POPULAR WIRELESS WEEKLY, OCTOBER 13th, 1923. REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.

ANOTHER FREE BOOKLET WITH THIS NUMBER.

Popular Wireless

PRICE 3d. EVERY FRIDAY.

No. 72. Vol. IV. SCIENTIFIC ADVISER: SIR OLIVER LODGE, F.R.S., D.Sc. October 13th, 1923.

A complete crystal receiver built on to an ordinary pencil.

FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE.

Notes on the "May" Circuit.
The Bournemouth Station.
The Broadcasting Committee's Report.
Six Simple Reflex Circuits.
Chat About Multi-layer Coils.
General Principles of Amplification.
"The Thermionic Valve."—By Dr. J. A. Fleming, F.R.S.

POPULAR WIRELESS

THE WIRELESS WEEKLY WITH THE LARGEST CIRCULATION.

October 13th, 1923.] SCIENTIFIC ADVISER, SIR OLIVER LODGE, F.R.S., D.Sc. [Every Friday.

TOPICAL NOTES AND NEWS.

Super-sensitive Receiver.

THE latest progress in wireless to come to my notice is in the form of an attachment which increases so enormously the sensitiveness of the receiver that by its means 2 L O has been clearly heard in Bombay, 6,000 miles away. The attachment is the invention of Mr. W. Sutherland of the Marconi Company.

* * *

Broadcast Opera.

ON October 14th principals of the British National Opera Company are giving a concert in the studio of 2 Z Y. This concert will be simultaneously broadcast by other stations.

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The Expenditure of B.B.C.

I AM told on good authority that the annual amount received by the B.B.C. from their share of the licences does not exceed one-third of the B.B.C. expenditure.

* * *

Education and Wireless.

M. AUDRA, Director of the Institute Française, is shortly to continue his talks upon languages from 2 L O. I am informed by Uncle Arthur that these talks will be given as often as can be arranged.

* * *

So Simple!

MISS BETTY COMPSON, the famous American screen "star," during a visit to London decided to buy a wireless set. I was asked to accompany Miss Compson and her friend Oscar Sheridan, the well-known screen writer, and was amused at the technical explanations given by the latter. "It is really simple," he said. "The whole apparatus is quite mechanical; you take one of the knobs in one hand and the other in the other, and turn in opposite directions while the 'phones are on your ears, and that's how it's done."

* * *

American Broadcasting.

I HAVE received a letter from Messrs. Burndept, Ltd., stating that their demonstration van at Whitby received telephony from W G Y, using the ultra three H.F. amplifier and one power valve, with a 9 ft. aerial on the roof of the van and the earth connected to the chassis.

* * *

Glasgow Testing!

THE engineering staff of 5 S C is to be congratulated upon the enthusiasm and energy with which they carry out their tests. Several times I have listened-in and marvelled at their light-heartedness in what must be rather dreary technical experiments.

But as humorists they still lack that little something or other which would enable their quips and jests to "come over" without losing their humour. Though I should be the last to advocate solemnity and monotony in such tests, I think that too much "humour" is likely to give listening amateurs a wrong impression.

* * *

Symphony Concert from 2 L O.

THE symphony concert recently broadcast from 2 L O was very well received. The programme included Saint Saëns' violin concerto in B minor with Miss Daisy Kennedy as soloist, and works by Elgar and Weber. The orchestra was conducted by Mr. Percy Pitt. The transmission of this concert was above reproach.

* * *

Recital by 5 S C's Director.

ON November 2nd an organ recital will be given by Mr. H. A. Carruthers, the Glasgow station director, in Westminster Cathedral. This recital will be broadcast simultaneously by all stations. Mr. Carruthers will play from 6.30 to 7.45 p.m.

"ARIEL" IN BOURNEMOUTH.

"Ariel" is in Bournemouth this week, and will be staying in that town until the 17th inst. He will be pleased to meet old and new readers of POPULAR WIRELESS, and should they require it, assist them in any way he can if they will apply in the first case by post to "Ariel," care of the Town Hall.

* * *

John Henry.

ANOTHER Radio artiste with a sense of humour has dawned on the Broadcasting horizon within the last few weeks. I refer to John Henry—not without pain, however! Judging by the lugubrious tone of his voice he must have had the misfortune to have been born in Wigan, though rumour has it that Yorkshire had that honour. Still, let that pass. Even if he talks as though he were the late John Henry, his style of humour is admirably suited for the microphone. I rank him with Norman Long in many respects—and that is saying something, because the latter was born with a pair of 'phones on his head instead of the proverbial silver spoon in his mouth, and in my opinion is the best humorist let loose in the aether since broadcasting began.

* * *

Jeff in a New Role.

UNCLE JEFF makes a good partner for John Henry. I listened to these two the other day singing a duet. True, all that Uncle Jeff had to do was to end up each of John's verses with "Henry John," but when John produced a melodrama he had written and assigned the rôle of heroine to Jeff—well, the latter's feminine falsetto was really funny, and H. J. seemed quite sincere when he referred to him (I mean her) as "Oh, wrecker of hearts," and "Carissima." I must ask Jeff about this.

* * *

A Jolly Concert.

TO listen to Mr. Maurice Cole playing Saint Saëns' Piano Concerto the other evening was to capture the thrill of an evening at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts. Readers who feel suspicious of the "highbrow" may be surprised to hear that this concerto is by no means highbrow; it is not even a "classic," it is just jolly stuff which is admirably adapted for the piano with orchestral accompaniment—and I'm sure very few listeners-in with any ear for music at all can honestly say they did not enjoy the vivacious second and third movements of this difficult but genial concerto.

* * *

Popularity of Concertos.

THE B.B.C. have a wide selection of concertos to choose from if they fancy. I hope they will. Here are one or two which should appeal to a large public: Concerto No. 1 (Liszt); Rhapsody No. 14, for piano and orchestra (Liszt); Concerto, by Schumann; Concerto No. 3 (Beethoven); Concerto No. 2 (Rachmaninoff). Of course, if you have not heard these works before, you may not reap the full enjoyment, but I feel pretty confident listeners-in will find them a pleasant change from syncopated Jazz music.

* * *

Candid Opinions.

COMING up in the train the other day it was interesting to listen to the remarks passed on the publication of the Broadcasting Report. The people in my carriage all seemed to approve of the P.M.G.'s interim regulations. Criticism of the actual recommendations made by the Committee were discussed very frankly, very rudely, but very truly!

* * *

New Installation for Clifden.

NEGOTIATIONS have been opened with the Marconi Co., with a view to re-equipping the Clifden wireless station, and it is stated that the prospects of agreement are brighter than they hitherto were. In the event of the re-opening of this station, negotiations with the United States are contemplated as well as with Canada.

* * *

The Imperial Colonial Institute.

I WAS a privileged guest at the dinner given by the Royal Colonial Institute in honour of the Colonial Prime Ministers at which H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught took the chair. I was surprised

(*Continued on page* 198.)

NOTES AND NEWS.

(*Continued from page* 197.)

to hear from listeners-in that they heard the speeches distinctly, because in the large dining hall at the Hotel Victoria many of the 600 guests were unable to hear, especially those sitting some distance away from the speakers. Listening-in gains a point in this case.

* * *

Finding the Microphone.

I MADE many attempts to find the microphone, but I failed for no other reason than that no one knew where it was except the engineer, whom I did not meet, but I am told that it was behind the chair of H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught.

* * *

Wireless and the Colonies.

I ASKED the Rt. Hon. W. F. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand, after the dinner, what he thought of wireless as an aid to drawing the British Empire closer. He replied that wireless would, in the near future, assume great importance to the Colonists, especially when longer range sets were made. The Prime Minister for Canada, the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., in response to my questions replied: "Wireless is now playing an important part in the British Empire, and I am of the opinion that as developments are made the British Empire will benefit."

* * *

Empire Wireless.

THERE is only one answer to the question on whom lies the blame for the deadlock which has overtaken the scheme for linking up the Empire with a wireless chain. The fault rests with the Post Office, and with no other authority.

It is now thirteen years since the plan was originated. During all these years—surely an unlucky number of them—the officials of St. Martins-le-Grand have had the scheme in their grip, and have played fast and loose with it.

* * *

Wireless in Bournemouth.

THE secretary of the Bournemouth Radio and Electrical Society, Mr. A. Reynolds, tells me that he is surprised by the keen interest taken by the residents in the forthcoming opening of the new station. I advise readers in Bournemouth who wish to join the army of amateurs to become members of the above-mentioned society. Particulars can be obtained from Mr. A. Reynolds, Hon. Sec., Town Hall, Bournemouth.

* * *

Hardly Appropriate!

ONE of the most popular features of social life in the villages during this winter will undoubtedly be radio concerts, and energetic honorary secretaries are organising wireless clubs in many parts of the Eastern and Southern Counties just now.

Usually the local clergy take an active part, as in the case of a Northern club which arranged a special wireless concert. The local parson opened the proceedings with a short address, and after concluding with a prayer switched on the set. A voice came through the loud speaker: "'Oh, for a Night in Bohemia!' will be sung by Miss James Carew."

* * *

Wireless and Trunk Calls.

RECENTLY I had occasion to 'phone to Liverpool, and during the conversation was interrupted by music. I asked the telephone operator the cause, and was surprised when she curtly replied "Broadcasters." This looks much as if a number of amateurs are employing "telephone earths."

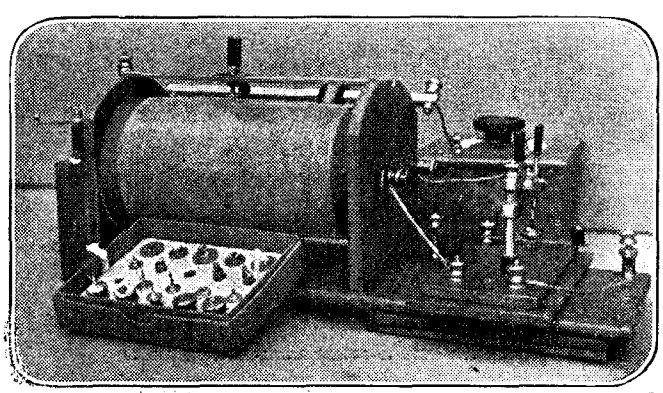
* * *

General Broadcasting Transmissions.

Regular transmissions of news and concerts take place daily from the following stations. Full details appear in the daily Press.

London	2 L O	369 metres.
Birmingham	5 I T	420 „
Manchester	2 Z Y	385 „
Newcastle	5 N O	400 „
Glasgow	5 S C	415 „
Cardiff	5 W A	353 „
Aberdeen	2 B D	360 „
Bournemouth	6 B M	410 „

A comprehensive list of the Continental broadcasting stations appears on another page in this issue.



An efficient crystal set constructed by Mr. C. H. Land, 1276, Leeds Rd., Bradford.

Tasmania and Wireless.

TALKING to Mr. A. H. Asholt, the Agent-General for Tasmania, recently, I asked him if he found wireless to be of any particular value to that country.

"Wireless is one of the discoveries which has benefited the greatest Empire in the world," he replied, "but bigger stations are required. I have recently been given to understand that a station is to be built in Tasmania which should be able to communicate with England, but I doubt if you have a station which could reply with any degree of regularity."

63, Kimberley Road, Nunhead, S.E.15.

Dear Sir,—With reference to your "P.W." Combination Set, allow me to congratulate you and your technical staff on the production of such an excellent combination. I have made a similar set, and am more than pleased and surprised at the excellent results obtained. On the morning of Tuesday, September 25th, I endeavoured to receive some of the American broadcasting, and at 1.20 a.m. succeeded in receiving W G Y, and a little later W F A F. Signals from the latter station were loud and clear. The only item that I listened to from this station was entitled "I heard you go by," and every word could be easily understood without strain. Also Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham, and Newcastle are quite good on 'phones, and 2 L O works the loud speaker using the single valve dual circuit alone. I find the circuit quite easy to control and would recommend it to all amateurs.—Wishing success to your paper,

Yours faithfully, J. GRINTER.

Simultaneous Broadcasting.

AT the moment of writing I am sitting in a small corner of my dining-room, while the major portion is occupied by from ten to a dozen enthusiasts who have collected to hear 2 L O broadcast "Rob Roy" frae "Glasgae," as they term it. Undoubtedly simultaneous broadcasting has its uses, and is a wonderful scientific achievement, but I have found a far more useful rôle for it than the mere provision of amusement. I thoroughly believe that if the census takers require to know how many people of a certain nationality there are in any part of the country, they have only to turn to simultaneous broadcasting and the problem is solved.

* * *

Gathering of the Clans.

FOR instance, take the performance of which I speak; a good play, well acted, and, above all, free; and I know at once how many gentlemen there are in my village who welcome Sir Walter Scott as one of their own.

This method of census-taking has infinite possibilities, and I can picture quite a different audience gathering round my loud speaker (the only one in the village) upon the occasion of the broadcasting of "Land fo My Fathers" or "Come Back to Erin." But if this is to be the inevitable result of the B.B.C.'s latest achievement, I shall give up wireless and buy a gramophone.

* * *

Talks from 2 L O.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH.—7.15, Mr. John Strachey, "Book Talk." 9.15, Captain Richard Twelvetrees on "Motoring."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH.—7.15, Mr. C. L. J. Unwin on "Sweet Peas." 9.15, Mr. G. H. Palmer, B.A., Keeper of the Library at the Victoria and Albert Museum, on "The Making of Books, and the Exhibits in Illustration in the Museum."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH.—7.15, Mr. Archibald Haddon, "Dramatic Criticism." 9.15, Professor A. J. Ireland on "History."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH.—7.15, Mr. Percy Scholes, "Musical Criticism." 9.15, Shakespeare recital (no talk).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19TH.—7.15, Mr. G. A. Atkinson, "Cinema Criticism." 9.15, Rev. Father Jackson on "Burma." Rev. Jackson is blind, and is escorted everywhere by a Burmese boy. He will read his talk from a Braille copy.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH.—7.15, Mr. John Merchant, President of the British Esperanto Association, on "Esperanto, the Cure for a Tongue-tied World." 9.15, Colonel C. D. Crisp, O.B.E., director of the Arsenal Football Club, and President of the Middlesex Football Association, and mayor elect of Lewes, on "The Humours of Football."

* * *

Forthcoming Simultaneous Transmissions.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH.—Organ recital from Steinway Hall. "Hymn of Praise," broadcast from Newcastle, to Birmingham and Glasgow. Dean of Manchester (London).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH.—Literary talk by John Strachey, B.B., critic, to all stations. Composer evening, conducted by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, to all stations. Savoy "Orpheans" to all stations.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH.—Dramatic criticism to all stations, by Archibald Haddon. Opening of Bournemouth station by his Worship the Mayor of Bournemouth, introduced by Mr. J. C. W. Reith. Speech by Viscount Burnham, introduced by Lord Gainford.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH.—Musical criticism by Mr. Percy Scholes, musical critic of the B.B.C. Savoy "Orpheans" to all stations.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19TH.—Film criticism to all stations by film critic of the B.B.C., Mr. G. A. Atkinson.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH.—Lt.-Col. Crisp on the Humours of Football—director of the Arsenal Football Club, Mayor-elect of Lewes.

ARIEL.

THE THERMIONIC VALVE.

By Dr. J. A. FLEMING, F.R.S.

In this article the inventor of the thermionic valve discusses the numerous problems that beset the early experimenters in wireless. The various uses of the valve are explained, and the reader is given a clear insight into the theory upon which these uses are based.

IN the history and development of the wonderful instrument called the thermionic valve is to be found a striking example of the important industrial applications that sometimes follow from discoveries which take place in the course of purely scientific researches. In 1883 Edison sealed into the ordinary electric incandescent lamp in use for domestic lighting purposes a metal plate between the legs of its carbon filament. This plate was carried on a wire sealed through the wall of the glass bulb. He noticed that when the filament was made incandescent by the direct current sent through it, simultaneously a small electric current could be observed to be flowing through any delicate current-detecting instrument joined up in a circuit between the *positive* terminal of the filament and the wire carrying the metal plates; on the other hand, when the same instrument was in a circuit between the *negative* end of the filament and the plate, there was no sensible current. This phenomenon was called the "Edison Effect," but no explanation of it was given by its discoverer, nor was any practical use made of it at the time.

Scientific investigations on the nature of this "Edison Effect" were undertaken by me, beginning in 1883, and the discovery was soon made that this effect was connected with the projection in straight lines of particles from the filament. Sir William Preece in 1885 communicated to the Royal Society a paper on this effect, and there was another paper by me in 1889, in which last it was shown that these projected particles carried a charge of negative electricity, and could convey negative electricity from the filament to the plate, but not in the opposite direction. A long paper on this subject was sent by the present author in 1896 to the Physical Society of London.

The Marconi System.

A further step in advance was made about 1897 by Sir Joseph Thomson, the present Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, who, whilst carrying out his remarkable researches in the Cavendish Laboratory, found that the chemical atoms of matter, which at the time were thought to be incapable of being divided, were built up of still smaller atoms of electricity, now called *electrons*, and it was soon definitely ascertained that the incandescent filament of the ordinary electric lamp is continuously sending out vast number of these little electrons in all directions.

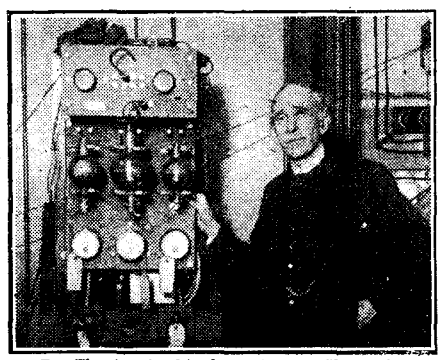
All these achievements were purely scientific, and attracted no popular attention.

About 1897 the application by Senatore Marconi of Hertzian electric waves for the purposes of wireless telegraphy began to create public interest. For detecting these waves he first used his improved form of the coherer of Branly and Sir Oliver Lodge. It was, however, rather capricious and somewhat difficult to manage, and Marconi soon replaced it by his magnetic detector, in 1901.

In Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy, the electric waves are generated by creating powerful vibratory currents of electricity in a wire called an aerial wire stretched up through the air. The electric oscillations in this wire produce in surrounding space an effect called an electric wave, which travels outward with the speed of light—viz., 186,000 miles per second. When these waves cut across another similar wire, called a receiving aerial, they create in it feeble electric vibrations of the same type.

First Applications.

In considering this matter, in researches carried out at University College, London, on wireless telegraphy, in 1904, I saw that if means could be found of converting the very rapid to and fro, or alternating, movements of electricity in the receiving circuits into a uniform motion of electricity in one



Dr. Fleming in his laboratory at University College, London.

direction, it would then be possible to detect them, and therefore the electric waves, by the use of the telephone or galvanometer as in ordinary telegraphy, without the use of a coherer. The vibrations of electricity in wireless telegraph aerials are, however, very rapid, even up to a million per second, and none of the devices for "rectifying" or converting slow alternating electric currents into direct currents are of any use. Recalling to mind, however, my scientific investigations on the "Edison Effect," I found, on experiment, that, if a metal cylinder was placed around the filament inside the vacuous bulb of an electric lamp carried on a wire sealed through the bulb, this appliance could "rectify" and therefore detect by the aid of a telephone or galvanometer the feeble high-frequency oscillations of electricity. These cannot directly affect a telephone, because of their rapid reversals of directions thousands of times per second, but the instrument described above acts as a *valve* when placed in the path of these oscillations, and converts them into motions of electricity in one direction in virtue of the fact that negative electrons are passing in the vacuous space only from the filament to the surrounding metal cylinder.

I therefore named this appliance an *oscillation valve* and subsequently a *thermionic valve*.

Later, in 1909, I suggested the use of tungsten as the material for the filament in place of carbon, as it withstands a higher temperature and emits more electrons.

The above-described two-electrode or hot and cold electrode thermionic valve was soon extensively adopted as a means of rectifying and detecting electric oscillations and detecting wireless waves.

In the spark system of wireless telegraphy then exclusively used the waves come in little groups of 20 or 30 with longer intervals of time between the groups. The Fleming valve rectifies the groups of oscillations produced in the receiving aerial into short gushes of electricity in one direction, and when these are passed through a telephone they give rise to a more or less musical sound which can be cut up by a key in the transmitter into *dot* and *dash* or short and long sounds making signals in the Morse Code.

Subsequent Improvements.

In 1907 an addition was made to the author's oscillation valve by Dr. Lee de Forest, who had been following in the United States very carefully the work done on this subject. Dr. de Forest introduced into a low vacuum valve a grid or zigzag of wire between the filament and the plate. This started a new line of development, and it was found that, if a cylinder of metal gauze or spiral of wire was introduced into the hard or high vacuum Fleming valve between the cylinder and the filament, it enabled the device to act as an amplifier of oscillations as well as a detector, so that very feeble high-frequency oscillations could be magnified five or ten times by its aid. This suggestion was developed practically by the resources of the Western Electric and General Electric Companies of America.

This modified form then became known as a *three-electrode valve*, and is sometimes called for shortness a triode, or other trade names. To employ it as an amplifier we have to connect a high-tension battery giving, say, 40 to 140 volts with its negative pole joined to the filament and its positive pole to the plate. A torrent of electrons is then forced from the filament, through the holes in the grid or gauze, to the plate. If, however, a feeble electrification is given to the grid positive or negative it increases or decreases this electron current. The grid potential electrification can be obtained from any two points on a circuit in which a feeble high-frequency current flows, and the variation of the plate current of the valve will follow the variations of its grid potential. A number of such valves can be used in series and inter-connected by suitable induction

(*Continued on page* 200.)

THE THERMIONIC VALVE.

(*Continued from page 199.*)

coils or transformers, and the plate current variations in one valve made to create changes of grid potential in the next valve.

By a series of such coupled amplifying valves we can then magnify in any required proportion feeble electric oscillations. It is the invention of this detector, comprising a series of amplifying valves, which has given us a detector of electric oscillations so enormously sensitive that wireless signals can be detected by it at the antipodes of the sending station, and has enabled us to signal half round the world by its aid.

As Oscillation Generator.

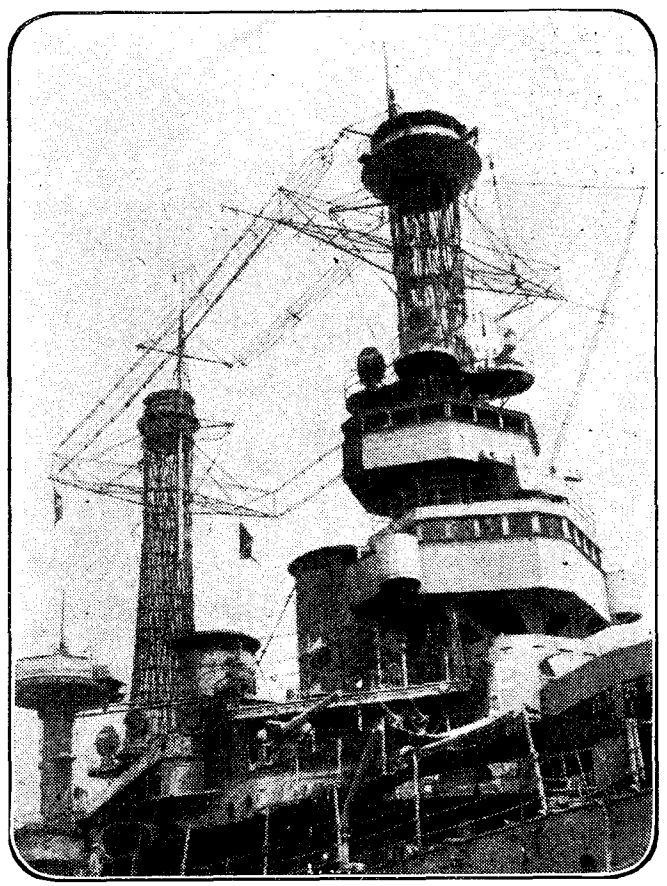
The thermionic valve in its two and three electrode forms possesses the power not only of rectifying and detecting electric oscillations, but also of creating so-called continuous or undamped oscillations. This discovery at once rendered possible radio-telephony on a large practical scale, whereas it had previously only been an occasional feat of experts. The proper coupling through a transformer of the grid and plate circuits results in the production in these circuits of self-sustained oscillations by energy drawn from the plate circuit.

During and since the war, improvements have continually been made in the construction of large generating valves. Beginning originally with very small powers of a few watts in valves with bulbs like incandescent lamps, very large valves in glass bulbs the size and shape of Rugby footballs, yielding an output of 6 or 7 kilowatts, are now made. Valves of 10–20 kilowatts output or more have been made with bulbs of silica. The most recent advance in this direction has come to us from the United States. A method of making high-power valves with bulbs partly of glass and partly of copper has been developed by the Western Electric Company of America, based on the fact that a copper tube with a sharp edge can be welded to a glass tube.

In large valves a source of trouble is the heating of the metal cylinder by the bombardment of the electrons. In the metal bulb valves the copper part forms also the anode cylinder, and it can be kept cool by immersion in water. Large generating valves of 10—100 kilowatts have been made in this manner, and the General Electric Company of America are said to be preparing a thermionic generating valve of the two-electrode or Fleming type with an output of 1,000 kilowatts or 1,300 horse-power. If this can be done, large thermionic valves will replace high-frequency alternators entirely in long-distance wireless stations. Already Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company have a valve panel of 56 large glass valves in their Carnarvon radio station with which communication is made direct to Australia. The present public wireless telephone broadcasting stations in Great Britain employ large valve generators in their transmission plants.

Modern Valve Receivers.

The improvements made in the construction of the thermionic valve, and the close study of its action imposed by the necessity for developing wireless telegraphy and telephony during the great European War, have given us an extraordinarily sensitive and easily managed detector of electric waves, and the advent of wireless telephone broadcasting has created a novel trade in the manufacture of these valves for generating, amplifying, and detecting electric waves.



The complicated aerial system employed on one of the larger vessels of the United States Navy.

In the receiving valve most commonly used, a straight filament of tungsten, or thoriated tungsten, or else platinum-iridium, coated with oxides of barium and strontium, is used. This is surrounded by a spiral wire forming the grid, and by a nickel or molybdenum cylinder, forming the plate. The ends of the filament, grid, and plate are connected to pins on a cap so that the valve can fit into a socket like an electric lamp.

In modern wireless telegraph receivers, one or more valves are used to amplify the oscillations—one to detect, and one or more to amplify the rectified currents.

Valves of this type were made to the number of three or four million during the war (1914–1918), and are manufactured now by the hundred thousand per annum for wireless broadcasting purposes. Large factories employing hundreds of workers are devoted to their manufacture.

An additional great service the thermionic valve renders is as a perfect telephone relay or repeater. Telephone electric speech currents are enfeebled by flowing along a telephone wire, and for long-distance working very thick and therefore costly wires were required. Thermionic amplifiers can, however, be inserted in the run of line to re-enforce the currents so that they start on a further journey with fresh strength. By the use of these repeaters, telephonic speech is now transmitted right across the Continent of America (4,000 miles) and they are being now much used by the British Post Office. For shorter distances a great economy in copper can be obtained by their use. It would be feasible to speak from London to Delhi if it were worth while to erect the line and repeater stations. In short, the thermionic valve has effected a revolution in ordinary telephony just as it has made possible wireless telephony.

Recent Advances.

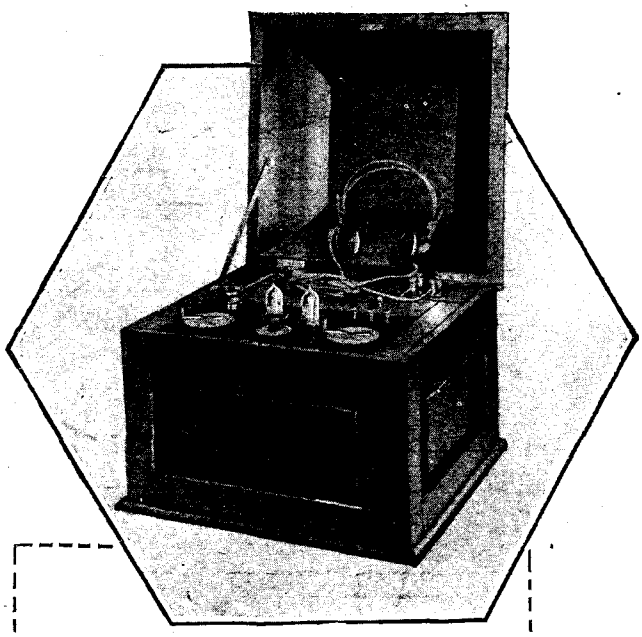
It will be seen, therefore, that out of purely scientific researches and discoveries by Edison, J. J. Thomson, Irving Langmuir, Lee de Forest, the invention of the two-electrode thermionic valve by the author in 1904 and the subsequent development of these discoveries by the expert investigators of great commercial organisations such as The Western Electric, The General Electric, The Marconi Wireless Telegraph, The Osram Lamp and Edison Swan Electric Lamp Companies, an immense industry has been built up, which, starting from very small beginnings when the first Fleming valves were made at The Edison Swan Electric Lamp Works in 1904, and the Steam Electric Lamp Works, England, in 1907, has attained now (1923) enormous proportions and created an industry which has yet a great future before it.

Further advances have been made in the last year or so with the object of doing away with the low tension battery. Considerable success has been achieved and the filament consumption of many modern low temperature or dull emitter valves has been cut down to well below one quarter of that of the ordinary types. Indeed so great has been the success obtained by the dull emitter valve that the accumulator, so often the greatest drawback to wireless reception, can be dispensed with and primary cells substituted in its stead.

But it may not be long before even these will be unnecessary and we shall have a "cold" filament valve that will operate by the application of H.T. to the anode, the filament being coated with, or consisting of, radio active salts, that will readily give off electrons.

(Reproduced by courtesy of The British Science Guild and Publicity Service.

The Two-valve set that will give YOU satisfaction—



LONDONDERRY. 14th September, 1923.

"2-Valve set safely to hand and tested on standard aerial at 3.30 p.m. to-day. Glasgow (150 miles) came in without effort, and listeners all decided that earphones were TOO LOUD. Loud speaker accordingly connected (which was never attempted on 2-valve set here before) and music came out beautifully, being distinctly heard all over shop. Out of over a score of sets (2-v. and 3-v.) tested under same conditions, I propose now to place an order for six sets for opening of coming season."

POTTERS BAR. 6th September, 1923.

"Last night I had the pleasure of testing your latest 2-valve tuner, after 2 L O had closed down, the results being beyond my expectation, having received 2 Z Y, 5 N O, 5 S C, 5 I T on the loud speaker (Amplion A.R.23). It is necessary to add that I am an absolute amateur, and that this set was tried on my own aerial at Potters Bar."

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA. 26th September, 1923.

"It may interest you to know that on one of the new 2-valve reaction sets I am receiving W G Y (America), and the School of Posts and Telegraphs (Paris), and several other stations in America perfectly. In fact, I don't tune them in properly, as they come in too loudly if I do. The aerial I am using is 26 feet high and 70 feet long."

The Mark of Efficiency.

THE NEW V.S.1. TWO-VALVE

COSMOS RADIOPHONES

are giving highly satisfactory Broadcast and Telephony reception in all parts of the British Isles, as is shown by the few extracts given from the numerous testimonials we are receiving.

These sets are now fitted with :—

(i) a dual amplification circuit whereby results are obtained with *two* valves fully equal to those hitherto obtained with *three*.

(ii) a highly efficient non-radiating reaction circuit.

The results are:

UNEQUALLED RANGE
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and the sets are designed for simple operation so that these results can be obtained by the beginner who has no wireless knowledge or skill.

"Cosmos" Radiophones are sold through the trade, but we extend a hearty invitation to all who contemplate the purchase of a set to pay a visit of inspection to our showroom in your district. You will not be pressed to buy, but you will have the opportunity of hearing "Cosmos" reception and of seeing the whole range of "Cosmos" components, and the very latest development "RADIOBRIX".

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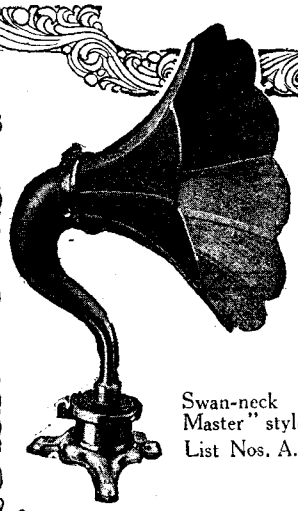

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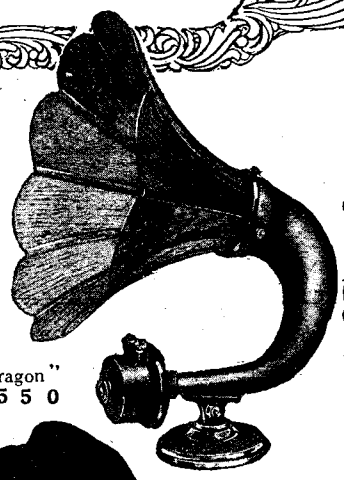

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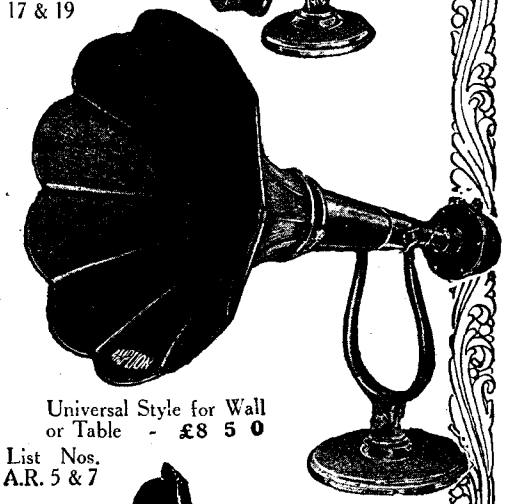

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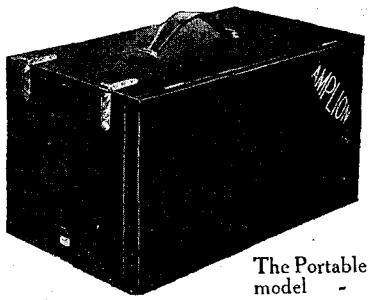

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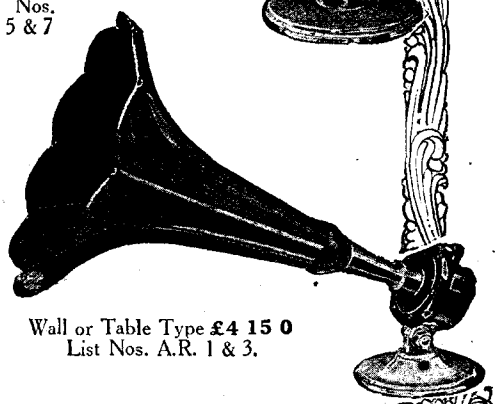

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AMPLION

POST OFFICE NOTICE

Use of Unlicensed Wireless Receiving Sets

The Postmaster General calls attention to the new arrangements announced in the Press for the issue of wireless licences.

Many persons are known to be using wireless receiving sets without a licence, owing to the fact that no licence has hitherto been available for home-made sets. A new form of licence known as an "Interim Licence" has now been introduced to meet the case of persons *who are already in possession of unlicensed sets.* It imposes no condition as to the make of existing apparatus.

This licence will be issued at an annual fee of 15s. to persons who apply *before the 15th October.* No charge will be made for past user, and no proceedings will be taken in respect of past user if the licence is applied for before the 15th October. *Any person who uses unlicensed apparatus after that date will render himself liable to heavy penalties under the Wireless Telegraphy Act,* 1904.

The "B.B.C." Licence at 10s. still remains on sale, and a second new form of licence, known as a "Constructor's Licence," which will meet the case of persons who intend to make their own sets but have not yet done so, is also issued at 15s.

The new licences are on sale at all Head and Branch Post Offices and certain Sub-Offices. Forms of application can be obtained at any of these offices and also at any Sub-Office at which Money Orders are issued.

THE BROADCASTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

"Better Late than Never."

A review of the situation. By THE EDITOR.

THE Broadcasting Committee's report has at last been issued for the edification of the public. There is nothing in it which has not been anticipated, and which could not have been decided on in almost less time than it took Carpentier to knock Beckett into sweet oblivion. But that is by the way. The important thing is the "compromise" emanating from the P.M.G.

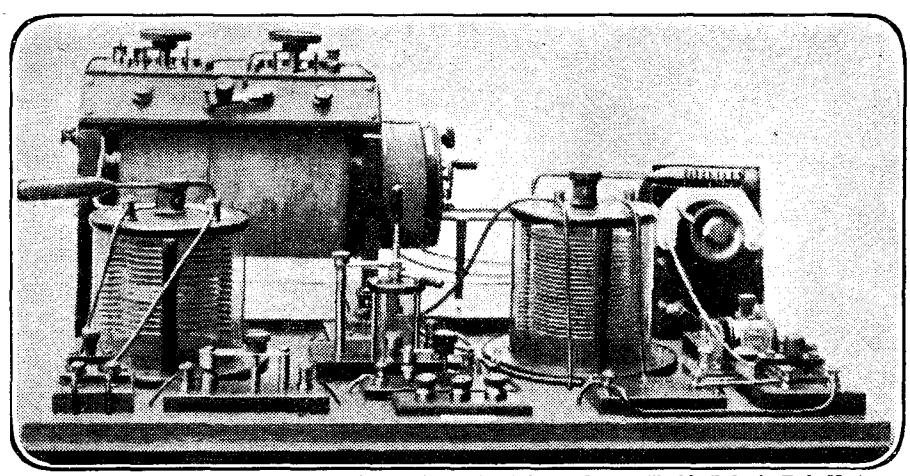
The Postmaster-General has agreed with the Broadcasting Committee that a constructor's licence should be issued for a limited period at an annual fee of 15s., provided that no foreign parts are knowingly used in the construction.

To those who have already unlicensed sets, a special interim licence will be issued at a fee of 15s., provided they apply for licences before October 15th.

This scheme will last until December 31st, 1924, after which it will be possible for the single form of licence recommended by the Committee to be introduced, without any condition as to the marking or origin of the licensed apparatus, if it should be then thought desirable.

The statement adds:

"The existing experimental licence at an annual fee of 10s. will continue to be issued from the General Post Office to persons who are able to satisfy the Postmaster-General that they desire the licence for bona-fide experimental purposes, and are qualified to conduct experiments, and who sign a declaration to the effect that they will not use the broadcast programme except for experimental purposes."



A typical well-finished home-made receiving set, constructed by Mr. F. Hill, 23, Baker's End, Merton, Wimbledon, S.W.

Committee's Recommendations.

The actual broadcasting report contains recommendations which cannot be put into operation immediately, but the above compromise will serve for the time being. The Broadcasting Committee's chief recommendations are as follows:

"That a Broadcasting Board should be established to assist the Postmaster-General in the administration of broadcasting and advise him on important questions concerning the service.

"That the broadcasting service should not be operated by a Government department, but that those entrusted with the service should work under Government licence.

"That no part of the cost of broadcasting should fall on the taxpayer, but that the Government should not endeavour to make a profit on the administration of the service.

"That the bulk of the revenue required for the service should be obtained from the receiving licence fee, which should be retained at 10s. a year, subject to consideration of a reduction in the event of more revenue being received than is sufficient to carry on an adequate service.

"That, instead of 5s., as much as 7s. 6d. out of the 10s. fee might be allocated under any new scheme to meet the cost of broadcasting, subject to a sliding scale under which the payment per licence would decrease as the number of licences increased.

"That, in place of the present broadcast and experimental receiving licences, a uniform and simple type of licence be issued containing a clause forbidding improper use of back-coupling on pain of withdrawal of the licence, but no other limitation on the apparatus allowed to be used.

"That effective measures be taken to enforce such a licence, and that additional statutory powers be obtained to strengthen the Postmaster-General's position."

Referring to the question of wave-lengths and hours, the Committee recommend:

"That arrangements be made for the greatest possible extension of the existing broadcast band of wave-lengths (350 to 425 metres), preferably by the allocation of a band from 300 to 500, excluding 440 to 460 metres.

"That all possible steps be taken to protect the band allocated to broadcasting from interference by other services.

"That the present restriction of the hours of broadcasting be removed, thus enabling additional facilities to be provided."

Dealing with the broadcasting of news, the report says:

"The public is well served by the Press in the matter of news, and we consider that any extension of the broadcasting of news should be carried out gradually, the effect of each extension being carefully watched.

"The British Broadcasting Company are required, as a condition of their licence, to broadcast weather reports without charge, and the Committee are strongly of opinion that weather forecasts should be broadcast at least twice a day in non-scientific language calculated to be of the maximum value to agriculturists and others."

Exactly what listeners-in have gained may be summed up concisely as follows:

Constructors' licences are to be issued for a limited period at 15s. per annum, as compared with 10s. charged for the B.B.C. licence, provided that no parts manufactured elsewhere than in Great Britain and Northern Ireland are knowingly used in the receiving apparatus.

For those who already have sets unlicensed (estimated to number 200,000) a special interim licence will be issued at 15s., provided application is made before October 15th.

Practical Solutions.

Out of the 15s. the company will receive 12s. 6d., and out of the B.B.C. licences 7s. 6d., if the House of Commons agrees.

Royalties will continue on a reduced scale—approximately 50 per cent—except in the case of crystal sets, in respect of which the reduction will be greater. These reductions, it is pointed out, should enable a cut to be made in the prices of receiving sets.

The existing licence for bona-fide experimenters at 10s. will be continued.

As to unlicensed sets, no charge will be made for past use, and no proceedings taken in respect thereof, if the licence is taken out before October 15th.

The licence held by the company will be prolonged, "under suitable conditions," to the end of 1926, as recommended by the Committee.

The P.M.G.'s recommendations are very different from those made by the Broadcasting Committee, which is not surprising, for the latter's labours do not appear to have been productive of anything really original or immediately practical to have warranted their appointment by Sir W. Joynson-Hicks. Taken all round, the actual recommendations made by the Committee are theoretical, while those of the P.M.G. are, at least, practical, and will help to inspire a certain amount of confidence in the trade, especially as they will still retain protection.

It is interesting to note that the Committee views with disfavour the continuance of the B.B.C.'s privilege to insist on the purchase of apparatus stamped B.B.C. This system, the Committee finds, is open to many objections, and should be abandoned.

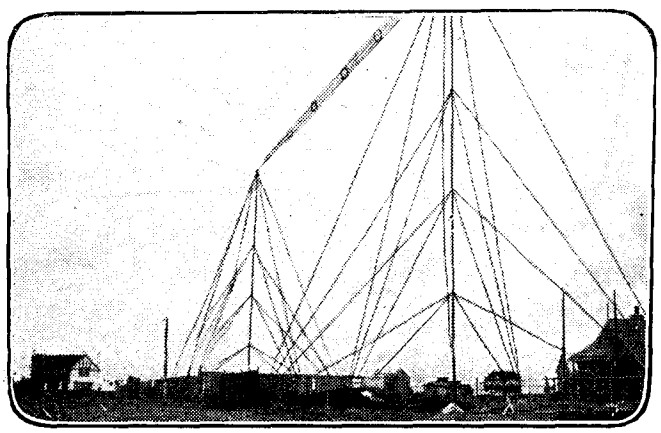
We agree with this, and feel sure that the majority of listeners-in will be glad to see the end of this particular bugbear of broadcasting.

THE BOURNEMOUTH BROADCASTING STATION.

After a great deal of discussion as to its site, the last of the eight main broadcasting stations to be built in this country is in process of erection at Bournemouth. Some interesting details of the station, which should be in operation in a few days, are given in this article.

BOURNEMOUTH, "the forest city by the Southern Sea," has added one more attraction to its already long list in that it has been chosen as the broadcasting centre for the south coast.

It is admirably centred for this purpose, and a great number of listeners-in will be created by the bringing of the towns and villages of the New Forest, Isle of Wight, etc., within comfortable range of a broadcasting station. For a long time it was quite an open question as to which town would form the southern representative of the activities of the B.B.C., but it will be agreed that the final choice has been a wise one.



The aerial masts and station buildings.

It is not for the actual town that a broadcasting station is erected; consideration must be paid to a whole area, the radius of a normal broadcasting station's range.

The Bournemouth station studio is situated in Holdenhurst Road, very near to the railway station and the principal hotels. The whole of the second floor of No. 68, above Messrs. Vernal's Pram Department, has been taken, and a special entrance made into the Holdenhurst Road. The area covered is about 78 ft. by 35 ft. The studio itself measures 33 ft. by 20 ft.

There are three offices, a band-room, waiting-room, control-room, and a certain amount of spare storage space. It is the largest provincial studio, and provides ample room for the largest of bands.

It will not be draped as heavily with "blanketing" material as 2 L O 's studio, but it is not anticipated that there will be the slightest trouble from resonance or outside noises. Nor is it thought likely that "neighbours" will be worried with "directly received" broadcasting.

The studio is connected to the actual transmitting station by three pairs of Post Office land lines, which are partly overhead and partly underground.

The station is some two miles from the studio, and is situated in Bushey Road, which is close to Charminster Road, on the outskirts of Bournemouth. The site is a very excellent one, having, as it has, good elevation and absolute freedom from screening. The site is, moreover, unique in that it is on land belonging to the B.B.C. This will allow perfect freedom for modifications or experiment.

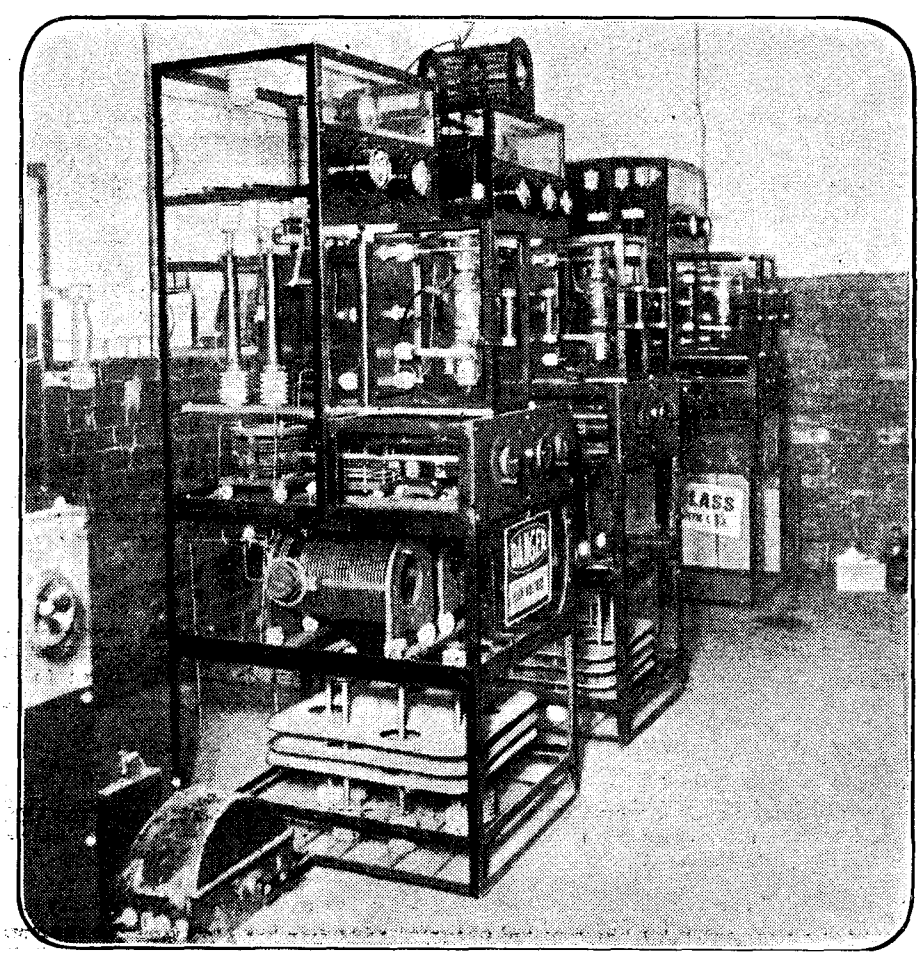
The two masts are each 120 ft. high, and the earth system consists of a ring of zinc plates 80 ft. in diameter wired through to the centre of the ring. It is quite possible that an earth screen will be used. This would permit very sharp and efficient transmission.

The transmitting set is similar in all respects to those at present in use at Cardiff, Glasgow, and Manchester, and was supplied by Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co. The power is 1,500 watts. The lighting and power current is drawn from the Bournemouth and Poole Supply Co.

It is confidently asserted by the engineers in charge of the plant that Bournemouth will be the most efficient of all the B. B. C. stations, and, in view of the inevitable "jamming" from ships and coast stations that must be expected, this is very fortunate. As a matter of fact, it was in order to counteract this nuisance as much as possible that such strict attention has been paid to the technical details, and many of the most important members of the engineering staff of the B.B.C. have made frequent visits to Bournemouth in order to advise and assist the technical men engaged with plant installation at the new station.

Mr. Bertram Fryer, the Station Director of Bournemouth.

In respect of the programmes, it is anticipated that Bournemouth will provide a wonderful selection of items whose popularity is already assured, owing to the fact that they will be chosen from the "rest's best" and will take advantage of months of experience gained elsewhere.



The 1,500-watt transmitter supplied by Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co.

A CHAT ABOUT MULTI-LAYER COILS.

Amateurs constructing sets will find the following article extremely useful in assisting them to choose an efficient method of tuning. The various coils now in use are briefly described, and details of the methods of construction are given.

IN the first place it must not be forgotten that the multi-layer coil is a compromise between two things, efficiency and compactness. Those who remember the earlier days of wireless will recollect the huge, unwieldy tuning coils that were used. Large and clumsy they were, but they were certainly efficient. But with the advance of the science it was found impossible to build receivers employing these coils owing to their size, so a compromise between size and efficiency had to be made. This resulted in the multi-layer coil.

The whole trouble is this: the coils have to be small, they have to have a large enough inductance to reach the desired wave-lengths, and at the same time they must not have a very great self-capacity or they will be inefficient and give flat tuning.

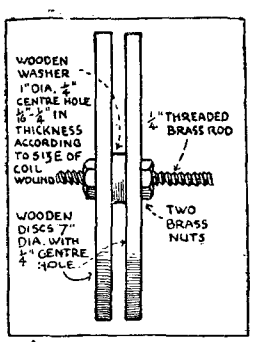


FIG. 1.

In order to keep the size down, the layers are wound in various ways, but with the main object of getting as many turns in as small a space as possible. This is simple, until it is remembered that the closer the wires are together, especially if turns between which there is a comparatively great difference of potential lie close together. For instance, it is a bad arrangement to have turn 20 next to turn 2, and so on. The worst arrangement being to wind a coil of, say, 150 turns and then another layer of 150 turns on top of it. This would result in a compact coil, no doubt, but it would have a tremendous self capacity.

An Inefficient Type.

It therefore follows that the best system is to wind the coils so that there is a reasonable distance between the turns, and also so that turns with a large difference of potential between them shall be kept as far apart as possible. Again, as large a wire as is practicable should be used, and this also increases the difficulties already mentioned.

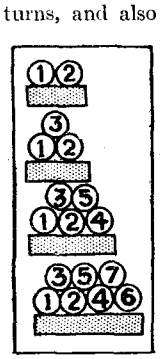


FIG. 2.

The most important multi-layer coils are as follows, and I intend giving a brief description of the construction, advantages and disadvantages of each as we go on.

First is the slab coil. This consists of a more or less flat disc of wire, with diameter anything up to 5 in. or so. It is held together by means of paraffin wax, a point which at the outset is bound to increase the self capacity of the coil. The process of winding is simple; a bobbin similar to those used for plug-in transformers is used, Fig. 1, and the requisite number of turns of wire are wound round and round it. This results in the piling up of layer upon layer in the fashion that has been seen to be the worst possible as far as efficiency is concerned.

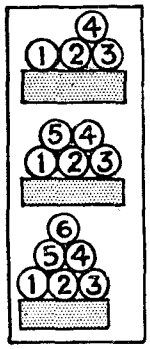


FIG. 3

When the coil is wound the sides of the bobbin are removed from the centre spindle after the whole has been fried in paraffin wax and cooled. The result is a firmly set mass of wire with a tremendous self capacity, and which gives extremely flat tuning. Obviously then this is not a type to be recommended if the best results are to be obtained on low wave-lengths, and so the use of slab coils should be confined to wave-lengths above 3,000 or 4,000 metres. For long waves the coils are usually wound with 32 D.C.C., and have from 400 to 1,500 turns.

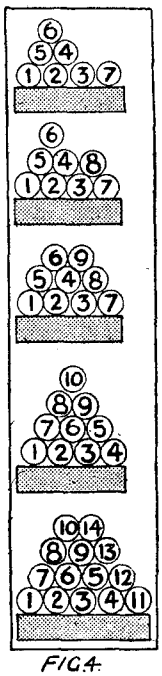


FIG. 4.

Pile-wound coils, next, differ from the slab coils in that they are of the solenoid type, though a great many more turns per inch can be obtained. The diagrams will show how these coils are wound, and it will be seen that the layers are so arranged that only turns having a small difference of potential between them are together.

In the case of two-pile winding, the first two turns are wound on, and then the third is wound on top of the other two, as in Fig. 2. The fourth is then wound on the bottom layer, and the fifth above No. 3. A little skill is required in order to get the layers neat, but this will soon come with practice.

Amateurs are advised to try the two pile type of winding at first, as the three and four pile coils are still more difficult to construct. Finally the coil is finished off in the same way as the usual single layer coil. It should be coated thinly with shellac and baked. Fig. 3 shows the formation of a three-pile winding, and Fig. 4 gives a clear idea of how the four-pile type is wound.

The next coil that we will consider is the lattice coil, which is quite easy to wind by hand. It possesses advantages over the pile wound inductances in that it has less self capacity and is more compact.

It consists of a simple layer by layer winding with a regular zigzag spacing turn which serves to keep the wires apart. The former used, Fig. 5, consists of a wooden cylinder of about 1½ in. diameter and 2 in. long, while a series of pins are driven into its circumference as shown. The pins are

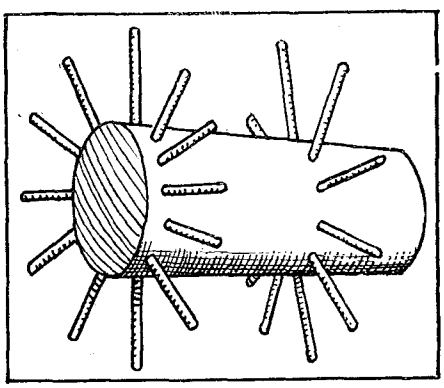


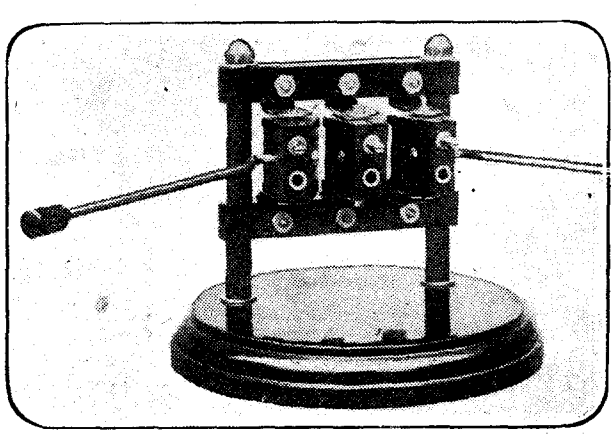
FIG. 5.

"staggered" in their rows, the rows being separated by any convenient distance, depending upon the thickness of coil. Wire nails make very useful pins.

Novel Basket Coils.

To wind the coil, a hitch is taken round the first pin, and then the winding is continued zigzag fashion round the pins until one complete turn has been made, Fig. 6. Then the winding is continued in the ordinary solenoid fashion right across the width of the former between the pins. After this another zigzag turn is wound, followed by another series of straight turns. The result is that a zigzag turn spaces each layer.

(*Continued on page* 208.)


A neat three-coil holder made by the Igranic Electric Co., Ltd.

A CHAT ABOUT MULTI-LAYER COILS.

(*Continued from page 207.*)

Finally the coil is soaked in wax, drained, and when cool, the pins are removed and the coil resembles Fig. 7. Coils should be wound with 24 gauge wire up to 400 turns, and after this with 26 or 30.

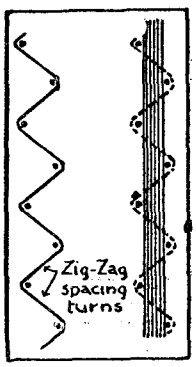


FIG. 6.

Basket or spider coils should also be included under the heading of this article, but are so well known that there is no need to detail the method of winding them. It might be mentioned, however, that a greater number of turns per unit diameter can be obtained if every other slot is used instead of winding the wire in and out of each peg or slot. This increases the width or thickness of the coils, but does not decrease their efficiency.

Popular Type of Coil.

The best known of all multi-layer coils are the honeycomb and duolateral types.

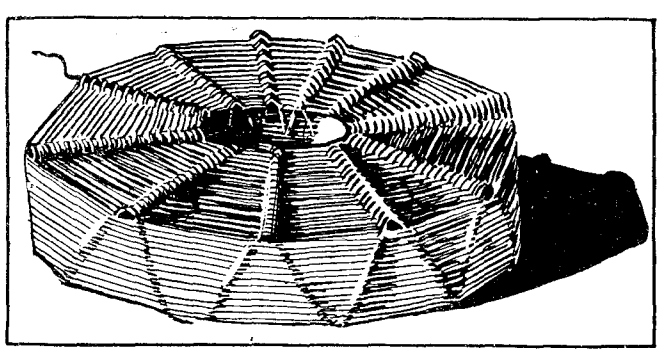


Fig. 7.

These are, of course, in general use among a great many amateurs, and therefore need very little introduction. In efficiency they are a little higher than the lattice coil, or the basket coil, especially upon long wavelengths, when the latter are not to be recommended. On short waves, the writer

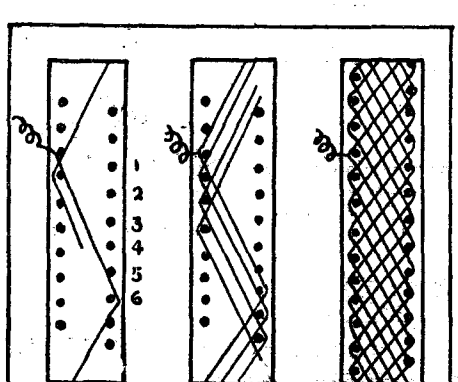
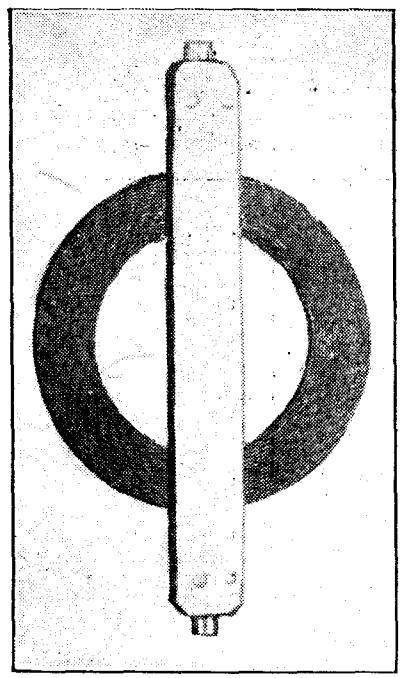


FIG. 8.



A Slab Inductance with Gimbal Mounting.
(*Igranic Electric Co., Ltd.*)

prefers basket coils, though this is open to criticism.

The method of winding honeycomb coils is rather complicated, and it is indeed almost impracticable to construct one by hand if any but the smallest sizes are to be attempted. The coils are wound on a former resembling that used for lattice coils, the only difference being that more pegs are required.

The wire is wound in a peculiar fashion, travelling slant-wise across the former from side to side. Fig. 8 will give some idea of the method employed, and it will be noticed that the wire is taken from the start round the 6th peg on the opposite side. From this it again misses 5, and goes round the 11th peg on the first (the starting side). This is continued, missing 5 each time until the required number of turns have been wound. The number of pegs on the former can be anything from 10 to 20, according to convenience.

The only difference between honeycomb and duolateral coils is that in the latter the layers do not lie directly over one another as they do in the former type. This naturally results in the duolateral coil having an even lower self capacity than the honeycomb. As a matter of fact, those coils often described

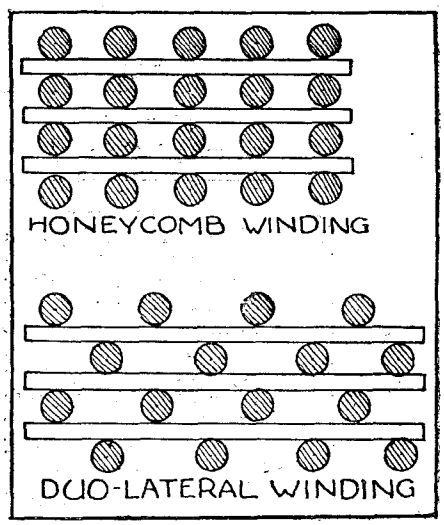


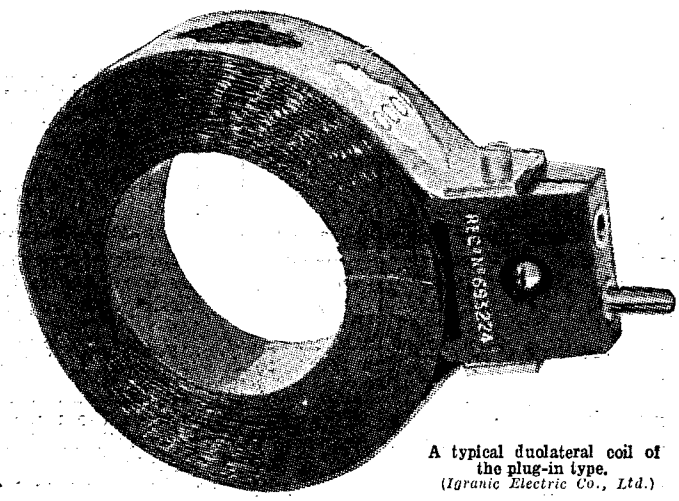
FIG. 9.

as honeycomb coils are really of the duolateral type, the real honeycomb being very little used now.

For the duolateral coil it is best to have about 24 pegs, and the winding should be made so that certain fixed numbers are counted at each cross over. Those generally used are 6, 7, and 9. The difference between the two types of coils will be readily seen by Fig. 9.

Finishing Off.

When finishing off coils, it is advisable to use shellac in preference to paraffin wax. Especially is this the case when dealing with duolateral coils, for if this type of inductance is dipped in wax, no matter how carefully it is drained afterwards, the wax will clog up a great number of the air spaces between the layers, and will greatly increase the self capacity of the coil. Shellac, on the other hand, will drain off very readily and yet sufficient will adhere to the coils to keep the coil rigid. The idea of dipping coils is not so much for the purpose of increasing the insulation between the turns, though it has this effect, as to enable the coil to stand up without undue support. Here, again, shellac is better than wax, for if the coils are frequently handled, shellac will remain firm, while wax will tend to soften and the coil will gradually get out of shape, if it does not totally disintegrate.



A typical duolateral coil of the plug-in type.
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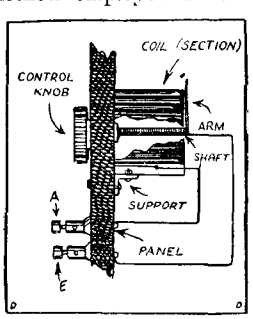
PRACTICAL IDEAS *for the* AMATEUR.

A NOVEL FORM OF INDUCTANCE.

A NOVEL form of variable inductance for panel mounting is shown in the illustration to this paragraph. Unlike the usual type of coil-wound inductance, in which the wire is wound round the exterior of the former, the windings are taken through the inside of the former as indicated.

The insulation is bared from each turn at that end of the former which is free from the panel, in order to allow of the switch arm making good contact.

In operation the inductance values are varied by the method employed in the circular type of filament rheostat for adjusting the filament current.



The coil is mounted on the rear of the panel, and supported in position by means of a piece of L-shaped brass strip, held in place by two small screws and lock nuts, one screw running from the face of the panel to be locked at the rear, and the other being taken through the thickness of the former at the point where the winding ceases.

In winding the coil, due allowance should be made for the positioning of the strip, a suitable width of former being left uncovered for the purpose.

Two terminals, A and E, are sunk through the face of the panel to enable the necessary aerial and earth connections to be made.

The connecting wire from A is taken to one end of the coil winding, and the lead from E is joined to that end of the switch-arm which is attached to the shaft supporting the control knob.

An ordinary condenser knob or a filament rheostat control will answer the latter purpose admirably and give the panel facing a neat appearance.

A DUAL EARTH-SWITCH AND SPARK-GAP.

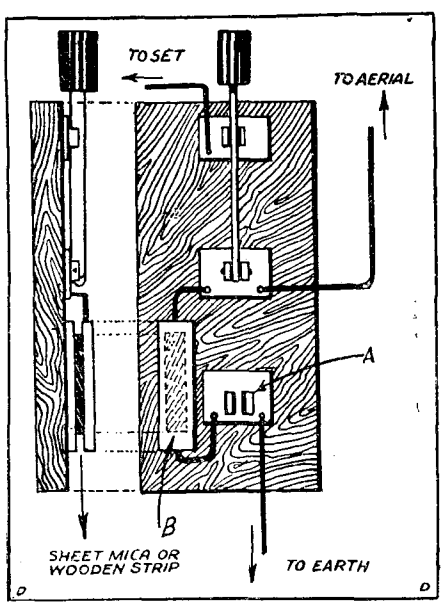
TO construct the switch shown in the diagram will present no difficulties to the amateur who is handy with his tools and who happens to possess an odd piece of brass strip.

An ordinary "two-way" earthing switch is first of all procured, and modified by removing from one end one of the spring-gap contacts which grip the blade of the switch when it is in position. This grip, shown at A in the diagram, is re-installed considerably nearer to the hinged base on which the blade works.

In itself this modification is an advantage, as any extremely heavy currents in the aerial would spark across the smaller gap thus provided more readily than across the original distance.

Provision is made for the removal of heavy charges from the aerial by inserting the small spark-gap, B, in the earth circuit as illustrated.

This is composed of two pieces of sheet brass separated by a thin sheet of prepared



wood, mica, or other insulating material. The two brass strips should overlap the separating medium for a distance of about one-eighth of an inch.

The distance between the exposed edges of the two strips should be as small as possible—as small, in fact, as can be managed without the strips making actual contact.

Accumulated charges on the aerial can then spark across to earth without damaging the apparatus, despite the fact that the instrument is actually connected to the aerial by the switch arm.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHS

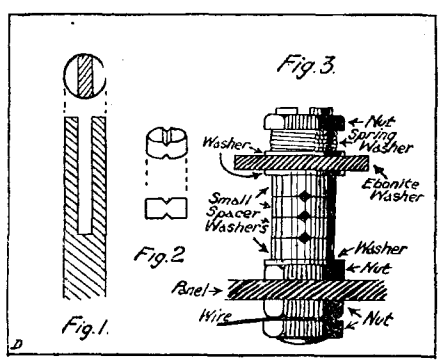
The Editor is always prepared to consider photographs of readers' sets or anything of wireless interest and will pay 10/6 each for those used. If employed on the cover 25/- will be paid. Do not send negatives or small blurred snapshots, quarter plate size prints or larger are required. Prints cannot in any circumstances be returned.

MULTIPHONE TERMINALS.

IN place of the ordinary 'phone terminals construct and use the following, which can be made from oddments left over from condensers, etc.

Procure two pieces of 2 B.A. screwed rod, and file a "cut" as Fig. 1, the length according to requirements. File notches on small spacer washers as Fig. 2. Fit together as Fig. 3.

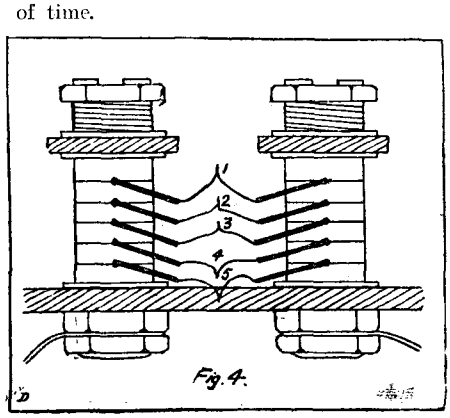
The spacer washers just fit over the 2 B.A. rod. The number of spacer washers used should be according to maximum number



of 'phones required. The 'phone tags can be quickly fixed or unfixed by lifting up the ebonite washer against the tension of the spring, and pushing in or pulling out the tags from the file cuts.

The tension of the spring ensures good contact between the spacer washers, and the tags are also firmly held.

A pair of 'phones can be added or withdrawn without interfering with the others, and amateurs will find this type of terminal extremely useful. For experimental wiring-up of circuits where a number of connections are to be made to one point the terminals will be invaluable, as the wires can be inserted or removed with a minimum waste of time.



NOTES ON THE "MAY" CIRCUIT.

The brief account of the "May" circuit recently published in "Popular Wireless" has created enormous interest all over the country. The following remarks upon its operation will prove of great assistance to all amateurs.

AS inquiries about the "May" circuit are continually arriving, it is my intention here to give a short, simple account which will answer practically every one who has difficulties concerning this circuit.

The best results I have yet obtained have been with an Ediswan A.R. valve, using from 120 to 140 v. H.T. and a 6-volt L.T. battery. A five megohm grid leak gave better results than 2 megohms.

The variometer—and it must be a good one—with loading coil if necessary, functions well up to between 3,000 and 4,000 metres. I have been unable to get any results whatever by substituting a coil and condenser for variometer, but I don't say that it cannot be done. The one fact wireless teaches most plainly is that you must never in the most obvious circumstances become dogmatic.

To tune in I first set my ·001 V.C. at 90 degrees, then slowly turned the variometer through the broadcasting zone. Nothing doing. Reducing capacity 10 degrees—placed pointer of ·001—on 80. I repeated the action with variometer, placing pointer on 60, this with 18 volts. I now struck a weak carrier wave which turned out to be 2 Z Y (44 miles away). Then increasing H.T gradually in 6 volt steps to 66 volt, I found that the signal strength increased very quickly with each move; the strength and quality were now equal to what I was able to produce on a fine valve set twelve months ago.

I now turned the pointer downwards to see if I could locate 2 L O and was successful, but very weak. Next, moving upwards, I picked up 5 N O and 5 I T very weak, and of microscopic proportions.

Loud Speaker Results.

It now struck me that by increasing the wave-length on the variometer I could reduce the capacity, so I made my first move towards real success, and within the next hour I had results which rewarded me for all my trials and troubles. By manipulating variometer and ·001 condenser I got 2 L O on 10 degrees—165 miles—with a sweetness and clearness I had never imagined possible, especially on one valve and that without reaction.

My next move was to add another 66-volt battery in series, 4 inches of tinned copper wire soldered to two valve legs proved very suitable. I now increased the voltage to 120 volts, and "Hallo! Hallo!" "London calling" was just wonderful, and I now connected up another pair of 'phones in series with a 48 ft. lead of electric lighting flex, so that my wife downstairs could hear the results of this wonderful circuit.

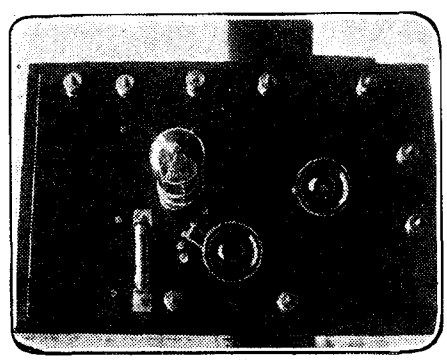
At this point I discovered what could be done by using the best combination of H.T. and L.T. With the rheostat I found that I could cut out the carrier waves, which by now came in with vigour.

I now brought 5 I T and 5 N O on to the operating-table—the vicinity of 10 degrees on ·001—and literally skinned them alive, although with two pairs of 'phones on; that familiar voice "From the Newcastle station, 5 N O of the etc.," came in so strong and clear that I could not resist the temptation to couple on the loud speaker, an Amplion, and I could very clearly and distinctly hear the director read the News Bulletin. I don't, however, wish anyone to think that you could hear it in the next room.

Simple Lay Out.

I then tried 2 Z Y on the loud speaker. It was far better, of course, but at least 80 odd miles nearer.

You will note on the wiring diagram that the filament terminal is wired in one piece, being connected en route to one side of the



Top view of the panel.

filament, one stud of 3-way switch, and the battery terminal on right side of front of panel. When using the detector panel for the "May" circuit, it is necessary to connect this battery terminal to the positive side of the battery, and have the rheostat on the negative side of the accumulator or L.T. battery.

Then the reactance terminal at the bottom, the one that is soldered to the plate leg of the valve, is connected to the aerial end or side of the variometer, the ordinary grid input terminal is connected to the other, or earth side, of variometer. That leaves the third input terminal, L.T. positive, which is connected to the earthed side of the ·001 condenser.

The panel shown is very efficient and easy to construct, and the 3-way switch can well be omitted.

Now for an easy way to get good results on one valve. This is absolutely essential before you are fit even to experiment with the "May" circuit.

I advise those of you who live in the south to practise on F.L. concert 2,600 metres 6.20 p.m., or Radiola until proficient, then you will be able to get the broadcasting stations far better and with little fear of annoying everyone around you.

First of all, provide yourself with plenty of H.T. You will find as you increase this and L.T. in sympathy with it, that with each advance you can loosen the coupling more and more, until you can get the coils separated four inches or more. As the space widens between the coils the reception becomes better and stronger, and the oscillating point less and less critical and unstable, and the margin beyond the oscillating point so great that there is no excuse for ever annoying your neighbours, as you will now have plenty of room to get silent sweet reception. If you reach the limit of extension in your coupling, and still have the carrier wave, lower the filament current and you cut out all trace of carrier wave and any sign of oscillation.

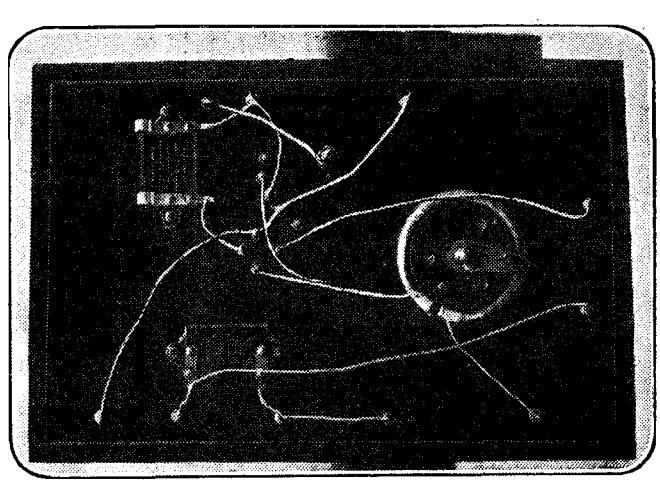
Hard Valve Necessary.

You will find the stations that come in on little capacity—that is, zero to 30 degrees on your tuning condensers, will require the loosest coupling, and as the capacity increases the coupling increases.

On Sunday evening, August 26th, I received several amateurs transmitting on 10 watts from 40–80 miles away; Croydon several times, 200 miles away, telling someone they were 12½ miles N.E. of Dungeness Point; Radiola, the Hague Concert; F.L. 6.20 p.m. This I could hear, and distinguish the tune when the 'phones were worn by someone else, and no trace of carrier wave. Later, each one of the British stations. I used 138 volts H.T. and Ediswan A.R.

In conclusion, let me point out that for successful operation you must use a fairly hard valve, the "May" circuit will not function well with valves of the very soft variety. As yet, I have not tried dull emitters, but should imagine that on difficulties would arise if this type of valve were employed.

If any further help is needed, please write to POPULAR WIRELESS, and through that paper I will answer anyone.



The interior of the set. As will be seen the wiring is very simple.

Artistes of the Aether

BY "ARIEL"

Some of the artistes who have given you pleasure while listening-in

AS the needs and requirements of broadcasting become greater, the strain on the artiste who "radios" his talent before the microphone increases.

Naturally the greatest diversity is to be found amongst the singers, and it is here that the master of his—or her—art conquers, for if the microphone registers pleasant sounds, it must also be remembered that it also registers imperfections as well as perfections, and woe betide the singer whose breath control is unequal, or tone production ill-trained. We listeners-in hear all.

Miss Isabel Hirstfield.

When "Sunday comes" it often brings with it a pleasant afternoon spent at the Æolian Hall, metaphorically if not literally. This is due to the genius of Mr. Frank Armstrong. One of London's best-known organists, Mr. Armstrong, may be said to have made the "golden pipes" of Æolian Hall peculiarly his own, and for many years past some fine concerts have taken place here.

The pipe organ is not an easy instrument to "radio," and to command its performance before the microphone is somewhat like experimenting with the elephant at the Zoo, but with better results, however, for Mr. Armstrong succeeds in the majority of the stops "across the ether," and the admirable results are due also in no small measure to the careful selection of the works chosen, due probably to his long experience at this hall.

Demand for Classics.

It is almost surprising how greatly the broadcasting programmes are changing their character, though, of course, dance music still plays a prominent part, there is obviously a growing demand to hear music of a type that this time last year would have been labelled as "highbrow" and impossible stuff. Particularly is this the case with the pianoforte solos.

Mr. Herbert Langley.

In this branch of music we have had some of the great classical concertos and sonatas performed by orchestra and soloists in real Queen's Hall Symphony fashion. As witness to this, one cannot conceive better work than was done again recently by Mr. Maurice Cole, when with the support of Mr. Stanton Jeffreys and an augmented orchestra a wonderful interpretation was given of Tchaikowsky's great B flat minor concerto, while in pianoforte work solos, the playing of Miss Isabel Hirstfield stands out prominently.

In the Provinces.

Miss Hirstfield has had a very wide experience, both as teacher and as executant, while as a composer, too, she is known, and her latest work is a musical act entitled "Our Musical Ancestors," which will gain big bookings. Miss Hirstfield has had continental experience, being formerly a pupil of Professor Klindworth in Berlin, and of M. Moskowsky in Paris. It is perhaps due to the latter's influence that the delicate passages of the old French and Italian composers are so delightfully played by her.

Mr. Frank Armstrong, the well-known organist, at the organ in the Æolian Hall.

Works that "came over" especially were "Toccata," by Paradies, a "Pastorale," by Scarlatti. Miss Hirstfield is a familiar figure at the special concerts of the Albert Hall, the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts, and throughout the provinces. Her radio work was remarkably successful.

As usual, the provinces have been having very good radio programmes, and amongst the soloists mention must be made of a clever violinist, Mr. Herbert Isaacs. A gold medallist of Bristol Eisteddfod of 1909, he has won numerous prizes, and is a pupil of Percival Hodges, the leader of the Birmingham String Quartette. Mr. Isaacs comes of a musical family, and has done ample credit to them. Like most people he put aside his own career for the war, and joined up in the infantry, going through many engagements; but it is good to know that throughout his campaigns his fiddle accompanied him, and both came through unscathed. Just six months before Peace was signed, Mr. Isaacs played in the Trouville Symphony Orchestra. Violinists, perhaps, may be interested to know that this capable young player uses a Sebastian Klot violin of 1730, and it is possibly due to the powerful G string on this that his radio solos came over so well.

Miss Eda Bennie.

The opera season is with us again, and listeners-in will doubtless have the pleasure of hearing two people return "to the fold," as it were, from far away. These are Miss Eda Bennie and Mr. Herbert Langley. Miss Bennie has returned from Australia, and Mr. Langley from Berlin, where he has been a film star playing in the screen production of the famous play, "Chu Chin Chow." Mr. Langley is noted for his fine baritone voice, and he has sung in every known rôle, but his best parts are perhaps Iago in "Otello," and Hans Sach in "The Meistersingers."

A Popular Soprano.

Miss Eda Bennie is an Australian by birth, and has just been spending a few months' holiday in her native Dominion.

As a member of the British National Opera Company she has appeared in every important rôle, and is returning to take up fresh parts with them. Miss Bennie, in relating her Australian experiences, tells vividly what an opportunity there is for opera in Melbourne. Every company has been warmly welcomed, and there is no doubt that could the B.N.O.C. be transported there we should have no Christmas season at Covent Garden, and no golden opportunities for Londoners to hear Miss Bennie's beautiful soprano voice.

Mr. Herbert Isaacs.

Miss Daisy Kennedy, that delightful young violinist who has frequently entertained 2 L O's listeners-in, recently rendered some unaccompanied solos. She "came over" really excellently.

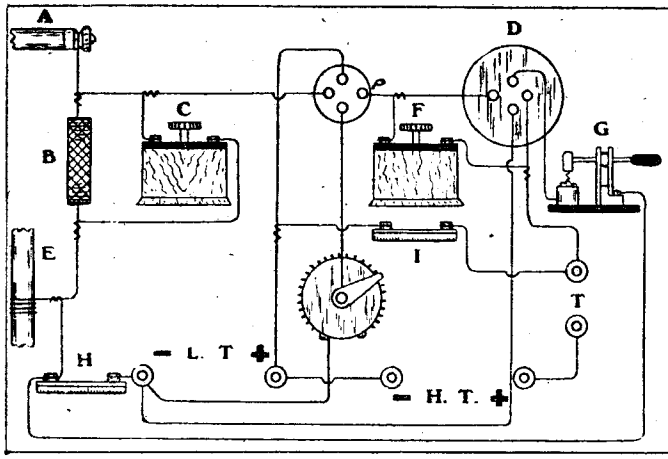


Fig. 1. The simplest reflex circuit. A, B, C, and E, aerial circuit ; D, plug-in H.F. transformer ; F, ·002 mfd. var. cond., in shunt with primary side of D ; G, crystal ; H and I, ·001 mfd. fixed cond.

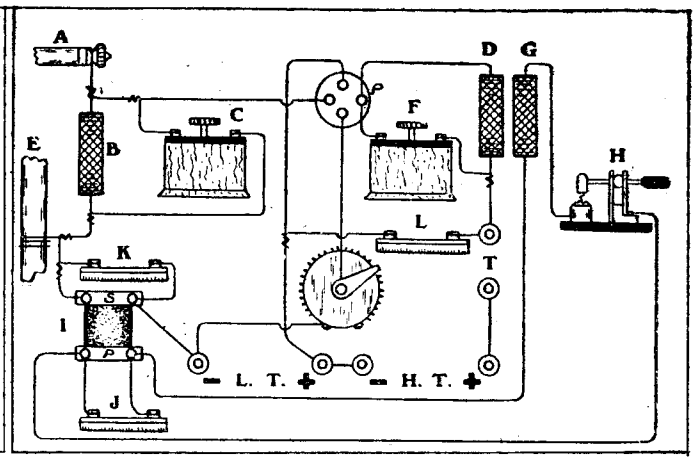


Fig. 2. Modified arrangement of Fig. 1. A, B, C, and E, aerial circuit ; D, tuned anode coil ; F, ·003 mfd. var. cond. ; G, reaction coil ; H, crystal; I, intervalve transformer ; J, K, and L, ·001 mfd. cond.

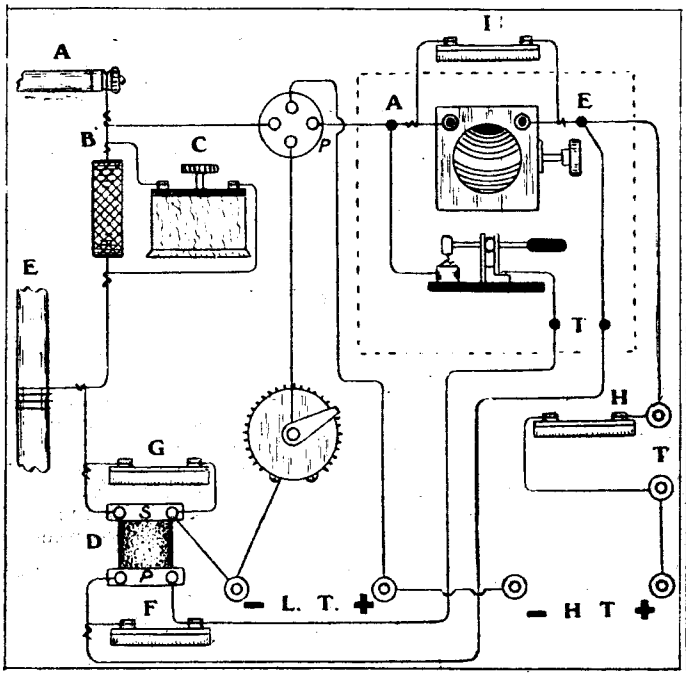


Fig. 3. Adapting reflex circuit to crystal receiver. A, B, C, and E, aerial circuit ; D, intervalve transformer ; F, G, and H, ·001 mfd. fixed cond. Components in dotted lines represent crystal set.

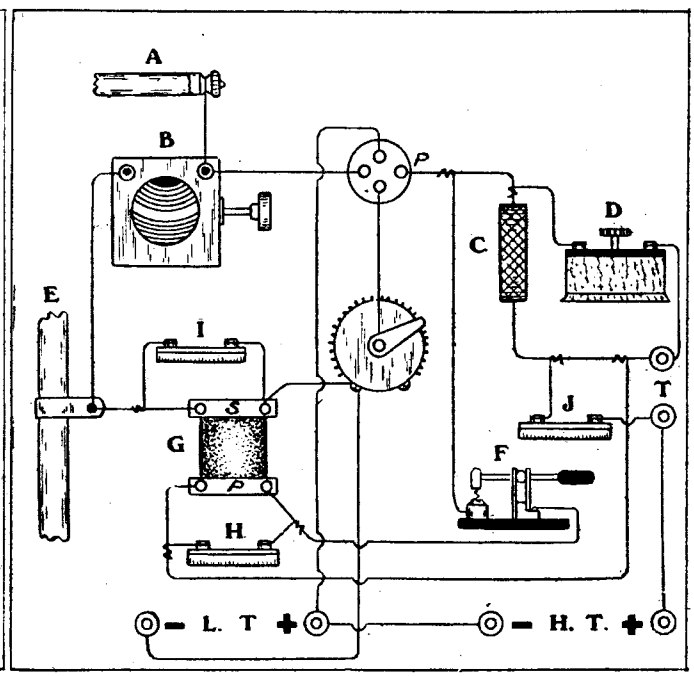


Fig. 4. Another simple reflex circuit. A, B, and E, aerial circuit ; C and D, tuned anode circuit ; F, crystal ; G, intervalve transformer ; H, ·002 mfd. fixed cond. ; I, ·0005 fixed cond. ; J, ·003 fixed cond.

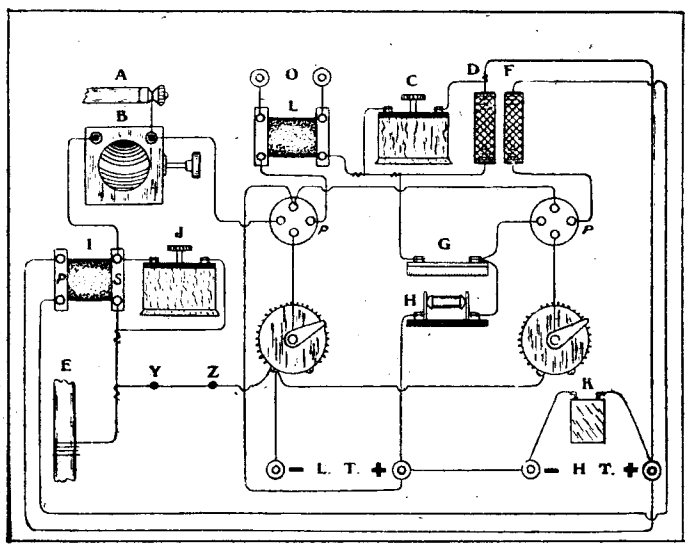


Fig. 5. Two-valve reflex circuit. A, B, and E, aerial circuit ; C and D, tuned anode circuit ; F, reaction coil ; G, ·0003 mfd. grid cond. ; H, 2 meg. leak ; I, intervalve transformer ; J, ·002 mfd. fixed cond. ; K, 2 mfd. fixed cond.

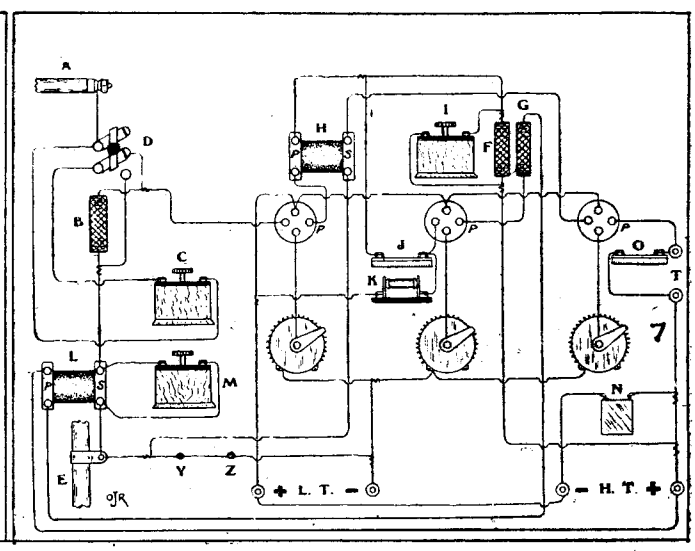


Fig. 6. Three-valve reflex circuit. A, B, C, D, and E, aerial circuit ; F and G, anode and reaction coils ; H and L, intervalve trans. ; I and M, ·002 mfd. ; J, grid cond. ; K, grid leak ; N, 2 mfd. ; O, ·002 mfd.

SIX SIMPLE REFLEX CIRCUITS.

By OSWALD J. RANKIN.

An interesting selection of circuits each of which employs dual amplification.

IT is proposed to describe some practical reflex "hook-ups," and, although no attempt is made to delve into theory and basic principles, it may be well briefly to explain the difference between this type of circuit and any of its rivals. The reflex circuit, together with its name, originally came from America, but it was left to our own experts to perform the difficult task of simplifying matters and to bring it up to its present standard of efficiency.

"Six simple reflex circuits" has been chosen as an appropriate title for this article because, in the writer's opinion, the circuits to be described are really simple. Any attempt to use more than three valves in a dual capacity will invariably end in disappointment, and therefore the reader is advised to confine his ambitions within this limit.

Superimposed Currents.

A reflex circuit must not be confused with a regenerative circuit. Regeneration means feeding back the plate current through a coil inductively coupled to the grid circuit in order to induce a larger current in the latter. Thus the resistance of the grid circuit is considerably reduced, and when the coupling is adjusted just short of oscillation point the increased current flowing in the grid circuit boosts up the current in the plate circuit, in which are connected the telephones, and consequently this results in an all-round increase in signal strength.

The action taking place in a reflex circuit is entirely different. Here electrical waves of different frequencies are superimposed upon each other without interference, just as the vision of one person may cross the vision of another without interference. It is easy to detect two distinct sounds simultaneously, and any effect in light or heat may be similarly superimposed without affecting the identity of either.

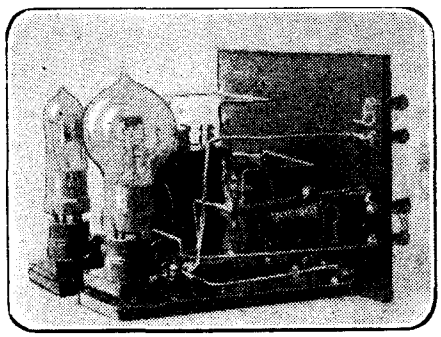
The reflex circuit may therefore be described as a circuit embodying the principle of superposition, since two currents of totally different frequencies are superimposed upon each other without losing their identity.

If this phenomenon did *not* exist, then, although it would not be possible to wire up a reflex circuit, it *would* be possible to listen to only one sound at a time, and in this case there would be no such thing as interference from spark stations when "tuning" our ears to the frequency of the waves of the broadcasting station. Thus it is not necessary to study physics in order to comprehend the underlying principles of superposition.

In a reflex circuit the ordinary valve is used for a dual purpose—that is, as a high-frequency amplifier and a low-frequency amplifier, and the obvious advantages of such an arrangement should appeal to all enthusiasts. I am firmly convinced that the coming season is to be a "reflex season," and I have visions of many thousands of the present type of commercial receiving sets being returned to the factories for alterations. After all, who will purchase two valves, when a certain wiring system not known when most of the commercial sets were rushed on the market will give the same and sometimes better results by using only one valve?

There is little or no distortion with reflex circuits, one reason being because regeneration is not employed, and another because a crystal detector may be used, this giving perfectly clear rectification at all frequencies. The crystal is a distortionless detector, and this is a fact which we cannot ignore. A simple reflex set employing one valve and a crystal is an excellent example of what can be accomplished with a minimum amount of apparatus, and is indeed something to be proud of.

Fig. 1 shows what is probably the most simple form of reflex circuit, employing a crystal for rectifying. The incoming high-frequency currents pass direct to the grid of the valve, and through the ·001 mfd. fixed condenser, H, to the negative filament line. A small condenser such as this offers a very small resistance to high-frequency currents, and a very high resistance to low-frequency currents, and this simple phenomenon is a most important factor which forms the basis of most reflex circuits.



A neat method of constructing a reflex set.

Useful Circuits.

The amplified high-frequency currents of the anode circuit now pass to the crystal detector, via the H.F. transformer, D, and the low-frequency currents from the detector are fed back to the small condenser, H. As explained, this condenser will offer a very high resistance to these currents, with the result that in taking the path of least resistance they flow to the negative L.T. line in one direction, and back to the grid, via the aerial tuning inductance, in the other direction. During this period they are amplified at low frequency, and finally delivered to the telephones at a greatly increased strength. This, briefly, is the action of a simple reflex circuit.

Fig. 2 shows how a still greater degree of efficiency is obtained by the addition of a low-frequency intervalve transformer. Here the familiar tuned anode coupling replaces the H.F. transformer, but this, of course, is optional. Fig. 3 shows a circuit which is likely to appeal to the beginner who is already in possession of an efficient crystal set, and this represents one of the most effective methods of employing a single valve in a dual capacity. The components surrounded by the dotted lines represent the existing crystal receiver, which may include any suitable tuning device, and preferably a detector of the hertzite and fine gold wire tentacle combination.

Fig. 4 shows another simple arrangement which is easily handled by the beginner. This circuit is now fairly well standardised, and can be recommended on account of its simplicity and efficiency. Better results are sometimes obtained by connecting the I.S. transformer lead to the arm of the rheostat, instead of to the resistance helix, as shown, this depending on the type of valve and the amount of H.T. current used.

Fig. 5 shows a good two-valve reflex circuit, giving about six times the signal strength obtained from any efficient two-valve receiver employing a tuned anode coupling and inter-valve reaction.

A Loud Speaker Set.

The values of the components are given in the descriptive text, as in all other diagrams. If it is found necessary to use more than about 60 volts on the anode, a small battery of dry cells should be inserted at Y and Z, this being tapped off at every 1½ volts up to the total value of 18 volts. The negative side of this battery should be connected to Y, and the positive side to Z. Low-resistance 'phones are used, these being connected to the output side of the telephone step-down transformer, L, which is preferably shunted with a small fixed condenser, the value of this being best determined by experiment.

The circuit, as presented, opens out much scope for experimenting. A variable or fixed condenser may be tried shunted across the primary side of the intervalve transformer, I, and the values of other components may be slightly modified to suit the particular valves employed. Fig. 6 is similar to the circuit shown in Fig. 5, but a third valve and an extra intervalve transformer is added, and this makes an excellent combination for use in conjunction with a frame aerial and loud speaker. As in Fig. 5, the circuit should be broken at Y and Z, and a small variable battery inserted if the H.T. current exceeds 60 volts.

The given values of any of the components, and especially of the fixed condensers, should not be taken as universal. So much depends on the type of valve used, the knowledge of the characteristics of any particular valve, and the quality and quantity of H.T. and L.T. current, that it would seem almost a misleading policy to specify component values at all. Any experienced experimenter will easily understand this.

The tuning of most reflex circuits is somewhat flat in comparison with the tuning of regenerative circuits, but this may be minimised by using a directional frame aerial.

AMPLIFICATION, REACTION, AND SUPER-REGENERATION.

By C. E. FIELD, B.Sc.

1.—GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF AMPLIFICATION.

This is the first of a series of eight articles specially written for "Popular Wireless." Mr. Field needs no introduction to readers, who will remember the very useful and authoritative data that he has provided in his condenser capacity and wave-length tables.

AMPLIFICATION of signals is perhaps the most important of the many functions performed by the three-electrode valve, and it is, in fact, that for which this valve was originally intended.

There are many ways in which signals can be amplified, but before considering these in detail, we will first see exactly what is required in order that a three-electrode valve can be made to act as an amplifier.

In the simplest single-valve receiving circuit, shown in Fig. 1, oscillating currents in the aerial are made to pass through an inductance coil, on their way to the earth. Whenever an alternating (or oscillating) current passes through an inductance, a similarly alternating voltage is set up between its terminals, and so, by joining the ends of the coil to the grid and the filament of the valve, alternating voltages, or potentials, are produced on the grid, relative to the filament, and it is these variations of grid potential which produce variations in the current driven by the H.T. battery through the valve and the telephones.

Multi-Stage Amplification.

The important point to note is this. The inductance coil does not shunt the aerial current into the valve; on the contrary, practically no current flows along the wire joining the coil to the grid. The operation of the valve depends entirely upon the *voltage* applied to the grid, or, in other words, a valve is *voltage operated.*

The output of a valve takes the form of a current, drawn from the H.T. battery, and as very *small* variations in the *input voltage,*

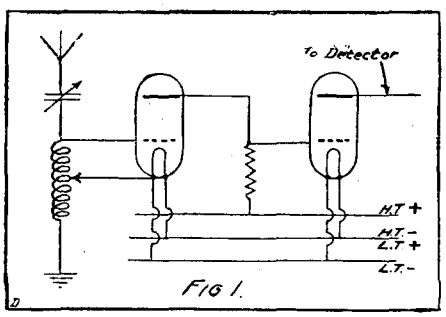


FIG 1.

brought about by small variations in the aerial current, produce *large* variations in the *output current,* the valve has the effect of amplifying, or magnifying the signals. The number of times by which the output current is greater than the current producing the input voltage gives a measure of the current amplification of the valve.

If we desired still further to amplify this current, it would have to be made to vary the potential of the grid of another valve. These variations might be, say, five times as great as the corresponding potential variations on the grid of the first valve, in which case the valve would be providing a voltage amplification of five.

In order to vary the grid potential of one valve by means of the anode current of the preceding one, we might think of joining the plate of the first valve directly to the grid of the second, as shown in Fig. 2. A glance at these connections, however, will reveal two serious faults. First, as the plate of the first valve is joined to the grid of the second, which is, as it were, a blank end, we are blocking the current which we desire to amplify. Secondly, there is no H.T. voltage applied to the plate of the first valve, which means that no energy can be liberated from the battery, and no electron stream will be attracted from the filament.

We must therefore find some means whereby the output current of the first valve is allowed to flow, and at the same time is as far as possible entirely utilised in producing voltage impulses on the following grid. The various methods of carrying this out will be discussed in subsequent articles.

Somewhere in their transference from the aerial circuit to the receiving telephones, wireless signals must be *detected*—i.e. the high-frequency currents must be made to give impulses occurring at low- or audio-frequencies. The question then arises, shall the signals be amplified before or after they are detected—i.e. shall high- or low-frequency amplification be employed?

Note Magnifiers.

This depends very largely upon the strength of the signals being received. A detecting valve, or crystal, operates by allowing very much more current to flow through it in one direction than in the other, which results in one-half of each current cycle being practically cut out. When the signals are very weak, however, this rectification is far from complete, and so, for the efficient operation of a detector, strong signals are desirable. Therefore, for the reception of weak signals (in the case of British broadcasting, from stations at a distance of fifty miles or more), high-frequency amplification should be employed.

As a general rule, it may be laid down that unless a single detecting valve or crystal gives audible signals, it is no use adding low-frequency valves, unless high-frequency amplification is resorted to in addition. Low-frequency amplification has the advantage of simplicity, however, and the amateur who lives within twenty or thirty miles of a broadcasting station cannot do better than employ one stage of note-magnification. When signals are required of sufficient strength to operate a loud speaker, low-frequency amplification is necessary, but in no case is it advisable to use more than three stages.

Perhaps the best all-round circuit for the reception of British broadcasting is one employing one high-frequency and one low-frequency valve.

The ultimate extent to which amplification can be employed depends upon many factors. For instance, when signals are amplified, it is very difficult to prevent stray noises being similarly strengthened

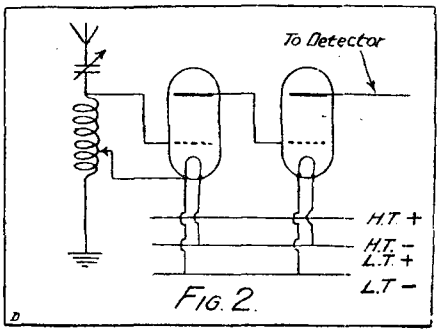


FIG. 2.

Even if all undesirable noises could be avoided, the power capacity of the valve itself sets a limit to the strength of signal current which can be dealt with.

After a certain signal strength is attained, changes in the grid potential of the last valve will produce very little alteration in its output current. This not only prevents any further amplification, but also distorts the signals, and so spoils the quality of any speech or music. To a certain extent this can be remedied by increasing the plate voltage and filament current of the valve, but if much further amplification is desired it will be necessary to employ a larger valve, or connect two valves in parallel.

A circuit made up of five or six high-frequency amplifying valves, a detector, and two or three note-magnifiers, represents about the practical limit for the satisfactory reproduction of music or telephony, if any consideration is given to the quality of the sounds produced.

A Useful Tip.

On account of the difficulties introduced as amplification is increased, the amateur who is constructing a multi-valve set for the first time is strongly recommended to *add one valve at a time,* and to get the set working perfectly before introducing any further stages of amplification. Otherwise, he will find himself listening-in to a medley of strange sounds which he is unable to locate and eliminate.

Finally, it should be remembered that amplifying valves are a necessary evil, and an efficient three-valve set is much to be preferred to a badly designed set employing four valves.

WIRELESS IN SCHOOLS.

By S. V. HEAP, A.C.P. (Headmaster of Sittingbourne Council School).

A SERIES OF PRACTICAL NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF TEACHERS AND PUPILS.

II.—THE AERIAL—CONSTRUCTION OF THE SET.

FOR reasons already explained, the first efforts of the wireless class should be the construction of a simple crystal receiving set. The set will comprise aerial, tuned inductance coil, variable condenser, crystal detector, and telephones, together with the usual aerial and earth connections.

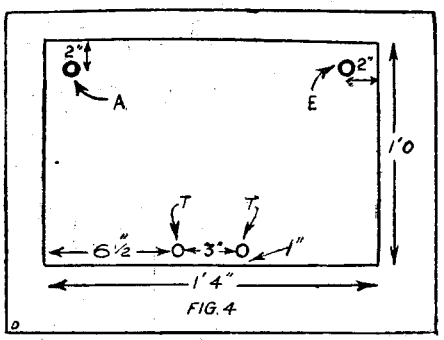


FIG. 4.

At the outset it is desirable that the functions of the various parts should be roughly understood.

The Aerial is the arrangement of wire, single, double, or multiplex, suspended horizontally as high as possible, for the interception of the ether waves set up by the electric energy in the transmitting aerial system. These, striking the receiving aerial, set up electrical changes in it, which take the form of rapidly oscillating currents of small magnitude.

The aerial wire, like every other conductor, possesses capacity and inductance. The former term is self explanatory—the latter may be looked upon as a sort of electrical inertia.

The sympathetic response of the aerial to ether waves depends upon its individual capacity and inductance, and either or both of these may be varied to suit waves of different frequencies. Hence, selectivity, or the possibility of receiving messages on a certain wave-length, to the exclusion of those on other wave-lengths, is rendered possible.

Rectification.

The inductance of the aerial could be increased by lengthening it, and its capacity by bringing it closer to earth, but such an arrangement would be highly inconvenient and unsatisfactory. An alternative to this, for increasing inductance, is to add to the aerial the whole or portion of a coil of wire. This constitutes the aerial tuning inductance or A.T.I.

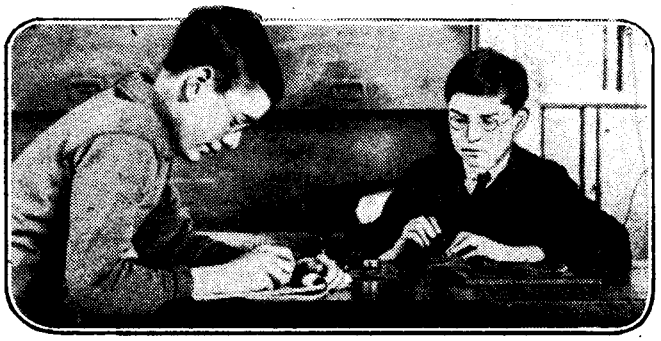
The capacity of the aerial is similarly varied by adding to it a variable condenser consisting of alternate fixed and moving vanes or plates, one set of which is connected to the aerial and the other to earth. In practice it is found desirable to work with the capacity factor as low as possible.

The Detector is a simple contrivance for holding in contact two dissimilar crystals, or a crystal and a fine metallic wire or metal plate. It has already been noted that the currents in the aerial are oscillatory, and of such inconceivable frequency that they can produce no effect in the telephones. Many crystals possess the property of permitting electricity to pass in one direction very much more readily than in the opposite direction. This property is made use of in the crystal detector for rendering the current passed on to the telephones unidirectional, and thus capable of being converted into sound.

Method of Winding.

This rectification can be brought about in various other ways, but of all rectifiers the crystal detector is the simplest, and when in correct adjustment, the most efficient.

The Telephones consist of single or double ear-pieces, each containing a double-pole permanent magnet, about each limb of which a very large number of turns of fine, insulated wire are wrapped in the form of bobbin-like coils. Over the poles of each magnet and almost in contact with them rests a thin diaphragm of sheet iron (or of aluminium bearing an iron reed). As the rectified current passing through the telephone leads encircles the magnets their power is augmented or decreased with the varying power of the current, and the diaphragms are more or less strongly attracted, thus acquiring a vibration corresponding to the original sound or impulse which controlled the amplitude of the ether waves sent out by the transmitting station.


Part of the telegraphy section of the Wireless class in a Leyton school.

A Baseboard, measuring 16 in. by 12 in. and about $\frac{5}{8}$ in. thick, will serve admirably to support the inductance coil, condenser, and detector. This may be made, by the handicraft class, of any suitable well-seasoned wood, or a drawing-board of similar dimensions may be used for the purpose.

The inductance will consist of a single layer of 24 S.W.G. enamelled copper wire uniformly and tightly wound on a cylindrical former, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and 9 in. long. This former may be a strawboard tube, a glass cylinder, or an ebonite tube. If the first named is used, it must be thoroughly impregnated with melted paraffin wax.

The actual winding, if carried out as described on page 677 of No. 30 of POPULAR WIRELESS, should present no difficulty. Six or eight inches of wire should be left at the beginning and at the end of the coil for connecting purposes.

Wiring Up.

The coil may be mounted in position on the baseboard between end supports, as shown in Fig. 3 in last week's issue.

The top of each end support should be cut or notched to receive the bar on which the slide contact moves. This may be made by the metalworkers of the handicraft class, or if no facilities exist, the squared rod and slide contact with plunger may be bought ready for fixing for about a shilling. The rod must be fixed quite parallel to the coil so that the slide plunger makes even contact throughout its entire traverse.

By sliding the plunger from end to end of the coil a few times a well-defined mark may be made on the enamel of the wire. With a sharp knife, the enamel may be scraped off along this line, thus ensuring good electrical contact.

Four terminals should be fixed in the baseboard in the positions indicated in Fig. 4, one each for aerial and earth connections, and two for the telephones. The efficient insulation of these terminals is important, and can readily be accomplished by making bushes of ebonite from sections of the round part of a tobacco pipe mouthpiece. Holes are bored to the depth of half an inch in the appropriate positions in the baseboard with a suitable sized centre-bit. The ebonite bushes are dipped in hot glue and gently tapped into their several holes. When firm and dry, the bushes are ready to receive the terminals, which they insulate as effectively as if the base were of ebonite throughout.

This being a school demonstration set, the leads and circuits should not be concealed, but should be clearly differentiated by different coloured systoflex, or wire covering. A very useful device with young children is to use orange and red for the oscillatory and rectified circuits respectively.

The lay-out and wiring may appropriately take the form shown in Fig. 5.

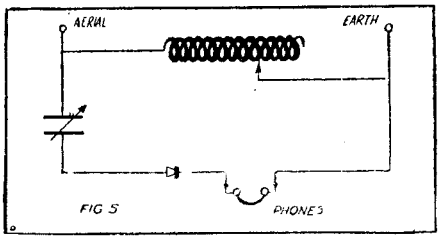
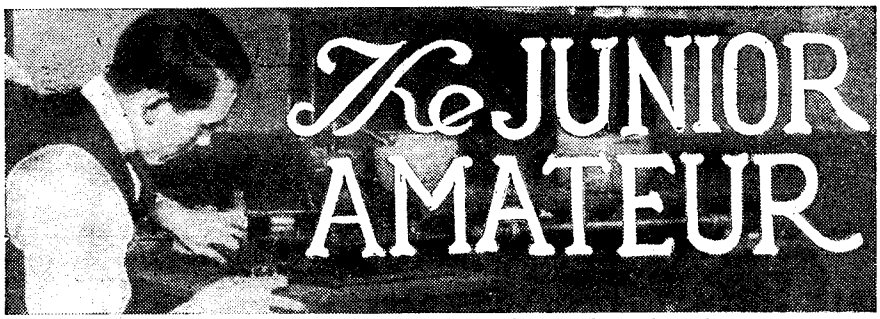


FIG 5



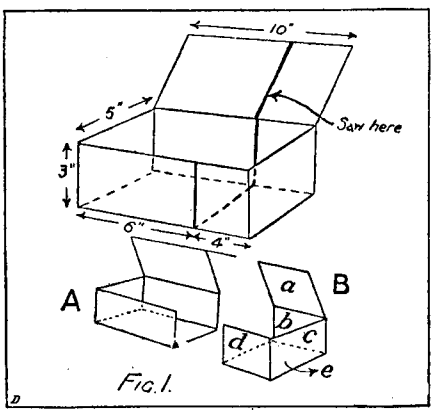
A Receiver in a Cigar Box.—Protection Against Lightning.

A RECEIVER IN A CIGAR BOX.

WITH the coming of the autumn and the longer evenings, a revival of interest in wireless telephony is sure to make itself apparent, and those amateurs who last year were content to "listen-in" on ready-made apparatus, or even to hear broadcasting on the set of a friend, will undoubtedly, in the majority of cases, wish to go a step further and construct their own instrument.

The Parts Required.

It is sound common sense for the uninitiated to begin by making up a crystal receiver, and while the following description is intended primarily for the young amateur, newcomers to the field of wireless might do



worse than to make the set described in this article. The details given are of a simple crystal set which can be easily made at the total cost of a shilling or two, and this little set, when completed, has been found to be very efficient at a distance of over 12 miles from 2 L O.

The requisites are as follows:

A cigar box about 10 in. long, 5 in. wide, and 3 in. deep.

Four terminals for the necessary aerial, earth and telephone connections.

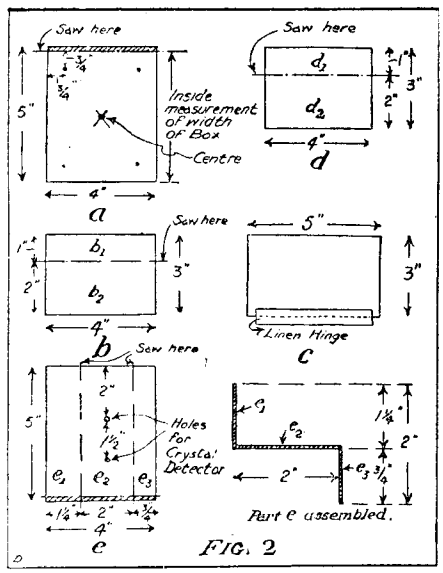
A set of crystal detector parts and a piece of crystal.

Some 22-gauge double-covered cotton wire.

Two small pieces of stout cardboard about 5 in. square.

Some seccotine or glue, or alternately some small screws or brads.

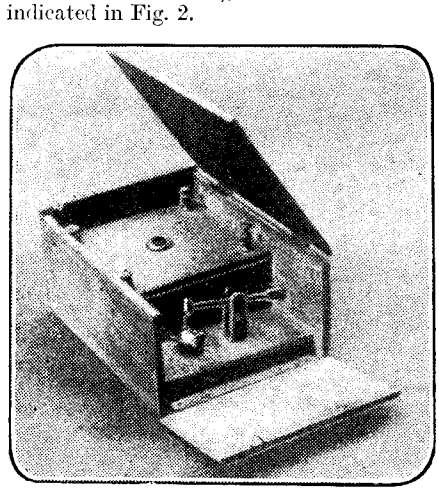
It will be seen that the total cost of the necessary articles is about 2s. When



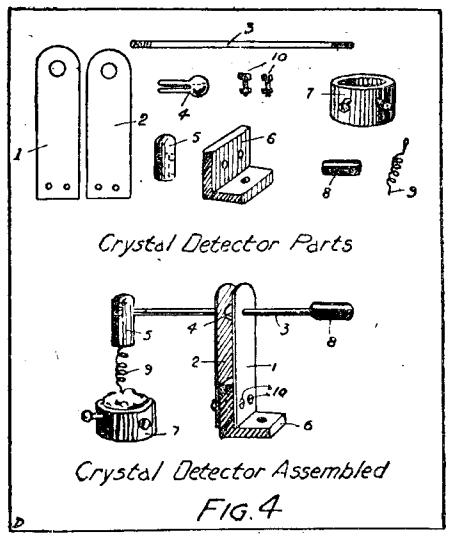
these have been procured, a start can be made.

Mounting the Terminals.

If a very neat result is required, it will first be necessary to remove the labels from the cigar box. This can be done either with sandpaper, or by placing on the labels cloths which have been saturated in hot water; if the latter method is used, be careful to avoid making the wood too wet, as in this case it may subsequently warp. The box should then be cut into two parts as shown in Fig. 1—one part, A, being 6 in. long, and the other portion, B, 4 in. Take great care not to break the larger part, A, as this forms the basis of the set. Part B is then taken to pieces (of which there are five), and dealt with as indicated in Fig. 2.



The completed set.



Piece "a" should have just enough taken off its longer edge to allow it to rest inside the box. A small hole should next be made in each corner, to allow of the terminals being mounted, and the exact centre of this panel should be clearly marked.

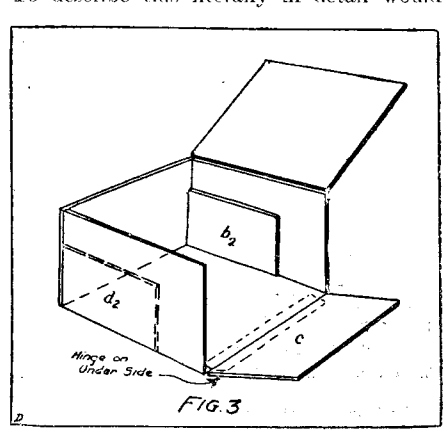
Pieces "b" and "d" are treated alike; each is sawn into two, as shown in the diagram.

Assembling the Detector.

Piece "e" is cut into three parts, the sizes of which are given, and the two holes for mounting the crystal detector are bored through the largest piece. It should then be fastened together in the "step" form, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

The remaining piece "c" has a linen hinge, or, if so desired, two small brass hinges, attached to one of its longer edges, and is fastened to the set as shown in Fig. 3. The pieces "b2" and "d2" are then glued into position on the inside of the box as shown in the same diagram.

It is now necessary to give attention to the building up of the crystal detector. To describe this literally in detail would



occupy a great deal of space, and the necessary parts of the detector are, therefore, shown in Fig. 4, together with an illustration of the complete component. The "key" figures will serve as a guide when the detector is being assembled. The detector is then mounted on the base previously referred to as "e2."

Attention must next be given to the coils. Take the two pieces of cardboard

(*Continued on page* 224.)

PROTECTION AGAINST LIGHTNING

A very simple device for earthing the aerial when not in use or during thunderstorms.

TO people who are nervous of lightning, the aerial is frequently an object of dread. During a thunderstorm they are sometimes so frightened in case it should act as a lightning conductor that they are unwilling to operate a simple switch connecting it with earth, and the following method, which automatically "earths" an aerial whenever necessary, will amply repay them for the little trouble involved beforehand.

It is well-known that a lightning discharge seeks a *direct* path to earth, and therefore all that is necessary to safeguard wireless instruments indoors is to provide an outside pathway, which will be so direct and suitable that lightning would never attempt to travel by the round-about coils and wire of the indoor route.

Easily Constructed.

For instance, in the case of the window shown in Fig. 1, the aerial could be extended from the point where it turns to go to the instruments, a lead inserted between A and B, as shown by the dotted line, and wireless signals can be prevented from taking this route by inserting a tiny air gap at X.

This gap would act as an insuperable barrier to an incoming wireless current, which would therefore travel to earth via the instruments in the ordinary way; but lightning would impatiently bridge the small air-space at X, and spark across the gap to earth in preference to traversing the onger indoor path. The smaller the air space interposed between aerial and earth at X the better, and a very effective little gap can be constructed from a cigar-box, two pieces of wood measuring about 3 in. by 3 in. by $\frac{3}{8}$ in., and two pieces of brass strip about 3 in. by 1 in. For insulators we shall need also two strips of waxed paper, about 1 in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in., or any other very thin insulator, such as mica.

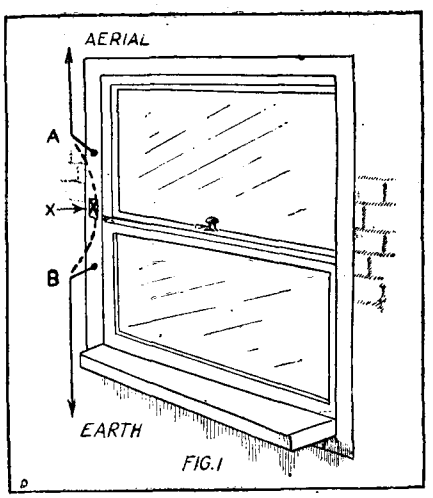


FIG. 1

The construction can be seen from Fig. 2. One block of wood forms the base upon which is placed the brass strip E. This is left protruding from one edge of the block, to enable a soldered connection to be made

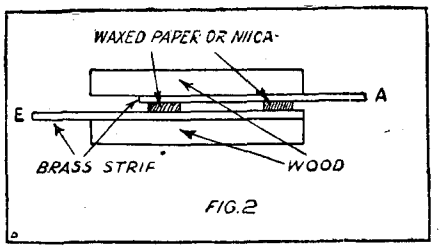


FIG. 2

with the earth-lead. Across the strip about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart, are placed the two pieces of waxed paper (or mica), and the second strip (A) is then placed on top as shown. The waxed paper must be only just thick enough to prevent the two brass strips from touching when all is held firmly in place by the second block of wood.

The whole contrivance should be placed inside a cigar-box, and secured by two screws passing down from the top block through holes drilled in the bottom block, and into the base of the box. (The holes drilled in the bottom block should be large enough for the screws to pass through it without touching this block.)

At each end of the cigar-box a small hole will admit aerial and earth-leads, and the box should be made as weather-tight as possible. A coat of shellac varnish inside and out will keep it damp proof, but if damp is allowed to settle on the blocks of wood inside, or if beads of moisture form there too readily, they will provide a conductor, and thus weaken or destroy the insulation of the aerial. If a little care is taken to keep the inside of the box dry, it can be relied upon to provide a thin cushion of air-space between aerial and earth-strips; this will always divert wireless signals, but at the same time would provide an irresistibly easy and direct path to earth for lightning.

A RECEIVER IN A CIGAR BOX.

(*Continued from page* 223.)

and cut them into circles 4 in. in diameter. Mark off a small circle of $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter in the centre of each. Make seven slots about $\frac{1}{16}$ in. wide, as shown in Fig. 5, and then wind the 22 D.C.C. wire on these, making 16 turns on each side, or 32 turns in all for each coil. These are then mounted on a small piece of wood $\frac{1}{4}$ in. square, and 2 in. long, the final positions of the coils being clearly shown in Fig. 6. It will be noticed that the wooden axis supporting the coils is held to piece "a" by an ordinary wood screw, for which, it will be remembered, a mark was made in the centre of piece "a" previously. Take care not to break the wire between the winding of the two coils.

Only One Adjustment.

The set should now resemble Figs. 3 and 6 (after the terminals have been placed in position) and all that remains to be done is to connect up the wiring. Mark the terminal nearest the crystal cup A, as this is the terminal to which the aerial will be connected. The terminal to the left of it should be marked E for a similar reason, namely, that it is to be joined to the earth lead. The remaining two terminals P1 and P2 are for the telephone connections.

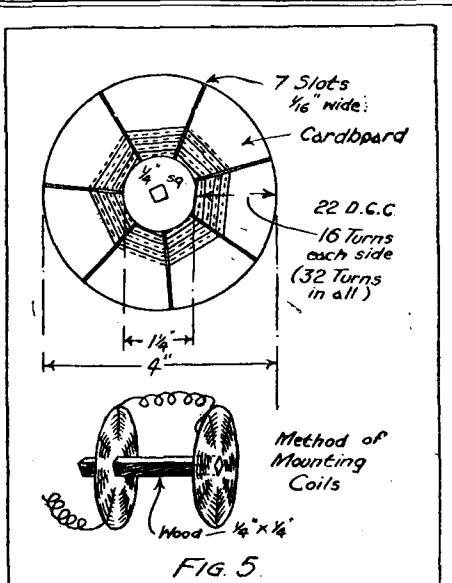


FIG. 5

Connect one end of the coils to the "A" terminal, and the other end of the coils to the "E" terminal. Next join the "A" terminal to the crystal holder, that is to say, the crystal cup. Then connect a wire between the base of the detector arm-holder and P2, which is one of the telephone terminals. Finally, join P1 (the other 'phone terminal) to E, and the wiring is complete.

Before putting the set together permanently it is advisable to test it, so that adjustments can be made to obtain the best results. After connecting the earth lead, aerial and telephones to the apparatus, find by experiment the sensitive spot on the crystal, and then vary the distance between the two coils until the signals are heard at their best. The coils should then be fixed in this position either by means of cardboard washers, or a block of rubber.

The chief features of this effective little instrument are its size, and the absolute simplicity of its working. It is, of course, strictly limited to the reception of broadcasting on a given wave-length, but against this is the undoubted advantage of simplicity in operation, which consists solely in finding a sensitive spot on the crystal.

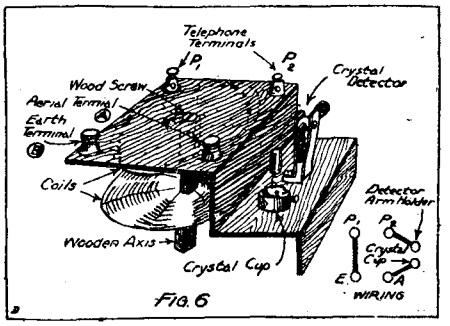


FIG. 6

THE CONTINENTAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

Station.	Call Sign.	G.M.T. Hours of Transmission.	Items Transmitted.	Wave-length in Metres.	Remarks.
BELGIUM.					
Brussels (1)	B A V	12 noon	Weather report	1100	Working days.
		4.50 p.m.	„ „	1100	Daily.
		6 p.m.	Concert	1100	Sunday.
		9 p.m.	„	1100	Tuesday & Thursday.
HOLLAND.					
The Hague	P C G G	1.40–4.40 p.m.	Concert	1050	Sunday.
		7.10–9.40 p.m.	„	1050	Monday & Thursday.
The Hague (Laboratorium Heussen)	P C U U	6.45–9.0 p.m.	„	1050	Tuesday.
		8.40 a.m.–9.40	„	1050	Sunday.
The Hague (Velthuyzen)	P C K K	7.40–8.40 p.m.	Various	1050	Friday.
Ymuiden (Middelraad)	P C M M	7.10–8.40 p.m.	Concert	1050	Saturday
Amsterdam	P A 5	7.10–8.10 p.m.	Concert and News	1050	Wednesday.
FRANCE.					
Lavallois-Perret (Radiola)	S F R	11.30 a. m.	Financial News	1780	Daily.
		11.45 a.m.	News and Concert	1780	„
		3.45 p.m.	Commercial News	1780	„
		4 p.m.	Concert	1780	„
		7.30 p.m.	General News	1780	„
		8.0 p.m.	Concert	1780	„
		4–5 p.m.	Dance Music	1780	Tuesday & Friday.
		9–9.45 p.m.	Dance Music	1780	Thursday & Sunday.
Paris (2) (Eiffel Tower)	F L	6.40 a.m.	Weather Forecast	2600	Daily.
		11.15 a.m.	Weather Report and Forecast	2600	„
		2.30 p.m.	Bourse News	2600	„
		5.10 p.m.	Concert	2600	„
		6.20 p.m.	Weather Forecast	2600	„
		10.15 p.m.	Weather Report and Forecast	2600	„
School of Posts and Telegraphs		5.10 p.m.	Concert and Weather Report	2600	Sunday.
		7.30 p.m.	Concert	450	Tuesday & Thursday.
		1.30–6.30 p.m.	„	450	Saturday.
Lyons	Y N	9.45–10.15 a.m.	Gramophone Records	3100	Weekdays.
GERMANY, CZECHO-SLOVAKIA, AND SWITZERLAND.					
Berlin (Koenigswusterhausen)	L P	10–11 a.m.	Music and Speech	4000	Sunday.
		11–12 noon	„ „	2700	„
		6–7 a.m.	Financial & Miscellaneous News	4000	Daily.
		11 a.m.–12.30 p.m.	„ „	4000	„
		4–5.30 p.m.	„	4000	„
Prague	P R G	7 a.m.	Weather Report and News	1800	„
		11 a.m.	„ „ „	1800	„
		3 p.m.	„ „ „	1800	„
		9 a.m.	Concert	4500	„
		2 p.m.	„	4500	„
		9 p.m.	„	4500	„
Geneva	H B 1	5–7.30 p.m.	Concert	900	„
Lausanne	H B 2	5–7.30 p.m.	Concert	1350	„

(1) If, at the indicated times, a station has to send or receive service communications, the weather transmissions will take place after these communications. Tuesday: Operatic selection on the gramophone. Thursday: Various on gramophone. Sundays: Various by artistes.

(2) Special concerts given during the evening are announced in the course of the preceding transmissions.

NOTE.—All times are G.M.T., not B.S.T.

AMATEUR TRANSATLANTIC TESTS.

THE final American arrangements for the forthcoming tests are awaited with great interest on this side of the Atlantic, especially in the British Isles and in France and Holland.

The ceaseless progress of radio science is nowhere better demonstrated than by these long-distance international communications between amateurs. The experiments, however, are not mere affairs of the scientific laboratory, where the results are secrets to be jealously guarded until the tests are completed, and where the apparatus used is unfamiliar and inaccessible.

Organised Transmissions.

Nowadays, the march of science has become more apparent to the man-in-the-street. The figures engaged in it do not all wear an unfamiliar look; in fact, in this instance everybody knows "the man-with-the-aerial" who is to be the actual demonstrator. The experiment and its conditions are essentially popular, and any owner of a valve set can be a participator.

It has been demonstrated repeatedly that with comparatively simple apparatus American amateurs can be heard in this country, and now it is proposed that a further twenty days' trial should be carried out in the near future. Starting about December 20th, there will probably be two separate ten-day tests. The first period will be devoted to transmissions from this side of the Atlantic, mostly from Britain, but including messages from some ambitious amateurs in France, Holland, and Switzerland.

America Listens-in.

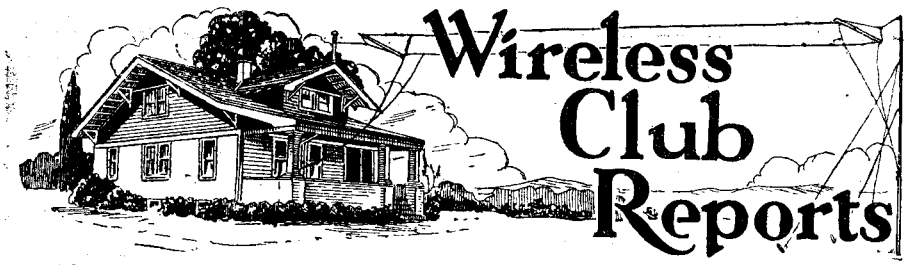
The American Radio Relay League (which is a large organisation representing the wireless amateurs of Canada and the U.S.A.) is arranging for its members to listen-in and to record all communications from European amateurs, and the results obtained should be exciting. British amateurs who succeed in transmitting to America will not only have something to be proud of, but will also have a phenomenal post-bag to answer from correspondents on both sides of the Atlantic who want to know exactly how they did it!

The second ten-day period will be devoted to an attempt at two-way communication—that is, selected European amateurs will transmit signals addressed not to America in general, but with a call-sign indicating one particular amateur in Canada or the U.S.A. He will acknowledge the message, and address his reply not simply to Europe, but to one specified amateur here.

Difficult Conditions.

Hopes run high, although the test is a severe one. It must be remembered that there is to be no universal "hush" for the experiment, but instead the ether will be carrying its enormous volume of telegraphic traffic—the ceaseless chatter of the shipping and continent calling to continent.

Scientific advance under these conditions seems a very real accomplishment, where the expense is not prohibitive and results are truly spectacular. For however one looks at it there is no denying the reality of the thrill which will animate a resident of (say) Battersea Park, who succeeds in communicating with a brother amateur of Brooklyn, N.Y., or in lifting up his voice among the skyscrapers of Boston, Massachusetts.



Wireless Club Reports

The Editor will be pleased to publish concise reports of meetings of Wireless clubs and associations, reserving the right to curtail the report if necessary. Hon. secretaries are reminded that reports should be sent in as soon after a meeting as possible. Reports sent in cannot appear in this paper in less than ten days after receipt of same. An asterisk denotes affiliation to the Radio Society of Great Britain.

Honor Oak Park Radio Society.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business of the Society at a well-attended meeting on September 19th, the secretary made an announcement which was enthusiastically received to the effect that the President, E. A. Graham, Esq., had written a very encouraging letter expressing his deep interest in the Society and enclosing a handsome donation to the funds.

Messrs. Pollard and Lane, demonstrating with a specially constructed two-valve set, then gave an interesting talk on simple valve circuits.

Hon. sec., G. J. Price, 22, Honor Oak Park.

Hackney and District Radio Society.*

At a recent weekly meeting, Mr. Skinderviken, the inventor of the famous microphone button bearing his name, explained in detail the latest type and gave several very interesting demonstrations.

Forthcoming Events: Oct. 18th, "Television," by G. W. Walton, Esq., of General Radio Co.; Nov. 8th, Accumulators, their Maintenance and Manufacture, by F. J. Holmes, A.M.I.E.E., Mangr. Hart Accumulator Co.; Nov. 21st, 22nd and 23rd, Wireless Exhibition and Demonstration at Clapton Palais de Danse. Full particulars to follow.

Hon. sec., Chas. C. Phillips, 247, Evering Road, Upper Clapton, E.5.

Kensington Radio Society.

The monthly meeting was held at 2, Penywern Road, Earl's Court, on September 13th, at 8.30 p.m.

The president, Mr. J. H. Reeves, who has been elected Group Representative on the enlarged Committee of the R.S.G.B., gave an outline of the present position, and members present joined in the general discussion on this subject. It was agreed to hold an informal club meeting on the second or third Thursday of each month, full particulars of which will be given at the next club meeting in October.

Hon. sec., Mr. J. Murchie, 33, Elm Bank Gardens, Barnes.

Liverpool Co-operative Radio Association.

Under the auspices of the above newly formed association, Mr. S. Frith (president) delivered his "Wireless Talk for Beginners" to a large and enthusiastic audience at Unity House, Byrom Street, Liverpool, on Friday evening, September 21st. He traced the origin of, and explained the growth and development in wireless telegraphy from the earliest times, some eighty years ago, to the modern three-electrode valve.

Mr. Frith's lecture was highly instructive, and the practical demonstration he gave on electrical apparatus of the existence of the wireless wave proved very interesting.

Intending members of this association are requested to communicate with the hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Kearns, 162, Walton Road, Liverpool.

The Radio Society of Highgate.*

An interesting lecture was given on September 14th by Mr. J. L. Jeffree, F.R.A., entitled **"Freak Circuits."** The lecturer explained the action of the Lee de Forest circuit, the Cockaday 4-circuit arrangement, the Round Reflex circuit, and, finally, the S.T. 100 circuit. This was followed by a short lecture by Mr. C. H. P. Nutter, F.R.A., entitled "Hints and Tips."

On September 21 Mr. G. A. V. Sowter gave a lecture on "A Portable Receiver." This receiver was entirely self-contained, and was built into a small attaché case. Several different circuits could be used.

Full particulars as to membership of the society may be obtained from the hon. secretary, J. F. Stanley, B.Sc., A.C.G.I., 49, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, N.6.

A new portrait of Captain C. A. Lexis of the B.B.C.

Catalogues Book Reviews Etc.

The Formo Co. informs us that it has come to their notice that inferior imitations of "Formo" Radio Components are being retailed on a fairly extensive scale. They state that every genuine "Formo" part is clearly marked with the name "Formo."

* * *

Brandes, of 296, Regent Street, London, W. 1, have issued a small leaflet in which is fully described the well-known "Matched Tone" Telephone Receivers manufactured by this firm and retailed at 25s. per pair. These telephones are so constructed that the tonal quality of each earpiece is exactly similar, while in use they are both sensitive and comfortable.

* * *

Two new attractive coloured showcards have recently been produced by the G.E.C. and are now available for traders. The first of these advertises "Gecophone" Headgear Telephone Receivers of both the headband and lorgnette types. The other showcard features Marconi-Valves and embodies the "Wireless Wonder" figure so familiar in the G.E.C. Valve advertisements. We understand that copies of these showcards will be sent gratis to all applicants.

* * *

A large, well printed, and fully illustrated catalogue has been forwarded for our inspection by the Cambridge and Paul Instrument Co., Ltd. This catalogue deals with the famous Cambridge Alternating Current Instruments which, owing to the growth of wireless telegraphy, have been designed to measure the constants of high-frequency circuits. Some novel instruments having many industrial as well as scientific applications are described in the catalogue, perhaps the most striking being the Rectifier Voltmeter.

In this voltmeter a triode valve is used as a rectifier, and the rectified current, produced either by the curvature of the anode current-grid potential characteristic, or by the curvature of the grid current-grid potential characteristic, is used to measure the applied electro-motive force by means of a galvanometer. It is stated that for low voltages of from 0—10 volts, the voltmeter is about 40 times as sensitive as the best electro-static voltmeter.

The catalogue is divided into two parts, the first containing brief descriptions of the many instruments themselves, while the second part is devoted to various methods of using these instruments for high frequency measurements are described in some detail.

* * *

In spite of the fact that there are many thousands of amateurs in this country with valve sets, comparatively few of them could give a really clear explanation of the working of their sets. To make more clear the general principles of receiving wireless telephonic and telegraphic signals, George Philip & Son, Ltd., have lately published a very good cardboard folder which explains diagrammatically and by a working model the action of valves. This model is by no means difficult for the average person to understand, and by carefully following the instructions and the explanation of the model, it should not be long before anyone using this method acquired a really thorough knowledge of the subject.

* * *

Perhaps the neatest extension handle that I have so far seen is that which has lately been placed on the market by Leigh Bros. The "El-Bee," as it has been termed, consists of a light yet strong brass handle with an ebonite knob and with a specially shaped red rubber sucker at the end. By damping this rubber and pressing it on to any control knob (it fits easily the standard condenser knobs) a vacuum is instantly formed, and it remains firmly stuck until removed by a pinch. Besides its adaptability, it has the advantage that the handle can instantly be removed and re-affixed in any convenient position.

RADIOTORIAL.

All Editorial Communications to be addressed The Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS, The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

So at last the Broadcasting Committee's report has been made public, and we are in a position to judge whether the months of delay have been warranted. Personally, I am inclined to doubt this. I am of opinion that the interim constructor's and a general constructor's licence could have, without trouble, been issued months ago. The delay has caused serious harm to the wireless trade, and it is doubtful whether it will ever really recover from it. Had such licences been available when enthusiasm for wireless in this country was running at its highest, great things would have been accomplished and the British wireless trade would have been in an invincibly secure position. The P.M.G. is hardly to blame; he had to wait until his committee had tendered him their report before he could take action. However, we do know where we stand now, and the term "wireless pirates" will henceforth be applied not in humour to thousands of people, but in "terms of law" to but few.

Readers will agree that the presentation of the booklet "The 'P.W.' Combination Set" with last week's issue of POPULAR WIRELESS, marked very appropriately a happy occasion, and no barriers, except that the parts used must be of British manufacture, are presented to any reader who now desires to construct that really first-class receiver.

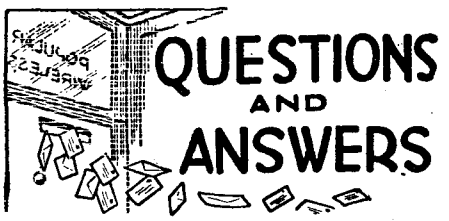
Finally, I trust that we have seen the last of depression in trade circles and licence grumblings among the amateurs, and that the most popular "hobby" and amusement of the day will still further advance in its popularity.

THE EDITOR.

Owing to the enormous number of queries received daily from readers of POPULAR WIRELESS, I have temporarily decided to limit the number of questions sent in by one reader to three. Readers are asked to keep their questions as short and as concise as possible in order that the minimum of delay can be exercised in answering queries. Until further notice three questions from one reader will be the limit for one letter. All questions should be addressed to POPULAR WIRELESS Queries Department, Room 138, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

Readers are requested to send the necessary postage for reply.

The Editor desires to direct the attention of his readers to the fact that, as much of the information given in the columns of this paper is of a technical nature and concerns the most recent developments in the Radio world, some of the arrangements and specialities described may be the subject of Letters Patent, and the amateur and trader would be well advised to obtain permission of the patentees to use the patents before doing so.



R. J. F. (Tamworth).—I am adding one or two valves to my crystal set to bring in the 5 I T concerts louder. How many valves will give loud signals, and do you recommend using H.F. or L.F.? If the latter, will the dull emitter type be O.K.? At present signals are clear but not loud enough.

At your distance from Birmingham you will have best results from the low-frequency amplification, and probably one valve will be quite sufficient. Try one-stage at first, as it would be easy to add a second L.F. stage if found necessary. The dull emitter type will be quite suitable.

* * *

M. J. T. (Gorleston-on-Sea).—Spending as little as possible, what additional apparatus shall I require to convert my crystal set (loose-coupled, with good aerial) into a valve set? I want strong 600 metres signals, as I am learning to read Morse with a friend, and we shall be using the ship messages for practice.

You will get all the loud Morse you want on a one-valve set, for which you will require 1 valve, 1 filament resistance, 1 filament battery, and 1 H.T. battery, a grid-leak and condenser, and a ·001 condenser to go across the 'phones and H.T. battery.

* * *

G. D. (E.8.) asks how he can add loading coils to his crystal circuit, which uses both primary and secondary coils.

It will be necessary to add loading coils in series with both the primary and the secondary, the coil for the latter being about 30 per cent larger than that for the primary. In your diagram you show no method of varying the inductance of the primary. This should not be so, and a variable condenser of ·0005 mfd. should be connected across it, especially when a large loading coil is in use.

* * *

"PETER PAN" (Settle).—Is there any definite rule for connecting the various terminals of an L.F. transformer to a detector panel as long as the output of the detector goes to the primary side of the transformer?

No, there is no definite rule, but experiment is sometimes advisable before best results are obtainable. Should I P go to plate it is usual to take O S to grid, or I S to grid should O P go to plate.

* * *

A. E. B. (Birmingham).—I have made a two-valve dual amplification set, but find that it is not at all selective. The tuning coil has 35 turns and is of the honeycomb type tuned with a ·0005 condenser. The anode coil has 50 turns. Birmingham, 10 miles away, comes in very loudly, but I cannot tune him out at all. Can anything be done to make the set more selective?

Reflex circuits are, as a rule, inclined to be non-selective, especially if you are using one coil tuning. You will be able to obtain finer tuning by adding a three-coil holder to your set. Reaction can be utilised except during broadcasting hours, or on other wave-lengths than 300–500 metres, by reacting the anode coil on the secondary coil, and this will assist in the tuning of the set. The primary coil should be of 50 to 75 turns with ·001 condenser in series, the secondary, to which are connected the grid and filament of the first valve, being of 70 turns with ·0005 condenser in parallel. The anode coil, also used as reaction for higher wave-lengths, should be of 75 turns with ·0003 condenser across it. For the reception of broadcasting we would advise the use of basket coils and as loose a coupling between the primary and secondary coils as possible when stations other than 5 I T are being received. It will take a little practice before you are able to manipulate the set with the extra coil, but the results will repay the trouble of fitting the coil and the greater care required in tuning-in. Always work with the reaction coil as loosely coupled to the secondary as possible, for a great deal of non-selectivity is caused by the reaction coupling being too tight. For near stations, such as Birmingham, you will probably find that best results are obtained with the reaction coil at about 30 degrees from the horizontal, and the secondary coil vertical. The primary will be about half-way between the horizontal and vertical positions, or perhaps a little nearer the vertical.

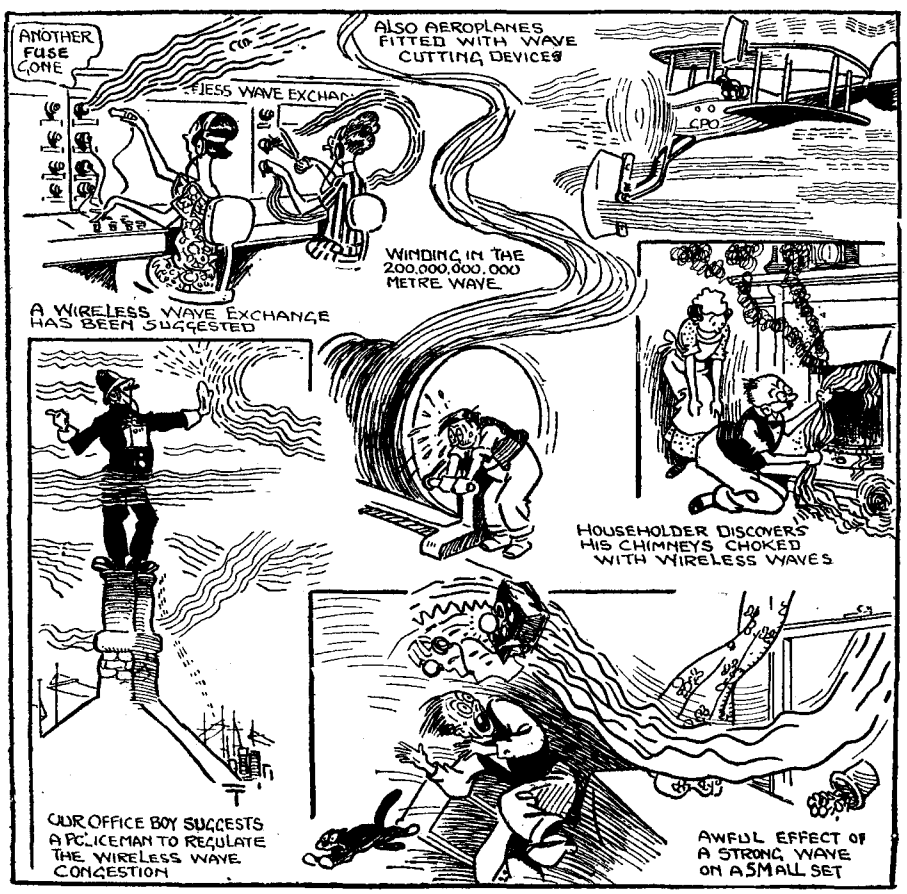
* * *

A. C. S. (Mill Hill).—What do you consider is the most economical circuit for loud speaker work from 2 L O? I have a fairly large room and the usual type of loud speaker.

Cutting down running expenses as far as possible without sacrificing volume of sound and clarity we would advise the use of a reflex circuit. A circuit similar to that which appeared in the last issue of POPULAR WIRELESS would be quite O.K. and dull emitter valves could be used very successfully. This circuit, the Duplex Reflex circuit, will be found to give very loud results with a remarkable absence from distortion. Another very useful circuit is the "P.W." Combination circuit, also described fully in the booklet that was given away with last week's issue.

(*Continued on page* 231.)

THAT CONGESTION IN THE ETHER.



RADIOTORIAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

(*Continued from page* 230.)

This circuit has the added advantage of providing a useful one-valve dual, or simple crystal set if it is desired to listen in on 'phones instead of using the loud speaker.

* * *

F. G. (Palmers Green).—I have had a home-made set now for several months, and on a friend's advice I took out a broadcasting licence for 10s. Must I now replace this with a constructional licence, or will my present one do ?

I am afraid that your present licence will not do, and you will have to apply for a constructional licence, which may be obtained for 15s. from any head post office. You must obtain this licence before October 15th, otherwise action may be taken against you by the P.M.G. A rebate will be allowed on the unexpired portion of your present licence.

* * *

"JAMMED" (near London).—I have great difficulty in tuning out 2 L O when I wish to listen to any of the other broadcasting stations. I live about 15 miles from the local station, so there should be no great difficulty in making a set capable of receiving all the stations on headphones and cutting out the local transmissions. What circuit do you advise ?

We would advise the use of a two or three valve set employing H.F. and detector and, if desired, one L.F. amplifier. The H.F. amplifier should be of the tuned anode variety with a fairly large condenser for tuning the anode coil. Two-coil tuning should be employed, using a 50-turn aerial coil with a ·001 condenser in series and a secondary coil of 50 or 75 turns with a ·0005 condenser in parallel. These two coils will, of course, be coupled together, the coupling being varied according to whether the interference is serious or not. Loose coupling always tends to reduce interference. The anode coil will be of about 75 turns and should be tuned with a ·0003 or ·0005 condenser. The former will give easier tuning, and if the latter is employed we advise the use of a vernier 3-plate condenser to enable fine tuning to be obtained. The set should employ reaction from the plate of the detector valve, the reaction coil being coupled to the anode coil of the first valve. In cases where interference is serious it is advisable to use a large reaction coil, so that there is no danger of the plate circuit of the detector being tuned to anywhere near the wavelength of the unwanted signals. A reaction coil of 100 to 150 turns should be employed for broadcast reception. Another refinement that will be useful in receiving distant transmissions is a variable grid leak, which should be connected between the detecting valve grid and the L.T. positive filament connection. An ordinary L.F. amplifier can be used if desired. Keep the aerial and secondary coils well away from the anode coil so that there is no chance of mutual reaction between the two circuits and its consequent effect upon the selectivity of the receiver.

* * *

B. S. (Aberdeen).—I am about 3 miles from the new Aberdeen station. Shall I be able, with a good outdoor aerial, to receive this station with fair strength on a crystal set, using three pairs of 'phones ? Do you advise these to be high or low resistance ? I intend using a variometer for tuning. Can this be improved upon ?

Yes, you should get quite good results at this range with three pairs of 'phones. These latter should be of a high resistance, the higher the better. The extra cost in investing in 'phones of 8,000 ohms resistance would be well advised. A variometer will give good results, and could not be improved upon in your case.

* * *

"EXPERIMENTER" (Torrington).—Is it essential to have a good knowledge of the Morse code, and, if so, at what speed must I be able to receive before I can obtain an experimental licence for receiving only.

This is not essential, but a knowledge of the subject would help in the application for such a licence. It is, however, necessary to be able to transmit and receive Morse before a transmitting licence can be obtained.

* * *

A. L. N. (Wilton).—I intend listening-in for New York during this winter, and cannot decide what type of set to use, whether two or

(*Continued on page* 232.)

RADIOTORIAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(*Continued from page* 231.)

three valves, and whether they should act as H.F. or L.F. Do you advise a crystal in such a circuit?

The reception of American broadcasting stations is still more or less experimental, although reports are being received daily from all over the country of successful reception of these stations with one, two, and more valves. Perhaps three valves, including one H.F. and one L.F., would be about the most successful combination, although one H.F. and one detector only, might give good results, but not, of course, so loud. The tuning should not be made too difficult, but should be as selective as is possible with a fairly simple arrangement. The addition of a crystal detector is liable to complicate matters owing to the difficulty sometimes experienced in finding a really sensitive spot.

* * *

B. S. T. (Plymouth).—Why is it that we rarely hear of the British broadcasting stations being heard in America, although it is practically an everyday occurrence for us to receive the American stations? Do they use greater power?

As a general rule the American stations do not use very much more power than do the British stations, but they have an advantage as far as distant transmission is concerned, in that it is dark both at the transmitting end and in England for the greater part of their programmes, owing to the difference in time, while it is still afternoon in America when *our* evening transmissions are taking place. In spite of these disadvantages, quite a number of U.S. amateurs have reported reception from 2 L O and other B.B.C. stations, which is really creditable both to the transmitters and to the receivers, owing to the interference that usually takes place at this time of the day.

* * *

J. N. L. (Chatterton).—I wish to receive long-wave stations sending Morse as well as the broadcasting on my loose-coupled crystal set. I am told that in loading up the two circuits it is important to keep a correct relation between the values of the two inductances. Is there a practical rule or guide which governs this?

Yes. The inductance of the secondary should be sufficiently high to enable you to get the longest wave-length you desire by adding a parallel condenser which does not exceed 0·0005 mfd. Roughly the secondary inductance is 1½ times as large as that of the primary.

* * *

"NOLUCKYET" (Richmond, Surrey).—Is it possible to solder Litzendraht stranded enamelled wire? Although generally very successful with soldering, I cannot make a satisfactory join with this wire, and would like to know if it can be done.

The following method will give results that are quite satisfactory, provided the cleaning is done very thoroughly.

It is necessary to untwist the strands and clean them separately by burning off the enamel. This can conveniently be done in the flame of a candle, and then each strand should be rubbed clean with a piece of fine emery paper, or lightly scraped with a knife.

Solder in the ordinary way, but use a flux composed of powdered resin in methylated spirits.

* * *

"RECORDER" (Henley-on-Thames).—What is the principle of a Morse recording instrument, and can the same be successfully worked by good signals of a crystal set?

There are several kinds of recorder in which the principle is fundamentally simple, the various types having been evolved for different classes of work. They generally consist of a wheel dipped in ink, which is made to bear upon a moving tape. An arrangement of clockwork keeps the tape regularly moving just above the wheel, which is mounted on a spindle and kept in the "off" position by a spring.

Opposing the direction of the spring is an electromagnet, which pulls the spindle when current flows in the receiving circuit. The wheel is then lifted from the ink by the action of the magnet, and makes contact with the moving tape, leaving a mark upon it which exactly corresponds to the duration of the received signal—i.e. dots and dashes similar to the Morse which is being received.

It will be realised that the action of the electromagnet is a comparatively powerful one, and the current flowing in a crystal receiver is quite insufficient to operate such an instrument. You need a relay system in conjunction with your set before you will be able to work a Morse inker.

THE "MAY" CIRCUIT.

The Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS.

SIR,—Owing to my name being at the end of my letter on the "May" Circuit, I have had the surprise of my life.

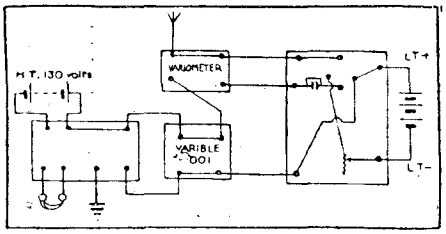
First post Saturday morning I had a handful of letters asking for advice over the lay-out of the "May" Circuit; many asked for complete diagrams, as they were not capable of materialising the one you published.

I am still receiving letters by the half-dozen by every post.

I have been writing letters and drawing diagrams for three days now, and to tell you the truth, I can hardly trust myself to draw any more, I am dead beat.

And the questions—about shielding gauge of wires; number of vanes in condensers; will a coil act as variometer? will twenty turns do on the rotor?

My dear sir, you have my whole-hearted sympathy for evermore. I enclose a rough, simple plan of the actual set I have connected up just as it lies on my table. Will



you, please, insert it in your paper and apologise for me in your own words, then they will see how the thing wants hooking up.

The circuit is very good, and I have even had better results since writing than I described in my letter which you published in last week's issue.

I am sorry to put you to the trouble, but will you kindly explain that I have done my best? In fact, I have even by now received several favourable replies, informing me that they had got good results, and profusely thanking me for my explanation of an easy and suitable hook-up.

Thanking you in anticipation. I am convinced, beyond the shadow of a doubt, of the popularity of POPULAR WIRELESS, and wish you every success.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED FRANCE.

33, Church Street, Rotherham.

CRYSTAL RECTIFICATION.

To the Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS.

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed to answer briefly the points raised by Mr. Wallace. I welcome this criticism as showing that interest in intelligent research is not as dead as one might otherwise reasonably believe in this subject.

1. When heat is applied to a crystal contact the E.M.F. developed is enormous as compared with ordinary thermo-couples. I should be pleased to demonstrate this to Mr. Wallace.

(*Continued on page* 236.)

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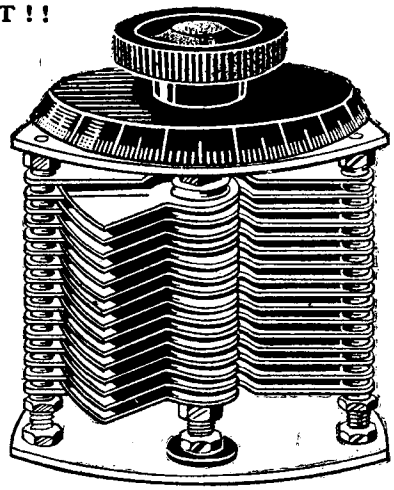

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·00075	7/-	·00075	5/6
·0005	5/11	·0005	4/6
·0003	5/2	·0003	3/3
·0002	4/6	·0002	2/6
·0001	4/-	·0001	2/3
Vernier	3/9	Vernier	1/9

Postage 6d. Set. Over 5/- Post Free. U.K. only.

Carriage abroad 1/- each.

HEADPHONES.

Brunet, best type, 4,000 ohms, **17/11** pair. **Post 1/-** pair.
P.T.C. British Headphones, 4,000 ohms, very fine value, full of music. Every pair guaranteed. Light in weight, no spacing washers, **18/11** pair. **Post 1/-** pair. Stamped B.B.C.
Sidpe, 4,000 ohms (genuine only stocked) **16/11** pair. **Post 1/-** pair.
Sidpe, 8,000 ohms, **18/11** pair. **Post 1/-** pair.
Ladies' Single Receivers, with handsome handle, 4,000 ohms, **12/9. Post 1/-.**
Loud Speaker Receiver, with 50 laminations in each pole, **21/-. Post 1/-.**

HOURS OF BUSINESS:
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.
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Rotax 4 v. 40 amp	17/6
4 v. 60 amp	22/6
6 v. 80 amp. (Oldham)	35/-
6 v. 80 amp. (Oldham)	45/-
6 v. 50 amp., in splendid carrying case, leather strap handle	27/6
H.T. BATTERIES—	
60 v.	9/6
36 v.	5/-

NO POST ORDERS ON ABOVE.

AMPLION (JUNIOR) LOUD SPEAKER.
Recognised as the one and only. 52/6. Post 1/6.

VALVES.

All valves offered are new and manufacturers' guaranteed quality. **No Rejects, Done-up, Renewed or "Dud" Goods are offered. Beware of Rubbish.**

Pea-nut (latest type) (Sockets extra)	30/-
French "R" Best type	10/6
Cossor, Pink Top	15/-
Cossor, P.2	15/-
Marconi "R" a.v. 45/60	15/-
Mullard Ora	15/-
Ediswan	15/-
Dull Emitter	27/6

ALL VALVES 1/- each extra on post.

INTERVALVE TRANSFORMERS.
Low Frequency Ratio 5—1.

Igranic, highly efficient	21/-
Radio Instruments, Ltd., Special Transformer	25/-
Tested on Aerial, high quality, perfect results	15/11
Very Good Transformer, Guaranteed	12/6

COIL HOLDERS.

3-way, very handsome design, first-class article, good appearance, worth much more	10/-
3-way, second quality, a good serviceable holder	7/-
3-way, cheaper quality, but worth more	5/9
2-way ... first quality 6/6, second do. 5/-, third do.	4/6

CRYSTAL DETECTORS.

High-class Enclosed Whisker Detector, well-made, generous size, on ebonite base	3/-
Enclosed Whisker Detectors, all good value, 1/8, 2/-, 2/6,	3/-
Perikon Detector, glass enclosed, with 2 crystals, adjustable pressure, on ebonite base	2/-
Perikon Detector, built on generous lines, complete with 2 crystals, glass enclosed, dustproof ... 3/- and	3/6

HONEST GOODS AT THE RIGHT PRICE.
I ADVERTISE WHAT I SELL, AND SELL WHAT I ADVERTISE.
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EVERYBODY

CALLERS 1d. in the 1/- Discount on a Large Number of Articles. See our Windows.

Aluminium Vanes ..... doz. **5d.**
Aluminium End-plates for Condensers ..... pair **1/3**
Brass Nuts, best quality 2 B.A. ..... 3 doz. **7d.,** gross **1/10**
Brass Nuts, best quality 4, 5, 6 B.A. ..... 3 doz. **6d.,** gross **1/6**
Aerial Wire, 7/22. ..... 100 ft. **2/6** and **2/4**
(No post orders.)
Basket Coils, 6 and 7 inset. Equal to higher-priced sets.
WL up to 3,000 metres **2/2, 2/4, 2/6**
Best Quality Variometers, excellent results, complete with knob **3/5, 3/8**
Switch Arm, 12 studs and nuts, the lot **1/-**
Switch Arms, various designs, good value, **8d., 10d., 1/-, 1/3**
Terminals, Telephone, with nut and washer ..... 4 for **5½d.**
Terminals, Pillar, with nut and washer ..... 4 for **5½d.**
Terminals, P.O., with nut and washer ..... 4 for **5½d.**
Terminals, W.O. pattern, nut and washer ..... 4 for **5½d.**
All above, 1/3 doz. nett.
Small Terminals, nut and washer ..... 6 for **5d.,** doz. **1/-**
Real Ebonite Knobs, good quality. Bushed 2 B.A. each **3d., 5d.** and **6d.**
Good Knobs, bushed 2 B.A. ..... each **2d.,** doz. **1/8**
Bell Wire, D.C.C., indiarubber covered ..... 12 yds. **6d. nett.**
Twin Flex, good quality ..... 12 yds. **1/7½d.,** 4 yds. **7d. nett.**
Sleeving, takes 18 gauge wire, good quality ..... 3 yds. **1/-**
100,000 ohms Resistance, scientifically made **2/6**
Fixed Condensers, up to .001 ..... **1/-**
Fixed Condensers, up to .005 ..... **1/6**
Fixed Condensers, .006 ..... **2/-**
These fixed condensers are made, not "so called."
French "R" Valves, impossible to equal ..... (Post **1/-**) **10/6**
Grid Leak, 2 meg., highly recommended **1/-**
Grid Leak and Condenser ..... **2/-, 2/6,** to **3/-**
Ebonite Valve Holders with 8 nuts. Hand-turned ..... **1/3** and **1/-**
Moulded Valve Holders, with nuts ..... each **9d.**
D.C.C. Wire, 18 to 36 gauge in stock.
Enamel Wire, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 36 in stock.
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Ebonite Dials, 0—180 ..... **1/-** and **1/3**
Ebonite Dials with knob **1/4, 1/6, 2/-**
2 B.A. Rod, 12 in. lengths (No post orders.) each **3d.,** doz. **2/3**
4 B.A. Rod, 12 in. lengths (No post orders.) each **2½d.,** doz. **2/-**
Igranic Coils, number 25 upwards ..... from **5/-**
Spring Washers ..... 3 for **1d.**
Extra Good Lead-in Wire ..... 10 yds. **1/3,** 1 yd. **1½d.**
Variable Grid Leaks **2/6**
D.P.D.T. Switches, on ebonite **2/9**
Igranic Filament Resistances **4/6**
Igranic Vernier Resistances **7/6**
Filament Resistances, wound on core ..... **2/4** and **2/8**
Filament Resistances, very good value **1/10, 2/-, 2/3, 2/6**
Filament Resistances, 7 ohms **3/6**
Duplex Waxless Basket Coils, min. self capacity. Set of 5 **2/6**
Anti-Capacity Handles, Brass or Ebonite ..... each **9d.**
D.P.D.T. Switches for Panel Mounting ..... each **2/6**
Shaw's Genuine Hertzite **9d., 1/-, 1/3**
Galena and Silicon ..... each **3d.**
Copper Pyrites ..... **6d.**
Zincite and Bornite ..... pair **1/-**
"Talite" genuine **9d., 1/-, 1/3**
4 Cats-whiskers (one gold) ..... **6d.**
Valve Pins, split ..... 1 doz. **7d.,** 3 doz. **1/6**
Contact Studs, best polished, with nuts ..... doz. **6d.**
Contact Studs, good quality ..... doz. **4½d.**
Spade Terminals ..... doz. **6d.,** 2 for **1½d.**
Wood Screw Terminals ..... 2 for **3½d.**
Stop Pins, with shoulder ..... 2 for **1d.**
Ebonite (Real) **Slider and Plunger** ..... **8d.**
Pin Terminals, screw pattern ..... each **2d.**
Ebonite Coil Plugs **9d., 10d., 1/-**
Filament Resistance Dials, according to quality ..... **8d.** to **1/-**
Basket Coil Holders, single, well-made ..... each **2/-**
Basket Coil Holders 2-way **4/-,** 3-way **6/-**
2 B.A. Washers ..... 3 doz. **3d.,** gross **9d.**
4 B.A. Washers ..... 3 doz. **2d.,** gross **7d.**
Crystal Cups and Screws ..... each **1d., 1½d.,** and **2d.**
Valve Sockets, with shoulder and nuts ..... 4 for **3½d.,** doz. **1/-**
Valve Sockets, with nuts ..... doz. **9d.,** each **1d.**
Spade Terminals, screw patt. ..... doz. **1/6,** each **2d.**

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NO POST ORDERS except for goods in this column, and at prices marked, which include all post, rail and packing charges, U.K. only.

ALL ORDERS STRICTLY IN ROTATION.

Fixed Condensers, up to .001 ..... each **1/4**
Fixed Condensers, up to .005 ..... each **1/10**
Fixed Condensers, .006 ..... each **2/6**
Fixed Condensers, .01, .02 ..... each **2/6**
Ebonite Valve Holders, hand-turned, 8 nuts **1/4, 1/6**
Moulded ditto, 8 nuts **1/2**
Ebonite Dials, with scale 0—180 ..... each **1/3, 1/6**
Ebonite Dials and Knob ..... each **1/8, 2/-, 2/6**
Duplex Waxless Coils, 5 in set up to 2,300 m. ..... set **2/9**
Variable Grid Leak, ½ to 5 meg. ..... each **2/9**
Variable Grid Leak (Bretwood) (3 years' guarantee) **4/-**
Filament Resistances ..... each **2/3, 2/6, 3/-, 3/6**
Filament Resistance (Igranic) **5/3**
Potentiometers (Igranic) **8/3**
Grid Leak and Condenser, .0003 ..... **3/-**
Grid Leak, 2 meg. **1/4**
Dubilier Fixed Condensers, .0002 to .0005 ..... each **3/-**
Ditto .001 to .006 ..... each **3/6**
Dubilier Grid Leaks ..... each **3/-**
Dubilier Anode Resistances, 50,000 meg., 70,000 meg., 100,000 meg. **6/-**
D.P.D.T. Switches, nickelled, on ebonite **3/6**
S.P.D.T. ditto **2/6**
Ebonite Coil Plugs ..... each **1/-, 1/3**
Two-way Coil Holders **6/-, 6/6, 7/-**
Three-way Coil Holders **7/9, 8/3, 9/-**
4 Cats-whiskers, gold, silver, etc. ..... set **6d.**
100,000 ohms Resistance **2/9**
Pin Terminals, screw patt. ..... 6 for **1/-**
Spade ,, ,, ,, ... 6 for **1/-**
Telephone Terminals, nuts and washers ..... doz. **1/9**
Pillar ,, nuts and washers ..... doz. **1/9**
W.O. Patt. ,, nuts and washers ..... doz. **1/9**
Very Large Terminals, 2 B.A., nuts and washers ..... 6 for **2/6**
Valve Sockets and nuts, plain ..... doz. **1/3**
Valve Sockets and nuts, polished, with shoulder ..... doz. **1/6**
Bell Wire I.R.C. D.C.C., 20g. ..... 36 yds. **1/10**
Twin Flex for Extension Leads ..... 12 yds. **2/3**
L.F. Intervalve Transformers, Igranic 5—1 ..... **22/-**
L.F. Intervalve ,, Radio Instruments, 5—1 ..... **25/-**
L.F. Intervalve ,, "Formo" 5—1 ..... **15/-**
L.F. ,, various makes **12/6, 15/11**
Shaw's Genuine Hertzite Crystal **1/6**
Crystal Detectors, Whisker **2/-, 2/3, 2/6**
Ditto glass enclosed **2/6**
Ditto glass enclosed, large, fine value **3/3**
Ditto Perikon, 2 crystals, fine value **3/9**
Ditto Perikon, small, 2 crystals **2/6**
Double Phone Cords, long ..... pair **1/4**
Telephones. See Special Notice.
Valves. See Special Notice.
Variometers, 250/650 ..... **4/6**
Variable Condensers. See list.
Single Basket Coil Holders, with coil plug **2/3**
Three-way Basket Coil Holder **6/-**
Switch Arms, high-class, complete with 12 studs **2/-**
72 yards Twin Flex, for connecting loud-speaker receivers, 50 laminations in each pole **22/-**
Ladies' Single Receivers, complete (4,000 ohms), with handsome handle and cord **13/9**

ALL PREVIOUS LISTS CANCELLED.

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M. RAYMOND

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RIGHT OPPOSITE **DALY'S** GALLERY DOOR

CORRESPONDENCE.

(*Continued from page 233.*)

2. Platinum-bismuth couples were not used for measuring stellar radiation, nor was such work ever carried out by Professor Thompson. Reception of signals can be had with platinum-bismuth contact, and this also I should be glad to demonstrate. Apart from these corrections, section 2 is probably correct.

3. The time lag objection is pure assumption. A certain lag must, of course, exist, the evidence simply shows that the lag is small compared with the period of sound vibrations.

The statement that the difference in resistance "fully explains" the rectifying action is about the most blatant example of question begging I have ever seen. The whole problem is why this difference in resistance exists.

With reference to the "efficient" thermo-junction I presume the word efficient is misused, as it is about fifty times weekly in all wireless periodicals. In this connection I should be extremely obliged if anyone could mention any machine which has a lower efficiency than a "valve" receiver, say about 0.0001 per cent. If an effective junction is meant, iron-eureka, iron-nickel or particularly antimony-bismuth are all better than copper-eureka. The statement that the latter couple gives 20 microamps. at hand temperature is meaningless, because the resistance of the discharge circuit is not stated. It would be more scientific to say that an E.M.F. of about a millivolt is developed.

With regard to the 95 per cent. half-wave calculation, I am hoping that you will shortly be pleased to publish a further experiment of mine which, in my humble opinion, is strong evidence against any half-wave or filter theory. I should be extremely pleased to investigate experimentally, or discuss personally with him any further points Mr. Wallace may care to raise.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST C. CRAVEN.

59, Southern Road,
Plaistow, E.13.

Recent Wireless Inventions

The following abstracts are specially contributed by Mr. Harold J. C. Forrester, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents, 88-90, Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

Grant of the following patents can be opposed, and printed copies of the full application obtained.

201,585.—E. GREEN.—VALVE GENERATORS.—To avoid losses from eddy currents in the thin metal film deposited on the inside of the valve, a metal ring outside one or each end of the valve is connected to the plate or grid terminal, or both. This reduces the internal electric field causing the eddy currents.

201,660.—TELEG-GES. SYSTEM. STILLE.—LOUD SPEAKERS.—Amplification is caused pneumatically with the aid of two valve plates formed centrally with non-registering apertures. One plate is clamped peripherally to act as a diaphragm, and is supported centrally by the other plate. The diaphragm is operated by an electro-magnet having a movable core piece connected to the centre of the diaphragm.

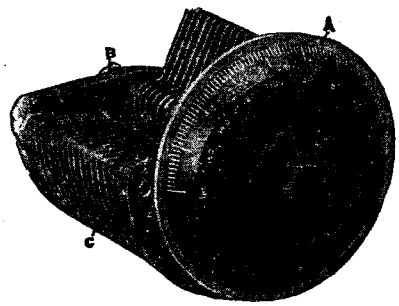
201,720.—A. E. CHAPMAN.—CONDENSERS.—A multiple variable condenser, for use in two or more inter-connected circuits, has three or more groups of vanes, at least two of which are independently movable relative to the other group or groups. The plates may be arranged to vary the series or parallel capacity of a circuit, a contact being provided to short circuit the series condenser when using the parallel condenser.

201,782.—R. H. MARRIOTT.—TELEPHONE DIAPHRAGM.—The diaphragm is heart shaped, and tapers from its centre outwardly. It may be made of wood or aluminium, with a magnetic armature suitably attached. Stiffening ribs may extend outwardly from the centre.

201,816.—H. SAVILLE & C. H. THORNTON. — CONDENSERS. — The movable plates of a variable condenser are divided into two groups, the spindles of which are in line, and associated together by a lost motion connection so that the plates may be rotated as a whole or in sections by a single operating knob.

201,845.—W. DORNIG.—CONDENSERS.—A fixed condenser consists of metal plates with insulating plates on opposite sides thereof, the sets of plates being spaced apart by peripherally grooved spacing members and the whole clamped together between end plates. Oil or air may be passed between the plates for cooling purposes.

201,890.—A. B. COLE INC.—CONDENSERS.—The plates of a variable condenser are provided with integral projections round the spindle or post holes to serve as distance pieces in place of the usual washers. The lower end of the spindle may rotate on an adjustable pointed pivot screw.



Type A.II.

Our Improved Type A.II Condenser

FOR PANEL MOUNTING—is unsurpassed for workmanship, quality of materials employed, efficiency and Price, which, by the way, has NOT BEEN INCREASED.

Complete in every respect and exactly as illustrated to the following specification:—

Rotary, Air Dielectric, 22 Gauge Aluminium Vanes, Metal to Metal Adjustable Bearings. Spacing between plates sufficient for pressure up to 1,000 volts. Engraved Ebonite Dial. Is suitable for mounting on any panel up to ¾ in. thick by drilling 3 holes. Supplied with screws for fixing.

Plates		Type A.II.		Prices
57	..	·001	..	10/-
29	..	·0005	..	8/6
19	..	·0003	..	6/9
13	..	·0002	..	5/6
5	..	Vernier	..	4/6
3	..	,,	..	3/9

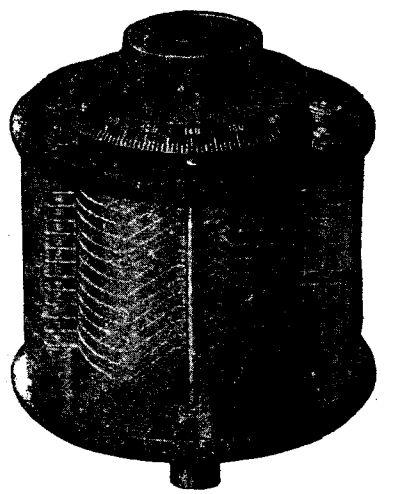
Postage and Packing: 1, 1/-; 2, 1/3; 3, 1/6. *If more than 3, kindly include 1 ample for packing and carriage.*

SPECIAL FEATURES:

A. Aluminium Screening Disc which, besides enhancing the appearance of the Dial as it lies flush with the Panel, prevents the hand of the operator producing capacity.

B. Metal to metal adjustable bearings, of which we were the originators, as applied to Condensers.

C. 22 Gauge hard Aluminium Vanes.



Type A.I. Capacity ·0005.

Most Dealers stock these. If unable to obtain locally, buy direct from us. Don't allow our low prices to prejudice you. They are no criterion whatever of the value we offer. Our motto is QUALITY FIRST, and every Condenser carries our money-back guarantee.

TYPE A.I. in Celluloid Transparent Case (as illustrated), with circular Ebonite top and bottom plates. High-class finish. A very fine piece of workmanship which will compete favourably with the most expensive Instruments on the market. If preferred, supplied in Polished Mahogany Cases at same prices.

Type A.I.		Prices		Plates
·001	..	17/6	..	57
·0005	..	15/-	..	29
·0003	..	13/9	..	19
·0002	..	12/6	..	13
Vernier	..	8/6	..	5
,,	..	7/6	..	3

FALLONS

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WARNING!

Don't buy shoddy sets of Condenser parts which are well-nigh impossible of assembly, or half assembled Condensers, which are merely thrown together. BUY OURS. We specialise in Condensers. Complete in every respect and exactly as illustrated.

REPUTATION

Your Condenser is not a "FALLON" unless the name "FALLON" appears on same.

FALLON CONDENSER MFG. CO., LTD., Makers of half the World's Variable Condensers.

HULLO!! C.Q., WILL DAY CALLING

you to inspect a new selection of WIRELESS ACCESSORIES.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW WADE LATHE, with slide rest complete **50/-**

SET OF NICKEL PLATED SPANNERS, set of 9 for B.A. Threads .. .. set **1/6**

VARIO-COUPLER with 10 Tappings .. each **19/6**

A NEW TYPE OF FILAMENT RHEOSTAT each **3/-**

PORCELAIN REEL INSULATORS .. dozen **1/-**

Valves of every make, including the new Dull-Emitters, always in stock.

Write for our new Catalogue. Now ready, sent post free. Postage and Carriage on all goods extra.

When you are tired of wasting both time and money on so-called Wireless Crystals, secure one of the new Super Marvel Crystals

DAYZITE (REGD.)

and put an end to all your troubles. Sold only boxed with Silver Cat's Whisker, **2/6** each. Postage 3d. extra.

WILL DAY, LTD.,

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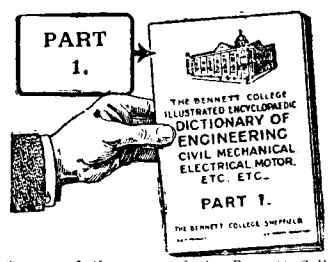
'Phone: Regent 4577. Telegrams: "Titles, Westrand, London."

FREE



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