Two (Peto-Scott, Ltd.).

Two fixed condensers .0003µF and .001µF capacity (Edison Bell).

One 2-megohm grid leak (Edison Bell).

Small quantity of red and black flex,

and connecting wire, a few wood screws, and three spade terminals. One packet of Radio Press Panel Transfers.

Having collected the components and drilled the panel, the work of putting the set together may be com-menced. Before doing this, however, it is a good plan to put on the trans-

fers, as it is easier to do so when the panel is free from terminals and such like obstructions.

### Mounting the Components.

The mounting of the components should present no difficulty, but care must be taken to place the valve holders in such a position that the valves will not obstruct the moving vanes of the condensers.

The wiring, which may now be commenced, is, as

will be seen from the diagram, a very simple operation. It will be noticed that the grid condenser is held by its tags between the plate



By connecting the aerial to A2 the condenser C1 is in series, whereas by joining A2 and E together and connecting the aerial to A1, the condenser is in parallel. The earth is connected to E in both cases.

pin of the high-frequency valve holder and the grid pin of the detector valve holder. Short pieces of flex are used to make the connections to the coil holders, and while the leads going to the reaction coil may be twisted together, this should not be done



The wiring of the receiver is extremely simple. Note the well-spaced wiring.

side provide an easy method, due to Mr. Harris, of placing the aerial tuning condenser either in series or parallel with the aerial. When the aerial is connected to A1, and A2 and E are joined, the condenser will be in parallel with the tuning inductance; when making the connections to the aerial coil.

### Testing the Set.

Having finished the wiring, the set is now ready for use, and may be tested out. With the valves in their holders (either bright or dull emitter valves may be used) and the rheostats in the off position, the L.T. leads may be conceted to the L.T. battery. This done, the rheostats may be turned (one at a time) to the on position. If the valves light and are properly controlled by the resistances used all is well, and having again turned the rheostats to the off position, the aerial, earth, telephones and H.T. battery may be connected up. It will be seen that only one lead has been provided for this battery, the reason being that a connection is made from the L.T. battery plus terminal to the socket marked minus on the H.T. battery; It is as well to try out the set with the condenser in parallel, the terminals A2 and E being joined together, the aerial being connected to A1.

To receive a station on a wavelength between 300 and 500 metres a No. 35 or 50 coil may be placed in the aerial socket, a No. 75 in the anode socket, and a 50 or 75 in the moving socket. The rheostats may now be turned on, and with the aerial and reaction coils at right angles the two con-densers should be simultaneously rotated, the anode tuning condenser being turned at a slightly lower speed than the A.T.C., until signals are received. Adjust the anode tuning condenser, then the aerial condenser, until the signals

are at maximum strength, and then the coupling between the aerial and reaction coils may be slowly tightened, at the same time retuning with the aerial condenser. Signals should become louder as the coupling is tightened, and if this effect is not produced the leads to the reaction coil should be reversed and the procedure repeated. When the leads are connected to the coil in the proper manner a steady build up of signal strength will be noticed as the coils are brought together, until a cer-tain point is reached, whereupon a "plop" will be heard in the teleThe battery connections are made by means of flexible leads brought out through the back of the cabinet.

the coils should at once be separated. It should be possible to so adjust the receiver so that the slightest forward movement of the reaction coil will make the set break into oscillation, but the coil *must never* be moved that little bit forward. When using C1 in series usually a size larger coil will be required in the aerial, also the receiver will generally oscillate more easily with this arrangement.

The coils for 5XX are aerial No. 150, anode No. 250, reaction No. 100.

### Results Obtained.

Tested on an average twin wire aerial about 50 ft. long and between 40 and 50 ft. high. situated in N.W. London, 2LO was too loud for comfort in the telephones, and no difficulty was experienced in picking up a number of other transmissions, Brussels, Toulouse, Malmo, and an unidentified German station being particularly good. On another test conducted during the recent International wavelength tests over twenty stations were received at good strength in about an hour and a half.



When wiring up note the manner of connecting to grid leak.

this flex lead, which should be fitted with a wander plug, is used to vary the high tension voltage in the usual manner.

No. 7.

### Hector is Disconcerted.



phones, indicating that the set is oscil-

lating. When this condition is reached



# The Ruler of Radio

Your set may be a good one but it is only as good as the valves permit.

The valve is the ruler of radio with absolutely autocratic powers. Every note of music, every inflection of voice, all the charm of radio is made or marred by the valves you use.

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purpose—and a value for every purpose.

In the purple box

Announcement of THE MARCONIPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED Registered Office: Marconi House, Strand, London, W.C.2



# Some Constructional Hints and Tips

### Simple Battery Connections.

......

Where flash-lamp batteries are used for H.T. voltages, a quick and simple method of making connection is very The diagram shows an easy useful. way of doing this. Bend the battery tags over the screwed portion of a valve socket and grip the whole



### A useful connection for flash-lamp cells.

into shape with a pair of pliers. Secure the socket to the tag by means of a nut as shown. Connection will be found to be quite firm. For the plug connection from the next battery a valve pin is secured to the end of a flex lead.

F. O. R.

### Quick Telephone Connector.

A quick telephone connector may be made as shown in the diagram. Mount upon the panel an ordinary valve socket and pin 1 in. apart in place of the usual terminals. Next cut a piece of ebonite  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in., and drill two 4B.A. clearing holes on the centre



Valve pins and sockets are used for this quick connector.

line, the holes being 1 in. apart. Mount a pin and socket as shown, and connect the telephone leads by means of the securing nuts. To connect the 'phones in circuit, plug adapter in plug and socket on panel.

F. R.

### A Connector for Low-Loss Coils.

Below is described how to make a connector for use in conjunction with low-loss coils, such as the "Three Step." All that is needed is a split pin. The construction is described in the diagram. First cut a piece of ebonite as shown. This answers the

purpose of a hangle when changing the tapping point. A 4B.A. clearing hole is drilled in the ebonite and the split pin is secured in position by



### Details of the connecting rod.

means of a 4B.A. screw, nut and washers. A flexible lead is secured between the washer and the ebonite, as indicated. The other end of the lead is taken to the desired point of connection upon the set. It will be found that the split pin will push easily on to any desired portion of the inductance coil in use, and thus maintain a firm hold, giving good contact.

### Double Terminals.

Double terminals are often very useful, especially when used as a means

of linking up in telephones The parallel. terminals are built up a s

shown in necessary being to mount an

ordinary terminal upon the panel up-

side down, as shown, the head of the terminal and a spare head being added on the long screwed portion of the terminal.

### Large Panel Holes.

Large panel holes up to, say, 1-in. diameter, may easily be drilled with a tapered square file. First drill a small hole in the panel with the usual type of drill. The hole thus drilled provides a lead for the file. The file is inserted in the brace or breast drill and used in the ordinary manner. If the file "jams," give one or two turns backwards and proceed. It will be found that the file cuts through the panel with almost as much ease as a drill, and being square in shape a drill clearance is automatically provided. of the panel should be drilled.



Each component has its own Clix and numbers.

GIVE this week the connections for two further circuits on the Cento-dyne, the first being an H.F. valve, followed by a crystal detector, transformer coupling being employed, and the second is a single-valve Reinartz circuit.

### H.F. Valve and Crystal.

Aerial and earth batteries and telephones to usual terminals.

Top of left fixed socket to 8, bottom to 7.

8 to 2, 7 to 1, 8 to 12, 7 to 10, 28 to top of back fixed socket, bottom of

Top of back moving socket to 3, bottom to 4, 4 to 17, 16 to 38, 36 to 3. Use 35 or 50 coil in left fixed socket, 35 in back fixed socket, and 50 or 75



The first circuit is a transformercoupled H.F. value followed by a crystal detector.

in back moving socket. Find best coupling of back coils by experiment.

Try experiments with different sizes of coil in back fixed socket.

Reinartz.

Use 75X coil in left fixed socket, 50 in moving, and take aerial to



The second circuit is a straight-forward Reinartz using an X coil for L1. usual Centodyne terminal. Bat-teries and telephones as usual. Tap-ping from X coil (6 or 10) to 7. Top of fixed coil to 9, bottom to 8, 7 to 1, 9 to 2, 2 to 25, 20 to 12, 26 to 25, 29 to 20 ( $0.003 \mu$ F condenser in clips), 1 to 11, 28 to 14, 15 to 16, 17 to 13, 28 to bottom of left moving socket. Top of same to 4, 3 to 8.

WHY BOTHER WITH MULTIPHONE BOARDS and CONNECTORS! CABLE CABLE HEADPHONES HEADPHONES RENDER THIS UNNECESSARY. PRICE 15/= pair. ENTIRELY BRITISH MADE. Any number of "CABLE" 'Phones can be placed in series or parallel instantly. The phones, with leads, weigh only 9 ozs. STANDARD ... \* ... ... 11 ft.  $\times$  11 in. SIZES SUPER ... ... O.V. THE ... ... 12 ft.  $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$  in. THE STANDARD AERIAL IS ROUND - THE PORTABLE SUPER IS FLAT. INDOOR or STANDARD PRICES 2/6 OUTSIDE SUPER .... 5/6 .... .... AERIAL CABLE GEARED COIL HOLDERS QUALITY EBONITE. BEST 3-WAY 9/6 2-WAY 5/6 CABLES AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES, (O.V. Super) CABLE HOUSE, INSIST ON THE O.V. 234, PENTONVILLE ROAD, LONDON, N.1. WHEN BUYING YOUR AERIAL. TELEPHONES : NORTH 3109-4072,

Internet

# 

The Wuncell Dull Emitter Voltage 1.8 volts, Consumption '3 amp, WI for Detector and L.F. 14/-W2 for H.F. amplification. 14/-

The Cossor Loud Speaker Valve W3 Voltage 1'8 volts. Consumption '5 amp. Price 22/6

# Doing one thing ... and doing it well

A BASIC essential of fine craftsmanship is the whole-hearted concentration upon one special task. Those fine old craftsmen of the Middle Ages devoted their whole lives to the betterment of their craft. They possessed the right spirit.

minimum computing and

The same understanding can be observed among the ivory carvers of Japan, the metal workers of India, and the watchmakers of Switzerland. They all carry on the traditions of their fathers for generation after generation. Truly they realise that doing one thing and doing it well inevitably spells success. Among wireless enthusiasts throughout the country the name Cossor has also been associated with the basic idea of doing one job and doing it well.

Cossor Valves are the *only* contribution to the wireless industry by A. C. Cossor, Ltd. And here again specialisation has brought success. For many years Cossor has been making valves—always experimenting, always aiming to effect

improvements. Each year has seen the standard of performance slowly—but surely—raised. Each year finds Cossor more determined to remain true to its self-imposed task.

Three years ago the research work on the Cossor hood-shaped Anode and Grid and the arched filament was completed. Its inventors were fully convinced that for increased sensitiveness, durability and tonal purity these principles possessed immense possibilities. And they resolved to concentrate upon their development,

What has happened has been wireless history. From a new valve with a sale of a few hundreds a week, the wireless industry has watched Cossor sales leap upward until today it enjoys the distinction of being by far the most popular British Valve.

Once again it has been proved that the public is always ready to recognise an honestly made article—and, once having recognised it, loyally continues its support.



٩

Issued by A. C. COSSOR LTD., Highbury, London, N.s.



The reason why the AMPLION is undeniably the finest Radio Loud Speaker and recognised as the World's Standard.

It will be seen that the AMPLION is not merely produced to meet a sudden demand, but is the result of years of experience in Loud Speaker design and construction.

# Thirty-eight years ago ...

- In 1887 Mr. Alfred Graham demonstrated the first practical Loud Speaker.
- In 1893 GRAHAM Loud Speakers placed upon the market.
- In 1894 First used in the British Navy. Transmitters applied to Phonographs for Loud Speaker reproduction.
- In 1896 Naval Telephones developed and adopted by the Admiralty after severe and extended test.
- In 1898 Watertight Loud Speakers Patented. Fitted on board many warships and mercantile vessels. Telephonic Submarine Signalling System devised.
- In 1902 Complete Loud Speaker installations on central battery plan erected on warships as sole means of communication.
- In 1906 The most extensive naval installation to date, including an exchange system fitted in H.M.S. Dreadnought
- Onwards Graham Loud Speakers applied to all sorts and conditions of service at home and abroad, ashore and afloat.
- To 1919 No less than 12,000 ship installations carried out.
- In 1920 AMPLION Loud Speakers produced for Wireless, and "AMPLION" Trade Mark registered.
- In 1922 AMPLION standardised by leading manufacturers of radio apparatus.
- In 1924 At Home AMPLION sales exceed those of all other makes put together.

Abroad AMPLION companies formed and Agents appointed in all countries where Broadcasting is in operation, ensuring world-wide distribution of an essentially British product.

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Standard "Dragon" type A.R. 19. The Loud Speaker Supreme

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Obtainable from AMPLION STOCKISTS and Wireless Dealers everywhere. Patentices and Manufacturers :

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Demonstrations gladly given during business hours at the AMPLION Showrooms: 25-26, SAVILE ROW, REGENT STREET, W.1. 79-82, HIGH STREET, CLAPHAM, S.W.4.; and at the recently opened Scottish Depot, 101, ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW

# WHO INVENTED RADIO? (Concluded from page 264.)

.....

It should be further explained that Hughes' usual method of experimenting with his aerial apparatus was, after trying successfully all distances allowed in his residence, to put the transmitter in operation and walk up and down Great Portland Street with the receiver in his hand and with the telephone to his ear. He found that the sounds seemed to slightly increase for a distance of 60 yards, then gradually diminish, until at 500 yards he could no longer with certainty hear the transmitted signals. What struck him as remarkable was that opposite certain houses he could hear better, whilst at others the signals could hardly be detected; but Hertz's discovery of nodal points in reflected waves (in 1887-9) explained to him what he then considered to be a mystery.

### The Hughes Medal of the Royal Society.

Hughes was blessed in a high degree with that imagination which, bounded and conditioned by co-operant reason, Tyndall rightly regarded as the mightiest instrument for investigation and research.

Mr. Morse, in referring to the Basis of the Poulson Arc, very properly mentions the illustrious Prof. Elihue Thomson's method of generating radio-frequency oscillations. Strangely enough, this great scientist is a proud holder of a Hughes' Medal of the Royal Society, and he was good enough to spare me two or three hours in my home when he was over here last year for the World Power Conference, and to receive the Kelvin medal from the hands of Lord Balfour, also to deliver the James Forrest lecture; and I was able to show him a few valued souvenirs of my dear friend Hughes, and to hear first-hand as much about his triumphs as his extreme modesty would permit.

### Concluding Remarks.

In conclusion, I may explain that as Mrs. Hughes went to America to live near some of her relatives about a year after her husband's deathsurviving him by some twenty years-I do not know for certain what has become of a great mass of manuscript relating to his unpublished work, but I may remind you, Sir, that there is a good deal of matter of a historical character relating to his wireless and other work available, which, if made generally known, might give life to a movement to give effect to the suggestion made by The Electrician (I think) at the time of his death-that a suitable memorial should be erected to the memory of the great scientist and philanthropist, who so much adorned the nineteenth century.

HENRY J. SPOONER. Royal Societies Club.



### Wireless and Education.

SIR,—In a recent issue of WIRELESS I saw a reference to experiments which are going to be tried in London on the use of wireless as an educational medium.

It may be interesting to your readers to know that an experiment on a considerable scale is being tried in Pembrokeshire during "Education Week," from October 25th to the 31st.

Through the co-operation of the B.B.C. about 50 schools in the County are being fitted up free with wireless sets, loaned for that week, so that the children in all the schools will have an opportunity of hearing the afternoon educational addresses from Daventry.

dresses from Daventry. The B.B.C. is good enough to offer valuable prizes to children in elementary schools and to children in secondary schools for essays on the talks, and also to teachers for essays on the utility of wireless from the educational point of view.

To commence the week the Director of Education is broadcasting a talk on "Pembrokeshire's Education Week" from 5 WA Cardiff, and Dr. D. G. Taylor is to broadcast, from the same station, a talk on "Education and Christianity," on Sunday night, October 25.

This experiment will be watched with great interest, as it is the first experiment of its kind, on a wide scale, in a rural area.—Yours faithfully,

### EVAN T. DAVIS, Director of Education and Clerk to the Cardiff Education Committee.



### 

### 20 Miles from 2LO.

SIR,—I have just made the "half-hour crystal set" as described by Mr. Harris in No. 1 of WIRELESS, and I am pleased to say that it works well. I am over twenty miles from London, and I get far better results with this set than I do with a bought one. Thanking you very much.—Yours faithfully,

W. HOMANS. King's Langley, Herts.

### Results in Bournemouth.

SIR,-I have constructed the crystal set described by Mr. Harris in No. 1 of WIRELESS, and I have received satisfactory results from our local station.

I am now going to try it with terminals in place of the staples.—Yours faithfully, A. H. WITHERS (aged 10).

Bournemouth.

### Better than a Bought Set.

SIR,—I have had excellent results on the "crystal set in half an hour," described by Mr. Harris in No. 1 of WIRELESS. It is better than a set which I bought some while back.

Congratulations, both on the set and your new paper.

SIDNEY H. GEDYE. Palmers Green.

### Made by a Child!

SIR,—In the issue of WIRELESS, dated September 19, Mr. Harris described "How to make a Crystal Set in Half an Hour," and you asked for readers' experiences with it.

You may be interested to hear how my son Kenneth, aged 7 years and 10 months, made the set. He read the article and said, "Oh! Daddy, I could make that." He first planed and stained a piece of board and then made the coil. The only wire we had was some No. 16 d.c.c. He followed Mr. Harris's instructions most carefully, and the only help given him was in cutting the tin for the crystal holder. No soldering was done, and the crystal used was one of well-known make.

As you can imagine, there was great excitement in the family when the testing time came. This was on the afternoon of Sunday, September 20, when a Ballad Concert was broadcast from 2LO. We were astonished at the wonderfully clear reception. The astonishment was even greater when, the catwhisker having come out of place, we found that reception was equally clear when the corner of the tin touched the crystal.

Is this a record for this set? We are roughly 27 miles from 2LO as the crow flies, but have the advantage of being on the Chilterns at about 600 feet above sea level, and we have a very good aerial. -Yours faithfully,

ALBERT T. GRAVER.

Great Missenden, Bucks.





### October 24, 1925.



# Ideal Entertainment by the Ediswan Troupe

- P.V. 6: Hallo! Fancy meeting you! 1 am surprised!
- A.R.D.E.: I'm more surprised at your surprise. You should know better by now. We Ediswans always find each other in the end.
- P.V. 6: That's true, my dear; but we seem to have found each other remarkably quickly in this case. Mr. Owner has only had this set a fortnight, and already you're here and the other Miss 06 has gone !
- A.R.D.E.: Good for you-and for him! Couldn't you get on with the lady?
- P.V. 6: I did my best. But she was very trying. However, I'm always chivalrous—it's in the family. We seem to do more for other valves than for ourselves.
- A.R.D.E.: They need it. We, we always work well together.
- P.V. 6: Of course, my dear. But then, we know each other so well, and are so sure of each others' abilities that—well, it isn't work. It's pleasure !
- A.R.D.E.: That's true—and now, I hear F.L.—the Eiffel Tower. Let's get Mr. Owner some pleasure—Ready?
- P.V. 6: Ever-till the end of my life-
- A.R.D.E.: Which is, naturally, a long way off!



Always give a Good Performance.

AT ALL WIRELESS DEALERS.

THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC CO., LTD., 123/5, Queen Victoria St., London, E.C.4





# THOROUGHLY TESTED

Types C.T.o8, C.T.15 and C.T.199 (American type) at 12/6. Types C.T.25, C.T.25B and C.T.201A (American type) at 15/-

> The Cleartron test is a real one. It has to be. The Ironclad Guarantee looks after that, because it authorises instant replacement without cost or question of any valve that fails to give the purchaser perfect service—and so long as there is light and life in the valve, this guarantee holds good. Small wonder that every Cleartron must undergo nine distinct inspections before the final Test Room O.K. is affixed. Use Cleartron and be sure of your valves. If your Dealer does not yet carry Cleartron, order from us with your Dealer's name and address. (Dealers ! Write us for samples and technical data.)





A simple device for the instantaneous use of constant aerial tuning is described in this article.

Details and construction of the device are shown in the diagram. The material necessary is as follows:—A clip in condenser of .0001  $\mu$ F capacity, two cabinet hangers, and a terminal. Solder a cabinet hanger at each end of the condenser, having first slotted one



### Cabinet hangers make connecting up a simple matter.

of the hangers, as shown. When it is desired to use constant aerial tuning insert the slotted end in the aerial terminal of the receiver in use. Provide the other end of the condenser with a terminal to which the aerial down-lead is secured. It will be seen that the device is easily brought into use without disturbing in any way the existing arrangements. B. R. A.

# FIT DOUBLE HALYARDS

NOTHING is more trying than to have to take an aerial mast down just because the halyard has broken and slipped through the pulley. Of course every halyard should have its ends tied together to prevent it slipping out of the pulley, but one has little control over a broken halyard.

It is best to have either a double or two separate pulleys, with separate halyards, and then, in the event of one breaking, the aerial can be pulled up on the other.

### Experimental Advantages.

The double pulley has another adtage from the experimental point of view. The difficulty of comparing two different types of aerials usually lies in the difficulty of quickly changing from the one to the other. The scheme given above makes this a simple matter. Or again, two aerials can be erected, one large one at the top of the mast and a smaller one about half-way up for experimental comparison. A. S. O.

"FROM MY ARMCHAIR."
★ ★ ★
We regret that owing to pressure upon our space this feature is unavoidably held over this week.



# You'll sense the advantages of this new Oldham at once

THINK of all the possible improvements to an Accumulator and you'll find them in this superb new Oldham.

Big coloured terminals which instantly show you correct polarity. Red for positive and black for negative. Terminals that will afford a generous grip.

Then there is the *screw-in* moulded vent plug. Everyone has experienced the disadvantages of the old-fashioned taper plug which may fall out and permit the acid to spill.

A further refinement about this fine Accumulator is its exceptionally strong case. Best quality celluloid, heavily reinforced where required, and moulded to shape, it is far stronger than is necessary for ordinary use. And finally, most important of all, there are the plates — all made under the Oldham Special Activation Process. Oldham plates last longer, hold their charge better and give an absolutely even output because the Special Activation Process permeates right through the plate. For all its advantages an Oldham costs no more than an ordinary accumulator—an immense demand keeps production costs low.

> OLDHAM & SON, LTD., DENTON, MANCHESTER London: Haziitt House, Southampton Buildings, W.C.a Glasgow: 120 Wellington Street



Gilbert Ad. 3755

### ACCUMULATOR TERMINALS

CCUMULATORS, like most every-A thing else in this world, need attention at times. Seeing that they receive a correct charge and are not discharged too low or left in a dis-charged condition, is not the only care which is necessary. The terminals must be properly cleaned.

If the terminals are of plain brass the acid of the accumulator will tend to corrode them. This corrosion is due to the acid acting upon the metal and forming a sulphate, which makes con-tact difficult and will eventually cause the terminal screw to become so fixed that it cannot be unscrewed. It is possible, if the corrosion is allowed to go far enough that the terminal will be so weakened as to break right off.

### Keep Accumulators Clean.

These remarks do not apply to leadcovered terminals, unless the coating has worn off.

All accumulator connections should be rubbed bright with fine emery cloth and then given a coating of vaseline. It is as well to also put vaselene on lead-coated terminals and on connecting straps.

Acid should never be allowed to remain on the top of an accumulator

box. It will collect the dust and may also cause a leak between the terminals. Water and a piece of rag will soon remove all dirt of this kind. A clean accumulator is a pleasure



SPECIAL NOTE :- At 2LO, on November 6th, a half-hour will be given from the old opera "Princess Lofa," by Walter Tilbury. The composer is coming especially to superintend production. It will be S.B. from London. Řecococococococococococococococo

to handle, but the sight of a badlyneglected one is very disheartening, and such should never be found in the possession of one who considers himself a real enthusiast.





A simple device for preventing the lid of a cabinet from falling backwards is illustrated in the accompanying diagram. All that is necessary is a length of spring. A very suitable spring is a "taut" curtain rod, which is equipped with eyelets at each end. Cut off the desired length and



The spring prevents the lid falling backwards with possible disastrous results.

replace the eyelets at each end. Secure one eyelet to the inside of the cabinet and the other eyelet to the inside of the lid by means of screws, as shown. F. O. R.



# Striking a balance

Tuning your set is very much like balancing a see-saw the balance is upset and the receiver "howls"; the balance is upset and the receiver "howls"; then you dash across to the condenser dial and reduce its reading, thereby stopping oscillation. In this way a balance may be struck by alternate adjustments, first on one dial and then on the other.

How much easier it would be to combine these two adjustments on one component, to introduce a balance over our trestle, as it were. The Seamark Connode is the only instrument which does this, It allows reaction or condenser to be increased and decreased until a balance is obtained, without removing the hand from one dial to another.

Moreover, increase of reaction by the coil holder can be obtained in the same direction as increase of capacity is obtained by the condenser. If one adjustment introduces instability, a compensation re-adjustment may be made on the Scamark Connode without even altering the direction in which the hand is moving.

If any difficulty is experienced in obtaining, write direct to the

Sole Patentees and Manufacturers,



A. S. C.





October 24, 1925

### Some Readers' Results with "Wireless" Sets

### ST100

SrR,-I have made modifications to my SR.—I have made modifications to my ST100 receiver, in accordance with the details given in No. 1 of WIRELESS, and thought you would like to know of my success. I have up to the time of writing this letter logged no less than 15 stations, including Belfast, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Newcastle, Birmingham, several Communications, Brench, Thursday, Several German stations, Brussels, Toulouse, etc., all in about 30 minutes on September 28. I find the sput coil of immense benefit, a few turns on a basket former being allsufficient for reaction purposes. All success to WIRELESS.-Yours faithfully, London, E. N. B. REEVE,

### The Half-Hour Crystal Set.

SIR,-In order to save a 50s. set from being spoilt by my boy, aged nine. I built this set, but even more roughly than described. The immediate results described. The immediate results were sufficiently good to justify making it up again a little more neatly and efficiently. Using a 1s. detector and four terminals insulated by ebonite screwed over large holes cut in the board, and with the coil mounted "at the back of the panel" (coil made of 34 turns bell wire wound round a 1-lb. jam jar), the results obtained with two pair of 'phones were such that I have given my little boy the 50s. set and entirely given up the idea of building a one-valve amplifier !--Yours faithfully,\_\_\_\_\_\_BERNARD ELSTON. London, N.

Mr. Harris Heard on His "Own " Set !

STR,-Upon reading through the first issue of WIRELESS I was particularly interested in Mr. Harris's article on the "Half-Hour Crystal Set." I set to work "Half-Hour Crystal Set." I set to work upon the set described, and within twenty minutes I received telephony from the London station through Daventry. This was on Friday evening, and, to my sur-prise, the talk was from London by Mr. Percy W. Harris about his recent tour in America! Considering the distance from the Daventry station the signals were nerfectly good and the set. were perfectly good, and the set, although most unpretentious in appear-ance was extremely successful.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN C. BROWN.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

### A Peckham Success.

SIR,-I have made one of the sets described by Mr. Harris in WIRELESS No. 1. I am pleased to say that it is a complete success and I find it considerably louder than a variometer set which I have.

I have in the house a two-valve Reflex set, and, using only one valve, this little set is as loud, if not louder, than the valve .- Yours faithfully,

S. W. WAREHAM. Peckham, S.E.15.





JAY-GEE SPECIALITIES,

Bolton

25, All Saints Street

The MASTER Crystal



(First Floor)

WIRELESS. 301

# The All-important Variable Condenser

### And the Prestige behind the "Polar"

Not all variable condensers can be judged by appearance and price alone. It is unlikely that the condensers

The "Polar" Junior Condenser.



All Capacities.

All Capacities, Possesses all the characteristics of the well-known Polar "Straight-line-Frequency" con den ser. Gives a straight line of fre-quencies, with an approximately even movement of dial in relation to change of wavelength. Low minimum self-capacity; one-hole fixing; 350 degrees dial; perfectly ecreened; remarkably compuct; occupying minimum space behind panel.



The "Polar" **Cam-Vernier** Variable

Condenser. Compensated square-law design of vanes; this means that the Con-dener functions in the square-law manner, not on the bench, but on point set. Its shape of vanes com-pensates for the inherent self-capacity of your coils and aerial, with the result that the figures on the dial indicate definite wave-lengths. You can recognise the Cam-Vernier Variable Condenser, if by nothing cles. by the specially Cam-Vernier Variable Condenser, if by nothing class, by the specially engraved dial which commences at "26" - recognising that no aerial funing system can have a zero capacity. It embodies the well-known Cam-Vernier device, giving 10 degrees of vernier movement in any position; and the seraier readings register on the dial. Prices:

.0003	-	-	10/6
.0005	-	-	11/6
.001	-	-	12/6

GERRARD 7414

Barclays Ad.

produced by any but longestablished Radio Engineers can be fully efficient.

It is, further, unlikely that nondescript, cheaply - assembled condensers will carry anything like the UNCONDITIONAL written GUARANTEE enclosed with every "Polar" Condenser. It is a guarantee against original defects, as well as against breakdown or the development of faults in ordinary use-for a period of ONE YEAR.

All constructors of Radio Sets have an appreciation of quality in appearance, as well as of quality in *performance*; yet not all are equally able to indulge in the expensive class of components. For this reason, we have introduced the "Polar" Junior Condenser, at a price of 5/6 for all capacities-putting a product of high quality (backed by a great reputation) within the reach of all.

Buy the products of well-known Firms-disregard any may-be biased recommendations of "cheap" components-and depend upon the Manufacturers to see you through."



Sold by all reputable Radio Dealers. Ask your Dealer, or write to us, for the Polar Condenser Booklet.

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Victoria Works, Oakfield Road, Altrincham, Cheshire

Barclays Ad.



October 24, 1925.

# THE WIRELESS EXHIBITION



Making and testing fixed condensers at the Exhibition.

THE opening day of the Wireless Exhibition was marked with scenes of great enthusiasm by the general public, and when we arrived on the scene on Saturday it was only to find some of the gangways almost completely blocked with interested sightseers. There were exhibits of interest to all classes of radio enthusiasts, from the humblest of crystal users up to the owners of multi-valve sets.

### Loud-Speakers.

Loud-speakers, valves, condensers, coils and many other components of all conceivable shapes and sizes were to be seen, some absolutely new to the already existing field of radio products.

In loud-speakers, what was probably the most imposing show was exhibited by Messrs. Western Electric Co., Ltd., and this consisted of a demonstration of their latest model, the "Kone." The demonstration was given in an elevated position, and from this source the majority of the music was provided. A very large Kone and two smaller models were arranged in a particularly handsome framework, illuminated very well on all sides, and



The "Recepco" Coil was exhibited for the first time and our photograph shows a giant model.

For the benefit of readers who were unable to visit the Exhibition at the Horticultural Hall, we give below a brief report upon some of the exhibits.

generally it proved a source of great attraction to visitors.

Messrs. C. F. Elwell exhibited something entirely new in loudspeakers. It is known commercially as the "Statophone." This loud-speaker, it is elaimed, will respond to the very weakest of signals, and it has for a diaphragm a very thin sheet of mica. The finished instrument is

incorporated in a receiver, the whole forming a decorative asset to any room.

Messrs. S. G. Brown, Ltd., had exhibited on their stall a complete range



The "M.P.A. Celestion" Loud-Speaker.

of all their popular makes of loudspeakers, among others the new "Crystavox," with which it is claimed possible to get good loud-speaker reception on a crystal set.

### The "Daily News" Fund.

In wending our way round the exhibition, we were constantly meeting girls in fancy dress, who were collecting on behalf of the *Daily News* appeal for hospitals.

Demonstrations were by no means lacking, and a very attractive show was arranged by Messrs. Sel-Ezi Wireless Supply Co. Here was exhibited the process of grading mica for making "Therla" fixed condensers.

### Super-Heterodyne Components.

Messrs. Igranic Electrical Co., Ltd., held one of the largest stalls, and exhibited a comprehensive range of good quality components. Of special interest to the home constructor could be seen a complete set of parts for making a six-valve supersonic heterodyne



One of the exhibits was a receiver connected up by means of "Newey" Snap" terminals.

receiver, which included a specially designed Igranic self-stabilising reactance unit.

Another entirely new component was the Eureka reflex transformer, exhibited by Messrs. Portable Utilities Co., Ltd., which is claimed by the makers to be ideal for reflex work.

### Cabinet Work.

A particularly good example of careful workmanship was shown in the new "M.P.A. Celestion" loud-speaker, exhibited by Messrs. M.P.A., Ltd. The instrument is built in a beautiful mahogany cabinet, and it is claimed that with this model perfect reproduction is possible.



Another demonstration given at the Exhibition was the winding of L.F. transformers.







IE appearance of a receiver may be greatly enhanced if the leads which connect it with the batteries are neatly made.

The best wire to use is ordinary electric light flex, its appearance, mechanical strength, and insulation



By using lighting flex quite a neat battery lead can be made.

being fairly good. Being sold with two wires laid round each other, it is best to first unravel these, taking care that the curl in the wire is not stretched out.

First roughly measure off the required lengths of wire, and to one end of each attach a spade terminal. When this has been done, pull the silk braiding over the shank of the spade terminal, and bind it there with a length of thin thread. The binding thread may be of different colours to indicate each lead.

Now attach the leads to the receiver terminals in their respective order and arrange them neatly in the required position. An example is shown in the accompanying figure. Next lay the wires round one another, the curl in each wire fitting in the curl of the next.

Then bind each lead into the main cable with strong thread, as shown. The battery ends may be arranged in the same manner.

W. H. F.

### CATALOGUES RECEIVED

..... We have received an interesting

little catalogue from the Climax Radio Electric, Ltd., of Quill Works, Putney, London, S.W.15. It is entitled "The Magazine Cata-

logue, 1925-26 Edition," and is a new departure in Radio catalogues.

The combination of publicity for their products, together with articles by several authors, is well carried out. Though priced at 1s., readers of WIRELESS may obtain a copy post free.







306 WIRELESS.









From all up-to-date Wireless Dealers, or Manufacturers, RADIARC ELECTRICAL CO., Ltd., Bennett St., London, W.4.

The parts for the Four Valve Family Set shown cost only £6:8:3. Other Pilot Sets are equally economical

George Williams builds his first Set

AST week-end I took a run over to see George Williams at his little cottage down in Surrey. A fine old-world place -300 years old, if a day-set in the most wonderful country surroundings. The cosiest house you ever saw-big Elizabethan fireplaces, timbered ceilings, panelled walls, winding staircases, massive oak doors and so forth.

"Hullo, old chap, you are just in time," he said, " to hear this 5-valve Set I have been building." "I didn't know that wireless was "Well, to tell you the truth," he answered, "it wasn't-until last week." "You don't mean to say that you have built up this Set within a week and without knowing anything about wireless?" I asked in amaze-ment, for the Set which George showed me would have been a credit to any wireless expert. "Yes," he said, "eight days ago I couldn't tell a rheostat from a condenser. Of course, you know

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that I was never much of a mechanic, and I'm really indebted to my young nephew for this," he said, proudly fondling a magnificent multi-valve Receiver resplendent with its dials and switches. "I thought there was a catch in it somewhere,' I said laughingly, "you mean that your nephew really built it and not you." George was most indignant. "No," said he, "my nephew merely put me on the easiest way for a duffer like me to build a good Set. He sent me a copy of a little book called the "Pilot Manual," which told me all about it." And then George explained to me what a splendid idea this Pilot scheme was. How the parts for any well-known Set are all supplied ready to fit together on the panel -how it is really only a matter of assembly and wiring up. I'm sure that if George can build up a 5-valve Transatlantic I can. Anyway, I'm sending for a copy of the "Pilot Manual" to-morrow.

of the Pilot Manual, ions and illustrations fo

Gilbert Ad. 3673

October 24, 1925.



# The new Burndept Coils

cover all waves from 20 metres upwards are enclosed in special sealed containers -fit all makes of tuners and coil holders

N the latest pattern Burndept Coils, several important changes have been made. Each Coil is enclosed in an hermetically sealed moulded container, on the outside of which the tuning range and number is indicated. The new Coils, which fit all standard makes of tuners and coil holders, are numbered to corres-

pond with somewhat similar coils of other makes, and are all the same size externally:  $4\frac{1}{4}$  in. long,  $3\frac{5}{8}$  in. wide, and  $I_{10}^{\pm}$  in. thick. As the Coils are perfectly protected from damp and dust, they will maintain their original high efficiency indefinitely. The complete set covers all waves

from 20 to 22,000 metres. Coils 3 to 20 are intended for ultra short waves-20 to 150 metres. They are wound with heavy gauge bare copper wire on Grade A ebonite price. Full particulars No. 957.—Complete set of formers; so-called "low-loss be sent free on request. nineteen Coils, covering all air-spaced" coils are not essential for successful short

wave reception. Coils 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20, 5s. each.

Coils 25 to 75 are the famous Burndept Concert Coils, covering all waves from 150 to 800 metres. These coils which give unequalled signal strength and extraordinary clarity, each consist of a singlelayer winding on Admiralty Paxolin formers. Coils 25, 35, 40, 50 and 60, 4s. 3d. each. Coil 75, 4s. 6d.

Coils 100 to 1,500 are the celebrated Burndept patent multi-layer coils, covering all waves from about 700 to

> 22,000 metres. Coil 100, 55.; Coil 150, 6s.; Coil 200, 7s.; Coil 300, 8s.; Coil 400, 9s.; Coil 600, 10s.; Coil 1,000, 15s.; Coil 1,500, 17s. 6d. These Coils may also be purchased in sets, as follows : No.955.-For Broadcast Reception (200 to 800 metres). Set of four Concert Coils, 35,

50, 60 and 75, 16s.

No. 956.-For Long-Wave Reception (700 to 22,000 The 1924-25 pattern metres). Set of eight Coils, Burndept Coils have been metres). considerably reduced in 100 to 1,500, £3 178. 6d. waves from 20 to 22,000 metres, 16.

> Full particulars of these new Coils are given in Burndept Publication No. 44, a copy of wh ch will be sent to any reader of this journal on application. The Burndept Range includes everything for radio reception from components to complete installations. Build your set with Burndept Components and be sure of best results.

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of these reductions will

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