

**HERERAL** 

FEATURES IN THIS The "P.W." "Resistapure Loud-speaker Set. The "P.W." Continental Broadcasting Timetable. HOW TO MAKE THE "P.W." "STAR" CRYSTAL SET. Those Pedal Notes. Is Your Aerial Safe?

Cur cover photograph this week shows Mr. Arthur Burrows listening to British broad casting in his Geneva home.

POPULAR WIRELESS AND WIRELESS REVIEW.

March 20th, 1926.



Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.



The exclusive features here described are incorporated in all "Dragon" AMPLIONS, "Senior" and "Junior" alike. Equally important and exclusive features are present in the "RADIOLUX" AMPLION,  $\pounds 4.15.0$  to  $\pounds 13.13.0$ , and the "Swan-neck" AMPLION, 38/- to  $\pounds 4.15.0$ .

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Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.



### RADIO NOTES AND NEWS.

Hotel Wireless-New Rome Station-World's Worst Place for Wireless-A Radio Preacher-European Broadcasting Conference-Short Wave Jottings-The Rugby Talks.

#### French Radio Compass Stations.

THE French Government has decided to erect a chain of wireless-compass stations round the coast for the benefit

of ships approaching the French ports. The scheme as now planned provides for twenty direction-finding stations.

During fog or mist a ship can call up two or three of the stations, which are to be linked by landline, and each of them will be able to tell from which direction the ship's signals are coming. By comparing results the exact position of the ship can be determined, and for a small charge this informa-

tion can be wirelessed to the blinded vessel.

#### Hotel Wireless.

HEAR that in the main south block of the Hotel Cecil all the private sitting-rooms are being equipped for the reception of wireless programmes. The other rooms in the hotel will be fifted in the same way as soon as possible, so that guests will be able to plug in to wireless as easily as they now switch on the lights.

Technical Queries. Some important modifications of the rules regarding technical queries sent in by readers, are announced this week on page 178. In future,

diagrams of crystal sets and one-valve sets

will be drawn up for a nominal charge of

sixpence per diagram. In addition to the

diagrams specially drawn up in this way,

there is a range of twenty different valve

circuits, published in Blue Print form, each

of which is obtainable from the Query De-

partment at 6d. per blue print.

**Revised Charges.** 

DIAGRAMS of two- and three-valve sets (and of one- or two-valves - and-crystal) can be specially drawn up for

1s. per diagram. One shilling and sixpence will be charged for multi-valve circuits of four or more valves, except in the case of super-heterodyne diagrams, which can only be supplied at 2s. 6d. per diagram. It is hoped by graduating the charges in

this way, according to the time involved, that delays will be obviated and all queries answered within a week. The full rules relating to readers' queries will be found

listeners was also rounded up, fines in these cases varying from 10s. to 20s.

A nineteen-year-old engineer in the employ of A. C. Cossor, Ltd., was found not guilty of stealing 117 wireless receiving valves, and was discharged.

#### 5 X X Struck by Lightning.

AVENTRY's breakdown at the beginning of the month was caused by lightning, according to the B.B.C.'s official explanation. It is rather early in the year for lightning troubles, but in this case the station was working again inside

ten minutes.

South Africa and the Pirates.

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COMPRE. HENSIVE Bill, dealing with all phases of wireless, has re-cently been before the Union House of Assembly, at Cape Town. - A feature of the Bill is the heavy penalties for radio law breakers. Obstructing wireless messages and the despatch of false radio communication are each punishable by a fine of £50 and three months' imprisonment, either with or without hard labour ! Graduated broadcasting fees are provided for, according to the zone in which the receiver is situated.

FAMOUS ARTISTES AT 2 L O. Left to right. (Standing), Miss Fay Compton, Gladys Cooper, Gwen Frangcon-Davies, Lady Wyndham, Judith Cross. (Sitting), Sir Gerald du Maurier, Leslie Henson, Henry Ainley and Claude Hulbert.

under the heading "Radiotorial" on page 176.

#### Wireless in the Courts.

PLEADING that he did not know that a receiving licence was required for a

crystal set, a Nunhead listener was fined a total of one pound at the Lambeth Police Court recently. A batch of Sheffield New Rome Station.

'HE power used at the Rome station has recently been doubled, and pro-grammes are now sent out upon 12 instead of 6 kilowatts. This explains the improved reception which several

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### (Continued from previous page.)

weeks. I hear that the old transmitter will shortly be re-erected in another Italian city, probably Naples.

#### World's Worst Place for Wireless.

**DROBABLY** the worst place in the world for local interference and " mush " is

Schenectady, New York State. Here the General Electric Co. have their experimental wireless plant, which includes no less than nine different radio transmitters, all working upon different wave-lengths. Sometimes seven of the stations are on the air at once, and as one or two of them are super-power stations employing up to 50 kilowatts, listeners in Schenectady have an exciting time if they try to cut out the locals.

#### British Empire's "Beam" System.

THE British Empire will soon be "beaming," for the Imperial Wireless Chain

is at last nearing the stage of practical results. For years and years obstacles have arisen to prevent this country keeping in touch with our kin overseas by means of radio, but at last the stations are nearing completion. Sir William Thomson, Postmaster-General, said recently in the House of Commons that the contractors for Bodmin and Bridgwater stations hoped to complete them early next month. Thesetwo are for the Canadian and South African services, and in August, Grimsby and Skegness will be ready to talk to India and Australia.

#### A Radio Preacher.

MRS. A. S. MCPHERSON-the young American widow who recently visited

London, en route to the Holy Landis claimed to be the most eloquent broadcast preacher in the world. She is the founder of a great religious movement in the United States, where she broadcasts daily from the Angelus Temple, in Los Angeles. It is claimed that since she spoke "on the air," two thousand listeners have been converted.

#### Sir Harry Lauder.

W/HY is it some people take to the microphone like a duck to water, whilst others sound uncomfortable

all the time they are talking to it ? Look at Sir Harry Lauder, for instance, as an example of perfect microphone personality. Left in the studio for an hour, he commences by boldly telling the "mike" that what it wants is imagination, and he laughed and chuckled so irresistibly at it that whole chunks of his delightful personality came over the ether to listeners.

Sir Harry is a born broadcaster, for it takes the efforts of a real artiste to sound so effortless.

#### Moving-Train Reception.

. 25 .

NE of the best long-distance reception feats during the winter has fallen to

the lot of an official upon a moving train. It is the policy of the Canadian National Railways to equip their passenger trains with wireless to keep in touch with the great North American cities, but in this instance a train passing through Jacobs-Ontario picked up broadcasting from Lima, in Peru.

#### Picking Up Peru.

T transpired later that at the time all broadcasting stations in the U.S.A. and Canada were closed down, on account of the International Radio Tests. The reception was therefore carefully checked, and it was found that for nearly half-ar hour the moving train in Canada was undoubtedly picking up signals. from O X A, the Lima, Peru, station.

#### French Parliament on the Air?

THERE is a proposal on foot to broadcast the French parliamentary debates.

The question was put by a deputy to the Minister for Commerce, Posts and Telegraphs, as to whether it would not be desirable to let the public hear the debates via radio. The official reply was noncommittal, of course, but it indicated that in high places there would be no objection at all if the scheme seemed practicable and in accordance with public wishes.

#### European Broadcasting Conference.

EUROPEAN Conference on Broadcasting, to which all existing or pro-

jected radio authorities have been invited, is to be held at Geneva on March 25th. The various bodies will meet at the

SHORT WAVES. "What is 2 L 0 ? "-Mr. Justice Astbury. "The dead hand of Whitehall must be avoided if broadcasting is to fullil its possibilities as a social amenity."---"West-minster Gazette."

"Broadcasting, says a inusic publisher, has a tendency to kill new songs before they are really born. Is not this one of the best things which could be said in defence of broad-easting?"....." The Star."

"A scientist has discovered how to distribute heat by radio. It is expected that the day is not far distant when ladies will be able to dry their hair in the hot air broadeast from Parliament."—" Passing Show."

The second second

Palais des Nations, and proposals for wavelength changes, limitation of stations, and other important aspects of international broadcasting, will be examined. It is anticipated that the conference will last for several days.

#### Amateur Makes Broadcasting Station.

**POWERFUL** broadcasting station is being made by a London amateur to enable a British missionary in Iceland to preach to his "parishioners." The station is to be established at Akureiri, Iceland, and it is hoped to relay British and American programmes when conditions are favourable. Its wave-length will be about 200 metres, and it is being constructed by Mr. F. L. Hogg, of Bishop's Road, Highgate, who is himself the son of a missionary.

#### Radio Conference at Bournemouth.

BOURNEMOUTH and District Radio and Electrical Society is promoting a

Conference of Radio Societies, to be held in that town on 26th or 28th of April. A visit to 6 B M is planned, and an attractive programme concluding with a popular address is being drawn up. Those interested should communicate with the Those hon. sec., Mr. H. J. Bliss, 140, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

#### Short-wave Jottings.

M. E. J. SIMMONDS (2 O D) tells me that there has been very little doing on the ether-this week-in fact, not

enough to "jot" about ! In the circumstances, the Editor is omitting "Short-Wave Jottings," by 2 O D, this week, but this popular feature will appear in "P.W." next week, as usual

#### The Broadcasting Report.

THE Government's Broadcasting Com-

I mittee has duly presented its report, and truth to tell its arrival was some-thing of an anti-climax. It seems to have been just about what everybody had expected, the least pleasing feature to most of us being that no reduction in licence fee was recommended. Everyone, on the other hand, was pleased with the proposal to exempt blinded listeners from any fees, and all clearly recognise that the chief interest is to get the right men as Commissioners.

On the whole, it seems a great pity that Government control is inevitable; but most of us will be lazily glad that the familiar initials, B.B.C., still hold good for the British Broadcasting Commission !

#### The Rugby Talks.

RUGBY'S results with telephony to New York have been exceptionally good lately. Several readers overheard the British and American newspaper reporters gossiping across the Atlantic a Sunday or two ago. In most cases the two stations were picked up on the intermediate amplifiers of super-het. receivers, Rugby being about twice as loud as New York. The first report of this kind was from a "P.W." reader living in Hillsleigh Road, London, W.8, who states that every word could be heard when the amplifier was oscillating.

#### Unidyne in South Africa.

THE 1926 Unidyne is making a great name for itself in South Africa.

Already one enthusiast has succeeded in picking up Bournemouth's carrier wave upon the one-valve set, distance approximately 6,000 miles !

In a letter just received, Mr. Raymond Coombes, the Editor of "Radio" (South Africa's leading wireless journal), informs me that another reader living about 100 miles north of Delagoa Bay is able to pick up the Cape Town programmes on the one-valve Unidyne. All the reports agree that the absence of the unnecessary H.T. battery means better and clearer reception.

#### Presentation by Radio.

CIR HENRY THORNTON. lately D General Manager of the Great Eastern

Railway, and now President of the Canadian National Railways, has just presented the first medal ever officially awarded by wireless. The recipient was Mrs. Polybank, living in the village of O'Brien, Quebec, and the medal was the Canadian Humane Society's Bronze Medal for Life-saving.

As Sir Henry's words of presentation came from Ottawa by wireless, and issued from the loud speaker, an official of the railway company handed the medal to the heroine. Thousands of listeners in Canada shared the thrill of the first medal ever presented by radio.



By B. HONRI. (B.B.C. Research Staff.)

The many thousands of "P.W." readers who appreciated Mr. Honri's article, "Cutting Out Noise," will find even more to interest them in this exclusive contribution.

ES, sir," said a wireless salesman to me the other day, "this set is remarkable for its purity of tone." "But," I protested, "what do you mean by purity of tone?". He explained to me that the "clearness" of reception on the set was

receiver was quite good on one or two of the speakers, but when he tried one of the new hornless types on it, the results were poor. "This new loud speaker -----'s have just put out

A

ance to be there, expecting the loud speaker

to be worked off an L.F. amplifier having cheap transformers. Such a loud speaker

resistance-



much above the average. Whether he referred to the absence of "blasting" on the set or the way it reproduced the musical scale, I do not know.

Thereupon he began to demonstrate the set, connecting in turn a number of loud speakers which he had in the shop. The



the L.F. coupling condensers or to raise the tone by means of the tone circuit given

in Fig. 1. The ideal loud speaker is one which is equally sensitive to all audible frequencies. Consequently, when a good loud speaker is connected to a poor L.F. amplifier, the results are usually thin and high-pitched. The loud speaker is usually blamed for the distortion, whereas it is actually accurately reproducing the distortion of the L.F. amplifier.

#### The Two Extremes.

But how are we to reproduce the extreme high notes of the piccolo and the pedal notes of the organ with equal accuracy? It is all a question of impedance in our L.F. circuits. Firstly, we must have a good amplifier, in which the impedances of the transformer primaries are at least equal to the impedances of the preceding valves, or a resistance-coupled amplifier with high insulation coupling condensers of not less than 01 mfd. capacity.

Secondly, the output impedance of the amplifier should suit the impedance of the



loud speaker. In the case of most of the 2,000 ohm resistance loud speakers, the impedance is about 10,000 and 12,000 ohms, and the output valve should have an impedance of about 6,000 to 10,000 ohms. Choke coupling the output valve to the loud speaker, as in Fig. 1, improves matters still more, but it is important that the choke should have an inductance of at least 50 henrys with a low D.C. resistance.

#### L.R. Loud Speakers.

The makers of one of the new types of 650 ohm resistance hornless loud speakers recommend an output impedance of 2,000 ohms. It is therefore necessary to use an output transformer stepping down from, say, 6,000 ohms to 2,000 ohms, or else to use a very low impedance valve in the last stage. The former method is the more economical, and in the case of the "Kone" loud speaker, the makers sell suitable output transformers which may be fitted in the loud speaker base, the terminals 1 and 2 being connected to the loud speaker.

This is, of course, not required when the loud speaker is worked off a "Kone" amplifier. When strong signals are expected the very best output connection would be that of Fig. 1 B. In this arrange-

(Continued on next page.)



ment, the D.C. current of the valve does not go through the primary winding of the transformer.

A bad loud speaker often sounds quite pleasant on a bad set. It is, of course, a roundabout-swings situation, in which the L.F. amplifier deals out strong high notes while the loud speaker is more sensitive to the fairly low notes. The result is pleasant but not accurate, for it lacks the very low notes and the very high ones too. The curve A in Fig. 2 gives some idea of what is



happening. If the same loud speaker is worked off a good L.F. amplifier, the curve B would be expected; so that a known good set shows up a bad loud speaker in its true colours.

#### Further Precautions.

There are still some further precautions to be taken by those who are endeavouring to obtain equal loud-speaker audibility for all notes. Firstly, it is an advantage to connect an H.F. choke in the first amplifier circuit (L3 in Fig. 3). This prevents any H.F. eurrents getting on to the first amplifier grid. It is, of course, unnecessary if transformer coupling is used. It is possible to climinate any very prominent loud-speaker resonance by means of an acceptor circuit across the first anode resistance (see Fig. 4). This circuit should be tuned to accept the particular note or band of notes which is undesirably loud, and must be adjusted by experiment. A useful band of frequencies may be covered by making the value of the coil L,  $\frac{1}{2}$  henry, and (by means of combinations of fixed condensers) the condenser

11 × 354.

C variable from about 002 to 04. Variation in the value of the resistance, R, flattens the "chunk" taken out of the curve of the amplifier by the acceptor. (See Fig. 4.)

#### Grid Bias.

When considering the value of the grid negative to be put on the first L.F. valves of a resistance amplifier, it is important to consider the dynamic characteristic of the valve. Referring to Fig, 5, it will be seen that the effect of putting 100,000 ohms resistance in the plate circuit of

a D.E.5 B. or D.F.A.4 alters the characteristic curve considerably, and under actual working conditions the curve B must be read. The reason

for this flattening of the curve is that as the grid becomes more positive the anode current increases, and there is more voltage drop across the resistance. The curves. show that the valve should have 2 volts negative grid bias with the resistance in circuit and 11 volts negative without the resistance, exactly the reverse of what would be expected. In actual practice, the presence of the anode resistance may be neglected when estimating the correct grid bias, in spite of the flattening out of the characteristic curve.

#### Choke Coupling.

In conclusion, the writer strongly advises those who dabble in circuits to construct a good-quality amplifier which may be "hitched" on to

them. If L.F. transformers are used in this amplifier, let them be the very best obtainable. If resistance coupling is used, let the connection be something like that in Fig. 6. If choke coupling is used, let the chokes have an inductance of at least 50 hys. (For choke coupling, substitute L.F. chokes for the anode resistances in Fig. 6.) By paying attention to detail it is perfectly



possible to do justice even to those elusive organ pedal notes.

The designing of L.F. amplifiers is an exceedingly interesting branch of the science of radio and one that fully repays any trouble that is incurred. The satisfaction obtained from listening to a good loud



speaker attached to a good amplifier and pushing out undistorted music is a very real one, and with a little experimenting one that can be reached by all who will take the trouble to study the whys and wherefores of audio-frequency amplification.

audio-frequency amplification. It is hoped that this little article and those on "Cutting Out Noise" that have preceded it will assist many constructors to get the most and also the *best* out of their receivers.





FROM the amateur's point of view, listening to broadcast programmes as a source of entertainment and the pursuit of longdistance reception are entirely different, so much so that ardent experimenters aro apt to regard the former with disdain. However, the

possession of a good loud speaker, used in

conjunction with a receiver and amplifier reasonably free from distortion, can be a source of much pleasure to one's friends, especially during winter evenings; but the success of "radio parties" depends



The complete instrument built into a cabinet.

largely upon the loud speaker, which may well be the best obtainable. The cost of such an instrument, however, is a very considerable proportion of the total outlay on the receiving system, and may even equal the cost of the latter when home constructed.

Now, for the benefit of those who quite rightly pride themselves upon having con-



### HOW TO MAKE A LOUD SPEAKER. By J. ENGLISH.

The construction of a loud speaker is not so difficult as many amateurs imagine. In this article a well-known "P.W." contributor gives constructional details which can very easily be carried out and with interesting results.

> structed the bulk of their apparatus, I propose to outline the construction of a cabinet loud speaker which compares very favourably in operation with the best commercial types, and one that is capable of handling a large input, yet sufficiently sensitive to give good volume with a moderate input power.

#### Comparisons.

Tested against smaller types of commercial lond speakers, the superiority of the home-made instrument was very apparent, there being an entire absence of shallowness of tone, while the cost of this instrument is but a few shillings. Many experimenters will, perhaps, find the necessary component parts in their junk boxes, and the construction can be undertaken by a n y o n e possessing the usual tools and a little mechanical skill.



The various parts are held together by a wooden framework.



We will first consider the electro-magnetic system, which is the most important part of the loud speaker, and upon the construction of this depends the efficiency of the instrument. The exact dimensions of the original loud speaker are given here as a guide, but a certain degree of latitude is possible without prejudice to the final result.

#### The Laminated Pole Pieces.

The first requirement is a horse-shoe magnet, which should be small and fairly strong, the one used by me having been obtained from an ex W.D. moving coil ammeter, and measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. long,  $2\frac{1}{3}$  in. wide across the poles, the section of the magnet bar being  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. Magnets of approximately these dimensions may be obtained very cheaply from disposal dealers, but the magnet must be furnished with a hole through each pole, so that pole pieces may be bolted on, and preferably with a hole at the bend.

Laminated pole pieces are constructed from soft iron sheeting, which is easy to work, a suitable material being ferrotype sheets, which may be purchased for a few pence from any dealer in photographic sundries. From this sheet are cut twenty pieces, measuring  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. by 2 in., the enamel being burnt off in a fire or gas flame. When cold, the carbonised residue is rubbed off, but each piece is left unpolished, as the

(Continued on next page.)

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The appearance of the instrument is apparent from the photographs, and it will be seen that no attempt has been made to produce an elaborate cabinet; but there is no reason why anyone gifted as a cabinetmaker should not turn out an ornamental and useful piece of furniture.



layer of oxide tends to reduce eddy currents in the pole pieces, such eddy currents being detrimental to a high efficiency. If the holes in the magnet poles are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in diameter,



a 2 B.A. clearance hole should be drilled through the laminations, as indicated in Fig. 1, the twenty pieces being made up into two bundles of ten each, and roughly bound up with wire. Drilling is facilitated if each



bundle is clamped in a vice against a piece of wood.

When the holes are drilled, the binding wire is removed, and a bundle bolted to each pole of the magnet by means of a 2 B.A. nut and bolt, and large 2 B.A. terminals cut down to the shank make



A "close-up" of the electro-magnetic system in the base.

strong and useful bolts. The projecting portions of each bundle are now roughly bound up with wire, to prevent the laminations springing apart, and then bent into the position indicated in Fig. 2 with pliers.

As the sheeting is very soft, this is quite an easy operation. The bound pole pieces are then removed from the magnet, and the bolts put on them and tightened up to hold all the laminations in place for the next operation, which consist of trimming and filing down square the top end of each pole piece. Both these must be of equal height, and truly square when reassembled on the magnet.

#### Winding the Magnets.

The pole pieces are next prepared for winding by fitting stiff cardboard or fibre cheeks  $\frac{1}{16}$  in thick, measuring  $\frac{1}{2}$  in by 1 in., two to each pole, the slot in the centre being cut of such a size that the cheeks fit tightly on the pole-piece ends. Thus equipped, the pole pieces are dipped in hot paraffin wax, and two layers of thin waxed paper wound in the space between the winding cheeks over the laminations.

For a low-resistance loud speaker to be used in conjunction with a step-down transformer, wind on each pole piece, in the same direction, one thousand turns of No. 40 enamelled wire, and for a highresistance winding put on as many turns as possible of No. 47 enamelled, the greater the number of turns, within limits, the higher the efficiency. The completed windings may be bound over with oiled silk or electrician's tape. The insulation resistance of windings to laminations should be high. The pole pieces are now assembled on the

magnet, the beginning ends of the two windings being soldered together, while the two free ends are connected to the input terminals. A method of suspending the magnet beneath the diaphragm is indicated in Fig. 3, a bracket bolted to the bend of the magnet holding the latter to a bar of wood, and a

stout brass stirrup, fastened to the poles of the magnet, is suspended over a compression spring on a 2 B.A. rod fixed to the bar.

#### Assembling the Parts.

Screwing the nut on this rod, up or down, raises or lowers the pole pieces with reference to the wooden bar, and, as this is fixed

rigidly beneath the diaphragm, the distance between the latter and the pole pieces may be finely adjusted. Further details of the electro-magnetic system are given in Figs. 2, 3, and 4.

The diaphragm, of thin stalloy 3½ in. in diameter, should be secured over the trumpet orifice in a solid wooden board, by mcans of two ebonite rings or rubber washers. Where these are unobtainable, two



circles of waxed cardboard will serve quite well. The bar carrying the magnet is securely bolted to the same board, and it is essential to obtain solid construction of this portion of the loud speaker to prevent vibration. See Fig. 3. Finally, the magnet system may be closed in by a wooden or cardboard box fitted to the baseboard. The sound con-

duit, or horn, may be constructed or purchased, choosing for preference non-metallic type of solid construction. The one used in the instrument shown in the photograph was built up of waxed cardboard. each section being riveted together with brass paper fasteners and the whole finally liberally coated with paraffin wax. Such a horn is practically nonresonant at any particular frequency and gives a full and pleasing tone. The dimensions found to give the best results are indicated in Fig. 5, the flare being secured to asquare of three-ply wood, in the centre of which is a hole one

foot in diameter.

(Continued on page

180)

The magnet fixed to the



The Set designed and constructed by the "P.W." Technical Staff.

WING to the recent advances in the price of rubber, constructors are finding the outlay required to purchase the ebonite panels for their sets an ever-increasing burden. Ebonite- good ebonite, that is-has never been really cheap, and resistance-capacity coupling for the L.F. amplifiers, of which there are three. Next in importance the insulation of the various stages was considered, and at the same time it was decided to do away with ebonite and its accompanying costs as far as possible.

This was found to be

It was at this juncture



Despite its wooden panel, the "Resistapure" receiver has an extremely finished appearance.

now that it has gone up in price by about 50 per cent the panel of any but the smallest receiver is a large item on the list of expenditure.

But why should ebonite be so very necessary for the construction of wireless receivers ? True it is convenient to work, and it gives a finished appearance to a set, but it is not at all indispensable. This has been proved in the experiments carried out by the technical staff of POPULAR WIRELESS, and it is now fully realised that a really efficient set can be made with the use of only about sixpennyworth of ebonite-apart from that used in coil holders, etc.

#### An Efficient Circuit.

The receiver under discussion in this article, it is admitted. is not one that makes use of multi-stage high-frequency amplifica-tion, where the use of coonitc might be thought to be necessary-it can be dispensed with even in that case if care is taken-but it is a set that is one of general appeal and can hardly be surpassed for loud-speaker work from the local station or 5 X X

Designed from the point of view of efficiency first, the set utilises the anodebend method of valve rectification, and

No. 191 under the head-ing of "Imitation Ebon-ite," was received, and upon experiment it was found that the problem of appearance was solved, and the set was put under construction.

The wood chosen for the panel was of three-ply, measuring 8 in. by 18 in., and it was treated in exactly the manner described by Mr. Middleton, with the result that a "panel" resembling ebonite was obtained at the cost of about 9d. instead of 10s. to 12s.-a very important saving.

In order to make sure that insulation did not suffer all H.F. and H.T. leads were kept away from the wood so that this merely made contact with points at earth potential-such as the condenser spindle. rheostats, etc. Two strips of ebonite hold the terminals at the rear of the receiverthese strips being the only abonite in use, except that used in the valve holders and coil holder.

#### Preparing the Panel.

For the benefit of those who did not see "P.W." No. 191, and who are unable to obtain a copy, the method of treating the wooden panel is repeated here, and if care is taken the finished article will be almost indistinguishable from ebonite. Both sides of the panel can be done if desired, but in the set photographed the reverse was left untreated, so that the contrast might be more marked.

The tools and materials required are few, viz. : some plaster of Paris, some shellac varnish, a bottle of Radium jet black stain, a cabinet scraper, and some glasspaper (No. 00.) The plaster of Paris should be fine and free from grit such as that sold for dental use by Messrs. T. C. Lindsey & Co., of Leather Lane, E.C., but ordinary plaster will do if it is carefully sifted through fine muslin.

The Radium jet black stain is sold in leather shops as a leather stain, and is apparently aniline black dissolved in some aniline derivative. The scraper can be bought for a few pence at any tool shop; as, of course, can be procured the 00 glasspaper.

The side of the panel is made smooth by using the glasspaper, and if necessary the scraper. Some plaster is then mixed with water to a thick paste, and is rubbed all over the surface back and forth, and especially across the grain. Use it liberally, and don't attempt to get it smooth; and allow to dry. When dry and hard, scrape off the superfluous plaster and rub down with the glasspaper, and it will be found that the (Continued on next page.)



This photograph shows the set ready for test, with valves, coils and grid bias battery in position. From right to left the valves are : B.4, D.F.A.4, C.T.25B., C.T.25.



pores of the wood have been so filled up that the surface is quite even. If the wood is very rough another application may be given, but this should not be necessary.

A rag is then taken and moistened with the black stain, and the whole surface well covered with the stain till it appears an even black. When dry, it is varnished with shellac varnish diluted with about an equal part of the black stain. It is then allowed to dry, and is rubbed down to remove the gloss and make it even, and is finally polished with a rag moistened with a drop or two of linseed oil mixed with a little black stain. The process is not long or tedious, and results in a very handsome finish.

The drilling of the panel can be carried out in the usual way if care is taken and the components mounted as usual. From nowonwards the building of the receiver is quite straightforward, and does not differ from the construction of a set where ebonite is used for the panel.

The baseboard is of 5-ply wood, and measures 8 in. by 18 in., and upon it are

20191: Mainten and and and a state of the st	11116	mm	11111	喧
E LIST OF COMPONENTS				
	2	~	a	Ξ
E 1 Sheet of 3-ply wood 19 in y	T.	s.	u.	Ξ
= 18 in	0	0	0	Ξ
E Plaster of Paris and shellos	0	0	0	Ξ
= 1 Tin Padium black or cimilar	U	0	0	Ξ
E stain	0	0	0	Ξ
E Cabinet and baceboard	4	10	0	Ξ
= 1 Poto-Saott "S I E ? condenser	T	10	U	Ξ
	0	45	0	
= 1 Lotus 2-way coil holder (av.	0	10	U	
= tended handla)	0	Q	a	III
$\equiv 2$ Cosmos rhoostate	0	10	0	Ξ
= 4 Renjamin clearer tone valve	v	10	۰,	Ē
= holders	'n	11	0	Ξ
E 2 Igranic-Pacent 5-point Jacks	U	**	0	Ξ
$\equiv$ (No. 69)	n	8	0	Ξ
= 1 Igranic-Pacent Autoniug (No.	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ŭ	Ξ
≡ 60)	0	2	6	Ξ
= 1 Lissen key switch	ŏ	2	6	Ξ
$\equiv$ 1 Varley anode resistance.	Ŭ	-		Ξ
≣ 100.000 ohms	0	7	6	Ξ
$\equiv$ 1 Varley anode resistance.		÷.,		Ξ
≣ 80,000 ohms	0	7	6	Ξ
$\equiv$ 1 Varley anode resistance.				
≣ 60,000 ohms	0	7	6	Ξ
$\equiv$ 3 ·06 fixed condensers (T.C.C.).	0	7	0	
$\equiv$ 3.5 megohm grid leaks (Mul-				
$\equiv$ lard)	0	7	6	Ξ
$\equiv$ 1 9-volt Battery (Siemens' G.2)	0	2	3	Ξ
$\equiv$ 2 pieces of ebonite (7 in. x 1 in.				Ξ
$\equiv$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 1 in. x $\frac{1}{4}$ in.)	0	0	6	=
$\equiv$ 8 W.O. type terminals	0	1	0	
$\equiv$ Wire, screws, brass strip, etc	0	2	6	Ξ



mounted all the components with the exception of the tuning condenser, rheostats, telephone jacks and L.T. switch. Only two rheostats are provided, one to control the first valve and the other to control the remaining three. The last L.F. valve is automatically cut out of circuit when the 'phones or loud speaker are taken out of the second jack and plugged into the first one.

#### Pure Reception Obtained.

The circuit, as remarked before, is one recommended for pure reception from the local station and 5 X X, and plug-in coils provide means for changing the wave-length ranges and reaction. The output from the detector valve is carried through three stages of resistance-capacity coupled amplification, each containing wire-wound resistances of extremely robust manufacture. Anti-microphonic valve holders are used, and it is advisable to employ power valves throughout.

Under test the set gave excellent results, and full loud-speaker volume without a trace of distortion. Though about 15 volts is usually a sufficient anode pressure for an "anode-bend" detector, this set worked well up to about 40 volts on the first valve. The valves used were B.4 for detector, D.F.A.4 for first L.F. stage, and two Cleartron power valves for the last two stages. All these valves need 5-6 volts for the filament voltage, taking about 25 amp. each. The H.T. battery used should be capable of providing a pressure of 120 volts.

The coil holder used for the two plug-in coils must be capable of accurate adjustment, because the reaction has a marked effect upon the volume of reception. A Lotus two-way holder with long handle was used on the set photographed, and this gave every satisfaction.

The actual construction is not difficult, and provided the diagrams reproduced herewith are carefully followed no trouble or "snags" should be encountered. Care must be taken that valve holders, etc.; are so placed on the baseboard that the swing of the reaction coil is not impeded.

#### Constructional Details.

All connections that cannot be made to terminals or nuts should be soldered, care being taken that no dry joints are made.

Two ebonite strips are required for mounting the terminals, and are fixed at the back of the baseboard. One has two terminals (aerial and earth), and is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. by 1 in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in., and the other, which measures 7 in. by 1 in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in., is fixed at the other end of the baseboard, and contains six terminals, L.T.+, L.T.-, H.T.-, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, and H.T.+3.

The photographs and wiring diagram show the lay-out of the anode resistances, grid condensers, etc., the former being provided with ebonite mounting so that they can be screwed down on to the wooden baseboard. The grid leaks are supported on the connecting wires (these being soldered to the grid leak clips) at one end, and from the valve grid terminals at the other. Care should be taken to solder the leak clips with the leaks removed, or otherwise the heat may affect the resistance element and cause the leak to become noisy or faulty in operation.

The connections to the jacks are made according to the diagram and point-to-point description, the tags being numbered from the tops of the jacks.

(Continued on next page.)



The method of mounting the various components is clearly seen from this illustration of the "Resistapure" loud-speaker set. All the components on the panel have one side at earth potential.



The rheostats used were those of Cosmos manufacture of the dual type-for bright or dull emitters-and as the second rheostat controls three valves the moving arm will be found to be on the "bright" section all the time.

#### Suitable Valves.

It must be remembered that the success of the set depends upon the components, so that those specified should be used wherever possible, or if others are substituted

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POINT-TO-POINT CONNECTIONS.

ESTERIOTERISTRICTURINE STUDIED DU Aerial terminal to fixed plates of .0005 variable condensers, plug of fixed coil holder and grid socket of 1st valve holder. Earth terminal to socket of fixed coil holder, moving plates of .0005 variable condenser and one side of key switch, which is also joined to one side of the two rheostats. Other side of key switch to L.T. negative, H.T. negative and grid bias positive.

Other side of 1st rheostat to one filament 3163013616400036956161000 socket of 1st valve holder. Other side of 2nd rheostat to one filament socket of the 2nd and 3rd valve holders and to contact 1 of 2nd jack. Contact 2 of 2nd jack to one filament socket of 4th valve holder. All other filament sockets are connected together and to L.T. positive. Plate socket of 1st valve holder to socket

of moving coil holder, plug of which is connected to one side of 1st anode resistance and 06 fixed condenser. Other side of anode resistance to H.T. + ter-minal No. 1. Other side of 06 fixed con-denser to grid socket of 2nd valve holder and one side of 1st grid leak.

Plate socket of 2nd valve holder to one side of 2nd anode resistance and .06 fixed condenser. Other side of fixed condenser to grid socket of 3rd valve holder, and one side of 2nd grid leak. Other side of 1st and 2nd grid leaks are connected together and to the 1st negative grid bias battery tapping. Plate socket of 3rd valve holder to con-

tact 3 of 1st jack. Contact 4 is connected to one side of 3rd anode resistance and .06 fixed condenser. Contact 5 of 1st jack is joined to the other side of the 2nd and 3rd anode resistances and to H.T. positive terminal No. 2. Other side of 3rd .06 fixed condenser to grid socket of 4th valve holder and to one side of 4th grid leak, the other side of which goes to the second negative

grid bias battery tapping. | Plate socket of 4th valve holder to con-taet 3 of 2nd jack, contact 5 of which is joined to H.T. positive terminal No. 3. 

these should be of good manufacture. The valves mentioned were found to give excellent results, and if other makes are used care should be taken that the types employed correspond in characteristics to those mentioned earlier in the article. A high impedance valve could be substituted for the B.4 if desired, but the other three valvesthe amplifiers-should have impedances corresponding to those of the valves men-tioned in each case, especially in that of the

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first amplifier and in that of the last. The first should have an impedance of about 27,000-30,000 ohms, the next valve can have a lower impedance, and the last valve either the same or still lower impedance.

The impedances of the three amplifying valves used in the test of the receiver were as follows: 1st stage, 27,000, 2nd stage 20,000 (CT 25 B), last stage 10,000 (CT 25). If desired, an H.F. amplifier could be added to the Resistapure receiver to enable more distant stations to be received, but it would necessitate a specially designed amplifier and separate tuning control.

#### Easy to Handle.

For the local station either a 35 or 50 turn aerial coil should be O.K. with a reaction of 50 or 75 turns. For 5 X X a 150-200 aerial and 100 reaction should be sufficient.

The set will not operate successfully on a frame aerial, though it can be used with reduced signal strength on an indoor aerial if a good earth is available.

The handling is extremely simple, a variable condenser and reaction control providing the only two controls. The grid bias battery is left set once the correct bias is found, while once the best H.T. voltages for the various valves have been ascertained these also need no adjustment. The switch on the right of the panel provides a definite filament break, so that the receiver can be left ready for action and a movement of the switch will either turn it on or off.

Three H.T. + terminals are provided, and these should be connected to tappings on a 120 volt H.T. battery of large size cells. On test 15-40 volts were used for the detector anode voltage, 120 for the next two valves, and about 100---110 for the last valve.





Conducted by our Staff Consultant, J. H. T. ROBERTS, D.Sc., F.Inst.P.

OF all the different components or parts of a wireless receiving set that offer

scope for improvement, probably none offers more scope than the aerial. Great attention has been given to other parts of the system, but the aerial has been singularly neglected. It is true that there are very efficient outdoor aerials and that excellent results are sometimes obtained, in special circumstances, with indoor aerials and even with frame aerials. There have also been special forms of both outdoor and indoor aerials brought upon the market during the past year or two, and these, to my knowledge, have often proved very convenient in installation, and have, in general, come up to the claims made for them by their inventors or manufacturers.

But the fact remains that with the average receiving set not employing any H.F. amplification a good outdoor aerial is, if not essential, at any rate very desirable. An indoor aerial, or even a poor outdoor aerial, means a very great handicap from the start.

#### An Uncertain Factor.

Now, probably the installation of the aerial is the main inconvenience in the setting up of a wireless receiver, and certainly it is the most uncertain factor in estimating the cost. If anyone asks you how much it will cost for a set which will receive such-and-such distance, you can, without very much trouble, give him a fairly accurate estimate of the cost of the set, and when you know his requirements in the accessories, such as loud speaker, batteries, and so on, you can more or less decide the total outlay. But the aerial is a different matter. That depends upon where he lives, the nature of the surroundings, whether he has room for a good outdoor aerial, whether he prefers an indoor aerial, and so on.

#### What is Wanted.

Surely, then, it is time someone invented an aerial, of about the size and portability of the frame aerial, which will nevertheless have the same pick-up sensitivity as a good outdoor aerial.

If this could be achieved it would give a tremendous impetus to the industry. For the bugbear of the aerial installation, with its expense and trouble, would be overcome at once. Moreover, the feature of complete portability would be one which would attract an immense number of people.

I am well aware that, according to the usual calculations and theories, it cannot be done. And although perhaps some of my readers might expect me to side with the theorists, that is to do me an injustice, for I believe in learning by experience, and experience has shown us that so many things have been done, especially in wireless, which seemed, according to theory, to be impossible that it is best to keep an open mind. In the meantime, here is an excellent field for the inventor—a small portable aerial of the size of a frame aerial, which shall have the same pick-up sensitivity as a good outdoor aerial.

Whilst on this subject I should say that I occasionally receive inquiries as to the relative efficiency of earths and counterpoises. It is difficult to answer this question quite definitely, as a good deal depends upon the nature of the counterpoise or the earth. Speaking generally, however, a good earth

may actually more when current is switched on; this is exemplified by the slight humming that is generally heard from a small-power transformer connected to the alternating-current mains. This humming is due to the vibratory motion of the iron laminations and partly also to the vibration of the wire in the coils. Of course, it goes without saying that the windings should be so constructed and treated that any appreciable motion is prevented. In transformers which are to be in use for very long periods (such as the step-down transformer of a trickle-charger) particular care must be paid to this point.

The so-called burn-out of an L.F. transformer is frequently, in point of fact, a mechanical break due to the too sudden application of current—shifting wanderplugs about with the L.T. current on will often account for it.

The proper thing to do when you wish to switch the H.T. current on or off (and changing the wander-plugs is the same thing) is first of all to switch off the filaments, and then to switch them on again when the change has been made. Owing to the fact that the filament takes a second



A section of the Australian amateur station, A 2 C M, which is controlled by Mr. Maclurcan.

is better than a counterpoise, and it is, of course, much simpler and cheaper to construct. For the greatest efficiency, the counterpoise should lie beneath the aerial (that is, if the aerial runs north from the down-lead, the counterpoise should not run south from the down-lead), and the counterpoise should, if possible, contain more wires than the aerial, and should be somewhat longer and should cover a greater area. Counterpoise aerials are useful for certain special purposes—which I have not the space to go into here—but for general broadcast reception purposes a good earth is to be preferred.

#### Safeguarding L.F. Transformer Windings.

A point in connection with the use and care of L.F. transformers that often is not sufficiently borne in mind by amateurs is the fact that a break in the windings can be caused by a sudden rush of current through the instrument. It should be remembered that the turns of the windings or two to light up, or to "go out," the sudden rush of current through the transformer windings is avoided by the expedient mentioned above.

#### Method of H.T. Adjustment.

I have a letter from a reader of these Notes describing what he evidently believes to be a novel device for regulating a soft valve.

The valve in question was used as detector in a three-valve set—H.F., Det, and L.F.—and, owing to the fact that exact regulation of H.T. voltage was not obtainable with the battery he was using, he introduced a non-inductive resistance, with a maximum value of 100 ohms, in the H.T. feed to the plate of the detector valve.

By adjusting the value of this resistance, critical adjustment of the H.T. voltage on the detector was obtained, and the best operating condition secured.

This method often proves useful where the battery used is not tapped.

E Armstrong Super-Regenerative Circuit (which, by the way, is quite distinct from the Armstrong Super-THE

Heterodyne) has always held a fascination for amateurs, on account of the almost incredible results that have been obtained with it. It should be pointed out, however, that it is a circuit which requires very skilful handling, and the amateur without much experience of valve receivers will probably be disappointed with the results he obtains from a home-made super set. On the other hand, ample scope for experi-



ment is presented, and, provided with a knowledge of the elementary theory, the experimenter will find the circuit well worth trying out.

In order to obtain a clear idea of the principle involved in the Armstrong Super, it is essential that we should understand what takes place when reaction is introduced into a valve circuit. Let us consider, then, the operation of a single-valve set in which a reaction coil is coupled to the grid, or aerial coil, as shown in Fig. 1, and assume that the set is receiving signals from a spark station. The signals consist of groups of waves, each of which dies away to zero in, let us say, a hundred cycles.

#### Effect of Reaction.

As soon as the reaction coil is coupled to that in the aerial circuit, energy is added to the incoming signals, with the result that the magnitude of the wave is increased, as is also the number of waves in each group, which may now be increased to two hundred. As the coupling is further tightened, so will the length of the wave-trains increase, until at length each train contains so many waves-perhaps a thousand-that the last





wave of one group is overlapping the first of the next group. Just before this occurs very loud signals are obtained, and it is at that point that an ordinary valve set should be operated to give the loudest results.

When the trains begin to overlap, how-ever, a "plop" is heard in the headphones, and signals become dis-

torted. The important fact to note is this. The tail-end of one group of waves adds to the beginning of the next group, which is thereby still further lengthened, and still further adds to the next one following, and so on. Hence the waves build up into a uniform stream after a few trains have been received.

#### Continuous Oscillations.

Now let us suppose that the reaction coupling is tightened still further. If a

sufficient degree of reaction is introduced, when the first wave of a group falls on to the valve grid so much energy is handed back from the plate circuit that the next wave is not merely only a little smaller than its predecessor, as in the cases just con-sidered, but it is actually *bigger*, the next one being bigger still, and so on. In other words, if a single impulse is given to the valve grid, a continuous stream of waves will at once build up in the plate circuit to a value which is only limited by the carrying capacity of the valve.

In the ordinary way this is a hopeless state of affairs, but there is a very important point to be noted about this

condition, upon which de-pends the operation of all super-regenerative receivers.

At any instant after the reception of the first impulse, the magnitude of the wave is proportional to the magnitude of this initial impulse. For example, after an interval of one thousandth of a second, the magnitude of the waves produced by the initial impulse of one volt will be twice as great as it would be if the initial impulse had been only half a volt.

a volt. Suppose, then, that we could suddenly stop the increasing wave-train just before its final steady value was attained, and allow it to start building up over again. we would get a series of wave-trains in which the oscillations *increased* in value (instead of dying away as in ordinary circuits), and the energy from each train would be proportional to that of the incoming signals. That is to say, we should obtain a reproduction of the received signals, amplified to an enormous extent. This is what is carried out in the Armstrong Super-Regenerative Circuits. — Mateurs who have experimented with ordinary vented from oscillating by the application of a positive

voltage (e.g. by means of a potentiometer, to the grid. If, therefore, we could apply a rapidly alternating voltage to the grid of our oscillating valve, we would alternately interrupt and stimulate the oscillation, and so bring about the effect we have just been dimensioned.

and so bring about the energy we have just discussing. The most convenient way of producing a rapidly alternating voltage is by means of an oscillating valve. In Fig. 2 are shown the connections for a single-valve oscillator, the coil  $L_2$  in the plate circuit transferring energy back into the grid circuit  $L_1$  C, and thus setting up continuous oscillations.

#### Action of the Quenching Coils.

Action of the Quenching Coils. These are the oscillations which are to be employed for interrupting those in the valve shown in Fig. 1. We must therefore decide what is the most suitable frequency for these interruptions. If we choose a very low frequency the oscillations will have time to build up to a high value before they are cut short, and so loud signals will result. On the other hand, if the frequency is too low, a whistle will be heard in the telephones, which will not only be unpleasant, but which will give rise to distortion. The best value, therefore, is one just above the audible limit, 10,000 cycles per second being a suitable frequency. For this purpose the coils  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  should be of the honey-comb type, wound with from 1,200 to 1,500 turns. Assuming that we have the two valves shown in



Figs. 1 and 2 oscillating, all that remains to be done socillating grid circuit in Fig. 2 superimposes oscilla-tions on the grid in Fig. 1. The bottom end of the value in Fig. 1 instead of directly to the flament. The same batteries are employed for both values, and the result is the two-value Armstrong Super shows in Fig. 3. It will be noticed that the first value is the treat is the two-value Armstrong Super shows in Fig. 3. It will be noticed that the first value is the treat is the two-value Armstrong Super shows in Fig. 3. It will be noticed that the first value is the treat is the two-value Armstrong Super shows in Fig. 3. It will be noticed that the first value is the treat is the two-value Armstrong Super shows in Fig. 3. It will be noticed that the first value is the detector, but the other one might equally well have been made to serve the purpose. This, of course, possible to use three values—one of lating equations and one interrupting. A more usual arrangement, however, consists in making the set of circuit must contain, in addition to the denser of large equation, and the plate circuit must contain a similarly shunted 1,500-turn coil in addition to the usual reaction coil, the two large coils, L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, being variably coupled, as shown in Fig. 4. The



valve is thus caused to oscillate at high frequency, the oscillations being interrupted by the action of the long-wave coils. The Armstrong Super Circuit should not be used on an outdoor aerial, not only because it will cause powerful radiations and interfere with reception in the neighbourhood, but also because the radiating properties of an open aerial damp the oscillations in the first valve, better results being obtained, there-tore, with a small loop or frame aerial. The circuit is most efficient on very short wave-lengths, but remarkable results can be obtained over the wave-length band covered by broadcasting.



**OF** all the more commonly employed crystals which are used in perikon detectors in combination with zincite,

bornite is probably the one which has found the least favour with the amateur crystal user, firstly on account of the fact that it is not always easy to procure specimens of this mineral in a perfectly sensitive condition, and secondly because bornite, owing to its oxidisable nature, very often falls off in sensitivity after it has been in use for some time.

There are, however, some purposes for which bornite is extremely adaptable. For instance, workers in the realms of double-rectification crystal circuits will find a contact of zincite and bornite to give better results than any other crystal combination, some peculiarity in the properties of this particular contact enhancing the dual-rectification function of the circuit.

#### Not Very Stable.

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For ordinary rectification, bornite is generally used with a crystal of zincite or synthetic zincite, although the mineral may very often be satisfactorily employed in contact with silicon, iron pyrites; molybdenite, ferro-silicon, and a number of other and rarer minerals.

Bornite, when used as a rectifier in conjunction with zincite, is rather more sensitive than a tellurium-zincite contact; but against this there is to be reckoned the fact that a bornite-zincite crystal combination is not always a very stable one. It needs to be adjusted with a considerable amount of care in order to derive the best results from it.

A bornite-zincite combination has a critical contact pressure. It is sensitive, also, to the disturbing influences of atmo-spherics; and, finally, the sensitivity of a bornite crystal often diminishes owing to the oxidation or tarnishing of its surface under the influence of atmospheric moisture.

#### A Change of Colour.

This latter property of bornite may be readily observed by the amateur. When a bornite crystal is freshly cut or broken, it generally possesses a bronze-brown or coppery-red colour. However, after exposure to the air the freshly-cut surfaces of the crystal soon take upon themselves

a bluish-black colour, due to certain chemical changes which have taken place in the surface layers of the crystal.

A bornite-zincite combination often may be made to afford better results when it has a small local potential of about 5 volt placed across it. This arrangement, of course, calls for the employment in the circuit of a single dry cell and a potentiometer.

Bornite is a hard mineral, but, at the same time, it is fairly brittle. Therefore carc should be taken not to fracture the crystal when fixing it in the cup of the detector by means of clamping screws.

#### Its Chemical Composition.

The mineral should not be subjected to a high temperature, owing to the ease with which it oxidises. Wood's metal should, therefore, always be used when a metallic cement is required for the purpose of fixing the crystal in its cup.

In composition, bornite is a sulphide of copper and iron. Chemically speaking, it is a "double sulphide," its composition being represented by the formula 2Cu2S Cu, S2 2FeS. The mineral also goes under the



Typical specimens of Bornite crystal.

names of "variegated copper ore"-and "erubescite."

Most of the bornite ore is derived from the shores of Lake Superior, in Michigan, although small quantities of the mineral have been found in Cornwall and among the copper deposits in Derbyshire. Many forms of "copper glance" are

very much akin to bornite in composition, but they are not radio-sensitive. Copper glance, however, is a very abundant ore, and it is the one from which most of the copper used in the electrical industry is obtained.

The impurities which are sometimes to be found in the commercially marketed radio-sensitive crystals of bornite are chiefly silica and copper oxide. Veins of silica are not infrequently found in the body of a bornite crystal, running from side to side of it.

Of course, under these circumstances, the crystal is found to be insensitive, for the internal layer of silica acts as an insulator and prevents any of the current from passing through the crystal, even although it may have been efficiently rectified at the surface contact,

#### A Synthetic Substitute.

Bornite crystals which have become insensitive owing to oxidation effects can, in the majority of cases, be re-sensitised by dipping them in molten sulphur, and by subsequently dissolving off the layer of sulphur by immersing them in a bath of carbon disulphide. However, this treatment is troublesome and messy, and therefore it will not appeal to any but the most enthusiastic crystal users, especially as more permanently sensitive rectifying minerals are so easily obtainable.

Bornite, being a metallic sulphide, is soluble in mineral acids, but the treatment of the oxidised surface of a bornite crystal with acids will not restore the lost sensitivity of the mineral.

A synthetic substitute for bornite can be made by treating a copper alloy, such as copper bronze, with molten sulphur. A small fragment or rod of this material is dipped in a bath of molten sulphur and afterwards. heated gently in order to remove the superfluous sulphur.

The resulting product will be found to rectify quite satisfactorily when used in contact with zincite. Its contact pressure will be far less critical, but, at the same time, its distance sensitivity will be inferior to that of a natural bornite crystal.

#### USEFUL DATA.

- COMPOSITION. -- Double sulphide of cop-
- per and iron, 2Cu<sub>2</sub>S·Cu<sub>5</sub>S<sub>2</sub>·2FeS. APPEARANCE.—Coppery-brown when freshly cut; iridescent bluish-black after standing.
- CHARACTERISTICS.—Hard, but fairly brittle. Radio-sensitivity good, but sensitivity not always retained owing to the oxidisable nature of the crystal surface.

BEST CONTACT TO USE.—Zincite. SOURCE OF MINERAL.—U.S.A.; also, in small quantities, Cornwall and Derbyshire.

CURRENT PRICE (in sensitive condition). -10d. per ounce.

and and the second

#### TWO HINTS \*\*\*\*\*\*

IF you are beginning, or starting afresh, do not establish " bright emitters." They

do not pay. They will soon be things of the past. "Dull emitters" mean greater capital outlay-though not much-but the working costs are much reduced. Figure it out. I have two magnificent D.E.'s which have served me well for eighteen months. N.B.-I charge my accumulator (6 v. 80 amp.) once every two months. "A word to the wise," etc. Less trouble ; much less expense.

Every wireless set needs a soft-haired brush to do its dusting. Dust is the deadly enemy of radio apparatus. Every commercial Marconi ship equipment includes a dusting brush. Every junior Marconi oper-ator has to wield it or the senior wants to know why. Experientia docet. Very well-if the brush will not "get there," what's the matter with a common or garden bicyclepump ? Six puffs may save a programme.

Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.



"makes all the difference"!

Every listener who has tried the new LEWCOS Coil is talking about the difference it makes. Some say that this coil in the blue box is as different from ordinary coils as "Glazite" is from the old connecting wire. The LEWCOS Coil embodies high electrical efficiency with great mechanical strength. It gives extremely fine tuning and, having an exceptionally low high - frequency resistance, increases signal strength. Try the LEWCOS Coil for yourself-it makes all the difference! Your radio dealer stocks or can obtain this new coil.





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Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.





76 hours for 9d.

Messrs. Fellows Magneto Co., Ltd. Dear Sirs,-

Dear Sits. — Having taken advantage of your offer in "Radio Times." Having taken advantage of your offer in "Radio Times." Previously my accumulator (4 volt 60 amp.) needed charging every 14 days at a cost of 9d. a charge. Now 1 am pleased to say it only needs charging every 6 weeks. amounting to 12d per week. During that period I have been working my Loud Speaker for 276 hours. Loudens every time far Yours taithfully, (J. H. B., Wednesbury).

S it not time that you had Loudens in your set? They are British throughout-capital, labour, materials-made in London.

Their performance is equal to that of any other purpose valve on the market; both Bright general and Dull Emitters are extremely economical in current; and, finally, they are most reasonable in priceowing to the fact that we sell them direct to you by post-the only way in which you can obtain them.

Louden Bright Emitters are made in two types. The Fr or Plain Louden for Detecting and L.F. Amplification and the F2 or Blue Louden for H.F. Amplification. Louden Dull Emitters are made either for 4-volt or for 6-volt accumulators to that if you are at present using bright emitters you can it Loudens without any alterations either to set or to battery. Both 4-v. and 6-v. Loudens are made in Two Types, the FERT for Detecting and L.F. Amplification and the FER2 for H.F. Amplification. Kindly be careful to state which type is required when ordering and to enclose postage as follows:— Single valves 4d. Two or three valves 6d. Four, five or six valves 9d.

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HEY sound very much like atmospherics, though. Only they seem too persistent to be that. Have you any bright suggestions?"

"Any condensers across your H.T. ter. minals?"

"No !-- rather an unnecessary refinement, isn't it?"

"Ah, no! You see, every H.T. battery has minor or major spasms when it's in use. Partial polarisation, you know, or a sudden exposure of a larger area of carbon, and things of that sort. That's what's causing this crackling row. You want to put a Mansbridge Condenser across your H.T. Terminals to smooth out the jerks. You'll find that, it will make all the difference ! "

"So that's it, is it? What condenser did you say?"

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Look for the characteristic lettering-"Mansbridge Condenser" on the case! 0.01 µF to 2.0 µF, 2/6 to 5/-



ADVERTISEMENT OF THE DUBILIER CONDENSER CO. (1925) LTD., DUCON WORKS, VICTORIA ROAD, NORTH ACTON, W.3. TELEPHONE: CHISWICK 2241-222 B.P.S. 6

HEAR the speeches to be relayed by 2 L O from the annual dinner of the Electrical Development Association on

March 19th will contain some important new announcements concerning the progress of the Government's electricity schemes.

The B.B.C. has decided upon a special spring series of light orchestral programmes which will commence on April 11th, with Sir Landon Ronald as conductor. This is good news for listeners, many of whom feel that the B.B.C. could provide more programmes of this kind In the past there has been too much emphasis on the special classical and symphony programmes. The great volume of reputable light music outside these categories has been somewhat neglected.

#### Future Broadcasts.

A surprise programme is being arranged for London and Daventry on April 13th. I have heard enough about this programme to induce me to enter it in my diary; but it would be wrong to spoil the mystery, so verb. sap.

April 14th is to be Brighton's day on the wireless. The Royal Marine Band will be relayed S.B. from Brighton on that evening, and there will also be features and talks about Brighton. This should do something to remove Brighton's sense of grievance that Bournemouth gets more than its due share of broadcast publicity because of the presence there of a main station. It would be a good plan for the B.B.C. to visit all the British seaside resorts in turn during the coming spring and summer seasons. British holiday resorts have not been getting the patronage they deserve. After the war this was partly their own fault in that their prices were exorbitant. But this has now been rectified, and, although they cannot hope to strike a parity with the French resorts charging at the favourable rates of exchange, they do give good value. The B.B.C. can get good programme material at nearly all British resorts, and it is only right and proper that the resorts should have their "boosts" attendant upon the broadcasting of their entertainments.

The Chenil Galleries are now the favourite venue for special musical programmes that require more echo resonance than can be provided by any of the studios at Savoy Hill. An "extra special" operatic programme will be given from there on April 16th, when it is hoped to secure the services of Riccardo Stracchiari for the occasion.

#### Mastering the Microphone.

Sir Harry Lauder's second broadcast has been voted even more successful than his first effort before Christmas. The great comedian has devoted a lot of thought to his new medium, and there is no doubt that he has mastered the secrets of the microphone in a manner quite unexcelled by any other artiste so far. I hear that the B.B.C. is so impressed by the performance that new instructions for artistes have been prepared on the Lauder model.

The progressive interpretative classical recitals given early in the London programmes appear to be well received. There



is now to be a variation of this feature. Beginning on April 12th. there will be a regular ten minutes' poetry reading once a week. The idea is a good one, but I hope that the B.B.C. announcers do the reading. In this connection experiments in the past have usually been carried out by poets or outside critics. There is no doubt a certain degree of general interest in the actual personalities of the poets, but hardly any of them "get across the ether." It is much better for the readings to be done by a trained microphone voice that is also quite capable of adequate poetic interpretation.

#### Radio Drama Searcity.

I hear the B.B.C. is somewhat exercised about the scarcity of good broadcast drama. The chief difficulty of course is that eminent playwrights cannot be adequately rewarded for broadcast drama. There is little chance of frequent repetition, and there is not enough money available to pay anything like the fees that could begin to compare with stage fees for successful work.

On the whole, I think the B.B.C. would be well advised to create a staff of dramatic adapters—skilled writers familiar with the medium, who would devote all their time to adapting existing material for broadcasting. No doubt there will ultimately grow up a school of distinctive radio dramatists, but for the present the best practical policy would be to take a leaf from the book of experience of the film-play. It would still be true to say of the film that it remains in its pioneering stage, and the vast majority of its successes represent adapted works. The field of literature abounds in material suitable for radio drama, but it needs "digging" and discriminating treatment. I would hazard the guess that in two years' time the B.B.C. will have a staff of at least six expert dramatic adapters.

#### The Committee's Report.

Readers of this page will have found little novelty in the report of the Broadcasting Committee. It has been extremely interesting to follow the torthous course of these proposals during the past six months. What matters now is the drafting of the Statute which will be the permanent constitution. I have not had much success in my efforts to ascertain the private views of the B.B.C. chiefs, but if I read their minds aright they are a little disturbed about the possible interpretation in the Statute of the functions of the Commissioners,

#### An Important Factor.

Something was said in the report about the Commissioners devoting energy, zeal, and time to their work in order that programmes would not come to be regarded as matters of mere routine. Nobody wants programmes to become matters of routine, or to lose their present excellent qualities of originality, enterprise, and novelty. But I have a sneaking feeling that these qualities will not be stimulated or encouraged by the constant intervention of an entirely fresh Board of Commissioners. This is a serious affair for listeners, who should watch its development in Parliament most carefully.

The point is that the correct function of the Commissioners should be to determine broad questions of policy. Once they transform themselves into a programme board, the results are bound to be disastrous. We shall have the logical application of excellent theories, a tendency mutually exclusive of good entertainment in the popular sense. Education and highbrowism will become rampant, and there will be no wholesome deterrent.

This will never do, and I am sure the committee did not mean it; but the fact remains that there is ambiguity in the wording of the report on the subject. Freedom of action for the executive, flexibility, and responsiveness to public demand have been outstanding characteristics of the B.B.C., and have been largely responsible for its phenomenal success.

#### Satisfying Public Demand.

These must be retained at all costs, even at the risk of dispensing with some of the otherwise excellent theory and dignity of a logical constitution. There is one basic consideration that transcends all others in the practical sense.

So far there has been no reference to personalities in the discussion of the future constitution. The really important factor is the personal one, and it is that Mr. J. C. W. Reith, the present managing director, should be asked to continue with a free hand as at present as the real executive head of the permanent service. Mr. Reith is known to have made great personal sacrifices to stay on with broadcasting.

Within recent months he has turned down offers of jobs in big business which held out monetary attractions many times as great as he could ever possibly have in broadcasting. But he has held to his post, and there is no doubt whatever that the future of the service depends chiefly on his remaining in unfettered control. In leaving Mr. Reith a free hand the present board of directors displayed their sound common sense and their correct appreciation of genius.



A COPY of the report of the British Broadcasting Committee has now been published. It is an interesting little document of twenty-two pages and is published by H.M. Stationery Office at a price of 6d, nett. Readers can obtain a copy by writing to Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C. 2. Here is a brief summary of

its recommendations : 1. That the Broadcasting Service should be conducted by a Public Corporation, acting as a trustee, and that the Corporation should be known as the British Broadcasting Commission. It is recommended that it should not consist of more than seven or less than five Commissioners, all nominated by the Crown. The first Commission is to bold office for five years. In the opinion of the Committee the Commissioners should be persons of judgment and experience, with business acumen and ex-perience in affairs. The Commissioners should have the power to appoint Executive Commissioners, with a seat on the The Commissioners should be Board. adequately remunerated.

2. The Commissioners should appoint, in co-operation with proper societies, as many advisory committees as are necessary to carry on broadcasting in all its phases.

3. The entire property and undertaking of the B.B.C. as a going concern should be vested in the Commission on the 1st January, 1927.

4. That the P.M.G. should remain the licensing authority and be responsible for collecting the licence fees.

#### Little to Quibble at.

The Committee interpolates here a recommendation that the detection and prosecution of those who conceal their equipment may be vigorously pursued.

The fee of ten shillings for the licence should remain the same, but that all expenditure incurred by the P.M.G. in the execution of his work should be accounted as a first charge in the licence revenue, and after paying the Commissioners an income thoroughly adequate to enable them to ensure a full and efficient maintenance and development of the service, any surplus should be retained by the P.M.G. (Those last few words are, to our mind, the one thoroughly objectionable recommendation in the report; but we will refer to that later.)

5. The Commissioners of the new Broadcasting Company should be entitled to all the ordinary rights as regards the use of copyright material, whether in use or otherwise, and that it is unnecessary to invest them with any special privilege orpreference.

6. That the claims of those listeners who desire a large proportion of educational matter, though relatively few in London, should be met, and to raise the standard of style and performance in every phase of broadcasting, particularly in music, and, further, that a moderate amount of controversial matter should be broadcast, provided the material is of high quality and distributed with scrupulous fairness, and that the discretion of the Commissioners in the choice of material should be upheld.

7. That licences should be granted to blind persons free of charge, and that the Commissioners should present an annual report to Parliament.

The above brief paragraphs will give our readers an indication of the main and general recommendations of the Broadcasting Committee of Inquiry.



On page 6 of the report the Committee elaborate the recommendation as follows:

"We attach the greatest importance to maintaining continuity between the old authority and the new; arrangements must be completed in good time, as it would be most unfortunate were there to be any dislocation of the service, or any withdrawal, even temporarily, of the programmes to which listeners have become attached and for which they have paid. The injury caused by any such interruption might be lasting."

This recommendation of the Committee will, we feel, meet with the approval of everyone, and also the recommendation that the Com-



Lady Asquith and Oxford adjusts the 'phones for a hospital patient.

missioners should be under an obligation to take over the existing staff of the B.B.C.

On the whole there is very little to quibble about in the Committee's report, with the exception of the recommendation that surplus licence money should go into the pockets of the Exchequer. Listeners are probably feeling just what motorists are feeling in connection with the Road Fund raid.

#### Surplus Money.

We have it on Mr. Reith's authority and if there is anyone in this country who knows what he is talking about in connection with the broadcasting service, it is Mr. Reith—that the B.B.C. can do with an infinite amount of revenue, and if we think about it carefully we shall realise that broadcasting in its present stage is fully entitled to every penny it can legitimately earn. If the Government adopt the Committee's

If the Government adopt the Committee's recommendation that certain surplus moneys go to the Exchequer, it simply means that listeners, at some figure over the million mark, will be paying their ten-shilling licence fee, not one penny of which will go to the B.B.C., but every penny of which will go into the Surplus Radio Fund. This is not good enough, and before this clause is adopted some organised effort should be made on behalf of listeners to voice a protest on behalf of the hundreds and thousands of listeners in this country who feel, and quite rightly, that when they pay ten shillings for a wireless licence that ten shillings should be (at least, in the main and with the exception of a small proportion, which rightly should go to the P.M.G. for out-of-pocket expenses in collecting licence fees, etc.) for the maintenance and improvement of British broadcasting.

#### The Question of Staff.

The recommendation that the new B.B.C. should take over the existing staff of the old B.B.C. is one that will meet with universal approval. We do not pretend to be omniscient in the matter of broadcasting, but we think that readers will agree that we' are in close touch, and perhaps in closer touch than our readers, with the personnel of the B.B.C., and we have had opportunities of observing during the last three years (and, in fact, ever since the inception of the B.B.C.) the most constant enthusiasm among the members who constitute the staff of the B.B.C. Headed by Mr. J. C. W. Reith, they have, at times, under most galling criticism and most

discouraging happenings, carried on with a fervour and with a sincerity which is deserving of the very highest praise. There is no red tape and Civil Service routine among the individual members of the B.B.C. There may be red tape and there may be routine among the B.B.C. as a whole, but a little reflection will show that that is inevitable with such an organisation, which has a multitude of multifarious duties to perform; but taken individually, both on the engineering side, on the business side, and on the programme side, it will be very difficult indeed for any new broadcasting authority in this country to gather

together such a band of devoted, intelligent and thoroughly resourceful workers. If the B.B.C. in its new form play any monkey tricks with the responsible and experienced members of the B.B.C. as it is to-day, with the result that the listening public is dissatisfied with the programmes or technique of broadcasting in the future, the responsibility and onus will lie at the door of those who may yet think that they can eliminate certain staff members of the B.B.C. and replace them by other people.

But that is an unlikely contingency, and it is hardly possible that the Government will appoint an authority which will so blindly flout the recommendations of the Committee.

There is very little more to say about the Committee's report. It is concise and very much to the point, and, in fact, gives that comfortable feeling to the reader that it has been drawn up by men who have attacked the problem chiefly from the commonsense point of view.



THIS little receiver, suitable for reception of both 5 X X and the main and relay stations, introduces a very novel method of tuning. Four coils of carefully chosen values are employed, and the method of switching is such that they can be used singly or in a greatly varying number of combinations. Any one of the coils can be used singly, or any coil can be used in series with any other coil. Further, any coil can be used in parallel with any other coil. Again, single coils can be employed in series with other pairs paralleled.

#### How Tuning is Accomplished.

Therefore total inductance values can be selected which will be suitable for any one of a range of wave-lengths from 200 or so metres up to some 1,800 or so. And all merely by operat-ing two five-point switches; no additional loading coils whatever are required. Fig. 1 shows the theoretical circuit, and it will be agreed that it is decidedly unconventional. The four coils are shown radiating from a common centre. This centre point and the four free ends of the coils are taken to the two switches. Each of the five inductance coil terminations is represented on both switches, although it is very important indeed to note that the order of the connections is varied.

The aerial and carth and detector circuit connections are taken to the centre points or moving contacts of the switches. Thus it will be seen that the coil combinations are obtained by selecting first

one coil termination on the one switch, and then another, or others, on the other switch. To bring coils in parallel the switch arm

LIST OF COMI ON LINIS.	=
1 Panel, 8 x 7 x 1 in. (Peto-Scott)	3 6≣
E Cabinet to fit (Caxton)	6 9 ≣
1 Mic-Met Crystal Detector	4 6 ≣
2 Switch Arms (good quality)	<b>2</b> 0 <u>≡</u>
10 Contact Studs	5 ≣
4 Stops	2 =
1 Set Spider-Web Coil Formers	1 3 Ξ
1 lb. 26 S.W.G. D.C.C. Wire	1 2 =
1 lb. 28 S.W.G. D.C.C. Wire	1-5
4 W.O. Type Terminals	6
= 1 Packet 16 S.W.G. "Glazite "	1.0 =
1 Piece Brass Strip, Transfers, etc.	1.0.
TATA A	THE REAL PROPERTY OF

must be made to rest on two studs at once, thus shorting two terminations. Now it will be clear why the order of switch connections is varied. As a matter of fact the wiring was carefully planned with a view to allowing as many parallel arrangements as possible, for it is these which supply the graduated intermediate values necessary for fine tuning. It is possible to short aerial to earth by placing the switches in certain positions.

#### Winding the Coils.

Rearrangements of particular combina-tions are possible, allowing the aerial or earth to be taken off at different ends. Not that such will cause great increases in signal strength, but the possessor of a "P.W." "Star" crystal set has the satisfaction of knowing that he can rearrange his inductance values or circuit connections simply by rotating switches, and thus obtain optimum efficiency with little or no trouble. The point worth particular notice is that although two combinations may be discovered which give almost identical wavelength tuning, one may include paralleled inductance and provide lower H.F. rc-sistance, which would mean slightly louder signals. But we will have more to say about the handling of the receiver after we have described its construction.

The construction is not difficult. Constructors who are rather taken aback by the apparently intricate circuit need not fear that the wiring is difficult. Everything is quite straightforward, and providing the connections are made in accordance with the wiring diagram and point-to-point check list, nothing can go wrong.

A list of materials and components required is appended. Most of the parts must be made or assembled by the constructor himself. The coils are the first consideration. For these, five spider coil formers of ordinary size are required. They should have eleven slots and centres of 14 in diameter. The 21 and 34 turn coils should be wound with 26 S.W.G. and the 65 and 150 with 28 S.W.G. (D.C.C. in both cases). Note the numbers ; these are

(Continued on next page.)



Two five-point switches provide tuning variations which cover both ordinary stations and 5 X X.



The coils are mounted in the form of a square as shown above.



very important. The formers can be cut down after the coils are wound if desired, although it doesn't matter if they are not.



Another under-panel view showing the wiring and disposition of the various parts.

-Now the 150 coil is really two coils, each of 75 turns, clamped together. These coils must be wound in opposite directions : one clockwise and one anti-clockwise, and in this way they must be mounted with their two outside ends joined together and the centre ends left for external circuit connections.

Work can then commence on the panel. A panel drilling diagram is given, although

a slight variation can be made if it is desired to employ a different type of crystal detector to that one specified. The drilling of the holes for the switch studs must be carried out very care. fully indeed, for misalignment may cause faulty action of the switch. A compass or dividers can be used to centre accurately, while fairly deep centre punch "starters" should be made be-fore drilling. See "For the Constructor" No. 8, under "Radiotorial" heading, for useful tips concerning ebonite working.

Before mounting

terminals, detector or coils, the switch arms and studs should be fixed. The four end stops should be left

until the switches are working smoothly. Remember, it is necessary to get the studs smoothed down by means of file and sand-





paper until the moving contacts ride smoothly and make contact simultaneously with any two adjacent studs. When this condition is obtained satisfactorily, the stops can be mounted.

#### The Combinations Available.

The 21-turn coil is held in position beneath the panel by bending back one of its sections, or at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. of it, piercing a hole through this and holding it with the aerial terminal, which thus serves a double purpose. Similarly the 34 coil is held by one of the 'phone terminals. Brass strips, about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $\frac{1}{2}$  in., are required for fixing the other coils. Two such strips should be cut and holes drilled at their ends. Brackets are then formed by bending these strips, as shown in the photos, nuts and screws holding the coils in the centres to the brackets, and the brackets to the panel. One of these coils is, of course, really two coils clamped tightly together. The crystal detector and remaining ter-

The crystal detector and remaining terminals can then be mounted. The wiring should be carried out with Glazite, and must be strictly in accordance with the wiring diagram. Connections to the switch arms should be made with short flexible leads, enough length being provided to allow for "play." After this the set is finished except for

After this the set is finished except for panel transfers, and nothing remains for us but to say a few more words about the tuning. We will not deal with this in detail, as we feel most constructors will enjoy the experience of experimenting with the various combinations. Anyway, any one coil may be used singly by placing either the left-hand switch on No. 5, or the right-hand switch on No. 10, and the remaining switch on any one of the other four studs—i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, or 6, 7, 8, 9. Optimum signals may result right away, but if not there are dozens of other arrangements available. To place

(Continued on page 163.)

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Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.

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SERVICE ADVERTISING

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Part 1 Contains nearly 50 photographs and the following literary features

The Magic of London by ALFRED NOYES



any one coil in series with any other one, bring one switch to any number except 5 or 10, and the other on some other number. Refer to diagram for orders of switching. A paralleled pair is obtained by placing one switch on 5 or 10 and the other on two stude simultaneously, the range being available by alternately varying the func-tions of the switches. Series-parallel com-binations are made by taking any stud on either switch, except 5 or 10, and shorting



Note in this photograph how the two 75-turn coils are mounted together forming in effect one large coil.

two studs on the other switch and alternating as before. Finally, placing switches to 5 and 10 shorts aerial to earth.

It looks all very involved and complicated



POINT-TO-POINT CONNECTIONS.

Aerial terminal to one side of crystal detector, also to first switch arm ; other side of crystal detector to one 'phone terminal.

Earth terminal to other 'phone terminal and to second switch arm.

One side of each of the four coils are joined together and taken to studs 5 and 10. Other side of 21-turn coil to studs 4 and 7.

Other side of 34-turn coil to studs 1 and 9.

Other side of 65-turn coil to studs 2 and 6. Other side of 150-turn coil to stude 2 and 8.

on paper, but actually it is a very simple procedure. Hap-hazardly twiddling the switches without any system whatever invariably brings in the local station and 5 X X with excellent strength. But it is very fascinating to work out the order of It should be revariations. membered that the effect of placing two coils in parallel is to obtain the equal to a coil slightly smaller than the smaller coil. For instance, a coil of 21 turns in parallel with one of 34 turns gives the inductance of a coil of 15 or 16 turns. When coils are in series the effect is of a coil equal in size to both coils added together, thus the 65 in series with the 150 equals a coil of about 215 turns, and so on.

But as we mentioned before, constructors need not worry too much about this if they are not interested. Signals will come in

easily enough without studying the operation of the receiver closely, and strength and purity will be all that can be desired of an efficient crystal sct.

The adaptability of the receiver is its

main feature it must be remembered. It is the sort of set that will operate well on v arying kinds of aerial. It will provide signals louder than most erystal sets in many cases, but we do not claim that it is a "loud-speaker crystal set." Excellent ranges of reception have been accomplished although here again we con-sider it polite to be reserved in our claims.

In that 5 X X is obtainable without additional switching or loading the set should be considered an attractive proposition.

We will not be surprised if many readers obtain exceptional results, in fact, we will go so far as to say we anticipate that this will eventuate.



Letters from readers discussing interesting and Letters now relater unclosing interesting and topical wireless events or recording unusual experiences are always welcomed, but it must be clearly understood that the publication of such does in no way indicate that we associate ourselves with the views expressed by our correspondents, and we cannot accept any respon-sibility for information given.—Editor.

#### MORE PRAISE FOR "CHITOS."

MORE PRAISE FOR "CHITOS." The Editor, Popular WIRELESS. Dear Sir.—I should like to add another one to the list of your readers who have thanked you for your "Chios 2." Although some little perseverance is required to tune it. I think the result is well worth the trouble, as I have been able to log the following stations: — Kiel, Brussels, Bremen, Hanover, Madrid, Man-chester, Bournemouth, Dublin, Hauburg, Newcastle, Minster, Breslau, Glasgow, Rome, Stockholm (?), Radio-Berne, Belfast, Radio-Toulouse, Stuttgart, Leipzig, P.T.T., Frankfurt, Birraingham, Munich Aberdeen, Berlin (505), Croydon, Hilversum, Königs-, wusterhausen, Daventry, and Radio-Paris. — It might interest some of your readers to know that I have put on a wave-trap which enables me to cut out 2 L O and tune in Manchester, Bournemouth, ture.

etc. My aerial is 50 ft. twin, 22 ft. high.

Thanking you once more. Yours faithfully, NORMAN E. D. GODEMARK.

### 90, Woodbine Grove, Penge, S.E.

#### MORE "UNIDYNE" RESULTS.

MORE "UNIDYNE" RESULTS. The Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS. Dear Sir,—Having read from time to time of one-valve "Unidyne" results, I thought my own might prove interesting. I find that by putting a 603 fixed condenser across the 'phones a great increase in volume and range results. I have logged all B.B.C. stations with the exception of Edinburgh, Hull, and Plymouth, and the following foreigners: Dublin, Radio-Toulouse, Hamburg, Munich, Stuttgart, Berne, Brutsels, Rome, San Sebastian, Münster, and several others whose call-signs I have not been able to understand. Most of these came in at excellent 'phone strength, particu-larly Dublin, Toulouse, Hamburg, Berne, and San Sebastian. Sebastian.

My only trouble is hand capacity effects, but I hope to eliminate this eventually. This is my first attempt at making a valve set.

### Yours faithfully, JOHN J. CARTER.

Lubenham, Market Harboro', Leicestershire.

#### THE 2-VALVE TRINADYNE,

THE 2-VALVE TRINADYNE. The Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS. Dear Sir,—As an ardent reader of POPULAR WIRE-tess, I wish to thank you for publishing such a fine set as described in your paper on December 19th, Pu25, namely "A Two-valve Trinadyne Receiver." I have been watching to see if any constructor would report on this eleruit, and not seeing any I thought, whilst listening to mine, that I must write and let you know what a splendid set this is. Being only quite a described. I cannot say I have received any foreign stations as I am quite satisfied with 2 L O. Results being both loud and clear, and the set silent in work-ing. A friend or mine, an owner of a five-valve set, says it is the finest he has heard. So the best of luck and congratulations to "P.W." and all its staff. W. H. BEAVEN.

54, Mayfield Avenue, West Ealing, W.13

#### TRANSATLANTIC TELEPHONY TESTS.

TRANSATLANTIC TELEPHONY TESTS. The Editor POPULAR WIRELESS. Dear Sir.—Re" Rugby's Chat with America" in a recent "P.W.." I should like to hear readers results. At 2 p.m. one day I plugged in the nearest coils available—e.g., 1,250 in the acrial, and 1,500 in anode of 4-valve straight 1-V-2. H.F. valve, D.E.5B, 30 volts on plate; Det. valve, D.E.5, 72 volts on plate; 1st L.F. valve, D.E.5, 102 volts on plate, G.B. 44 volts; 2nd L.F. valve, D.E.5A, 108 volts on plate, G.B. 21 volts; loud speaker, C.A.V. standard. Rugby was soon picked up, but it was quife obvious that coils were not correct, but they were the nearest at hand.

at hand.

at hand. Results: New York with above colls was almost as strong as Rugby, and it is a peculiar fact that when New York gave the name of the speaker it was clear at once, whereas Rugby was noticed to ask for the name again as they had not got it clear. One other point noted was, that of the speakers from New York, it would seem that those who speak from the throat are heard much more distinctly than those who seem to speak from the lips. Yours faithfully, C. BORKER.

C. BORNER.

207, Shortlands Road, Sittingbourne, Kent:

WIDESPREAD interest has been created in the United States by the announco-

ment there of a contest for the design of an efficient short-wave receiver, and the prizes to be distributed among the successful entrants total \$500 (over a hundred pounds). The contest, which is being sponsored by "Radio Broadcast Magazine" and the National Carbon Company (manufacturers of Eveready hatteries) under a co-operative plan, was originally scheduled to close on March 1st, 1926. Various suggestions which have been acted upon, have caused the closing date to be advanced to April 1st, by which date all competitors in the United States must have submitted a complete descriptive manuscript, etc., of the receiver they wish to enter.

The writer, by special arrangement with the officials of the contest, has been successful in having a special plan agreed upon whereby those in Europe interested in contesting, providing they are POPULAR WIRFLESS readers, are granted special privileges as regards the closing date. This plan is as follows : POPULAR WIRELESS readers' sets will be considered providing they are shipped from Europe on or before April 1st. Intending competitors are required to fill up the accompanying coupon and send it to the headquarters of the contest immediately, so that it will reach the offices of "Radio Broadcast Magazine" by April 1st. The coupon is merely an intimation that the signatory will submit for consideration a short-wave receiver of the required specifications on or before April 1st-that is, to leave Europe on or before April 1st.

#### Salient Features.

Steps will be taken at the American end to smooth out any possible difficulty with the Customs when the receivers arrive at New York, and no delay is anticipated in this respect. It is felt by the judges that by making the competition one of international aspect, its value will be considerably enhanced, and competition will naturally be much more keen than if it was merely a national affair.

"One of the interesting things which the contest has brought forward is the fact that up to this time there has been little or no novelty in the design and construction of short-wave receivers," says Edgar H. Felix, who is one of the judges. "The conventional types have given satisfactory results and, consequently, prior to this contest, the stimulation to designing better receivers has been lacking.

"According to present indications, among the contenders for the prize money will be super-heterodynes, regenerative neutro-dynes, and even the much-neglected superregenerative receiver. Certainly something worth while should be brought forward. In practice, however (this applies to America), Reinartz receivers are being used almost to the exclusion of other types. Attention is called to the basis of points upon which the prize is to be awarded. Contestants should observe that a paramount requirement is that the receiver shall be adapted by its design and construction to practical amateur relaying. The only circuit limita-tion imposed is that radiation be reduced to a minimum. Otherwise, any type of receiver which will function with the utmost sensitiveness, stability and reliability is eligible for-consideration.

"Hence, study the receiver which you



submit from the standpoint of every factor contributing to the schedule of points. If it is weak in any particular respect, give the matter careful study. With these high frequencies, a slight change in the position of a coil, the substitution of a capacity or resistance of a different value, or, in fact, any minor adjustment may make a marked difference in performance."

#### D.X. Telephony Reception.

Interest in short-wave reception seems to have advanced exceedingly rapidly in England and other European countries during the last year or so, and the judges in the competition fully expect to have a hard job in deciding whether to award the first prize to a European or an American made set. A year or so ago, perhaps, the European would not have been considered as a serious competitor, but now the reverse is the case. Short-wave DX feats are just as common in England, for example, as they are in the States-probably more so. Such notable feats as those of Mr. Gerald Marcuse and Mr. Simmonds, to mention only two offhand, are envied by quite a few "hams" in America. The writer has had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Marcuse talking to a Newfoundland amateur on phone. In this instance, I listened to Mr. Marcuse's cheery voice, probably seeming to the listener twice as cheery as it really was (if that were possible), for it was a voice from "Blighty," from a point located on Long Island about twenty-five miles out of New York City. Audibility was about R2-fluctuating.

#### How Marks Are Awarded.

To get back to the issue in hand, though. As mentioned above, all sets entered in the short-wave competition must be shipped from Europe to bear a postmark of not later than April 1st. This should give intending competitors about ten days from the time this announcement appears to get the sets they wish to enter into shape. All sets submitted will, of course, be returned prepaid. The writer will be responsible for this. The necessity for careful packing cannot be over-emphasised. Remember. your sets will have to travel nearly three thousand miles over, perhaps, the roughest of seas. Another point. Note that one of the stipulations is that all receivers must be constructed with standard parts. In this instance, the writer would suggest that valve holders capable of taking American valves should be used. I have seen such valve holders, of the low-loss type, adver-tised in POPULAR WIRELESS. The actual receptacles for the valve legs are mounted

on the end of short springs, if I remem	bet
correctly, and are therefore adaptable	to
any four-prong valves. The basis of point	nts
in the contest is as follows:	
Workmanship	15
Simplicity of handling	20
Ease of calibration	
Freedom from hand capacity	
Independence of tuning and re-	
generation	
Low cost	10
Use of standard or easily constructed	
parts	5
Performance	25
Overall amplification of signals	
Use in relaying	
Ability to use break-in	
Ability to cover all amateur bands	
Appearance	15
Method of avoiding radiation	10

Total .. 100 Much comment has resulted from the insistence on the non- radiating feature. Certainly, the sponsors are awarc that there are differences between continuous-wave recep-tion and broadcast reception. The enjoyment of a broadcast entertainment can be completely ruined by a nearby radiating receiver, but continuous-wave reception is not necessarily impossible within range of a radiating receiver. Continuous-wave reception is not the only thing to consider, however. Short waves are also used for rebroadcasting purposes in America, and for supplying programmes to broadcasting stations from remote points. A few hundred radiating receivers on short wave-lengths, used for rebroadcasting purposes, would be sufficient to make these short-wave radio telephone links practically inoperative.

#### THE CONTEST.

THE CONTEST. Object.—The object of this contest is to aid in the development of improved short-wave receiving appartus, so that the possibilities of higher ire-uencies may be more effectively studied. — RIZES.—First prize, \$250; Second prize, \$150; Third prize, \$100. Only one prize to a contestant — ELIGIBUITY.—Anyone interested in short-wave re-ception is eligible to compete, though no prizes will be given to manufacturers making short-wave re-ceivers or parts therefor. — CONDITIONS.—Each contestant must submit a complete receiver, which receiver should be adapted to the entire short-wave band from 8,566 to 1,909 kc, although this may be accomplished by interchange

to the entire short-wave band from 8.566 to 1,099 kc, although this may be accomplished by interchange-able coils. Arrangements have been made whereby the win-ning receiver, whether European, American, or Aus-tralian, etc., will be fully described in POPULAR WIRELESS. The decision to choose POPULAR WIRE-ESS to co-operate in announcing this contest was arrived at as a result of the whole-hearted and enthu-siastic support that this magazine has given to matters pertaining to short-wave advancement. It is felt that the excellent short-wave articles which appear in these pages from time to time are doing more than anything else in European countries to encourage the embryonic short-wave enthusiast. The borrowed slogan, "Eventually, Why Not Now?" seems especially befitting the policy of the magazine. Now, then. POPULAR WIRELESS readers, look to your laurels! It is not necessary to submit a constructional article with the set. A covering letter giving a few details of its circuits, capabilities, etc., and the full mame and address of the competitor is all that is required.

THE S.W. CONTEST COUPON
the Radio Broadcast Eveready Short-wave
contest. I will submit my set before April
1st, on the understanding that it will be re-
turned. I am a POPULAR WIRELESS reader.
Nam
NAME
ADDRESS
To Keith Henney,
Director, Radio Broadcast Laboratories,
Garden City, Long Island,
New York, U.S.A.

### The True Straight Line | Tigures to Remember Frequency Variable Condenser

### is the **IGRANIC** PACENT

A high-grade variable condenser with low-loss characteristics, a true straight line frequency curve and negligible minimum capacity, Fixed and moving plates are

of brass, riveted together and soldered, ensuring permanent alignment and sound electrical connection Rigid channel-shaped framework in continuous electrical connection with

Night channel-shaped transwork in continuous electrical connection with moving plates prevents hand-capacity effects. Only two small pieces of highest quality insulating material are used, so arranged that the absorption losses are negligible. Dust-proof bearings result in smooth, silky movement. Positive stops at minimum and maximum are contained within the bearing. Single or three-hole fixing is provided for. Two condensers can be mounted to form a dual with single of the store. dual with single dial control.

PRICES: '00035 mfd. - 14/6 '0005 mfd. - 18/6 All reputable dealers stock them. Write for List P 60.



Makers of the famous LOTUS Coil Holder.



### The Sweep

He went about with his long-handled brushes crying "Sweep, Sweep!" and he made all the difference to your fire. SIX SIXTY VALVES make all the difference to your set; they hold a potential store of volume at your bidding, while they ensure perfect quality of tone. The secret of this wonderful difference is to be found in the extensive research and perfect workmanship expended on each particular valve.

Not only has this research been the means of ensuring a wonderful purity of tone and increased power, but due to our success in increased power, but due to our success in considerably reducing filament temperatures, the life of 660 Valves has been immeasurably increased. Every valve of our new range is specially designed to carry out its particular job; they are all stamped with the Six Sixty mark of PERFECTION OF QUALITY.

If you want a general purpose valve you have the S.S.I. This valve can be used in any position in a set, either as Detector, H.F. Amplifier or L.F. Amplifier—a useful valve as a spare. Although a bright valve, its current consumption is only '66 amps, a figure which compares very favourably with the average Bright emitter today. Bright emitter to-day.

For Dull Emitters you have the rest of the Six Sixty range to choose from. The S.S.4 is a power amplifier designed to operate the largest types of Loud Speakers, giving remarkably pure reproduction.

S.S.1 Bright Emitter General Purpose Valve.

Voltage - · 3'7 volts. Consumption '66 amps.

PRICE 8/-

Ask your Dealer for Leaflet S.S.1.7 for full particulars of complete range

BETTER BY



·SIX

SIX TIMES

The Electron Co., Ltd., Triumph House, 189. Regent Street, London, W.1.

165

Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1928.

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How long do *your* accumulators last? Would you like to get twice or thrice the life out of them? By using the new all British Lustrolux Valves—you can have a 2-valve set using '12 amps. only, or a 3-valve set consuming '46 amps for leud-speaker results. The Lustrolux Economical Combination consists of 2 volt '06 amp. H.F. and L.F. with 2 volt '34 amps. P.V., and is the most economical set of valves for any circuit.

If your accumulator is 4 or 6 volt then parallel it up and get the full benefit of each charge. You should have no voltage loss on resistances or rheostats and the quality of your reception will be purer and clearer.



The H.F. is noted for its selectivity and long range, and the L.F. for its volume of clear and distortionless reproduction.

Lustrolux Valves are the product of deep and keen research. Highly efficient organisation and scientific methods of manufacture enable us to market these Valves at the low prices shown.



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### The Topical Illustrated Sports Weekly

ALL SPORTS is the paper for all who love sport for sport's sake or for those who specialise in Boxing, Football, Tennis, Racing, Hockey, etc.

Readers of ALL SPORTS always have the very latest inside information on every movement in the realm of sport, for the articles are always up-to-date and written by the biggest authorities.

Those who like sporting fiction will find an instalment every week of a dramatic story by a well-known writer. Buy a copy of this fine paper TO-DAY. Ask for—



### Build the "Resistapure described in this issue.

#### described in this issue.

**I** F you decide to build the excellent "Resistapure" Loud Speaker set described in this issue, it is not necessary to get the parts from several shops or manufacturers. You can get them all from us ready to mount on the panel—and if required the panel can also be supplied ready drilled and engraved. Take advantage of this service to-day.

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			List o	f Parts			
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HAVE been so repeatedly asked by my radio friends, both amateur and pro-

fessional, "Please show me how to splice this!" that I have decided to write a short article on the subject. The simple knots and splices described here have been tested on shipboard from time immemorial, and readers may be sure, that if these directions are followed, the result will be a



knot or splice that will last as long as the rope, and one that will never slip, and let you —and the aerial—down.

Most rope is made up of three strands, usually right-handed, therefore I will confine my remarks to that particular kind.

#### How To Splice.

About the most useful splice for staying masts, and for insulators and spreaders, is the eye-splice. Push the rope through



the insulator, or round the thimble, as the case may be, and unlay the end for about three inches, placing the end you have unlayed across the standing part, at the distance you require as in Fig. 1. Choose the middle strand, and tuck it

Choose the middle strand, and tuck it under the strand in the standing part that it is nearest to, and tack against the lay, that is to the left, and pull tight. Do the same with the left-hand strand, being careful to avoid getting under the same strand as the first one. The right-hand strand calls for the same procedure, thus completing the first 10w of tucks. To check



the accuracy of your work, no two strands should come out in the same place.

For the second row, tuck each strand over the one next to it, and under the following one; in other words, over one and under one, always against the lay of the rope. Do this with all three strands, and again verify your work as before. Two rows of tucks are ample, so cut off the loose ends, and the job is finished.

It often happens that a guy carries away, and it is required to join the ends together again. The short-splice is the one to use in this case, and is very simple. First, cut off about six inches on either side of the break to get rid of the weak parts. Open out the strands on each end for about three inches, and clutch the two sets of strands together, just as you interlace the fingers of one hand with the fingers of the other (Fig. 2.) Then start to tuck, taking each strand over the one next to it, and under the following one. Work one side of the joint first, before starting on the other side (Fig. 3). Two tucks each side are sufficient, then cut off the loose ends.

If your mast is tapered, a simple method of fixing the top ends is by means of a cut splice. Take the two lengths of rope you have for the side guys, and lay the ends parallel to each other (Fig. 4). Measure your mast where the guys are to fit, and make a splice that size by simply splicing the strands of each end into the standing part, in exactly the same way as making the eye splice. The result should look like Fig. 5, and it can be slipped over the top of the mast, when it will fall into the required position.

#### Some Useful Knots.

If your halliards have carried away, and you wish to make a splice that will travel through the pulley at the top of the mast, the long splice will meet your requirements.

First, cut away about six inches from either side of the broken portion to get rid of the weak part. Unlay each end for about six inches, and clutch them together as described for the short splice. Then select any one strand and commence to unlay it back along its own part, filling up the gap by laying in the strand from the opposite side that is nearest to it. Do the same with the remaining strands till you only have two left. Knot these two together with a single overhand knot, and tuck each strand once through the standing part. Tuck the other loose ends the same way (Fig. 6), and cut off short.

If you are in a hurry and haven't time to splice your rope, use a good knot. The bowline can take the place of the eyesplice, and is made like this. Take a fairly long end of rope and make a loop, holding same in your left hand (Fig. 7). Take the end in your right hand and pass it up through the loop, round the back of the standing part, and down through the loop again.

I think the most simple of all knots is two half-hitches (Fig. 8). Pass the end of the rope round the thing you want to secure, and



bring it up and over the standing part and through its own loop from the back; repeat the process and the knot is complete.

To have a lot of fag-ends of rope fraying away is most untidy and not economical, so here is a method of curing it. Open out



the ends for about four inches, then bend the middle strand over towards you. Cross the left-hand strand in front of it, then push the right-hand one through the little loop formed by the middle strand. Pull all strands well tight, then tuck each strand under one and over one strand in the standing part, just the same as in previous splicing, against the lay. Two tucks are sufficient, then cut off short (Fig. 9).



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Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.



### Compensating a poor aerial

EFFICIENCY is very necessary for good reception, whether this be of local or distant stations. With a small unscreened aerial much excellent reception can be obtained with a good circuit.

A good circuit, however, is as much dependent upon reliable components of efficient design as upon its arrangement being suitably sensitive and controllable. Given an efficient circuit—build it with the best that money can buy —in the case of variable tuning condensers insist upon J.B. The N.P.L. measure the losses of the J.B. 0005 mid. to be '02 ohms at a million cycles. This is one little fact which designates J.B. Variable Coudensers to be without peer. OBTAIN FROM

YOUR DEALER!



### **CAXTON 4-VALVE CABINET**

Made for Editor of Wireless Magazine for Set "As good as money can buy" described in issue February, 1925.



**Cash with Order.** Fumed Oak ... £1 5 0 or Real Mahogany polished ... £1 14 0 With detachable recess fitted Base Board to mount 21 in. by 7 in. panel to slide out of Cabinet front. Extra 10/- with two beaded front doors totally enclosing fitted panel. Cabinet overall length 223 ins. Width 83 ins. Height 9 ins. Polished with the new enamel that gives a glass hard surface that cannot be soiled or scratched. SENT FREE.—Catalogue of standard Wireless Cabinets in various sizes and woods. Special Cabinets made to customer's orders. PACKED AND DELIVERED FREE IN U.K.

**CAXTON WOOD TURNERY CO., Market Harborough** 

### "Nothing to do but put the phones on-"

Every time you take up the 'phones, if you have a Neutron Permanent Detector, you receive the fullest possible volume of Broadcast, without any tiresome manipulation of catswhisker. No "searching" for sensitive spots; no BREAK in the programme.

Every Neutron Permanent Detector is tested on actual broadcast, at 130 miles from Daventry. The crystals consist of arsinite in contact with telluride of silver, prepared under the direction of Professor Vautin—and every Detector is fully guaranteed.



Permanent Detector Patent No. 454814. Sold by Radio Dealers everywhere.

> Neutron Magnum Permanent Detector. Massive and handsome in appearancefine finish, ebonite, 5/6

Neutron Standard Permanent Detector. Fits standard Clips. 4/6

In case of difficulty, sent post free for price, on request to Neutron Ltd., Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

NEUTRON

Neutron Pantector Permanent Detector, for panel mounting. Fixed on panel by a 3/6

	Nature of Transmission	Norws, News, News, News, News, Concert, News, Concert, Concert, Concert, Concert, Concert, Concert, News, Talk, Esperant Latine, Concert, News, Concert, News, Lecture, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Restar, Concert, News, Plack, Concert, News, Plack, Concert, News, Plack, Concert, News, Plack, Concert, News, Restar, Concert, News, Plack, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Plack, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Bourse, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Concert, News, Esperanto, Lecture, Concert, News,	on page 178.)
rom page 108.)	Days of the Week	Weekdays. Sat. Weekdays. Sat. Sat. Sunday Tues, Thurs. Sat. Sunday Tues, Weekdays Sunday Weekdays See Notes) Duily Weekdays Sunday Sund	Continued
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Ask always for CLAYTON - the no-trouble Ebonite.



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### WARNING

Use of Patents in the Home Construction of Broadcast Apparatus

MABCONI'S Wireless Telegraph Company, Ltd., of Marconi House, Strand, W.C.2, published in this paper, during December a notice concerning the unauthorised disposal of broadcast receivers by amateurs and others. From correspondence subsequently received it is clear that a large section of the public is under the im-pression that the Company has given the free use of its patents to all home constructors, and therefore it is desirable that this misunderstanding should be rectified.

AS far back as 1922 the Marconi Company placed at the disposal of the bona-fide experimenter or amateur the use of their patents. Whilst the Company has no intention of withdrawing this, they cannot consider persons who make up receivers at home merely for the purpose of obtaining amusement from the broadcast programmes as "experimenters," and therefore the concession referred to above is not applicable to them.

IT is clear that any other attitude on the part of the Company would be tantamount to converting the royalty into an unfair penalty imposed upon the manufacturer, who has not only to pay royalties, but also to bear the cost of heavy overhead manufacturing charges.

THE Company, not only for the protection of the legitimate trader, but also to safeguard their own interests, wish to make it known therefore that, while they have no desire to influence the public as to whether a set shall he bought complete or constructed at home, royalties are payable in either case. The Company also desire to give notice of their firm intention to take such action as may be necessary to uphold their patent rights.





Traders and manufacturers are invited to submit wireless sets and component parts to the "P.W." Technical Dept. for test. All tests are carried out with strict impartiality in the "P.W." Test Room under the supervision of the Technical Editor, and the general reader is asked to note that this weekly article is also intended to provide a reliable and unbiased guide as to what to buy and what to avoid.—EDITOR.

MESSRS. CLEARTRON RADIO LTD., of 1, Charing Cross, London, recently sent us a range of Cleartron valves

sent us a range of Cleartron valves for test. The following types were included : C.T.25, fil. volts 5, fil. amps. .25, impedance 10,000 ohms; C.T.25B, fil. volts 5, fil amps. .25, impedance 20,000 ohms; C.T.08, fil. volts 3, fil. amps. .08, impedance 18,000 ohms; C.T.15, fil. volts 1.8, fil. amps. .15, impedance 18,000 ohms.

The whole range is stated to be suitable for general purposes work, the C.T.25B being specified for resistance-coupled amplifiers in addition.

We first of all took a number of C.T.15's (1.8 volts) and tried them in a super het. (9 valves, H.F., det., oscillator, three intermediates, 2nd det., 2 L.F.). In all positions the little Cleartrons gave very good results. It was, of course, a gruelling test for unspecialised valves, and, all things being equal, a similar performance we have seldom seen. In straight detector positions with 60 volts or so H.T., excellent results were obtained. They functioned splendidly in H.F. stages with somewhat lower anode voltages and equally well in first L.F. positions with about 90 volts H.T. In a second L.F. transformer-coupled stage with  $7\frac{1}{2}$  volts grid bias and 108 volts H.T., a C.T.15 operated with the "punch" and freedom from wave distortion of a smallpower valve.

The C.T.08's worked well with dry cells, and gave very similar results to those provided by the C.T.15's, which was only to be expected in view of the fact that their characteristics are almost identical.

The 25's are perhaps the leaders of the Cleartron range; at least, that is our opinion.

They are robust, energetic, and speak for themselves in no uncertain tones. The C.T.25 is a power valve which acts efficiently in all other positions. It is by no means unique in this respect, but, nevertheless, such adaptability is none the less commendable. Few valves have the impedance and emission values of the C.T.25, and, while its characteristics render it theoretically more suitable for det. and subsequent positions, we were surprised to discover that it "H.F.'d" well. The C.T.25B proved to be a very good super-het. valve, operating very well indeed in the inter-mediates. It showed a most commendable aptitude for H.F. work, and in the detector stage of a straight circuit it gives every satisfaction. Cleartron valves can certainly be recommended to the attention of our readers, who, at the price of 12s. 6d. each for



That this letter was safely de ivered and with but little delay instances the fame of the Igranic people. (Continued on page 174.)





5

THE H.T.C. ELECTRICAL CO., LTD., 2, Boundaries Road, BALHAM, S.W.12. Telephone : BATTERSEA 374. 



FLUXITE LTD. (Dept. 324), West Lane Works, Rotherhithe, S.E.16;



have no doubt but that it will prove quite

satisfactory in operation, for the principles

involved arc eminently sound, while R.I.

products invariably conform to a very high

standard both mechanically and electrically.

We append a table prepared by Messra. Radio Instruments, Ltd., in which details

of the ratio combinations possible with the new transformer are given. Its "elas-ticity," it will be agreed, is extraordinary

in view of the fact that only two extra

terminals are introduced. The price is attractive, too, being only 2s. 6d. higher

APPROXIMATE IMPEDANCE OF

POWER VALVES.

3,000-14,000

APPROXIMATE IMPEDANCE OF

GENERAL PURPOSE VALVES,

30,000-60,000

than the standard model that is 27s. 6d.



the C.T.15 and C.T.08, and 15s. each for the C.T.25 and C.T.25B, should discover in them an attractive proposition.

The advertisement concerning the Ormond Ball-Bearing Friction control condenser, which appeared on page 25 of our Feb. 27th issue, contained an unfortunate error. The ratio quoted was 15-1. and this should have read "Ideal Ratio 55-1."

Messrs. Radio Instruments, Ltd., have produced an L.F. transformer of exceptionally novel design. In shape it does not greatly differ from standard types, but it is provided with six terminals instead of the usual four. The additional two represent tappings, one from the primary and one from the secondary winding. By means of these it is possible to obtain seven different ratios varying from 1-1 to 9-1, and a number of primary impedances is made available which covers the astonishingly wide range of from 7,000 to 60,000 ohms.

Thus the transformer is adaptable to practically any L.F. purpose, and in L.F. amplifier circuits its connections can be varied until optimum efficiency is obtained. At last it is possible, in fact, for the amateur to experiment with impedances while a set is in operation, noting by results the increase in amplification and purity when the correct combination is discovered. The new R I. "Multi-Ratio," as it is

called, is shrouded, and the casing is coloured a bright blue, thereby making the instrument very distinctive, although it must not be imagined that it is garish.

According to the makers the primary is wound with approximately 50 % more turns than the standard model, while the number of turns on the secondary has been increased, but not in the same propor-The famous sectionalised winding, tion. which is responsible for the low self-capacity

of the R.I. transformer, has been retained. The six terminals are plainly marked P 0, P 1, P 2, S 0, S 1, S 2. Connections

to P0 and P2. and S 0 and S2 bring the total number of turns on both sides into service. P1 and S1 represent tapping points.

We have not tested · this new R.I. component thoroughly yet, but it is being included ina "P.W." receiver shortly to be described, and full particulars concerning results obtained will then be given. We



Ratio	Termi P	nalş S	Suggested Position in L.F. Amp'r.	Approx. Primary Impedance in Ohms.
11	P 0P 2	S 0—S 1	Telephones or loud speaker	60,000
<u>ł</u> —1	P 1-P 2	S0-S1	1st or 2nd	28,000
2-1	P 0-P 2	S1-82	1st or 2nd	60.000
1	P0-P1	80-81	2nd or 3rd	7,000
3-1	P1-P2	S1-S2	1st or 2nd	* 28,000
	P0P2	S0S2	lst	60,000
<u>}</u> −1	P 1-P 2	S0-S2	1st or 2nd	28,000
6-1	P0P1	\$1-82	2nd or 3rd	7.000
0-1	P0P1	80-82	2nd or 3rd	7.000

An artistic showcard issued by the makers of The Ashton Aerial Spreaders. Perfect

From your Dealer

3/-

#### Make no mistake with Your RADIO COMPONENTS The BEST will always be found CHEAPEST.

Our Ebonite is of the highest possible grade and is used by all the leading experimentalists, having stood the test of time. Ordinary finish, 4/6 per lb. Sandblasted matt surface, 5/- per lb. Any size cut while you wait. ۲

We have a full range of all makes of High Tension Accumulators now in stock. 0

High Class solid Mahogany and Oak American Type Cabinets with sliding base boards from 10/- each.

0 A full range of the best components from the world's markets always in stock.

Telegrams : "Titles, Westrand, London,"

Send 6d. for the World's Finest Radio Catalogue (Callers Free), second edition ready shortly; or call and see our great Shop Window Display. (Mention this paper.)

WILL DAY, LTD., 19, Lisle St., Leicester Sq., London, W.C.2

Telephone : Regent 4577.

0

Shake it as you will cannot lose vou the loudest spot.

The "Permatector" has been built to fit instantly any model "Brownie Wireless" Receiver, but brackets, screws, and nuts are provided in each box to al-low it to be fitted to any other crystal set in a very few hinutes. The outer case is turned out of solid brass rod, and heavily nickel-plated—the finished pro-duct being a handsome addition to any receiver. And lastly, it is sold athe moderate price of <u>B</u>/e complete. 3/- complete.

If your Dealer is out of stock, send direct.

This new product of the Brownie Wireless Co.--the "Permatector"---gives extraordinarily voluminous reproduction. That's one point in its favour, but more important still, it is exceptionally stable—a fact you can easily prove yourself. Set it to give the loudest signals, then shake the receiver vigorously. Reception is entirely unaffected. The secret lies in the unique spring construction and the use of two rectifying minerals discovered in the course of many experiments. Every crystal is especially selected and tested, and is unconditionally guaranteed to give perfect results.

For trouble-free crystal reception, use

THE "PERMATECTOR"

-the ever-set crystal detector.

Built by the makers of the famous "Brownie Wireless" Crystal Receivers:

THE BROWNIE WIRELESS CO. (of Great Britain), LTD. (Incorporating the J.W.B. Wireless Co.), 310a-312a, EUSTON RD., LONDON, N.W.I. 'Phone: Museum 3747.

UNAFFECTED BY VIBRATION.

#### Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.

THE BRITISH EBONITE CO., Ltd., HANWELL, LONBON, W.7



'Phone: City 7261

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

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Assistant Technical Editors : K. D. ROGERS. P. R. BIRD.

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The Editor will be pleased to consider articles and pholographs dealing with all subjects appertaining to virteless work. The Editor cannot accept responsibility for manuscripts and pholos. Every care, will be taken to return, MSS, not. accepted for publication. A stamped and addressed envelope must be sent with every article. All contributions to be addressed to The Editor, The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.A. All inquiries concerning advertising rates, etc., to be addressed to the Sole Agents, Messra. John H. Lile, Ltd., 4; Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.4.

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 annetur and the trader would be well advised to obtain permission of the patentces to use the patents before doing so.

PATENT ADVICE FOR READERS. The Editor will be very pleased to recommend readers of POPULAR WIRELESS who have any wireless invention to patent, or volo desire adrice on patent questions, to our patent agent. Letters dealing with patent questions, if sent to the Editor, will be forwarded to our oven patent advisers, where every facility and help will be afforded to readers.

TECHNICAL QUERIES. Letters should be addressed to : Technical Query Dept., "Popular Wireless," The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4. They should be written on one side of the paper only, and MUST be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Queries should be asked in the form of the numbered questions : (1), (2), (3), etc., but may be accompanied by a short letter giving any necessary additional particulars as briefly as possible.

For every question asked a fee of 6d, should be enclosed. A copy of the numbered questions should be kept, so that the replies may be given under the numbers. (It is not possible to reproduce the question in the answer.)

IMPORTANT.--If a panel lay-out or list of pointto-point connections is required, an additional fee of 1/-must be enclosed. For wiring diagrams see page 178.

Wiring diagrams of commercial apparatus. such as sets of any particular manufacture, etc., cannot be supplied. (Such particulars can only be obtained from the makers.)

Readers may submit their own diagrams, etc., for correction or for criticism. The fee is 1/- per diagram, and these should be large, and as clear as possible. No questions can be answered by 'phone. Remittances should be in the form of Postal Orders.



#### SWITCHING AN H.F. VALVE.

A. A. F. (Atherstone, Warwickshire). How can I insert a switch in my two-valve set to cut out the H.F. valve when not required? What type of switch should be employed ?

A single pole double-throw switch can be utilised for this. The connections are as follows: Break the connection between grid condensor and plate of  $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{F}}$ , valve and connect this skie of grid condenser to the centre of the switch. Connect plate of  $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{F}}$ , valve to one side of switch and aerial to the remnining switch contact. This switch makes no provision for cutting off the L.T. supply, but most rheostats have an "off position," making this unnecessary. (The leads to the reaction coil must be reversed when the  $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{F}}$ , valve is switched over.)

(Continued on page 178.)

but if you experience difficulty in securing supplies write direct to us giving dealer's name

PARAGON RUBBER MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd.

SCULCOATES, HULL.



ILLUSTRATED { Giving full particulars of all the GATALOGUE { 7 "EKCO" H.T. UNIT MODELS, from 35/- } FREE ! Trade Enquiries nuited.

COLE (Dept. A). 505, London Road, K. WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

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Popular Wireless and Wireless Review, March 20th, 1926.



Every wireless amateur and every wireless constructor will find these "POPULAR WIRELESS" Blue Prints absolutely reliable. They have been most accurately drawn, and every circuit has been tested under normal broadcasting conditions by the technical staff of "Popular Wireless." It will be seen from the complete list given below that the series covers a very wide field. The veriest tyro will find each print most straightforward to follow and the receivers most easy to construct.

#### P.W. BLUE PRINT

- Number 1. DETECTOR VALVE WITH REACTION. UNIDYNE DETECTOR VALVE WITH REACTION.
- 1-VALVE L.F. AMPLIFIER. CRYSTAL DETECTOR WITH L.F.AMPLIFIER. 3.
- 4
- 5.
- H.F. (Tuned Anode) AND CRYSTAL, WITH REACTION. H.F. AND CRYSTAL. (Transformer Coupled, Without 6.
- Reaction). 7. 1-VALVE REFLEX WITH CRYSTAL DETECTOR
- (Tuned Anode). 1-VALVE REFLEX AND CRYSTAL DETECTOR (Em-8.
- ploying H.F. Transformer, without Reaction). H.F. AND DETECTOR (Tuned Anode Coupling, with 9.
- Reaction on Anode). 10. H.F. AND DETECTOR. (Transformer Coupled, with
- Reaction). 11. DETECTOR AND L.F. (With Switch to Cut Out L.F.
- Valve). 12. DETECTOR AND L.F. UNIDYNE (With Switch to Cut
- Out L.F. Valve). 2-VALVE REFLEX (Employing Valve Detector).
- 13.
- 2-VALVE L.F. AMPLIFIER (Transformer coupled with Switch to Cut Out Last Valve).
   2-VALVE L.F. AMPLIFIER (Transformer-Resistance Coupled with Switch for Cutting Out Last Valve).
- 16. H.F. (Tuned Anode), CRYSTAL DETECTOR AND L.F. (with Switch for Last Valve). 17. CRYSTAL DETECTOR WITH TWO L.F. AMPLIFIERS
- (with Switching).
- 18. 1-VALVE REFLEX AND CRYSTAL DETECTOR, with 1-VALVE L.F. AMPLIFIER, Controlled by Switch. 19. H.F. DETECTOR AND L.F. (with Switch to Cut Out
- the Last Valve.)
- 20. DETECTOR AND 2 L.F. AMPLIFIERS (with Switches for 1, 2 or 3 Valves).

#### ALL "POPULAR WIRELESS" BLUE PRINTS 6d. EACH

All orders for these Blue Prints should be sent direct to the "Popular Wireless "Queries Department, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, E.C.4. enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and a postal order for 6d. for each Blue Print Ordered.



So carefully are Bowyer-Lowe H.F. Transformers matched and tested 'at our works that you may buy any two at random and use them with perfect confidence for two stages of H.F. Amplification.

TWO TYPES :

Two-way ... 7'-Three-way ... 10'6 For inside baseboard mounting, with 6 in?

handle:

Two-way ... 8/-Three-way .. 12/6

outside panel mounting:

0

()

Do away with that irritating, time wasting fading away of volume caused by the falling of your

For

So well are these Transformers made that every one you buy is guaranteed up to the hilt for twelve months after purchase. it fails it will be exchanged without charge. In spite of their superiority these Transformers cost less than most. Ranges are made covering all wave-lengths from 150 to 2,000 metres and up, as well as a special Neutrodyne Unit. All are sold at uniform price of 7/-.



Ask for them by name and see that you get them.



Good dealers stock them, or you may order direct from The Bowyer-Lowe Co. Ltd., Letchworth.

177

The Moving Block

Cannot fall back





31, Waterhouse Street, HALIFAX. Trade Supplied Telephone : 1301.

#### RADIOTORIAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

(Continued from page 176.)

#### FADING.

"FADEAWAY" (Solihull, Birmingham).----Why do the signals fade away very often? Sometimes when I am receiving well the sounds slowly die away, and at other times they will fade away fairly quickly but come back again. Is this all due to what is known as fading? And, if so, what causes it ?

There is a scientific phenomenon known as "fading" which affects long-distance signals, but all "fadingaway" effects are not due to this cause. An effect like fading is often produced by a run-down battery. This is particularly the case when a large dry battery is used for lighting duil-emitter valves. When the battery is nearly exhausted it will sometimes become irregular in its action, the voltage falling away almost entirely and then picking up spasmodically nearly to its full value.

It is possible for a fading effect to be produced by the intermittent energising of a near-by aerial. Somebody living not very far away may own a valve set, and may have his first H.F. valve on the point of oscillating, so that when he adjusts any of his tuning (Continued on next page.)

#### 

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

REVISION OF CHARGES FOR TECHNICAL QUERIES.

The following important reductions and alterations have been made in the charges for diagrams, specially drawn up by the Query Department, and come into force immediately.

DIAGRAM.	CHAR	GE.	
	8.	d.	
Crystal Sets	0	6	
One-Valve Sets	0	G	
One-Valve and Crystal (Reflex)	1 1	0	
Two-Valve and Crystal (Reflex	) 1	0	
Two-Velve Sets	. ī	Ō	
Three-Valve Sets	1	Ö	
Three-Valve and Crystal Reflex	1	6	
Four-Valve Sets	1 ī	6	
Multi-Valve Sets (straight circu	it) 1	ő	
EXCEPT			
SUPER-HETERODYNE DIAGE	2MAS		
all of which irrespective of numb	or		
of Valves used are	0	0	
or varies ascu, are	· 40	0	
Anert from diagrams enosial	and a		
in " D W " icanas a carias	e tro	will afm	
up, r.w. issues a series o	T PMG	ary	

up, "P,W," issues a series of twenty Sixpenny Blue Prints, which are obtainable from the Queries Department. A full list of the circuits covered appears fortnightly in POPULAR WIRELESS.

#### THE "POPULAR WIRELESS" CONTINENTAL BROADCASTING TIME-TABLE (continued from page 170).

		Wave-	Frequency	1	
tansmiss n	Station and Call Sign	length in	kilo-	Days of the Week	Nature of Trans-
Marts Luus	otterion that out ough	motros	evelos	Days of the filter	mission
.m.T. G.M.J.		Inclus	C, 10105		
0.15 21.15	Radio-Geneva	760	394	Weekdays	Conc., Dance., News
					(A.T.S.).
0 15 21 00	Dresden	204	1020	Wed (almost daily) -	Tall: and Nows
0 20 21 00	DTT*	459	055	Wodpoedury	Poll-
0.00 20.00	Talala' an an an an	900	1000	weunesuay	Lain.
0.30 22.00	Dortmund*	233	1000	Saturday	Opera.
20.30 22.00	Munster	410	731	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ]	Polarting Destances d
20.30 22.00	Eberfeldt	240	1249		rearly mg Doluming
20 30 21 00	Frankfurt-on-Main	470	638	Weekdays	News Talk Sport
0 20 21 00	Dadia Daria	1750	171 9	Saturday	Concost
0.00 21.00	Tigel Terrer (TT)	1100	1004	Saturday	concert.
0.30 21.00	Einel-Tower (F L)	2/40	109.4	Suuday	C 19
20.30 20.45	Radio-Toulouse	441&180	680		Sports, News.
			1666.6		
20.30 21.30	Radio-Lyon	280	1071	Daily	Orchestra :
20 30 21 30	Radio-Belgiane	262	1106.8	Sunday	Concert
00 90 99 00	Camping Dadio	105	1590	Mon Thum Cot	concert.
0.30 44.00	Serang-Madio	190	1999	Mon., Inurs., Sat.	and 33 1.5 and
20.30 20.40	Kome (1 K U)	425	700	Weekdays	Weather, News.
20.30 22.09	Copenhagen*	340	882	Saturday	Dauce.
20.30 20.45	Radio-Toulouse	441&180	680&	Weekdays.	Press.
	No. of Concession, Name		1666 6		
00 19 00 00	Maduid /F A TA	240	1000.0	Sun Mon Thurs	Concert
0.00 23.00	Diadrid (EAU 4)	405	200	Daily Ston., 1 muis	Concert.
20.40 22.30	Rome (1 K V)	420	700	Dany	Upera or Concert
20.45 22.00	P.T.T*	458	655		Talk
20.45 22.30	Radio-Paris	1750	171.3		Dance or Concert.
20 45 22 30	Radio-Toulouse	441 &	680 &		Concert Talk
0.10		180	1000 0	33	Concert, Lain.
20 50 00 00	Foonigahong	400	1000.0	Gundan	Numer Clauser
20.00 22.00	Koenigsberg	403	048	Summay	News, Concert.
1,00 24.00	Madrid (EAJD)	342	705		Concert.
21.00 22.00	Radio-Berne	301.5	995	Saturday	Dance.
21.00 22.30	P.T.T.*	458	655	Daily	Concert and Tests.
21.00 21.05	Rome (1 R O)	425	706		Time Signals
21 00 22 45	Oslo	382	785	,,	Dance
1 00 21 00	Salamance (F A 199)	955	815	, ,,	Concert
1 00 00 00	Examination Main	470	010		Thursday of Constant
1.00 22.00	Flanking-on-Main"	470	038	77 77	Theatre or Concert.
21.00 23.00	Sokoluiceni (Moscow)	1010	297	Tues., Thurs., FTI.	News, Lect. or Con-
21.00 23.10	Barcelona (E A J 1)	325	923	Weekdays	Concert. [cert.
21.00 21.10	Radio Catalana (E A J 13)	460	652		
21.00 21.30	Breslau*	416	721		News, Sport.
21.00 21.15	Seville (E A J 5)	357	840.3		
1 00 23 00		357	840.3	.,	Noise Talk Concast
1 15 20 20	Datit Danision #	050	985.0	Sat Gun Tu Thurs	Concent
1.10 22.00	TCONSTANDER	0.00	000.9	Set., Sun., It., Inuts.	concert.
1.30 22.15	EDerielde	240	1249	weekdays	
(1.30 22.30	Rome (I R O)	425	706	Daily	Dance.
21.30 22.10	Dortmund	283	1060	Sunday	
21.30[24.00]	Radio-Toulouse	441&180	680:1666.6	Weekdays.	Concert or Flay.
1.30 23.00	Berlin	505&576	594 · 521	Daily	Dance
1 30 23 00	Koonidswusterhauson	1300	931	2011.9	Rolaving Roslin
1 40 22 60	Lungha (() V (2)	1000	105	Wineledown	MCIGAHIS DUTINL
0.00 01.00	ivinguy (OAE)	6100	140	Welchuays	weather,
2.00 24.00	<u>Allian</u>	320	937	Dany	Concert.
2.00 23.30	Cassel*	275	1091	Weekdays	
(2.00[23.30])	Frankfurt-on-Main	470	639		Relaying Casset.
2.00 24.10	Bilbao (Viscava) (E.A.J.11)	418	717	Daily	News, Concert
2 00 23 10	Badio-Cima (ič A J 19)	402	745.8	Weekdays	Speech Music
2 00 23 00	Hamburg*	205	750	Sunday	Danas Danas
2.00 23.00	Mania (EATE)	000	109	Sunday	Dance.
2.00 24.00	Maurid (EAJ ()	3/3	804	Mon., Wed., Fri.	Concert.
2.00 21.00	Madrid (E A J 6)	392	764	Tuesdays and Fridays	., etc.
3.00 23.25	Norddeich (KAV)	1800	166.6	Weekdays	Weather, News,
3.00 24.00	Radio-Geneva	760	394		Dance.
3 00 24 00	Vienna (OTW)	400	750	,, ,, ,, ,,	Tasts (see Notes)
4 00 01 00	Soville (FALS)	957	940.2	Sundan	Contract
x, 0000 5,000	100 THE (19 / 0 0)	001 1	040.0	Dunney	Concert.

NOTES.—Relay stations are mentioned under initial entry of main station. An asterisk (\*) marks main station with relays working. The following stations may be occasionally heard testing: Reval, 350 m. (855 kc.): Milan (86. Teleg.): Riga, 488 m. (614 kc.) mostly 20.10 to 21'00; Bergen, 350 m. (856.6 kc.); Vienna, (0 T W), 400 m. (750 kc.) 07.45,—10.00, 17.00—10.00; Budapest, 588 m. (510 kc.): Amsterdam 700 m. (423.3 kc.): Asturias (E A J 12), 345 m. (872 kc.). Skieen, 201 m. (1498 kc.): Notoden; Barelona (E A J 19), 300 m. (1000 kc.) PROJECTED STATIONS: Bratislava, 400 m. (733 kc.): Innsbrück (Feb., 1926); Trondjheim; Tromsol: Stavanger; Christiansand; Rosenbrugel; Salzburg; Klagenfurt; Ceuta (Spanish Morocco); Varsovie; Cracow; Hammeren, 1900 m. (157.8 kc.): Seville E A J 21; Jyvaskyla, Malaga. Grenoble temporarily closed. Dijon replaces on evening transmisson.

#### RADIOTORIAL **OUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

(Continued from previous page.)

condensers the aerial may be energised. Sometimes interference received in this way will produce a drop in signal strength and clarity of tone without any bowling or whistling being audible. When very weak signals are being received, move-ments of the aerial may be sufficient to cause fading. A slack aerial runuing in close proximity to a wall or the branches of a tree may be blown sufficiently by each gust of wind to produce an appreciable weaken-ing of signals.

thing of signals. There are other causes which produce a similar effect, but the foregoing are those most likely to be found in everyday conditions.

#### WIRELESS AND THE LANDLORD.

"AERIAL LAW" (London) .- I have received a communication from a solicitor representing my landlord demanding the immediate removal of my aerial. Can you advise me as to the position I am in ? These are the facts: The aerial has been attached to the roof for the last three years, with the verbal permission of the landlord, and the other day I happened to go on the roof to renew the string supporting the aerial, and the landlord has apparently objected to this, hence the solicitor's letter. The solicitor describes it as the unwarrantable trespass committed by me in going upon the roof and fixing a wire. I do not doubt that the landlord will now deny giving permission for the aerial to be fixed in the first place, but the fact remains. Finally, the letter adds that proceedings will be commenced to compel removal, etc.

If you are the sole occupier of the premises we should feel disposed to disregard the threat of pro-ceedings. To speak of trespass on the part of a tenant, who goes on the roof of the premises he occupies is absurd. Strictly speaking, the landlord may object to the fixing of an aerial without his consent, but if the tenant offers to pay any increase in insurance premiums which may be demanded in consequence of the affixing of the aerial it is difficult to see what reasonable objection the landlord could raise.

#### SOLDERING NICKEL TERMINALS.

"CONSTRUCTOR" (S.W.3).-Why is it that when I employ nickel-plated terminals for my set that I find that on testing the set the number of bad joints are more frequent than when using brass terminals ?

This is due to the fact that when the terminals are, being plated a small film of grease or dirt has been present on the base of the terminal, and has pre-vented the film of nickel from adhering properly. When the terminal is heated the solder adheres to the nickel film and breaks this, but this film itself is not making good contact with the terminal owing to the dirty surface of the metal underneath.

ECOGNISED WEST END DISTRIBUTOR of the manu factures of Edison Dell, Jack son's (JB, Polar, Igranic, Poerless, Eureka, Magnum Burndept, Lotus, Dublice Marconi, Dorwood, Sterling Success, B.T.H., McMichael Lissen, Woodhall, Uulity, R.I., Bowyer-Lowe, Ampliou, Formo, Brunet, Ormond, Newey, P. and M., and every thing that is worth stocking.

#### TESTIMONIAL.

The stocking is the stocking is a stocking in the stocking is a stock of the sto

(Signed) A. BOWER, 1 VALVES. — Olcartron C.08 or C.15, 12(6. Power, 6r, C.25, 15/-, Cosmos, F.P.18, Red or Green, 12(6. Nieutron '06, H.F., ro L.F., 12(6; Ditto, 2v., 12/6, All Mullard, Ediswan, Osraza, Marooni, Cossor stocked. Bright, D.E., and Power, 8/-, 14/-, 15/6, 16/6, 18/6, 22/6, 24/6, 30/-, 42. Mullard P.M.4, 22/6; Do., -P.M.3, 16/6. 1 birnt-out vaive taken in part exchange for any of above.









#### International Radio.

THE use of radio is daily extending in every department of life, and par-

ticularly of international affairs. The fall of the French cabinet, which took place on Saturday morning at 6.45 a.m., was wirelessed to Berlin and immediately relayed to the express train on which the German delegation was travelling to Geneva to attend the meeting of the League of Nations.

Dr. Stresemann. the German minister of Foreign Affairs, on receiving the message within forty minutes of the fateful figures being read out in the French Chamber. was able, without interrupting his railway journey, to have a long talk with the Press attaché of the French Embassy in Germany, who was on the sante train, and explore with him the possibilities of the French political situation. After which he was able to hold a conference with his colleagues on the effect which the fall of M. Briand was likely to have on proceedings at Geneva.

#### Wireless Torpedoes.

Secret experiments are being carried out in France of an invention by which it is claimed that the flight of air torpedoes can be controlled over distances of from 30 to 60 miles.

Technical experts from the military, naval and air departments were present at these tests, the result of which is being kept secret. From a usually reliable source, however, it is gathered that the tests were not completely successful. The principle of wireless control over bodies hurtling through the air was established, but in practice imperfections were revealed which it is hoped may soon be remedied.

#### Finland Reorganises Its Radio System.

The Finnish radio broadcasting system has now been reorganised on a sound basis. The main Helsingfors station uses 318 metres on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays for the broadcasting of concerts, and these are relayed in the various districts by the three provincial stations : Iyvaskyla (561 metres). Ulcaborg (233 metres) and Tamafers (360 metres).

The second Helsingfors station, using 500 watts only, broadcasts on the same days, half an heur later, at 6.30 p.m., Central European time, the programme lasting usually till midnight. The wave-length is 522 metres.

Finnish radio enthusiasts in addition to the home programmes, frequently listen to the Russian and Swedish station, so that they are well provided for and radio is winning new adherents daily.



#### HOW TO MAKE A LOUD SPEAKER. (Continued from page 148.)

In Fig. 3 is shown a distinctive feature of the original instrument which improves reproduction in a manner hard to describe exactly. This is the side tube, a short length of tube, 1 in. in diameter, fixed over an orifice in the base of the horn. Volume is not reduced by any discernible degree by the presence of this free orifice, but reproduction is more natural, for, whereas orchestral items sound flat and "congested" without it, the inclusion of this device seems to relieve the "congestion," and reproduction approximates more closely to true binaural hearing.

The framework of the cabinet may be built according to the constructor's own ideas, and designs and dimensions will also depend upon the size of the horn. But here, also, all construction should be sound and solid to prevent unwanted vibration. If desired, the horn may be mounted upside down with the magnet system on top, when the adjusting screw becomes more accessible; but, in any case, this needs no further attention when once adjusted for best results.



180

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There/

#### POPULAR WIRELESS AND WIRELESS REVIEW.

## A Filament that can be tied in knots after 1000 hours life

FILAMENT that remains ductile so that it can be tied in a knot after 1000 hours life is an achievement that assures VASTLY INCREASED VALVE LIFE

This wonderful filament is the key feature of Mullard P.M. Valves. In Mullard P.M. Valves the filaments are so economical that no glow is visible during operation, and they require

ONLY ONE TENTH AMPERE In addition the reception they give is free from all microphonic noises. If you use a 4-volt accumulator or 3 dry cells ASK FOR THE P.M.3 A general purpose valve for every circuit 22/6 ASK FOR THE P.M.4

The finest loudspeaker valve ever produced GET THEM FROM YOUR RADIO DEALER



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16/6

# Building up volume without a trace of distortion

Lissen Amplifying Devices build up whispers into voluminous sound, yet never do they sacrifice tone purity for the sake of volume. Add a 2-valve Amplifier built from Lissen parts to your receiver and it's just as though the player had changed his instrument for one that was much larger-much more powerful. But volume is the only thing you add - harshness and distortion have no place in a Lissen Amplifier.

For the first L.F. stage use the Lissen T.1 Transformer, Price 21/-. Then follow this with a Lissen L.F. Choke, Price 10/-; or if you prefer it, use Lissen Chokes throughout. When building a Choke Coupled Amplifier it is always advisable to use a variable grid leak having a wide range of variation. Use the Lissen Variable Grid Leak-you can obtain any resistance between

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2

and 12 megohms, smoothly, gradually and noiselessly. One hole fixing, of Price 2/6. course.

The capacity of the Lissen Fixed Condenser recommended for choke coupled stages is .01 mfd., Price 2/4: - It-is also worth while to fit Lissen Fixed Condensars in every stage of your receiver. Accurate to within 5% of their marked capacities they will not vary and will not leak.

NEW

.0001-.001 1/3 .002-.006 21. (mica dielectric). With each .0002 and .0003 there is included free a pair of clips to

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