80 PAGES FOR SET-BUILDERS :: 40 OTHER FEATURES

Wireless Magazine

No. 73

FEBRUARY, 1931

1/-

TWELVE READER-TESTED SETS for YOU TO BUILD

16-PAGE TINTED SUPPLEMENT

SHOULD THE B.B.C. JAM MOSCOW? :: FIVE FULL-PAGE TEST REPORTS FOR SET-BUYERS :: "POWER" GRID DETECTION :: HAVE YOU A TALKIE VOICE? :: MÜHLACKER—THE NEW GERMAN REGIONAL STATION

A Favourite with Experts and Amateurs alike

The Lewcos Dual Screened Coil Unit DCG/2 consists of a tapped aperiodic aerial coil and screened-grid H.F. Transformer covering the medium broadcast waveband of 235 to 500 metres and the long waveband of 1,000 to 2,000 metres.

Both coils are astatically wound, *i.e.*, field-less, and are enclosed in a metal screen, as illustrated.

If desired, the change-over switching mechanism can be operated by means of a push-pull rod protruding through the receiver panel as in the "Push-pull Four" receiver, described in this issue. This rod (Reference SM15) is supplied free of charge when ordered with the DCG/2 Unit.

The LEWCOS (Régd.) DUAL SCREENED COIL UNIT

Price 45/-

LEWCOS RADIO PRODUCTS FOR BETTER RECEPTION

THE LEWCOS DUAL SCREENED UNIT IS SPECIFIED FOR THE "PUSH-PULL FOUR" RECEIVER DESCRIBED IN THIS ISSUE.

WRITE FOR FULLY DESCRIPTIVE LEAFLET R66.

THE LONDON ELECTRIC WIRE COMPANY AND SMITHS LIMITED, CHURCH RD., LEYTON, LONDON, E.10

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BERNARD E. JONES

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B.Sc. (Hons.). A.M.I.E.E

Wireless Magazine

The Best Shillingsworth in Radio

Vol. XIII :: FEBRUARY, 1931 :: No. 73

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W JAMES

Assistant Editor :
D. SISSON RELPH

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THE February WIRELESS MAGAZINE is a general-purpose number for all who are interested in radio and wish to get the best from it, but the presence of the tinted-paper supplement gives it a strong constructor flavour, inasmuch as in it I have gathered together circuit diagrams, layouts, photographs, and specifications of a dozen popular sets, among which there must be at least one to suit any particular need.

As these sets have been built and tested by readers all over the country, it follows that you can adopt them with absolute confidence. Will you turn to Page One of the supplement where these "Trusty Twelve" are listed and see the terms of the special arrangement by which you can obtain a blueprint of any one of the sets at half price.

I am offering you something

NEW IN SET DESIGN

this month in The Baffle-board Three, comprising set, cone loudspeaker, and batteries all assembled on the reverse side of a baffle board, an effort to make possible the use of a large-size baffle and yet achieve economy of space.

The month's mains set is the Brookman's A.C. Two, just for local-station use, but provided with a power grid detector which with one stage of low-frequency amplification gives good volume and quality.

The Supertone Four is a fine proposition—a gramo-radio set with push-pull output, while the Hyperdyne Short-wave Adaptor is the sequel to J. H. Reyner's Hyperdyne set of December, which I am glad to say has attracted much deserved attention.

I have seen two interesting

TELEVISION DEMONSTRATIONS

quite recently, one at the Baird studio and the other at the H.M.V. works at Hayes, Middlesex. In an article on page 88 I give the impressions made on my mind by the Baird developments while, with regard to the other demonstration, I am able to publish, with the great help of the H.M.V. people, a detailed article upon the system and novel apparatus used.

The general articles this month are worth your attention. "Should the B.B.C. Jam Moscow?" asks the special commissioner responsible for our monthly account of the B.B.C.'s activities. He does not answer the question very emphatically, but since the subject has been raised in the public press I think he does well to point out that the B.B.C.'s job is to provide a broadcast programme and that while other countries content themselves with the broadcast channels allotted to them, the B.B.C. can do nothing whatever to prevent British listeners receiving Russian broadcasts whether they be pleasant or unpleasant.

I see they are getting on with the new Broadcasting House—an elaborate, expensive job, which will make for the dignity of the B.B.C. and will—at any rate, let us hope so—reflect its up-to-dateness in

BETTER PROGRAMMES.

The programme's the thing! An article illustrated by photographs records the progress made in the building.

And how do you like the admixture of Mühlacker and London Regional? We give some pictures and details of the new German station in this issue. A power of 75 kilowatts in the aerial, you will note, and this can be doubled! Other stations just as powerful are on paper and will, in due course, set up new problems for Geneva and you and us to solve.

By the way, J. Godchaux Abrahams tells us how to recognise the German stations, the principal of which we list in the course of the Mühlacker article.

We are publishing test reports this month of a power-pentode two, an all-wave four, a three-valve console, a portable four, and a radio gramophone. Don't buy before we test.

In the belief that interest in

RECORD MAKING

at home is considerably on the increase, our Assistant Editor describes a system of making records without an amplifier; another item of novel interest in the Gramo-Radio Section is the new Phonycord flexible record with which, by the way, I helped to amuse some of my visitors at Christmas time.

Capt. Barnett continues his Secrets of Gramo-Radio Success, and if he does not know them all, he at any rate knows most of them, while Whitaker-Wilson reviews for readers notable records of the month.

So whether you build or whether you buy; whether you experiment or just listen, you will find in this issue, I am certain, much that will please and help you.

THE EDITOR

Registered at the General Post Office for Transmission by Canadian Magazine Post

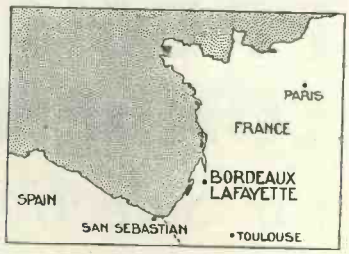
Broadcast Identification Sheets

For the benefit of readers we are publishing each month a series of panels specially compiled for the WIRELESS MAGAZINE by Jay Coote.

In these, readers will find a ready means of identifying foreign stations. To prevent any confusion in a.m. and p.m., the times are given on the Continental twenty-four-hour system. Example: 8 a.m.=8.00; 8 p.m.=20.00.

In the event of alterations in wavelength, power or call, a special panel bearing the alteration will be published at the earliest opportunity.

These identification sheets should be cut out and filed either alphabetically or in order of wavelength as they appear.



462 *miles from London*

304m.
(986 *kc.*)

Power: 35 *kw.*

BORDEAUX-LAFAYETTE
(*France*)

Standard Time: Greenwich Mean Time.

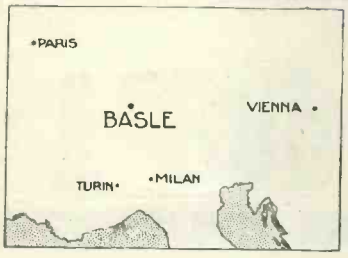
Announcer: Man.

Call: *Allo! Allo! Ici la station du reseau d'Etat Francais de radiodiffusion des Postes et Telegraphes de Bordeaux-Lafayette*, abbreviated during intervals to *Ici Bordeaux Lafayette PTT.*

No special interval signal.

Main Daily Programme: G.M.T. 12.40, concert; 20.00, children's hour, talk, etc.; 20.30, main evening entertainment. Frequently relays Ecole Supérieure (FPTT Paris).

Closes down with usual French good night, followed by *La Marseillaise.*



440 *miles from London*

(*Revised*)

319m.
(941 *kc.*)

Power: .5 *kw.*

BASLE
(*Switzerland*)

Standard Time: Central European (G.M.T. plus one hour).

Announcer: Man.

Call: *Hallo! Hallo! Radio Basel* (phonetic: *Bar-zel*).

No special interval signal.

All announcements are made in German, except when Berne is relayed, when French is also heard. Also occasionally relays Zurich broadcasts.

Main Daily Programme: G.M.T. 08.00 (Sunday), sacred service; 11.30, time signal, weather, concert; 16.00, outside broadcast; 19.00, main evening entertainment; 21.10, relay of concert from Hotel Metropole; dance music (Saturdays).

Good Night: *Gute nacht, meine Damen und Herren.*

802 *miles from London*

424m.
(707 *kc.*)

Power: 2 *kw.*

MADRID
(EAJ7)
(*Spain*)

Standard Time: Greenwich Mean Time.

Announcer: Man.

Call (phonetic): *Ay-ah-rhota-see-yet-tay* (EAJ7) *Oo-nee-own Rah-dee-owe Madrid.*

Transmissions open with a short melody (Siegfried's Bugle Call from Wagner's opera) played on piano.

Main Daily Programme: G.M.T. 11.30 (Sunday), outside broadcast; 19.00, dance music; 21.30, main evening entertainment: dance music or relay of concert or opera (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday).

Time Signal and Chimes: (four notes, rising) relayed from Home Office buildings at 13.00, 19.00, 21.30, and 24.00.

Also relays Barcelona (EAJ1).

Good Night: *Buenas Noches, Senores, hasta manana* (till to-morrow), followed by Spanish National Anthem.

760 *miles from London*

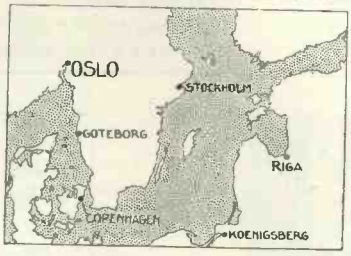
(*Revised*)

516.3m.
(581 *kc.*)

Power: 20 *kw.*

VIENNA
(*Austria*)

Standard Time: Central European (G.M.T. plus one hour).
Announcer: Man.
Call: *Hallo! Hallo! Radio Wien* (phonetic: *Veen*).
Opening Signal: Morse V (. . . —).
Interval Signal: Fast-beating metronome (265 per minute).
(NOTE.—If the beats are given in groups of, say, 2, 3, 4, or 5, they indicate the number of minutes to elapse before broadcast is resumed).
Main Daily Programme: G.M.T. 09.20 (Sunday), organ recital, concert; 12.00, gramophone records, then continuous until 19.30, main evening entertainment; 22.00, late concert or dance music.
Good Night: *Gute Nacht, meine Damen; Gute Nacht, meine Herren. Ich wuensche allseits recht angenehme Ruhe. Vergessen sie nicht Thre Antenne Zu erden und die Gashaehne in Threr Wohnung Zu Schliessen*
Usually closes down with the morse signal, SK (. . . — . —).
When international concerts are broadcast all announcements are made in both German and French.



712 *miles from London*

(*Revised*)

1,060m.
(283 *kc.*)

Power: 75 *kw.*

OSLO
(*Norway*)

Standard Time: Central European (G.M.T. plus one hour).

Announcer: Man.

Call: *Hallo! Oslo her* (phonetic: *Ou-zlo*).

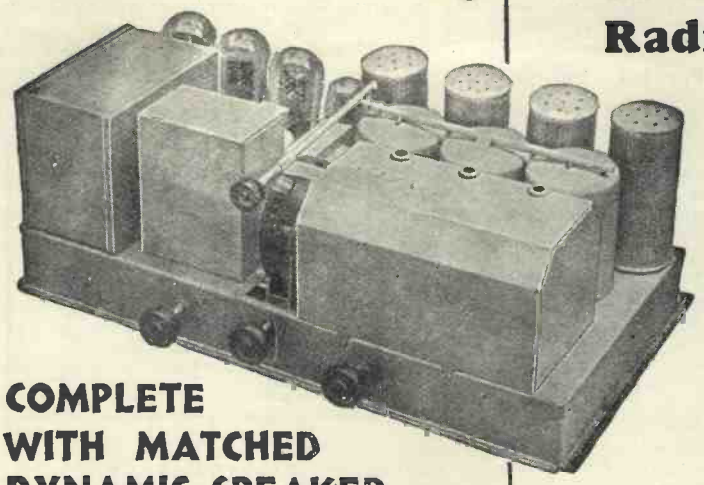
Opening and Closing Signal: Musical box playing first four bars of National Anthem (*Ja vi elsker*).

Main Daily Programme: G.M.T. 09.20 (Sunday), carillon-sacred service; 11.55, time signal, gramophone records; 16.00, concert or relay; 18.30, talks, etc.; 19.00, time signal; 19.30, main evening entertainment; 22.00, dance music (Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday). Sometimes relays foreign transmissions.

Good Night: *God nat* (twice).

Relays: Stavanger, 235.5 m. (1,275 kc.); Kristiansand, 240.6 m. (1,247 kc.); Fredriksstad, 368 m. (815 kc.); Notodden, Rjukan, 445 m. (674 kc.); Nidaros, Tromsö, Aalesund and Porsgrund, 453 m. (622 kc.); Hamar, 587 m. (511 kc.).

A Perfect Combination of British and American Radio Engineering Genius



Peerless A.C. Screen Grid 8

3-Screen Grid Radio Frequency. Power Detector. Power Output. Oversized Power Pack Dynamic Speaker Reproduction. Complete Wavelength Range (200-2,000 metres). Marvellous Selectivity, Sensitivity and Tone. Completely Shielded and A.C. Operated. Illuminated Drum Dial Tuning. Noiseless Volume Control.

The New Peerless Screen-Grid Eight is undoubtedly the finest value in A.C. operated radio sets. The design and performance of the Peerless is unchallenged and embodies improvements which are years in advance of all other types of radio receivers. Consider the following outstanding merits of the Peerless Eight and consider the marvellous value which we offer to our customers. A big demand is being created by national advertising. Write to-day for full particulars.

COMPLETE WITH MATCHED DYNAMIC SPEAKER AND VALVES

£36

Royalty £2 net. 110-volt or 220-240-volt 50 cy. A.C.

The
Rothermel Corporation Ltd.
24 MADDOX ST., LONDON, W.1
'Phone: Mayfair 0578/9
Continental Sales Office: 27 QUAY DU COMMERCE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

H & B

Hyperdyne Short-wave Adaptor

	£	s.	d.
1 Bulgin H.F. Choke, type HF3		3	0
2 Lewcos 6-pin Short-wave Coils, AMS2		12	0
1 T.C.C. Fixed Condenser, .0003 flat		1	3
2 Formo Variable, .00035 mfd.		9	0
1 Formo Variable, .0002 mfd., Midget type		2	9
1 Formo Pre-set, .0001 mfd. max.		1	6
2 Ormond Slow Motion Dials, R/320B		7	0
1 Trelleborg, 10 in. by 7 in. Panel		3	6
2 H. & B. Coil-holders		3	0
2 Lotus Valve-holders		2	0
1 Lissen 15-ohm Rheostat		2	6
Glazite Wire		0	6
1 Ebonite Knob		0	6
1 Baseboard, 10 in. square		1	3
1 H. & B. Four-way Multiple Cable Plug		2	0
1 Terminal Strip, 1½ in. square		0	3
1 Ever Ready 9-volt Grid Bias		1	3
1 Belling-Lee Aerial Terminal			4½
3 Belling-Lee Wander Plugs, G.B.—, G.B.+, H.T.+		0	9

CASH PRICE £2 14 4½

NOTE.—We supply Kits for any set described in "A.W.," "W.M.," etc. Any Kit built to your specification. Prices on application.

For the convenience of "Wireless Magazine" readers, we have specially compiled a 12-page folder giving complete details of the sets described in the supplement given with this issue. This folder gives full details of the components, prices, of all the twelve sets and units.

H. & B. Kits contain all necessary wire and screws
H. & B. Kits have the panels and strips ready drilled.
H. & B. Kits are sent complete in every detail.
H. & B. Kits contain full-size blueprints.
H. & B. Kits are sent always carriage paid.

Cut this address out and paste it on your envelope. It will save time:

H & B RADIO CO.,
34, 36, 38 BEAK STREET, LONDON, W.1.

KIT for the "BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO"

	£	s.	d.
1 R.I. Hypercore L.F. Choke		17	6
1 Wearite 1930 Binowave Coil type C		17	0
1 T.C.C. .0001-mfd. Fixed Condenser, upright type		1	6
1 T.C.C. .0005-mfd. Fixed Condenser, upright type		1	6
1 T.C.C. 1-mfd. Fixed Condenser, type 80		3	9
2 T.C.C. 2-mfd. Fixed Condensers, type 80		10	0
2 T.C.C. 4-mfd. Fixed Condensers, type 80		17	0
1 Burton .0002-mfd. Variable Condenser		4	0
1 Utility .0005-mfd. Variable Condenser, with drum dial		14	0
1 Ebonite Panel, 12 in. by 8 in.		4	0
1 Belling-Lee Terminal Block		0	8
1 .002-mfd. max. type W. Variable Condenser, Formo		2	0
2 Telsen Five-pin Valve-holders		2	0
1 Telsen Four-pin Valve-holder		1	3
1 Bulgin Mains Plug		1	6
1 Dubilier .25-meg. Fixed Resistance		1	9
1 Magnum 1,500-ohm Spaghetti Fixed Resistance		1	6
1 Magnum 10,000-ohm Spaghetti Fixed Resistance		1	6
1 Clarostat 1,200-ohm type FW1200		1	6
1 Clarostat, 30-ohm Potentiometer Variable Resistance		2	9
1 H. & B. Panel Bracket		1	3
1 Bulgin Twin Fuse-holder, with fuses		2	6
1 Bulgin Mains Switch, type 728		2	3
2 Belling-Lee Terminals, Aerial, Earth		0	6
1 Telsen Radio Grand 3-1 L.F. Transformer		12	6
1 Heayberd Mains Transformer, type 715	1	8	6
1 Ferranti Output Transformer, type OPM1		1	2	6

CASH PRICE £8 16 8

1 Cabinet in Oak, 35/- extra.
Mazda Valves, £2/7/6 extra.

Any kit made up to your specification if desired. Quotations by return.

Carriage Paid on All Orders accompanied by Cash. C.O.D. Charges Paid on orders over £1.

Super-tone Four

	£	s.	d.
1 Telsen H.F. Choke		2	6
1 Lewcos Dual-coil Unit, type DCG/2	2	5	0
1 Telsen .0001-mfd. Fixed Condenser		1	0
1 Telsen .0002-mfd. Fixed Condenser		1	0
2 Telsen 1-mfd. Fixed Condensers		5	0
1 Telsen 2-mfd. Fixed Condenser		3	6
2 Polar .0005-mfd. Universal Variable Condensers		15	0
1 Polar .0003-mfd. Midget		2	9
1 Lewcodenser, .0002-mfd., P/M type		2	6
2 Polar Drum Dials		17	0
1 Trelleborg's Panel, Ebonite		7	0
3 Lissen Grid Leak Holders		1	6
3 Telsen Valve-holders		3	0
1 Junit S.G. Valve-holder		1	9
7 Belling-Lee Wander Plugs, G.B.+, G.B.—1, G.B.—2, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.—		1	9
2 Belling-Lee Spade Ends, L.T.—, L.T.+		0	9
2 Bulgin 600-ohm Resistances		3	0
1 Bulgin 20,000, flexible type		1	3
2 Lissen 100,000-ohm Grid Leaks		2	0
1 Lissen 2-megohm Grid Leak		1	0
1 Sovereign 100,000-ohm Potentiometer		4	6
1 H. & B. Screen, 7 in. by 6 in.		1	6
Glazite Wire for connecting		1	6
Length of Lewcoflex		0	3
4-in. Shielded Cable for S.G. Connection Anode		0	9
1 Pioneer On-off Switch		1	6
1 Pioneer Three-point		1	9
4 Belling-Lee Terminals, 2 red, 2 black		1	4
2 Belling-Lee Terminal Blocks		1	4
1 pair Varley Push-pull Transformers	2	10	0
Royalties		3	0

CASH PRICE £9 5 8

Cabinet in hand-polished Oak, £2 extra.
4 Valves, Mazda or Mullard. £3 10s. 6d. extra.

To H. & B. Radio,
Please send me by return post free one of your leaflets giving full details of the Receivers described in the W.M. supplement.

Name.....

.....

Block Letters .....

You will get prompt replies by mentioning "Wireless Magazine"

CHEAPER MAINS RADIO

This is the Regentone D.C. combined unit No. 2, price £2 12s. 6d.

THERE is good news for all interested in the operation of radio sets through electric-light mains from the makers of Regentone apparatus, who have just announced a number of new mains units and reduced prices for others that are already on the market.

Most WIRELESS MAGAZINE readers will be familiar with the Regentone high-tension unit for portable sets which incorporates a trickle charger The original model was type W5 and sells at £5 17s 6d This still remains available, but from now on there will also be a second model which will be sold a' £4 15s

Three Fixed Tappings

The high-tension output from both units is the same, but whereas the original W5 model had a variable tapping for a screened-grid valve and two fixed tappings, the new W5A unit will have three fixed tappings.

One of these is taken from a potentiometer arrangement for screened-grid valve supply, while the other two tappings are taken through ordinary series resistances This model also has a trickle charger with tappings for 2-volt and 6-volt accumulators

For D.C. Mains

Listeners with D.C mains will be interested in a new D.C combined unit (No. 2), which is priced at £2 12s. 6d The output when connected to 220-volt mains is 20 milliamperes at 130 volts. Charging current for an accumulator is obtained by means of an ingenious adaptor, which plugs into the electric-light socket. The lamp usually used for illumination purposes is placed in this adaptor. By this method, while the lamp is being used to light a room, the accumulator is receiving a charging current at—for all practical purposes—no cost.

The value of the charging rate is controlled by the wattage of the lamp used —the higher the wattage of the lamp, the higher being the charging rate. The usual 60-watt lamp, used in most houses, gives a charging rate of approximately .25 ampere.

A cheaper combined A.C. unit, the model W5A, at £4 15s.

A really cheap A.C. high-tension unit for use with ordinary receivers is the revised model W1D, which is now provided with three fixed tappings instead of only two. The price of this unit is only £3 7s. 6d., and the output is 18 milliamperes at 120 volts.

Revised model W1D, for A.C. mains, price £3 7s. 6d.

Attractive Prices

These new units (at prices which are lower than would be the case if the listener were to construct them himself from component parts bought at ordinary retail prices) will prove attractive to all who want to make their sets as efficient and trouble-free as modern technique makes possible.

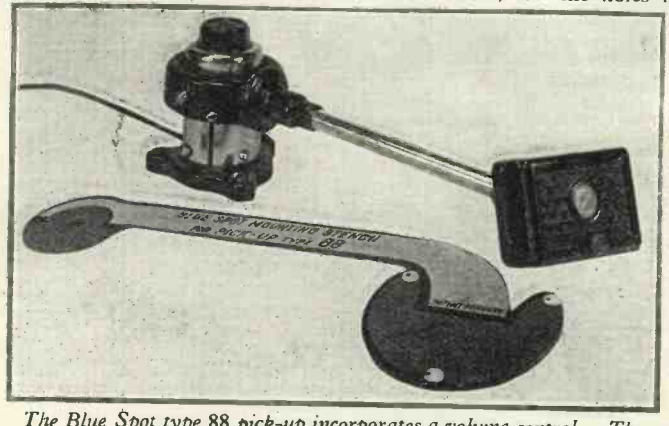
Further details and prices can be obtained from the Regent Radio Co. of 21 Bartlett's Buildings, Holborn, E.C.4. This firm also makes a complete all electric four valve set with single tuning control. The price is 30 guineas.

A PICK-UP WITH VOLUME CONTROL

THREE particularly interesting features of the Blue Spot type 88 pick-up will appeal to many gramo-radio enthusiasts. Here they are: (1) The pick-up arm incorporates a volume control, (2) the head of the pick-up can be turned for the easy insertion of new needles, and (3) a very well designed fixing template is provided.

Volume Control

As can be seen from the photograph reproduced here, the volume control is mounted at the top of a drum round which the carrier is pivoted. Control of input to the amplifier is, therefore, very conveniently obtained. To insert new needles the pick-up head is turned through 180 degrees to the right, when needles can be inserted from above. The action of tuning the head automatically lifts it clear of the turntable, so that both hands are left free.



The Blue Spot type 88 pick-up incorporates a volume control. The pick-up head can be turned for the easy insertion of needles

The fixing template is one of the best of its kind we have seen. The position of the holes for the fixing screws can be marked without difficulty

The price is £3 3s. We should like to see provision made for the use of a counter-balance weight, for the pressure on the record is somewhat heavy.

Cobalt Steel

Cobalt steel is used for the magnet system, while the armature is made of Swedish charcoal iron.

On test bass reproduction was found to be much better than reproduction of the top notes, but the results were not unpleasing. The volume was good.

Perfection in every stage of every circuit

VARLEY IMPEDANCE MATCHING OUTPUT TRANSFORMER 22/6

YOU will notice the difference the moment you fit Varley Components. Use them for your new receiver and get perfection in every stage. Build them into that older set and bring it up to date.

From aerial coil to output transformer, the long Varley range includes almost everything you need. Varley Components have built up a reputation for accurate workmanship and careful design. Every one has in it Varley's specialised experience of over 30 years.

Your dealer stocks Varley Components—call and examine them.

Write for the section of the Varley Catalogue that interests you.

Section A. *All-Electric Receivers and Radio-Gramophones, Pedestal Loud-speakers, Gramophone Pick-Ups, Auto-Arm and Volume Control.*

Section B and C. *H.F. Chokes, Coils, Resistances, Potentiometers, Rheostats, R.C. Couplers, Anti-Mobos.*

Section D. *L.F. Chokes and L.F. Transformers (Inter-valve, Push-Pull, Output, etc.).*

Section E. *Mains Transformers, Mains Chokes, Power Resistances, and Power Potentiometers.*

Varley

Advertisement of Oliver Pell Control Ltd., Kingsway House 103 Kingsway, London, W.C.2 Telephone: Holborn 5303

THERE'S STUTTGART — NOW LONDON

How many times have your explorations round the dial been rewarded with piercing oscillation? It is your valves which make the difference. You need TUNGSRAM BARIUM VALVES to bring in far distant stations. First STUTTGART, clear and strong. The least pressure on the dial—little more than 3 metres separate them—then LONDON—or almost any programme you wish.

And there are other reasons why TUNGSRAM BARIUM VALVES are better for your set. They are more economical—they make more of your batteries. And they give better performance, long range, volume, perfect tone and long life. Yet remember they cost considerably less than any other valves of similar quality.

For full particulars of the Tungsram range write to department V.107.

TUNGSRAM BARIUM VALVES

2 v. and 4 v. Screened Grid Valves, 13/-; 4 v. A.C. Screened Grid Valves, 16/-; L.F., 5/6; H.F., 5/6; R.C., 5/6; Power, 7/3; Super Power, 8/-; A.C. Indirectly Heated H.F. and L.F., 9/6 each; A.C. Directly Heated Power, 9/6 each; A.C. Directly Heated H.F. and L.F., 7/9; Rectifying Valves, 10/- each; Tungsram Photo-Electric Cells, Nava E., £2:17:6; Nava R., £3:3:0.

TUNGSRAM ELECTRIC LAMP WORKS (GT. BRITAIN), LTD.,
Radio Dept., Commerce House, 72 Oxford Street, London, W.1.

Branches: Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Southampton.

Lamp, Valve and Glass Factories: Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Italy and Poland.

IN TUNE WITH THE TRADE

FETTER LANE'S Review of Catalogues and Pamphlets

SEND TO US FOR THESE CATALOGUES!

As a keen wireless enthusiast you naturally want to keep abreast of all the latest developments and this special feature will enable you to do so with the minimum of trouble and the cost of only ½d. for postage.

Here we review the newest booklets and folders issued by six well-known firms. If you want copies of any or all of them just cut out this coupon and send it to us. We will see that you get all the literature you desire.

Just indicate the numbers (seen at the end of each paragraph) of the catalogues you want below.

My name and address are:—

Send this coupon in an unsealed envelope, bearing ½d. stamp, to "Catalogue Service," WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58/61 Fetter Lane, E.C.4. *Valid till Feb.* **28**

A FINE VALVE LIST

MULLARDS have just sent me an illustrated folder which I certainly intend to keep on the radio bench, for it gives details of all the Mullard 2-, 4- and 6-volt, mains and rectifier valves.

Some new valves have just been produced in the A.C. power class, and while it is unnecessary for me to give details of these here, for they are fully dealt with in this folder, they certainly deserve mention. A new battery-type 2-volt power valve has just been produced also and you will find full particulars of this in the chart.

By full particulars I should explain that in the case of ordinary valves these include price, filament voltage and current, maximum anode voltage, impedance, amplification factor, mutual conductance, and grid volts at a given anode voltage. These details cover practically everything that the average man wants to know about his valves, and no amateur should, with this chart at hand, have any difficulty in picking out the requisite valve for any particular job. **169**

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THESE BLUE-SPOT LOUD-SPEAKERS

THERE is a Blue Spot loud-speaker available now for every requirement, as you can see for yourself if you write, as I did, to the British Blue Spot Co, for the current folder describing the whole range. From the very popular 41K model, which, as you may know, is the "fifty-bob" job in a really attractive walnut cabinet, up to the big six-guinea models, each loud-speaker suits a particular set requirement.

Obviously in the short space which I have here, I cannot describe each type for you, but I do advise you whole heartedly, if you are in search of a new reproducer, to drop a line to Blue Spots.

In addition, there are the two new Blue Spot pick-ups which are bound to find place in many radio gramophones. One type of pick-up is available with a universal fix-in for attachment to the gramophone tonearm. Another type is available complete with carrier arm and volume control.

The experience that the Blue Spot people have had in magnet construction, and the use of high flux density and cobalt steel, has been put into these pick-ups and very full details are given in this folder. **170**

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FOUR USEFUL CATALOGUES

VARLEY (Oliver Pell Control, Ltd.) have a useful scheme of indexing their catalogues so that at a glance you may select the right one for any special requirement. I should like to make reference to four catalogues which have just been sent me and which you can obtain free through my usual service.

Of these, catalogue Section A deals with sets, radio gramophones and the Varley pick-up and auto-arm. Sections B and C (in one book) deal with tuning and high-frequency components, resistance-capacity couplers and resistances of all kinds. Section D deals with transformers and chokes for valve coupling and output purposes, while section E deals with the heavier components suitable for mains working, such as power transformers, smoothing chokes, power resistances and potentiometers.

Out of this comprehensive batch I find it very difficult to select any one item for special mention, but I would say that in Section D you will find full details of some of the finest low-frequency transformers on the market. **171**

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A NOVEL BOOKLET

A GOOD idea is the booklet called *British Broadcast Conditions*, produced by Voltron Electric, Ltd, and written by Capt. Eckersley and W. H. Murad. One of the chief features of this is a reprint of an extensive test report on the Voltron Dynaplus Three made by "Set Tester" of *Amateur Wireless*.

There are also interesting articles on the manufacture of these receivers, and I feel sure that anyone who contemplates making up a kit set such as the Dynaplus Three will find something to interest them in this booklet. A blueprint and constructional details for this kit receiver are also available.

Listeners who prefer to make up sets from their own layouts should note that most of the components incorporated in the Dynaplus Three, such as the condensers, switches, chokes and transformers, are obtainable as separate components and are listed in a folder to be obtained from Voltron Electric, Ltd., through my service. **172**

BULGIN FOR 1931

I AM writing these notes at the beginning of the New Year and already I have received from an old acquaintance, A. F. Bulgin & Co., Ltd., a comprehensive catalogue and instruction book for the new season's Bulgin parts.

I reviewed this last year and, as you may remember, I had some pleasing things to say about it, and they were well merited. This year's book is even better. Roughly half of it is devoted to the leading parts in the Bulgin range (and there is bound to be something of interest to you in this extensive gamut of components), while the second half gives very many helpful circuits and hints which, although particularly applicable to Bulgin parts, are nevertheless of very great general interest.

I feel sure that every amateur who likes to make use of auxiliary gadgets in a set, in order to improve its appearance, performance or convenience of operation, will want to have this book, which can be obtained through my service from A. F. Bulgin & Co., Ltd.

When writing you might also care to make application for two or three leaflets which have just been produced, dealing with new parts—among them being the Sinus volume controls and variable resistances, and the Filta condensers, for which friend Bulgin is the sole London distributing agent. **173**

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HOME-BUILT MAINS UNITS

THERE is certainly no reason why you should not, if you are contemplating changing over from battery to mains operation, make up your own mains unit. In fact, after reading through some folders which I have just received from F. C. Heayberd & Co., it seems to me that there are many good reasons why you should make up your own mains apparatus.

The first and, I suppose, chief reason is cost, because naturally it is cheaper for you to build your own unit from parts than it is for a manufacturer to make units and then retail them. Secondly, the constructional work is not at all difficult, as I gather after perusing the explicit diagrams and photographs shown on these folders, and the great advantage is that you can make up a unit to suit your own particular requirements.

Maybe you require some special low-tension output arrangement or special values for screened-grid and subsidiary voltage tappings. When you are making up your own unit you can suit these things to your set, but when you are buying a ready-made unit then your pocket may limit you to a type of unit which does not exactly fill the bill.

These, you will agree, are concrete advantages in favour of home-construction, and when you have read these Heayberd folders, which I advise you to do, you will be more than ever convinced that this represents the easiest way of making the change over to mains operation. **174**

An Editorial Word

Talking to the Million—or A Handful?

HAVE you seen "B.B.C. Talks"? It is a readable guide to the talks that will be broadcast between January and April of this year, and following guides will deal with later periods.

It is the fashion to sneer at "talks." I have often sinned in that way myself, but when I look at this publication I am lost in admiration of the thoroughness with which the B.B.C.'s Talks Department does its work. I don't know how many people constitute that department, but it works, and I should think it works hard. The amount of planning, negotiation, and preparation necessary before such a programme as "B.B.C. Talks" can be issued must be extremely great.

The programme covers an extraordinary variety of interesting subjects, for each of which there will be a listening public, some larger than others. Nearly every one of the talks could be fascinating in its appeal. It is simply a question of whether treatment will be right and the voice and delivery good. The subjects, for the greater part, interest people who are in a thoughtful mood, and that is the trouble.

There is rather an "external university" flavour about them as a whole, although each could be made interesting, but many of them demand a technique of presentation which they will not get in all cases, and so I fear that, good as the subjects are, many of the speakers will be merely "talking on the air," not to the million that the broadcaster conjures up when he places himself in front of the microphone, but just to the handful who, by reason of their special inclination, are awaiting what he has to say.

I have just been reading a life of Lord Northcliffe (a Christmas present), the journalist who is so often hailed as the inventor of the modern newspaper. One thing he most certainly did was to make every subject he touched—politics, art, economics, the humanities—understandable to everybody who could read. And that was a very great accomplishment.

Every editor knows how difficult it is to present material in such a way that his readers shall easily comprehend it. Northcliffe insisted that his writers and editorial men should do the cogitating and that his readers should assimilate, with scarcely perceptible mental effort, the meaning of the written sentences.

Northcliffe as "O.C. Talks, B.B.C.," would have insisted on many alterations being made in the present B.B.C. methods. He would have recognised that factural accuracy and enclycopædic knowledge, however essential, were not in themselves particularly attractive to the public—indeed, sometimes the very reverse. He would have known that the average broadcast talk depends for success more on its manner than on the information conveyed by it. He would have insisted on a proper technique of presentation being observed.

He never allowed anybody to write "over the heads" of his readers. Just as he knew that every column occupied by matter which his readers could not understand, or which did not interest them, was just a column wasted; so, as "O.C. Talks, B.B.C.," he would have known that every twenty minutes occupied by a lecturer, however learned and well-informed, in talking "over the heads" of his listeners or in speaking in a way that failed to interest, was just a waste of the B.B.C.'s very expensive time and a source of irritation to an immense public.

As I turn over the pages of "B.B.C. Talks," I see scores of most fascinating titles—"What is Science"; "European Influence Upon Asia"; "The Gold Situation"; "Industrial Health"; "Public Money, Whence It Comes"; "The History of the Drama"; "Commerce the Peacemaker"; "Is Cooking an Art?"; "Illnesses that are Catching"; "What is Good Food?"; "The Day's Work in Other Lands"; "What is Beauty?"; and scores and scores of others, every one, as I have said, capable of not only holding a body of listeners, but actually fascinating them. But, in fact, will they?

The authors, men and women, are notabilities—not just hacks. Every one of them carries authority. But knowing a subject and knowing how to present it—what an immense difference between the two! How many thousands of people really "know" wireless, for instance; yet there is just a handful of them who can explain it to a popular audience. And I fear in so many cases these wonderful talks, full of facts and fancies, the clever and painstaking work of well-informed men and women, will fall on deaf ears, because the presentation will be faulty.

What the B.B.C. needs is a Talks Presentation Editor, preferably someone with both journalistic and elecutionary experience, who faces up to the fact that only a few people in their recreative moments will listen to anything serious. Such a man would know that it is really difficult to "get across" a talk to any considerable portion of the listening public.

He would see to it that the form of each talk was right, and to his wishes in this respect every speaker would be obliged to bow, but he would be careful not to destroy that magic thing, personality. Then, when this super-man had ensured that the talk was in a form that the public could not only understand, but positively enjoy, he would see that the lecturer knew how to speak.

Sometimes I forgive bad delivery because of the insight into the speaker's personality which his voice and style convey, but I generally find that bad delivery alienates listeners at once and they promptly turn to something more interesting. I know, of course, that B.B.C. speakers already are given trial auditions and that some of them have good broadcasting voices, but I think that something more than a trial audition is often necessary—definite microphone education is necessary in a large majority of cases.

It would be the task of the Presentation Editor, or of some skilled colleague to teach the speaker how to make the best of his medium. He would be shown how not to drop his voice at the end of a sentence and how to avoid other equally commonplace mistakes; he would be assisted in making his style attractive so as to please as well as interest his listeners, and if perchance some of the speakers objected to be taught, what would it matter? They would not have been listened to, anyway.

Bernard E. Jones

Another Step Towards Everyday Radio Pictures

A New System of PROJECTED TELEVISION

WE have just seen television having a real entertainment value. Sitting back in comfort, we have viewed a variety of scenes and actions projected on to a screen measuring 24 in. by 20 in.

H.M.V. Activities

The demonstration was in the laboratories of the H.M.V. works at Hayes, Middlesex, where H.M.V. research engineers disclosed the exact stage in their development of television.

Without attempting to devise an original system, the company has shown what can be done with existing ideas when fully exploited under laboratory conditions. It is emphasised that the television we saw is a laboratory product, not intended to be interpreted as a commercial activity.

Frequency

One of the factors tending to restrict television development, irrespective of system or country, is the limited frequency channels allotted to broadcasting stations.

The 9-kilocycle separation between stations was not arbitrarily decided; for that amount of "spread" is the minimum to ensure the transmission of all musical frequencies. If the channel were restricted still further musical detail would be lacking. So would vision signals; a wide frequency band is needed to provide detailed images.

It will be recalled that a printed photographic illustration consists of an enormous number of small dots, of different sizes and degrees of blackness. The more dots there are in a given area, the finer is the texture of the picture and the more readily is detail recognised. If the number of dots is reduced the picture lacks detail and graduation.

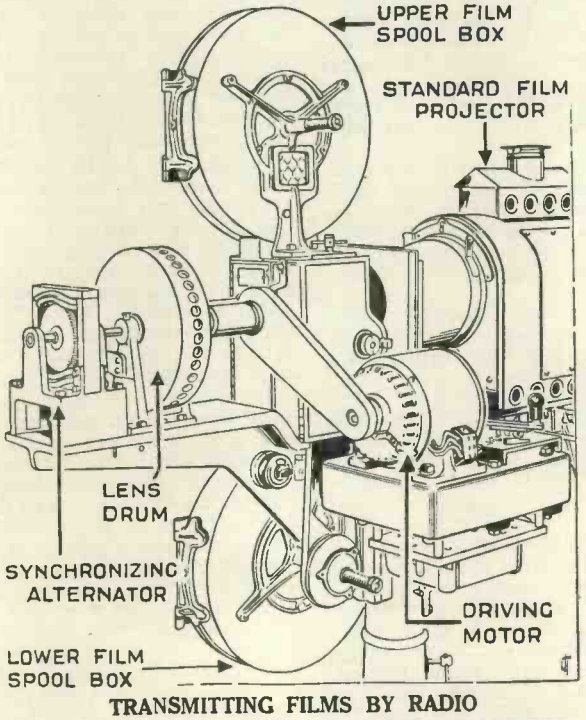
Picture Projection

This well-known fact about the make-up of a printed picture has to be remembered when considering television systems. Another simple idea needs to be known before one can understand anything about modern television apparatus. We refer to the principle involved in the motion-picture projector.

The successful projection on to a screen of moving objects depends upon the fact that the human eye tends to retain an image for an appreciable time after the object has been removed. This persistence of vision gives the illusion of a continuously moving picture, provided that not less than twelve pictures per second are passed before the eye.

120,000 Dots

If we consider a picture in which there may be as many as 10,000 constituent dots, each of these small dots must be reproduced twelve times per second to give the transmitted image the illusion of moving. So for this picture to be handled by television no less than



TRANSMITTING FILMS BY RADIO

The new His Master's Voice system splits the picture to be televised into five vertical sections. Here is part of the apparatus

120,000 individual signals would have to be transmitted per second.

When these simple facts are understood, some idea of the immensity of the problem of television can be gained. Up to the present time there has undoubtedly been a tendency to gloss over the need for detail in order to encompass the television signal within the limited broadcasting channel.

Preventing Perfection

This policy has prevented the perfection of the image to such an extent that any entertainment value has been negligible.

The advance development section of the H.M.V. research department decided that their immediate work should be the production of a *perfect television image*. Having ascertained how much real entertainment value could be secured, it was then proposed to see how this standard of perfection could be maintained as the laboratory system developed into a commercial proposition.

Entertainment

Our visit came at the completion of the laboratory work, when all the equipment had been erected in preparation for the projection of television having entertainment value. "*Without entertainment value,*" states the Gramophone Company, "*television must fail as a popular commercial proposition.*" We agree with this.

As soon as the demonstration started we realised that an entertainment value could be attached to the H.M.V. television apparatus. With a dozen or so others we were seated near the screen to view in comfort the various film "shorts" put through the near-by cinema projector.

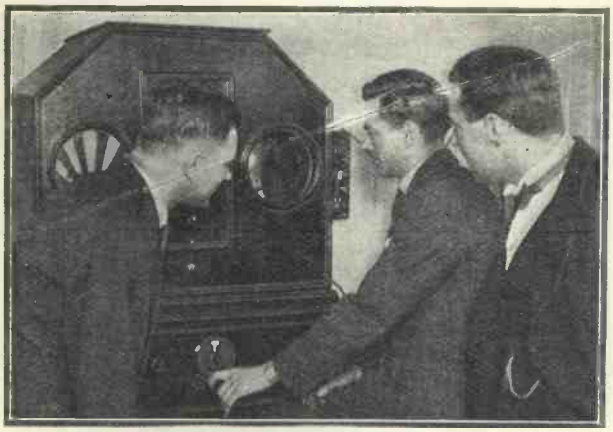
Tram Numbers

Some idea of the detail of the television image as projected on to the screen can be gauged from the fact that the numbers on the trams in a London street scene were clearly visible.

It is a great compliment to the apparatus to say that the results we saw were comparable with the results obtainable from a home cinematograph projector. It seemed hard to realise that the animated scene on the screen had passed through all the processes of television before its final projection.

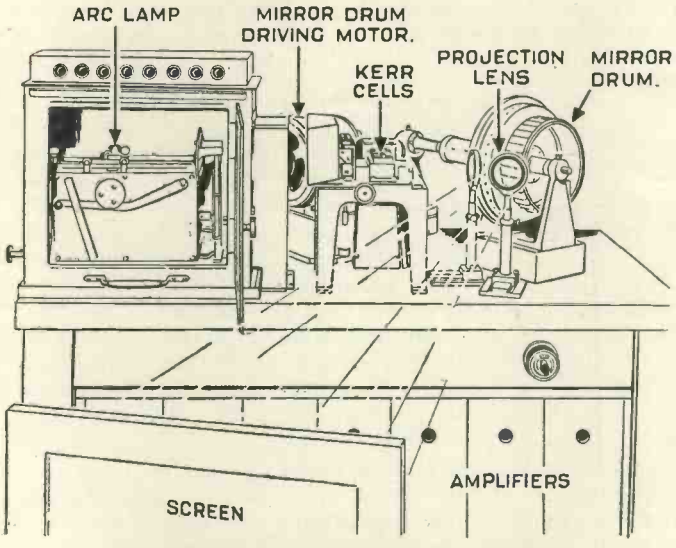
We saw such scenes as the Changing of the Guard and a cricket match, with a definition of surprising perfection. It was noted that the complete scene was built up of five sections; vertical lines occasionally running across the picture were the only evidence that what we were seeing was television and not direct projection.

After the demonstration we were allowed to see how it was done. As the drawings indicate, a film is passed through a cinematograph projector before the light reflected from it is made to operate the television transmitting apparatus.



LOOKING IN TO TELEVISION

Television reception being made on an experimental Baird apparatus. On the extreme right is Mr. Barton Chapple, who has contributed television articles to "W.M."



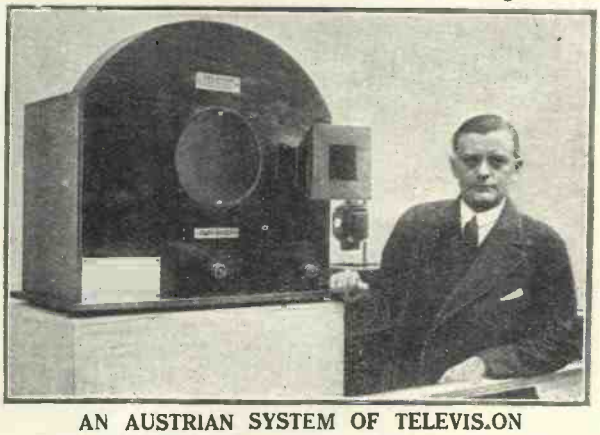
PROJECTING THE PICTURE ON A SCREEN

In the His Master's Voice system of television the picture received is projected on to a screen measuring 2 ft. wide by 20 in. deep

No attempt has yet been made to transmit still or live objects. Because of this, the television image received is really a second-hand image, just as a broadcast record is second-hand sound

Lighting

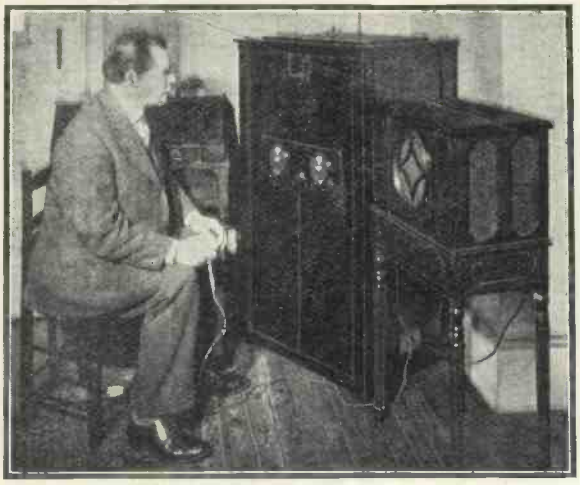
It is considerably easier to transmit the images on a film than the likeness of a human being, for example, because the lighting problem is greatly simplified. We were asked to remember that H.M.V television is a laboratory experiment, in which the use of film for transmission is thought to be



AN AUSTRIAN SYSTEM OF TELEVIS.ON

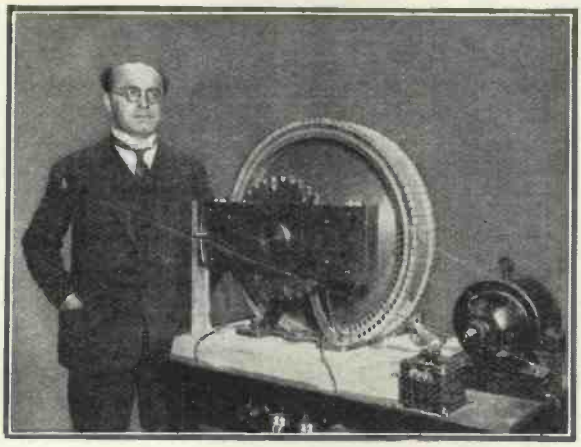
Denis von Mihaly, the Austrian television investigator, with one of his receivers. His apparatus is similar in appearance to Baird's first models

A NEW SYSTEM OF TELEVISION—Continued



A TELEVISION RECEIVER FOR THE HOME

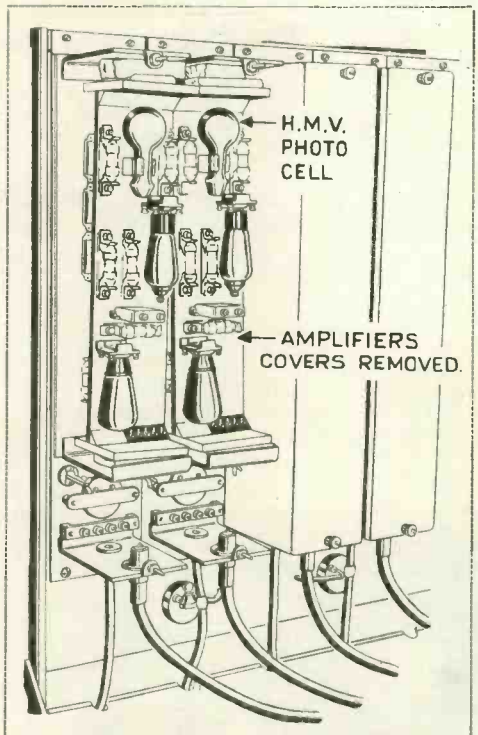
Here you see Dr. E. F. W. Alexanderson, the famous radio pioneer, with an American television receiver for use in the home



THE INVENTOR OF THE KERR CELL

Introducing Professor Karolus, the inventor of the Kerr cell, which has been used extensively in television and talkie reproduction. This cell is a device for modulating light rays by a varying electric current and is particularly reliable in action

justified, in order that the rest of the chain of events can be perfected.



PICKING UP THE PICTURE

For their system the H.M.V. engineers have produced a special type of caesium photo-electric cell. This illustration shows the back of the amplifier

In passing, it is profitable to note that, should television become practicable, the use of film would be necessary for the transmission of news pictures. Few people would be able to tune in to a television broadcast of say, the Grand National, owing to the inconvenient time, but every listener would like to see the race that evening on a television receiver.

Films would "bottle" events for future projection, just as records have "bottled" the King's speech for later broadcasting in the evening.

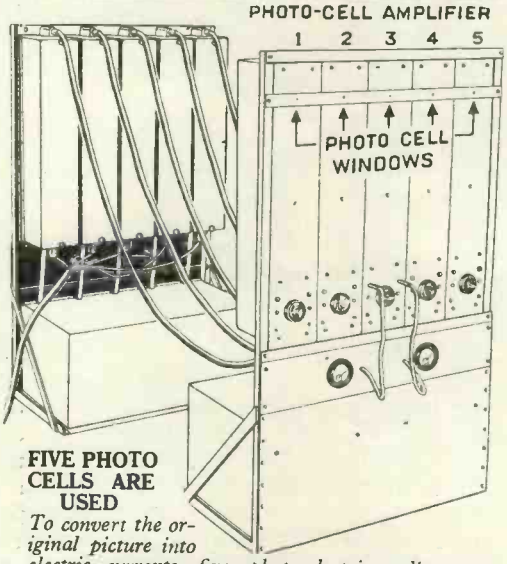
The two guiding principles in the H.M.V. system of television are the large number of picture elements used and the modulation of a brilliant light at the receiving end to ensure adequate illumination of the screen. In order to get definition and to ensure brilliance, five separate transmission channels are used.

Scanning

The film at the transmitting end is scanned in five separate sections by means of a revolving drum fitted with a series of lenses, which reflect the light from the film in turn upon five photo-electric cells. Each cell takes care of one-fifth of the total picture. The cells interpret light variations as current variations, which are amplified by a remarkable amplifier specially developed for television, and so passed along the transmission lines to the receiver.

Arc Lamp for Reception

At the receiving end is the powerful arc lamp, the light from which is modulated by what are known as Kerr cells. These cells are situated between the arc lamp and a revolving drum, having on it highly polished mirrors rotating at exactly the same speed as the transmitting lenses.



FIVE PHOTO CELLS ARE USED

To convert the original picture into electric currents five photo-electric cells are used in the His Master's Voice system

RADIO CULTURE

Does radio affect the growth of plants? Read this interesting article by GERALD H. DALY and form your own conclusions

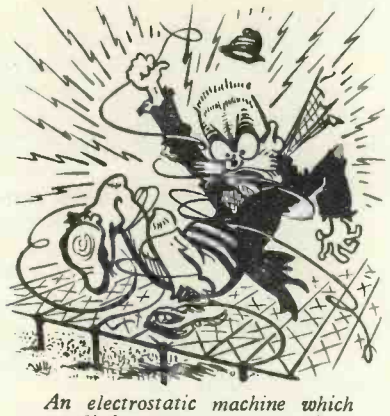
FROM Germany comes the report that a scientist has caused plants to mature very much sooner than usual by means of wireless waves.

While there is not much hope that we shall soon be using wireless waves for fertilising our gardens, instead of buying the fertiliser from shops, it is now quite certain that electricity, and wireless waves of some frequencies, can be made to have a beneficial effect on plant life.

Aurora Borealis

As far back as 1885, Professor Lemstrom noticed that, in spite of the short summer in the Polar regions, the crops grown there were in some cases quite as good as those grown in sunnier climates. After investigation, he put forward the theory that this was due to the greater electrification of the atmosphere there, caused principally by the Aurora Borealis.

He then set out to develop a system



An electrostatic machine which supplied current to a network of aerial wires supported about 10 in. above the crop

of electro culture, as it is called, in order to prove his statements, and today there is no doubt of the correctness of his theory.

Professor Lemstrom's method of electro culture is now widely used by investigators, and it is apparently by this means that the German horticulturist has achieved such remarkable results.

Electrostatic Machine

The early apparatus of Lemstrom consisted of an electrostatic machine which supplied current to a network of aerial wires supported about 10 in. above the crops. This produced electrification of the air immediately over the crops, and that this had a distinctly beneficial effect was proved by the fact that similar crops under precisely the same conditions, but without any electrification, were very inferior and took considerably longer to mature.

Recently, in place of the electrostatic machine, the dynamo, an induction coil, together with valve apparatus specially designed by Sir Oliver Lodge for the purpose, have been used, and more recently still alternating current with transformers and metal rectifiers have demonstrated clearly that this form of culture is likely to revolutionise agricultural methods when applied on a large scale.

With the modern apparatus, the aerial wires are erected about 18 ft. above the field and about 9 ft. apart; this makes it possible for the farm workers to attend to the plants or crops without any danger of a shock. Attendants have worked in this electrified atmosphere for considerable periods and no ill-effect on their health has been noticed. The aerial wires are charged to a potential of from 80,000 to 100,000 volts, so of course care has to be exercised in the matter of insulation.

Supplying the aerial grids direct with high-frequency currents of the same frequency as used in wireless has also proved beneficial to the growth of plants, but the great drawback to this method is the possibility of interference to wireless communication.

Attendants have worked in this electrified atmosphere for considerable periods

For Small Gardens

For small gardens, less elaborate equipment is necessary. Aerials 10 ft. in height and spaced 6 or 7 ft. apart, and supplied with a potential of some 20,000 volts, are said to give very good results. Of course, any one who wishes to experiment can, like Professor Lemstrom, build a small network of a few inches above the ground and supply it with 2,000 or 3,000 volts from a small induction coil and rectifier. Care must be taken to use the induction coil so that it does not interfere with wireless reception, otherwise the Post Office may object.

Why plants should respond to electrical treatment of this nature is still something of a mystery, but the famous Indian scientist, Sir J. C. Bose, has contributed a great deal towards the solution of the problem.

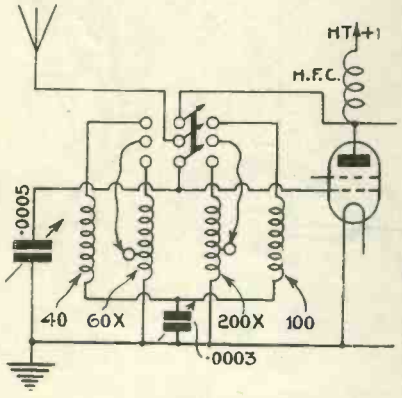
Electrical Resurrection

He has shown how electricity plays an extremely important part in plant life and in one of his now famous experiments, he killed a plant stone dead and then proceeded to bring it to life again by electrical treatment.

(*Continued at bottom of next page*)

PLUG-IN COILS

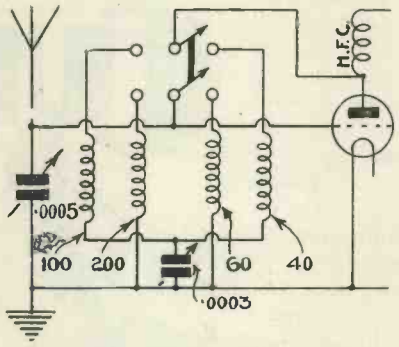
USUALLY when one wishes to change the wavelength range of a set with two-pin plug-in coils, it is necessary to fumble inside the cabinet and change them by hand. However, by the arrangement shown, the tuning can be altered from Brookman's Park to 5XX or the Eiffel Tower by a flick of a two-way switch.



How to use a three-pole change-over switch with tapped coils

This brings into play a new *pair* of coils, enabling the best reaction to be obtained.

There is no reason why this idea should not be used for double- or centre-tapped coils, but a three-way switch will be necessary. The arrangement shown has been adopted



Untapped coils need only a double-pole change-over switch

for the Celerity Three, where it proves very efficient.

Flex connects the second pair of terminals on the switch to the tappings on the X coils. G. H.

[*This hint will appeal to many constructors, for two-pin plug-in coils are still extraordinarily popular and are selling in great quantities. Many old sets can be given a new period of utility by taking advantage of the scheme indicated in this note.*]

METAL SCREENS

I CAME across a set recently which seemed to lack power on the high-frequency side. It took over an hour to trace the cause of the trouble and by that time most of the high-frequency components had been pulled out and replaced.

It transpired that a faulty contact to the screen (separating the high-frequency valve from the rest of the set) was the cause of the trouble. Some screens are covered with a transparent cellulose lacquer in order to preserve the bright appearance of the mottled metal and this covering is, of course, a tolerably good insulator.

Capacity Coupling

In this faulty set, the covering had not been properly scraped away and a connection which had been made to the screen, in order to earth one of the condensers, was only making a capacity coupling, electrically speaking, although the contact screw was tightened down well.

The thin coating of lacquer prevented the lead from making electrical contact. This is a point which should be watched. K. U.

RADIO CULTURE—Continued from preceding page

He has proved that every variation in a plant from the seed to full growth is accompanied by attendant electrical variations, and if the root of a plant is negatively charged the stem and leaves are positively charged.

We know that a tree can be made to act as a moderately efficient aerial, and the reason for this is that the sap, which acts as the aerial, is insulated from earth. This insulation property is not coincidence, but has a definite value in the life of the tree. It has also been discovered that certain plants radiate their own electromagnetic waves.

Effect of Aerials

It is sometimes reported by a wireless listener that, since the erection of his aerial, a rose tree or other plant immediately underneath has greatly improved, and the question is asked if this is due to the currents in the aerial wire.

There is no data on the subject, but when we consider that the currents in the aerial are infinitely small and the attendant field surrounding the aerial over the plants must be very weak indeed, there seems no likelihood of the ordinary aerial affecting the plants one way or the other.

However, it would be fatal to be dogmatic on such a point for an electromagnetic field, however weak,

Since the erection of his aerial, a rose tree or other plant immediately underneath has greatly improved

certainly does exist in the vicinity—a field which was not in existence before the erection of the aerial, and any factor which tends to concentrate electromagnetic waves on one point is likely to assist the growth of plants in the vicinity, basing our supposition on what we have learnt from electro culture.

High-power Transmitters

No data is available concerning the affect of the currents of a high-power wireless transmitter on the plants in the neighbourhood, but it would be interesting to know what the effect of, say, the Post Office station of Rugby is on the plants in the immediate vicinity.

There is no doubt whatever that all electromagnetic waves, whether naturally or artificially produced, do have a very definite effect on life on this planet and some day we may have wireless stations radiating wireless waves, not only for fertilising crops and plant life, but also for assisting and invigorating human life.

SHOULD THE B.B.C. JAM MOSCOW?

THEY SEEM TO ENJOY RADIO IN RUSSIA!

These members of a Communistic youths' association in Russia seem to be enjoying the political broadcasts that are causing so much controversy over here

By Our Special Commissioner

SOME curious views on the functions of the B.B.C. were disclosed in the latter weeks of the past year, when alarmist reports were prevalent in connection with Moscow's broadcast talks in English.

Most people looked to the B.B.C. to "do something" about it. That it was a matter for Government consideration did not enter their minds.

One fervent patriot inquired seriously of Savoy Hill what method it was adopting of jamming the Moscow transmission. Some people telephoned to the B.B.C. and asked permission to pay a visit to headquarters in order to listen to the Russian broadcasts; which prompted one humorous official to suggest that the B.B.C. might provide a diversion by relaying one of the propagandist transmissions to the B.B.C. stations.

In the Pay of the Soviet!

The possibility that by doing so the B.B.C. would be accused of being in the pay of the Soviet squelched effectively this display of enterprise!

The B.B.C. cannot express any official view of transmissions of the character of those from Moscow, because the purpose of its existence is to provide a broadcasting service for British listeners.

If any of the latter choose to tune in to a wavelength which is not among those utilised by the B.B.C., the Corporation has no mandate to prevent them either from doing so or from hearing whatever is being broadcast on that wavelength.

Listeners who want B.B.C. programmes would not seek for them on a wavelength of 1,304 metres; and it might perhaps be said that if the B.B.C. were given the right to interfere with foreign transmissions it would be practising no outrage by blanketing the transmissions from Radio Paris and certainly those from Motala and Kharkov, which are adjacent to Moscow in wavelength.

Those whose duty it is to preserve the integrity of wavelength allocation know only too well that in order to maintain the transmission channels with any degree of freedom from interference, strict adherence to the privileges granted at the Prague conference is essential.

Departure from that principle would only lead to reprisals and in no other social service are reprisals easier than they are in broadcasting.

* * *

Nothing attracts so much publicity as a new list of B.B.C. pronunciations and it is clear that quite an army of critics is at present nursing a grievance against Savoy Hill for daring to have the temerity to lay down rules respecting the English tongue.

Curiously, too, a feeling exists which seems to approach pretty close to fear, as regards the influence which the B.B.C. may exercise on local dialect through what have been termed "arbitrary" decisions as to the way in which certain words should be spoken.

The general misapprehension is voiced by one critic who said that "the efforts of the B.B.C. to lead us in the correct ways of pronunciation are not without a certain pathos." Heaven alone knows why.

Is it not, however, very probable that such criticism is in itself pathetic? For it misses entirely the purpose of the B.B.C. in having an Advisory Committee which formulates rules for the Corporation's officials' own guidance.

For Announcers

Savoy Hill never intended to do more than standardise the pronunciation of the announcers at its various stations. Prior to the institution of the Advisory Committee, it was frequently pointed out to the B.B.C. that its announcers did not appear to be in agreement in matters of pronunciation.

Sometimes listeners would request a ruling from Savoy Hill upon a certain word and when it had been given, according to the Savoy Hill standard, the inquirer would retort: "Then why did the announcer at —— station, last Tuesday, say something different?"

Such cases did not call for disciplinary action against the harassed announcer; he could, perhaps, produce sound authority to support his case, if he were asked for it.

SHOULD THE B.B.C. JAM MOSCOW?—Contd.

But these cases did point to the need for setting the B.B.C. house in order and regularising debatable words. Thus the meticulous mind is robbed of the opportunity of regarding the home of broadcasting as a modern Tower of Babel.

◆ ◆ ◆

Programme Referendum

The October issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE contained the first intimation of the B.B.C.'s intention to explore the possibility of conducting a referendum on its programmes; and it was explained that as a beginning a statistical survey would be made of the tastes, habits and requirements of listeners in the field of broadcast education.

It is obvious that the task of building a talks programme would be greatly simplified if the views of different sections of listeners could be obtained. It would, for instance, make it easier to determine the most appropriate method of presentation for different kinds of talks and discussions and the most suitable timing in particular for educational talks.

Ways and means of making an inquiry on these lines are calling for the careful consideration of the Central Council for Broadcast Adult Education, the B.B.C. and statistical experts.

After a suitable method of approach has been determined, the wider question will be considered of extending the investigation to cover all broadcast programmes; for, as WIRELESS MAGAZINE pointed out three months ago, if the onus of settling what the public would like can be thrown back upon listeners themselves, so much the easier it will be for the programme staff at Savoy Hill.

"War" at Savoy Hill

In the meantime, a correspondent, evidently intrigued by the WIRELESS MAGAZINE statement, proceeded to evolve in another quarter a theory that the day of broadcast educational talks was done; that what listeners wanted was entertainment and not education and that an educational "war" was developing at Savoy Hill.

The hint at dissension in the B.B.C. camp was quoted widely, without any effort being made to verify the facts. Indeed, if such an effort had been made there would have been nothing but the skeleton of a story; for certainly no skeleton is to be found in the B.B.C. cupboard.

Some difference of opinion does exist in the Talks Department at Savoy Hill; but it may be summed up in this way: one school of thought favours the development of the group discussion system in order to cater for the adolescent. Whereas children and adults are avowedly considered in the broadcast programmes, the adolescent is as yet largely outside the scope of broadcasting activities.

The peculiar characteristics of his age prevent his getting much benefit from either the children's or the adults' programme and he remains neglected at an age when he is most in need of help and influence. He is best to be reached in the environment in which his life is spent.

The other school of thought inclines to the belief that group listening is not of paramount importance; that while it is desirable to find a place in the sun for the adolescent listener, the conditions under which he shall be encouraged to the receiving set are merely matters of personal convenience.

Hence he and others who are most nearly concerned with educational broadcast reception should be given the opportunity of expressing their predilections, if they have any, on such questions as the timing of the educational talks and similar details.

This emphatically does not indicate any weakening in policy as regards the principle of adult broadcast education. When one considers that more than 100,000 copies of the B.B.C.'s talks' syllabus are distributed each session, and that the circulation of some of the Aids to Study pamphlets has reached 30,000, it is superfluous to inquire whether the educational talks have a public or not.

Why, it may be asked, did the B.B.C. decide to extend the survey at some future date to include the general programmes?

Proving Impartiality

The explanation is that the higher officials ruled that in order to be absolutely impartial and to avoid any semblance of special regard for educational broadcasting, the proposed statistical survey should contain the widest possible terms of reference.

The really difficult job is to formulate the method of undertaking the survey; but it is certain that broadcasting programmes of the future will be framed along lines of what listeners themselves desire.

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The significance of the decision to lease a site at Westerglen, near Falkirk, for the Scottish dual transmitters, is that the Aberdeen station is to remain in service when the regional scheme is completed.

Aberdeen listeners, who have been particularly zealous and vocal in the matter of their local broadcasting service, will be glad that technical considerations, among others, have cast the die in favour of the retention of their local transmitter.

It should be stated that no adamantine rule has been laid down by the B.B.C. over the future of the existing transmitters in other parts of Great Britain.

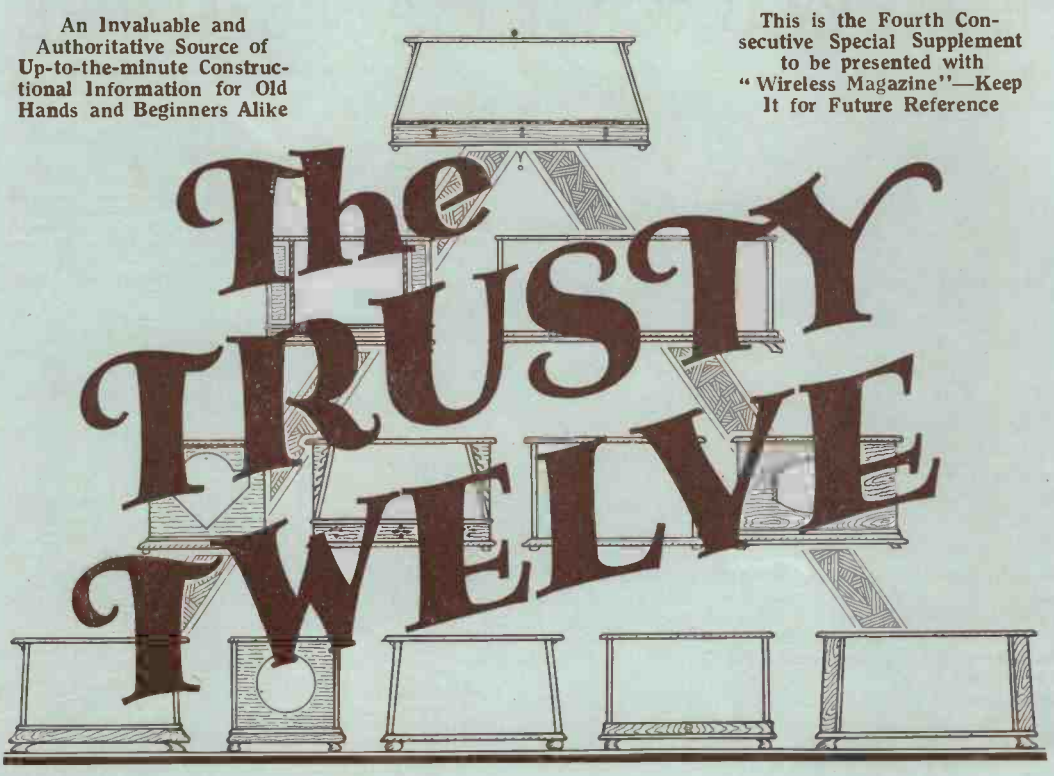
Local Necessities

The introduction of the regional system of broadcasting was, it may be remembered, regarded by many listeners as a scheme for the entire replacement of low-power transmitters; but Savoy Hill has always held the view that local necessities should be kept in mind.

Where listeners have been catered for locally in districts which are not definitely within the service area of a regional transmitter, then the drastic step of closing down the local transmitter should be at any rate postponed. Aberdeen is not the only case in point. Newcastle and Plymouth will come within the same category.

An Invaluable and Authoritative Source of Up-to-the-minute Constructional Information for Old Hands and Beginners Alike

This is the Fourth Consecutive Special Supplement to be presented with "Wireless Magazine"—Keep It for Future Reference



IN this supplement we present details of twelve home-constructor sets and mains units—we have called them the Trusty Twelve—that cover every listening and gramo-radio need. All of them have been used and tested by numerous readers; you can build any with absolute confidence.

To encourage as many readers as possible to build one of these up-to-date receivers—we believe that far too many obsolete sets are still in use—we are offering full-size blueprints of any of the Trusty Twelve for a limited period at half-price.

This means that you can get a full-size blueprint, layout and wiring chart with all the connections separately numbered for 6d. if the set does not contain more than three valves and for 9d. if more than three valves are employed. No such offer has ever before been made to constructors and we are prepared to supply, without delay, the thousands of copies that readers will want. Use must be made of the special coupon on Page Nine if advantage is to be taken of this fine offer.

A whole page is devoted to details of each receiver—there is a circuit diagram, reduced-scale layout and wiring guide, photographs, and a complete component specification for each design.

A feature of particular value about the specification is that the price of each individual part is indicated. If you already have a number of parts on hand you can in a few moments estimate the cost of the remainder of the components needed for any particular set.

The Trusty Twelve—all reader-tested sets, remember—comprise a battery-operated two-valver, two battery three-valvers, two battery four-valvers and a battery-operated five-valver with two screened-grid stages; also an A.C. three-valver, A.C. four-valver, a portable screened-grid three, and a three-valve short-waver. For those who want to convert a battery set for mains operation, there is an A.C. high-tension unit and a D.C. unit.

From this fine selection you will be able to select a design to suit your needs. Every set is up to date and the component parts can be obtained without difficulty.

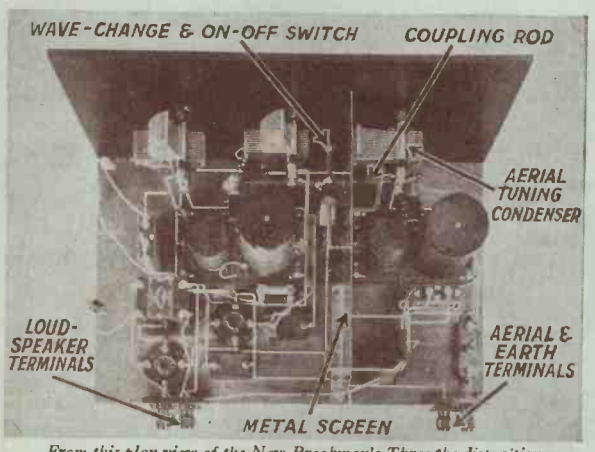
Following is a complete index to the contents of this special home-constructor's supplement.—

If you have never yet taken advantage of the WIRELESS MAGAZINE *full-size blueprint service, here is your chance. Not only do these blueprints show the exact position of every component, but each connecting wire is numbered separately in the most convenient order of assembly. You cannot go wrong or miss out a connection if you work from a "W.M." blueprint. Tell your friends if they do not already know!*

Have Better Radio with One of These Sets!

THE NEW BROOKMAN'S THREE

Approved by W. James



From this plan view of the New Brookman's Three the disposition of all the components will be clear

THIS set is a revised and cheapened version of W. James' original Brookman's Three—the most popular set ever described in WIRELESS MAGAZINE. The original set was first described in October 1929 and the New Brookman's Three was published in November, 1930.

Use is made of the famous Binowave coils designed for WIRELESS MAGAZINE by W. James. In this design a single wave-change switch controls both coils.

Even when used close to a regional transmitter this receiver is sufficiently selective to ensure the reception of a large number of Continental programmes.

Hundreds of readers are getting good results from this set. Why not try it yourself?

COMPONENTS NEEDED

COILS
1—Pair of Wearite Binowave coils, types A and C, with ganging device. £1 17s.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Graham-Farish .0001-microfarad, 1s. (or Lissen, Edison Bell).
1—Graham-Farish .0002-microfarad, 1s. (or Lissen, Edison Bell).
2—Franklin 1-microfarad, 4s. (or Lissen, Mullard).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Formo .0005-microfarad, 9s. (or Utility, Jackson).
1—Formo .00035-microfarad, 4s. 6d. (or Utility, Jackson).
1—Sovereign pre-set, .0003-microfarad maximum, 1s. 6d. (or Formo, Ormond).

DIALS, SLOW-MOTION
2—Ormond, 5s. (or Brownie, Utility).

EBONITE
1—Red Triangle panel, 16 in. by 8 in., 8s. (or Becol, Trelleborg).
2—Junit terminal blocks, 1s. 4d. (or Lissen, Belling-Lee).

HOLDER, GRID-LEAK
1—Bulgin, type G6, 9d. (or Lissen, Dubilier).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Brownie, 2s. (or Clix, W.B.).
1—Parex screened-grid, 2s. (or W.B., Junit).

PLUGS
6—Belling-Lee, marked: Grid—1, Grid—2, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.—, 1s. 6d. (or Clix, Eelex).

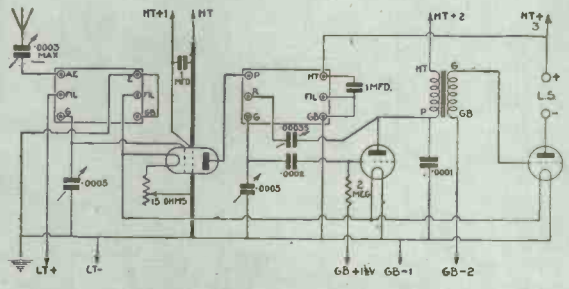
RESISTANCE, FIXED
1—Lissen 2-megohm, 1s. (or Watmel, Dubilier).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Wearite 15-ohm, 1s. 6d. (or Lissen, Ormond).

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Varley Ni-core 2, 17s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Philips).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
1—Pertrix 120-volt, standard type, 15s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Grosvenor).
1—Pertrix 9-volt grid-bias, 1s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Grosvenor).
1—Exide 2-volt accumulator, type CZG4, 13s. 6d. (or C.A.V., Lissen).



The circuit of the New Brookman's Three comprises a screened-grid stage, leaky-grid detector, and power valve

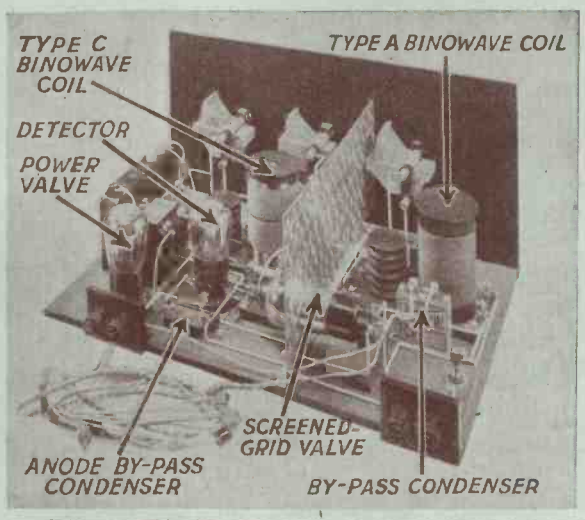
SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Rubber-covered flex for battery leads.
1—Knob for reaction condenser.
1—Pair Lissen panel brackets, 8d. (or Keystone, Camco).
1—Parex screen to specification, 2s. 9d. (or Ready Radio, H. & B.).

TERMINALS
4—Belling-Lee, type B, marked: Aerial, Earth, L.S.+, L.S.—, 2s. (or Igranic, Clix).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked: L.T.+ L.T.—, 9d. (or Clix, Eelex).

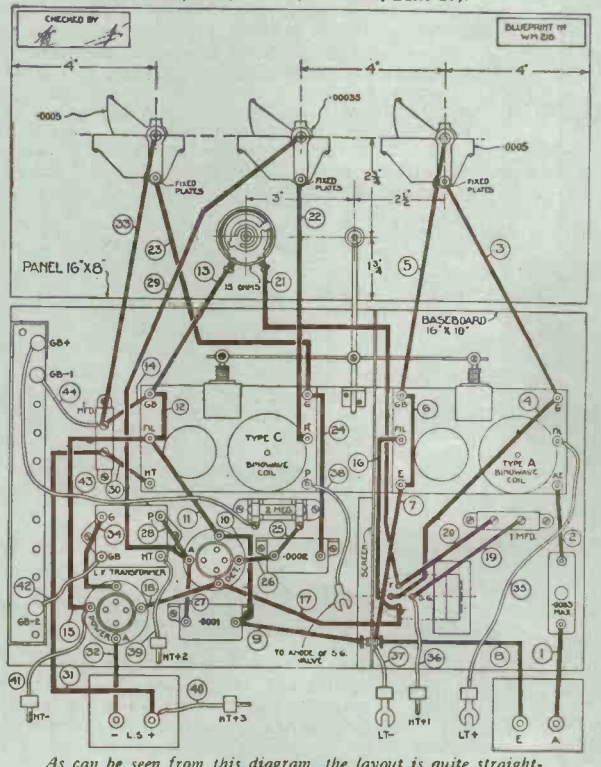
CABINET
1—Osborn, with 10-in. baseboard, 15s. (or Lock, Carrington).

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Tunewell cabinet cone, £3 3s. (or Blue Spot, Loewe).

VALVES
1—Cossor 220SG, £1 (or Mullard PM12, Dario SG).
1—Cossor 210HF, 8s. 6d. (or Mullard PM1HF, Dario Super HF).
1—Cossor 220P, 10s. 6d. (or Mullard PM2, Dario SP).



This set is ideal for those who want a powerful but not too expensive receiver which is also very selective.



As can be seen from this diagram, the layout is quite straightforward and wiring is not difficult

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 6d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

THE DUAL-SCREEN FIVE

A reactionless set with two screened-grid stages. Fine gramo-radio combination.

THIS receiver is an attempt to produce a powerful set to get plenty of foreign stations without reaction. Two screened-grid valves are used for this reason.

That this object has been achieved is proved by a report from a reader in Paris, who has been able to get forty stations on the loud-speaker—"under very bad conditions," he adds.

Not only is the receiver excellent for radio reception, but provision is also made for the use of a pick-up, so that gramophone records can be reproduced electrically.

For the sake of quality an anode-bend detector is used, this being followed by two stages of low-frequency amplification.

Separate tuning condensers are used for the high-frequency transformers, which are, of course, of the dual-range type. A choke-capacity output circuit is incorporated.

Volume Controls

Two volume controls are provided, one on the high-frequency side and the other on the low-frequency side. Both can be used for radio reception, while the second only is employed for controlling the volume of records.

Every precaution has been taken to get the most out of the screened-grid stages—adequate screening is provided and each valve has a separate grid-bias cell.

In order to prevent motor-boating, the detector-valve anode circuit includes a decoupling resistance and by-pass condenser.

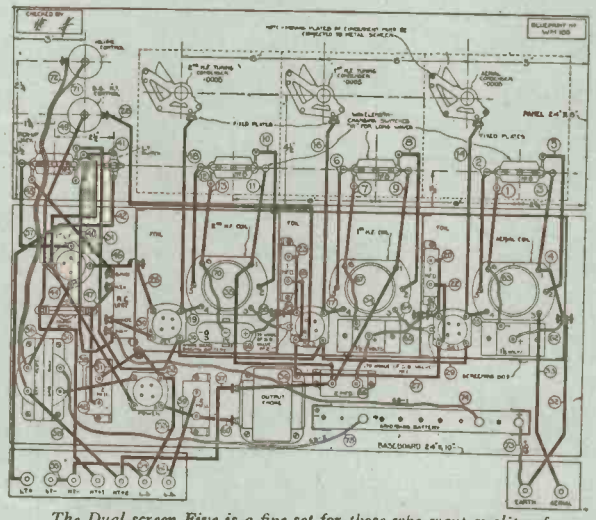
The pick-up is put in circuit when needed by means of a jack mounted at the right of the front panel. This can, of course, be omitted if desired.

The Dual-screen Five is an excellent receiver and you will not be disappointed with the results if you build it.

Full details were published in March, 1930.

COMPONENTS NEEDED

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Varley, type DP12, £1 1s. (or Climax, Formo).



The Dual-screen Five is a fine set for those who want quality of reproduction—here is a much reduced wiring diagram

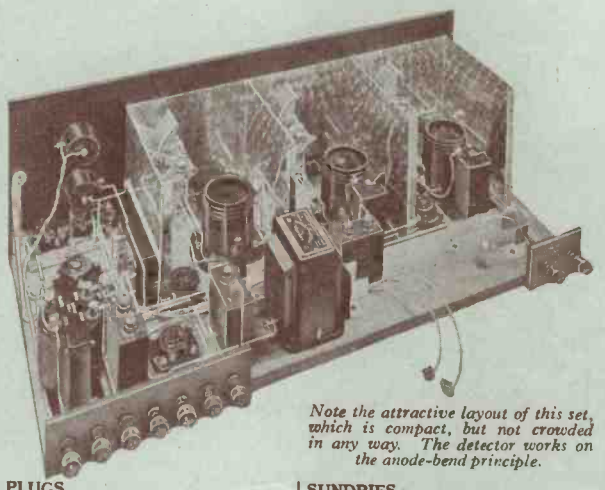
COILS
3—Colvern high-frequency transformers, type T2R, £1 7s. 6d.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
2—T.C.C. 1-microfarad, 5s. 8d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
3—T.C.C. 2-microfarad, 11s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
3—Ormond .0005-microfarad, with pointer dials, type R/375, £1 1s. (or Jackson, Polar).

EBONITE
1—Lissen 24 in. by 8 in. panel, 11s. 6d. (or Ready Radio, Becol).
2—Terminal strips, 7½ in. by 2 in. and 3 in. by 2 in.

HOLDERS, VALVE
5—Benjamin Vibrolders, 7s. 6d. (or Lotus, Burton).



Note the attractive layout of this set, which is compact, but not crowded in any way. The detector works on the anode-bend principle.

PLUGS
3—Belling-Lee wander plugs, marked: Grid+, Grid+1, Grid—2, 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).

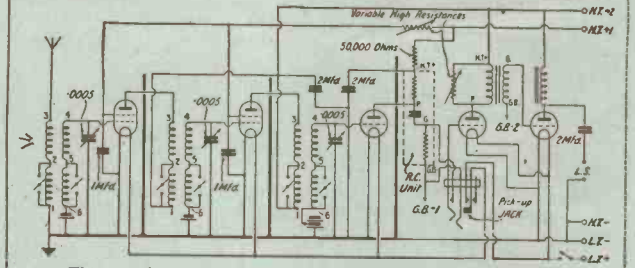
RESIST.-CAPACITY COUPLING
1—Edison Bell, type R/380, 4s. 3d. (or Dubilier, Varley).

RESISTANCE, FIXED
1—Graham-Farish 50,000-ohm with holder, 2s. 9d. (or Ready Radio, Ediswan).

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Length of rubber-covered flex.
1—Pair Keystone panel brackets, 2s.

SWITCHES
3—Lotus No. JS8, jack type, 10s. 6d.
1—Lotus No. JK5 jack, 3s.
1—Lotus plug, 2s.
1—Benjamin on-off switch, 1s. 9d. (or Burton, Gripso).

TERMINALS
9—Belling-Lee insulated terminals, marked: Aerial, Earth, L.S.+, L.S.—, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.—, L.T.+, L.T.—, 4s. 6d. (or Clix, Burton).



This set has two screened-grid valves, anode-bend detector, resistance-coupled low-frequency stage and transformer-coupled power valve

RESISTANCES, VARIABLE
2—Harlie Volustats. 15s. (or Clarostats, Regentstats).

SCREEN
1—Parex copper screening box, £1 1s. (or Ready Radio, Keystone).

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Ediswan shrouded type, £1 2s. 6d. (or Sifam, Formo).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
3—Ever Ready 54-volt, type W33, £2 14s. (or Siemens, Obeta).
1—Ever Ready 16-volt, type GB2, 3s. 6d. (or Siemens, Obeta).
2—Siemens 1½-volt, type GT, 9d. (or Ever Ready).
1—Siemens 4½-volt, type G1, 1s. 3d. (or Ever Ready).
1—Lissen 2-volt accumulator, 60-ampere hour, 17s. 6d. (or Young, C.A.V.).

CABINET
1—Ready Radio, upright type, £2.

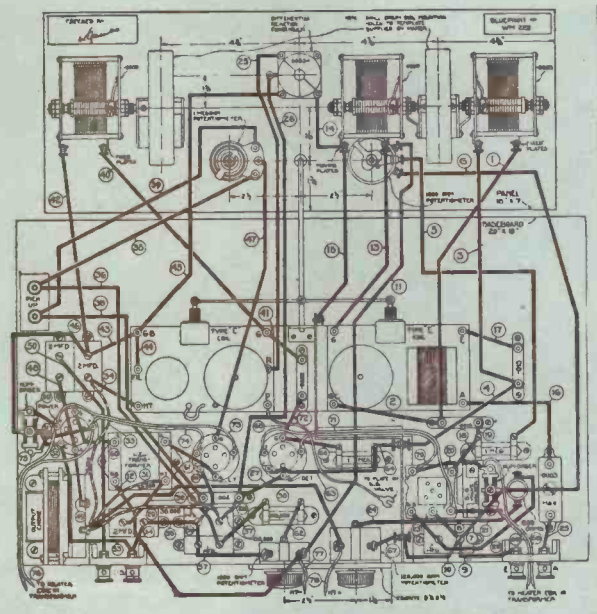
LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Ultra double-diaphragm, type U14, £5 5s. (or Brown, Blue Spot).

VALVES
2—Marconi S215, £2 (or Mazda 215SG, Cossor 220SG).
1—Marconi HL210, 8s. 6d. (or Mazda HL210, Cossor 210HF).
1—Marconi L210, 8s. 6d. (or Mazda L210, Cossor 210LF).
1—Marconi P240, 13s. 6d. (or Mazda P220, Cossor 220P).

Here you see the Dual-screen Five completely wired up and with valves in position ready for use. It is a fine set for those who want good loud-speaker reception from many Continental stations.

THE REGIONAL A.C. FOUR

This set, designed by W. James, has band-pass tuning and takes all its current from A.C. mains



You will get a good idea of the layout of the Regional A.C. Four from this reduced wiring diagram

A FINE all-electric design by W. James for those who want an up-to-date gramo-radio combination is the best description of the Regional A.C. Four.

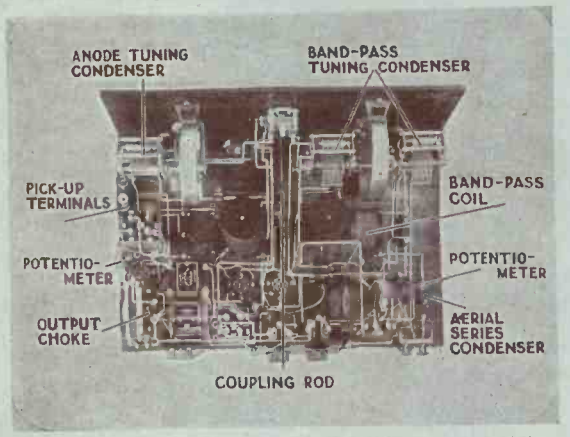
The set has been built to fit a standard gramo-radio cabinet and for this reason the mains unit is separate from the receiver itself.

A.C. current from the mains is rectified to D.C. for supplying to the valve anodes by means of a metal rectifier.

The anode circuit of each of the first three valves is provided with a voltage-regulating resistance which also acts as a decoupler. There is no risk of motor-boating.

A feature of the set is the use of the famous Binowave coils, which have contributed to the success of so many WIRELESS MAGAZINE receivers.

The Regional A.C. Four can be relied on to give excellent results wherever it may be used. The construction was fully described in December, 1930, by W. James. Since then many good reports have been received from readers all over the country.



A plan view of the set, which takes all its current (even grid bias) from the A.C. mains

PARTS YOU WILL NEED

CHOKES, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Igranic, type C30, 15s. 6d. (output choke).
1—Parmeko, £1 7s. 6d. (smoothing choke).

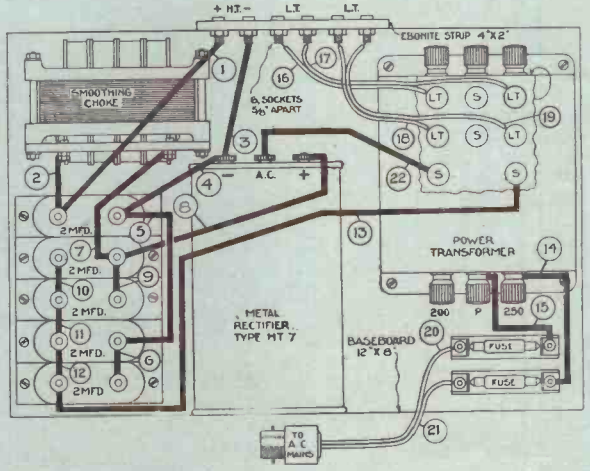
COILS
1—Pair of Wearite Binowave coils, types C and E, with ganging device, £1 17s.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—T.C.C. .0002-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
1—T.C.C. .0005-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
1—T.C.C. .002-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 10d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
1—T.C.C. .015-microfarad, upright type, 3s. 3d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
1—Franklin 1-microfarad, 2s. (or T.C.C., Hydra).
5—Ferranti 2-microfarad, 15s. (or Mullard, T.C.C.).
5—Franklin 2-microfarad, 13s. 4d. (or T.C.C., Mullard).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
3—Polar .0005-microfarad Universal ganged condensers, £1 2s. 6d.

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Magnum 600-ohm, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Magnum 80,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 2s. (or Bulgin).
2—Magnum 30,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 3s. (or Bulgin).
1—Magnum 20,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Lissen 100,000-ohm, grid-leak, 1s.
2—Lissen 1-megohm grid leaks, 2s. (or Watmel).

RESISTANCES, VARIABLE
2—Clarostat 30-ohm potentiometers, 5s. 6d.
2—Regentstat 1,000-ohm potentiometers, 19s.



Here is a separate wiring diagram of the mains unit. A blueprint of this is supplied with the blueprint of the set itself

1—Lotus .00034-microfarad differential, 8s. 6d.
1—Formo pre-set, .0003-microfarad 1s. 6d. (or Sovereign, Lewcos).

DIALS
2—Polar, drum drive, 17s.

EBONITE
1—Trelleborg 18 in. by 7 in. panel, 16s. 6d. (or Becol, Lissen).
3—Belling-Lee terminal blocks, 2s. (or Lissen, Junit).
1—Panel, 5 in. by 2½ in.
1—Panel, 4 in. by 2 in.

FUSES
2—Microfuses, 250-milliampere type, with holders, 5s.

HOLDERS, GRID-LEAK
3—Bulgin, 2s. 3d.

HOLDERS, VALVE
3—Telsen five-pin, 3s. 9d. (or W.B., Lotus).
1—Junit, SG type, 1s. 9d. (or Parex).

METAL RECTIFIER
1—Westinghouse, type HT7, £1 1s.

PLUGS
6—Belling-Lee, marked: H.T.+, H.T.−, L.T.−(4), 1s. 6d.
6—Belling-Lee sockets, 1s. 6d.

1—Regentstat 120,000-ohm potentiometer, 11s. 6d.
1—Igranic 1-megohm potentiometer, type 2233/9, 6s.

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Rubber-covered flex for battery leads.
1—Peto-Scott screen to specification, 4s. 6d.
Length of flex.

TERMINALS
6—Eelex, marked: Aerial, Earth, L.S.+, L.S.−, Pick-up+, Pick-up−, 2s. 3d. (or Igranic, Burton).

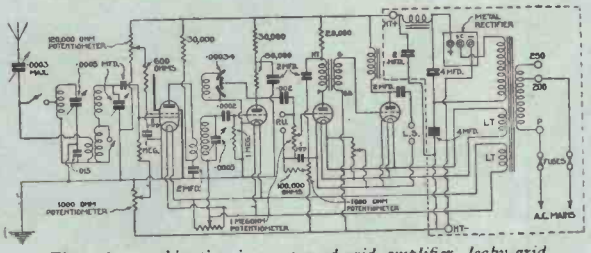
TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Varley Ni-core II, 17s. 6d. (or Telsen, Ferranti).

TRANSFORMER, MAINS
1—Regentone, type WRM, £1 7s. 6d.

ACCESSORIES

CABINET
1—Carrington Waverley radio-gramophone model, £5 10s.

VALVES
1—Mullard S4VB, £1 5s.
1—Mullard 354, 15s.
1—Mullard 164V, 17s. 6d.
1—Mullard 064, 16s.



The valve combination is a screened-grid amplifier, leaky-grid detector, a resistance-coupled low-frequency stage and a transformer-coupled power valve

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 9d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

WHICH SET SHALL I BUILD?

Some practical advice to beginners.

UNLESS the listener has pre-conceived ideas on the subject, it is always a difficult matter to decide on what particular type of set will best meet individual needs. We have therefore prepared the following notes about the Trusty Twelve in order to simplify the choice of the best set.

Batteries or Mains

Probably the first point that the constructor will wish to decide is whether to build a battery-operated or a mains set.

If the house in which the receiver is to be used has a D.C. (direct-current) electric-light supply, then a battery-operated set, either with or without a mains unit for high tension, is the best proposition.

If A.C. (alternating current) mains are available, many listeners will prefer to have a set taking all its power from the electric supply. Provided that ordinary precautions are taken there is no danger either in the construction or operation of such a set.

In this supplement details are given of an A.C. three-valver and an A.C. four-valver. Either of these sets will give satisfactory service, but of course the latter is more powerful. It should be remembered, however, that because of the high efficiency of modern mains valves a mains "three" will in most cases be as powerful as a battery-operated four- or five-valver.

Six Designs

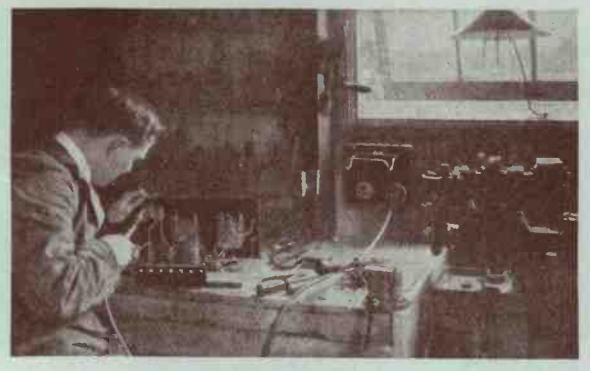
If a battery-operated set is desired, the constructor has the choice in these pages of six different designs—a "two," two "threes," two "fours," and a five-valver. The two-valver is, of course, intended only for the reception of local stations, but under favourable conditions it will also pick up a number of foreign programmes.

Really good reception of a fair number of Continental stations is assured by the use of either of the three-valve sets detailed in these pages, and between these the cost of construction will probably be the deciding factor.

The reception of foreign transmissions will be easier and better if one of the four-valve sets is used. We would point out here that the set with band-pass tuning is, of course, more selective than the other; incidentally it is more expensive.

The five-valve set can be recommended to those who want to receive a large number of stations at really good quality, for the particular design dealt with in this supplement dispenses with a reaction control and the reproduction is therefore more than ordinarily pure.

Many constructors of so-called battery-operated sets will desire to obtain the high-tension supply from electric-light mains when these are available, although the valve filaments are still run from a low-tension accumulator. In these pages details are given of two such high-tension units, one for use with D.C. mains, and the other for A.C. mains.



T. H. Reyner, Technical Editor of WIRELESS MAGAZINE, *at work on an experimental set at the Elstree laboratories*

A point that should not be overlooked by the prospective constructor is the inclusion in the circuit of some means of connecting an electromagnetic pick-up for the reproducton of gramophone records. A number of sets illustrated in these pages are arranged for the convenient use of a pick-up when desired.

Lastly, for those who want a portable set, there is a battery-operated screened-grid "three," while others who are interested in the possibility of ultra short-wave reception from distant parts of the earth should not overlook the special three-valver intended for this purpose.

It is not at all easy to discuss the capabilities of a set in terms of distance from a particular broadcasting station. For instance, London listeners with a three-valve set find it much easier to get Rome than to pick up Bournemouth, although the former is so far away.

Not only do the powers of broadcasting stations vary considerably, but they also employ varying degrees of modulation, with a consequent variation in range for a given power.

However, it is possible to be a little more definite in respect of the British stations.

Regional Reception

If it is desired to get only one of the high-power regional stations on the loud-speaker, then a two-valver will be suitable for distances up to fifty miles under normal conditions. Such a set *might* give good results 200 miles away, but the fifty-mile range can almost be guaranteed.

A three-valve set will give the regional transmissions at good up to a distance of 100 miles, but for greater ranges than this a four-valve receiver is recommended, unless the constructor can find out definitely from friends or a radio dealer that a smaller set is good enough for the locality.

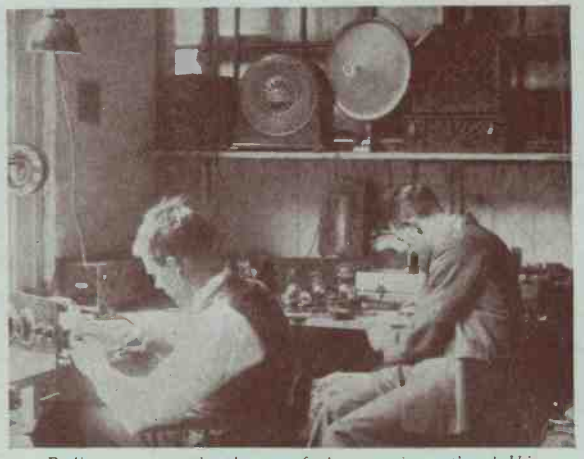
Ask a Friend

It is always a good plan to discuss reception conditions of one's immediate localities with somebody who already has a radio set in use.

It is true that not all three-valve sets will give the same results, but you may be able to find out definitely that a two-valver will not give the particular stations you require in a particular neighbourhood.

There is also the question of variations in individual aerial and earth systems. Some indoor aerials are better than outdoor aerials, for instance.

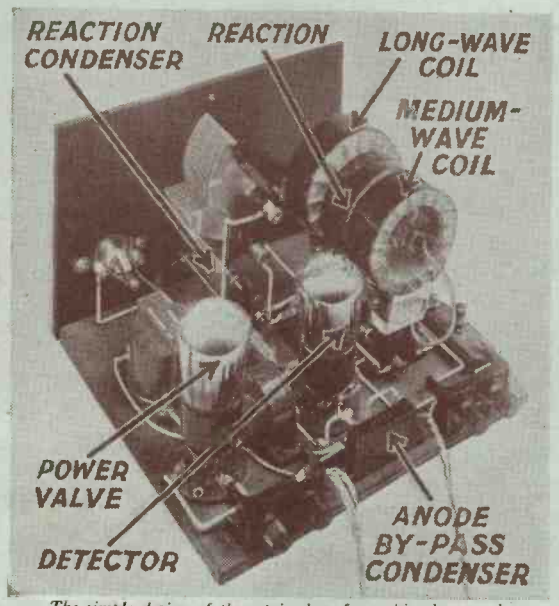
There is a thrill for every listener who builds his own set when he connects it up for the first time!



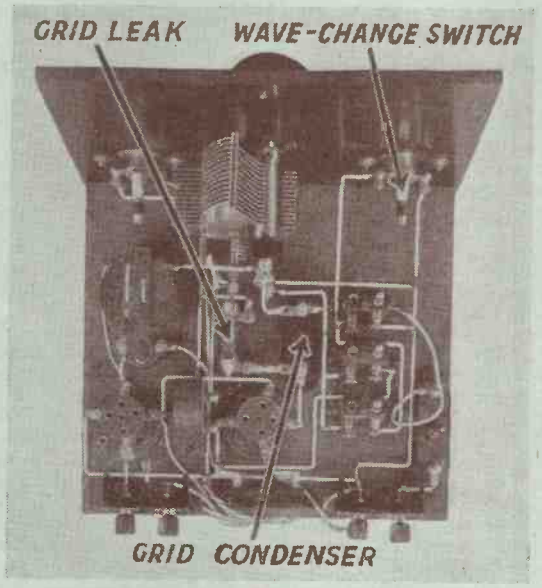
Radio-set construction is one of the most interesting hobbies anybody can have

THE FIVE-POINT TWO

A two-pin plug-in coil set that has a wave-change switch to avoid changing coils



The simple design of the set is clear from this photograph, which shows the valves and coils in position

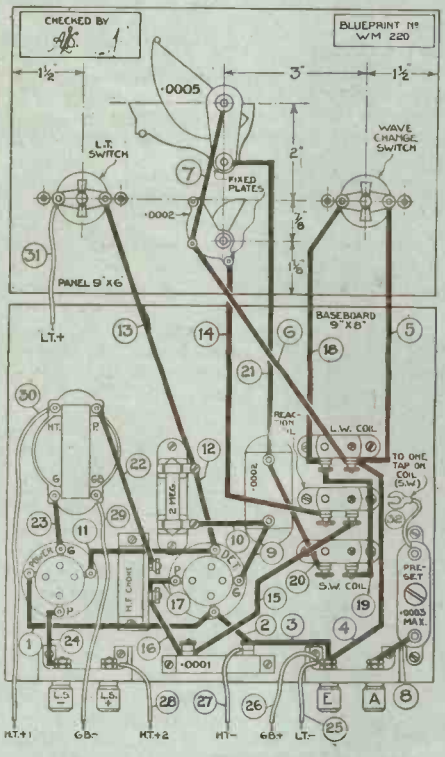


From this plan view the disposition of all the parts is clear. The cost of components is very low

EIGHT medium-wave stations on the loud-speaker have been obtained by a Plymouth constructor of the Five-point Two, which was fully described in "W.M." for December, 1930.

Although plug-in coils are used a single switch enables the operator to cover both wavebands.

This little set can be relied on to give really satisfactory loud-speaker reproduction within fifty miles or so of a regional transmitter under average aerial-and-earth conditions. A number of Continental stations may also be heard.



This wiring diagram shows how simple the set is to connect up—the construction will not take more than an hour or so

PARTS YOU WILL NEED

CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Telsen, 2s. 6d. (or Igranic, Lissen).

COILS
1—Atlas No. 40 plug-in, 2s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).
1—Atlas No. 150 plug-in, 3s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).
1—Atlas No. 60 double-tapped plug-in, 5s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Dubilier .0001-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 8d. (or Graham-Farish, Edison Bell).
1—Dubilier .0002-microfarad, 1s. 8d. (or Graham-Farish, Edison Bell).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
1—Ormond .0005-microfarad, type R/426, with slow-motion dial, 6s. (or Jackson, Lotus).
1—Burton .0002-microfarad reaction, 4s. (or Bulgin, Formo).
1—Polar preset, .0003-microfarad maximum, 2s. (or Igranic, Lewcodenser).

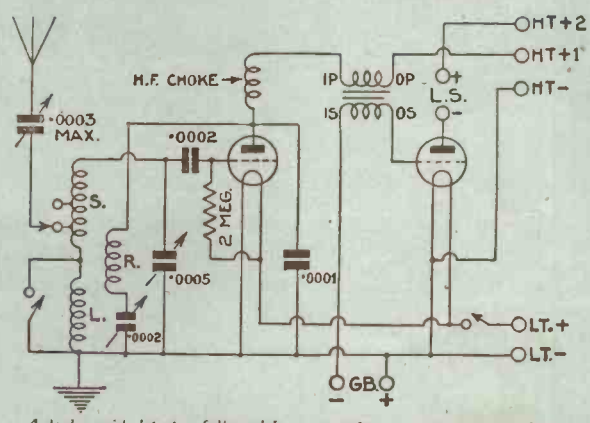
EBONITE
1—Becol, 9 in. by 6 in. panel, 3s. 3d. (or Lissen, Red Triangle).
2—Belling-Lee terminal blocks, 1s. 4d. (or Junit, Lissen).

RESISTANCE, FIXED
1—Dubilier 2 megohm, 1s. 9d. (or Watmel, Lissen).

SUNDRIES
Insulated wire for connecting (Glazite).
Length of rubber-covered flex (Lewcoflex).

SWITCHES
1—Gripso single-pole, marked "On" and "Off," 1s. 9d.
1—Gripso three-point, marked "Long" and "Short," 2s.

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Igranic Midget, ratio 1 to 3, 10s. 6d. (or Telsen, Brownie).



A leaky-grid detector followed by a transformer-coupled power valve is the combination used in the Five-point Two

HOLDERS, COIL
3—Lissen, 3s. (or Lotus, Magnum).

HOLDER, GRID-LEAK
1—Bulgin, type G6, 9d. (or Lissen).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Clix 4/5 pin type, 1s. 8d. (or Benjamin, W.B.).

PLUGS
5—Belling-Lee, marked: H.T.+2, H.T.+1, H.T.-, G.B.+, G.B.-, 1s. 3d. (or Eelex, Clix).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked: L.T.+, L.T.-, 9d. (or Igranic, Burton).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
1—Pertrix 120-volt, standard type, 15s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Siemens).
1—Pertrix 9-volt grid bias, 1s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Siemens).
1—C.A.V. 2-volt accumulator, type 2AG7, 11s.

CABINET
1—Camco V.B., oak, 11s. 6d.

VALVES
1—Marconi H2, 8s. 6d. (or Osram H2).
1—Marconi P215, 10s. 6d. (or Osram P215, Mullard PM2).

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 6d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

THE JAMES PORTABLE S.G.3

As good as most four-valvers!

"IT is, as claimed, as good as most four-valve sets," says a Sevenoaks reader in reference to the James Portab'e S.G. 3. We have had many other enthusiastic reports about this receiver from all over the country.

The success of the set is due in large measure to the use of a special dual-range screened-grid coupling coil specially designed by W. James for this receiver.

Another feature of the set is that it is built up entirely on an aluminium chassis that acts as an effective screen between the components.

In spite of the fact that only three valves are used (the combination is actually a screened-grid high-frequency stage, leaky-grid detector, and a transformer-coupled power valve), it is possible to pick up a fair number of foreign stations at good strength on this portable set.

The chassis is arranged to fit into the suitcase type of portable cabinet the batteries being arranged at the back of the case in the ordinary way. The loud-speaker and dual-wave frame aerial are contained in the lid of the cabinet.

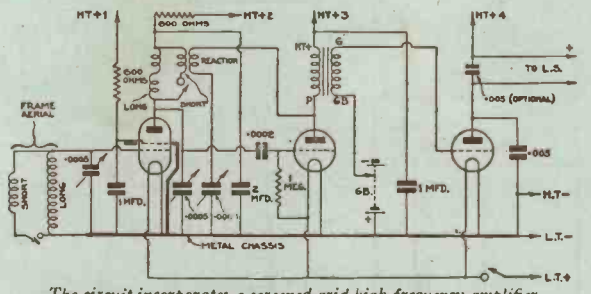
Apart from the aluminium chassis and the special tuning coil, all the parts used in the James Portable S.G. 3 are standard and can be obtained without difficulty. Full constructional details were given in the July 1930 issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE.

If it is desired to make the dual-range coil at home, full winding details will be found on page 82 of the August 1930 issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE. Many constructors, however, will prefer to buy the coil already wound.

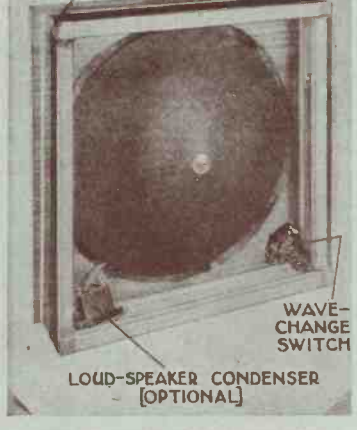
Any reader might be excused for supposing, after a glance at the layout diagram reproduced below, that the set is difficult to construct. But that is not the case, for the dimension marks have been omitted from the blueprint for they would be superfluous on a full-scale drawing.

Little difficulty will be experienced in assembling the set if use is made of a metal chassis that is already drilled for fixing the components. Any of the well-known kit dealers will be able to supply the chassis ready for use.

We have received favourable reports from listeners all over the country, and considering its performance, the cost of construction of this portable set is very reasonable. Following is a complete list of all the components that will be required for the construction :—



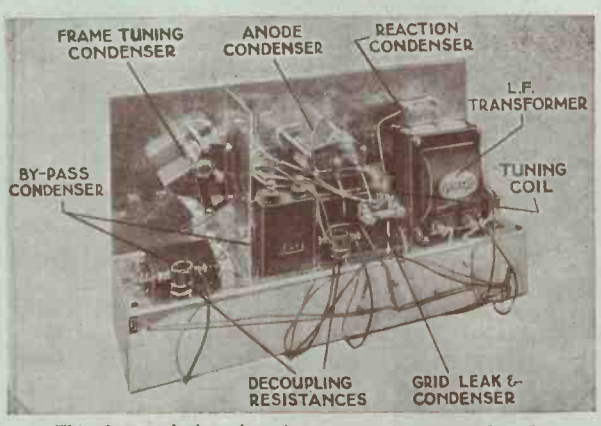
The circuit incorporates a screened-grid high-frequency amplifier, leaky-grid detector and a transformer-coupled power stage



Here you see how the aerial and loud-speaker are mounted on a wooden frame that fits into the lid of a suitcase-type portable cabinet

COMPONENTS REQUIRED

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—T.C.C. .0002-microfarad, type SP, 2s. 4d.
1—T.C.C. .005-microfarad, 2s. 6d. (or Igranic, Ormond).
1—T.C.C. .005-microfarad, 2s. 6d. (or Edison Bell, Magnum). N.B.—This is optional across loud-speaker.



This photograph shows how the components are mounted on the aluminium chassis, which also acts as an efficient screen

2—T.C.C. 1-microfarad, 5s. 8d. (or Dubilier, Hydra).
1—Dubilier 2-microfarad, type BT, 3s. 6d. (or Lissen, Hydra).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Jackson Tiny, with dials, .0005-microfarad, £1 (or Formo).
1—Lotus .00034-microfarad reaction, type RC/34, 5s. 6d.

HOLDERS, VALVE
3—W.B. rigid type, 3s. (or Lotus, Benjamin).

PLUGS
7—Belling-Lee wander plugs, marked: H.T.—, H.T.+ 1, H.T.+ 2, H.T.+3, H.T.+4, G.B.—, G.B.+, 1s. 9d. (or Clix, Igranic).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked: L.T.+, L.T.—, 8d. (or Clix, Eelex).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Berclif 600-ohm, 3s. (or Wearite, Ready Radio).
1—Dubilier 1-megohm, 1s. 9d. (or Lissen, Watmel).

SUNDRIES
Systoflex insulated sleeving and tinned-copper wire for connecting.
Length of Lewcos rubber-covered flex.
2 oz. No. 30 d.s.c. wire (Lewcos).
2 oz. No. 40 enamelled wire (Lewcos).
1—Paxolin former, 2 in. diameter and 3 in. long, 9½d.
1—Paxolin former, 1½ in. diameter and 3 in. long, 8½d.
3—Sheets of aluminium, 14 in. by 16½ in., 6 in. by 4 in., 2½ in. by 4 in., ready drilled, 10s. 6d. (Parex).
No. 26 and No. 36 wire for frame aerial.
1—Benjamin turntable, 7s. 6d. (or Ormond, Six-Sixty).

SWITCHES
1—Lotus on-off, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin, Watmel).
1—Wearite 3-pole 3-way, 7s.

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Ferranti, ratio 7 to 1, £1 10s. (or Igranic, 6 to 1; Lewcos, 5 to 1).

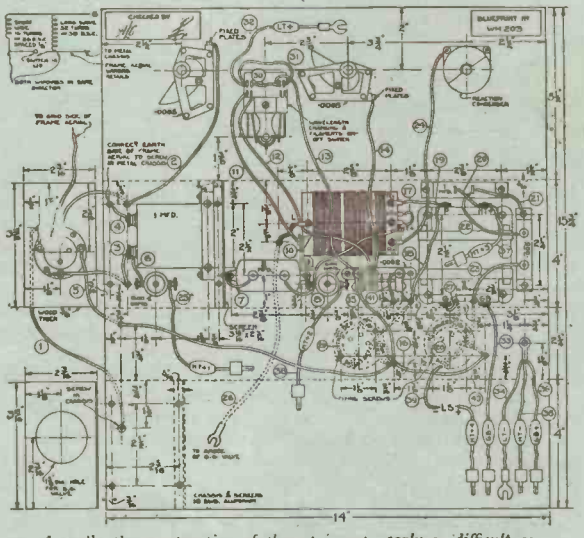
ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
1—Siemens 126-volt, type 1075, £1 5s.
1—Siemens 9-volt, type G2, 1s. 6d. (or Lissen, Ever Ready).

CABINET
1—Neophone cabinet, £1 10s.

LOUD-SPEAKER UNIT
1—Ormond, 12s. 6d. (or Blue Spot, Watmel).

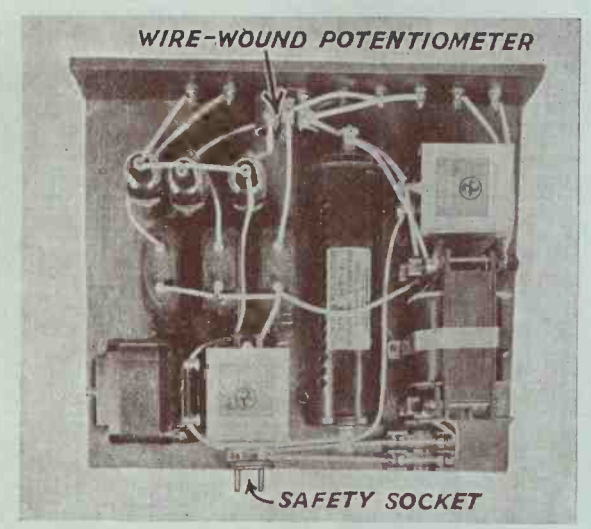
VALVES
1—Mazda 215 SG, £1
1—Mazda HL210, 8s. 6d.
1—Mazda P220, 10s. 6d.



Actually the construction of the set is not nearly so difficult as appears from this reduced wiring diagram

"W.M." STANDARD A.C. UNIT

Supplies high-tension and filament current for mains valves



This photograph shows clearly how simple is the construction of the "W.M." Standard A.C. Unit, which incorporates a metal rectifier

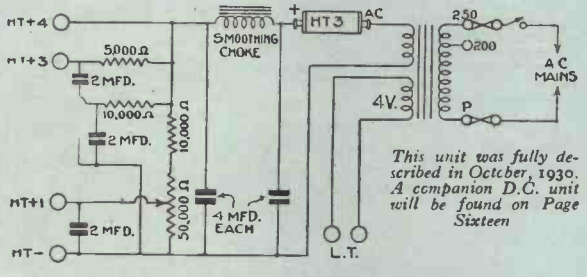
SO many readers ask for details of mains units suitable for their particular sets that we decided early last autumn to publish a design for a standard high-tension battery eliminator that would be suitable for most two-, three-, and four-valve sets described in WIRELESS MAGAZINE.

The "W.M." Standard A.C. Unit incorporates a metal rectifier that will provide an output of 20 milliamperes at 120 volts. Four tappings are provided: H.T.+1 is taken from a potentiometer and is intended for supplying the screen voltage to a shielded valve. H.T.+2 and H.T.+3 are suitable for supplying a detector and first-stage low-frequency valve respectively, while H.T.+4 is for a power valve.

It is intended that the unit when completed should be provided with a metal cover that can be permanently screwed to the baseboard. A safety plug and socket are provided so that the cover cannot be removed until the mains plug is withdrawn from the unit. In this way the possibility of getting shocks is eliminated.

To protect the apparatus in the event of a short-circuit, fuses are inserted in the main leads. The particular transformer employed in the original unit is provided with tappings for 200- or 250-volt mains.

Beginners should clearly understand that this unit can only be used for obtaining current from A.C. mains. It will not work at all on D.C. mains.



This unit was fully described in October, 1930. A companion D.C. unit will be found on Page Sixteen

Four output tappings are provided on this unit to supply different voltages, which can be altered by changing the values of resistances

The mains transformer specified is provided with a 4-volt secondary winding that can be used for supplying the heaters of mains valves. It will be evident that the "W.M." Standard A.C. Unit can therefore form the basis of an all-electric set, providing that grid bias is obtained in the ordinary way from a battery.

There is space on the baseboard for the insertion of an extra voltage-dropping resistance and by-pass condenser if another output point should be needed.

The value of resistance can easily be calculated.

PARTS NEEDED

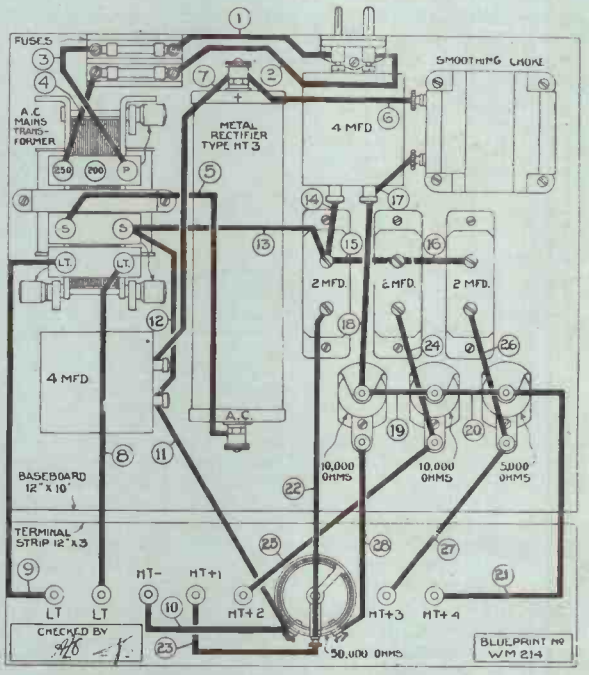
CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Lewcos, 17s. 6d. (or Ferranti B1, Regentone).

CONDENSERS, FIXED
3—Hydra 2-microfarad, 8s. 3d. (or T.C.C., Dubilier).
2—Hydra 4-microfarad, 500 volt A.C. test, 12s. (or T.C.C., Dubilier).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Varley 10,000-ohm, with holder, 14s. (or Ready Radio, Lissen).
1—Varley 5,000-ohm, with holder, 7s. (or Ready Radio, Lissen).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Colvern 50,000-ohm wire-wound potentiometer, 5s. 6d. (or Regenstat, Rotorohm).

L.T.+, L.T.—, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.+4, H.T.—, 5s. 3d. (or Clix, Eelex).



Even a beginner can build this unit without difficulty, as will be clear from this layout and wiring diagram

FUSE
1—Bulgin twin fuseholder, complete with fuses, 2s. 6d.

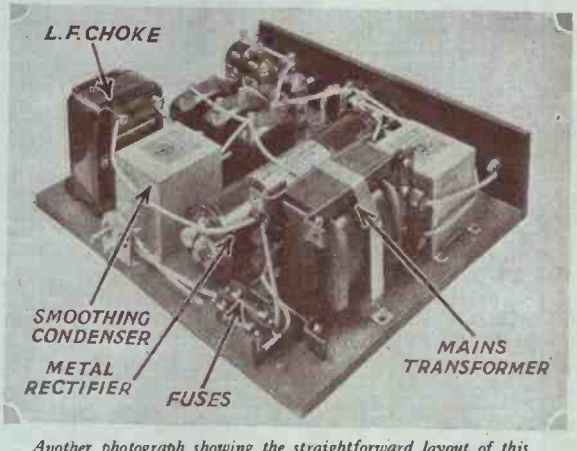
EBONITE
1—Terminal strip, 12 in. by 3 in.

METAL RECTIFIER
1—Westinghouse, type HT3, £1 1s.

PLUGS AND SOCKETS
7—Belling-Lee, safety type, marked:

SUNDRIES
1—Baseboard, 12 in. by 10 in.
Tinned copper wire for connecting.
Length of Sistoflex sleeving.
1—Bulgin safety mains plug and socket, 3s. 9d.
1—Neophone metal case, 12s. 6d.

TRANSFORMER
1—Regentone W.R.3 (stripped type), £1 1s.



Another photograph showing the straightforward layout of this A.C. mains unit

Get a full-size blueprint of this unit for 6d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

HOW TO USE A "W.M." BLUEPRINT

THERE are several important things that every constructor should know about WIRELESS MAGAZINE blueprints, which greatly facilitate the construction of a radio set at home with the simplest of tools.

In the first place, it should be clearly understood that a full-size blueprint is available for every set of which the construction is described in WIRELESS MAGAZINE.

Secondly, we would emphasise the point that every blueprint is a real blueprint, produced photographically, and not an inferior printed imitation.

Full Scale

The third point that every constructor should appreciate is that WIRELESS MAGAZINE blueprints are absolutely full-scale drawings, showing the positions and sizes of all the holes to be drilled in the panel; the positions and dimensions of all the component parts; and all the internal connecting leads and any external leads that may be necessary.

As a fourth important feature we would point out that on WIRELESS MAGAZINE blueprints each wire is numbered separately so that the connections can be made in the most convenient order. If each lead is put in position in its proper numerical sequence there is no possibility of a mistake being made or of a connection being omitted.

For Beginners

From these remarks it will be evident that even a beginner will experience no difficulty in assembling any WIRELESS MAGAZINE design. It is impossible to go wrong if one of the full-size blueprints is used in conjunction with the photographs of the particular set to be built.

In order to encourage more listeners to build their own sets, we are offering full-size blueprints of any one of the Trusty Twelve (of which details are given in this supplement) for half-price until February 28, if the special coupon on this page is used when application is made.

Conditions

Not more than one blueprint for each of the twelve designs can be supplied for one coupon, but if desired blueprints of two or more different sets can be obtained.

This is one of the most generous offers ever made to home-constructors and in anticipation of the huge demand that will be made for blueprints by readers we have ready large extra supplies so that there will be no delay in obtaining them.

When the details needed for this coupon have been completed it should be sent, together with a postal order for the proper amount, to Blueprint Department, WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58-61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

The best method of using one of these blueprints is to place the top part squarely over the ebonite panel and mark through with a sharp point the centres of all the holes that have to be drilled. The blueprint can then be removed, the holes drilled and the panel assembly completed before the baseboard layout is tackled.

If desired, the positions of the holes for the fixing screws of the baseboard components can be marked out in a similar way by placing the bottom part of the blueprint squarely over the baseboard. We do not recommend that the blueprint should actually be stuck to the baseboard and the components placed on top for if this is done some of the wiring connections may be obscured.

As each connecting wire is fixed in position it is a good plan to put a pencil mark through the corresponding number on the blueprint. If the wiring is then carried out in the proper numerical sequence, there is no possibility of making a mistake.

Construction of any WIRELESS MAGAZINE *set can be undertaken without difficulty, even by a beginner, if a full-size blueprint is used*

It will be appreciated from the foregoing remarks that full-size WIRELESS MAGAZINE blueprints make the construction of a radio set almost automatic. Even a beginner can assemble what may, at first, appear to be a complicated receiver without any difficulty.

We are constantly receiving from readers, reports on even four- and five-valve sets which are stated to be first efforts in home construction.

For All Sets

New readers should note that full-size blueprints are available for all the sets of which the construction is described month by month. Blueprints of the sets described in the particular issue are always available for half-price up till the end of month of currency if the coupon to be found on the last page of the issue is utilised.

When the month is up blueprints of sets previously described can only be supplied at the full prices, that is, 1s., post free, if the set does not contain more than three valves; and 1s. 6d. if more than three valves are employed.

Name and Address

When applying for blueprints there is no need to send a stamped addressed envelope, but do not forget to indicate your name and address clearly.

It may be that some of your friends do not know of this valuable service of full-size blueprints. In such cases you will be doing us and your friends a service by bringing this special half-price offer to their notice. Home constructors have never before been given such an opportunity for building radio sets and mains units in the simplest and quickest way.

SPECIAL HALF-PRICE BLUEPRINT COUPON

Valid only until February 28. 1931

To Blueprint Dept., WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58/61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

Please supply me, post free, with the following full-size blueprints at the half-prices mentioned :—

One copy of NEW BROOKMAN'S THREE at	6d.
One copy of DUAL-SCREEN FIVE at	9d.
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One copy of FIVE-POINT TWO at	6d.
One copy of JAMES PORTABLE S.G. THREE at ..	6d.
One copy of STANDARD A.C. UNIT at	6d.
One copy of FIVE-POINT FOUR at	9d.
One copy of FALCON THREE and FALCON A.C. UNIT at	1s. the two
One copy of FIVE-POINT SHORT-WAVER at	6d.
One copy of REGIONAL BAND-PASS FOUR at ..	9d.
One copy of FIVE-POINT THREE at	6d.
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Total number of blueprints required.....

I enclose postal order for.....

My name and address are :—

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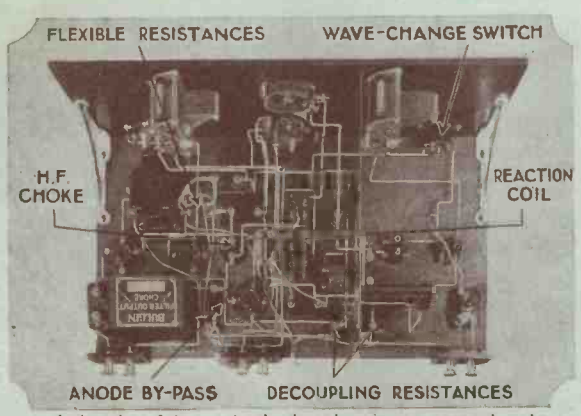
Place a cross against the blueprints required and delete those not required.

THE FIVE-POINT FOUR

An efficient gramo-radio set using the ever-popular type of two-pin plug-in coil



A plan view of the set, showing how the parts are arranged on the panel and baseboard

A FEATURE of this set is that, although standard two-pin plug-in coils, still very popular with a large number of constructors, are used for aerial and anode tuning, a single switch enables the operator to cover both medium and long wavebands.

Not only are good results assured for ordinary radio reception, but the circuit is also arranged for the inclusion of a pick-up so that records can be reproduced electrically.

Two volume controls are provided. Both can be used during radio reception.

Full constructional details were published in November, 1930.

Following is a list of the parts needed :—

PARTS NEEDED

CHOKES, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Telsen, 2s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Polar).
1—Ready Radio, standard type, 2s. (or Polar, Igranic).

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Bulgin, type LF4, 12s. 6d. (or Ferranti, Varley).

COILS
1—Atlas No. 50 plug-in, 2s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).
2—Atlas No. 60 double-tapped plug-in, 11s. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).
2—Atlas No. 150 plug-in, 7s. (or Lewcos, Tunewell).

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Dubilier .0002-microfraad, type 620, 1s. 8d. (or Graham-Farish, Trix).
1—Dubilier .0002-microfarad, type 620, with insulating clip, 2s. 2d.
1—Dubilier .0003-microfarad, type 620, 1s. 8d. (or Graham-Farish, Trix).
1—Dubilier .005-microfarad, type 620, 2s. 3d. (or Graham-Farish, Trix).
2—Dubilier 1 microfarad, 5s. (or T.C.C., Franklin).
2—Dubilier 2-microfarad, 7s. (or T.C.C., Mullard).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Lotus .0005-microfarad, type LC5, 11s. 6d. (or Polar, Lissen).
1—Lotus .0002-microfarad reaction, 5s. 3d. (or Ready Radio).
1—R.I. Varicap pre-set, .0003-microfarad maximum, 2s. 6d. (or Polar, Igranic).

DIALS, SLOW-MOTION
2—Brownie, 5s. (or Ormond, Harlie).

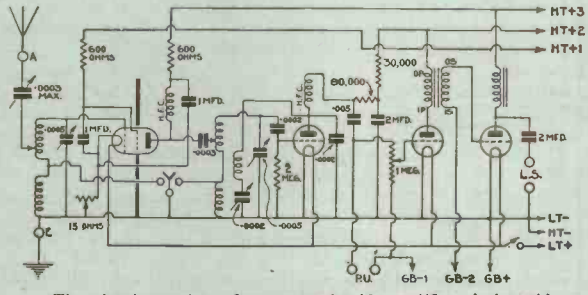
EBONITE
1—Trelleborg panel, 18 in. by 7 in., 8s. (or Lissen).

SUNDRIES
Insulating wire for connecting (Glazite). Length of rubber-covered flex (Lewcoflex).
1—Pair Keystone panel brackets, 2s. (or Lissen, Camco).
1—Peto-Scott screen to specification, 2s. 6d. (or Ready Radio, Neophone).

SWITCHES
1—Gripso single-pole, marked "On-Off." 1s. 9d.
1—Gripso three-point, marked "Long-Short," 2s.

TERMINALS
6—Eelex, marked : Aerial, Earth, Pick-up (2), L.S.+, L.S.—, 2s. 3d. (or Burton, Igranic).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked : L.T.+, L.T.—, 9d. (or Clix, Eelex).

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Burton, ratio 1 to 3, 10s. 6d. (or Telsen, Brownie).



The circuit consists of a screened-grid amplifier, leaky-grid detector, a resistance-coupled low-frequency stage and a transformer-coupled power valve

3—Junit terminal blocks, 2s. (or Belling-Lee, Lissen).

HOLDERS, COIL
5—Magnum two-pin, 8s. 6d. (or Lotus, Lissen).

HOLDERS, VALVE
3—Telsen, 3s. (or W.B., Benjamin).
1—Peto-Scott S.G. holder to bolt on screen, 2s.

PLUGS
7—Belling-Lee plugs, marked : H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.—, Grid+, Grid—1, Grid—2, 1s. 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Bulgin 600-ohm, 3s. (or Wearite, Magnum).
1—Magnum 30,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Magnum 80,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 2s. (or Bulgin).
1—Dubilier 2-megohm grid leak, 1s. 9d. (or Watmel, Lissen).

RESISTANCES, VARIABLE
1—Ormond 15-ohm, 2s. (or Gecophone, Varley).
1—Igranic 1-megohm potentiometer, 6s. (or Rotorohm).

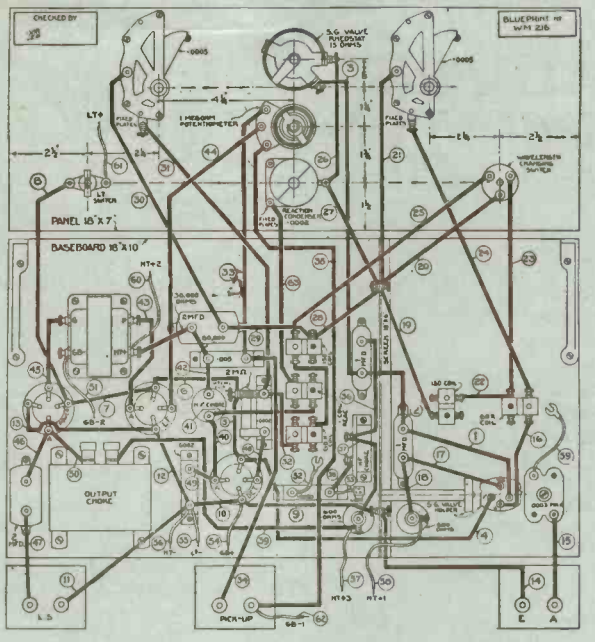
CABINET
1—Carrington, oak, £1 4s. (or Osborn, Pickett's).

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Hegra cone cabinet, type T, £2 12s. (or W.B., Amplion).

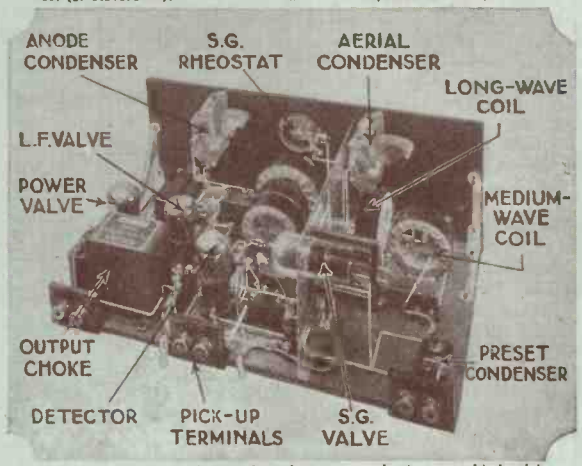
VALVES
1—Six-Sixty 215SG, £1 (or Lissen SG215, Marconi S215).
1—Six-Sixty 210RC, 8s. 6d. (or Lissen H210, Marconi H2).
1—Six-Sixty 210HF, 8s. 6d. (or Lissen HL210, Marconi H2).
1—Six-Sixty 220P, 10s. 6d. (or Lissen P220, Marconi P215).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
2—Columbia 60-volt, £1 15s. (or Siemens, Lissen).
1—Columbia 9-volt grid bias, 2s. (or Siemens, Lissen).
1—Oldham U.S.L. 2-volt accumulator, 9s.



This wiring diagram shows that, for its type, the set is particularly simple



Another photograph showing the set completely assembled with valves and coils in position

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 9d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

FALCON THREE & A.C. MAINS UNIT

A FULL description of this set and mains unit was given in November, 1930. Following is a list of parts needed for the set :—

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Bullphone, 10s. 6d. (or Atlas, Lotus).

CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Ready Radio Hilo, 4s. 6d. (or British General, Lissen).

COILS
1—Lewcos dual-wave, type DWA, 15s.
1—Lewcos dual-wave, type DWG, 15s.
1—Lewcos ganging switch, type SM5, 2s. 6d.

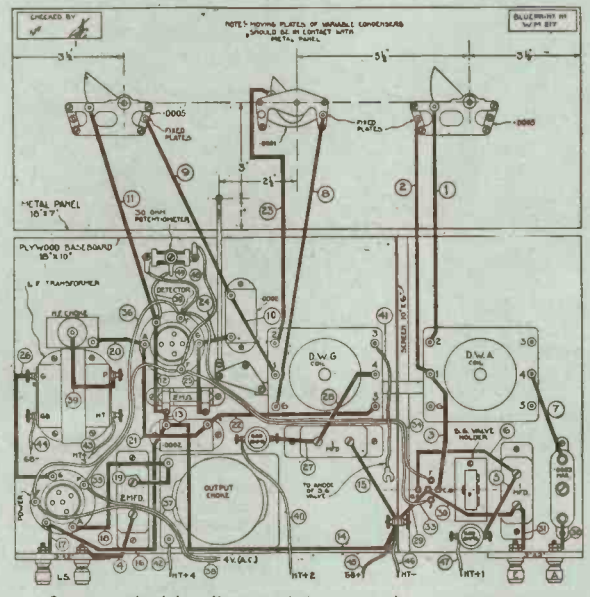
CONDENSERS, FIXED
2—Watmel .0002-microfarad, 2s. (or Formo, Magnum).
1—Parex, S.G. type, 2s. (or Junit, W.B.).

PLUGS
9—Belling-Lee, marked: H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.+4, H.T.—, G.B.—, G.B.+, 2 plain red, 2s. 3d. (or Eelex, Clix).
1—Belling-Lee S.G. anode connector, 6d.

POTENTIOMETER
1—Clarostat 30-ohm Hum Dinger, 2s. 9d.

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Watmel 2-megohm, with holder, 1s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).
2—Magnum 600-ohm, 3s. (or Wearite, Simmonds).

SCREEN
1—Parex, 10 in. by 6 in., 2s. (or Peto-Scott, H. & B.).



Layout and wiring diagram of the three-valve set. A separate mains unit is used

2—Hydra 1-microfarad, 4s. 4d. (or Lissen, T.C.C.).
1—Hydra 2-microfarad, 3s. (or Ferranti).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Cyldon .0005-microfarad Junilog, 17s. 6d. (or Igranic, Burton).
1—Polar .0001-microfarad, Volcon type, 5s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Bulgin).
1—Ormond Varycondenser, .0003-microfarad maximum, 2s. (or Lewcos, Polar).

DIALS
2—Ormond plain, 1s. 6d. (or Cyldon, Jackson).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Benjamin five-pin, 3s. 6d. (or Lotus, W.B.).

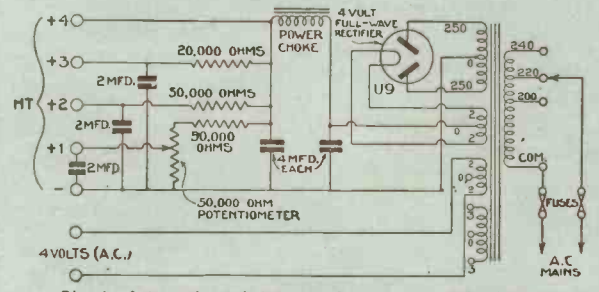
SUNDRIES
1—Parex metal panel, 18 in. by 7 in., 7s. 6d.
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
1—Pair Keystone panel brackets, 2s. (or Lissen, Camco).
6—Yards rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).

TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Lissen Super, ratio 1 to 3, 17s. 6d. (or Brown).

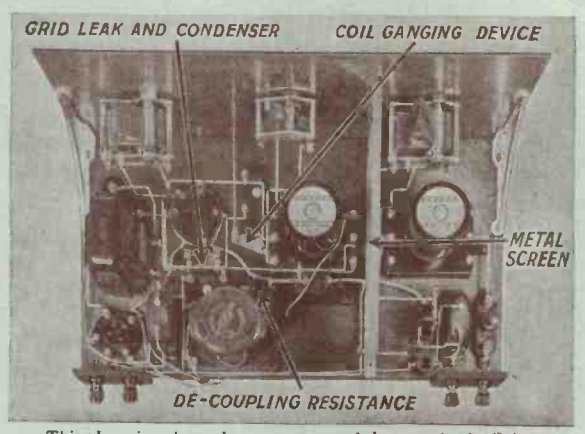
ACCESSORIES

CABINET
1—Peto-Scott, with 10-in. baseboard, £1 5s. (or Pickett, Lock).

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Lamplugh standard cabinet inductor, £5 10s. (or Brodersen, Gecophone).



Circuit of the mains unit (separate from the set), which includes a valve rectifier

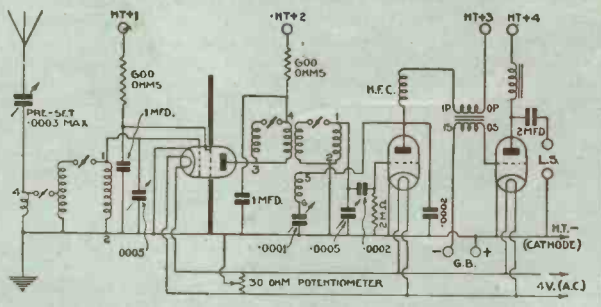


This plan view shows the arrangement of the parts in the Falcon Three, for operation from A.C. mains

VALVES
1—Mullard S4Vb, £1 5s. (or Cossor 41MSG, Six-Sixty SS4SGAG).
1—Mullard 354V, 15s. (or Cossor 41MFH, Six-Sixty SS4GPAC).
1—Mullard 164V, 17s. 6d. (or Cossor 41MP, Six-Sixty SS4Det.AC.).
1—Baseboard, 11 in. by 8 in.
1—Senste metal box, 7s. 6d.
1—Bulgin safety mains plug and socket, 3s. 9d.

TRANSFORMER, MAINS
1—Heayberd, type 719, £2.

VALVE
1—Marconi U9, £1 (or Osram U9).



Circuit of the three-valve receiver—screened-grid valve, leaky-grid detector, and power valve

PARTS NEEDED FOR THE MAINS UNIT

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Regentone, type LR, £1 5s. (or Ferranti, Atlas).

CONDENSERS, FIXED
3—Hydra 2-microfarad, 8s. 3d. (or Franklin, T.C.C.).
2—Hydra 4-microfarad, 12s. (or Franklin, T.C.C.).

EBONITE
1—Panel, 8 in. by 5½ in.

FUSE
1—Bulgin twin fuseholder, complete with fuses, 2s. 6d.

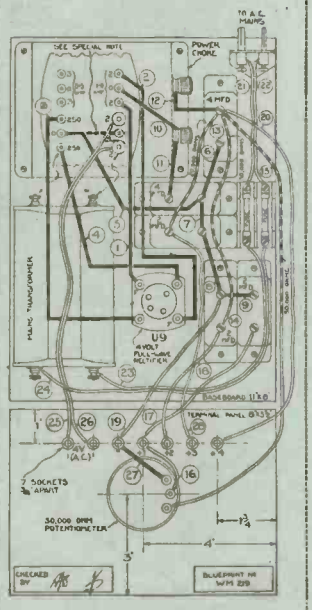
HOLDER, VALVE
1—Benjamin Vibrolder, 1s. 6d. (or Clix, W.B.).

PLUGS AND SOCKETS
7—Clix, marked: H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, H.T.+4, H.T.—, and two plain, 2s. 0½d. (or Belling-Lee, Eelex).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Bulgin 50,000-ohm, flexible type, 3s. 6d. (or Magnum).
1—Bulgin 20,000-ohm, flexible type, 1s. 3d. (or Magnum).

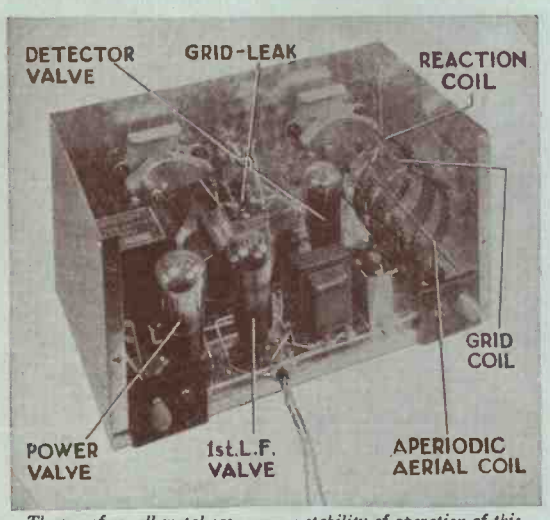
RESISTANCES, VARIABLE
1—Centralab 50,000-ohm potentiometer, 10s. 6d. (or Rotorohm, Regentstat).

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Short length of rubber-covered flex



Layout and wiring diagram of the mains unit for use with the Falcon Three

THE FIVE-POINT SHORT-WAVER



The use of an all-metal case ensures stability of operation of this short-wave set

EFFICIENCY of operation is ensured with this receiver by completely screening it in a metal case. Standard two-pin plug-in short-wave coils are utilised and the set can therefore be adjusted to cover all wavelengths from 10 to 150 metres.

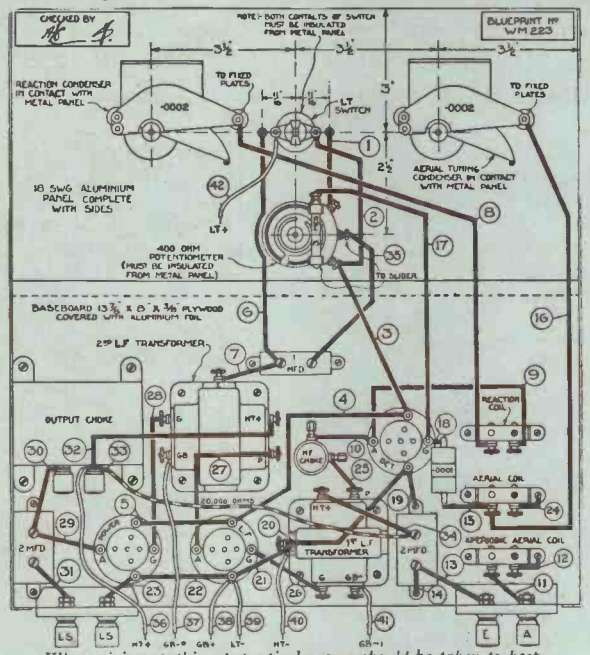
There is nothing fancy about the circuit, as experience shows that the simplest and most straightforward arrangements always give the best results in the hands of constructors.

Complete details of this Five-point Short-waver were given in the January, 1931, issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE on page 588.

Good signal strength from far-distant stations is assured by the use of a leaky-grid detector, followed by two transformer-coupled low-frequency stages.

Three coils are used in the tuning circuit: (1) An aperiodic aerial coil, (2) a tuned grid coil, and (3) a reaction coil. Four different sizes of coils will get most of the short-wave stations worth hearing.

Reaction is easily controlled by a potentiometer, across which is tapped one end of the grid leak.



When wiring up this set, particular care should be taken to keep all the leads as short and direct as possible

COMPONENTS YOU WILL NEED

CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Igranic short-wave, 2s. (or Wearite, Polar).

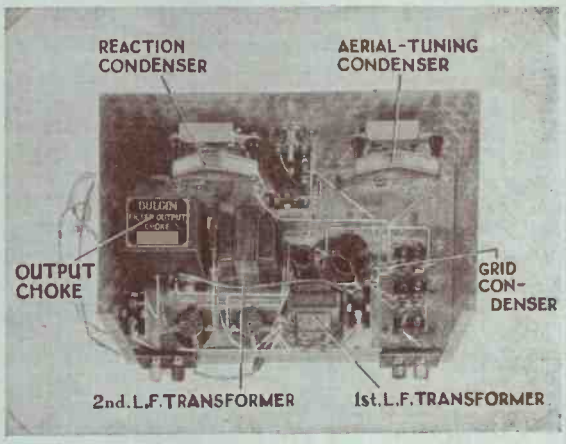
CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Bulgin 20-henry. 12s. 6d. (or Varley, Lotus).

COILS
4—Eddystone two-pin short-wave, No. 3, No. 4 (two), No. 6, 11s.

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Bulgin 20,000 ohms, flexible type, 1s. 3d. (or Magnum).
1—Dubilier 3-megohm, 1s. 9d. (or Lissen, Watmel).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Wearite 400-ohm, type Q14, with grid-leak clips, 3s.

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
5 yards rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).
1 Set Eddystone Absorbos, for cabinet, 2s. 3d.



The disposition of the parts in this set will be clear from this photograph of plan view

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Graham-Farish .0001-microfarad. 9d. (or Edison Bell, Lissen).
1—Franklin 1-microfarad, 2s. (or T.C.C., Dubilier).
2—Franklin 2-microfarad, 5s. 4d. (or T.C.C., Lissen).

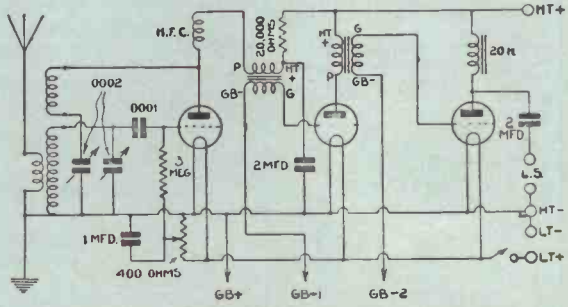
CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Utility .0002-microfarad Log. Alum. type, 13s.

DIALS, SLOW-MOTION
2—Emkabe, Astra, 10s.

SWITCH
1—Gripso single-pole, marked "On" and "Off," 1s. 9d.

TERMINALS
4—Burton, marked: A., E., L.S.+, L.S.—, 1s. (or Igranic, Belling-Lee).

TRANSFORMERS, L.F.
1—Telsen Ace, ratio 1 to 3, 8s. 6d. (or Burton, Igranic).
1—Telsen Radiogrand, ratio 1 to 5, 12s. 6d. (or Burton, Igranic).



A leaky-grid detector and two transformer-coupled low-frequency stages are incorporated in this receiver

EBONITE
2—Junit terminal blocks, 1s. 4d. (or Lissen, Belling-Lee).

HOLDERS, COIL
3—Lotus two-pin, 2s. (or Lissen)

HOLDERS, VALVE
3—Clix, terminal type, 2s. 6d. (or W.B., Lotus).

PLUGS
5—Belling-Lee, marked: H.T.+, H.T.—, G.B.+, G.B.—1, G.B.—2, 1s. 3d. (or Clix, Eelex).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked: L.T.+, L.T.—, 9d. (or Clix, Eelex).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
1—Pertrix 120-volt, type 295, 15s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Lissen).
1—Pertrix 9-volt grid bias, 1s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Lissen).
1—C.A.V. 2-volt accumulator, type 2AG7, 11s. (or Lissen, Exide).

CABINET
1—Paroussi, aluminium, £1 1s.

VALVES
2—Cossor 210HF, 17s. (or Lissen HL210, Mullard PM1HF).
1—Cossor 215P, 10s. 6d. (or Lissen P220, Mullard PM2).

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 6d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

PRACTICAL HINTS AND TIPS

Every constructor should read these notes

BEFORE beginning the construction of a set, see that all the components required—and tools and blueprint or wiring diagram—are ready to hand. You will not want to leave off in the middle of the assembly to look for a missing part!

* * *

In order to get good, straight connections, always stretch the wire before using it. Clamp one end in a vice and pull as hard as you can at the other end until you feel a slight "give." Hold the wire with a large pair of pliers.

* * *

When a bluish colour appears in the flame of the fire or gas ring in which the soldering bit is being heated, you will know that the correct temperature has been reached.

* * *

A baseboard completely covered with metal foil is sometimes a considerable help in constructing a large set, as all the earth-potential points can be connected straight down, provided that the foil itself is earthed at one point.

* * *

It is worth while cleaning all contacts before applying flux and solder to a joint. The slightest film of dirt or grease will prevent the solder from running properly.

* * *

Always make sure that component terminals are screwed down tightly, otherwise the springiness of the wires may make them work loose.

* * *

Constructors will find thin blowpipe solder the easiest with which to work. It can be applied without difficulty even to the smallest joint.

* * *

Electric soldering bits are to be preferred as they can always be maintained at a constant temperature.

* * *

When making connections to metal screens or panels take particular care to scrape the metal clean at the point of contact. Many metal panels and screens are lacquered or varnished when obtained from the makers.

* * *

It is an advantage when wiring to keep all the leads as close as possible to the baseboard. This avoids the necessity of having to thread the last few connections through others that have been made previously.

* * *

When leads go through holes in metal screens, either make the hole large or insulate the wire with a bush, otherwise the insulation will chafe on the screen and a short-circuit may occur.

* * *

In cases where components are mounted on metal bases, or on wooden baseboards covered with metal foil, see that no terminals or other contacts protrude and make contact with the metal underneath. If the contacts are found to touch, a piece of thin cardboard or thick paper should be used as an insulation.

* * *

When assembling a terminal strip, space the terminals far enough apart so that when the leads are connected they will not "short" across adjacent terminals.

Do not screw bakelite condensers of this type too tightly down on the baseboard or one of the fixing lugs may break off

If you are using a baseboard that was not supplied with the cabinet, see that it is trimmed ⅛ in. under size in length so that it will be an easy fit.

* * *

When fixing screws in the edge of a plywood baseboard (for instance, for screwing a panel in position), make sure that the points of the screws go into the centre ply. There will then be no risk of splitting the ply open.

* * *

Always mark out a panel for drilling on the inner side, so that when the set is completed, no scraper lines will show on the outside and mar the appearance of the receiver.

* * *

Make certain that the accumulator you are going to use with the set will give a reasonable number of hours' working at each charge

The heat of soldering always tends to loosen terminal heads, so after soldering wires to connecting tags always tighten up the terminal nuts. This will prevent the possibility of poor contacts.

* * *

Before fixing switches or jacks it is a good plan to clean the contact points with a small magneto file, in order to make sure of proper working. These points are very difficult to clean when the component is in position in the set.

* * *

Always keep a stock of dial indicators on hand to avoid the necessity for scratching marks on the panel to record a dial reading.

When putting a plug-in coil in or taking it out of its socket, always grip the mount and do not take hold of the coil itself

Never solder a wire direct to a terminal shank. Use soldering tags which can afterwards be screwed down under the terminal nuts.

* * *

Before making connections with covered wire, remember to bare the insulation at both ends of the leads. Beginners frequently forget this point and then wonder why the set does not work!

* * *

If the set includes a screened-grid valve, it is worth while using a shrouded plug for making connection to the anode terminal. If an ordinary wire is used it may accidently touch the screen and result in a short-circuit.

* * *

Remember that dirty grid leaks and clips can be a source of unpleasant noises during reception.

* * *

Make sure that blobs of solder do not drop between soldering tags or metal baseplates, or short-circuits may occur.

* * *

When stranded wire is used for making connections, it is a good plan to solder the strands together and bend them in the form of a loop. Failing this, carefully twist the strands together so that there are no loose wires.

* * *

All constructors should keep a stock of ⅜ in., ½ in., and ⅝ in. screws for fixing components to baseboards. These should be of the round-headed variety; ask for No. 4's. If they are painted black they will not rust.

NEXT MONTH!

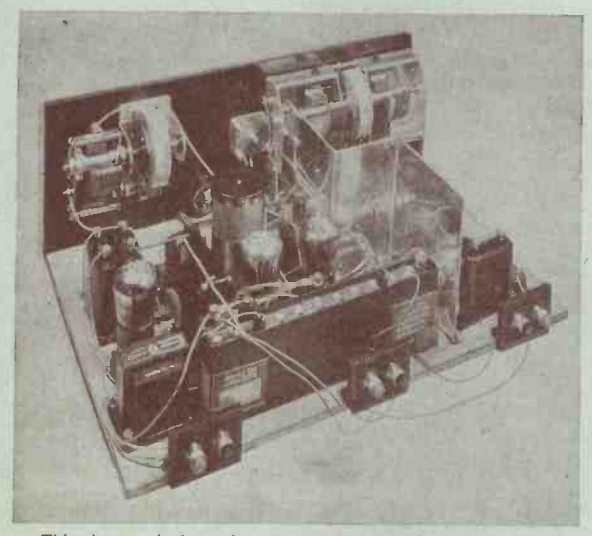
Make a note of the date — Friday, February 20.

On that day will be published the March issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE, *which will contain yet another fine supplement of interest to all listeners, and not only to home-constructors.*

This will be the fifth WIRELESS MAGAZINE *supplement presented to readers since November. The demand will be great, so order a copy in advance.*

REGIONAL BAND-PASS FOUR

Specially designed by W. JAMES



This photograph shows the compact nature of the design of W. James' star Exhibition set

THIS receiver was W. James' star design for the last Radio Exhibition. It is a particularly powerful combination and includes a band-pass tuning circuit for the very best results.

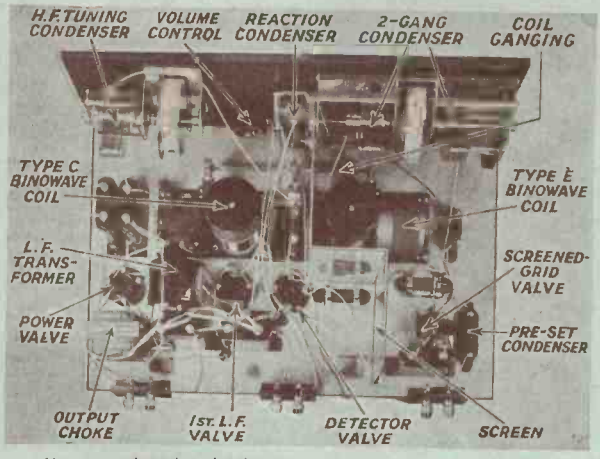
The high-frequency coupling is a standard Binowave coil, while the band-pass aerial coil is of a new type specially developed for this receiver. The set covers both wavebands by the operation of a single wave-change switch.

CONDENSERS, FIXED

1—T.C.C. .0002-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 6d. (or Dubilier, Trix).
1—T.C.C. .002-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 10d. (or Dubilier, Trix).
1—T.C.C. .015-microfarad, upright type, 3s. 3d. (or Dubilier, Hydra).
5—Ferranti 2-microfarad, 12s. 6d. (or Mullard, T.C.C.).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE

1—Jackson two-gang Chassimount, .0005-microfarad, type C2, with drum dial, £1 6s. 6d.
1—Jackson .0005-microfarad universal log, with junior drum dial, 19s.



Here is a plan view showing how the parts are arranged on the panel and baseboard

Complete constructional details were given in October, 1930, and following is a list of the components needed for construction:

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY

1—R.I. Hypercore, 17s. 6d. (or Climax, Varley).

COILS

2—Wearite Binowave, types C and E, with ganging device, £1 17s.
1—Lotus .00034-microfarad differential, 8s. 6d. (or Ready Radio).
1—Polar preset .0003-microfarad maximum, 2s. (or Formo, Lewcos).

EBONITE

1—Becol 18 in. by 7 in. panel, 7s. 7d., (or Lissen, Peto-Scott).
3—Junit terminal blocks, 2s. (or Lissen).

HOLDERS, VALVE

3—W.B., rigid type, 3s.
1—W.B. universal type, 1s. 3d. (or Junit).

PLUGS

7—Belling-Lee, marked: G.B.+, G.B.—1, G.B.—2, H.T.—, H.T.+1, H.T.+2, H.T.+3, 1s. 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked: L.T.+, L.T.—, 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).

RESISTANCES, FIXED

1—Simmonds 600-ohm, 1s. 6d. (or Magnum, Wearite).
1—Magnum 30,000-ohm, flexible spaghetti type, 1s. 6d.
1—Magnum 80,000-ohm, flexible spaghetti type, 2s.
1—Pair Bulgin grid-bias battery clips, 6d.

SWITCH

1—Bulgin Midget on-off, 10½d

TERMINALS

6—Belling-Lee, marked: Aerial, Earth, L.S.+, L.S.—, Pick-up (2), 1s. 6d. (or Eelex, Igranic).

TRANSFORMER, L.F.

1—Ferranti, type AF3, £1 5s. (or Varley, Philips).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES

1—Ever Ready power, 120 volts, £2 2s. 6d. (or Siemens, Pertrix).
1—Ever Ready 16-volt grid bias, standard type, 3s. 6d. (or Siemens, Pertrix).
1—Fuller 2-volt, type LDG, 9s. 6d. (or Lissen, Marconiphone).

CABINET

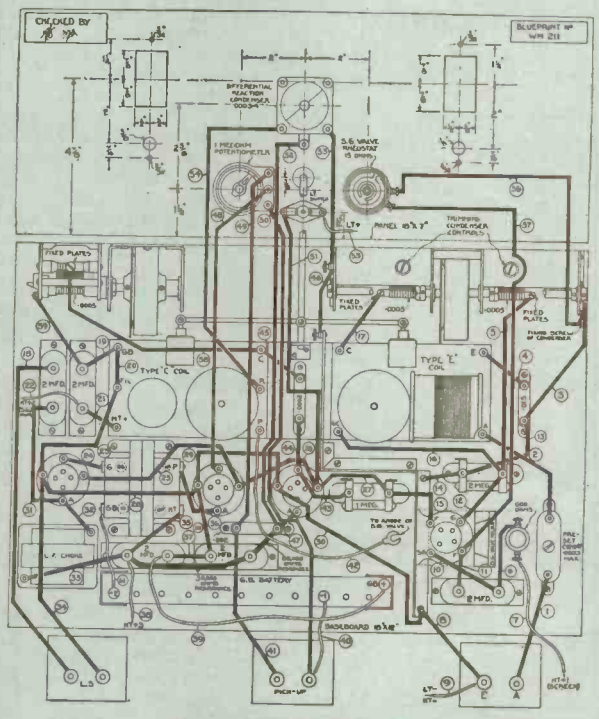
1—Pickett table model, £1 1s. (or Camco, Digby).

LOUD-SPEAKER

1—Ediswan cone, £3 (or Amplion Lion *Celestion).

VALVES

1—Mazda 215SG, £1.
2—Mazda HL210, 17s.
1—Mazda P220, 10s. 6d.



A greatly reduced layout and wiring diagram showing the arrangement of the parts in the Regional Band-pass Four

RESISTANCES, VARIABLE

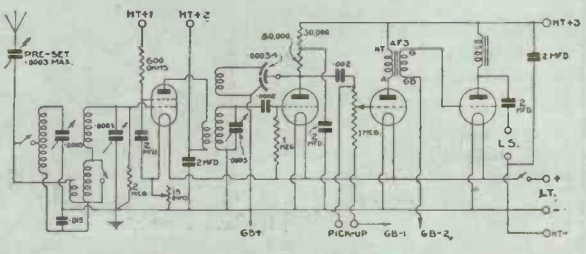
1—Rotorohm 1-megohm potentiometer, type M, 6s. 6d.
1—Wearite 15-ohm rheostat, 1s. 6d.

SCREEN

1—Parex to specification (or Ready Radio, H. & B.).

SUNDRIES

Tinned copper wire for connecting. Length of Sistoflex sleeving.



The circuit includes a screened-grid high-frequency amplifier, leaky-grid detector, a resistance-coupled low-frequency stage, and a transformer-coupled power valve

Get a full-size blueprint of this set for 9d. by using the coupon on Page Nine

THE FIVE-POINT THREE

The first of the now famous range of "Five-point" receivers to be described

THIS set is the first of the now famous "Five-point" series of WIRELESS MAGAZINE receivers, and will appeal particularly to those who want a cheap but efficient three-valve set. Although the ever-popular two-pin plug-in coils are used, the wavelength range is controlled by a single switch.

Following is a complete list of the parts needed for construction:

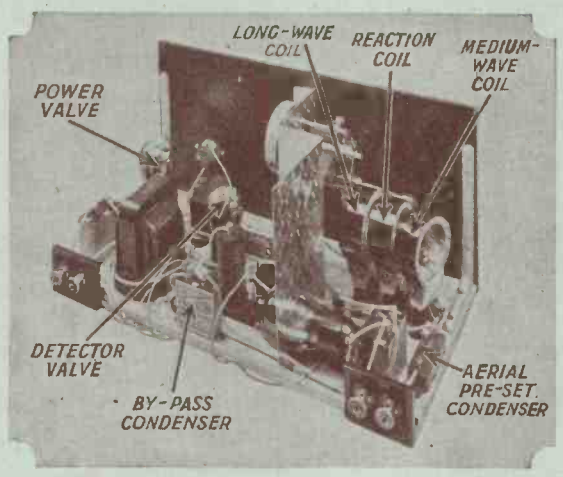
CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Lewcos, 7s. 9d. (or British General. Watmel DX3).

1—Franklin 2-microfarad, 2s. 8d. (or Mullard, T.C.C.).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
1—Ormond .0005-microfarad, small log, 8s. (or Lotus, Polar).
1—Formo Midget .0002-microfarad reaction, with knob, 3s. 3d. (or Dubilier, Bulgin).
1—Sovereign preset, .0003-microfarad maximum, 1s. 6d. (or Lewcodenser, Formodenser).

DIAL, SLOW-MOTION
1—Ormond drum, 5s. (or Lotus, Polar).

EBONITE
1—Potter 16-in. by 8-in. panel, 6s. (or Ready Radio, Raymond).
2—Junit terminal blocks, 1s. 4d. (or Lissen, Belling-Lee).



How the set appears when it is completely wired up, and the valves and coils are placed in position

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Lissen, 12s. 6d. (or Igranic, Telsen).

COILS
1—Atlas No. 40 plug-in, 2s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Edison Bell).
1—Atlas No. 150 plug-in, 3s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Edison Bell).
1—Atlas No. 60 double-tapped plug-in, 5s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Edison Bell).

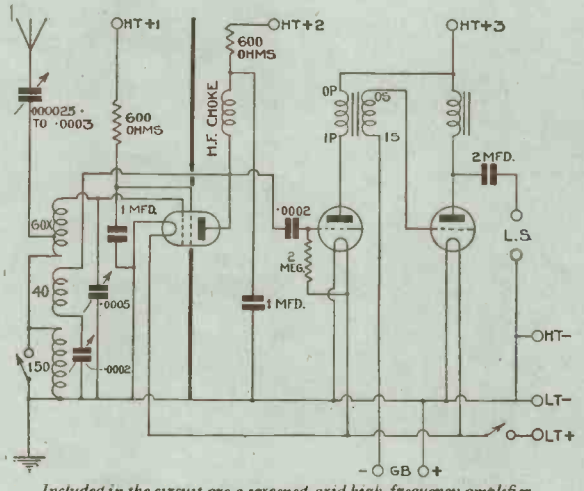
CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Edison Bell .0002-microfarad, 1s. (or T.C.C., Graham-Farish).
1—Franklin 1-microfarad, 2s. (or Dubilier, T.C.C.).

HOLDERS, COIL
3—Lissen two-pin, 3s. (or Magnum, Lotus).

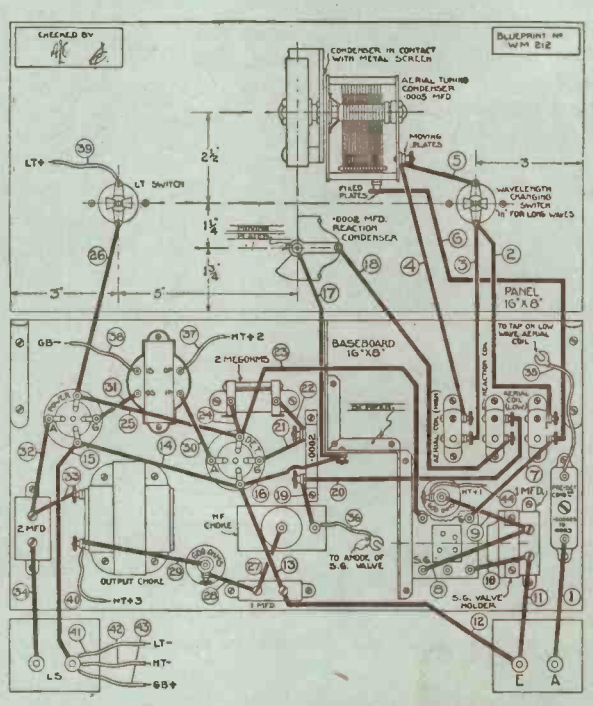
HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Telsen, 2s. (or Lotus, Igranic).
1—Junit Universal, 1s. 9d. (or Parex, W.B.).

PLUGS
8—Belling-Lee, marked: L.T.+, L.T.—, H.T.+3, H.T.+2, H.T.+1, H.T.—, G.B.+, G.B.—, 2s. (or Eelex, Clix).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Bulgin 600-ohm, 3s. (or Wearite, Magnum).



Included in the circuit are a screened-grid high-frequency amplifier, leaky-grid detector, and a transformer-coupled power valve



As can be seen from this wiring diagram, the construction of this efficient three-valve set is well within the capabilities of any beginner

1—Lissen 2-megohm, with holder 1s. 6d. (or Watmel, Dubilier).

SUNDRIES
Tinned copper wire for connecting.
Length of Sistoflex sleeving.
6 yards of rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).
1—Pair Keystone panel brackets, 2s. (or Camco, Bulgin).
1—Parex screen to specification 4s (or Ready Radio, H. & B.).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
1—Pertrix 120-volt, type 295, 15s. 6d. (or Lissen, Columbia).
1—Pertrix 9-volt grid-bias, 1s. 6d. (or Lissen, Columbia).
1—C.A.V. 2-volt accumulator, type 2AG7, 11s. (or Exide, D.P.).

CABINET
1—Neophone, table model, £1 (or Ready Radio, H. & B.).

A photographic plan view of the Five-point Three, showing the disposition of the components

SWITCHES
1—Gripso single-pole, marked "On-Off," 2s. 3d.
1—Gripso single-pole, marked "Short-Long," 2s. 3d.

TERMINALS
4—Eelex, marked: Aerial, Earth, L.S.+, L.S.—, 1s. 6d. (or Belling-Lee, Igranic).

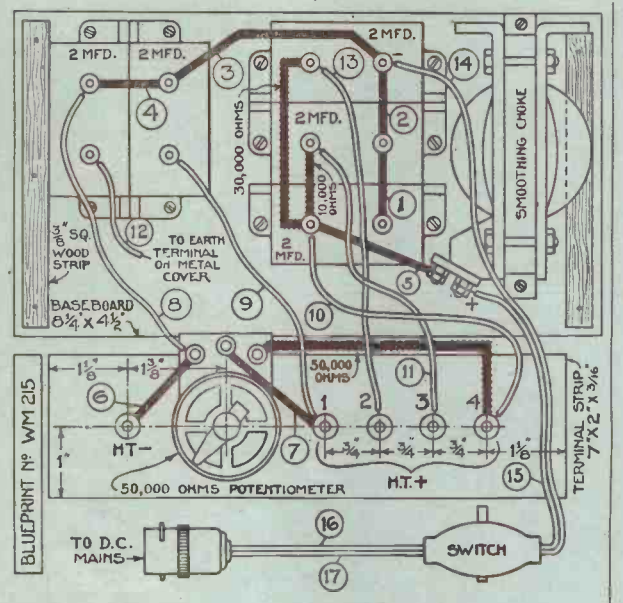
TRANSFORMER, L.F.
1—Igranic, type J, ratio 1-6, 17s. 6d. (or Telsen, Burton).

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Blue Spot cabinet, type 41K, £2 10s. (or Wates, Loewe).

VALVES
1—Mullard PM12, £1 (or Six-Sixty 215SG, Cossor 215SG).
1—Mullard PM1HF, 8s. 6d. (or Six-Sixty 210HF, Cossor 210HF).
1—Mullard PM252, 10s. 6d. (or Six-Sixty 230SP, Cossor 220P).

"W.M." STANDARD D.C. UNIT

Supplies high-tension current only



This layout and wiring diagram shows the simple nature of the construction, which can be undertaken by any beginner

HERE we present details of a companion unit to the "W.M." Standard A.C. Unit, which has already been referred to. Full details of this D.C. high-tension battery eliminator were given in the November 1930 issue.

This unit will supply up to 30 milliamperes at the voltage of the D.C. mains to which it is connected. Unlike the Standard A.C. Unit, it will not supply filament current for the valves.

The design is very compact, largely on account of the fact that the new flexible or spaghetti type of resistance is used for the regulation of voltage obtained from the four output terminals.

H.T.+1 is a potentiometer arrangement intended for supplying the shielding grid of a screened-grid valve. H.T.+2 and H.T.+3 are used for supplying voltage to the anodes of a detector or first-stage low-frequency valve. H.T.+4 supplies potential at nearly the D.C. mains voltage for running a power valve.

It should be noted that this unit will not give a greater output than the mains input voltage, so that it will not be of much use on 100- or 110-volt mains.

Although four output tappings are provided any one of these can be omitted if it is not required for the particular set with which the unit is to be used.

In order to avoid possibility of accidental shocks, the whole unit is enclosed in a metal case screwed to the baseboard, as illustrated in the bottom right-hand corner of this page. In some cases it may be necessary to change the values of the voltage-regulating resistances. The proper resistance should be calculated for each particular set.

When this unit is used the earth lead *must* be removed from the set and connected to the earth terminal on the mains unit.

It should be noted that in this unit the three flexible voltage-dropping resistances form three connections between components.

The five terminals and the screened-grid potentiometer are mounted on a strip of ebonite that is bolted at the back of a slot in the metal cover.

Should ordinary battery valves be operated from this unit the output terminal marked H.T.×4 should not be used, unless a resistance and by-pass condenser are inserted in circuit, for otherwise the voltage applied will be too high.

It will be noted that the mains switch is inserted in the flexible lead taken to the power socket. Its inclusion is not essential for no current will be taken from the unit when the valve filaments are switched off.

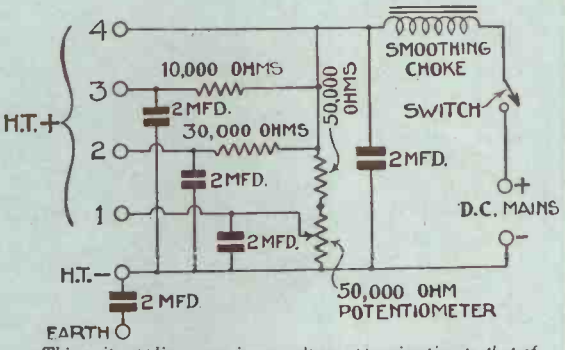
PARTS NEEDED

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Igranic, type C30, 15s. 6d.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
5—T.C.C. 2-microfarad, type No. 50, 19s. 2d. (or Dubilier, Ferranti).

EBONITE
1—Terminal strip, 7 in. by 2 in.

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Bulgin 10,000-ohm link, 1s. (or Magnum).
1—Bulgin 30,000-ohm link, 1s. 8d. (or Magnum).
—Bulgin 50,000-ohm link, 1s. 9d. (or Magnum).

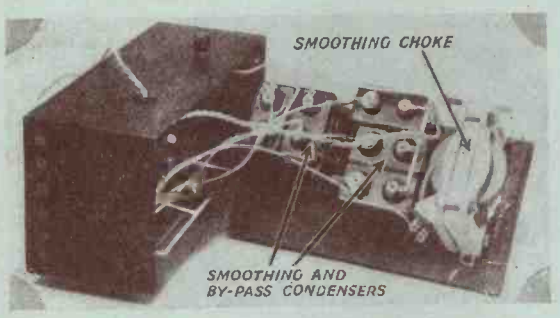


This unit supplies a maximum voltage approximating to that of the D.C. mains to which it is connected. Four output tappings are provided

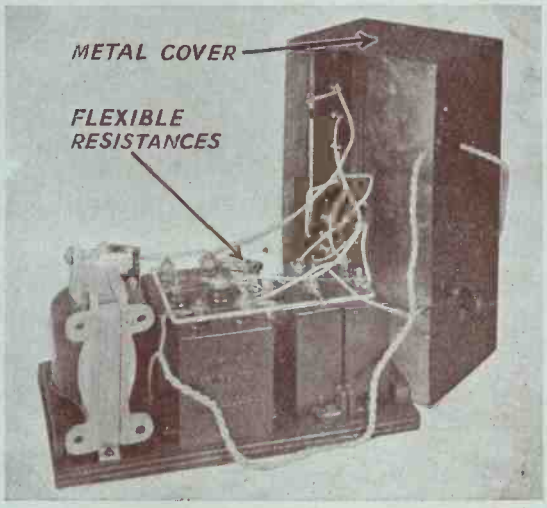
RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Rotorohm 50,000-ohm potentiometer, 6s. (or Regenstat, Colvern).

SUNDRIES
Rubber-covered flex (Lewcoflex).
Stiff insulated wire (Glazite).
1—Baseboard, 8¼ in. by 4½ in.
1—Bulgin mains switch, type S18, 2s.
1—Wholesale Wireless metal box, type No. 5, 4s. 6d.

TERMINALS
6—Belling-Lee, type R, marked: H.T.+ 1, H.T.+ 2, H.T.+ 3, H.T.+4, H.T.—, E, 1s. 6d. (or Eelex, Clix).

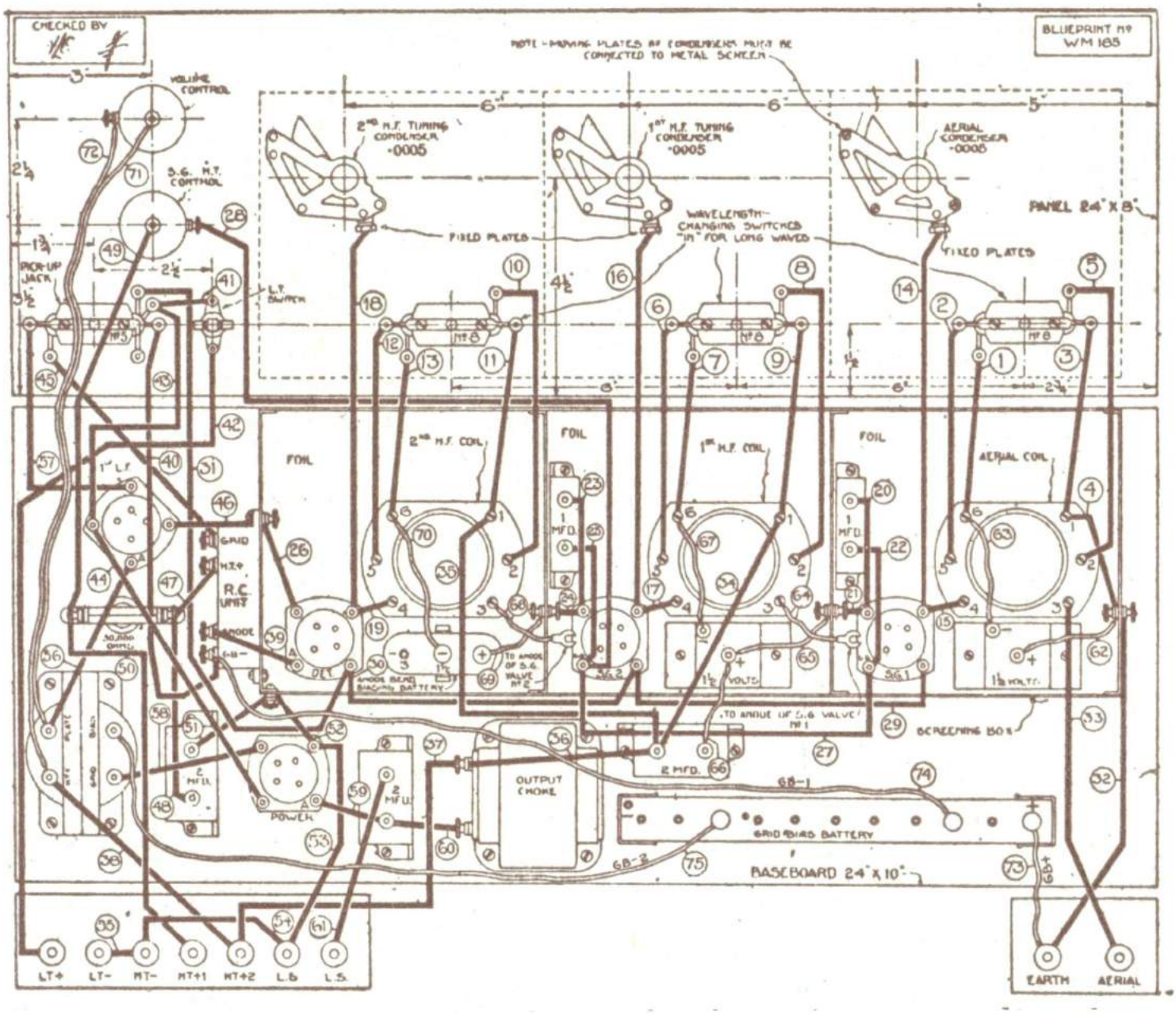


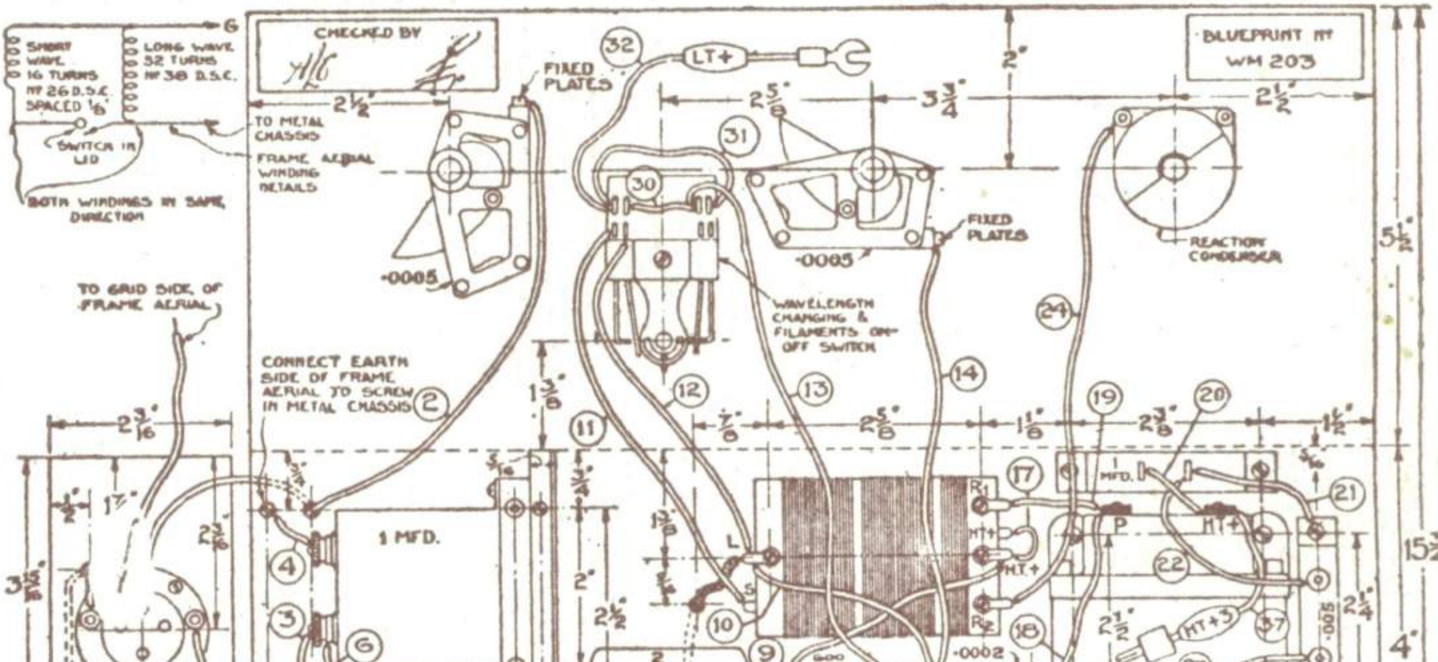
A photograph showing the appearance of the unit when the metal cover has been removed



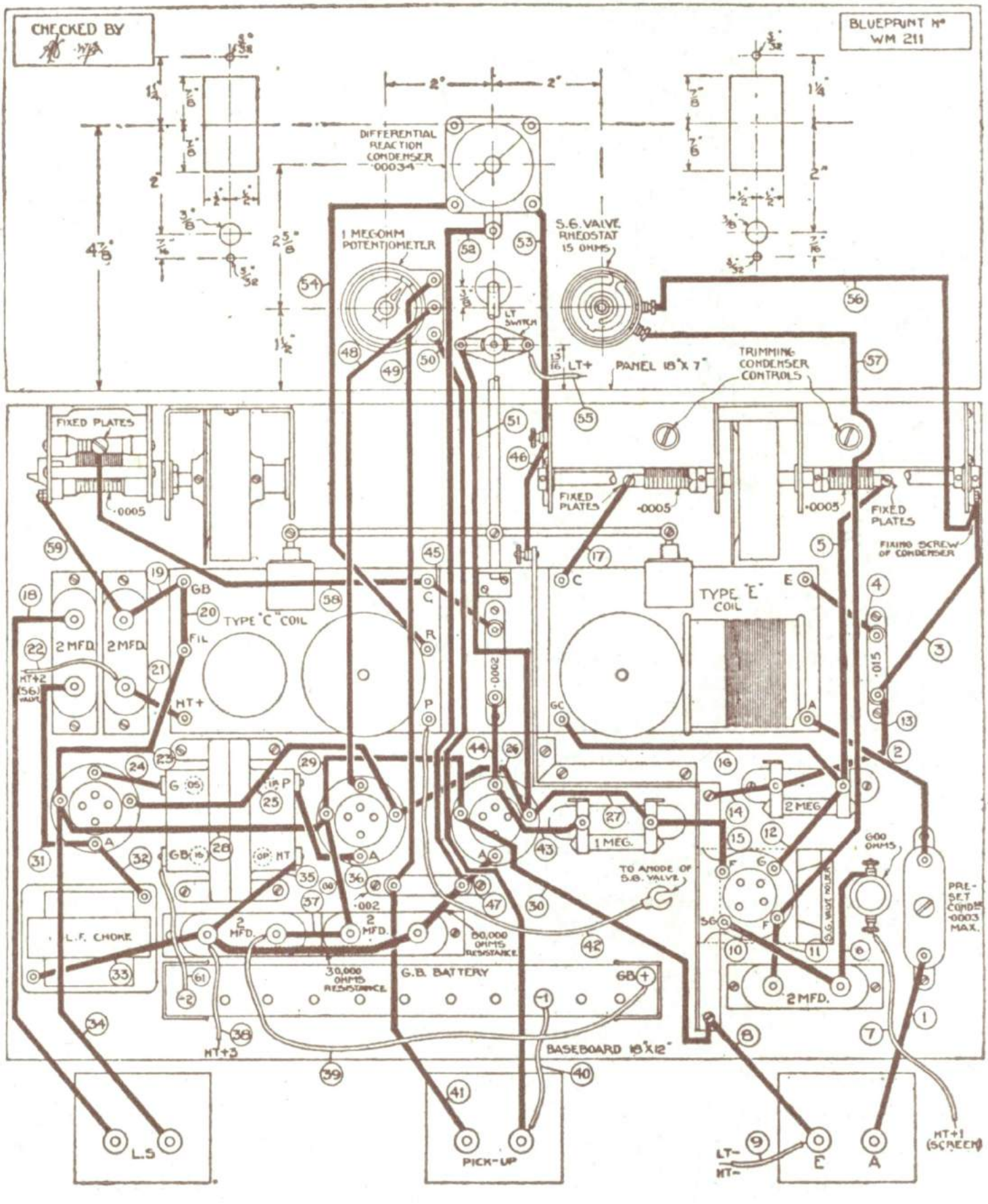
The strip for the four output terminals and potentiometer is fixed to the metal case, as will be clear from this illustration

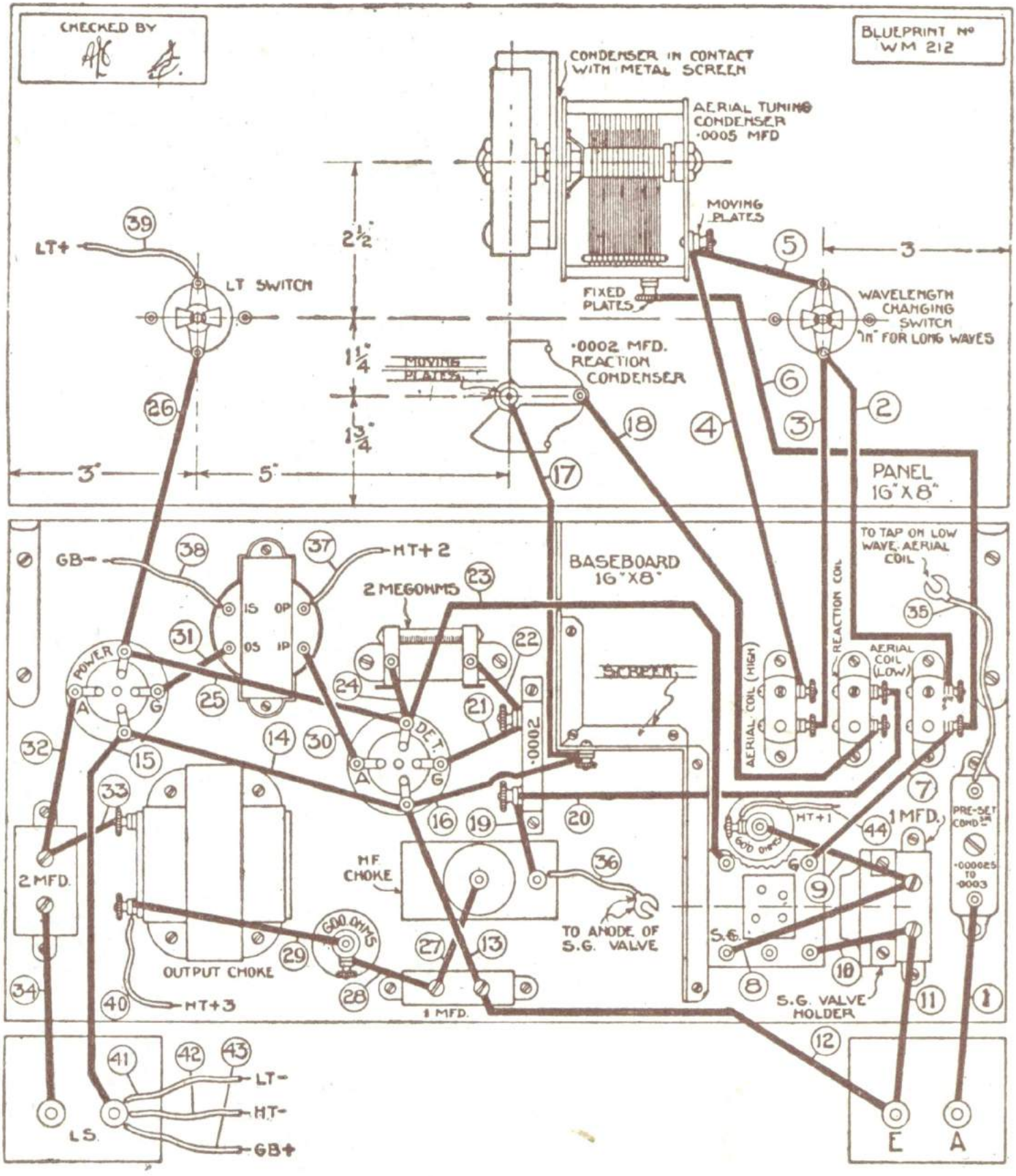
Get a full-size blueprint of this unit for 6d. by using the coupon on Page Nine


CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 185
NOTE - MOVING PLATES OF CONDENSERS MUST BE CONNECTED TO METAL SCREEN
VOLUME CONTROL
S.G. H.T. CONTROL
2ND H.F. TUNING CONDENSER .0005
1ST H.F. TUNING CONDENSER .0005
AERIAL CONDENSER .0005
PANEL 24" X 8"
FIXED PLATES
WAVELENGTH-CHANGING SWITCHES "IN" FOR LONG WAVES
PICK-UP JACK
L.F. SWITCH
2ND H.F. COIL
1ST H.F. COIL
AERIAL COIL
FOIL
1 MFD.
2 MFD.
R.C. UNIT
GRID
H.T.+
ANODE
1ST L.F.
POWER
OUTPUT CHOKE
SCREENING BOX
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE Nº 2
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE Nº 1
GRID BIAS BATTERY
BASEBOARD 24" X 10"
LT+
LT-
HT-
HT+1
HT+2
L.S.
EARTH
AERIAL



CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT No
WM 203
SHORT WAVE 16 TURNS No 26 D.S.C. SPACED 1/8
LONG WAVE 32 TURNS No 38 D.S.C.
SWITCH IN LID
TO METAL CHASSIS
FRAME AERIAL WINDING DETAILS
BOTH WINDINGS IN SAME DIRECTION
FIXED PLATES
LT+
·0005
WAVELENGTH CHANGING & FILAMENTS ON-OFF SWITCH
REACTION CONDENSER
TO GRID SIDE OF FRAME AERIAL
CONNECT EARTH SIDE OF FRAME AERIAL TO SCREW IN METAL CHASSIS
1 MFD.
2 MFD.
600 OHMS
WOOD 3/8 THICK
SCREEN 3 13/16 x 2 3/16
MT+1
MT+2
MT+3
DET.
POWER
FIXING SCREWS
LS
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE
SCREW IN CHASSIS
1 1/8 DIA. HOLE FOR S.G. VALVE
CHASSIS & SCREENS 18 SWG. ALUMINIUM
MT+4
GB-
LT-
MT-
GB+
14"
15 3/4"


CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 211
DIFFERENTIAL REACTION CONDENSER .00034
1 MEGOHM POTENTIOMETER
S.G. VALVE RHEOSTAT 15 OHMS
L.T. SWITCH
L.T.+
PANEL 18"X 7"
TRIMMING CONDENSER CONTROLS
FIXED PLATES
.0005
FIXING SCREW OF CONDENSER
TYPE "C" COIL
TYPE "E" COIL
2 MFD.
FIL
HT+2 (S.G. VALVE)
HT+
GB
.002
.015
1 MEG.
2 MEG.
600 OHMS
PRE-SET COND.R .0003 MAX.
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE
S.G. VALVE HOLDER
L.F. CHOKE
30,000 OHMS RESISTANCE
50,000 OHMS RESISTANCE
G.B. BATTERY
BASEBOARD 18"X12"
HT+3
L.S.
PICK-UP
LT-
HT-
HT+1 (SCREEN)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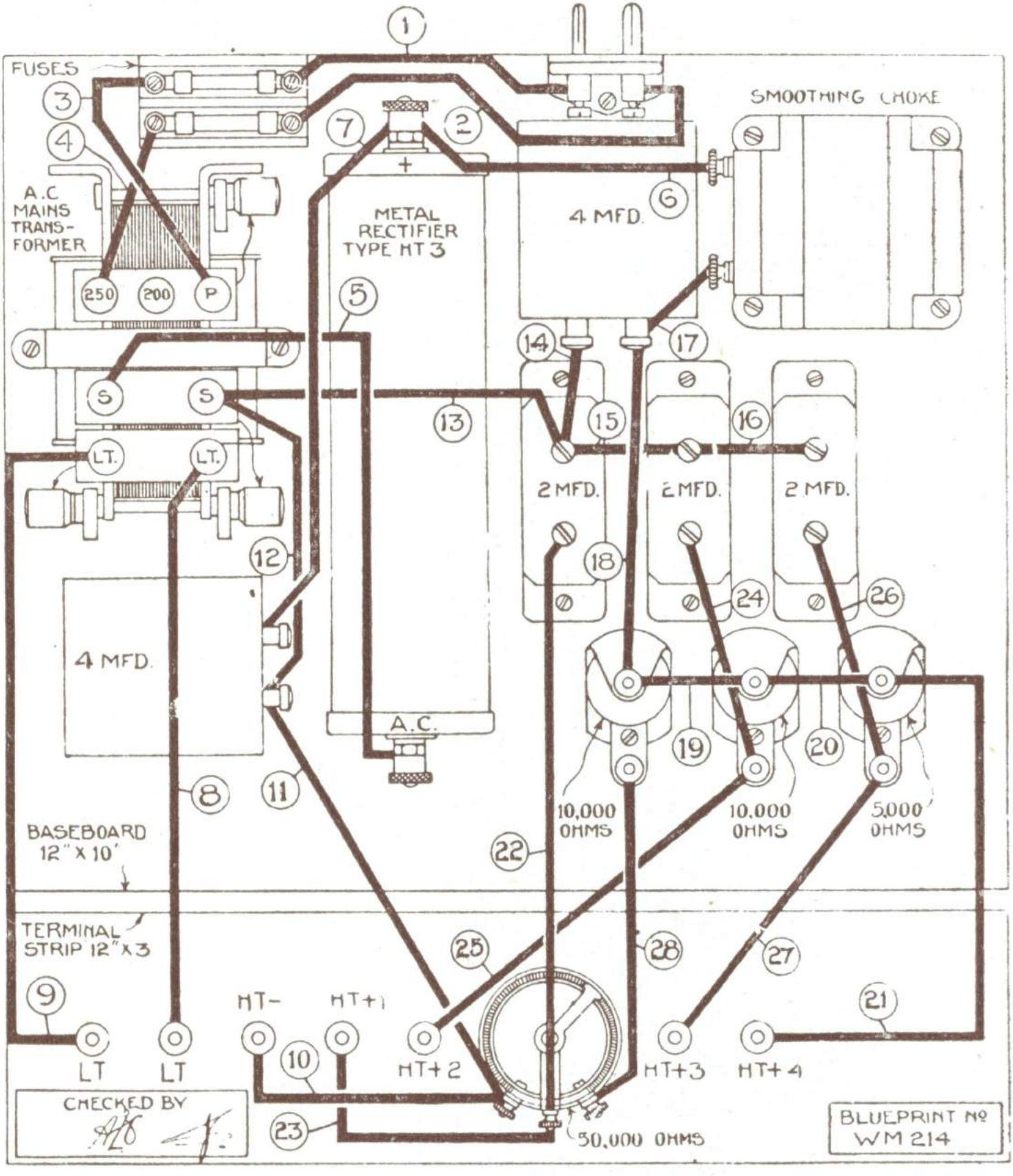
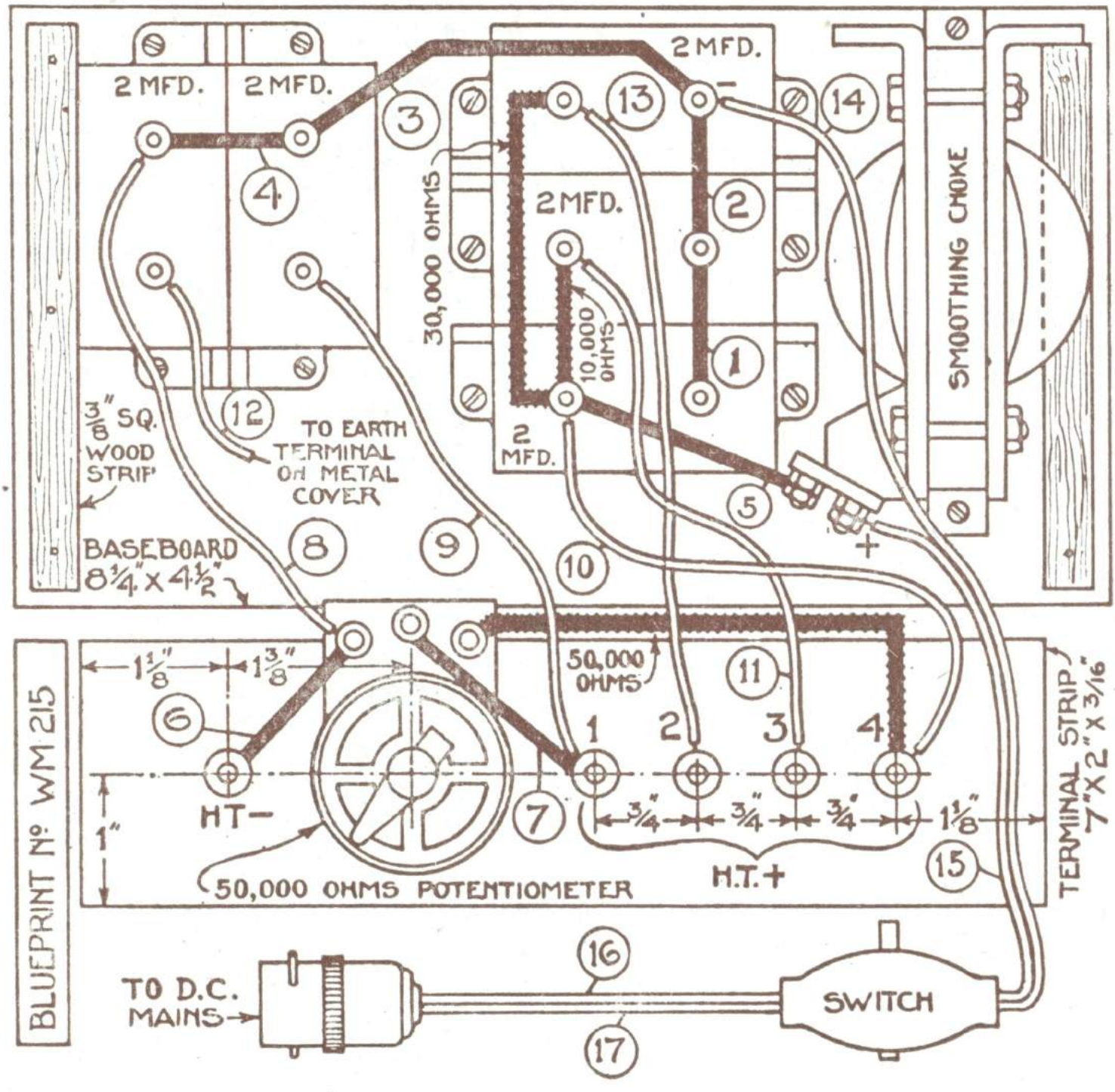
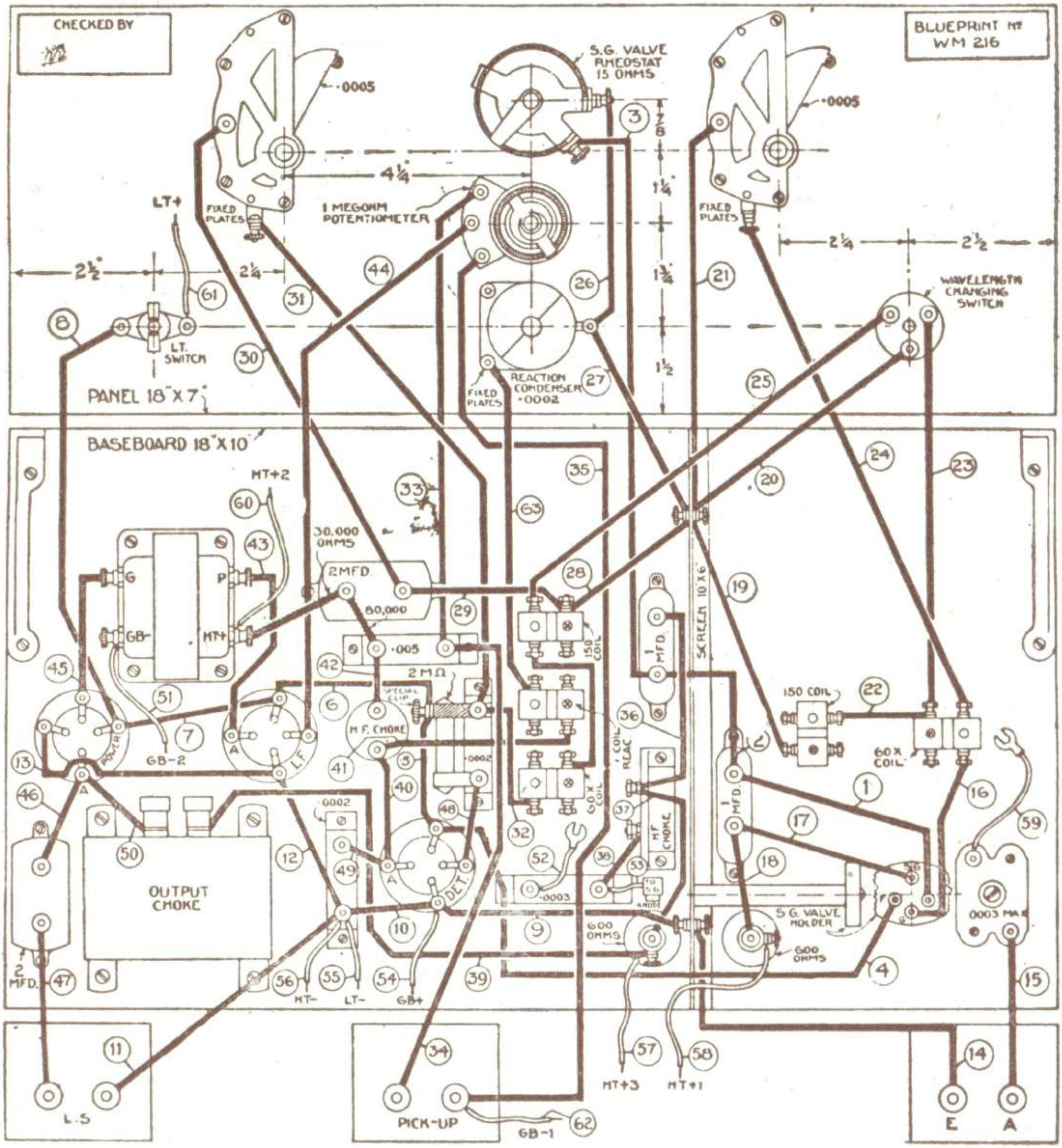
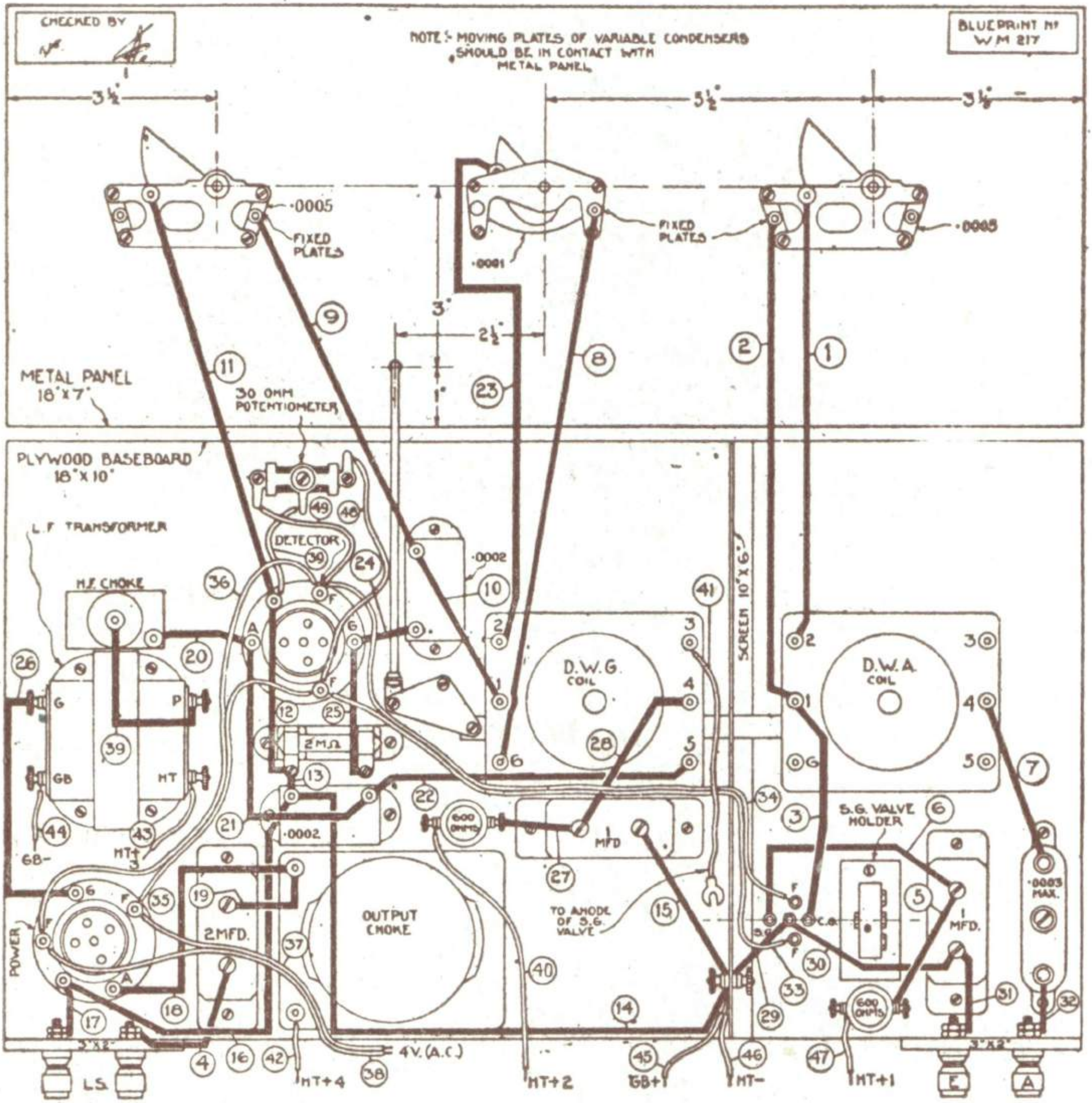
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 212
CONDENSER IN CONTACT WITH METAL SCREEN
AERIAL TUNING CONDENSER ·0005 MFD
MOVING PLATES
FIXED PLATES
WAVELENGTH CHANGING SWITCH "IN" FOR LONG WAVES
LT+
LT SWITCH
·0002 MFD. REACTION CONDENSER
MOVING PLATES
2½"
1¼"
1¾"
3"
5"
3
PANEL 16"X8"
BASEBOARD 16"X8"
GB-
HT+2
2 MEGOHMS
TO TAP ON LOW WAVE AERIAL COIL
REACTION COIL
AERIAL COIL (HIGH)
AERIAL COIL (LOW)
SCREEN
POWER
DET.
·0002
HT+1
1 MFD.
PRE-SET COND.R
·00005 TO ·0003
2 MFD.
MF CHOKE
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE
OUTPUT CHOKE
600 OHMS
HT+3
1 MFD.
S.G. VALVE HOLDER
LT-
HT-
GB+
LS
E
A

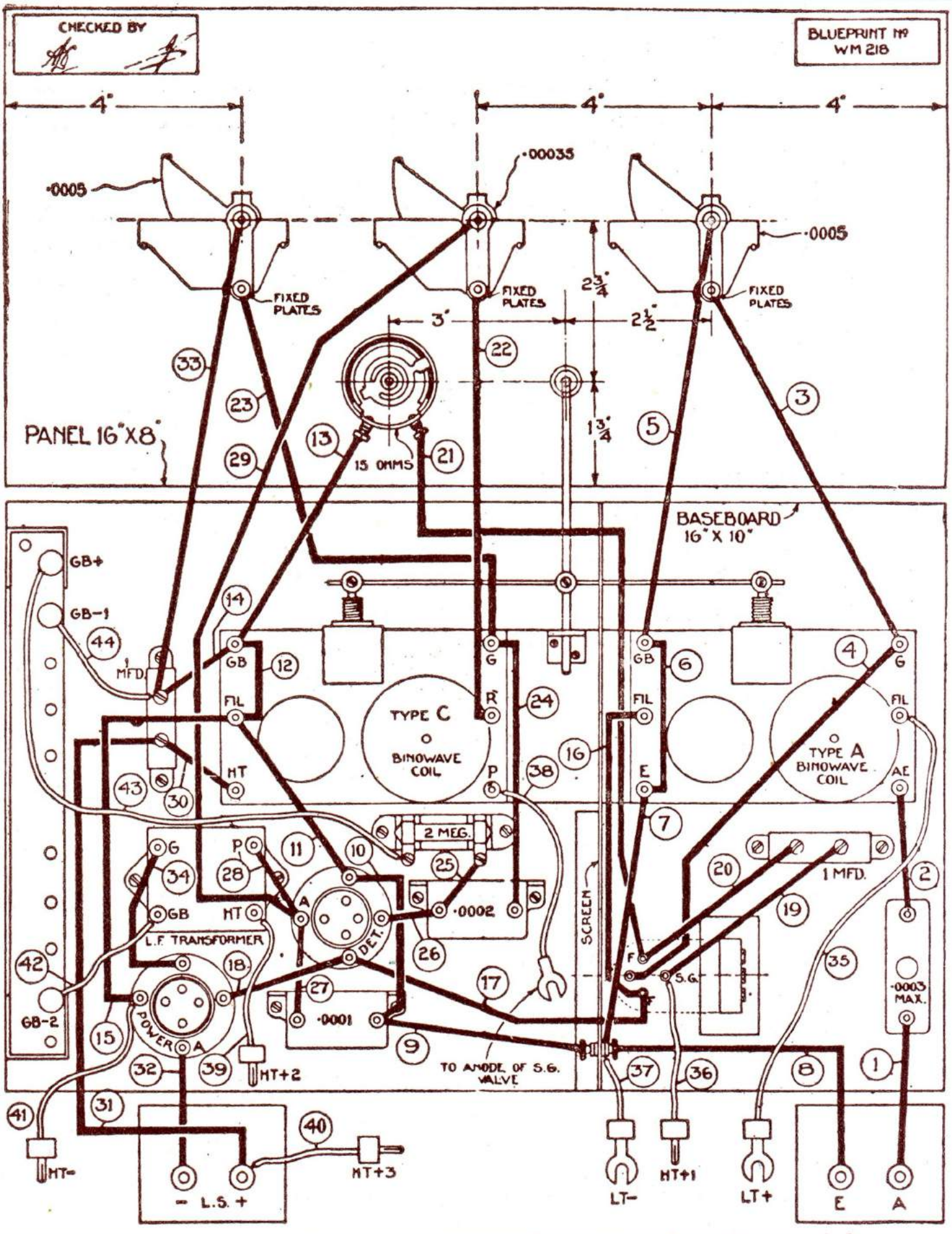

FUSES
A.C MAINS TRANS-FORMER
250
200
P
METAL RECTIFIER TYPE HT 3
+
SMOOTHING CHOKE
4 MFD.
S
S
LT.
LT.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
4 MFD.
A.C.
10,000 OHMS
10,000 OHMS
5,000 OHMS
BASEBOARD 12" X 10"
TERMINAL STRIP 12" X 3
LT
LT
HT-
HT+1
HT+2
HT+3
HT+4
50,000 OHMS
CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 214

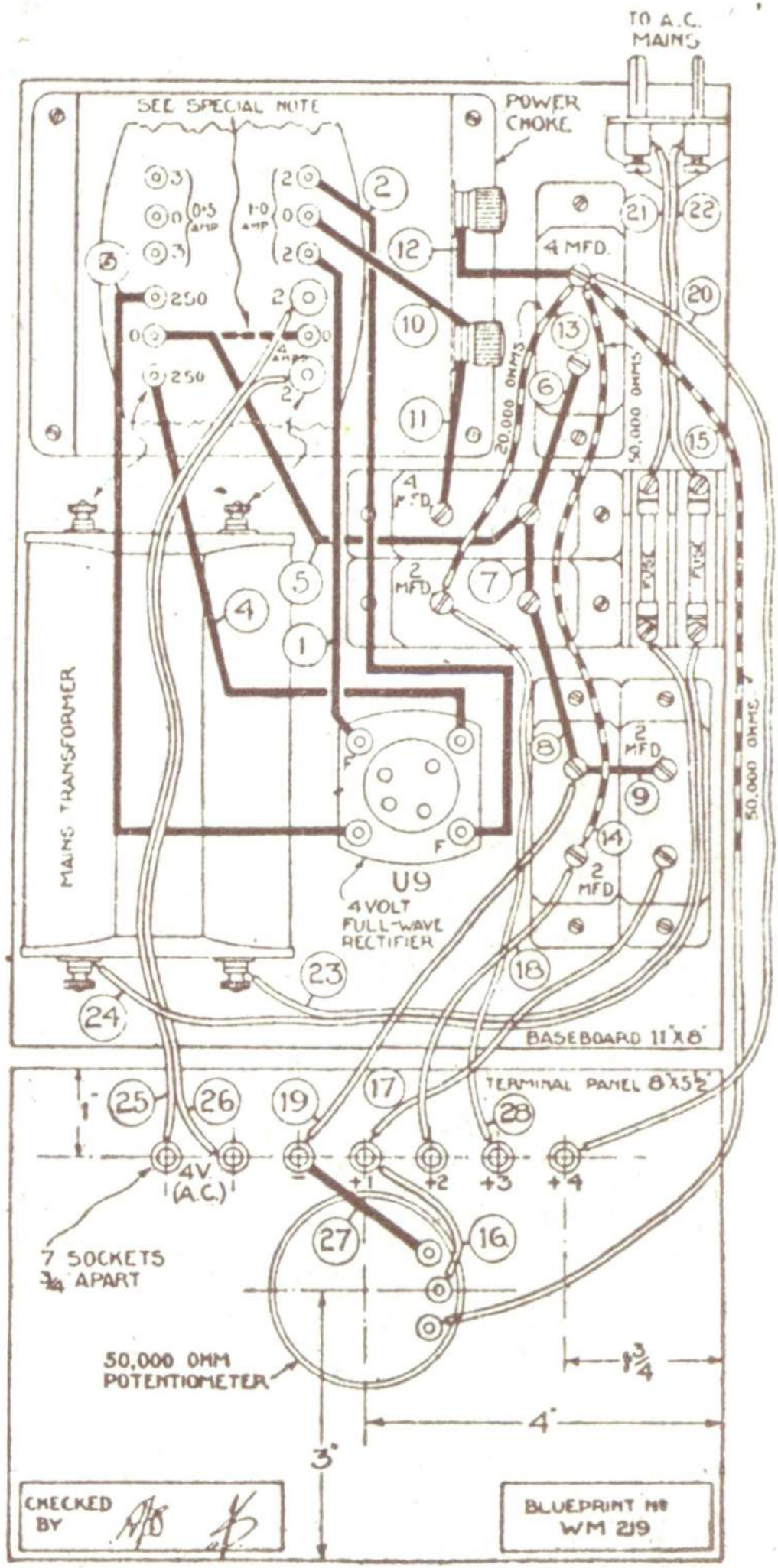

2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
30,000 OHMS
10,000 OHMS
SMOOTHING CHOKE
3/8" SQ. WOOD STRIP
TO EARTH TERMINAL ON METAL COVER
BASEBOARD 8¼" X 4½"
50,000 OHMS
1 1/8"
1 3/8"
1"
HT-
50,000 OHMS POTENTIOMETER
3/4"
3/4"
3/4"
1 1/8"
H.T.+
TERMINAL STRIP 7" X 2" X 3/16"
TO D.C. MAINS
SWITCH
BLUEPRINT No WM 215

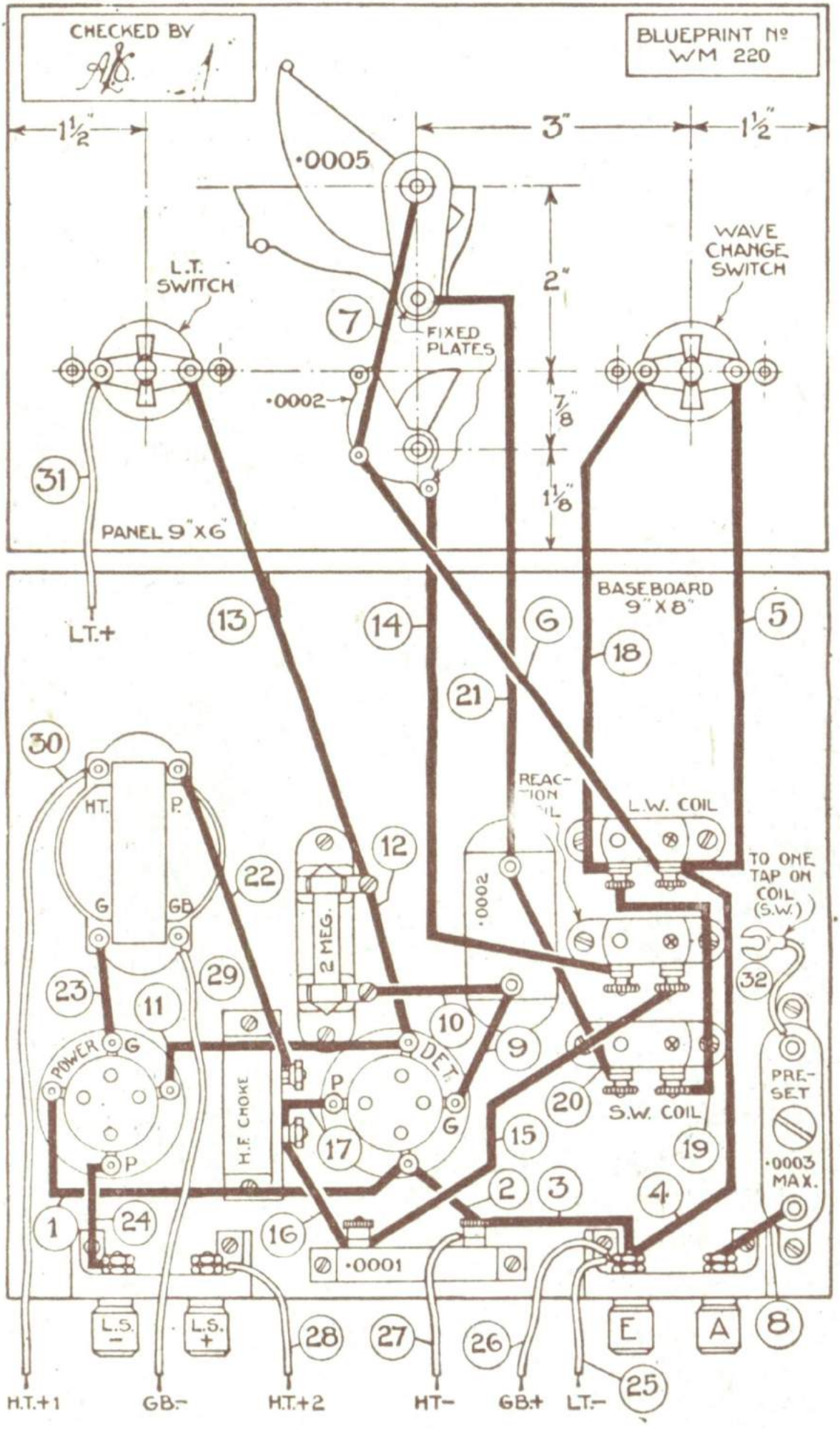

CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT No
WM 216
S.G. VALVE
RHEOSTAT
15 OHMS
-0005
-0005
FIXED PLATES
FIXED PLATES
1 MEGOHM
POTENTIOMETER
LT+
LT. SWITCH
PANEL 18" X 7"
FIXED PLATES
REACTION CONDENSER
-0002
WAVELENGTH CHANGING SWITCH
BASEBOARD 18" X 10"
HT+2
30,000 OHMS
2MFD.
80,000
-005
2 MΩ
SPECIAL CLIP
H.F. CHOKE
150 COIL
60 X COIL
150 COIL
60 X COIL
COIL REAC
HF CHOKE
SCREEN 10" X 6"
1 MFD.
1 MFD.
G
P
GB-
HT+
POWER
L.F.
DET.
A
GB-2
-0002
-0002
-0003
OUTPUT CHOKE
2 MFD.
600 OHMS
S.G. VALVE HOLDER
600 OHMS
-0003 MA
HT-
LT-
GB+
HT+3
HT+1
L.S
PICK-UP
GB-1
E
A

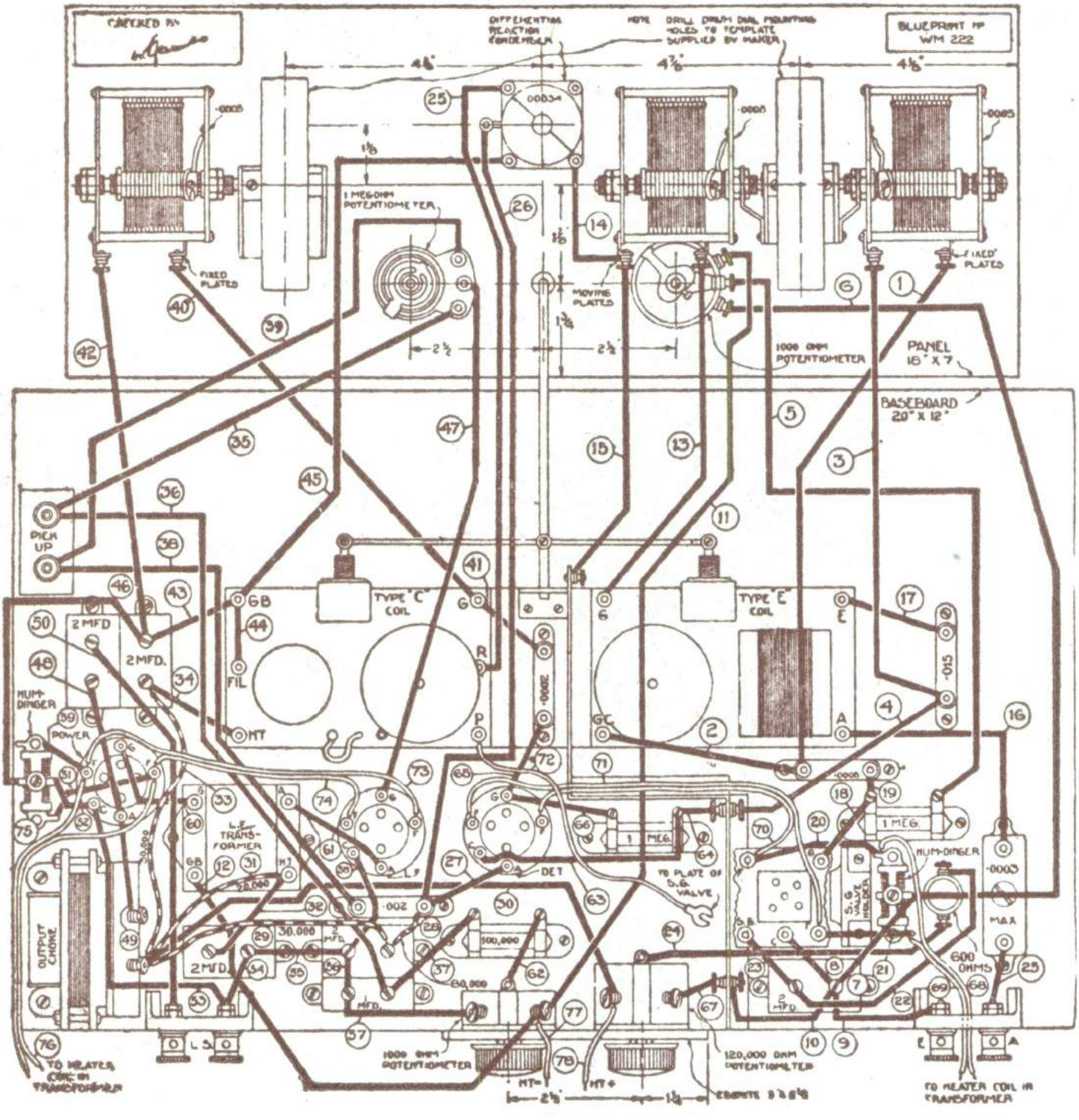


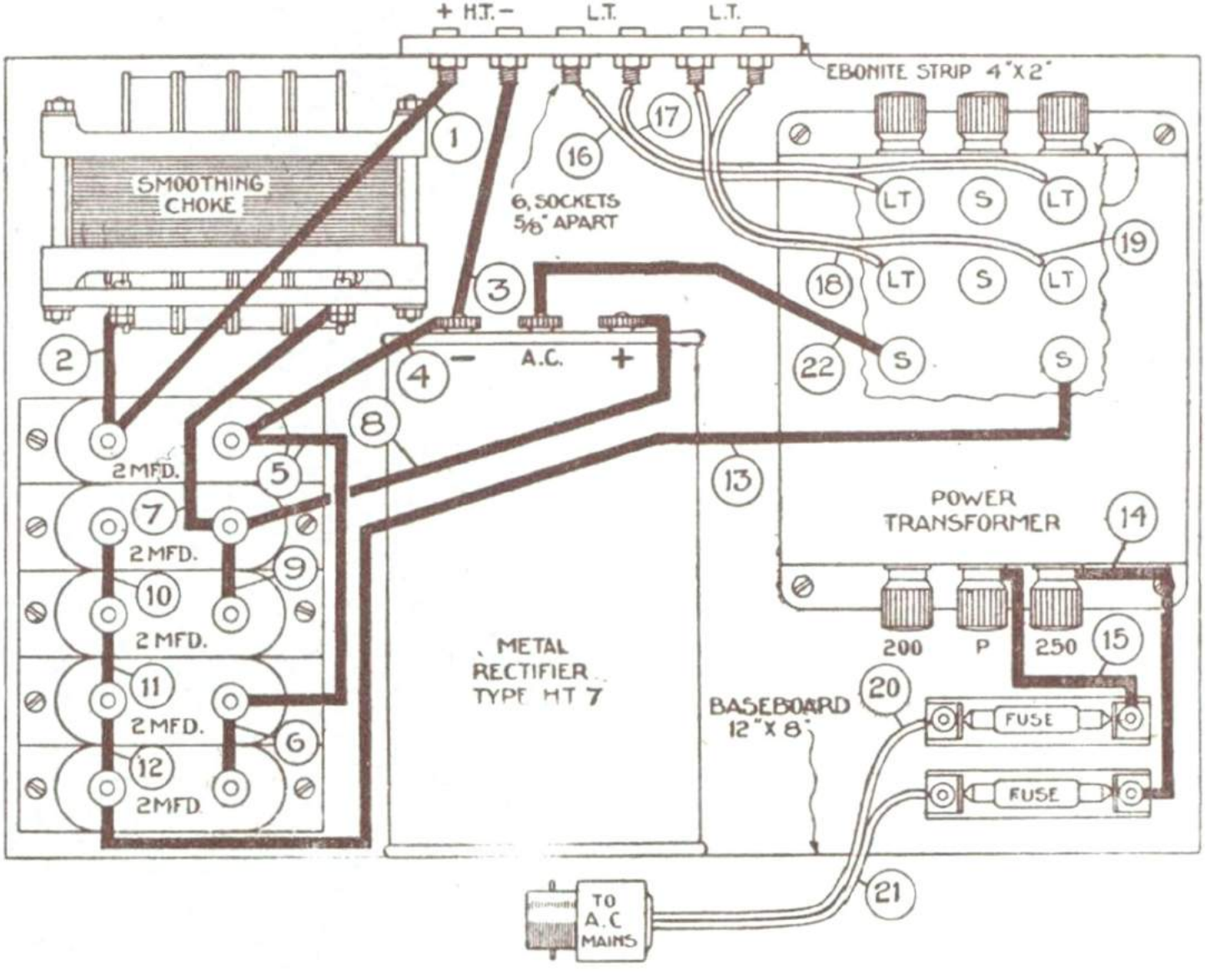
CHECKED BY
NOTE:- MOVING PLATES OF VARIABLE CONDENSERS SHOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH METAL PANEL
BLUEPRINT Nº W M 217
METAL PANEL 18" x 7"
PLYWOOD BASEBOARD 18" x 10"
FIXED PLATES
·0005
·0001
·0005
30 OHM POTENTIOMETER
DETECTOR
L.F. TRANSFORMER
H.F. CHOKE
D.W.G. COIL
D.W.A. COIL
SCREEN 10" x 6"
S.G. VALVE HOLDER
OUTPUT CHOKE
2 MFD.
1 MFD
·0002
·0003 MAX.
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE
POWER
600 OHMS
2 MΩ
4V. (A.C.)
L.S.
HT+4
HT+2
GB+
HT-
HT+1
GB-
E
A

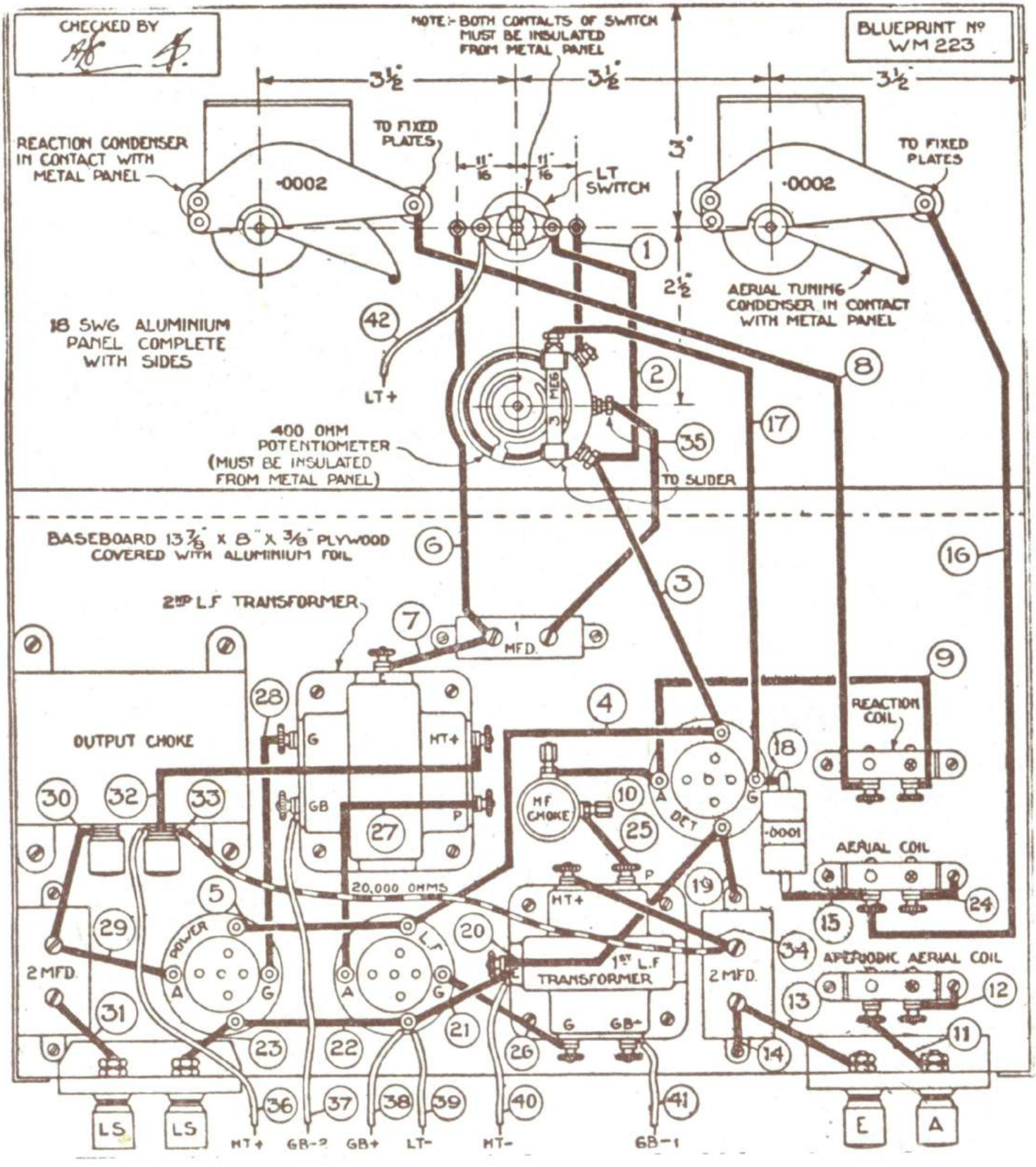

CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 218
4"
4"
4"
·0005
·00035
·0005
FIXED PLATES
FIXED PLATES
FIXED PLATES
2¾"
2½"
3"
1¾"
PANEL 16"X8"
BASEBOARD 16" X 10"
15 OHMS
GB+
GB-1
MFD
GB
FIL
HT
TYPE C
BINOWAVE COIL
G
R
P
GB
FIL
E
TYPE A
BINOWAVE COIL
G
FIL
AE
2 MEG.
·0002
1 MFD.
·0003 MAX.
SCREEN
G
P
GB
HT
A
DET.
L.F. TRANSFORMER
·0001
POWER
A
F
S.G.
TO ANODE OF S.G. VALVE
GB-2
HT-
HT+2
- L.S. +
HT+3
LT-
HT+1
LT+
E
A


TO A.C. MAINS
SEE SPECIAL NOTE
POWER CHOKE
0-3 amp
1-0 amp
4 amp
250
250
4 MFD.
20,000 OHMS
50,000 OHMS
4 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
50,000 OHMS
MAINS TRANSFORMER
U9
4 VOLT FULL-WAVE RECTIFIER
BASEBOARD 11"X8"
TERMINAL PANEL 8"X5½"
1"
4V (A.C.)
−
+1
+2
+3
+4
7 SOCKETS ¾ APART
50,000 OHM POTENTIOMETER
¾
4"
3"
CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT NO WM 219


CHECKED BY
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 220
1½"
3"
1½"
·0005
2"
WAVE CHANGE SWITCH
L.T. SWITCH
7
FIXED PLATES
·0002
⅞"
1⅛"
31
PANEL 9"X6"
BASEBOARD 9"X8"
LT.+
13
14
6
5
18
21
30
HT.
P.
G
GB.
22
12
REAC-TION COIL
L.W. COIL
·0002
TO ONE TAP ON COIL (S.W.)
2 MEG.
23
11
29
32
10
9
POWER
G
DET.
P
G
H.F. CHOKE
20
S.W. COIL
PRE-SET
·0003 MAX.
17
15
19
2
3
4
1
24
16
·0001
L.S. −
L.S. +
28
27
26
E
A
8
25
H.T.+1
GB.−
H.T.+2
HT−
GB.+
LT.−


DIFFERENTIAL REACTION CONDENSER
NOTE DRILL DRUM DIAL MOUNTING HOLES TO TEMPLATE SUPPLIED BY MAKER
BLUEPRINT No WM 222
4⅝"
4⅞"
4⅛"
1 MEGOHM POTENTIOMETER
FIXED PLATES
MOVING PLATES
1000 OHM POTENTIOMETER
PANEL 18" X 7"
BASEBOARD 29" X 12"
PICK UP
TYPE "C" COIL
TYPE "E" COIL
2 MFD
2 MFD.
HUM-DINGER
POWER
L.F. TRANS-FORMER
OUTPUT CHOKE
30,000
100,000
50,000
.002
.0002
.015
.0003
1 MEG.
600 OHMS
MAX
DET
TO PLATE OF S.G. VALVE
S.G. VALVE HOLDER
1000 OHM POTENTIOMETER
120,000 OHM POTENTIOMETER
TO HEATER COIL IN TRANSFORMER
TO HEATER COIL IN TRANSFORMER


+ H.T. −
L.T.
L.T.
EBONITE STRIP 4"X2"
SMOOTHING CHOKE
6, SOCKETS 5/8" APART
LT
S
LT
LT
S
LT
S
S
A.C.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
2MFD
METAL RECTIFIER TYPE HT 7
POWER TRANSFORMER
200
P
250
BASEBOARD 12"X8"
FUSE
FUSE
TO A.C MAINS
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22


CHECKED BY
NOTE:- BOTH CONTACTS OF SWITCH MUST BE INSULATED FROM METAL PANEL
BLUEPRINT Nº WM 223
3½"
3½"
3½"
REACTION CONDENSER IN CONTACT WITH METAL PANEL
TO FIXED PLATES
·0002
11/16"
11/16"
LT SWITCH
3"
·0002
TO FIXED PLATES
2½"
AERIAL TUNING CONDENSER IN CONTACT WITH METAL PANEL
18 SWG ALUMINIUM PANEL COMPLETE WITH SIDES
LT+
400 OHM POTENTIOMETER (MUST BE INSULATED FROM METAL PANEL)
TO SLIDER
BASEBOARD 13⅞" x 8" x ⅜" PLYWOOD COVERED WITH ALUMINIUM FOIL
2ND L.F TRANSFORMER
1 MFD.
OUTPUT CHOKE
G
HT+
GB
P
20,000 OHMS
MF CHOKE
A
DET
G
·0001
REACTION COIL
AERIAL COIL
APERIODIC AERIAL COIL
HT+
1ST L.F TRANSFORMER
G
GB-
2 MFD.
2 MFD.
POWER
L.F
A
G
A
G
LS
LS
E
A
HT+
GB-2
GB+
LT-
HT-
GB-1

Giving Employment

HAS it ever occurred to you what effect the mass production of radio sets is having on other trades?

Figures recently issued by Kolster Brandes throw an interesting light on this subject. Their average sales recently have been over 5,000 sets a week.

I was interested to learn that one week's output of sets from their factory means the use of 3,879 miles of wire, 4,788 square yards of silk, 28,790 wander plugs, 215,209 eyelets, and 28,529 square yards of timber.

These figures demonstrate the growing importance of the radio industry. And you must remember that they refer to one manufacturer only.

◆ ◆ ◆

The Old Gang

How many of the constructors who clamour for gang control realise the difficulties the designer has to face? Not only is there a shortage of good gang condensers, but matched coils also present a considerable problem.

I discussed this aspect with a coil manufacturer the other day. "The trouble," he said, "is that if we match coils we must pack them in separate batches for each set. That is all right until the dealer gets an order for an odd coil."

Breaking the Set

"In many cases, rather than order an extra coil when he already has two or three matched ones on his shelf, he will break open the packet and replace the coil with a different one later. And where is your matching then?"

Now you know one of the troubles that prevents home-constructed gang sets being as generally in use as they ought to be.

◆ ◆ ◆

Screened-grid Fallacies

It is a fact that large numbers of listeners are badly misled by the large amplification factors published for screened-grid valves. Too few realise that figures like 200, 500, 1,000 (and even 1,500!) are only paper values and cannot be remotely approached in practice.

As Mr. W. James said at lunch the other day, when we were discussing the point: "It is all a matter of capacity." If the external capacity associated with the valve is very much greater than the internal capacity, as it is bound to be, the magnification is reduced to a very low figure.

I remember Captain H. J. Round showing me a set he had built with three screened-grid stages. When I asked what the amplification was he confessed that it was less than ten for each stage!

Practical Difficulties

That figure is, of course, very low and can be exceeded if the set is very carefully designed. It is largely a matter of getting the right tuning coils and providing effective capacity screens.

I believe that Mr. James still considers that he can get a bigger *stable* magnification from a properly neutralised high-frequency amplifier than he can from a screened-grid stage.

Caught Out!

One of my misfortunes recently was to move to a district where the electric-light supply is direct current. I had been led to suppose that A.C. was available and only discovered the truth when I found an A.C. mains set would not work.

Fearing the worst I had a look at the meter—it was marked "direct current!"

There was nothing to do but scrap all my A.C. gear for the time being. If you are thinking of moving take my advice and make certain beforehand what the electric supply really is.

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Matched Knobs

I am not giving up my agitation for the constructor's need of marked components, but this month I want to say something about knobs.

Why cannot the makers of parts such as volume controls, rheostats, and switches—which have panel controls—come to some arrangement to supply matched knobs with their products? Here is a chance for the Radio Manufacturers Association to do some useful work.

At present you can never tell what a set will look like until the construction is finished. In many cases you find that the knob of the volume control on the right of the panel, for example, does not match in the very least with the screened-grid rheostat knob on the left. This is all wrong and makes home-constructed sets look much more "botchy" than they really are. We must insist on something being done!

RADIO MEDLEY—Continued

Mains or Batteries ?

In these notes last month I mentioned that it would be interesting to know what proportion of WIRELESS MAGAZINE readers use mains-operated sets.

I invited readers to let me know what they use (the address is "BM/PRESS, London, W.C.1"), but as these notes have to be written a day after the last issue was published, few post cards have yet come to hand.

What Readers Use

However, I have heard from three readers. Mr. J. F. Clarkson, of Orpington (Kent), uses his A.C. mains for high tension and low tension; he has a unit designed by Mr. J. H. Reyner in 1928.

Two other readers at Tunbridge Wells also use their A.C. mains. Mr. A. L. Thorne has a three-valve set with 6-volt valves; high tension at 200 volts 30 milliamperes is supplied by an Ekco unit.

"All mains—filaments, grid bias, everything" is the type of set being constructed by Mr. G. W. Park.

◆ ◆ ◆

Use a Meter

I am convinced that far too few amateurs use meters. Failure to do so leads to all kinds of troubles and waste. For instance, have you ever measured the anode-current consumption of your set?

You really ought to, you know. Otherwise you cannot be sure that the anode battery or mains unit is not being badly overloaded.

By far the most useful gadget I have is a Ferranti valve tester. You remove the valve, put an adapter attached to the tester in the valve holder, and replace the valve in the top.

Then you can read, simply by turning a knob, anode current (0 to 10, or 0 to 100 milliamperes), anode voltage (0 to 100, or 0 to 300 volts) as well as the filament voltage. Unfortunately, the adapter cannot be used with five-pin valves.

◆ ◆ ◆

Home Recording

Have you tried making any records at home? I can assure you it is great fun.

For the last few evenings I have amused myself—and the rest of the family, for this is a thing in which everybody can join—with a new recorder invented by Mr. Arthur Kingston, who is a talkie and film expert.

What I like about the new system is that ordinary speech records can be made without any electrical amplification which, as you will agree, saves a great deal of trouble.

There is only one snag as far as I am concerned. I do *not* like fibre needles—it is such a business re-sharpening them !

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Beginning of the End ?

I have just heard a most interesting rumour. It is that after they have sold their present stocks (which are reported to be big enough to last all this year) one of our most famous gramophone companies will no longer make mechanical machines, but will produce only electric models.

If this is true it is likely that the ordinary mechanical instrument will in a few years be a thing of the past. In common with other radio fans I rejoice over this piece of good news.

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Rajahs at Savoy Hill !

This has nothing to do with the Indian Conference. I take the term from an article by Sir John Foster Fraser, in the *Sunday Graphic*, who says : "Thousands of us think Savoy Hill should be the successor of Tower Hill for the decapitation of bullying rajahs of the air who give us what they think we ought to have instead of what we know we want !"

Another comment will interest those who find fault with the programmes. "If the supreme rajah of Savoy Hill (Rajah Reith) is endeavouring to be a broadcasting St. Paul, all things to all men, which I doubt, he has learnt by now he has made a mess of things."

Although I, personally, have the greatest respect for the Director General and appreciate the difficulties with which those at Savoy Hill are faced, I think "Rajah Reith" is good enough to be kept in circulation !

◆ ◆ ◆

That Boycott !

Last month I brought to your notice a denial of the statement that there is a boycott against German radio apparatus in Denmark. I also expressed the opinion that I had not misunderstood my informant, Mr. Tage Byskov.

Now Mr. Byskov has written to say how the slip arose. He says : "I told you—or would have told you—that I found it a shame that not more English components could be sold in Denmark as we are strong believers in English quality."

Interest in England

"I told you as an example of our interest in England that our farmers were angry about the German meat customs and that some co-operative farmer organisations had made a private boycott of German coal and in future would buy their coal from England.

"I think that you have understood this as a special boycott of German radio goods, which is not made and will not be made, I think."

A Black Scoundrel

Mr. Byskov adds an amusing comment, for he continues : "I am

RADIO CAN BE GREAT FUN !
Jack Hulbert and Cicely Courtneidge, two popular artistes, enjoying radio with a McMichael portable set

A RADIO FAN'S CAUSERIE

mentioning this because a wholesale dealer in Copenhagen, who specialises in German goods and who sends a little monthly to his customers, has made a dreadful attack on me in the latest number, telling people that I travel in England and make great lies to all who will hear me there.

"I am not afraid of a sort of Hitler attack from this angry Germanophile, but I think he will write and tell you what a black scoundrel you have had under your innocent roof. I don't hope that this little misunderstanding will disturb you."

On the contrary, I am sorry that Mr. Byskov has been so much disturbed by my original comment, which was made in good faith.

◆ ◆ ◆

Stenode Reflections

A question I hear asked by many people is: "How much different is a Stenode from an ordinary super-het when the quartz-crystal gate is removed?"

The thought in some people's minds is this: The original Stenode with the quartz crystal gave results that were nothing short of revolutionary, but the broadcast model must necessarily be less selective, for the original could only be operated by expert technicians.

A number of manufacturers are wondering whether a modern super-het, not employing the Stenode principle, could not be made just as selective. In a few months we shall see some interesting developments, I am certain.

◆ ◆ ◆

Flexible Records

Have you seen any of the new flexible records? They are extremely light and you could carry twenty or thirty of them without knowing it. They will be a boon to those with portable gramophones.

Mr. James is interested in them, he tells me, because two very young members of his family have been suspected of breaking the ordinary kind of record on occasion! There will be no such difficulty with the new type.

These records are most attractive, being finished in various colours. Special needles must be used; the angle of the ordinary type is too steep and results in the surface being cut up.

Short Waves at Sea

On the new motor vessel *Worcestershire*, which is being completed at Glasgow for the Bibby line, a special Marconi short-wave transmitter will be installed for communicating over exceptionally long distances, such as from the Indian Ocean to Great Britain.

The installation will work between 16 and 40 metres.

◆ ◆ ◆

Are You a Short-waver?

I must confess that short-wave reception has never greatly appealed to me, although in the old days I did on occasion sit up half the night to hear America.

Do you ever listen to stations on wavelengths between 10 and 100 metres? If you answer "Yes" I will hazard the guess that you are more interested in the technical side of radio than in getting entertainment from your reception.

The fact is there is little entertainment to be obtained on the short waves; no doubt it will come in the future. In the meantime we shall get the most thanks from our families if we stick to the medium and long wavebands.

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A Pioneer

Recently Mr. Henry W. Allen, who is said to be the first person to enter the employment of any wireless-telegraph organisation in the world, was presented with an H.M.V. radio gramophone by his colleagues. He is retiring under the age rule.

Marchese Marconi, who made the presentation, referred to the help he had received from Mr. Allen when he first visited this country in 1896.

Mr. Allen was secretary of the original Wireless Telegraph and Signal Co.

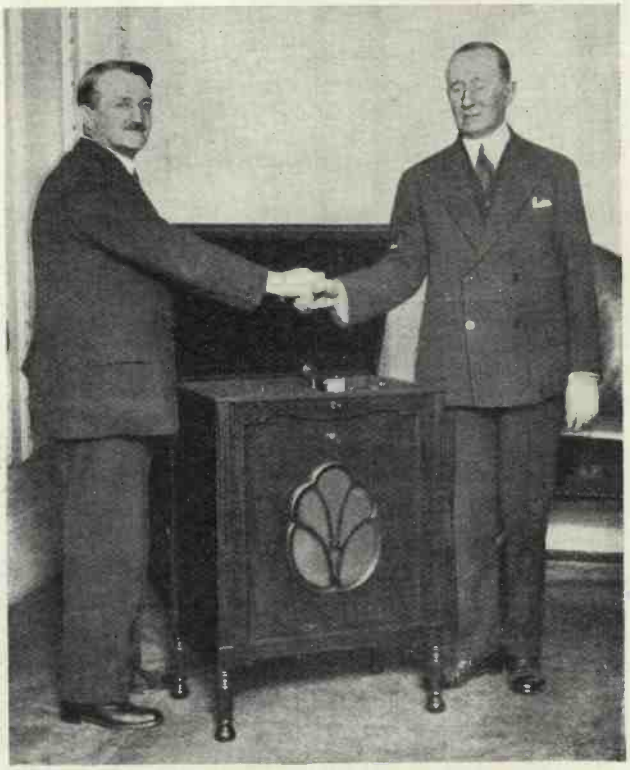
He remains a director of the Marconi International Marine Communications, Co. Ltd., and is a consultant of Imperial and International Communications.

Altogether a record of which to be proud.

◆ ◆ ◆

Good Earths

Most people, I suppose, would say that there is nothing about the ordinary earth tube that could be improved to any great extent.



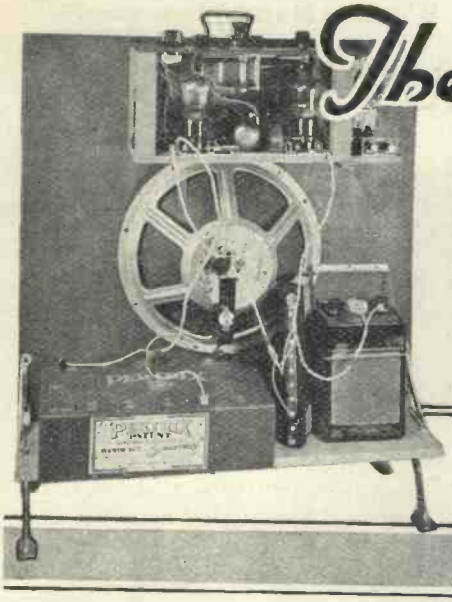
PRESENTATION BY MARCHESE MARCONI
Here you see Marchese Marconi (right) presenting an H.M.V. radio-gramophone to Mr. Henry W. Allen, who was secretary to the original wireless communication company

I thought so myself until I saw a new model being developed in the factory of a well-known firm of component manufacturers a few days ago.

I do not think I shall be going too far if I say that the new design has a special gadget that enables one to solder the earth wire to the tube without the need for either blow-lamp or soldering bit.

If you have ever tried soldering a wire to an earth tube out of doors you will appreciate this improvement.

BM/PRESS



The Baffle-board Three

SOMETHING NEW IN SET DESIGN

You will like the fine quality of reproduction obtained from this simple set, which has been produced by the WIRELESS MAGAZINE *Technical Staff*

EVERYBODY knows that to get the best results from a cone loud-speaker it should be mounted on a baffle of substantial dimensions, but until recently such boards have not been particularly attractive and it was always a problem to listeners to know best how to place them in a room in the most convenient way.

Attractive Baffles at Low Cost

Lately, much more attractive baffle boards have become available, and it is possible to get them in various finishes—for instance, mahogany or oak, copper or silver, and oxidised copper or oxidised silver—at very reasonable prices.

Moreover, oxidised copper or oxidised silver handles and feet are now available, so that the baffle fitted with these gadgets can be placed anywhere in a room in the most convenient place, where it will cause the least obstruction.

It occurred to a member of the WIRELESS MAGAZINE Technical Staff that there is a lot of space on a baffle board that could be used for the mounting of a set.

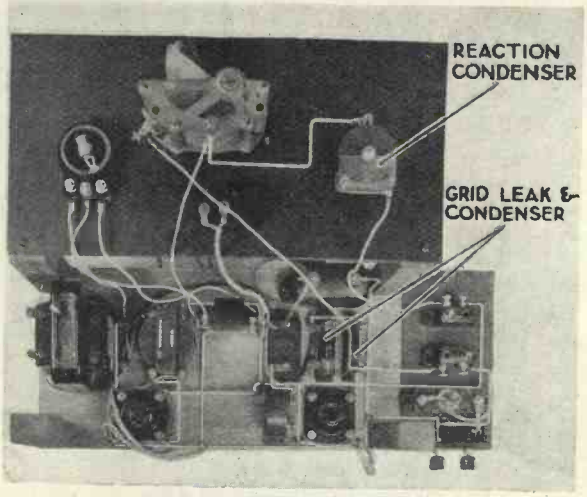
Various experiments were tried and it was found possible to make a very neat and convenient assembly by fixing a small set at the back of the baffle just above the loud-speaker and providing a shelf at the bottom on which the necessary batteries could be placed (see photograph at this top of the page).

We present here details of the Baffle-board Three in the belief that this new type of construction will appeal to a large number of listeners. The constructor is saved the cost of a special cabinet for the receiver.

The whole baffle is self-contained and can be moved about the room to any convenient position as long as the aerial and earth leads will reach far enough.

Although in this article we are describing the construction of a particularly suitable three-valve set, many amateurs will be able to adapt other designs of sets to this new form of construction.

Our intention in this case has been to produce a cheap and simple set for the reception of the regional stations and a few foreigners. With this object in view only the simplest components have been employed and use has been made of the ever-popular form of two-pin plug-in tuning coil, which has been used with such great success in the "Five-point" sets.



HOW TO WIRE UP THE SET

It is suggested that the panel should be temporarily screwed upside down on two of the wooden supports fixed to the baseboard

A glance at the photographs reproduced in these pages will show the straightforward nature of the construction. It is suggested that the receiver should be protected from dust by tacking thin plywood round it when mounted on the baffle board. We have photographed the set without any such covering so as to make all the points of construction quite clear.

Before considering the construction any further let us spend a few minutes dissecting the circuit diagram, which appears on page 38.

It is a fact that two-pin plug-in coils are not so selective as some other types of tuner that are available, but they have the advantage of cheapness and adaptability. Moreover, hundreds of constructors have a stock of these coils.

Building the Set at Little Expense

Indeed, most amateurs who have built two or three sets previously will already have the majority of the components needed for the Baffle-board Three and will, therefore, be able to assemble it at very little expense.

However, we are digressing and must return to the problem of selectivity. Experience shows that at a reasonable distance from a regional station, say, a minimum of ten miles, sufficient separation can be obtained by using a series aerial condenser and a double-tapped tuning coil. This, therefore, is the combination employed for the Baffle-board Three.

Results on Test in London

Under test in south-east London (at a distance of approximately twenty miles from Brookman's Park) this set gave five stations on the medium waves, with an 80-ft. outdoor aerial, without any signs of interference.

At 30 degrees on the aerial-tuning condenser the London National station was picked up at good strength; at 93 degrees London Regional came through; at 126 Rome was picked up at good strength; Midland Regional was heard at 138 degrees, and Vienna came in well at 159 degrees. On the long waves Daventry 5XX was heard at 139 degrees and Radio Paris came through at 153 degrees.

During this short test it was very apparent that the quality of reproduction was above the average, in spite of the fact that the power valve was not of very low impedance. Nobody who builds this set and uses the specificed parts will be disappointed with the quality of reproduction.

For the sake of sensitivity the detector valve is arranged on the leaky-grid principle, with a .0002-microfarad condenser and a 2-megohm leak. Reaction is obtained by coupling a second plug-in coil to the aerial coil, the amount of feedback from the anode circuit to the grid circuit being controlled by a .0002-microfarad variable condenser. A high-frequency choke is included in the anode circuit of the detector valve to improve the reaction effect.

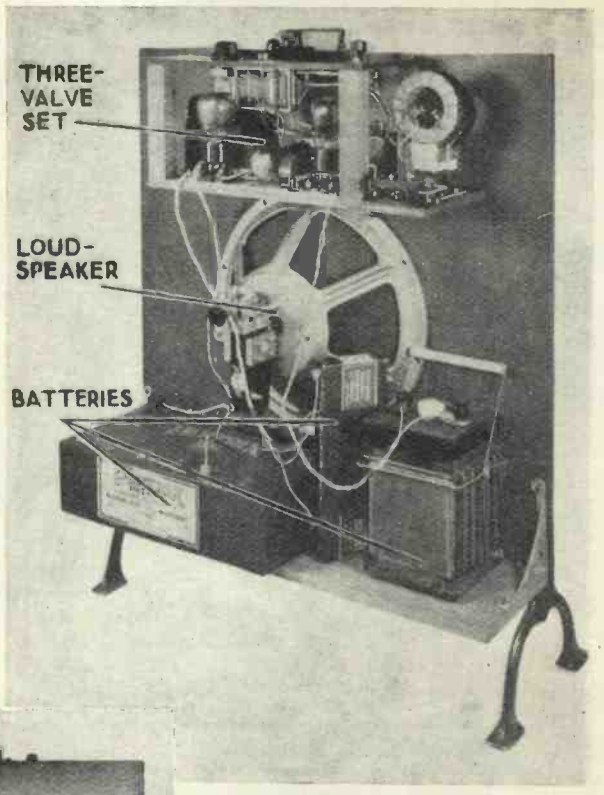
Valve Combination

Following the detector are two stages of low-frequency amplification, the first being resistance-capacity coupled and the second transformer-coupled.

In conjunction with the anode resistance of 80,000 ohms is a decoupling resistance of 30,000 ohms; this, in conjunction with the 2-microfarad by-pass condenser, effectively prevents any possibility of low-frequency oscillation, or motor-boating, as it is more usually termed. With these values of resistance it is intended that a valve with an impedance between 30,000 and 50,000 ohms should be employed.

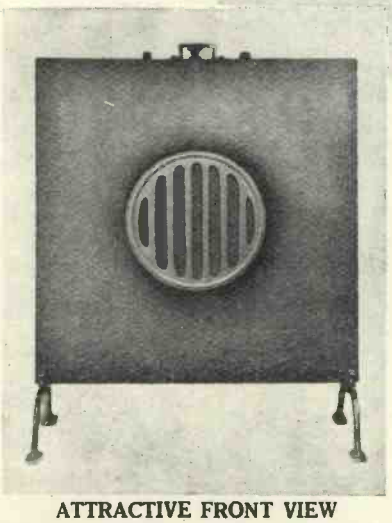
Variable Grid Leak for Controlling Volume

The coupling condenser between the anode of the first valve and the grid of the second valve has a value of .005 microfarad. The grid leak has a value of 1 megohm, but this is made variable so that volume can be easily controlled within the desired limits. It will be seen that the grid of the second valve can be tapped up and down the grid leak as required. Minimum volume is obtained when the grid is tapped down towards the grid-bias end of the resistance.



COMPLETELY SELF-CONTAINED

From this photograph it will be seen that the set is completely self-contained, except for the aerial and earth



ATTRACTIVE FRONT VIEW

The control knobs can just be seen at the top of the baffle; six different finishes are available to match with different furnishing schemes

The connections of the low-frequency transformer in the anode circuit of the second valve are standard and need no comment. Any good transformer can be used in this position; it should preferably have a step-up ratio of about 1 to 3.

Output Management

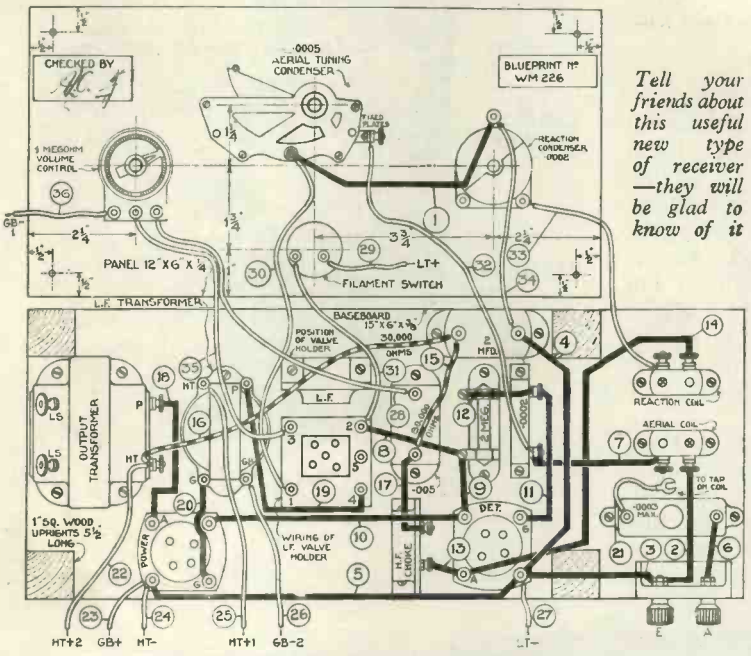
Most constructors are aware that to get the best results from a loud speaker it is desirable to prevent the steady anode current of the power valve from passing through the reproducer windings. This can be done either by using a choke-capacity output circuit, or by the insertion of an output transformer between the power valve and the loud-speaker.

In this set we have used an output transformer with a ratio of 1 to 1. This is suitable for the average high resistance loud-speaker when an ordinary type of power valve is used. Other ratios are available for various purposes; for example, a step-down transformer would be needed if a low-resistance moving-coil loud-speaker were used.

It will be seen that two high-tension feeds are

Tell Your Friends About This Special Set

THE BAFFLE-BOARD THREE—Continued



Tell your friends about this useful new type of receiver—they will be glad to know of it

LAYOUT AND WIRING GUIDE FOR CONSTRUCTORS

This quarter-scale wiring guide can be obtained as a full-size blueprint for half price (that is, 6d., post free) if the coupon on page 112 is used by February 28. Ask for No. WM226. When wiring up, connect the leads in the numerical order indicated

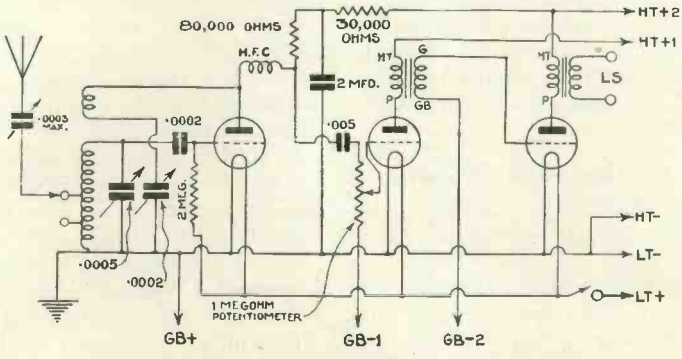
provided; the first (marked H.T.+1) supplies the first low-frequency valve, while the second (marked H.T.+2) supplies both the detector valve and the power valve. Two negative grid-bias tappings are also provided, the first for the transformer-coupled low-frequency valve and the second for the power valve.

No Special Parts Needed for Construction

It will be quite clear from this description that there are no special parts needed for the construction of the set and, as many amateurs have a good stock of components, the set can be made, as previously pointed out, at very little expense.

A feature of the design is the simplicity of construction, which will be quite clear from the photographs and wiring diagram reproduced in these pages.

Many constructors prefer to work from a full-size blueprint, and one of these can be obtained under the special half-price scheme up till the end of February. Send the coupon on the last page of this issue to Blueprint Department, WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58-61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4, with a postal order for 6d. Ask for No. WM226.



SIMPLE THREE-VALVE CIRCUIT

The valve combination employed for the Baffle-board Three is a leaky-grid detector followed by two low-frequency stages, the first resistance-coupled and the second transformer-coupled

For the sake of convenience it is suggested that the set should be wired up as shown in the plan photograph on page 36, from which it will be seen that the panel has temporarily been screwed upside down to two of the wooden pillars fixed to the baseboard.

Connections between components mounted on the panel and other parts on the baseboard can conveniently be made with flexible rubber-covered wire.

How to Wire the Set

Wiring up will be accomplished in the quickest and most satisfactory way if the blueprint is carefully followed. It will be seen that every connecting wire is numbered separately; it is intended that the leads should be placed in position one by one in the numerical order indicated.

If this scheme is followed out carefully, there is no possibility of making a mistake and the wiring will automatically be built up in the most satisfactory way.

There is one point about the blueprint that should be noted. The holder for the first low-frequency valve is of the type for horizontal mounting of the valve itself, as will be clear from the photographs. For the sake of clearness, however, this holder is shown in detail on the blueprint in its horizontal as well as its vertical position, so that there shall be no confusion as to how the connections are made to it.

Resistances that Form Connections

Another point to notice is that the anode and decoupling resistances associated with the first valve are of the flexible or spaghetti type. These resistances actually form the connections numbered 15 and 16.

Before the set can be used it will be necessary to insert the coils and valves in their respective holders. We will consider the coils first.

For each waveband two coils are needed, for aerial tuning and reaction respectively. To cover the medium and long wavebands a No. 60 and a No. 200 coil are needed; these should both be of the double-tapped type.

Our tests have indicated that a No. 50 plain coil will give satisfactory reaction with either of the aerial coils recommended, so that in practice both wavebands can be covered by the use of three coils only. It should be observed that the reaction coil is that nearest the baffle board when the set has been mounted in position.

The question of valves is not a difficult one, but

SOMETHING NEW IN RECEIVER DESIGN

care should be taken to choose such types as are within the discharge rate of the high-tension battery to be used.

The detector valve, as already mentioned, should have an impedance between 30,000 and 50,000 ohms. For the second stage a valve of between 10,000 and 20,000 ohms impedance will give good results; it should be remembered that the higher the impedance the greater will be the magnification factor and, therefore, the overall amplification obtained from the set will be increased.

Suitable Power Valve

If a standard-capacity anode battery is to be used, some care should be given to the choice of a suitable power valve. If the ordinary standard-capacity battery (with economical discharge rate of 7 milliamperes) is used, then the power valve, if of the 2-volt type, should not have an impedance lower than 4,000 ohms.

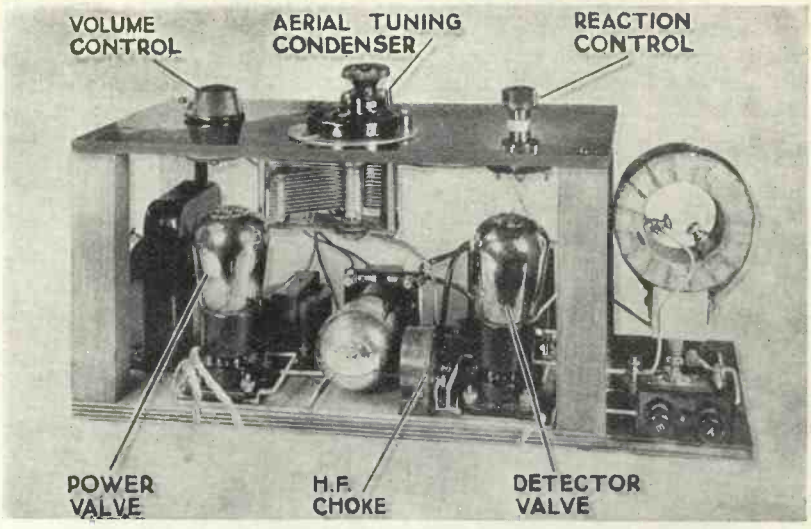
It should be noted, however, that the actual battery specified in the list of components will stand a discharge of 12 milliamperes.

The best results will be obtained with a lower impedance power valve, say with an impedance in the neighbourhood of 2,500 ohms. Such valves, however, as will be seen from the table on page 4 of this issue, take an anode current in the neighbourhood of 12 milliamperes and can only satisfactorily be used if a super-capacity battery or a mains unit is employed.

As soon as the set has been mounted on the baffle board and the necessary external connections completed, a preliminary test can be made.

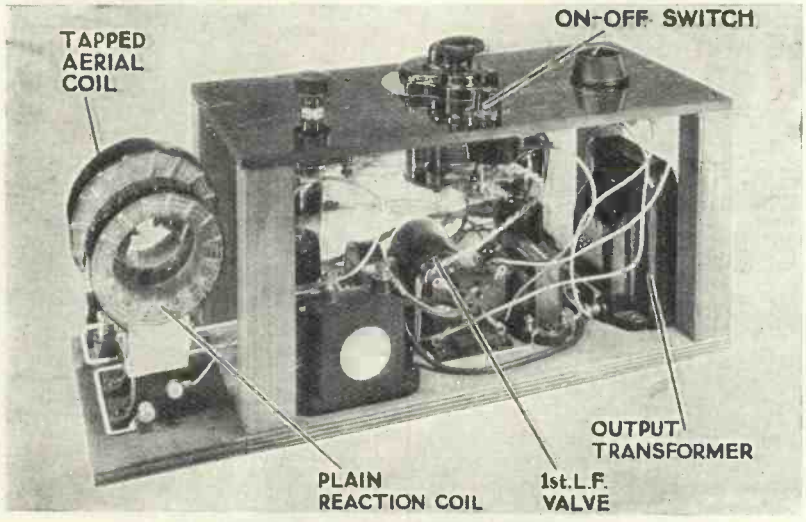
First of all make certain that the flexible lead from one side of the aerial series condenser is fixed to one of the taps on the aerial coil. Next screw down the small knob on this semi-fixed condenser so that the maximum capacity is obtained.

Adjust the volume control (on the right of the panel, when the set is viewed from the front of the baffle) for maximum strength by turning it as far to the right as possible and then turn on the filament switch, which is just in front of the main tuning dial.



ACCESSIBLE TUNING CONTROLS

On the left of the panel is the volume control ; in the centre the main tuning dial ; and on the right is mounted the reaction condenser



IT IS EASY TO CHANGE COILS

The plug-in coils are quite accessible and are easily changed when desired. The on-off switch is on the panel immediately in front of the slow-motion tuning dial

Adjusting Reaction Control

Set the main dial at zero and advance the reaction control until the set is heard to be on the point of oscillation; this is indicated by a rustling or hissing sound from the loud-speaker. Now slowly turn the main dial, at the same time advancing the reaction control step by step to keep the detector valve on the verge of oscillation. It will not be long before a station is picked up.

Increasing Selectivity

It will probably be found at first that the station spreads badly over a large part of the main tuning dial, but do not be alarmed, because this is not a sign that the set is inefficient. Tuning can be made sharper by unscrewing the knob of the aerial series condenser very slowly and by picking the best of the two tappings on the aerial coil.

After a few minutes' experimenting it will be possible to arrive at the best compromise between selectivity and sensitivity. It is an unfortunate fact that all the simplest methods of increasing the selectivity of a receiver result in the volume of signals being reduced.

It may be found necessary to readjust the series condenser for the long waves if it has first been adjusted for the medium waves, and vice versa. But by trying different tappings on the medium- and long-wave aerial

THE BAFFLE-BOARD THREE—Continued

coils it may be possible to arrive at a setting which is satisfactory for reception on both wavebands.

If it is desired to pick up foreign stations when the Brookman's Park (or other local) transmitters are not working, the sensitivity of the set can be increased considerably by setting the aerial series condenser at its maximum capacity and using the smallest tap on the tuning coil. Under these conditions it will be possible to get a good bag of Continental stations.

Although double-tapped coils have been recommended, those who already have some of the centre-tapped type may be able to use them satisfactorily. It depends very largely on local conditions whether centre-tapped coils will give a sufficient degree of selectivity to avoid mutual interference when powerful transmitters are working.

Aerial Length

However, in many cases centre-tapped coils will be found selective enough, if the particular aerial employed is on the short side.

Some readers may be afraid that the type of construction employed for the Baffle-board Three results in a top-heavy assembly, but this is not the case, for the receiver itself is light in comparison with the high-tension battery and low-tension accumulator, which are placed on an additional shelf right at the bottom of the baffle board.

This shelf, by the way, is not supplied as a standard fitting and must be mounted in position by the constructor. It can conveniently be held in place by means of two ordinary panel brackets.

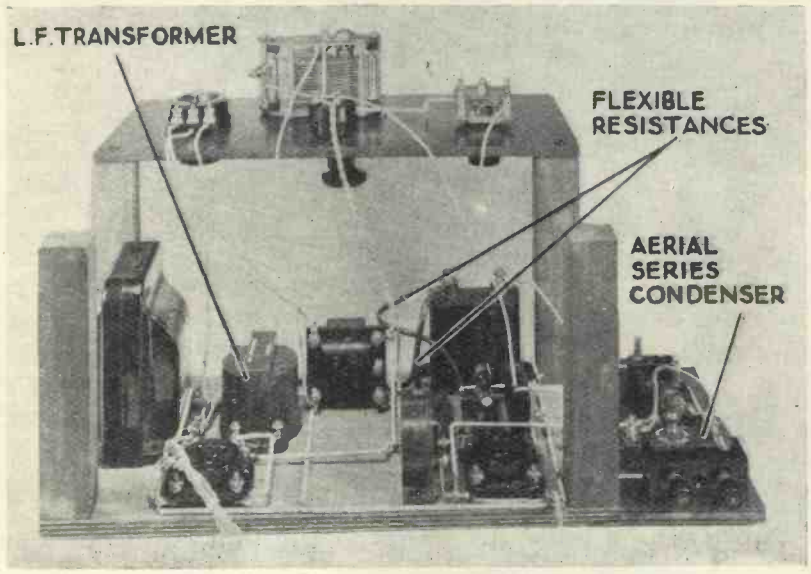
We are very pleased with the convenient nature of this type of assembly and believe that it will be equally attractive to large numbers of constructors. Whether you intend to build this set or not, we shall be pleased to have your opinion of its general lay-out.

Of course, if you do build it we shall also be glad to hear of the results you obtain. We can then pass your experiences on for the benefit of other home constructors.

Matching Your Furniture

Remember when ordering the baffle board for this set to state what finish you need. From the range available you will be able to choose the best to match with your furnishing scheme. It should also be noted that two sizes of loud-speaker opening are available; to be on the safe side you should mention the diameter of the particular cone you are going to use.

Should you desire to fix the baffle on a wall remember that the baffle can be obtained without the handle or feet. Quite a convenient assembly can be made by fixing the board to a bracket on a wall.



THERE IS NOTHING COMPLICATED ABOUT THE WIRING

This illustration shows clearly that the wiring of the set is very simple and can be undertaken without difficulty even by the novice. Note the temporary fixing of the panel to facilitate making connections

COMPONENTS NEEDED FOR THE BAFFLE-BOARD THREE

CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Telsen, 2s. 6d. (or Ready Radio, Igranic)

COILS
1—Atlas No. 50 plug-in, 2s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Lissen).
1—Atlas No. 60 plug-in double-tapped, 5s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Lissen).
1—Atlas No. 200 plug-in double-tapped, 7s. (or Lewcos, Lissen).

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Edison Bell .0002-microfarad, 1s. (or Formo, T.C.C.).
1—Edison Bell .005-microfarad, 1s. 6d. (or Formo, T.C.C.).
1—Lissen 2-microfarad, 3s. 6d. (or Ferranti, Franklin).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
1—Lotus .0005-microfarad, type LC/5, 5s. 9d. (or Lotus, Jackson).
1—Lotus .0002-microfarad, reaction type, 5s. 3d. (or Bulgin, Burton).
1—Sovereign pre-set, .0003-microfarad max., 1s. 6d. (or Igranic, Formo).

DIAL, SLOW-MOTION
1—Lotus, type VD/10, 4s. 9d. (or Harlie, Brownie).

EBONITE
1—Red Triangle 12-in. by 6-in. panel, 6s. (or Becol, Lissen).
1—Belling-Lee terminal block, 8d. (or Junit).

HOLDERS, COIL
2—Lissen, two-pin type, 2s. (or Lotus, Magnum).

HOLDER, GRID-LEAK
1—Bulgin, type G.6, 9d. (or Lissen).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Benjamin Vibrolders, 3s. (or W.B., Telsen).
1—Junit, S.G. type, 1s. 9d. (or Parex, W.B.).

PLUGS AND TERMINALS
6—Belling-Lee plugs, marked: H.T.+2, H.T.+1, H.T.—, G.B.+, G.B.—1, G.B.—2, 1s. 6d. (or Clix, Eelex).
2—Belling-Lee spade terminals, marked: L.T.+, L.T.—, 9d. (or Clix, Eelex).
2—Belling-Lee terminals, marked: A, E, 6d. (or Clix, Eelex).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Magnum 30,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Magnum 80,000-ohm, spaghetti type, 2s. (or Bulgin).
1—Rotor 2-megohm, type A, 1s. 6d. (or Watmel, Dubilier).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Rotor 1-megohm potentiometer, 6s.

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Length of rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).
1—Baseboard, 15 in. by 6 in.
1—Wooden shelf, 24 in. by 6 in.
1—Pair of Keystone panel brackets, 2s.
4—Wooden supports, 5½ in. by 1 in. square.

TRANSFORMER, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Igranic midget type, ratio 1 to 3, 10s. 6d. (or Brownie, Burton).

TRANSFORMER, OUTPUT
1—Lissen, ratio 1 to 1, 12s. 6d. (or Ferranti).

ACCESSORIES

BAFFLE
1—Borst baffle screen, 15s. 9d.

BATTERIES
1—Pertrix 120-volt, standard type, 15s. 6d. (or Ever Ready, Siemens).
1—Pertrix 16-volt grid-bias, 2s. 9d. (or Ever Ready, Siemens).
1—C.A.V. 2-volt accumulator, type 2AG7, 11s. (or Lissen, Exide).

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Blue Spot special chassis, type 31R, 10s. 6d.
1—Blue Spot unit, type 66R, £1 15s.

VALVES
1—Mullard PM1A, 8s. 6d. (or Cossor 210RC, Marconi H2).
1—Mullard PM1HF, 8s. 6d. (or Cossor 210HF, Marconi HL210).
1—Mullard PM2, 10s. 6d. (or Cossor 220P, Marconi P215)

The prices mentioned are those for the parts used in the original set; the prices of alternatives as indicated in the brackets may be either higher or lower

Have You A Talkie Voice?

MAKING A TALKIE

Here you see what happens in a talkie studio. Miss Ella Shields is seen on the extreme right. The orchestra is accompanying her

A Special Article By BAYNHAM HONRI

"I'LL alwayth think of you, thonny boy," lisped the first talkies, such a little while ago.

That was before the talking-picture (*nee* broadcasting) engineers had really got down to the problem of turning up the ends of the musical scale for the more adequate recording and reproduction of the bass notes of organ and orchestra and the highest notes of the sopranos—and sibilants.

Unforgivable Lisp

It is a curious fact that public and press comment on the first talkies seemed to overlook the absence of bass notes, but could not forgive the lisp. "Our wireless sets and gramophone records don't lisp," they said, "so why should these talkies be afflicted with the complaint?"

There was a very good reason for the lisp, as it happened. The first really successful talking pictures were made with disc recording and reproduction, and the sound from gramophone records made in the ordinary way and reproduced in a large hall considerably magnified the amount of background noise caused by the scratch of the needle.

The particular range of frequencies which carried the sound of needle scratch into the hall via loudspeakers also included all "s" sounds. The needle scratch had to be kept down, and with this suppression most of the sibilants of the actors' speeches disappeared.

The engineers knew that they would get over the sibilant difficulty eventually but, in the meantime, the talkie boom had begun and recording gear which was designed for straight gramophone work was hurriedly converted and adapted for use in talkie making.

As a temporary measure, film artistes were asked to speak slowly and distinctly, emphasising the consonants of speech, "th," "sh" sounds and final "s's."

The same problem did not arise to anything like the same extent in recording the sound on film, as in Movietone and R.C.A. Photophone, but at that time sound-on-film recording had so many other technical difficulties to be overcome that the engineers hadn't time to become finicky about sibilants.

They were still coping with speed wobbles, developing and printing troubles, track alignment and other little ailments that are outside the scope of this article.

At an early stage the disadvantages of disc recording became obvious. In the first place, a wax recording machine could not be stopped and started for short scenes as had been done in the days of the silent film. The recording of a complete reel of picture had to be undertaken at one time, and dialogue and action had to be measured out for a scene to occupy from ten to eleven minutes of running time.

Battery of Cameras

A battery of several cameras would be "shooting" at the same time, one camera taking a long shot, another a mid-shot, a third a close-up, and so on, and as these cameras were all turning in synchronism with the wax recorder, the film editor was able to secure a certain amount of variety of shot in the process of cutting, thus avoiding the monotony that would be caused by "holding" the entire scene from one angle only.

Sometimes several sets were erected side by side in the studio, so

Lisp or Needle Scratch :: Disadvantages of the Disc :: Recording Separate Scenes :: Sound-on-film Progress :: Coloured Films :: Testing Your Friends' Voices :: Position of the Sound Camera

HAVE YOU A TALKIE VOICE ?—Continued

that the artistes could play from one room to another without causing a break in that precious ten minutes of continuous recording. Subsequently, an elaborate system was perfected whereby a number of short scenes recorded on separate discs could be re-recorded on one disc.

Sound-on-film Recording

Meanwhile, sound-on-film recording was making great progress. The speed troubles which marred the quality of music recorded on this medium had been overcome, and under the right conditions was capable of giving much finer results than the disc. Furthermore, the improved sound-on-film recorders of R.C.A., Western Electric, Tobis, and British Acoustic were extremely mobile both in and out of the studio, and all of the systems gave a better rendering of bass notes and sibilants than had been possible with the disc.

Thus a stage was reached, some six months ago, when it became almost a universal practice to *record* a picture with the sound-on-film and, when it was edited and cut, to re-record the sound on disc for the benefit of cinemas only equipped for this type of talking picture.

In the case of most coloured pictures, it is necessary to have this transfer made from film to disc on account of the coloured film base affecting the sound track.

In the studio it is no longer necessary for the artistes to speak slowly, emphasising consonants. On the contrary, the modern recording apparatus is extremely sensitive to over-emphasis, and defects of speech which were an advantage in the early days of talkies have now become a menace.

Testing Your Voice

One must remember that the microphone is a "one-ear" instrument. That is to say, it picks up exactly what we hear with one ear only, just as the camera photographs the equivalent of what we see with one eye.

In the quietness of your own room, listen to your friends speaking with a piece of cotton wool in one of your ears, in order to simulate the conditions of microphone pick-up. You will notice (1) the strength of sibilants, and (2) an echo of the voice, unless he or she is quite close to you.

The strength of sibilants and echo will vary with the strength of the voice, nearness of the speaker, and the direction of the delivery of the speech. Any defect of speech is cruelly emphasised, just as it is on the microphone.

These are the fundamental problems which affect the quality of sound-film recording, now that the initial mechanical difficulties have been overcome.

The extreme mobility of the mechanical side of talking picture apparatus has encouraged many studio executives to revert to production methods of the "mute" era. That is to say, sound and the presence of the microphone are ignored—until the "rushes" are heard and the scene has to be re-taken!

Forgetting the Sound

Trick shots, tracking shots, and extreme long shots are freely used without thought of what is going to happen to the sound. In fact, the tendency in some quarters is to give the cameraman his head and the freedom of the city, and push the sound down a speaking tube to a murky cellar, where it is recorded on a mass-production basis.

Just how short-sighted such a policy is will be realised when it is explained that the "clearness" of

RECORDING THEIR VOICES

THE greatest discovery of this age, and of all ages, is man's voice. And it is such a wonderful thing. It can love and hate; call and drive away; make the most fearful noises and the most wonderful music. The singer keeps a huge audience spellbound and the orator sways a crowd like a waving field of corn. That's a voice.

No wonder then that man has discovered ways and means of broadcasting it. What is wireless without a voice? Even the most heavenly music, if it were not interrupted occasionally by means of the human voice, would become boring.

And there is the gramophone, far more wonderful to me than radio, for it gives back the voice of a person that has passed out of our presence long since. It brings a singer from the other part of the world to dwell in our homes where we can hear him whenever we like.

Wings to Fly

Radio gives the voice wings that it may fly around the earth and enter homes and halls on the way. The gramophone gives the voice eternity and immortality, for once it is recorded it lives.

Now comes the day when most people can have their own voices permanently preserved for them on home-made records.

The children of the future will not only have the voices of the leaders of this age preserved to them, but the voices of their grandparents, uncles and aunts will likewise be in the possession of the family.

In ages to come fathers will be able to say that their son has a voice exactly like that of the great-grandfather, or a daughter that of a great-aunt. Family voices will be handed down from one age to another. We shall be able to mark changes in accent and dialect; note the changes in emphasis and words.

Voices of Ancestors

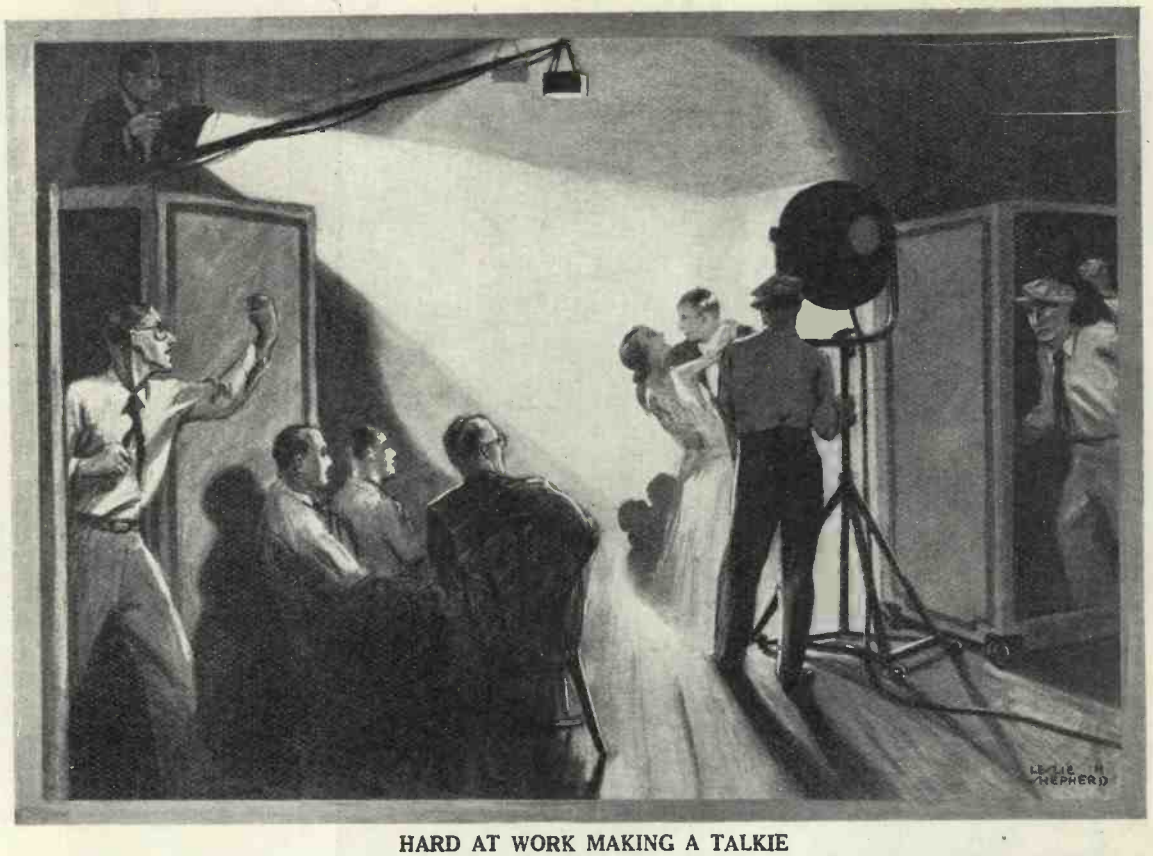
Many evenings will be spent in ages to come going through the album containing the voices of ancestors, whereas now we go through albums of photographs.

Again, think of the difference this recording of our voices will make to relatives and friends we have not seen for years. Instead of taking a photograph to send to our friends for Christmas, we can take a record of our voice. When going abroad we shall be more concerned about taking the voices of our friends with us than their photographs. And we shall leave behind us a record of our voice that they may listen to it when we are far away.

And those relatives we have not seen for years, that brother or sister who is in Canada, Australia, or the United States of America, who are wondering how we speak, will be able to hear us when we shall be sending to them a monthly letter in the form of a record which we have dictated into our home-recording outfit.

E. B. R.

WHAT HAPPENS IN A MODERN STUDIO



HARD AT WORK MAKING A TALKIE

Our artist's impression of a scene in a talkie studio—there must inevitably be a guerilla-like warfare between conscientious cameramen and recordists

the voices is entirely dependent on the microphone being placed as close as possible to the artistes, usually above and in front of their heads.

Naturally, if the "mike" is *very* close, it will be in the picture—and someone will get the sack. And so there must inevitably be a kind of guerilla-like warfare between the conscientious cameraman and the conscientious recordist; the latter demands that the microphone shall be low and close to the actors, the former insists that he must have plenty of head-room above the players in order to get correct pictorial composition.

Probably Prejudiced

I admit that, being a sound recordist, I am probably a prejudiced person.

But I cannot help remarking on the fact that not one per cent. of the cinema public cares a jot about pictorial composition; the remaining ninety-nine demand that the sound shall be clear and also (as an afterthought) that one should be able to see who is speaking!

TRANSATLANTIC RADIO

EVERY day, hundreds of persons converse over the trans-oceanic telephone circuits. This verbal exchange is carried so clearly from London to New York that the speech is readily understandable at each end.

The layman cannot understand why a similar system cannot be introduced so that the programmes from the "other side" can be introduced and picked up here as clearly and rebroadcast.

Radio engineers, however, hasten to point out that the requisite of the trans-oceanic telephone is merely "the transmission of understandable speech." This is inadequate for the high-grade transmission of music according to the best broadcast standards.

There are several other engineering points which must be considered, too. Stations in this country are Government subsidiaries. They are supported by the taxation of radio listeners. The listeners demand that their money be spent for the improvement of programmes, not for the construction of super-power transmitting plants for the projection of programmes to foreign lands.

The transmitter used by the B.B.C. in sending out its programmes to foreign countries employs only 5,000 watts. The trans-oceanic telephone transmitter is a single side-band transmitter using 100,000 watts, which is the equivalent of a broadcast transmitter of 300,000 watts.

Reception Hazards

The greatest hazards in picking up America for rebroadcasting still are interference and atmospherics. The only way they may be overcome is by increased power at the transmitting end.

Engineers are agreed that no consistent service may be guaranteed Britons eager to hear American programmes until the Americans are so anxious for us to hear them that they will make a tremendous power increase in their transmitter. F. P.

We Test Before You Buy

NOW YOU CAN ENJOY BETTER RADIO THAN EVER BEFORE

There are dozens of sets now on the market that are really good value for money—here is a Columbia model 307 in use. This forms the basis of the radio gramophone reviewed on page 49 of this issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE

IN the following pages we give reports on five different sets—an A.C. two, a console, a radio gramophone, a battery portable and a four-valve short-waver. These sets are selected from a large number tested under both laboratory and domestic conditions. By no means every set tested is reported upon, since we have space only for favourable reports.

Nearly every set reviewed has to pass certain key tests. Looking at the reviews, the set-buyer will see that, after stating the maker and the price, we give the power supply and power consumption. From these figures it is possible to gain an approximate idea of running costs.

Then follows the valve combination, which to the technical man is a good index of the set's potentialities.

Controls are always given our very careful attention.

Sensitivity, the next item in our reports, can be described as the measure of a set's ability to bring in foreign stations. Or, if the set is only a two-valver, on its ability to get the locals.

Selectivity is next discussed. This is the measure of a set's ability to cut out the locals in favour of more distant stations; and to separate one distant station from another. A fairly good idea of selectivity can be gained by noting the range of audibility on the tuning dial over which each station can be heard.

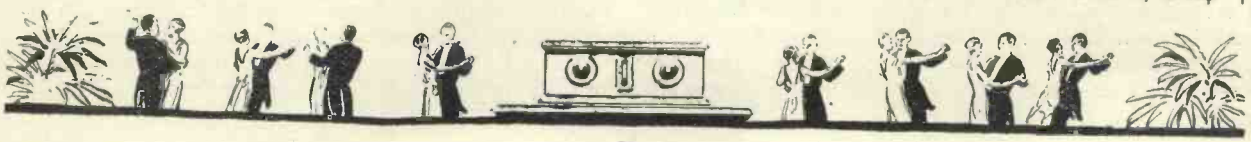
We tune in a local and then rotate the dial above and below this tuning point until signals are inaudible. The spread-over is then recorded. In the London district a spread of 20 degrees for the National and Regional stations indicates quite satisfactory selectivity.

All our tests of sets are done in South London with a short aerial, usually an indoor wire of 50 to 60 feet.

Testing sets is only a part of our job. For we also advise on the choice of sets. The Set Selection Bureau conducts a free service for readers of WIRELESS MAGAZINE wanting to buy sets.

To take advantage of this service the reader is asked to state (1) the maximum price and whether this is for a complete installation or just for the set; (2) where the set will be used; (3) what particular stations are desired, that is only local stations or a selection of foreign stations as well; (4) whether a self-contained set (with or without aerial) or an ordinary set with external accessories is preferred, and (5) whether battery or mains operation is wanted; if mains operation, whether the supply is D.C. or A.C.

A stamped-addressed envelope for reply by return of post is the only expense. Inquiries should be addressed to Set Selection Bureau, WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58-61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.



EDISWAN POWER PENTODE TWO

"Passes the most rigid tests for selectivity."

Maker. — Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd.

Price.—£14 19s. 6d.

Power Supply — A.C. mains. No corresponding model is available for D.C. mains.

Power Consumption.—30 watts. This compares with the 60 watts of a bright electric-light bulb. The running cost, which is negligible, can be worked out by dividing the unit of electricity, the kilowatt-hour, by 30 watts. The answer is the number of hours that the set will run at a cost of one unit of electricity.

Valve Combination.—A Mazda AC/HL detector valve is transformer coupled to a Mazda AC/Pen output pentode valve. A UU60/250 Mazda rectifying valve converts the alternating current from the mains into direct current for the anode supplies. In a two-valve set these two very efficient valves, with filaments heated by alternating current, can be expected to give ample amplification for the loud-speaker reproduction of the local stations.

Type. — The Ediswan Power Pentode Two is a table-cabinet set requiring an external loud-speaker and aerial and earth. There are no batteries, owing to the fact that the mains are utilised for high tension, low tension, and grid bias.

Controls.—A preliminary examination showed that the controls have been well arranged. There is a large tuning disc with 0-to-100 degree divisions that are very easy to read. Above this tuning control are arranged three knobs for subsidiary control. That on the left is for fine tuning and that on the right is marked "Volume," although really it controls reaction. The knob at the top controls a switch for medium waves on the left and long waves on the right.

It is unusual in a two-valver to find a two-circuit tuner. We note in the Ediswan set that primary and secondary tuning circuits are provided by the inclusion of separate and variably coupled coils working with a two-gang variable condenser. To bring these two circuits into accurate tune the aerial also has a fine tuning control.

The basket coils can be variably coupled by moving the red coil along a horizontal bar either away from or towards the green coil. Once the correct coupling for any required degree of selectivity has been determined by experiment the red coil can be locked in position.

The makers stress the fact that this unique variable coupling device is not intended as an additional tuning control and that once it has been set readjustment is unnecessary. We appreciate the maker's policy in producing a set in which such definite steps have been taken to ensure satisfactory separation of regional stations when the set is located in a regional area.

Before leaving the controls we should mention that at the back of the set is a switch so that the two valves can be arranged as an efficient gramophone-record amplifier. There is no master switch for the mains connection, but we noted the provision of a good safety plug with a usefully long length of flex.

We say useful because it is often found that the nearest electric-light socket is several yards from the actual location of the set. Consequently a really long length of flex is often essential.

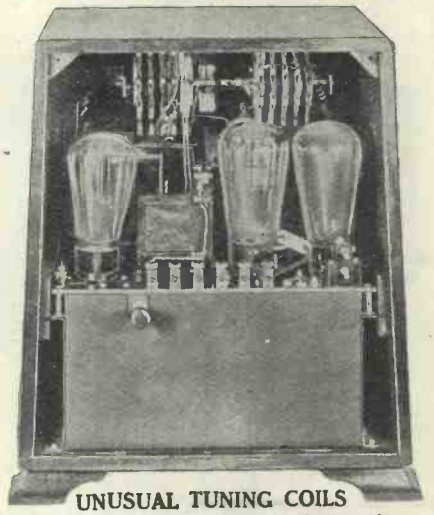
Selectivity.—We have mentioned that the makers have taken great precautions to ensure good selectivity. On our test aerial the set certainly had no difficulty in separating the two Brookman's Park stations, in spite of the fact that, due to the efficient valves, the overall volume from each station was considerable.

In this question of selectivity one must always remember that stations can readily be separated if a great sacrifice of volume is made. But with the coils adjusted so that really fine loud-speaker strength was obtained from the two stations, we recorded the following very satisfactory readings.

The Regional at 49 had gone at 58 and 38, a spread of 20 degrees. The National at 7 had gone again at 15, but could still be heard at zero, indicating a minimum spread of 15 degrees. Altogether we consider this two-valve set passes the most rigid tests for selectivity.

Sensitivity. — Although primarily designed for the reception of local stations, we are quite sure that with an ordinary aerial situated in most districts some of the more powerful foreign stations could be received. We ourselves were able to get Midland Regional at 92 as a good loud-speaker signal Langenberg at 90 was quite strong as was Rome at 77.

Later we got Stockholm at 75 and Toulouse at 57, both at fair loud-speaker strength. Göteborg at 33, and Bratislava at 18 were surprisingly strong. As an indication of the sensitivity of the set we ought to mention that we counted 20 carrier waves throughout the medium wavelength band. Most of them could be resolved into some sort of loud-speaker reproduction.



UNUSUAL TUNING COILS

Note the basket-type tuning coils just above the three valves. Two of them are for receiving and one for supplying anode current

Quality. — Working our standard moving-coil loud-speaker, the Ediswan Power Pentode Two gave first-class reproduction. We should like to dispel the impression that because a set has only two valves it is only worth a junior loud-speaker.

In the reception of the local stations a two-valver such as the Ediswan model under review is dealing with just as big signal amplitudes as a four-valver working on a volume control. The all-electric power supply imparts that roundness of tone so often unattainable with batteries.

Appearance.—The shape and finish of the dark walnut cabinet are very attractive. A neat-looking set that is a break-away from tradition is our verdict on this Ediswan production.

NEAT AND SIMPLE APPEARANCE

There is nothing frightening about the controls of this Ediswan two-valve A.C. set

EDDYSTONE ALL-WAVE FOUR

"Undoubtedly the best short-wave set we have yet examined."

Maker.—Stratton & Co., Ltd.

Price.—£27.

Power Supply.—Batteries. To work the set tested we used a 2-volt accumulator and a 120-volt high-tension battery. A 15-volt grid-bias battery is included in the set.

Power Consumption. — With the recommended high-tension and grid-bias voltages we found the total anode current consumption was 15 milliamperes. For reliable and economical working a triple-capacity high-tension battery would therefore be needed. The low-tension current for the filaments was found to be .6 ampere. A 30-ampere hour accumulator would therefore give 50 hours service per charge.

Valve Combination. — A screened-grid high-frequency valve precedes the detector, which is resistance coupled to the first low-frequency amplifying valve, which in turn is transformer coupled to the pentode output valve. This is a very good combination for a short-wave set. The screened-grid valve provides smooth reaction over the whole available tuning ranges. The pentode power valve at the end of the set gives an extra fillip to the many weak signals received from the other side of the world.

Controls.—Our first impression was the delightful ease of control. There are two tuners, with slow-motion dials on the left and right. A small slow-motion reaction control is fitted between. The filament supply is switched on by a switch at the back of the set. Nearby are three jacks, one for the loud-speaker, another for using headphones on three valves only, and the third for a gramophone pick-up

There is a small variable condenser mounted at the left-hand side of the case.

MADE FOR USE !

This set is housed in a very substantial cast-iron case that is most robust

This is a selectivity control. In operating this set, by rotating the two tuning dials, we found that the readings of the dials were fairly similar for any given wavelength. The wavelength ranges covered are 13 to 26 metres (blue coils), 22 to 45 metres (yellow coils), 40 to 85 metres (red coils), and 250 to 500 metres (green coils).

For example, on the blue coils we found that 24 metres was tuned at 72.5 degrees on the left dial and 80.5 degrees on the right dial. We found 33 metres was tuned on the yellow coil at 40 degrees on the left dial and 39.5 degrees on the right dial. With the red coils 41 metres was tuned at 19 degrees on the left dial and at zero on the right dial. These three calibrations are landmarks for short-wave listeners. As five calibrations are supplied for each of the three short wavelength bands we are quite sure the operator would have no difficulty in locating the innumerable short-wave stations broadcasting in all parts of the world.

In tuning this set the reaction regulator plays a vital part. By means of reaction it is quite easy to keep the two tuning circuits in step with one another. For when these two dials are adjusted so that both circuits are in tune, the reaction requirement is at minimum. In practice this means that by setting one dial at any particular point, increasing reaction to about half-way, and then rotating the other tuning dial, a point will be reached where audible oscillation occurs. We found no difficulty in exploring the different wavebands provided, thanks to an admirable smoothness in the controls.

Sensitivity.—By an intelligent use of the four sets of plug-in coils it is possible with this set to receive broadcasting from all parts of the world. We ourselves got Buenos Aires at tremendous loud-speaker strength, as well as 2XAF, the short-wave relay of the General Electric Company in America.

The number of other stations logged on this set would, without exaggeration, make an article. But it will be sufficient for us to say here that if there is anything between 12 metres and 500 metres worth hearing, this set will get it. On the medium waves the Eddystone set gave an excellent account of itself, bringing in most of the more powerful foreign broadcasting stations at full loud-speaker strength. What surprised us was the fact that the plug-in coils for the medium waveband could be tuned from 250 to 490 metres with the comparatively low-capacity variable condensers.

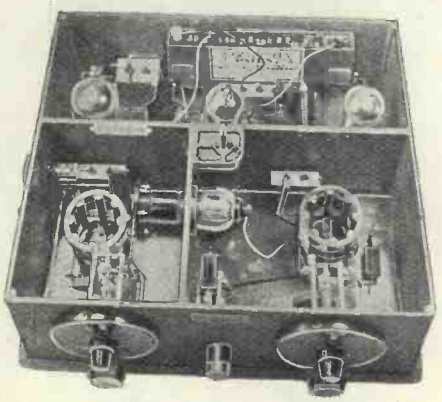
Although the construction of the set is conclusive evidence that the short waves are intended as the main *raison d'etre*, very little, if any, efficiency has been sacrificed on the normal broadcast wavelengths.

Selectivity.—On the ultra-short waves the question of selectivity does not often arise, due to the fact that the smallest change in the capacity of the variable condenser means a big alteration in the wavelength received. But certain ultra-short wavelength ranges are so congested that even a short-wave set must now have a good measure of selectivity.

We can say that the Eddystone short-waver is extremely selective, although by no means critical in operation. The two tuning dials do not complicate tuning, but actually make it easier, because very critical settings are avoided. On the medium waveband selectivity was such that Langenberg was clear of the Midland Regional and Toulouse clear of the London Regional.

Quality.—Presumably due to the inclusion of a pentode power valve the tone was inclined to be high-pitched. But with an average cone loud-speaker the general quality is pleasing. The clear-cut nature of the reproduction was found especially desirable when receiving some of the very distant short-wave stations.

Summary. — This is undoubtedly the best short-wave set we have yet examined. Its robust construction is fully justified by the stability of reception. For listeners in all countries the set offers scope for world-wide reception.



A WELL-PLANNED SET

Much thought has obviously been put into the design of this fine all-wave receiver

BURNDEPT THREE-VALVE CONSOLE

Maker.—Burndept Wireless, Ltd.

Price.—33 guineas.

Power Supply. — A.C. mains. No corresponding model is available for D.C. mains or for battery operation.

Power Consumption. — 34 watts. This power consumption is less than that of a small electric-light bulb. On the average electric-light bill the cost of running this set would be negligible.

Valve Combination.—This console has a three-valve receiving circuit. The first valve is for high-frequency amplification, the second valve is for detection, and the third valve is the power output. The combination is extremely powerful, because all three valves have A.C. filaments. The high-frequency valve is a screened-grid type and the output valve is an A.C. pentode.

There is another valve for converting the A.C. supply into direct current for the anode supply.

With an average external aerial and a good earth this valve combination will provide full loud-speaker reproduction of a considerable number of stations.

As a matter of interest, we ought to record the fact that no appreciable hum could be detected when the earth lead was disconnected.

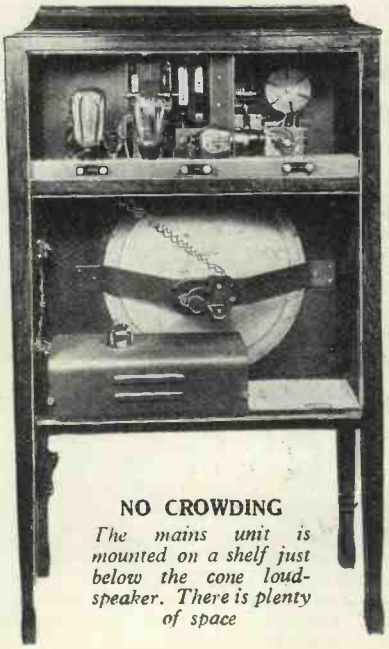
Controls. — Our first impression was favourable, since the knobs are well spaced and of ample size for easy manipulation. There are two discs for tuning. The left-hand one is divided into 100 degree divisions. The right-hand one is calibrated in metres. Medium waves are marked from 210 to 560 metres, and long waves from 900 to 2,100 metres.

Below these tuning controls are three knobs. The left-hand one is a combined volume and selectivity control. The middle knob is for changing the wavelength range and also for cutting out the high-frequency valve, so that the detector and power valves can be used as a two-valve gramophone amplifier.

The right-hand knob is for reaction, an indispensable control where only one stage of high-frequency amplification is included. Indispensable, that is to say, for the reception of distant stations, which can be heard very strongly provided that reaction is used with care.

We suggest that a positive stop on the reaction control would prevent inexpert operators from oscillating unnecessarily.

We must say that the mains switch fitted to the right-hand side of the cabinet is very precise in action.



NO CROWDING

The mains unit is mounted on a shelf just below the cone loud-speaker. There is plenty of space

Sensitivity.—Following a test made on the evening of December 6, we are able to say that the sensitivity of the Burndept console is above the average. It is a fine station getter. Such stations as Rome, Toulouse, and Cologne were brought in with the volume and clarity one used to expect only from locals.

One of the outstanding points about the tuning of this set is the wide wavelength range, extending considerably above the Midland Regional section and considerably below the London National station. There is no falling off in sensitivity at the extremities of tuning. Four stations were clearly heard above the Midland Regional.

We found the calibrations on the right-hand tuning dial accurate. The setting of the left-hand dial is determined by the length of aerial connected to the set. We give below some extracts from our log, indicating the left-hand dial settings.

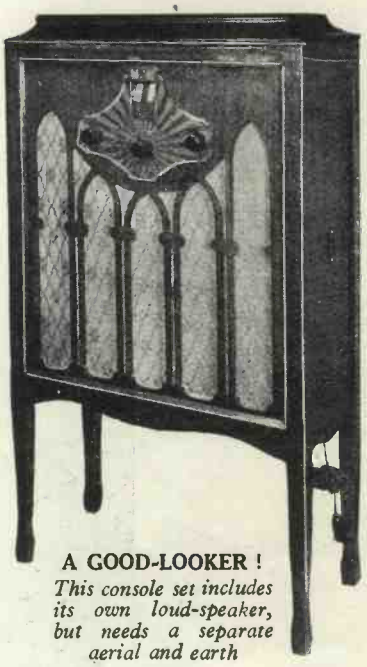
Starting on the long wave length range, Huizen was a good signal at 90. Radio Paris was exceptionally strong at 81. It was clear of Daventry, which came in at 72. Eiffel Tower was the next station, very strong at 65. Then came Warsaw at 57, surprisingly strong and clear of Eiffel Tower. Kalundborg at 40 and Oslo at 30 completed a very creditable long-wave log.

On the medium waveband we received innumerable foreign stations at excellent loud-speaker strength. This is how some of the best received stations were logged :—

Budapest 95, Rome, 91, Brussels 90, Midland Regional 83, Langenberg 82, Rome 78, Berlin, 72, Frankfurt 66, Toulouse 65, London Regional 60, Bordeaux 45, Bratislava 37, London National 30, Nürnberg 21, Kiel 18, and Cologne 14.

Selectivity.—For such a powerful three-valver the selectivity was good. On a normal aerial we found the London Regional had a 10-degree spread on the left-hand dial, corresponding to a 42-metre spread on the right-hand dial. The London National had a 7-degree spread corresponding to 25 metres.

Langenberg was received quite clear of the Midland Regional. It was not possible to get Zeesen clear of Radio Paris and Daventry, but during the day-time Zeesen was received at full loud-speaker strength. In general, this set is selective enough for modern requirements. A fairly short aerial is all that is necessary and desirable.



A GOOD-LOOKER !

This console set includes its own loud-speaker, but needs a separate aerial and earth

Quality.—The general tone is very satisfactory. " Crisp and brilliant reproduction with adequate bass " is how the makers describe the quality. It is a fair description. The considerable volume is controllable down to a very moderate output.

Appearance. — Distinctive and sensible construction. We need more consoles of the type exemplified by this Burndept model. The dark finished oak pedestal cabinet is quite attractive.

Summary.—The Burndept console is an all-in set with the exception of the aerial and earth. Fifty feet of indoor wire would give a good selection of statons on this set, except under abnormally poor reception conditions. We were impressed with the powers of this set, especially the good distribution of the stations round the dials. For those with an electric-light supply the Burndept console is an attractive proposition.

MURPHY PORTABLE FOUR

"The selectivity of this portable exceeded our expectations"

Maker. — Murphy Radio, Ltd.

Price.—17 guineas.

Power Supply.—Batteries. Easy access to the compartment at the back, which includes a 2-volt accumulator and a standard-capacity 108-volt high-tension battery The leads for these batteries are neat and durable.

Power Consumption.—A remarkably low total anode-current consumption was measured, namely 8.5 milliamperes. The total low-tension current consumption was .5 ampere, so the accumulator supplied with the set will last at least 40 hours.

Valve Combination.—A high-frequency amplifier is followed by a detector and two stages of transformer-coupled low-frequency amplification. The first valve is a Mullard PM12 screened-grid type, the detector a Mazda HL210, the first low-frequency-amplifying valve a Mazda HL210, and the power valve a Mullard PM2.

The makers advance a very interesting argument in favour of four-valve combinations with only one screened-grid high-frequency amplifier instead of two high-frequency amplifiers. They suggest that with one screened-grid high-frequency amplifier and two transformer-coupled low-frequency amplifiers the total gain might be 126,000, whereas the total gain of a two screened-grid set on a similar basis might be 150,000 or very little more.

Type.—This four-valve portable is housed within an upright cabinet. It would rightly be termed a transportable, since its construction is obviously more suitable for a semi-permanent installation than for true portability.

Controls.—The makers have struck a new note in the arrangement of the controls. Four knobs are arranged in line on the sloping control panel at the top of the cabinet. The makers' slogan "Making Wireless Simple" has been put into effect.

At the extreme left is a knob for wave-changing. An aperture in the dial shows "200-600" or "800-2,000" according to its setting. Next is the tuning dial, which rotates a calibrated scale The medium waves are calibrated in steps of 20 metres and the long wavelengths in steps of 100 metres. We found the set notable for the ease with which stations could be logged.

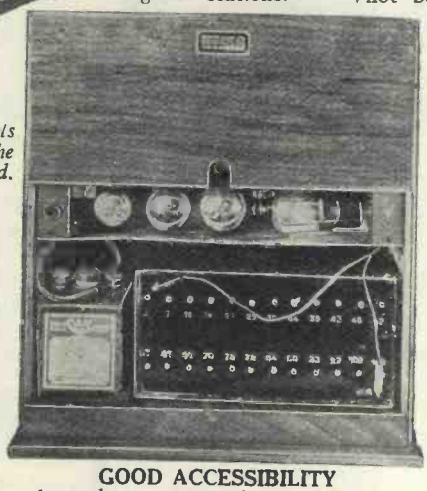
SIMPLE BUT EFFICIENT

There are no unnecessary controls on this set, which is one of the best-designed models yet tested.

Next is the reaction knob. An aperture shows marks "0-9" so that the actual degree of reaction can be logged for distant stations. This marking should be of great help to non-technical users. Lastly, on the extreme right is the volume control and through an aperture in this dial can be read "1,2,3,4," so that even the degree of volume can be calibrated. Altogether we must say how very impressed we were with the controls of the Murphy portable. The makers have spared no pains to simplify the operation.

Sensitivity.—We were able to gain some idea of the abilities of this set during a recent evening, when both long- and medium-wavelength bands were explored. Starting on the long waves, we first logged Huizen at full loud-speaker strength using the maximum settings of the volume and reaction controls. Next came Radio Paris, a very good loud-speaker signal, provided that the volume control was set at its maximum. Then Zeesen, also good. Eiffel Tower did not need reaction, nor did Kalundborg which stations came in at excellent strength. Lastly, Oslo was logged at fair strength without reaction.

Switching over to the medium-wavelength band, we had no difficulty in logging seventeen stations at full loud-speaker strength. Budapest was fair, Vienna was good, Rome very good, as were Stockholm, Katowice and Toulouse. Hamburg was good and Strasbourg was very good. Dresden, Bordeaux, Bratislava and Turin were all well heard between the two London Regional stations.



GOOD ACCESSIBILITY

As can be seen, the valves and batteries are easily accessible, a point of importance with portables

Below the London National we got Leipzig, Juan les Pins, Nürnberg, and Cologne at excellent strength. There were many more stations available, but we logged only those that could be listened to with enjoyment.

Selectivity. — We must frankly confess that the selectivity of this Murphy portable exceeded our expectations London National at 261 had disappeared at 255 and 270 metres, a spread of only 15 metres. London Regional at 356 had gone again at 372 and 350, a spread of 22 metres.

Other indications of good selectivity should be mentioned.

Langenberg, for example, was received quite clear of the Midland Regional station. Due to the directional property of the frame aerial we were able to get Hamburg clear of the London Regional. This same property enabled us to get Zeesen clear of Daventry on the long waves. When tuning in all the stations mentioned we noted how easy it was to rotate the cabinet in any desired direction due to the fitting of the smooth working turntable underneath.

Quality.—Considering how low is the anode-current consumption we judged the quality to be very satisfactory. The volume must not be increased beyond a certain well-defined limit owing to the natural limitation of the power valve working at 108 volts. The bass was not fully reproduced, but tone generally was clear. We prefer this absence of deep bass to the most unnatural presence of artificial bass as produced by box resonance.

Appearance.— Extremely neat. The cabinet work belies the fact that this portable is only 17 guineas. It looks an expensive set. The fittings are of good quality and the whole set is designed so that it will fit in with the average domestic requirements.

Summary. — For those without an electric-light supply and for those who find difficulty in erecting any sort of aerial wire, the battery-operated portable is the obvious solution. And the Murphy portable is an inexpensive way of fulfilling these requirements. It is one of the best designed portables we have yet tested, irrespective of price.

COLUMBIA 310 RADIO GRAMOPHONE

"The best value for money"

Maker.—Columbia Graphophone Co., Ltd.

Price.—40 guineas.

Power Supply.—A.C. mains

Power Consumption.—80 watts. This works out at approximately ½d. per hour, assuming electricity at 6d. per unit.

Valve Combination.—High-frequency-amplifying valve, detector and super-power output valve. The last two valves in this combination are utilised for amplifying gramophone records. The detector valve is then suitably biased as first low-frequency amplifying valve.

Controls.—In this radio gramophone the makers have embodied Columbia model 307 three-valver, which we reviewed in the November 1930 issue of WIRELESS MAGAZINE. In addition to the controls included in model 307, this radio gramophone has controls for varying the volume during gramophone record reproduction. Opening the lid at the top of the cabinet, we noted the turntable of the induction motor, together with the standard Columbia pick-up. Near by is the gramophone volume-control device. A small switch above the knob controlling the volume provides normal or extra loud reproduction.

This useful device will be appreciated only during the playing of different records.

Let into the top half of the front of the cabinet, below the gramophone motor, is the familiar escutcheon plate of Columbia model 307. Controls on this are for radio reproduction. The main controls are two thumb-operated dials at the centre of the escutcheon plate. A small cowl, hiding a bulb that illuminates the dial, is mounted above them.

The right-hand dial is marked in wavelengths, between 225 and 540 metres in steps of 25 metres, and between 1,000 and 1,900 metres in steps of 100 metres. The left-hand dial is marked in degrees and is intended to be adjusted independently of the main calibrated dial.

The placing of these two dials side by side simplifies tuning operations, because once the relative settings of the two dials have been determined, they can be simultaneously rotated with the thumb. In effect, one-knob tuning is provided, with the added precision of separate circuit tuning in the reception of weak stations.

Below these tuning dials are two small knobs. That on the left is an intensifier, used to increase or decrease the strength of the incoming signals Should the incoming signal be too strong this intensifier works very well in cutting down the volume. But should the incoming signal be too weak to give good volume, the reaction knob on the right can be adjusted to give an additional boost. In fact with these two knobs one can cope with all grades of signal strength.

Other fitments on this well-designed radio gramophone include a wave-change switch on the front escutcheon plate and a selectivity knob adjacent to the aerial and earth terminals, fitted to the left-hand side of the cabinet.

—OR MAHOGANY

This photograph shows the "piano" top of the mahogany model. The set is the same as with the oak model

It is interesting to note that to energise the moving coil loud-speaker included in this radio-gramophone, high-tension current is delivered to the pot winding by the rectifier used for supplying high-tension current to the receiving valves. We understand the moving-coil loud-speaker takes about 60 milliamps at 250 volts.

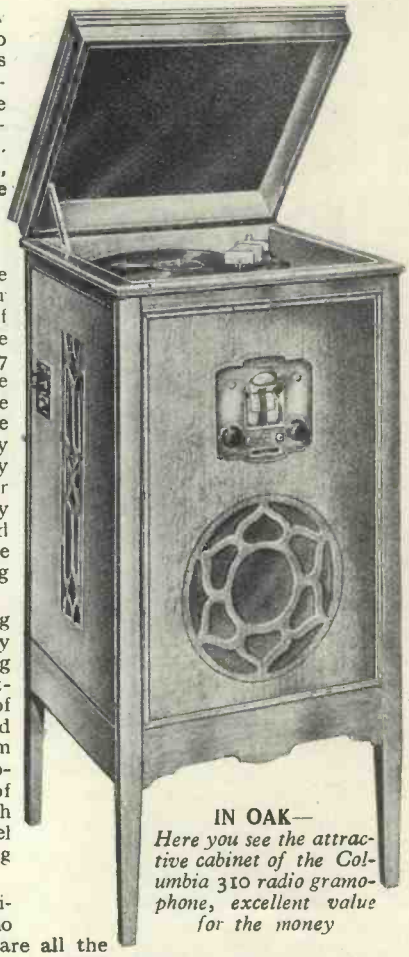
Quality.—A very few minutes listening to this new Columbia radio gramophone was sufficient to convince us that the quality of reproduction is good. We were, in fact, surprised at the considerable volume that was handled without distortion. The use of a super-power valve in place of the pentode valve of the model 307 appears to be more than justified. We can hardly imagine the average family requiring any greater volume or any better quality than is delivered by this machine during the playing of records.

Ease of handling was particularly notable. Changing the needle, adjusting the speed of the motor and switching over from radio to gramophone were some of the tests through which this model passed with flying colours.

As regards possibilities on the radio side; well, there are all the possibilities of a good three-valve all-electric set. During an evening's test we had no difficulty in logging over 20 stations on the medium wavelength range. Many of these stations were brought in by the simultaneous rotation of the two tuning dials.

The selectivity is adjustable by means of the knob at the left-hand side of the cabinet. With an aerial of 60 feet we found it easy to cut out the National and Regional stations. This selectivity was not gained at the expense of decreased volume from other stations.

Volume control was outstanding on the radio side. The intensifier, as it is called, does much to avoid blasting during the reception of very strong stations. And the reaction control also works smoothly, building up weak foreign stations without fuss.

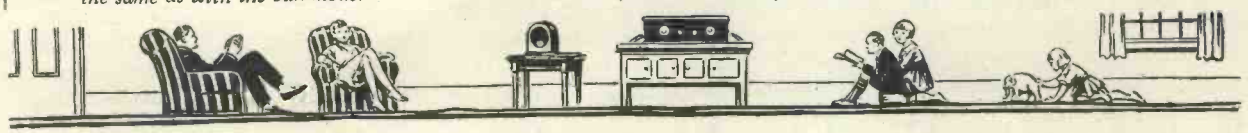


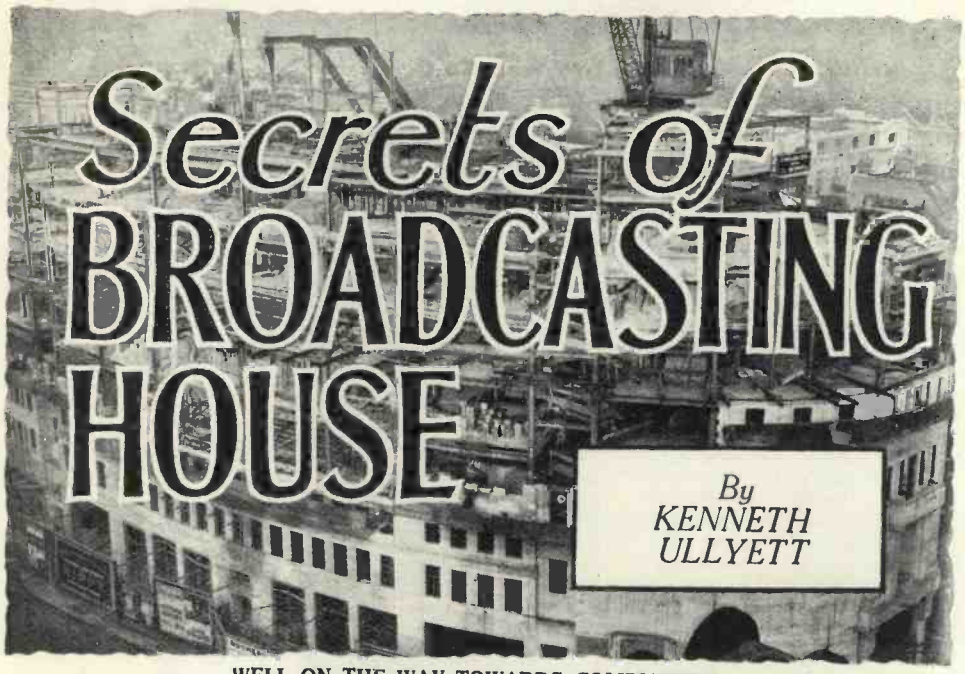
IN OAK—

Here you see the attractive cabinet of the Columbia 310 radio gramophone, excellent value for the money

Appearance. — The oak cabinet of this radio gramophone is designed on severely modern lines. It is quite attractive, although, for those who prefer mahogany, there is another model available, price 43 guineas.

Summary. — Undoubtedly the best value for money so far experienced in our tests of radio gramophones. The Columbia Company will earn the thanks of many listeners of moderate means. So much good-quality apparatus in a radio gramophone so moderately priced is indeed rare. Those with an electric-light supply, and who can erect some sort of external aerial, should be specially interested, if they desire radio and gramophone reproduction of first-class quality at a moderate price.





WELL ON THE WAY TOWARDS COMPLETION

Here you see how Broadcasting House is progressing. It is located in Portland Place, close to the Queen's Hall and the Regent Street Polytechnic

IT does not seem many months ago that the site on which the large white building, soon to be christened Broadcasting House, now stands was occupied by other buildings, the owners of which never dreamed that they would be replaced by what will be one of London's highest (and lowest) buildings, and the headquarters of British broadcasting.

Externally the building appears to be more or less complete, because the whole of the concrete work on the outside is finished and passers-by in Portland Place might be excused for thinking that the internal arrangements are also complete.

More Work to be Done

This is far from being the case, for there is a deal of work yet to be done in Broadcasting House and sacks of cement, steel girders and scaffolding now take the place of what, later, will be sound-proof studios.

It was officially forecast that Broadcasting House would be complete by 1932 and it does not seem that this prophesy will be wide of the margin.

It is true to say that the B.B.C. is exercising a certain amount of secrecy with regard to the final layout of the building. The architect's plans are, naturally enough, not available to the public, and it is more than probable that this apparent secrecy on the part of the B.B.C. is due to a certain amount of indecision as to the final arrangements.

It is, however, possible to arrive at some idea of the final dispositions of the offices and studios, at least so far as the lower part of the building is concerned.

The novel feature about Broadcasting House, of course, is the so-called control tower. "Tower" is rather a misleading word to apply to this part of the building, for it leads one to think that it constitutes a real tower predominating above the normal upper storeys; this is quite a wrong impression. The top of the building is practically level, as any Londoner can see for himself, and the control tower consists merely of a central portion of the building surrounded by offices.

The rooms in this tower will be used as studios and there will be sound-proof arrangements outside these forming an acoustic insulation between the studios and the offices.

The building is so arranged that the offices, in turn, surround the whole of the tower, except at the top, and it is suggested that this large amount of brickwork between the studio tower and the street will insulate it from outside noises.

At the time of going to press only two studios are complete, one the giant triple-decker and the other the vaudeville studio, which incorporates a stage.

The giant studio is, of course, a novelty, for although Savoy Hill has at present a double-decker in No. 7 studio, it is not possible to admit the public to it. In this new triple-decker there will be seating accommodation for 1,000 people and as the L.C.C. regulations with regard to ventilation and similar matters have been carried out, it seems quite on the cards that this studio, which will be a miniature Queen's Hall, will be used to a considerable extent and, owing to the novelty of seeing broadcasts in progress, it may become a competitor with existing amusement organisations. It is not safe to prophesy in this direction, though!

It has been arranged that this super-studio will have a concert platform and a fair-size organ. The huge balcony is already complete so far as the steelwork is concerned.

Taking Up Three Floors

This studio takes up the basement, ground floor and part of the first floor of Broadcasting House and it is reached by a wide stairway leading down from the main entrance and by two stairways from side entrances, one on each side of the building.

These side entrances will be used by the public for admission to the studio, the main entrance at the corner of the building facing down Regent Street being used only by artistes and by the B.B.C. staff.

In this entrance there will be a large vestibule and four lifts, while stone stairways also lead to the top of the building. Use will not be made,

Will Better Studios Mean Better Programmes?

All About the B.B.C.'s New Headquarters

however, of the flat portions of the roof as an outdoor studio, although this has been tried with success at the big German broadcasting house in Charlottenburg near Berlin.

Immediately above the main entrance is a large room which on the plan is styled "Council Chamber," but this will probably be used as a large waiting room. Above this again is Sir John Reith's office, which can be identified from the outside of the building by the balcony.

Below the balcony is, at present, a large niche in the stonework where a statue will stand, but nobody seems to know quite whom the statue will represent!

Engineers Moving First

The final arrangement of offices will not be made, of course, until the Savoy Hill staff is transferred, which it will be in sections, the engineers going over first. It is believed though, that the more important offices—by which is meant, of course, the offices of the directors of engineering, programmes, and so on, will be located in the corner part of the building.

The basement is well on the way to completion and in examining this it is interesting to see the great retaining walls which have had to be built enclosing the boundaries of the site. This has been rendered necessary by an underground water strata, which has given the architects a deal of trouble.

The architect, by the way, is Lt.-Col. G. Val Myer, F.R.I.B.A., and it is his own expression that Broadcasting House resembles a ship, which it does very closely. The whole building is hull-shaped, the front being curved like the prow of a ship and the foundations, including the retaining wall, bearing an extraordinary resemblance to a ship's hull and also being practically sunk in water.

Use has been made of this water strata by a 600-ft. artesian well recently sunk, which will provide many thousands of gallons of water a day for use in Broadcasting House.

This artesian well is one of the novelties of the basement and it is not far from the vaudeville studio which, below the giant studio, is well down in the underground of London. The studio also has a balcony at right angles to the balcony of the giant studio above it. Outside the vaudeville studio smaller rooms are being built which will be used as test rooms and band rooms. Two echo rooms will also be provided.

There are three huge 5,000-gallon tanks with oil fuel for the water-heating arrangements. These are immediately below the main entrance, while the boilers are at the other end of the building.

The designers have found efficient ventilation a serious problem because, obviously, artificial ventilation is necessary in the control tower, which has no external face, and in the basement. Ordinary ventilation systems would provide sound conduits which would nullify the whole effect of the control tower construction and the sound-proof room.

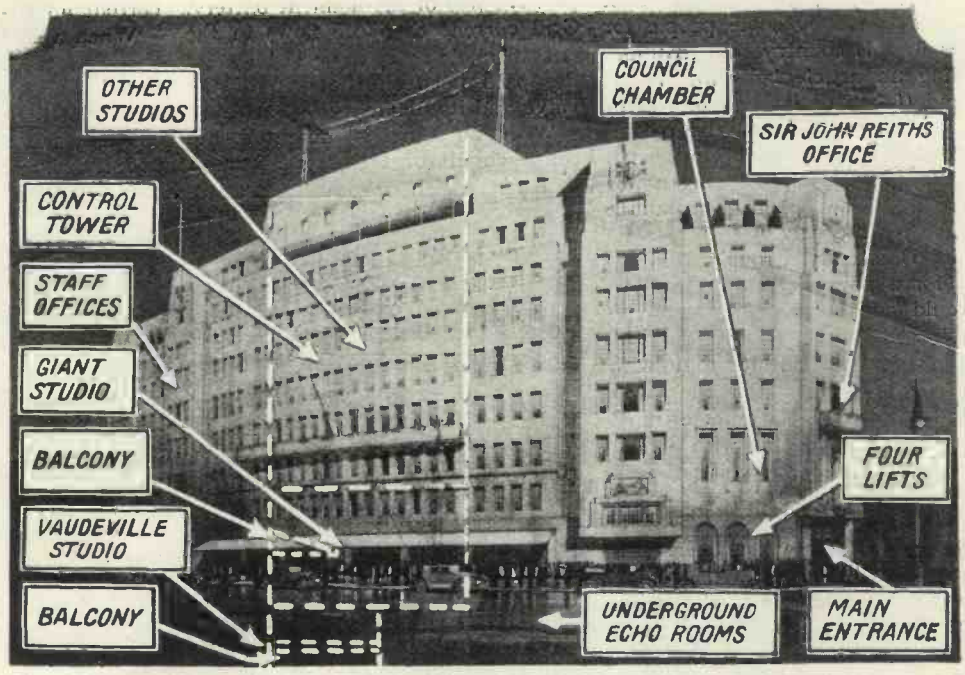
However, a novel system of ventilation, making use of large non-resonant and sound-proof ducts, has been installed and throughout Broadcasting House there are miles of huge tubes carrying fresh air to every part of the central tower and basement.

The Control Room

Half way up the tower, between the studios, will be a control room for all the studios and effects rooms in the building. This will be fitted out with the same type of control and landline gear as at Manchester. The Savoy Hill control room apparatus is out of date, of course, having been in constant working since 1928 or thereabouts.

Special arrangements will be made for wiring this centrally-placed control room with the studios in the control tower and the result of this will be that there will be no line interference.

It should be noted that although the B.B.C.'s wishes are being followed with exactitude in the construction of Broadcasting House, the building does not actually belong to the B.B.C. at present. It is being built be a syndicate on behalf of the B.B.C. by a well-known firm of contractors, and the B.B.C. may not take over full ownership for several years.



AN ARCHITECT'S DRAWING OF THE FINISHED BUILDING

This illustration shows how the studios and offices will be arranged in the new building, which will be a fitting headquarters for the B.B.C.

This "Power" Grid-detection Business!

W. JAMES explains how so-called "power" grid-detection differs from ordinary grid-detection practice. Every amateur should read this article—it is easy to understand and deals with a subject of particular importance just now.

ALL this talk about "power" grid detection is getting on my nerves.

We have to thank the Americans, I believe, for introducing in their clever way the attractive term "power" grid detection. It was introduced, no doubt, as a selling point and has considerable sales value, I am sure

If you have a *power* grid detector you have something better than a common-or-garden grid detector!

Amusing Point!

But the amusing thing is that the rest of the circuit is of as much importance as the arrangement of the detector However, I will deal with this presently.

We do not have to go to America for the rectifying system itself. That has been used by some people for years in this country I remember reading an article by Capt. H. J Round (I believe it must be five or six years ago) in which he recommended a grid condenser of small capacity, a grid leak having a low resistance, and plenty of anode voltage for the valve.

This is actually a rough specification for a power grid detector, but I would add something which you might think, without considering the matter, really has nothing to do with the detector. This is that the power stage connected to the detector must be arranged for dealing with a relatively large grid input voltage.

Detector Distortion

If the last stage will not accept a grid swing of a magnitude depending upon the amplification of the signal after the actual rectification, then the detector will be a weak-signal detector and will distort.

Now what is the difference between a power grid detector and an ordinary grid detector? The only difference is that the power grid detector is designed to deal with signals of the order of a volt or two, while the ordinary grid detector will deal with fractions of a volt only.

But, you say, the power grid detector has a smaller grid condenser and a grid leak of lower resistance than the ordinary detector.

This is not quite true. The point is that the values are chosen in order to minimise distortion. A grid rectifier distorts in several ways. The first distortion, called frequency distortion, is produced by the grid condenser and valve capacity being in shunt with the grid leak and grid-filament path of the valve.

We have in the grid circuit a grid condenser C (Fig 1), and a grid leak R. The grid leak is taken to the positive side of the filament battery. Grid current therefore flows in the circuit, made up of the grid leak and the path between the grid of the valve and its filament.

When no signal is present in the tuned circuit of Fig. 1, we have a steady grid current, the voltage of the grid itself with respect to the negative end of the filament depending upon the valve and the value of the grid leak, as well as the voltage to which the filament end of the leak is connected.

If the voltage applied to the grid is slowly increased and decreased we obtain a varying grid current, as shown in Fig. 2. The current, you will see, starts at about zero for a given grid voltage. As the voltage is increased the current grows.

Rectification Point

It grows slowly at first and then rapidly increases. It is here in the grid circuit where the rectification occurs. Our normal grid voltage may be that marked A, the grid current flowing being AB.

When a signal comes in the positive half tends to increase the current, while the negative half produces but little effect as the current can only fall to zero. The point to note is that when the variations occur

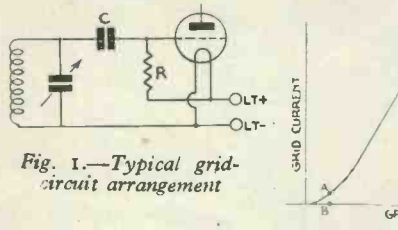


Fig. 1.—Typical grid-circuit arrangement

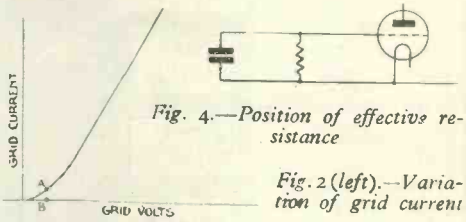


Fig. 4.—Position of effective resistance

Fig. 2 (left).—Variation of grid current

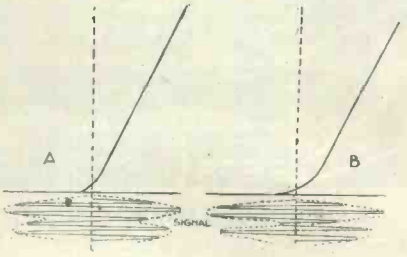


Fig. 3 (left).—How grid current is affected by signals

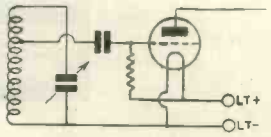


Fig. 5.—Tapping grid circuit down on tuning coil

over the straight-line part of the grid-current curve, the grid voltage varies practically exactly according to the low-frequency part of the signal.

Thus if the curve of Fig. 3a represents the actual grid-current curve under working conditions, and the signal is as represented, then the voltage of the grid will vary according to the low-frequency signal.

Signal Components

The complete signal comprises, of course, high-frequency oscillations modulated by the audio frequency and it is the audio frequency part of the signal in which we are interested.

The next diagram B shows a more deeply modulated signal. Here there is evidently a little distortion owing to the curved grid-current characteristic.

A deeply-modulated signal will suffer a little amplitude distortion, therefore, while a signal not so deeply modulated will not.

But, to continue this simple explanation, we have in the grid circuit the grid condenser, and the valve itself has capacity. Also there is the grid leak having a definite resistance, as well as the path of the valve. For the low frequencies we therefore have in effect a resistance across which the voltage is built up and a condenser, represented in Fig. 4.

From this it is easy to see that the higher audio frequency voltages may tend to be weakened, owing to currents flowing through the condenser.

In practice, the weakening of the higher audio frequencies is easily detected when the capacity of the condenser is relatively large compared with the resistance of the grid circuit.

Uniform Impedance

The effect is less noticeable as the grid condenser is reduced in capacity or, alternatively, as the resistance is lowered, for the reason that the combination of resistance and capacity in parallel has a more nearly uniform impedance over the audio frequency range as they are reduced.

However, we do not wish to lose signal strength by cutting down the strength of the modulated high-frequency oscillations. The grid condenser is in series with the grid and if it is too small the voltage actually applied to the grid will be less than that developed across the ends of the tuned circuit connected to it.

In practice a value of .0001 microfarad is quite suitable and having decided this we have to see that the grid resistance is of such a value that the higher notes are not reduced in strength relatively to the lower ones.

The grid leak may be as low as 100,000 ohms. A good value is 250,000 ohms or .25 megohm.

The point here is that the lower the resistance the better from the viewpoint of quality, but owing to the load across the tuned circuit, the voltages set up across it are less than when the rectifier is disconnected. At the same time the load broadens the tuning.

These two effects may be minimised by connecting the grid circuit to a point on the coil, as in Fig. 5. But there are times when this is not necessary, as no advantage worth having is gained. Thus when the tuned circuit has a coil of relatively high resistance, the effective resistance of the tuned circuit at the resonant frequency is not very high. The loading effect is then not very marked.

We have discussed frequency distortion in the grid circuit and explained that it is due to the effect of the capacities shunting the resistances. We have also looked into the rectification in the grid circuit, the point being that the grid-current curve is curved at the bottom, but is straight over a considerable part.

Further, that the rectification in the grid circuit results in the grid having low-frequency voltage variations corresponding to the modulation of the high-frequency oscillations.

Now what does the rest of the valve do? We have so far ignored the anode circuit.

In this circuit is a coupling of some description, let us say a transformer, as in Fig. 6. This part is concerned mainly with amplification. The voltage variations on the grid of the valve are magnified in the usual way.

Given a transformer having a primary winding with a large enough impedance we shall obtain across the primary magnified voltages corresponding with the grid voltages.

Linear Amplification

This is only true, however, when the amplification is linear. The valve must therefore be so adjusted that this straight-line magnification results.

Knowing the grid voltages we can find for a given valve exactly how much high tension is needed to give the desired straight working anode-current curve. The anode voltage needed depends not only upon the grid voltage but also upon the characteristics of the valve.

For a valve of moderate impedance and amplification factor, a voltage of 100 or 120 may be needed. With valves having a higher impedance the voltage necessary to produce the desired length of straight working characteristic might be 150 and, of course, some valves simply will not deal with the strong signals without distortion.

Anode Rectification

Failure to provide the necessary length of straight characteristic means that distortion will occur. The signal is rectified in the anode circuit and is therefore distorted.

This point is often overlooked. It is essential to provide the straight working part adequately to handle the signal and failure to do so means that the signal is working over a curved as well as a straight part.

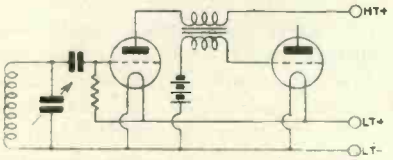


Fig. 6.—Typical circuit with transformer coupling

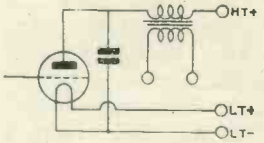


Fig. 7.—Condenser in parallel with load in anode circuit

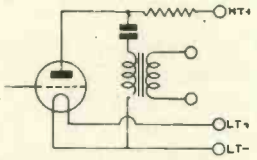


Fig. 8.—Resistance feed to low-frequency transformer

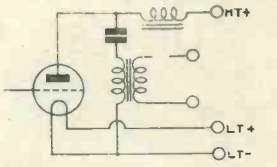


Fig. 9.—Choke feed to low-frequency transformer

"POWER" GRID-DETECTION—Continued

A valve of too great an impedance must not be used as it cannot magnify the grid voltages without distortion.

In the anode circuit we also have high-frequency currents. They are not needed excepting when we apply reaction from the anode to the grid or other circuit.

Minimising Feedback

Owing to the capacity of the anode to the grid circuits there is a feedback. This reduces the magnitude of the grid-circuit voltages and is therefore to be avoided. A condenser must be joined between the anode and filament in order to minimise this effect.

It should always be made as large as possible in order the more completely to suppress the feedback. But we meet with a difficulty here. This condenser is in shunt with the load in the anode circuit, as indicated in Fig. 7.

The impedance of the anode-circuit load will then no longer be fairly constant over the audio-frequency range. The tendency will be for the impedance to fall off at the higher frequencies and for the strength of those high notes to suffer.

Thus there is a limit, imposed by quality, upon the size of the by-pass condenser. When the valve has a low impedance the condenser can be bigger than when the valve is of a higher impedance class.

Once again we have the effect already described in connection with the grid condenser and resistance. A careful choice of values will enable us to obtain the greatest efficiency and the best quality. The necessity for providing the valve with a considerable voltage, or in the case of a low-impedance type, of passing a fairly heavy current, introduces difficulties.

An ordinary transformer cannot successfully be used, for example, when the anode current exceeds 4 or 5 milliamperes. And if we attempt to resistance feed the transformer, as in Fig. 8, we are up against the quite large voltage drop with resistance. With a 30,000-ohm resistance and a current of 5 milliamperes the drop is 150 volts. With 100 volts on the anode the total voltage is 250.

Choke Feed

When this is obtained from a mains unit we have the filter circuit as well, which also drops the voltage. We can, of course, use a choke feed, as in Fig. 9. The drop in the choke is very small and a lower total anode voltage can be used.

When the output from the rectifier is several volts and the transformer steps up the voltage three or four times the output valve must be arranged to take a large grid swing or distortion will result.

TRANSFORMER CURVES

LOW-FREQUENCY transformers of popular types have cores of stalloy (or similar material), of nickel-iron or a mixture of the two.

Curves showing the variation of the magnification of a stage comprising the transformer, with a valve joined to the primary and another to the secondary, are usually issued and no doubt they are compared.

Primary Current

Notes ought always to be made of the amount of the current flowing through the primary coil, however, as it is more than possible for wrong conclusions to be arrived at.

The nickel-iron cored transformer may show up best when the current is only 1 or 2 milliamperes, but the results may be no better than those from a cheap transformer having a stalloy core when the current is 4 or 5 milliamperes.

We do not use valves in these days with small currents. Power detectors or detectors passing 4 milliamperes, for example, are now regularly used and the valves employed in second low-frequency stages always pass about this current. An exception may be in portable sets, where the anode currents are kept down.

It therefore follows that the curves shown with small currents are not very valuable.

As a rule, increasing the current through a transformer having a nickel-iron core quickly affects the results. Not only is the effective inductance reduced, but the leakage may increase, with the result that the higher frequencies are affected. Nickel-iron transformers are probably best used with a filter circuit, fine results being obtained with parts of suitable value.

There is a need to-day for transformers capable of dealing with heavy currents, as it must be admitted that the plain transformer circuit is more easily used than the circuit having a filter feed.

W. JAMES.

SCREENED-GRID OVERLOADING

A FREQUENT cause of distortion in sets having a screen-grid high-frequency stage is due to overloading of the first valve.

If you tune to the local station you may generate across the first grid coil a volt or two. Thus it follows that rectification occurs in the first stage unless the valve has a suitable working characteristic. Not many have, and when a screen voltage control is used the difficulty is increased.

Reduced Voltage

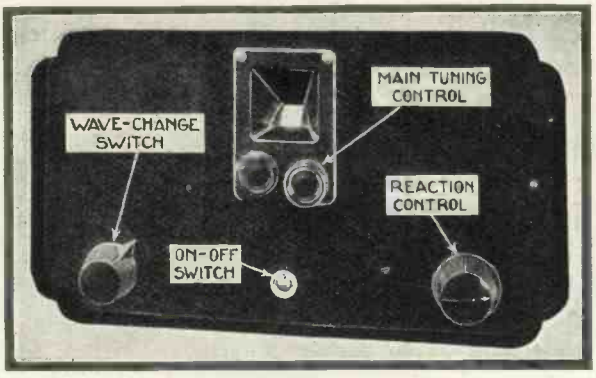
When a strong signal is received the screen voltage is reduced for the purpose of reducing the strength of the signal. This cuts down the working characteristic and causes distortion by rectifying the signal. I have noticed this fault with several commercial sets and nothing can be done except to cut down the input.

This means the use of a smaller aerial, as it is usually not possible to connect a component to the set without affecting the tuning. A condenser could be tried in the aerial circuit, or a potentiometer might be fitted across the grid circuit.

The condenser method is the most easily tried, of course, and might possibly suffice. W. JAMES.

The BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO

A LOCAL STATION SET WITH POWER GRID DETECTOR



SIMPLE TUNING CONTROLS

Any novice can operate this set without difficulty—it is ideal for family use

This console cabinet costs only 2 guineas

THIS set has two outstanding features—the first is a Binowave dual-range coil for tuning and the second a power grid detector. Combined with a single stage of low-frequency amplification, the result is a receiver outstanding for volume and quality of reproduction from local stations.

All Power from the Mains

The Brookman's A.C. Two is ideal for family use where alternating-current mains are available. All the power needed for the operation of the valves is taken from the mains and there is no need even for a grid-bias battery. The set also has the merit of being very simple in operation and can be handled without difficulty even by the complete novice.

Throughout the design our object has been to achieve the greatest volume and the highest quality of reproduction when the receiver is used within fifty miles or so of a regional transmitter. Nobody who uses the set at this range will be disappointed with the results obtained.

Results of Independent Tests

Independent tests carried out by a member of the WIRELESS MAGAZINE Technical Staff who had nothing at all to do with the actual design and construction indicate that this receiver is one of the best two-valve A.C. sets yet tried out (commercial designs included).

Binowave coils need no introduction to regular readers of WIRELESS MAGAZINE. They were specially designed for this journal by W. James and have been used with the greatest success in a large number of receivers previously described in these pages.

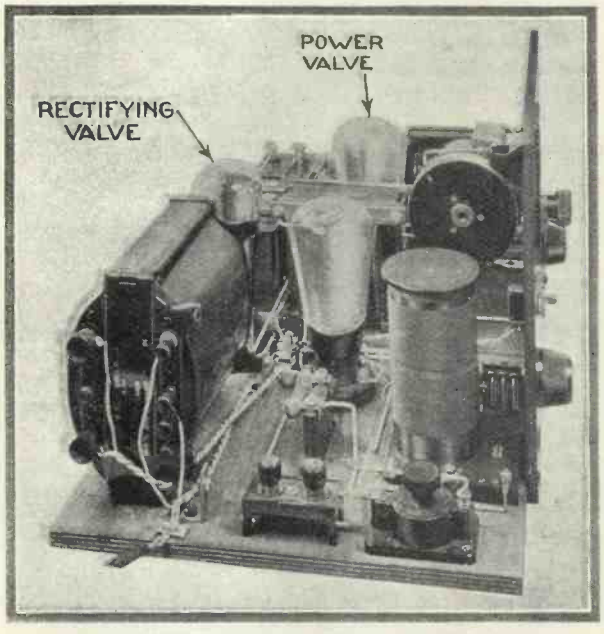
They give a happy compromise between sensitivity and selectivity, and are particularly suitable for a set of this type, which includes only a single tuning circuit, which must be sufficiently selective to separate twin regional transmissions without any tricks on the part of the operator.

Merits of the Power Grid Detector

Here there is no need to enter into a theoretical discussion regarding the merits of power grid detectors. W. James deals with the subject very thoroughly in an article that appears elsewhere in this issue, and readers are referred to his notes for further details of the subject.

We need only emphasise the point that a detector of this type gives the maximum volume that can be obtained with complete freedom from distortion.

Power for this set is taken from the A.C. mains by means of a transformer in association with a valve



A FAMOUS COIL IS USED FOR TUNING

This set utilises one of the famous Binowave coils designed by W. James. That is one of the secrets of its good performance

THE BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO—Continued

rectifier, which converts the alternating current into a direct supply for application to the anodes of the detector and power valves.

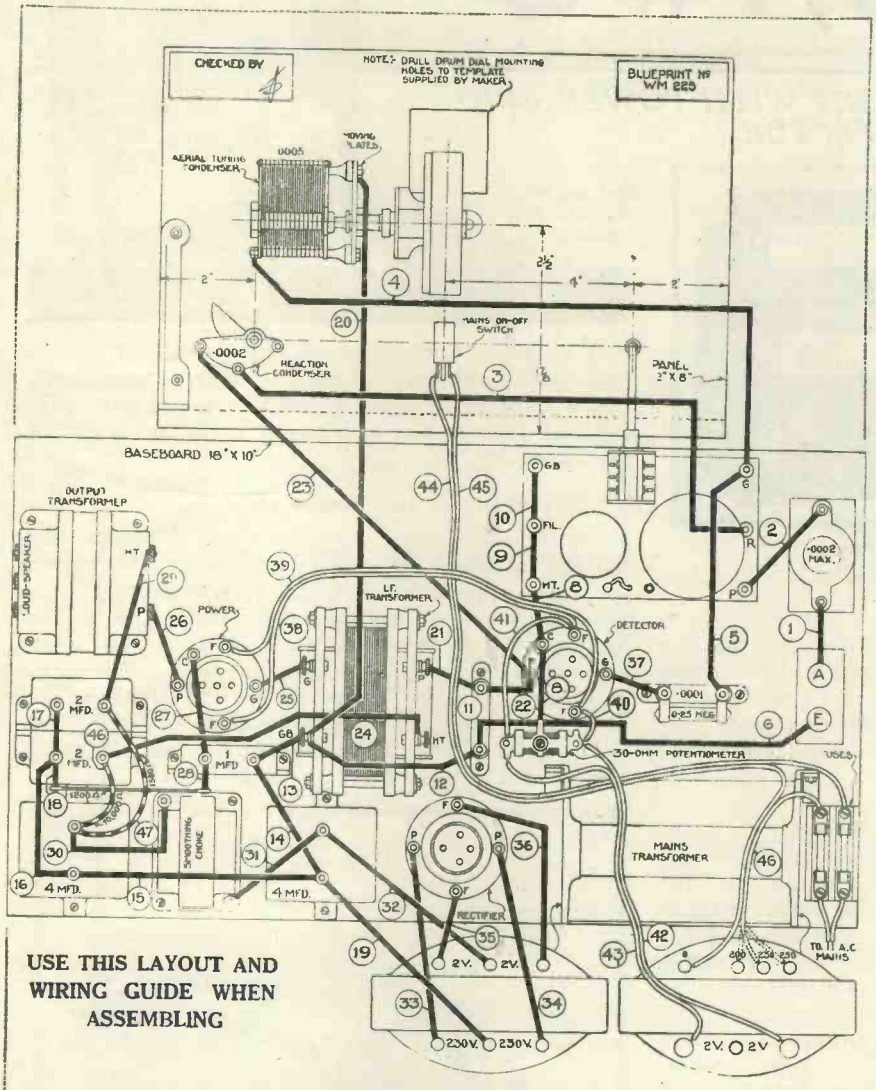
These, of course, are of the special mains type and are both indirectly heated from a 4-volt winding on the mains transformer.

The valve rectifier is rated at 250 volts 30 milliamperes and provides full-wave rectification. Its filament is supplied with raw A.C. at 4 volts (the consumption is 1 ampere) from a special centre-tapped secondary on the mains transformer. The two anodes of the valves are connected to the outer ends of a centre-tapped 460-volt secondary (230-volts each side.)

Those who have not previously used a valve rectifier of this type should notice that (as regards the direct-current supply for application to the other valve anodes) the filament is the positive side, while the centre tap on the 460-volt secondary is the negative point.

After rectification the current needs smoothing out or a hum results when the set is connected to a loud-speaker. This smoothing is done by means of a low-frequency choke and two 4-microfarad condensers. As the smoothing condensers have to stand a working voltage of about 200 volts, they should be of the type tested at 600 volts. Actually we have used condensers of the 800-volt test type.

This point is emphasised because many constructors are in the habit of using condensers tested at only 400 volts and intended for 200-volt working. In this set a higher factor of safety is desirable.



USE THIS LAYOUT AND WIRING GUIDE WHEN ASSEMBLING

This diagram is quarter scale. If desired, a full size blueprint can be obtained for half-price (that is, 6d., post free), if the coupon on page 112 is used by February 28. Ask for No. WM225. When wiring up connect the leads one by one in the numerical order indicated

Circuit Details

The detail arrangement of the circuit will be clear from the diagram on page 59. In series with the aerial lead is a semi-variable condenser with a maximum capacity of .0002 microfarad. This enables the most selective tuning to be obtained with any particular aerial system.

An advantageous feature of the Binowave coil is that it is assembled in one unit with the wave-change switch. The switch knob projects through the bottom left-hand corner of the ebonite panel. It is turned to the left for medium-wave reception and to the right for long-wave working.

The aerial portion of the coil is tuned in the usual way with a .0005-microfarad variable condenser. This is provided with a particularly smooth working drum-type dial, and the operation of tuning is very pleasant to the touch.

Unusual Values

In the grid circuit of the detector valve are the usual condenser and leak, but of different values from those usually employed. The condenser has a capacity of .0001 microfarad, while the leak is .25 megohm or 250,000 ohms.

Reaction is controlled by a .0002-microfarad variable condenser in the usual way. It should be noted that a satisfactory control is obtained without the use of a high-frequency choke. Detector efficiency is kept at a maximum by providing a .0005-microfarad fixed by-pass condenser between the detector anode and cathode.

The connections to the low-frequency transformer are standard, but the instrument itself is of a special type, that will carry currents up to 15 milliamperes through

THIS SET HAS A POWER DETECTOR!

the primary. Although it has a step-up ratio of only 1 to 2, the overall magnification of the set is very great, owing to the large output obtained from the power detector.

We have already seen that a voltage of over 200 is available from the rectifying valve; as we do not need such a high value for the detector, a voltage-dropping resistance is placed in series with the primary of the low-frequency transformer.

No Motor-boating

The value of this resistance will be discussed in detail later. Associated with it is a 2-microfarad by-pass condenser, that prevents any possibility of low-frequency oscillation or motor-boating.

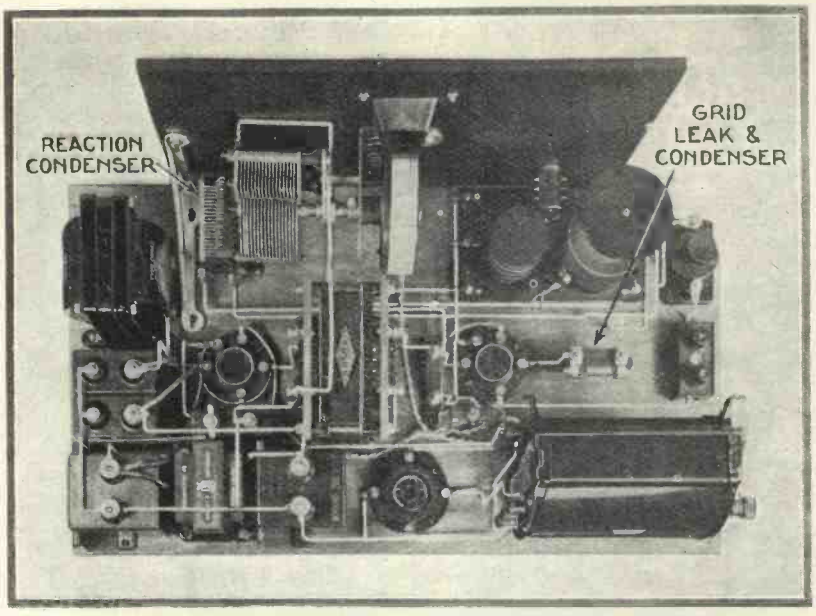
Grid bias is supplied to the power valve automatically by means of a resistance in its cathode circuit. This resistance has a 1-microfarad by-pass condenser placed across it.

In order to isolate the loud-speaker from the power circuit an output transformer is utilised. This has the further advantage that any type of loud-speaker can be matched up with the output valve, so that without any difficulty it is possible to use with the set any type of cone, inductor, or moving-coil reproducer by using the proper ratio of output.

As the power valve is rated at 200 volts and a higher value than this is actually obtained from the rectifier, a second voltage-dropping resistance is placed in series with the primary of the output transformer. In association with this there is also a 2-microfarad by-pass condenser.

Designed for New Type of Console

This set has been specially designed for use in a new type of console cabinet recently put on the market and, for the sake of convenience, the mains on-off switch has been mounted directly on the panel. It should be noted that a twin fuse in inserted in the mains lead. The primary of the mains transformer is provided with tappings for inputs of 200, 230, and 250 volts. When the set is first connected up care should be taken to see that the proper tapping is used or the set may be damaged through the valves being overrun.



ONLY STANDARD PARTS ARE USED IN THIS RECEIVER

No special components are needed for this set. The above plan view makes clear the disposition of all the parts

Simple Construction

It will be clear from the photographs reproduced in these pages that the assembly is quite straightforward and presents no difficulties even to the beginner.

If desired, a full-size blueprint can be obtained for half-price (that is 6d., post free) if the coupon on page 112 is sent to the Blueprint Department, WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58-61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4, by February 28. Ask for No. WM225.

As the mains transformer has terminals at each end, it is not easy to show the connections in an ordinary

TEST REPORT ON THE BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO

Sensitivity.—This set was connected to a 50-ft. aerial in south-west London. Turning the left-hand knob to the right, so that long-wave tuning was brought into circuit, we picked up Daventry at fair loud-speaker strength, at 116 degrees on the dial. Above Daventry, at 125 degrees, we could hear Radio Paris at weak loud-speaker strength clear of Daventry. Below Daventry we got Eiffel Tower at 104 degrees, with moderate volume on the loud-speaker.

Turning the left-hand knob to the left for medium waves, we logged the London National at 30 degrees and the London Regional at 80 degrees. Both these stations were strongly received. Midland Regional at 125 degrees was moderately strong on the loud-speaker. Rome at 110 degrees was nearly as strong as the Midland Regional.

Selectivity. — Using the aerial mentioned above we found this set was quite selective enough to be worked near a regional broadcasting centre. London Regional, maximum at 80, was tuned out at 70 and 90 degrees, a 20-degrees spread. London National, maximum at 30, was tuned out at 20 and 40 degrees, again a spread of 20 degrees. Note that 30 degrees on the dial was silent between the two regional stations.

Operation. — Tuning on medium and long wavelengths is very satisfactory. The setting for any given station is not critical. Reaction works smoothly and the detector valve goes in and out of oscillation without fuss. A novice would have no difficulty in mastering the controls of this set.

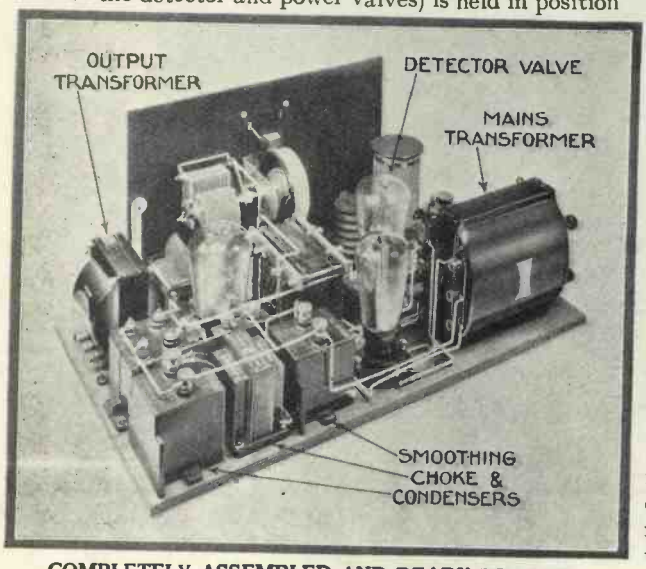
Quality.—As this set has been designed for good quality of reproduction it was tested with a moving-coil loud-speaker. In the reception of the local stations the quality was first rate.

Summary.—As a result of tests, we can say of this set that the sensitivity is up to standard, the quality is better than usual and the operation is pleasingly simple. Used with a moderate size of aerial, this set is ideal for regional areas, where it is desired to receive twin transmissions without interference.

THE BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO—Continued

plan view, we have shown on the wiring diagram both ends in detail (at the bottom of the baseboard).

There is little that need be said about the actual construction. In the original set the 30-ohm potentiometer connected across the 4-volt secondary (supplying current to the detector and power valves) is held in position



COMPLETELY ASSEMBLED AND READY FOR USE
This photograph shows how the set appears when it is completely wired up all ready for switching on

by the wiring, but if desired it could be screwed down to the baseboard.

In a similar way the 1,200-ohm fixed resistance seen at the bottom left-hand corner of the baseboard is also held in position by the wiring.

Another point to notice is that the voltage-dropping resistances are of the flexible or spaghetti type and actually form part of the wiring.

Every wire in the set is numbered separately. It is intended that they should be placed in position one by one in the order indicated. There is then no possibility of a mistake being made and the set will work directly it is completed and connected to the mains.

Suitable Valves

We have not yet considered what valves will be suitable for this receiver, but we must do so at this stage. The detector valve is a Mazda AC/HL and the power valve is an AC/P1. Alternatives are not recommended unless the constructor is prepared to work out the proper values of voltage-dropping resistances for different valves.

The AC/HL valve takes approximately 10 milliamperes at 150 volts. A resistance of 10,000 ohms in its anode circuit will produce a drop of 100 volts, so that, assuming a voltage of 230 from the rectifier, we shall have approximately 130 volts on the anode of the detector.

For the power valve the voltage-dropping resistance has a resistance of 1,500 ohms. With a current of 20 milliamperes (which is approximately what the AC/P1 takes at 200 volts) we obtain a drop of 30 volts. As we obtain approximately 230 volts from the rectifying valve, it will be apparent that with this value of resistance the power valve is being run at its proper rating.

As has already been mentioned, grid bias is supplied to this valve automatically by means of a fixed resistance in its cathode circuit. At 200 volts (on the anode) the AC/P1 needs approximately 24 volts grid bias, and we shall obtain this value by using a 1,200-ohm resistance.

Calculating Resistances for Other Valves

From these figures it will be appreciated that if other valves are to be used the correct values of voltage-dropping resistances must be carefully worked out, or the valves will not be run at their proper rating and the set will give poor reproduction.

The calculations that have to be made are not at all difficult if it is remembered that for every 1,000 ohms resistance a current of 1 milliampere will produce a drop of 1 volt. It is safe to say that the voltage from the rectifier is 230 volts, so that the correct value of resistance to give the desired voltage drop with a known anode current can be worked out without difficulty. One example will be sufficient:

Suppose that the detector valve to be used takes 8 milliamperes at 140 volts. As we have 230 volts available, we must drop 90 volts in order to get the correct value. Making a simple transposition of Ohm's Law, we see that $R=\frac{E}{C}$, where R is the value of resistance in ohms, E is the voltage to be dropped and C is the current in amperes.

COMPONENTS REQUIRED FOR THE BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO

CHOKE, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—R.I. Hypercore, 17s. 6d.

COIL
1—Wearite 1930 Binowave, type C, 17s.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—T.C.C. .0001-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 6d. (or Graham-Farish, Edison Bell).
1—T.C.C. .0005-microfarad, upright type, 1s. 6d. (or Graham-Farish, Edison Bell).
1—T.C.C. 1-microfarad, type 80, 3s. 9d. (or Dubilier, Hydra).
2—T.C.C. 2-microfarad, type 80, 10s. (or Dubilier, Hydra).
2—T.C.C. 4-microfarad, type 80, 17s. (or Dubilier, Hydra).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
1—Burton .0002-microfarad, 4s. (or Bulgin, Formo).
1—Utility .0005-microfarad, with drum dial, 14s. (or Jackson, Lotus).
1—Lewcodenser .0002-microfarad max., type W, 2s. 6d. (or Sovereign, Formo).

EBONITE
1—Redfern Ebonart 12 in. by 8 in. panel, 7s. 3d. (or Becol, Lissen).
1—Belling-Lee terminal block, 8d. (or Junit).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—W.B. five-pin type, 2s. 6d. (or Telsen, Benjamin).
1—W.B. four-pin type, 1s. 3d. (or Telsen, Benjamin).

PLUG
1—Bulgin mains plug, 1s. 6d.

RESISTANCES, FIXED
1—Dubilier .25-megohm, 1s. 9d. (or Lissen, Rotor).
1—Magnum 1,500-ohm spaghetti, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Magnum 10,000-ohm spaghetti, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin).
1—Clarostat 1,200-ohm, type FW1200, 1s. 6d.

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Clarostat 30-ohm potentiometer, 2s. 9d.

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Length of rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).
1—Panel bracket.
1—Bulgin twin fuseholder, with fuses, 2s. 6d.

SWITCH
1—Clarostat mains switch, type 728, 2s. 3d. (or Bulgin).

TERMINALS
2—Belling-Lee, marked: A, E, 6d. (or Clix, Eelex).

TRANSFORMER, LOW-FREQUENCY
1—Parmeko, ratio 1 to 2, £1 17s. 6d.

TRANSFORMER, MAINS
1—Heayberd, type 715, £1 8s. 6d.

TRANSFORMER, OUTPUT
1—Ferranti, type OPM1, £1 2s. 6d. (or Lissen).

ACCESSORIES

CABINET
1—Peto-Scott Console, £2 2s.

LOUD-SPEAKER
1—Amplion cabinet cone, type A.B.6, £4 10s. (or Blue Spot, Ediswan).

VALVES
1—Mazda AC/HL, 15s.
1—Mazda AC/P1, 17s. 6d.
1—Mazda U30/250, 15s.

The prices mentioned are those for the parts used in the original set; the prices of alternatives as indicated in the brackets may be either higher or lower

GIVES GREAT POWER WITH FINE QUALITY

We therefore see that we must divide .008 ampere into 90 volts; working this out we get 11,250, which is the required value of the resistance. In practice it would be necessary to use a resistance of 10,000 ohms, which is the nearest commercial value.

How to Operate the Set

We can now consider the operation of the set. When the valves have been inserted in their holders and the mains plug connected to a convenient supply point, the receiver is switched on and off by means of the control on the panel just underneath the main tuning dial.

When the set has been switched on the wave-change switch should be adjusted for the desired waveband and the main tuning dial set at zero.

The reaction control should then be turned slowly to the right until a slight rustling or hissing sound is heard from the loud-speaker; this indicates that the set is on the verge of oscillation and, therefore, in its most sensitive condition for reception.

The main tuning knob should then be turned round slowly until a station is picked up. As this knob is turned it will also be necessary to advance the reaction control from time to time in order to keep the set still on the verge of oscillation.

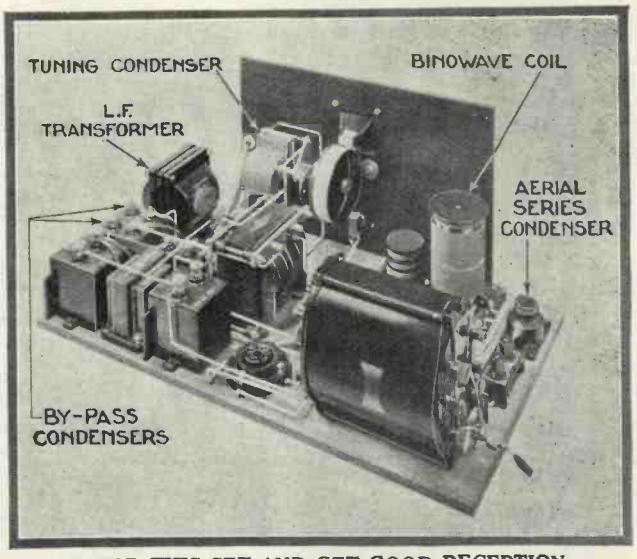
Little Reaction Needed for Locals

It should not be inferred from this that reaction is necessary for the reception of every station. Regional transmitters within a range of about fifty miles will be received at good volume with very little reaction.

After the set has been in use for a few minutes the screw on the 30-ohm potentiometer (mounted on the baseboard) should be turned until the mains hum is reduced to a minimum.

It will be seen that there is a tapping pin and two sockets at the back of the Binowave coil unit. This pin should be tried in both sockets, for one position will result in much more selective reception.

For maximum volume the knob of the semi-variable aerial series condenser should be screwed down as far as possible. This gives the maximum capacity, but results in broader tuning. If the knob is screwed out by turning it to the left the selectivity of the set will be improved, but volume will be reduced somewhat.



BUILD THIS SET AND GET GOOD RECEPTION

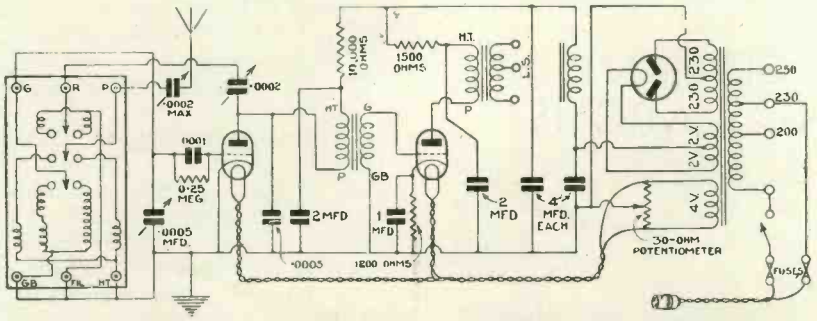
Quality is a great feature of this receiver, and it can be relied upon to give satisfactory results

A few moments' experimenting will soon reveal the position for the most satisfactory compromise between selectivity and volume.

We are confident that no difficulty will be experienced either in the construction or operation of this receiver, provided that the original design is faithfully copied. Every precaution has been taken to make the set as perfect as possible consistent with easy construction.

The final assembly has been approved by W. James and, as will be seen from a glance at page 57, has been tested carefully by a member of the WIRELESS MAGAZINE Technical Staff who had nothing to do with the actual construction.

We specially invite readers to send us reports on this set when they have it in working order.



CIRCUIT OF THE BROOKMAN'S A.C. TWO WITH POWER DETECTOR

This circuit is particularly simple. It consists of a detector and a transformer-coupled power valve. A valve rectifier is used for supplying anode voltage

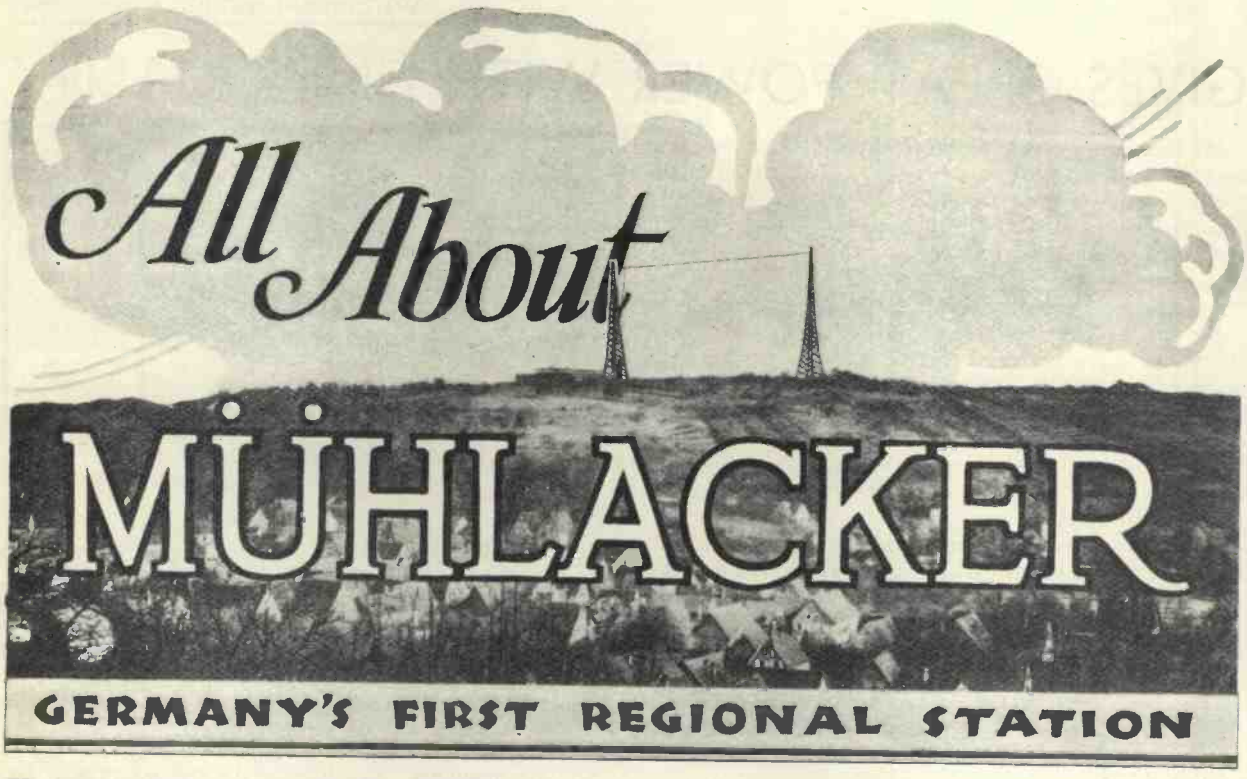
Use of Metal Rectifier

There may be some constructors who would prefer to use a Westinghouse metal rectifier in place of the valve rectifier employed in the original receiver. This alteration is not at all difficult to make.

It will be necessary to use a rectifier that gives 30 milliamperes at 200 volts. A different mains transformer will be needed and extra condensers may be required for a voltage-doubler circuit. Normally the same values of smoothing choke and smoothing condensers can be used, but the latter need be only of the 400-volt test type (for 200-volt working).

If a metal rectifier giving 200 volts is used, the voltage-dropping resistance employed with the power valve (that is, the 1,500-ohm resistance) can be dispensed with and the high-tension supply taken direct to the valve.

Should any difficulty arise, the Information Bureau should be consulted; see rules on page 112 of this issue.



All About MÜHLACKER

GERMANY'S FIRST REGIONAL STATION

BRITISH listeners have heard a good deal of the new Stuttgart station since it opened in November last, for with its giant power of 75 kilowatts it is creating its quota of chaos in the European ether.

Many listeners think that this station is merely an enlarged Stuttgart working with high power, but there is really much more in it than that. This new station represents Germany's first effort to copy our regional scheme.

It is anticipated that if Stuttgart proves to be a complete success then two other stations will be opened to cover the Northern and Central districts of Germany and then many other stations will, in course of time, be closed down.

This new station is in a new and specially built transmitter hall at Mühlacker, a small town midway between Stuttgart and Karlsruhe. It is connected by a landline with studios in Stuttgart and, by means of the fairly comprehensive line network with which Germany is covered, it can be hooked up with other studio centres.

This station has been built by the Telefunken Co., who also erected the 60-kilowatt station just opened at Oslo, and there is a striking similarity between the two plants.

The station stands out high above the River Enz on the borders of Baden, and the two 350-ft. wooden masts are prominent landmarks. There is no doubt but that Mühlacker is in an excellent geographical situation, and this probably accounts for a large measure of the interference which is being caused with British stations.

Short-wave Practice

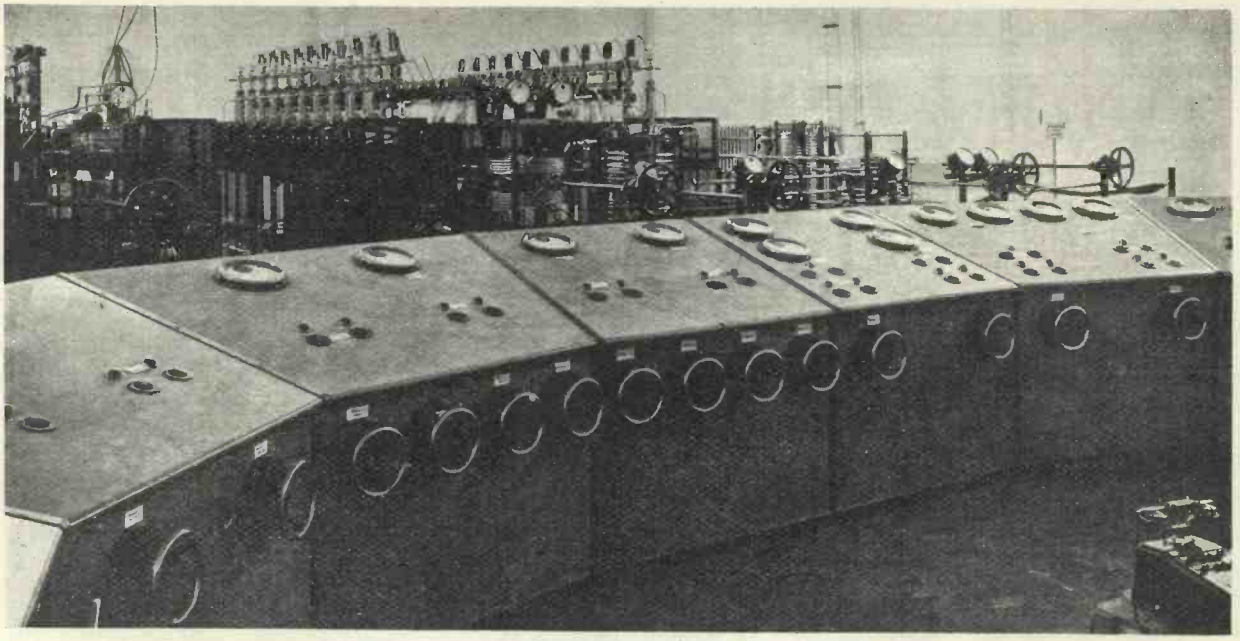
The aerial is some 600 ft. from the transmitter house and the "lead-in" is arranged with special dual feeder lines, the system being somewhat similar to that being used at short-wave stations. The Mühlacker building is about as big as that at Brookman's Park, although there is, of course, only one transmitter.

There are seven banks of valves and the last stage consists of 20-kilowatt water-cooled valves, two of

PRINCIPAL GERMAN BROADCASTING STATIONS

Wavelength	Station	Wavelength	Station
31.38	Zeesen	318	Dresden
218	Flensburg	325	Breslau
227	Cologne	360	Mühlacker
232	Kiel	372	Hamburg
239	Nürnberg	390	Frankfurt
246	Cassel	418	Berlin
253	Leipzig	453	Danzig
259	Gleiwitz	473	Langenberg
270	Kaiserslautern	533	Munich
276	Königsberg	560	Augsburg
283	Magdeburg	566	Hanover
283	Stettin	576	Freiburg
283	Berlin	1,635	Zeesen
316	Bremen		

For hints on identifying German broadcasts when you pick up foreign stations, see another article in this issue



A NEW GIANT OF THE ETHER—HAVE YOU HEARD IT ?

It will be seen from this photograph of the control panels that the new German station at Mühlacker is the last word in up-to-date design. Unlike British transmitters, the various sections are not in metal cages. On the opposite page is a view of the aerial masts. The aerial power of this station is rated at 75 kilowatts, but the power can be nearly doubled if desired

which are kept as spares. The aerial power of the station, by the way, is rated at 75 kilowatts, although this can be practically doubled if necessary. In use are some of the largest water-cooled valves in existence and ample arrangements are made for cooling.

Breakdown Precautions

A special water tower has been built at the end of the main transmitter hall, and this is used as a storing centre for the valve cooling water.

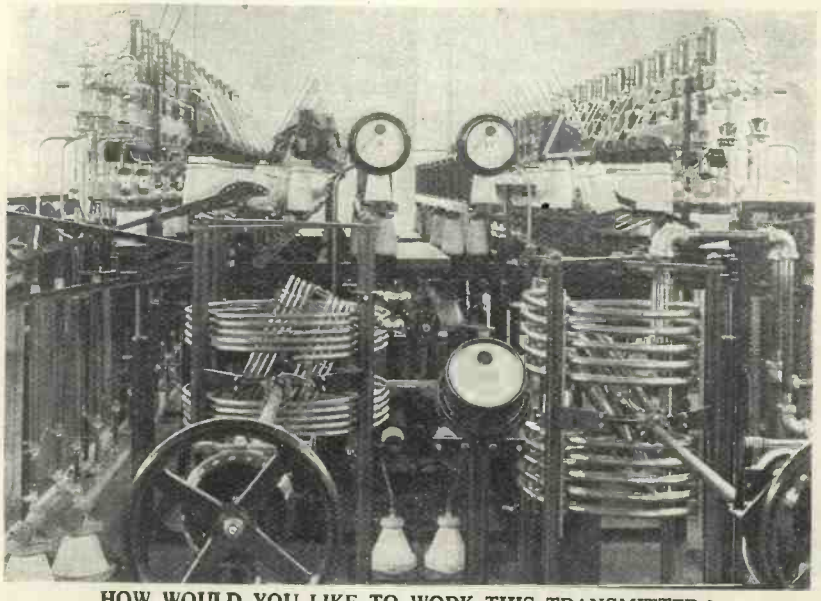
This is quite different from the cooling arrangements at Brookman's Park. Here distilled water is used, on account of its greater resistance, and it is kept constantly in circuit, being itself kept cooled by radiators sprayed externally with tap water. The merits of each type of cooling depend on the associate valve apparatus in the transmitter, and the local water facilities.

Elaborate precautions are taken against a breakdown, and it is interesting to note that the high-tension supply, which is at 12,000 volts, can be obtained either from a motor generator or via banks of valve rectifiers from the local power supply.

A striking feature of the station is the control desk in the transmitter hall. This is a large semi-circular affair carrying coloured indicating lights and subsidiary controls. Within easy reach also are the geared-down tuning and condenser controls. In these transmitters a variometer form of tuning is used in all the high-power circuits, the tuning coils being of heavy gauge copper tubing.

There are extensive landline arrangements, linking up, as has been said, with the studios in Stuttgart, and provision is also made for future link-ups with other studio centres. When the other two German Regional stations, Heilsburg and Königswusterhausen are completed (the former is already testing), it will thus be possible for these three giants to broadcast simultaneously events of national importance.

The pressing problem of the moment, though, is confined to wavelengths for these new high-power ether-disturbers !



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK THIS TRANSMITTER ?

This photograph shows clearly the large geared controls for adjusting the tuning circuits of the new station, which has a power of 75 kilowatts

Wireless Magazine, February 1931

Why Not Use A Tone Control?

By J. H. REYNER, B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.

SEVEN SIMPLE METHODS

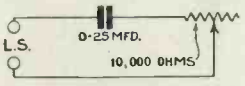


Fig. 1.—Removing the upper frequencies progressively

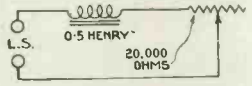


Fig. 2.—Similar arrangement for cutting out bass

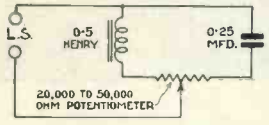


Fig. 3.—Combination of the arrangements shown in Figs. 1 and 2

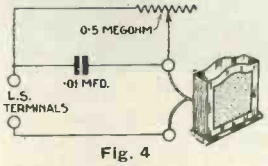


Fig. 4

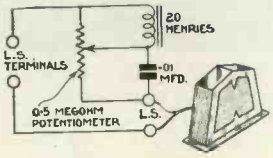
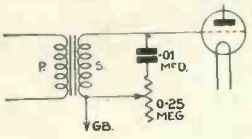


Fig. 5 (above).—Similar arrangement to Fig. 3, except that the series system is used

Fig. 4 (top left).—Condenser in series with loud-speaker

Fig. 6 (below).—Internal method of cutting down upper frequencies



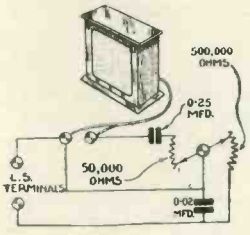


Fig. 7 (left). — Two effects linked up in one system, but controlled by single knob

VERY few radio users have an equipment in which the loud-speaker and the set are really nicely balanced. More often than not the set has been bought at one time and the loud-speaker at another, and the two are expected to work together without any further ado.

Up to a point the combination operates satisfactorily, but it is obviously not only possible, but probable, that by the addition of suitable devices the quality could be made more pleasing.

Suiting Different Tastes

Indeed, even when the apparatus contains a built-in loud-speaker the need for some form of tone control is desirable in order to allow for the variety of tastes of different users. One man's idea of pleasant reproduction may not coincide with another's. So much is this the case that all the principal sets marketed in America this year are fitted with tone controls.

This control of the tone may be obtained by means of devices incorporated in the set itself, or fitted externally. Those devices which are included in the set are dependent to a great extent on the constants of the apparatus employed and, indeed, the designer takes into account all these effects when he is designing the receiver in the first place.

It is not always possible for the user to do this. He may not wish to break into his set, and even if he is willing to do this he often does not know the values of the various parts. Thus the more favourable forms of volume control are those which are applied externally to the set, between the loud-speaker terminals and the loud-speaker itself.

One of the simplest forms of volume control is that which removes the upper frequencies to a progressive extent, and this is shown in Fig. 1. This consists of a condenser of suitable value in series with a variable resistance shunted across the loud-speaker terminals.

A condenser of .25 microfarad is convenient, and the resistance should be variable from 10,000 ohms downwards. The more the resistance in the circuit, the less the shunting action of the condenser, so that the normal tone is obtained with the maximum resistance in or with the resistance out of circuit altogether, and the top notes are cut off progressively as one moves the resistance round towards its minimum position.

Cutting Out Bass

A somewhat similar arrangement for cutting out the bass frequencies is shown in Fig. 2. Here instead of the condenser we use a small iron-cored choke of about half a henry. As the resistance is decreased the bottom frequencies are cut off to an increasing extent. This device, however, is by no means as successful as the Fig. 1 arrangement, since it causes a distinct drop in signal strength as well as an alteration in the tone.

Fig. 3 illustrates a combination of both the above arrangements. Here a potentiometer is used, and the slider is moved from one side to the other.

If the slider is moved over towards the condenser side, then the top notes are cut off, while in the reverse direction the bottom notes are cut off, and the tone can, therefore, be balanced to suit one's own requirements rather nicely.

This arrangement is quite a pleasant one to use, and is very simple to construct.

Series Controls

So far we have considered devices shunted across the loud-speaker. It is possible to employ an arrangement in series with the loud-speaker, although as a general rule this is only practicable where one is using a choke-output or transformer-output circuit.

Fig. 4, for example, shows an arrangement of a condenser in series with the loud-speaker. Shunted across the condenser is a resistance,

and here the arrangement is somewhat the reverse of the previous example.

When the resistance is at its minimum, the effect of the condenser is cut out, and one obtains the normal tone of the loud-speaker. Increasing the resistance removes the shunt across the condenser, and it begins to take effect.

In the case of the parallel circuit a condenser across the loud-speaker shunts the high notes. In this case it *prevents* the high notes from getting to the loud-speaker, so that instead of acting as a top cut-off it acts as a bass cut-off, and this system forms quite a good method of reducing the bass, if it should be over-predominant.

Strange as it may seem, there are cases to-day where this is desirable. The cry for more and more bass has in some cases produced an undue proportion of the lower frequencies.

Fig. 5 gives an arrangement similar to that of Fig. 3, except that a series system is used. We have here a choke in series with a condenser, and across the whole is a potentiometer. When the slider is moved towards the bottom, the effect of the condenser is cut out, so that the bass is accentuated.

Treble Accentuated

With the slider moved towards the top of the potentiometer exactly the reverse is obtained, and the treble is accentuated.

This device, however, suffers from the disadvantage that the signal strength is rather seriously reduced when operating the device for reducing the top notes. It is not such a satisfactory system as some of those previously described.

A method of cutting off the upper frequencies to a progressive extent is that shown in Fig. 6. This is applied to the secondary of a low-frequency transformer in the set itself. It operates in much the same way as Fig. 1, except that the control is now across the transformer and not across the loud-speaker and, therefore, the values have to be somewhat different. A 01-microfarad condenser and a resistance having a maximum value of .25 megohm is satisfactory in this position.

Series and Parallel

To revert to the method of control on the loud-speaker, it will be clear from the circuits already given that a condenser shunted across the loud-speaker cuts off the top notes, while a condenser in series with the loud-speaker cuts off the bass.

This being the case, one naturally asks whether it is not possible to link up these two effects on one system, so that a combined and progressive tone control is obtainable.

Fig. 7 shows a system whereby this may be done. There is one condenser across the loud-speaker in series with 50,000-ohm resistance, and there is another condenser in series with the loud-speaker across which is shunted a 500,000-ohm resistance. The two resistances are ganged together, and a single rotation of the knob enables one to make the tone either "wooffy" or shrill, exactly as one requires.

A MULLARD ORGOLA ON THE SCREEN

Here you see a scene from the publicity talkie made for Reckitt's The set is a Mullard Orgola three-valver

BROADCASTS OF 1930

A CATALOGUE of outstanding events of the year 1930 would pay special attention to such broadcasts as those of Miss Amy Johnson on reaching Brisbane on May 29 and on her return to Croydon on August 4 from her great Australian flight; of the conversation on June 6 between Mr. Harold Nicolson in a B.B.C studio and a passenger on board the White Star liner *Homeric*, 1,200 miles from land; of the Thanksgiving Service for the preservation of St Paul's Cathedral, which was relayed from the cathedral on June 25. of the first televised play, *The Man with the Flower in His Mouth*, which took place on July 14; of the return from Canada of R100 in August; and of the memorial service for the dead of R101, which was relayed from St. Paul's in October.

World Transmission

There were also such events as the world transmission on October 27 of speeches in connection with the deposit of Ratifications of the London Naval Treaty, requiring as it did the most complicated arrangements between international broadcasting authorities and Governments.

Consecutive speeches by the Japanese Prime Minister in Tokio, the President of the United States of America in Washington, the British Prime Minister and the Japanese Ambassador in London, were relayed by broadcasting stations in Japan, the United States and Great Britain.

From Tokio

The broadcast began with an announcement from a London studio, followed by an address by Mr. Hamaguchi, the Japanese Prime Minister, from Tokio. President Hoover next spoke from Washington and he was followed by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald speaking from Downing Street. The broadcast concluded with a translation of the Japanese Prime Minister's speech, by Mr. Matsudaira, the Japanese Ambassador to this country.

This was the first attempt to relay in this country a speech originating in Japan. The transatlantic telephone service was used for linking Washington to London and the extension from Washington to Japan was made by means of experimental short-wave link across the Pacific.

THE LEAKY GRID

Not To Be Taken Too Seriously!

I HAVE an important announcement to make concerning the B.B.C.'s New Cacophony Concerts which may be soon broadcast simultaneously from the Queen's Hall and the Albert Hall.

I understand that the method will be to obtain the services of the two conductors who are considered to be most jealous of each other, and give them a time limit, one at each of the above halls. The result will be broadcast just as it comes out of the pot.

◆ ◆ ◆

Marvellous Conception

I have been allowed to examine the score of the latest novelty specially composed for the Cacophony Concerts. It is a marvellous conception, being a concerto for two pneumatic street drills and full orchestra, composed by Jaila Crowbartok.

There are three long movements. First there is a charming slow introduction, one of those cloying movements that so attract the modern soul. It is marked *adagio excavato* and breathes of Holborn Viaduct under repair at sunset. The adagio gives way to a fine, sturdy allegro, in which great prominence is given to the introduction, at bar 3,086, of a complete set of four-wheel brakes.

Speaking critically, I should like to see records made of the slow movement which follows. It would only take eighty-seven complete records. Marked *aspirino calmato*, it breathes nothing but peace to the jagged nerves of the street-drillers. In fact I consider it a tone-picture of the poor things' nervous systems.

Moved to Tears

The last movement moves me to tears. Marked *allegro bibuloso*, it is a wonderful fugue on the theme of "Let's All Sing the Barmaid's Song." Mr. Crowbartok is to be congratulated on this, his first attempt at real simplicity of thought.

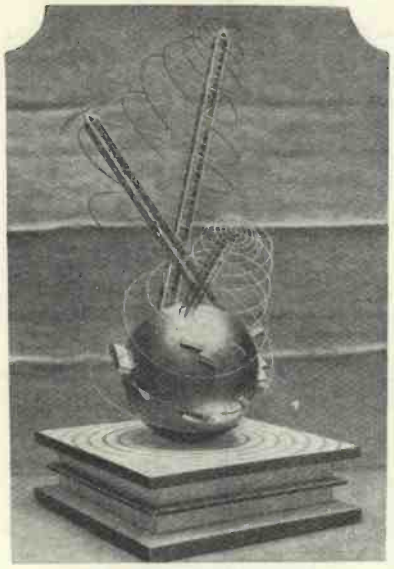
We understand that he has denied the rumour that he has written the last movement specially for America as a colossal satire against their artistic ideals.

◆ ◆ ◆

I have other advance information. Not only do I find out what the B.B.C. is likely to do long before anyone at Savoy Hill has thought of it, but I know all the secrets of the gramophone companies.

I have just found out that most of the leading houses (they are all leading really, only some of them don't like to say so) are going to issue some delightful descriptive records such as those I have been reviewing lately.

Decaphone, for example, will issue a double-sided twelve-incher of Maurice Chevalier adjusting his sock suspenders prior to making his second *debut* at the Albert Hall, with full revue chorus.



THE SPIRIT OF RADIO

This is a German model representing the world-wide power and appeal of broadcasting

Parlocast is releasing a clever representation of Dean Inge eating soup in a Soho restaurant while thinking out an article on *There's a Good Time Coming, Only It's EVER So Far Away*.

H.Mbia is producing a fine record of Margaret Bondfield washing up dishes before an audience of 3,000 domestic servants. Suitable music, such as *Honour and Arms*, will be heard in the distance.

Lastly, ColuMV is to issue a comic record of Bishop Barnes and Carnera singing *Fight the Good Fight*. All these will be reviewed as soon as they appear.

Owing to pressure on our space I am compelled to hold over my replies to many of my correspondents this month.

I have therefore made a selection, carefully omitting those which are of a highly technical nature in the hope that the correspondents will forget that they have written.

Henrietta, Southport.—I am sorry you hate the Bach cantatas so much. I know how irritating Bach can be. I believe that if you handle your switch properly it is possible to get rid of the nuisance. Try it. If you are successful in shutting off the National programme you can have another half-hour's snooze until the Regional programme comes on.

In the Wrong

Ethel, Surbiton.—Ethel, dear, you and your fiancé must not quarrel about Mr. A. J. Alan's stories. I am sorry to give the verdict against you, but I do not think you were right in stating that he is systematically cut off before he has finished.

Cissie, Birmingham.—I feel for you deeply; it is rather upsetting to be named after a certain cow. I believe the cow only exists relatively, and you will recall with pleasure that either Mr. Clapham or Mr. Dwyer distinctly said that the difference between Cissie chewing cud and an American chewing gum was the look of intelligence on Cissie's face. So do not be discouraged.

O.H.M.S.!

Sandy, Aberdeen.—I quite agree with you that the B.B.C. is now a Government concern, but I do not think you are justified in sending your letters of complaint to Savoy Hill without a stamp, marking them O.H.M.S. Even OHMS, whether of the flexible spaghetti or the fixed macaroni type, have to be paid for, otherwise there would be government resistance.

George, Worcester.—No, George, we do not supply blueprints of the Beethoven symphonies.

◆ ◆ ◆

"Shall we have glass records?" asks Mr. Barnett, who declares that though there may be tumblers amongst them, they will not easily break.

W.-W.

NOTES AND JOTTINGS OF THE MONTH

Induction Motors

ONE of the recent improvements in electric gramophones is the change over from universal to induction turntable motors. Where the electric-light supply is A.C., the new induction motor can be substituted for the old type, which was suitable for A.C. or D.C. supplies, but suffered from several defects.

One of the big advantages of the induction motor is that its speed is independent of the supply voltage, being governed by the frequency. Whereas the supply voltage fluctuates fairly considerably, the frequency is absolutely constant.

◆ ◆ ◆

New H.M.V. Artistes

Two more famous pianists have now joined the company of recorders for H.M.V. One is Niedzielski, well known to concert goers, who brings his genius to our fireside with the Strauss *Thousand and One Nights*, giving full scope to the fascinating flow of his facile fingers.

Vladimir Horowitz, the young Pole who recently visited this country, makes his gramophone debut with Liszt's *Valse Oubliée* and the Capriccio in F minor by Dohnanyi. He proves that he is among the greatest executants of the day.

All the majestic power of a noble band of musicians is revealed by the London Symphony Orchestra rendering Wagner's tremendous tone picture, *The Ride of the Valkyries*.

The well-loved airs of that old favourite, *Maritana*, are given to us by the Royal Opera Orchestra of Covent Garden, playing Wallace's tuneful overture. The same orchestra give a most cleverly compressed selection from *Faust*, and their performance makes one understand why this opera is regarded as everybody's classic.

A dainty number is found in Strauss's pot-pourri of waltz melodies, *Reminiscences of Vienna*, rendered by the Salon Orchestra. De Groot and his Orchestra have recorded *La Paloma* and *Destiny*.

From *Follow a Star*, hailed as the best musical comedy of recent years, the Light Opera Company cull the pick of the vocal gems, including *The First Week-end in June*, now all the rage.

Peter Dawson, firmly established as a composer, has two fine settings of Rudyard Kipling's poems, typical soldier songs, *Route Marchin'* and *Cells*.

Frank Crumit will make *Around the Corner* a universal ditty and in *Down on the Railroad Track* he gives full play to his insinuating voice, which is a comedy in itself.

There is quite a number of very attractive pieces from famous films. The all-conquering *Whoopee* provides the New Mayfair Orchestra with a fine selection, including such catchy numbers as *My Baby Just Cares for Me* and *A Girl Friend of a Boy Friend of Mine*. That amusing star of the show, Eddie Cantor, recently recorded exclusively for H.M.V. *Makin' Whoopee*.

◆ ◆ ◆

Table Radiograms Wanted

Although I am impressed with the imposing array of console-type radio gramophones now available at reasonable prices, there does seem to be a lack of a type of instrument that would suit the needs of a considerable number of enthusiastic listeners and gramophiles.

I refer to the table-cabinet radio gramophone, of which I have come across but one solitary example. It is a matter for wonder that, while table-cabinet mechanical gramophones are as popular as console mechanical gramophones, makers do not seem to have considered the small cabinet idea for electrical combination instruments.

One of the drawbacks of the table cabinet for a mechanical gramophone is the instability of the machine when the motor is being wound up. But in an all-electric machine there is no winder. A quite compact radio gramophone could be designed on the lines of the familiar suitcase portable. A. S. H.

Making Records *Without* An Amplifier

By D. SISSON RELPH

ONE of the great advantages of having a home-recording outfit is that the whole family can get a considerable amount of enjoyment out of it; nearly everybody is interested in the possibilities of making records of themselves and of their friends.

MAKING A VOCAL RECORD

It is necessary only to speak in a moderately loud voice into the horn attached to the recording soundbox. No amplifier is needed

In this article I am able to give details of a new system by means of which records can be made at home without any kind of electrical amplifier.

Laboratory Demonstration

The new recorder is the invention of Mr. Arthur Kingston, a talkie and experimental engineer who has devoted many months to the development of a particularly simple outfit. I recently visited the inventor's laboratory and had the benefit of having a complete demonstration of the new system.

Undoubtedly the most interesting part of Mr. Kingston's invention is the method of making records without any kind of amplifier; indeed, all one needs is an ordinary gramophone, which can even be of the cheapest portable type.

In this system of recording tracking is accomplished by running a guiding needle in grooves cut on a master disc, in the centre of which is fixed the aluminium blank for making one's own records.

The arrangement of the recording blank and the master tracking disc will be clear from the photographs reproduced in these pages. The blank is actually held on the master by means of three pins that project through specially-cut slots. There is no need to lubricate the blanks with oil; they are already provided with a wax lubricant.

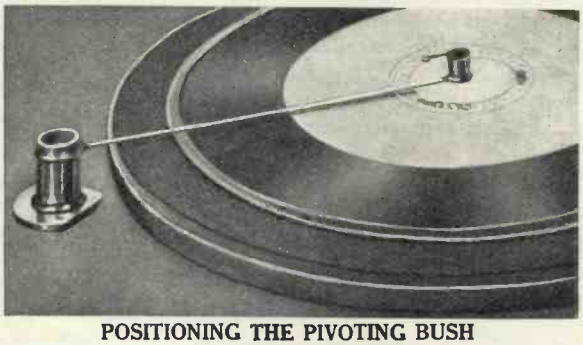
For acoustic recording one simply speaks into a short horn attached to a special soundbox which is provided with a hard-steel cutting needle that indents a groove on the blank as it revolves. The soundbox is mounted on a carrier arm to which is also attached the tracking arm with a tracking needle, so that once the turntable has started revolving the process is automatic.

Easy to Use

Mr. Kingston made a number of records for me in his laboratory and I was also able to make some myself at home without any difficulty. In fact, with ordinary care anybody can make a record successfully as soon as the apparatus has been fixed in position; and it takes less than five minutes to get the device working

Not only is the Kingston home-recorder particularly simple to use, but it is also very cheap. For £2 5s. can be obtained an outfit including a special recording soundbox and horn; a carrier arm and bush for fixing; a master tracking disc and thr e aluminium blank ; two cutting needles (good for forty recordings each) and six tracking needles (each good for twenty records). Extra blanks cost 6s. a dozen.

It should be clearly understood that this outfit is suitable for making speech records only and is intended primarily for gramophone users who have no radio set. For



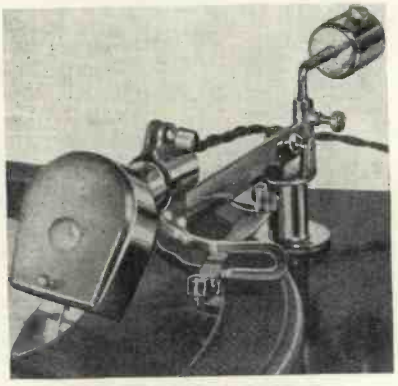
POSITIONING THE PIVOTING BUSH

Here you see the sensible jig provided for positioning the pivoting bush for the carrier arm

those with a radio set a more elaborate outfit is offered at £3 16s. 6d. This is identical with the outfit at £2 5s. except that a special cutter pick-up is also provided.

Making Speech Records

To make an ordinary speech record one clamps an aluminium blank on to the master disc and sets the tracking arm in relation to the recording soundbox so that when the tracking needle is near the outside edge of the master disc, the cutting needle falls just on the aluminium blank.



THE TRACKING DEVICE

The tracking arm and needle are seen at the right of the cutter pick-up

The carrier arm is lifted until the turntable is revolving at its normal speed, when it is carefully dropped down into position. A record can then be made by speaking clearly and in a moderately loud voice into the horn, as illustrated in one of the photographs.

The setting-up of the apparatus is simple in the extreme. A wire jig is provided for the correct positioning of the bush into which the pivot of the carrier arm is inserted. The cutting needles are painted red and the tracking needles are painted green, so that it is almost impossible to make a mistake.

Needles for Reproduction

It is necessary to make quite clear the fact that only fibre or cactus needles can be used for playing back these aluminium records, but they can be reproduced either by means of a mechanical gramophone or an electrical reproducer.

By means of the cutter pick-up, which is specially damped to give the best recording, it is a simple matter to make records of any broadcast item picked up at moderate volume on a radio set. Mr. Kingston made a number of records for me in his laboratory of broadcast items picked up on a McMichael portable working at ordinary strength.

It is possible to use the cutter pick-up for playing the records back through a gramo-radio outfit if the steel cutting needle is replaced by a fibre or cactus needle (by the way, Burmese Electrocolor needles are particularly suitable for reproduction from these aluminium discs).

It will be seen from the photographs that a counterbalance weight is fixed to the carrier arm. This is used to vary the weight on the cutting needle. In practice one uses the greatest weight possible without reducing the speed of the turntable.

For instance, for acoustic recording on a portable gramophone provided with a small spring motor it will be desirable to swing the counterbalance backwards to reduce the weight on the cutting needle and so avoid slowing up the turntable. Reproduction must be made at the recording speed, of course.

FOR RECORDING BROADCAST ITEMS

This illustration shows the cutter pick-up mounted on the carrier arm. The fixing slots on the aluminium blank can be clearly seen

THE INVENTOR

Introducing Mr. Arthur Kingston, a well-known talkie engineer, who invented the new recording system

"Mike" and Amplifier

Vocal records can be made, of course, with the cutter pick-up, if a suitable microphone and amplifier are employed. But many people will not think it worth while going to this trouble, for the quality and strength obtained by the acoustic system are really amazingly good, especially in view of the low original cost of the outfit.

I have said enough to show that the Kingston home-recorder is full of interesting possibilities for the experimenter and will give a great deal of enjoyment in any home in which it is used. For making speech records there is no need for a special amplifier or electrically-driven turntable; the original cost is very reasonable and the apparatus is particularly simple to use.

In the United States, home-recording attachments are standard fittings on a number of receivers, so there is every reason to suppose that interest will grow quickly in this country. With the Kingston outfit experiments in this direction can be made at small expense. Everybody who has heard the vocal records I have made has been favourably impressed with the quality of the recording.

Demonstrations

In conclusion I will only say that demonstrations can be attended at "Radio and Gramophones," of 245 Tottenham Court Road, W.1. Readers who can get there will find it worth while to hear the reproduction from this system for themselves.

SECRETS OF GRAMO-RADIO SUCCESS

By H. T BARNETT, M.I.E.E.

Needles and pick-ups form the subject of Capt. Barnett's notes this month. His comments will appeal to all who reproduce records electrically—and much of what he says will be of value to ordinary gramophone users.

This is the third and concluding instalment of the series entitled "Secrets of Gramo-Radio Success." New readers should look up the preceding articles, which were published in December and January.

THERE is a special kind of needle that fits directly into the soundbox without a grip and that may sometimes be used for dance records.

PERMANENT NEEDLES

It is the H.M.V. Tungstyle. It needs using with great care in order that the little piece of thin tungsten wire at its business end may not become bent. With a light pick-up or soundbox, well counterbalanced, it may be used all through a long dance.

Its reproduction is coarse in character and no matter how well it may be counterbalanced a single playing with it will spoil a record of pure tone.

GRIP NEEDLES

These are still the best reproducers possible for detail, quality of tone, and smallness of surface noise, but I have none except the Edison Bell pick-up that will permit their use when set, as they should be set, protruding only a very short distance from the grip.

Most pick-ups are so thick at the base that when using the correct needle angle of 50 degrees with a short-set grip needle the bottom back edge of the pick-up will touch the record and keep the needle away.

If we try to get over this difficulty by letting the needle stick out more the protruding end will then act as a little spring and give a whistling hiss that will annoy people with treble-sensitive ears.

Therefore, what I have to say about grip needles must be taken as applying to soundboxes and to those few pick-ups with which they can be used—*when short set.*

THE SYMPATHETIC

This grip is the only one that will take any grip needle made. Its price is 1s. 6d. and it is an Edison Bell product. Needles for the grip are double ended and are sold in packets of twenty for one shilling.

These are the thickest grip needles made and *fit the groove of the record well.* Each needle if lightly weighted will play many records and it is always quite safe to go on playing until definition becomes audibly faulty.

I always take the little rubber washer off the grip and I also file a flat on the bottom portion of the conical nose (the flat to be parallel with the record surface), so that the needles may be used protruding from the grip only about one-sixteenth of an inch.

THE EUPHONIC

This grip will only take a very fine-gauge needle; the grip is 1s. 3d., and the needles 9d. for 50, single ended. The Murdoch Trading Co., Ltd., are the makers.

THE DIAMOND

This needle is a 6 per cent. tungsten steel product and is the nearest approach to a real diamond stylus yet made. I have an advance consignment and can easily use each needle for an hour without the least fear of damaging the record. It will be marketed shortly by the Murdoch Trading Co.

THE CHROMOGRAM

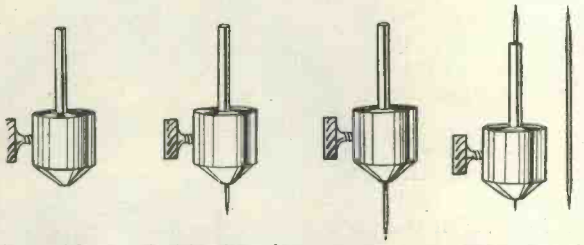
This needle is labelled "fine tone," and is sold at 9d. a hundred. It is the hardest needle previous to the Diamond and each needle lightly weighted may quite safely be used for half an hour. The point is long and fine. (Chromogram and Perophone, Ltd.)

OTHER NEEDLES

Quite a number of needles have been designed and put on the market in which (like the Tungstyle) there is a business end that wears away continuously, its shape soon after being put into use being that of a wedge. It is impossible to get good definition from a wedge; only a reasonably small point can follow closely those tiny sinuosities on the record made by the very high harmonics that constitute tone characteristic.

It is claimed for some of these needles that because they are of soft metal they will not wear away the record. If there were any truth in such a claim we might play our records with the cut-off ends of pins!

It is *adhesion* that causes wear and such needles are less favourable to the record than hard steel used under *burnishing conditions* such as I have described in the two preceding issues of this magazine.



Grip without needle — *Position for soft volume* — *Position for medium volume* — *Position for full volume*

HOW TO USE THE EDISON BELL SYMPATHETIC GRIP AND NEEDLES

SOUNDBOXES

During the past year greatly improved reproduction from gramophones has been obtained by the use of soundboxes of larger diameter than has previously been customary. Each of these of importance has been or will be described in these columns.

PICK-UPS

These differ in their reproducing characteristics far more than soundboxes ever did. I have three fixed on the motor board of my own machine.

On the left I have the Edison Bell on its own tonearm; not very powerful, it is extraordinarily clean for vocal records and in it I use grip needles.

In the middle position, having taken the place of the new B.T.H. pick-up formerly there, I have a Limit pick-up on a Limit pick-up arm.

It is an all-round good reproducer. The treble cut-off is such as to suppress surface noise without interfering with the highest harmonics of tone characteristic; the bass (not reinforced) is particularly good owing to the small amount of damping that may be used and which can be varied by means of a set screw.

On the right I have a Parlophone pick-up on its own pick-up arm. This pick-up appears to be similar to that used on some well-known machines. It is very suppressive of surface noise and has what I should call a "romantic" tone.

With piano records, even hard-toned ones, the reproduction is *sweet* in character and jazz records are not unpleasant even in a small room. The tone volume all over its scale is a little less than that of the B.T.H.

NEEDLE WEIGHTING

This can be the smallest with the Edison-Bell combination. The Limit arm gives a little more weight, and the Parlophone arm (not adjustable as to weighting) gives the most, but even in the last case the weight is not enough to damage one's records.

LOUD-SPEAKERS

I suppose we are all going over to moving coils. I have the two most recent examples of high quality in use to-day.

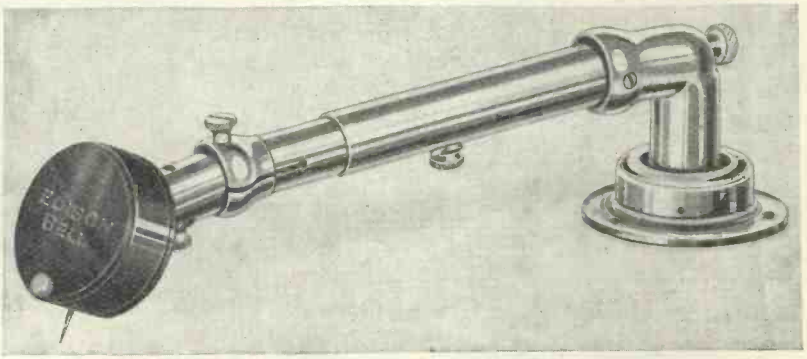
One is the Dulcetto moving-coil (complete with exciting and input transformers), specially good in the bass and having an extremely high efficiency of conversion.

The case I am using for it is the same as is used with the loud-speakers supplied after competition to our local (Portsmouth) corporation by the Dulcetto Company. This cabinet is a weighty thing, made of solid oak an inch thick, and gives the purest results I have ever heard from any baffle.

The other loud-speaker, a little less powerful but quite as efficient, is the Edison Bell permanent-magnet moving-coil model, having a large Darwin magnet 5½ inches in diameter.

The direct-current resistance of the moving-coil is 1,000 ohms, consequently it may be used with a pentode (last stage) valve without a step-down transformer.

Good in the deep bass, yet it is so delicate that on radio *one can hear every announcer breathe.*



GOOD FOR VOCAL RECORDS AND TAKES GRIP NEEDLES

The Edison Bell pick-up on its own tonearm is not very powerful, says the author, but is excellent for vocal reproduction

A VERY NOVEL MOTOR

OF course, a gramophone manufacturer *must*, when choosing a standard electro-motor for his machines, take an "all-current" motor of the commutator kind, one that can be used either with A.C. or D.C. of any ordinary supply voltage; the best of this group in every way, in my opinion, being the new Garrard.

But for those who have alternating-current supply and who are not likely to be removing to a district where the supply is of the direct kind, or of a different alternating voltage, a far better proposition is the new motor manufactured by Paillard of Paris, and sold in this country by the Apollo Co.

The factors in its favour (no commutator, no belt, no series resistance, no gearing in the drive) are due to the new principle in its design.

Integral with the record table spindle there is a gunmetal open-topped drum, upon which a vigorous torque is produced by two sets of magnets, an external pair and an internal pair supported by the upper member of the frame.

These magnets are so set that the currents produced in the gunmetal drum react against the magnetism so as to cause the drum to turn continuously in the desired direction.

Small as is the consumption of current, there is ample energy to waste on the centrifugal governor brake (hidden by the casing), so much so, in fact, that there is no audible difference in pitch between the inside and the outside turns of a 12-in. record.

No Pitch Variation

This is only the second motor I know of with which one may play through a symphony and not be offended by pitch variations.

I have now had one of these motors running a couple of months and cannot find the faintest complaint to make against it. It is a no-trouble, economical, absolutely noiseless interferenceless drive and I cordially recommend it to all who have a certain set voltage A.C. supply.

H. T. B.

CHOOSING YOUR RECORDS

Here are reviews of the latest releases by WHITAKER-WILSON, the "W.M." Music Critic. Read them carefully before buying your next batch of records. Outstanding records are indicated by an asterisk (★) against the title.

Classical Orchestral Music

Cavalleria Rusticana, Hastings Municipal Orch. (d.s.), 3s. 6d.
DEC K539

This is chiefly orchestral, but an aria is sung by Olive Groves (in Italian) with a certain amount of effect on the first side. The second side is entirely orchestral and the record was made at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.

★**Leonora Overture No. 3,** (Beethoven), Symphony Orch. (d.s.), 3s. 6d.
DEC K541

This is very well done on two discs. I think 7s. for a good rendering of a Beethoven overture, especially one so popular as *Leonora No. 3*, is not expensive.

★**Noel Fantasy from "A Carol Symphony,"** Royal Opera Orch., Covent Garden (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
H.M.V. C1968

This is by Victor Hely-Hutchinson, of the B.B.C. Many of you will have heard it already. It is most effective and I warmly recommend it as being one of the best orchestral records to which I have listened. Pleasant scoring and thoughtful harmonies. Congratulations to him and H.M.V.

Oberon, Hastings Municipal Orch. (d.s.), 3s. 6d.
DEC K547

This is the last opera of Weber, written especially for England. It receives a good rendering here; the recording is not perfect, but is not too bad. Lovers of melodious orchestral music should ask to hear this; it will reproduce well electrically.

★**Symphony No. 8 in B Minor,** *The Unfinished,* Philadelphia Symphony Orch. (d.s.), 6s. 6d. **H.M.V D1779**

The Symphony is in three complete records. Very good indeed; Stokowsky is the conductor. I do not agree with much of his interpretation, but that does not matter; what *does* matter is that the recording is admirable. All who love the immortal Schubert get this. He forgot to finish it for you, but be thankful you have these two wonderful movements!

Grand Opera and Classical Arias

Love Duet, Olga Olgina, sop., and Frank Titterton, ten., with orch. (d.s.), 3s. 6d.
DEC K549

This is quite well done. I miss the stage setting, of course, but to those of you who love *Madame Butterfly* I sincerely recommend this duet. Try it with a pick-up.

Light Opera & Songs

After the Ball, Maestros, with piano, 3s. **COL DB307**

A good old chestnut, if you like! Very effectively rendered, if you want it. The same people do *Two Little Girls in Blue* on the other side.

Drake's Drum, Dale Smith, bar., with orch., 2s.
PIC 5104

This and *The Old Superb* are two fine manly songs by the late Sir Charles Stanford. The rendering is not above reproach; I feel Dale Smith's voice is not quite the right type. Anyhow, the speed is on the slow side in *Drake's Drum*. The other is the better.

Drinking Songs, Jack Hylton and his Orch. (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
H.M.V. C2074

Contains everything connected with the art; *Here's a Health, Little Brown Jug,* and others of that ilk. The refrains are sung. I don't know why this has been done or why Hylton has troubled to do it so well. *Oh, dear!*

Geisha, Anne Welsh, sop., and Victor Conway, bar., with orch. (d.s.), 3s. 6d.
DEC K548

This is very welcome; it is always worth hearing. I remember hearing the first production as a child and I have yet to hear a musical comedy with better music. You can safely buy this record.

Go Down, Moses, Emory University Glee Club, 2s.
PIC 5108

They are good, as usual. Hear them sing *Deep River*; very pleasing.

Good Company, J. H. Squire Celeste Octet (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
COL DX84

Here you are—all well-tried tunes! *The Girl You Left Behind You*, and *Simon the Cellarer*, and *Here's to the Maiden*, and *Old King Cole*, and a lot of others! I can't say much because it all bored me—but it was *excellently* done, and the record has a good surface. That's all!

If Your Kisses Can't Hold the Man You Love, Betty Bolton, with orch., 2s.
DEC F2010

And *That's Where the South Begins*. Both good rhythmically, but I have not fallen in love with Betty's voice. However, she sings cheerily enough!

★**King Charles,** Norman Allin, bass, with piano, 3s.
COL DB300

He sings it splendidly; also

Norman Allin, bass.

Tommy Lad on the other side. A fine record!

La Paloma, Joan Revel, sop., mandoline, with piano, 2s.
DEC F1881

I am not sure I revel in all Joan does, but she would sound better if she did not force some of her notes. She *sings* well enough; it is just hard luck—her voice does not suit a microphone. *O Sole Mio* on the other side.

Le Reve Passe, Bernard Dudley, bar., with orch., 2s.
PIC 5105

A military effusion, which is rather appealing. His voice is good and he sings the song well. Ask to hear it.

Love Everlasting, Richard Crooks, ten., with orch., 6s. **H.M.V. DA1142**

By Friml. On the other side is a serenade from Romberg's *Student Prince*. I am in love with *neither*. H.M.V., you must not allow your tenors to *yell*! This record should be recalled and done again. It is too noisy to be pleasant. Sorry, but I cannot like it.

Maori Song, Rotorua Maori Choir (d.s.), 3s.
COL DB309

This has rather interested me: there is a quaint modal touch about the melodies which seem harmonised in a simple and rather conventional manner. Distinctly interesting!

Maurice Chevalier Selection, Jack Leon's Band (d.s.), 1s. 6d. **PIC 668**

Not Maurice singing, though. At least, it does not say so and as I have not heard the gentleman I cannot say definitely. But the songs are his and include *Nobody's Using it Now, My Love Parade, Louise, Sweeping the Clouds Away, You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me*, and *Livin' in the Sunlight*. The production is good.

On the Sunny Side of the Street, Carl Brisson, with orch., 2s. **DEC F2006**

And *Little White Lies*. He sings them well and has a voice a cut above the general run of dance-band voices.

Return of Abdul AbulbulAmir, Frank Crumit, ten., with orch., 3s.
H.M.V. B3569

He is no tenor and he sings with an accent, but his song is acceptable enough. *I'm Bettin' the Roll on Roamer* is the title of a jolly song on the other side. Despite his linguistic faults, the record is a good one.

She Wandered Down the Mountain Side, Megan Thomas, sop., with orch., 2s. 6d. **ZONO 5718**

Megan wanders down very melodiously, but she might wander nearer the microphone next time! Her's is a sweet voice, though! She makes a good job of the *Pipes of Pan* on the other side, but she hardly comes through in places.

Songs My Mother Sang, Doris Vane, sop., with piano, 4s. 6d. **COL DX157**

Hush-a-bye, Baby is the keynote of this medley. It may be useful for the children. She sings the *Kerry Dance* on the other side in an appealing manner. There is an atmosphere about the whole production which rather appeals to me.

Sweet and Low, Zonophone Concert Quartet, with orch., 2s. 6d. **ZONO 5733**

Why "*Wynd* of the western sea"? The Zonophone Quartet may *wind* their watches, but the thing that blows is the *winnd*. Otherwise no complaints—except *why* do it at all? Or *Hail, Smiling Morn*, on the other side! Still, perhaps, there *are* people who have never heard either of these two charming relics.

Unet-em Bargl im Trueb, Swiss Yodel "Edelweiss," 2s. **DEC F2048**

I hope this is their only "vice." I am not impressed with their noises but, as far as I am any judge, their technique is excellent. *Use Utti* is the companion. I don't use it myself.

Wayside Rose, Jan Zalski, ten., with orch., 2s. **PIC 5102**

And *Oh, Maiden, My Maiden*. He is not ideal for microphonic work, and I doubt if I can honestly call the record a success. I do not dislike the music of either side.

What Good am I without You? Betty Bolton, 2s. **DEC F2044**

Miss Bolton is a little pessimistic, surely? The companion of this is *What's the Use of Living without Love?* I do not admire her voice. Sorry, but she spoils a good tune.

You'll Never Realise, Pat O'Dell, with orch., 1s. 6d. **IMP 2360**

I believe this is popular. *The Same as We Used to Do*, its companion, *certainly is*. This is a good version of both.

Chamber Music

Air on G String, Leon Zighera, violin, with piano, 4s. 6d. **DEC T134**

Quite acceptable. It is Wilhelmj's arrangement, and Zighera's tone is good. The piano accompaniment is a trifle heavy for this type of movement. On the other side Zighera plays a *Gavotta Variata* of Paganini, arranged by Corelli. Of the old Italian type, this is likely to please. Violin students might do worse than get it.

★**Moment Musical,** No. 3, Schubert, Lener String Quartet, 3s. **COL DB290**

And one of his minuets. Most beautifully played. This is of a very high standard of excellence. Congratulations to Columbia.

Organ Music

Ilymn Medley, organ, Berkeley Mason (d.s.), 4s. 6d. **COL DX160**

Doris Vane, soprano

Introduces *Fight the Good Fight* and most of the hackneyed hymns. The organ sounds reedy, as the Central Hall organ always does. I am inclined to ask why an organist like Mason wastes his time on such trivialities. I would rather hear him play something interesting. I wonder if there is any use for this kind of thing, well produced though it be.

Spoken Records

Aladdin, Parts 3 and 4, Chas. Penrose and his Company (d.s.), 1s. 6d **IMP 2352**

Candidly, I don't understand half of this. What is it intended to be? Ask to hear it and if you find out, let me know!

An English Christmas, Waits (d.s.), 4s. 6d. **H.M.V. C2078**

As a rule I am on my guard as soon as I read the label of these descriptive records, and was so in this instance. I think this, however, is commendable; the children will love it; it is suitable for the tiny tots. I am putting it amongst the spoken records, although there is a certain amount of music.

THE NEW PHONYCORD FLEXIBLE RECORDS.

I am giving a special note to these remarkable records, mainly on account of their novelty. The quality of tone is amazingly pure and the track is very fine. The only disappointment is that special needles (steel) have to be used.

I imagine that this is the beginning of a new and satisfactory state of things; these records are flexible, of negligible weight, and not easily damaged.

The records to hand, by the way, include a couple of tenor songs from Pagliacci, two saxophone solos, and two dance records.

A word to Phonycord! Your excellent colour-scheme in these records is attractive. May I suggest that the colours define the nature of the record—classical music, dance records, opera, etc., etc.? It seems to me worth while as your productions are so outstanding in their excellence.

WHITAKER-WILSON

Sacred Music

Christmas Memories, New Empire Orch. (d.s.), 2s. **DEC F2017**

There is nothing to recommend this that I can see. It is made-up bells and hackneyed carols. Perhaps this fact *will* recommend it!

Epilogue, Wireless Singers (d.s.), 3s. **COL DB211**

Most of the wireless epilogues have been well conceived; this, I think, is one of the best. The system of psalm-pointing used at the B.B.C. is the very last word in perfection. The rubbish we sing in our churches when we use the usual psalter makes the system, as used here, stand out in its excellence. This record contains the usual features of the epilogue; the psalm is part of that set for the twentieth evening (civ); the hymn is *O Worship the King* (A. & M., 167).

First Nowell, St. James' Church, London, N.W., 1s. 6d. **IMP 2347**

No better or worse than the other carol record. It may appeal; anyhow, the price is not prohibitive.

Good King Wenceslas, St. James' Church, London, N.W., 1s. 6d. **IMP 2348**

Quite as good as the other two records. See above, or below, as the case may be!

★(*a*) **Hail, Holy Child** (*b*), **Sweet was the Song,** Westminster Abbey Choir, 4s. 6d. **H.M.V. C2080**

There are two more delightful carols on the back. I have every confidence that I may recommend this beautiful production for the season. It is such a change to get away from *Nowell*, etc. *Very* acceptable!

Lost Chord, Tom Jones and his Orch., 3s. 6d. **DEC K540**

What's the matter, Decca? Are you so stumped for material that you must persuade Tom Jones to play this on one side and *Abide with Me* on the other? Why? He does it very nicely, of course, but let him do something worth doing next time!

O Come, All Ye Faithful, St. James' Church, N.W., Carol, 1s. 6d. **IMP 2349**

I suppose this must be St. James', *West Hampstead*. The rendering of this and *Christians Awake* is conventional and useful for any purpose it may serve. That is non-committal, is it not?

Piano Solo

Nippy, piano, Billy Mayerl (d.s.), 3s. **COL DB288**

This effusion contains *Your Sunny Disposition and Mine, Anything, It Must be You, The Toytown Party, Two of Everything*, and *While We're in Love*, all of which are pounded out in Mr. Mayerl's customary manner. It should be very popular, for *he* is popular. The music, by the way, is his.

Light Orchestral Music

Ballet Egyptienne, Athenaeum Symphony Orch. (d.s.), 2s. **PIC 5097**

The present record contains Nos. 1 and 3 of this exceedingly attractive light orchestral suite. Ask to hear it. There is some good *bass* on this record.

★**Blue Danube** (w.), B.B.C. Chorus and Orch. (ds.), 3s. **COL DB301**

Very effective indeed. I sincerely recommend it as one of the best light music records I have ever heard. The choral effects are splendid.

Der Rosenkavalier, Pierre Fol and his Salon Orch. (d.s.) 2s. **DEC F2049**

This is a little ambitious for so small a hand, but the effect is not at all bad. The recording, however, is sadly amiss in places.

Dixiana, Million-Airs, orch. (d.s.), 2s. **DEC F2054**

A double-sider on the same subject. The selection includes most of the popular airs I have heard from this production. A good record.

Follow a Star, Million-Airs, orch. (d.s.), 2s. **DEC F2030**

A very good selection from this popular production. It is a cheap two shillings worth.

Highland Scene, Brooklyn Military Band, 2s. **PIC 5098**

Not being Scotch, this misses me a bit, but it may appeal to those who *are*. Rather a good band!

Idylle Passionelle, Tom Jones and his Orch., 2s. **DEC F2012**

Good lunch-time music. So is *Mignonette* on the other side. This is quite an acceptable piece of playing. Ask to hear it.

L'Extase, Tom Jones and his Orch., 2s. **DEC F2060**

Quite pleasing. The *last* chord I heard him play belonged to the *Lost Chord*! This is a decided improvement. I hope he will keep up his excellent standard and not play any more antiquated ballads.

Liebesfreud, Commodore Gold Medal Orch., 2s. **DEC F2037**

This very taking work of Kreisler is here played very effectively. It makes acceptable light music.

Lightning Switch, Lond. Palladium Orch. (d.s.), 3s. **H.M.V. B3649**

This is, I think, the first time I have heard a record by this orchestra. It is very virile. The music is tosh. I strongly object to rot of this kind, with a snatch of the *Hallelujah Chorus* followed by *Little Brown Jug*. What *is* the sense of it anyway? If the London Palladium Orchestra cannot find anything better—never mind, I have thrown the record across the room, and feel better for having done so!

Little Tommy Tucker, Million-Airs, orch., 2s. **DEC F2053**

A selection. The other side is a further selection from *Nippy*. I think this will appeal to many lovers of light music. It is distinctly good.

National Emblem March, Solex Military Band, 1s. 3d. **SOLEX 12**

A good military band record, with *The King's Guard March* on the other side. The recording is not quite up to the standard of the other five discs by this firm which I have just tried, but the playing is good.

Nautical Moments, Commodore Gold Medal Orch. (d.s.), 2s. **DEC F1985**

Nautical "tripe," in other words. Oh, Decca, what *are* you doing? *Don't*!

Squirrel Dance, Gandino and his Orch., 1s. 6d. **IMP 235**

CHOOSING YOUR RECORDS—Continued

I like this. It has a go about it. Ask to hear it. You will not be disappointed in *The Water Mill*, on the other side. A good band.

★**Tancredi**, B.B.C. Wireless Military Band (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
COL DX155

Rossini's fine overture sounds admirable on the B.B.C. Military Band. It makes very acceptable light orchestral music.

Humorous Records

Carbolic Love Song, George Buck, com., with orch., 2s.
DEC F2007

A nice, *clean* sort of song, with a spice of humour in it. *Let's have a Sing-song*, on the other side, is jolly enough, and the title covers the sentiment of the song. The Editor was with me when I had it on, but neither of us laughed. Like Queen Victoria, we "were *not* amused!"

Dick Whittington, Columbia Sketch Company, with orch. (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
COL DX163

This has distinct merits in that it is a very good skit at the old type of pantomime. I rather appreciated it.

Hunting Tigers Out in Indiah, Jack Payne and His B.B.C. Dance Orch., 3s.
COL CB151

This is really excellent. So is *Day by Day*, on the other side. Jack Payne's records are improving; each one is better than the last. Keep up the standard, Jack! See to it that you do not let a "dud" go through. But for heaven's sake make your vocalists *sing*! If they can't, *sack 'em*!

John Henry's Christmas Eve, John Henry and Company (d.s.), 3s.
H.M.V. B3665

John, you do not *elevate* us, do you? A scene of this kind does no one any good, as far as I can see. You *used* to be amusing, but I am disappointed in you. Get back into your old form again, and let us have something funny. This is a mere triviality, and thoroughly negative at that.

Laughing Policeman's Party, Charles Penrose, Kaye Connor and Company, with piano and cornet, 3s.
COL DB305

Rather vulgar and not too funny. I cannot see the sense of these effusions. You must listen to it and judge it; I cannot pretend to make any suggestion worth your reading. It had better go into the "tripe" section, labelled *humorous*!

Macpherson's Wedding Breakfast, Scottish com., with orch., 4s. 6d.
COL DX138

I prefer the *Railway Guard* on the other side, though I cannot honestly recommend either side as being really funny. But don't take my word either way; ask to hear it. You may feel differently about it.

New Year's Party, Tom Kinniburgh and "Freens" (d.s.), 1s. 6d. **IMP 2350**

Imperial, I hope you will not think I am being discourteous to you, but I *must* suggest you produce something really humorous. This sort of thing cannot go very far, surely?

Old Sam, Stanley Holloway (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
COL DX168

I have heard this before. It has its humorous moments, but is one of those records which needs to be heard through. I certainly suggest you hear it.

Old-time Comedians, Frank Wood, com., with orch. (d.s.), 3s. **COL DB281**

This includes *'Arf a Pint of Ale* (Gus Elen); *I ain't a-goin' to tell* (Hurley); *I do like to be beside the seaside* (Sheridan); *You 'ave to 'ave 'em* (Randall); *Brighton* (Knowles); *Dandy Coloured Coon* (Stratton); *At My Time o' Life* (Campbell). And very good they sound—or would, except that Frank Wood's voice is so *coarse*. He spoils what would be an excellent record.

Smoking Concert, with orch. (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
H.M.V. C2079

Another of these atrocities! No; H.M.V.! You once produced an exceedingly amusing record called *Our Village Concert*, which I enjoyed very much because it was *really funny*. This is merely *silly*. *Do* let us have something to laugh at! I have gaped my head off, listening to it!

Spot of Bother, Clapham and Dwyer (d.s.), 1s. 3d.
BRDCST 645

Very good indeed, as they always are. They quarrel as usual. Get it, of course!

Tommy's Christmas, Rooster's Concert Party (d.s.), 4s. 6d.
COL DX137

A very full 12-incher. It begins as soon as you can get the needle on, and goes right up to the label. And it's all about a Christmas party. "Tommy" is not a typical boy, but the typical private of the War. To whom, perhaps, it will appeal. Personally I cannot see why a perfectly good matrix should have been so disfigured. Come, Columbia; rate our intelligence a bit higher! Your best is unequalled; your worst is worse than awful! I shall put it in the humorous section and try to forget it.

White Blackbirds, Parts 1 to 4; two complete records. Zonophone Minstrels (d.s.), 2s. 6d.
ZONO 5733

This is not an ornithological study, but a nigger minstrel show. It is thoroughly good patter, and the whole thing, in two records, is worth hearing. There is a good "darkie" atmosphere about it.

Christmas Wedding Breakfast, Albert Whelan, 1s. 6d.
IMP 2351

I suppose these things must sell or there would not be so many of them, but honestly, I cannot imagine *why* they sell. I simply leave it at that and decorate my humorous column still further!

Dance Music

Alice Blue Gown (w.), Troubadours Dance Orch., 3s.
H.M.V. B5914

A very good waltz—a little on the quick side, but none the worse for that. *Beautiful Lady* is the title of another attractive waltz on the other side.

Blue Pacific Moonlight (w.), Roy Deller and his Orch., 1s. 3d. **SOLEX 24**

This is my first Solex record, and very good, too. The Homophone Company's recording is splendid. *One Night Alone with You* is the companion. A good dance record.

Californian Serenade (f.), Arcadians Dance Orch., 2s. 6d.
ZONO 5731

A good dance record; the fox-trot is on the quick side. The fox-trot *Adsline* is on the other side. Both are admirably produced.

Dancing Taylor, Rudolph Star, 2s. **DEC F1990**

A very jolly fox-trot rhythm. Rudolph does it on his xylophone and vibraphone. He, like all the rest, dances with tears in his eyes! The effort might have been called *Vibraphone Lacrimosa*!

Girl Friend of a Boy Friend of Mine (f.), Jock McDermott and his New Carlton Players, 1s. 6d. **PIC 670**

Quite a good tune; the words are fair—what I could hear of them, that is. Jock and his people swing in a hammock on the other side. Not at all a bad edition of it.

Here Comes the Sun (f.), Million-Airs, orch., 2s.
DEC F2058

Very good. *Eldorado* is the companion; this is a very good version of it.

I'd Like to Find the Guy Who Wrote the Stein Song (f.), Million-Airs, orch., 2s.
DEC F2014

So should I! But the retribution the singer has in store would be nothing compared with mine. This is a jolly fox-trot. Perhaps the patter at the beginning rules it out as a dance record, but it is worth having. *Anchor's A-weigh* is the title of another good fox-trot on the other side.

Imperial Revels, Famous Imperial Artistes (d.s.), 1s. 6d.
IMP 2359

A pot-pourri of the hits of 1930. It is very well done; I enjoyed listening to it. Ask for it!

Just Can't be Bothered with Me, Lou Abelardo, 2s.
DEC F1751

And another version of *With You*. Both up to standard.

King of Jazz, London Orch. (d.s.), 2s. 6d. **ZONO 5714**

Includes all the popular numbers from this popular show. It is one of the best versions I have heard of it.

King's Horses (f.), Jay Wilbur and his Band, 1s. 6d.
IMP 2355

This amuses me every time I hear it. A good version with *Adeline* (fox-trot) on the other side.

Like a Breath of Springtime, Maurice Elwin, bar., with orch., 2s. 6d. **ZONO 5719**

Rather taking! A pity it is not properly sung; the voice is a dance-band voice but the diction is excellent. He dances with tears in his eyes on the other side. Admirable recording.

Livin' in the Sunlight, Lovin' in the Moonlight, Bob and Alf Pearson, 1s. 3d.
BRDCST 611

And *You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me*, which is very effectively done. The surface of these small discs is remarkable. I recommend this thoroughly.

Meet Me in My Dreams To-night, Jay Wilbur and his Band (w.), 1s. 6d.
IMP 2354

And *Lorette*. Good, as Jay Wilbur usually is.

Oh, Donna Clara (f.), Jock McDermott and his New Carlton Players, 1s. 6d.
PIC 677

This is a moderately fast fox-trot, with an effective counter-theme in the orchestra. It is one of the best tunes I have recently heard. The *Kiss Waltz* is the companion.

On the Sunny Side of the Street (f.), Roy Dellar and his Orch., 1s. 3d. **SOLEX 13**

And *Sittin' on a Rainbow*. Well done and suitable for dancing.

Polka, Debroy Sumers' Band, 3s. **COL CB169**

Another Victorian memory (*See Me Dance the Polka*, etc.), with a barn dance on the other side. Soon everything our fathers knew will be with us.

Putting on the Ritz (f)., Rhythm Maniacs Orc., 2s.
DEC F1725

And *With You*. Both are good. The Rhythm Maniacs never fail you. Get this!

Say a Little Prayer for Me, Alex Mason, bar., 1s. 3d.
SOLEX 29

And *Falling in Love Again*, both very well done. He sings distinctly and clearly, an improvement on the average adenoidal tone that characterises these dance voices.

So Beats My Heart for You (f.), Buckingham String Players, 3s. **COL CB148**

This seems unusually "high-class" for a dance record; the B.S.P.'s are by no means amiss. On the other side, the Cavaliers sing and play *The Kiss Waltz*. A very good dance record.

There's a Stranger in Heaven To-night, Honolulu Quartet, 2s. **DEC F1991**

I find myself wondering how the sweet-toned quartet found *that* out, but I like their playing. Their instruments are very pleasant. The other celestial effort is called *Golden Gates of Paradise*, and is equally pleasing.

With My Guitar and You (f.), Waikiki Serenaders, 1s. 3d.
BRDCST 643

Another now-famous *Kiss Waltz*. I recommend this as a very acceptable dance record.

The Supertone Four

Specially Designed for Quality

• •

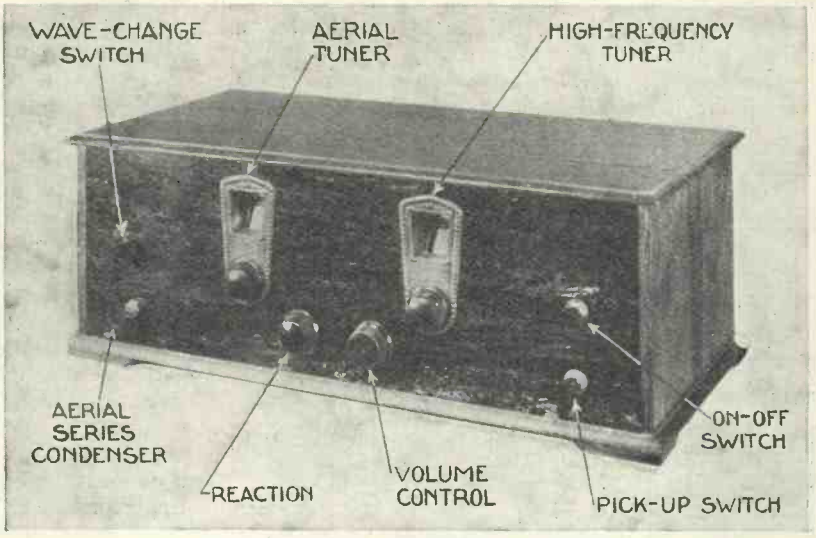
Novel Push-pull Circuit Incorporated

• •

Two Volume Controls for Radio

• •

An Ideal Gramo-Radio Combination



THE CONTROLS ARE EASY TO MASTER

This photograph shows clearly how the controls are arranged on the front panel

A Special Dual Coil Unit is Used

• •

Can be Operated from Batteries

• •

Pick-up Always Ready for Use

• •

Covers Both Wavebands with Single Switch

A Gramo-Radio Set with Push-pull Output

HERE we present details of a dual-purpose set, equally efficient for the reception of broadcast programmes or for the electrical reproduction of gramophone records. The circuit is so arranged that a pick-up can be permanently connected to the receiver; it is put in and out of circuit as desired by means of a pick-up switch mounted on the front panel.

Anode Battery

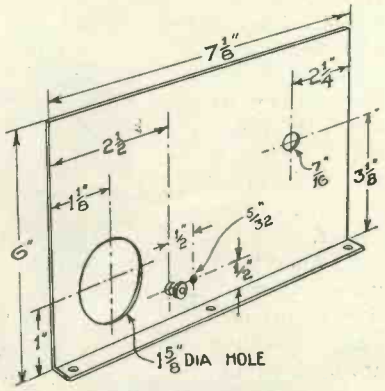
The set has been specially designed to give the very best quality of reproduction with battery valves, at the same time keeping the anode-current consumption within the economical running limitations of a super-capacity high-tension battery.

Push-pull Output Stage

The arrangement of the set is unusual in the fact that a push-pull output stage is connected directly to the detector valve without any intermediate stage of low-frequency amplification. In practice the combination is found to be most satisfactory both for radio and gramophone reproduction.

As the Supertone Four is intended for good quality of reproduction rather than great range, it will appeal particularly to those who are satisfied with the reception of a small number of programmes really worth listening to, combined with first-rate gramophone reproduction.

From the photograph of the set that appears in the heading to this article it might be assumed by the uninitiated that the operation is difficult, because of the seemingly large number of controls on the panel.



SCREEN DETAILS

The screen illustrated here forms a continuation of the screening provided in the coil unit

This is not so in practice, however, because it is seldom necessary to operate more than three of the controls at any one time.

Panel Controls

It will be seen that the layout of the panel has been made symmetrical. At the extreme left and right there are two knobs arranged vertically one above the other. In the centre of the panel along the bottom there is another pair of knobs. The two main tuning dials are arranged between the three pairs of subsidiary controls.

The fact that the set is not difficult to operate will be better appreciated if we refer briefly to the functions of these eight panel controls.

Selectivity and Volume

Of the two left-hand knobs, that at the top is the wave-change switch; this is pulled out for medium-wave reception and pushed in for the long-wave stations. The bottom knob is an aerial series condenser, which performs two functions; it is used either for controlling the selectivity of the receiver or as a pre-detector volume control.

It should be noted that any alteration of this control will necessitate

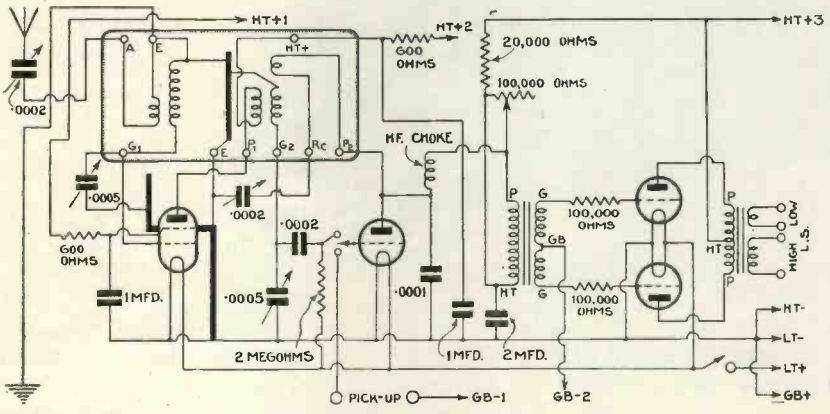
THE SUPERTONE FOUR—Continued

a slight readjustment of the aerial-tuning condenser.

Of the two knobs at the bottom of the panel, in the centre, the left-hand one is an ordinary reaction control, while the right-hand one is a low-frequency volume control, equally useful for radio or gramophone reproduction.

its maximum capacity, the greatest volume is obtained for radio reception; as the capacity is reduced, the volume of reception is decreased, but the selectivity is considerably improved.

The aerial tuner has a semi-aperiodic primary and the secondary is tuned in the ordinary way by



A FOUR-VALVE CIRCUIT FOR QUALITY

Quality of reproduction is the chief feature of this circuit, which comprises a screened-grid stage, leaky-grid detector, and push-pull output valves

leak has the resistance of 2 megohms. At this point a switch is introduced for the insertion of the pick-up when required.

Detector Grid Bias

It should be noted that when the set is used for radio reception the grid of the detector valve is given a small positive bias by taking one end of the grid leak to low-tension positive. For gramophone reproduction negative bias is applied to the grid so that the valve amplifies instead of functioning as a detector.

In order to give a good control of reaction and to keep high-frequency currents out of the low-frequency circuits, a high-frequency choke is included in the anode circuit of detector valve. In this circuit there is also a reaction winding coupled to the secondary of the high-frequency transformer. The amount of reaction or feedback is controlled by a .0002-microfarad variable condenser in the usual way.

Detector efficiency is kept at the maximum by the use of a .0001-microfarad fixed condenser between anode and filament of the valve.

Preventing Motor-boating

The possibility of low-frequency oscillation, or motor-boating as it is more often termed, is prevented by placing a 20,000-ohm decoupling resistance in series with the primary of the push-pull input transformer. Associated with this resistance is a 2-microfarad by-pass condenser.

Across the primary of the push-pull

The two knobs at the extreme right of the panel are (at the top) the main on-off switch and (at the bottom) the pick-up switch. The latter is pushed in when it is desired to reproduce records electrically; during radio reception the knob is pulled out.

Circuit Arrangement

Having considered the controls we can look into the detailed arrangement of the circuit, which consists of a screened-grid high-frequency amplifier, a leaky-grid detector and a push-pull output stage. When the set is used for gramophone reproduction the pick-up is switched into the grid circuit of the detector valve.

We have not thought it worth while to complicate the circuit for switching out the first valve when the set is used as a gramophone amplifier but, in order to prevent the local station from coming through, it is desirable to detune the aerial circuit.

Aerial Series Control

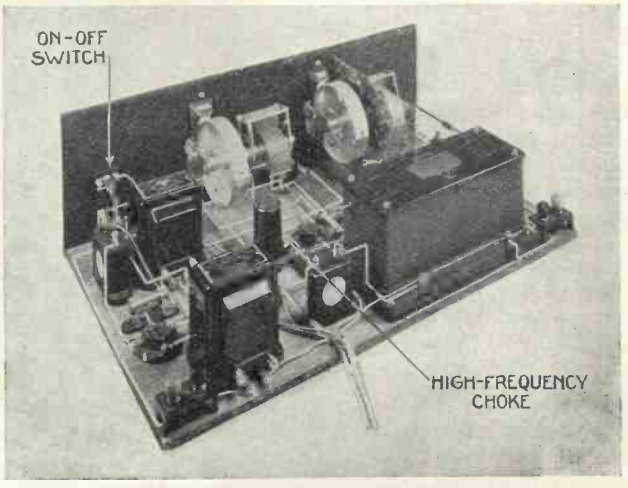
The arrangement of the aerial circuit follows standard practice. In series with the aerial is a small semi-variable condenser (mounted on the panel) having a capacity of .0002 microfarad. When this is adjusted at

means of a .0005-microfarad variable condenser.

Every precaution has been taken to keep the screened-grid valve stable in operation. A 600-ohm decoupling resistance and a 1-microfarad by-pass condenser are included in both the screening grid and anode circuits. A shielded connector is used for making connection with anode terminal on the shielded valve.

The coupling to the detector valve is accomplished by a high-frequency transformer, the secondary of which is tuned by a second .0005-microfarad variable condenser.

Standard values of coupling condenser and resistance are used for the leaky-grid detector. The condenser is actually .0002 microfarad and the



AN IDEAL GRAMO-RADIO COMBINATION

A special pick-up switch is provided on the panel of this set for convenience in operation

PUSH-PULL OUTPUT FOR GOOD QUALITY

transformer is a 100,000-ohm variable resistance to control the volume of reproduction, both for radio and gramophone use. Volume is decreased as the resistance is reduced.

The push-pull input transformer is, of course, provided with two grid terminals, for connection to each of the power valves. Normal practice is to use a centre-tapped secondary, but in this case a transformer having two separate windings is employed.

Separate Grid Bias

The advantage of this is that separate bias can be applied to the two valves if necessary, in order to keep the anode currents identical. Normally the same bias can be applied to both power valves; this is the arrangement shown in the circuit and in the wiring diagram.

Sometimes a high-frequency choke in a preceding stage is not sufficient to keep all high-frequency currents out of the push-pull circuit, so in order to provide an additional safeguard against this possibility, a 100,000-ohm fixed resistance is included in the grid circuit of each of the power valves.

The anodes of the two power valves are connected to the ends of the primary of the push-pull output transformer, the high-tension supply being applied through a centre tapping. The secondary of the output transformer is provided with tappings for the use of a high- or low-resistance loud-speaker.

It will be seen that three high-tension supply points are provided. The first feeds the screening grid of the high-frequency valve, while the second feeds the anode. The third point supplies the anodes of the detector valve and both the power valves.

Grid-bias Points

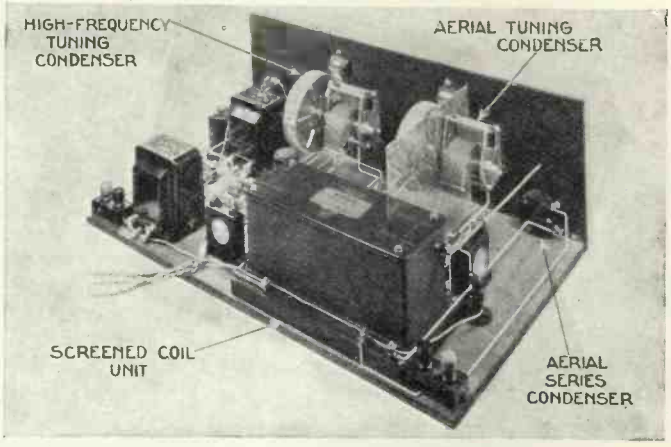
Two grid-bias tappings are also provided. The first is for biasing the detector valve negatively when the set is used for gramophone-record reproduction. The second point supplies bias to the two push-pull power valves in the ordinary way.

It will be seen from the photographs that the aerial coil and the high-frequency transformer are both included in a single screened coil unit, which is fixed at the rear edge of the baseboard. There is a screening partition inside the box to shield the two sets of coils one from the other. The external screen on the baseboard forms a continuation of the screen between the coils in the unit.

There are several advantages to the constructor in the use of such a unit. A single switch adjusts the wavelength range of each pair of coils, and only one set of external connections has to be made. The layout of the components is also considerably more straightforward than if two entirely separate coils were employed.

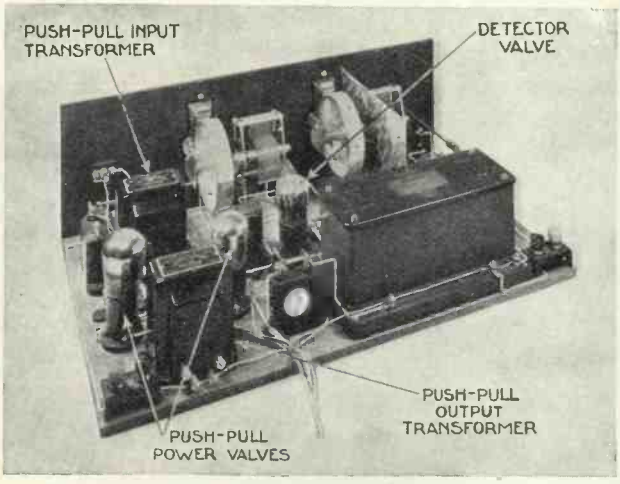
The actual construction of the set is so straightforward that no detailed comments are necessary. In the original model we have used tuning condensers provided with drum dials but, if desired, the layout can be easily adapted for the use of condensers with ordinary dials mounted on the outside of the panel.

Many constructors will already have all the parts needed for the construction of this set, except for the special coil unit and a pair of push-pull transformers.



NOT AT ALL DIFFICULT TO BUILD

The illustration shows clearly that the set is not at all cramped and can be assembled without difficulty



A COMPLETE COIL ASSEMBLY IS USED

On the right is seen the coil unit, which contains a dual-range aerial tuner and a screened-grid transformer

Blueprint

All the essential details for construction are included in these pages, but many readers will prefer to work from a full-size blueprint. One of these can be obtained for half price (that is 9d., post free), if the coupon on page 112 is used by February 28. Ask for No. WM227 and address your inquiry to Blueprint Department, WIRELESS MAGAZINE, 58-61 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

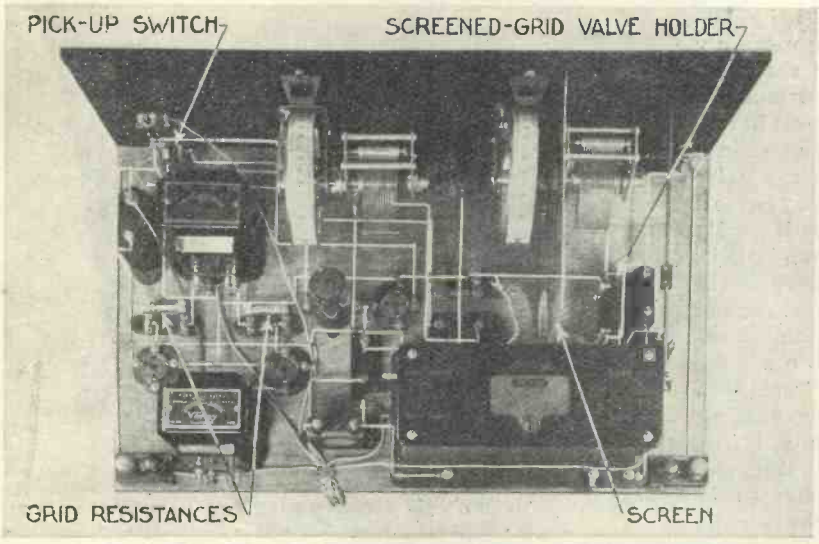
The next point that needs consideration is the choice of suitable valves. It will be convenient to consider the last two valves first.

If the set is to be operated from batteries (as is intended), it will be necessary to choose power valves taking a relatively small anode current, but at the same time the impedance should be as low as possible.

Identical Valves Needed

When identical valves are used in a push-pull circuit (and it is essential that they should be identical in every respect), the total impedance is

THE SUPERTONE FOUR—Continued



USE THIS PHOTO IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BLUEPRINT

This plan view shows clearly the disposition of all the parts on the panel and baseboard

double that of either valve. For instance, if each push-pull valve had an impedance of 3,000 ohms the total output impedance would be 6,000 ohms.

Economical Running

For battery operation, it will not be economical to use valves taking more than 8 milliamperes anode current, for even then the total consumption will be in the neighbourhood of 20 milliamperes and triple-capacity batteries will be needed for economical running.

A glance at the valve tables on page 4 of this issue will show that there are no 2-volt valves taking an anode current of the order indicated and having an impedance lower than 4,000 ohms.

We shall be better off with 6-volt valves, for the Mullard PM6 takes 7 milliamperes at 120 volts and has an impedance of 3,550 ohms. This valve has a magnification factor of 8, and needs a bias of about 7½ volts.

Loading the Power Valves

A bias of 7½ volts means that each valve can take a grid swing of 15 volts, but as the two power valves in this case are arranged in push-pull, the total permissable grid swing is 30 volts. We must now work backwards and determine what detector valve used in conjunction with an average pick-up will load the push-pull valves up to give the maximum output.

The push-pull input transformer has a step-up ratio of 1 to 2.5 for each phase, which means that the total step-up is 1 to 5. Therefore a change of 6 volts across the primary will produce a change of 30 volts across the secondary, which is what we need.

We must now consider the pick-up, which may give anything from .25 volt to 1.5 volts. Let us be prepared for the worst and assume that our pick-up will give us only .25 volt.

A simple calculation then shows that a valve with a magnification factor of 24 will be needed to give a 6-volt anode swing when a .25-volt swing is applied to the grid. A glance at the valve tables already referred to shows that the Mullard PM5D has a magnification factor of 26 and an impedance of 20,000 ohms, which is a value suitable for use in conjunction with the particular push-pull transformer employed.

Screened-grid Valve

Lastly, we have to consider the screened-grid valve. Here we have no difficulty, for all the 6-volt screened-grid types at present produced have practically the same impedance. A Mullard PM16, which has an impedance of 200,000 ohms, will be quite satisfactory for this set.

We must emphasise again the fact that only a super-capacity battery will be suitable for the economical operation of this receiver. It should also be realised that, unless a model with a large output is employed, the use of a mains unit will not make it possible to use power valves taking a greater anode current than those

COMPONENTS NEEDED FOR THE SUPERTONE FOUR

CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—British General, 5s. 6d. (or Lewcos, Wearite).

COILS
1—Lewcos dual-coil unit, type DCG/2, with SM15 rod, £2 5s.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—Lissen .0001-microfarad, 1s. (or Dubilier, Watmel).
1—Lissen .0002-microfarad, 1s. (or Dubilier, Watmel).
2—Lissen 1-microfarad, 5s. (or Franklin, T.C.C.).
1—Lissen 2-microfarad, 3s. 6d. (or Franklin, T.C.C.).

CONDENSERS, VARIABLE
2—Polar .0005-microfarad, Universal type, 15s. (or Jackson, Igranic).
1—Formo .0002-microfarad, midget type, 2s. 9d. (or Bulgin, Burton).
1—Lewcodenser .0002-microfarad max., panel-mounting type, 2s. 6d. (or Sovereign, Ormond).

DIALS, SLOW-MOTION
2—Polar drum drive, 17s. (or Jackson).

EBONITE
1—Becol 21-in. by 7-in. panel, 8s. 11d. (or Red Triangle, Lissen).

HOLDERS, GRID-LEAK
3—Lissen, type LN160, 1s. 6d. (or Bulgin, Magnum).

HOLDERS, VALVE
3—Telsen, 3s. (or Wearite, Burton).
1—Junit, S.G. type, 1s. 9d. (or Parex).

PLUGS AND SPADES
7—Belling-Lee wander plugs, marked; G.B.+, G.B.—1, G.B.—2, H.T.+3, H.T.+2 H.T.+1, H.T.—, 1s. 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).
2—Belling-Lee spades, marked : L.T.+, L.T.—, 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).

RESISTANCES, FIXED
2—Bulgin 600-ohm, type R55, 3s. (or Magnum, Ready Radio).
1—Bulgin 20,000-ohm, flexible type, 1s. 3d. (or Magnum).
2—Lissen 100,000-ohm grid leaks, 2s. (or Dubilier, Rotor).
1—Lissen 2-megohm grid leak, 1s. (or Dubilier, Rotor).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Sovereign 100,000-ohm, 4s. 6d. (or Rotor, Clarostat).

SCREEN
1—Parex, 7½ in. by 6 in., 2s. (or Peto-Scott, H. & B.).

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
Length of rubber-covered flex (Lewcos).
Shielded cable for S.G. anode connection.

SWITCHES
1—Bulgin on-off, 1s. 6d. (or Pioneer, W.B.).
1—Bulgin single-pole change-over, 2s. (or Pioneer).

TERMINALS
4—Clix, 2 red and 2 black, 8d. (or Belling-Lee, Eelex).
2—Belling-Lee terminal blocks, 1s. 4d. (or Junit).

TRANSFORMERS, LOW-FREQUENCY
1 pair Varley push-pull, types DP6 and DP7, £2 2s. (or Ferranti).

ACCESSORIES

BATTERIES
2—Ever Ready 60-volt, high-power type, £1 11s. (or Lissen, Pertrix).
1—Ever Ready 16-volt grid-bias battery, standard type, 3s. 6d. (or Lissen, Pertrix).
1—Exide Gel-cel 2-volt accumulator, type J24, 18s. 6d. (or C.A.V., Lissen).

CABINET
1—Kabilock, American type, £2 2s. (or Pickett).

VALVES
1—Mullard PM16, £1.
1—Mullard PM5D, 8s. 6d.
2—Mullard PM6, £1 1s.

The prices mentioned are those for the parts used in the original set; the prices of alternatives as indicated in the brackets may be either higher or lower

AN IDEAL GRAMO-RADIO COMBINATION

recommended. (Most 120-volt mains units, it should be remembered, will not supply a current greater than 20 milliamperes.)

Operating the Set

The operation of the set will be found quite simple. Let us consider ordinary radio reception.

It is first necessary to pull out both the switch knobs at the right of the panel—the top one to switch the set on and the bottom one to put the pick-up out of circuit.

Next, the volume-control knob in the centre of the panel should be turned as far as possible to the right for the greatest signal strength. (Volume is decreased by turning this knob to the left.)

The wave-change switch should be adjusted for the desired waveband (the knob of this is clearly marked, by the way) and the aerial series condenser should be set at its maximum capacity by screwing the knob to the right.

Set both the main tuning dials at zero and advance the reaction control slightly until the set is on the verge of oscillation. The best method of searching is then to advance the high-frequency tuning condenser (on the right of the panel) degree by degree, at the same time swinging the knob of the aerial-tuning condenser (to the left of the panel) backwards and forwards over an arc of about 20 degrees—that is, about 10 degrees either side of the reading of the high-frequency tuning condenser.

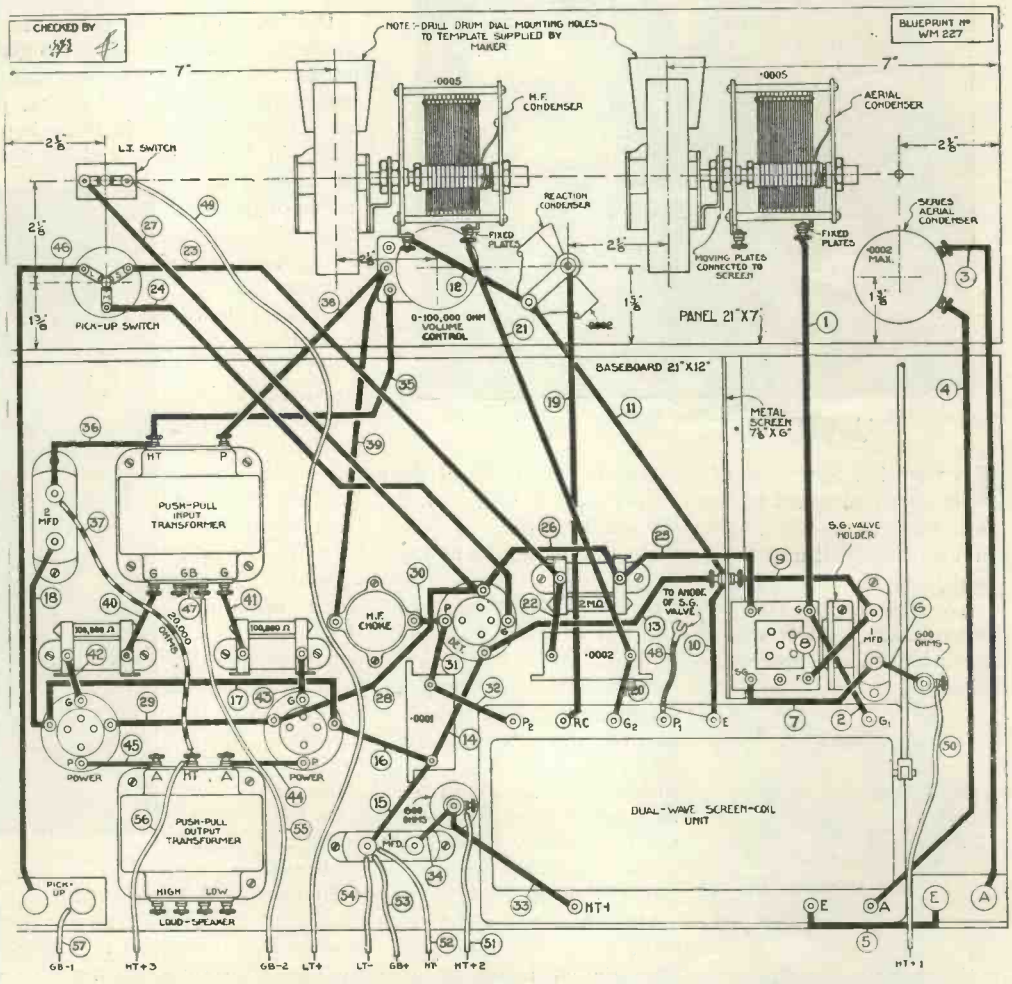
Advancing Reaction

As the tuning controls are advanced, it will be found necessary to turn the knob of the reaction condenser slightly more to the right to keep the set on the verge of oscillation.

It will be best to start off by tuning in the London National and Regional stations, and noting how much they spread on the dials. The aerial series condenser should then be reduced in capacity (by turning the knob to the left) until the best compromise between selectivity and volume is obtained. Any alteration of this capacity will make a slight readjustment of the aerial-tuning condenser necessary.

A few minutes experimenting will give the operator the feel of the controls, but for convenience in future listening the dial readings for various stations should be logged as they are picked up.

To use the set for gramophon reproduction, it is only necessary to connect a pick-up to the appropriate terminals and push in the knob of the bottom switch on the right-hand side of the panel. As the screened-grid valve is not switched off the local station may be heard faintly if the set happens to be tuned to it; therefore detune the aerial condenser.



QUARTER-SCALE LAYOUT AND WIRING DIAGRAM OF THE SUPERTONE FOUR

This layout and wiring guide can be obtained as a full-size blueprint for half-price (that is, 9d., post free) if the coupon on page 112 is used by February 28. Ask for No. WM227

Volume for gramophone reproduction is controlled in the same way as for radio reception by the right-hand knob in the centre of the panel.

That concludes the details of the Supertone Four. It now only remains for the reader to build it and get the maximum amount of enjoyment out of radio during 1931. Nobody who builds this set will be disappointed with the results.

B.B.C. MUSIC

A Review of the Month's

Kenneth and George Western, both clever entertainers, are popular in vaudeville programmes

IN the New Symphony Orchestra we have one of the largest and finest bodies of musicians that have yet been brought together. They are just beginning to work in a unison spirit and future concerts should give us the best in music.

We are now at the height of the winter season of broadcasting and it will not be out of place to draw attention to one very important point in connection with the proper way to listen. In order to enjoy a serious-minded composition one must concentrate all the mental powers possible on the work and try to forget the existence of the medium by which the sound has been brought into the room.

Astra Desmond, a noted contralto

One has no right to criticise an orchestral programme as being of an unpleasant character if it is being used as a background to a general discussion on other topics.

Music, besides being an art, is a science of thought, and as such can be studied. In order to listen properly and obtain the full enjoyment of broadcast programmes the mind must be concentrated directly on such music or its true meaning will be lost.

Herbert Menges, violinist and orchestra leader

Frederick Delius, the British composer

Prospects of Better Programmes

Prospects of better programmes are much brighter. There is the new orchestra to give us the best classical music, rendered in a proper manner; opera subsidies to ensure regular relays of opera, performed at its best; and in the lighter vein there is one of the finest dance bands in Jack Payne and his B.B.C. Orchestra to give us the best dance music of the day, played in an intelligent manner. No one can honestly say that radio will be dull.

Cecil Baumer, a clever pianist, is often heard from London

Progress in broadcasting technique during the past few years has been great, the field that has been opened up having almost unlimited boundaries. Landlines between ourselves and the principal cities of Europe have given us the opportunity of hearing some well-known Continental orchestras relayed by the B.B.C.

By far the most important musical event broadcast recently was the Mass in D Major (Opus 123) by Beethoven, relayed from the Queen's Hall. This has been the crowning achievement in the first half of the winter season of the B.B.C. symphony concerts.

The orchestra and National Chorus were conducted by the German composer, Hermann Scherchen, and the soloists were May Busby, soprano; Muriel Brunskill, contralto; Parry Jones, tenor; and Horace Stephens, bass.

Intended for an Archbishop

This work, which occupied Beethoven in the years 1819 to 1823, was written with the intention of being sung at the enthronement of his pupil and patron, the Archduke Rudolph, as Archbishop of Olmutz, but was not finished in time.

Many must have noticed the numerous passages in

VIA ETHER

Broadcast Programmes

which the soprano soloist and chorus were engaged in singing on almost the highest notes a human voice is capable of reaching. In spite of the great strain entailed, the National Chorus did exceedingly well.

Arthur Catterall deserves praise for his solo violin work and his skill in leading the orchestra in this massive work.

Conducting Without a Baton

Hermann Scherchen is one of the very few who conduct an orchestra without using a baton. Many remarked on a jerky feeling noticeable in the Beethoven Symphony a week previous, but this was apparently due to the orchestra's not quite interpreting the full meaning of his actions. He is one, however, who knows exactly where and where not to emphasise various passages, and the result, on the whole, was pleasing.

A popular broadcast contralto, Linda Seymour is noted for her excellent choice of songs. She has long been a favourite for her clear diction and has often brightened the Children's Hour.

A work which recently had its first performance at the Queen's Hall was Schonberg's symphonic poem, *Pelleas and Melisande*. Altogether, the result was rather disappointing. Schonberg, without a doubt, is a composer who has a good way of showing clearly his thoughts, but this work by no means did him the justice he deserves. It seemed to be a jumble at times, in spite of Hermann Scherchen's masterly efforts in conducting the orchestra. It will be interesting to hear this work played again after the orchestra have had further time for rehearsing.

Attractive Works for the Future

Several other attractive works worth noting are in store for music-lovers in the second half of this series. The programme for February 4 will include the ever-popular overture to *Oberon*, by Weber, *Brigg Fair*, by Delius, and a new work by Arthur Bliss, *Morning Heroes*, arranged for orator, chorus and orchestra. The National Chorus will take part in the last item.

Gustave Holst's well-known suite, *The Planets*, and the concerto No. 4 in G Major, for piano and orchestra, by Beethoven, will be the chief items in the concert on February 11. Dr. Adrian Boult will conduct these.

Lady cinema organists are rare—Norah Milne broadcasts frequently from the Scottish stations

Before leaving the subject of these concerts special mention must be made of three of the principals in the orchestra. Arthur Catterall and Lauri Kennedy, the Australian 'cellist, who is well known to listeners for his studio recitals, have played well.

The man of the day is, however, Eugene Crufts, the leader of the double basses. These instruments are by no means easy to play, and in him we have an example of a really first-class musician.

We have gained appreciably by the disbandment of the Birmingham Studio Orchestra, this having led us to hearing better concerts given by the City of Birmingham Orchestra, under Leslie Heward. The concerts, always well rendered, are appreciated by all.

Olive Kavann, a popular singer

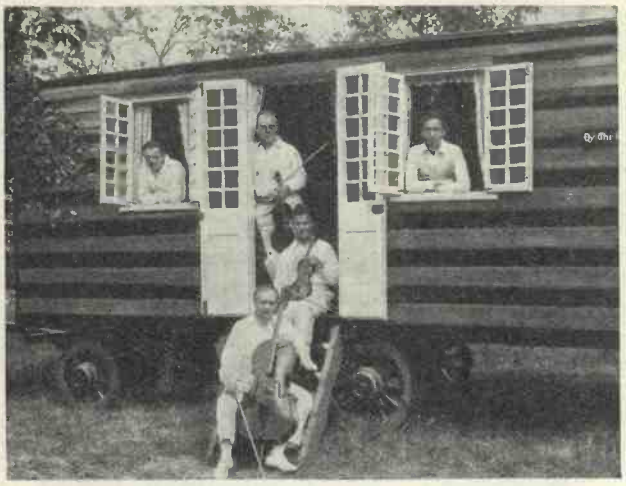
One point for those who want to hear even more

Eugene Crufts, a double-bass player

John Coates, the celebrated tenor

B.B.C. MUSIC VIA ETHER—Continued

symphony concerts—on a Saturday morning, at about 9.15 a.m., Radio Paris transmits a concert relayed from an outside source. During the last month several Beethoven symphonies, Tchaikovsky's Pathetique Symphony, and several other well-known works have been heard.



The Gershom Parkington Quintet, very popular with listeners of all tastes, seen in a happy mood!

Light music has become very prominent in the programmes of late. Everything embraced by this title is popular, and it follows that the best in light music is the best in radio.

Popular Hotel Relays

Relays from hotels on Sunday evenings have probably the largest audience of all. Tom Jones and his Orchestra, relayed from the Grand Hotel at Eastbourne, always seem to pick on the items with which everyone is familiar. Soloists at these concerts are always heard at their best, presumably on account of the freedom of draping in the hotel lounges.

Military and brass bands have given us some enjoyable programmes, but there is one point that needs some explanation. Concerts given by colliery and town bands are always of a pleasing nature, yet those given by the Wireless Military Band do not seem to conform with one's ideas of band music.

Avoiding Repetition

Certainly, as its conductor, D. Walton O'Donnell, stated recently, they have to provide 150 concerts a year, and if they kept to the type of music that really belongs to them there would be a lot of hostile criticism concerning the number of repetitions that would be necessary.

There is a deal of truth in these remarks, but such pieces that are essentially orchestral should be left out of their repertoire altogether. To a musician Schubert's Unfinished Symphony played by such combinations is heartrending. Nevertheless, when the Wireless Military Band gets down to real business and plays music composed for bands, there are few that can do better.

Cinema organs are still the target for a great many who fail to realise the intention for which they were built and do not appreciate the light-hearted music that is usually played on them. Edward O'Henry at Tussaud's Cinema and Reginald New from Birmingham, two of the best cinema organists in this country, are relayed quite a deal in the midday programmes from Brookman's Park and are certainly a pleasure to hear.

Last month we suggested that organ recitals be given a prominent position in the evening entertainment and pointed out that, although there were ample in the daytime, they were entirely neglected in the evening.

It is, therefore, interesting to note that on New Year's Day the first evening organ recital for a considerable time was relayed from All Saint's, Margaret Street. The organist was Walter S. Vale, who played a well-chosen programme, including the Prelude in D minor by Chaminade, Canzone in A minor by Guilmant, and Franck's Choral in A minor.

A Good Start

This was certainly a good start for the New Year, and it is to be hoped that our friends in the programme department will carry on with the good work.

A surprise sprung lately was the announcement that Billy Mayerl, the syncopated pianist, was to play the first movement of Grieg's piano concerto with the B.B.C. Orchestra and to conduct the orchestra in the suite, Pastoral Sketches, of which he is the composer. It is unusual for syncopated pianists to have a leaning towards serious work.

Vaudeville Items

Vaudeville entertainments are still maintaining a reasonable variety, although there appears to be difficulty in securing fresh talent. Walford Hyden and his Orchestra support most of these and adequately do what is expected of them.

A recent innovation was the introduction of a weekly theatrical cartoon, in which the impressionist is Elizabeth Pollock. These cartoons are amusing and well worth hearing.

Marius B. Winter and his Orchestra have broadcast several times from the studio lately. This band is fortunate in being able to introduce some novelty and it is by no means as boring as some other of our radio dance bands. Dance music is most tiring if one is not dancing; if it is of the "plugged" variety — then switch off!

T. F. Henn.

One of 5GB's popular violinists—Eda Kersey is frequently heard

UNDER MY AERIAL

HALYARD'S CHAT ON THE MONTH'S TOPICS

SPECIALLY ILLUSTRATED BY GLOSSOP

Broadcasting House

ONE of the greatest wireless events of 1931 will be the opening of Broadcasting House, the new headquarters of the B.B.C. in London. It is not known yet in what month the new building will be ready for occupation, but it seems likely that in the autumn of 1931 the B.B.C. will move from Savoy Hill to Portland Place

Suppose you had to plan the opening ceremony of Broadcasting House, what would you do? Would you concentrate on a formal opening and broadcast the proceedings from all stations, or would you make the opening almost entirely a wireless affair?

I have been wondering if the doors of Broadcasting House could be first opened by distant wireless control by some great and famous radio personality in some distant part of the globe. The names of various famous men, chiefly American, come to my mind as suitable for such a task.

One of my ideas about the opening of Broadcasting House is that congratulatory messages might be received from all parts of the world and broadcast to listeners. An aerial is shown on the roof in most of the drawings of the building, so there ought to be no difficulty in picking up congratulatory messages.

And what about the first programmes broadcast from the new studios of Broadcasting House? The only suggestion I can offer is that

The opening ceremony

these might be chosen by listeners themselves, if only they would stir themselves sufficiently to write to the B.B.C. about it.

◆ ◆ ◆

Television in 1931

What is going to happen to television during the present year? Are there likely to be developments or shall we see television at the end of the year in the same state it is now?

At the present time it is very difficult indeed to find out the exact position. There are so few television receivers in use that information is very scanty and it is impossible

Latest television news

to compare television with wireless as it was in its early stages of development.

Although it may be of interest to a few television amateurs, it is not of any great interest to the bulk of listeners to know that the Baird transmissions are going on, and that the B.B.C. will do all in its power to help British television.

Now what do you really think about television? I still have the idea that some big thing has yet to be dis covered, some big thing which will bring television into the home of the listener.

Of course, we all like to read the latest news about television. We like to hear that a new system has been evolved in "foreign parts," which system will put all other systems on the junk heap. Yes, we like to have the latest news, but we do not get unduly excited over it, for we know the exact number of grains of salt to take with television news these days.

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A Dealer's Record

My very old wireless friend and trusted technical adviser, George, threatens to go into an entirely new line of business. If he keeps to his present determination he is going up to one of the big gramophone companies with his set in order to make a very special record of——but let me tell you how it all came about.

You will understand George's new move if I tell you the story as it actually occurred.

George and I had gone into the shop of our favourite local dealer with the intention of discussing a little "mains" problem with him. Our conversation was broken into by the appearance of another customer who sought advice on a fault in his portable set.

"Can you get anything from the set at all?" asked our dealer.

"A certain amount of noise at times," replied the customer.

"What kind of noise?"

"Well! it's rather hard to describe."

"Is it a hissing noise like this?" and our dealer proceeded to hiss.

"No."

"Is it a noise like this?" and our dealer gave a fair imitation of the increasing volume and gradually increasing note of a small siren.

"No."

"Does it go plop——plop——plop ——plop-plop?"

A fault in his portable set

"No."

"Does it come on with a rush and go off quickly at irregular intervals?"

"Yes, that's it, that's it."

"Loose aerial connection from the lid to the set. Had lots of cases of that kind. Bring the set along this afternoon and we'll put it right for you in no time."

That's the story and that is how George got the idea of making a record of sound symptoms of trouble in a wireless set. He says every dealer in the country will buy one of his records, and I rather think they will.

◆ ◆ ◆

Obsolete Receivers

How many obsolete receivers were scrapped during the year 1930, and how many ought to have been scrapped? It would be rather interesting to have actual figures in reply to these two questions, wouldn't it?

(*Continued on page* 84)

It helps us if you mention "Wireless Magazine"

UNDER MY AERIAL—Continued

A very old set

If you were to travel about the country and see inside a large number of representative wireless repair shops, you would be amazed at the number of old-fashioned sets still in existence. The wonder of it is why people stick to these sets, which cannot possibly do justice to modern broadcasting. It is not as if it were an expensive business purchasing or constructing an up-to-date receiver these days.

The other day I saw a good example of a very old set still in use. The panel was horizontal and on it were the terminals, switches, filament rheostats, and the oldest of old variable condenser dials. Instead of valve holders there were groups of four valve legs screwed to the panel, the valves being vertical and above the panel. The whole set was assembled on the underneath side of the panel.

I realised that the conversion of that old set to a modern set would not have been difficult. Slow-motion dials fitted to the old variable condensers would have modernised the tuning controls. Practically the whole of the parts could have been used, the chief items required to make the set modern being a cabinet, baseboard and vertical panel.

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The Earth

When I tried my three-valve general household and family set last Sunday afternoon, I was surprised to find that results were very much below normal. A quick glance round the set showed me that the falling off in volume was due to the earth lead having been disconnected by some unauthorised person.

I continued to use the set alternately without and with an earth on several of our British stations, and I was greatly surprised at the difference the earth made in every case.

Have you ever tried the effect of disconnecting the earth lead to your set? Do so, and I think you will be as surprised as I was. It is quite an interesting experiment to run a set with aerial and no earth, and then with an earth and no aerial, in order to get an idea as to the relative efficiency of aerial and earth. Of course, when you are using an earth and no aerial, the earth lead should be taken to the aerial terminal of the set.

If you do carry out this interesting experiment, what I think you will find is that your earth is far more necessary and useful to you for near

Falling off in volume

stations than you imagine. Should you get down to the very, very short wavelengths, you might find that you can get on better without an earth than with one.

◆ ◆ ◆

Interval Signals

During one of my nightly talks with George last week the subject of interval signals came up for discussion. I expect that, since the B.B.C. adopted their new interval signal, this same subject has come up for discussion on several occasions

Interval signals

between you and your friends. You will be interested, therefore, to hear my technical adviser's views.

First of all, George is as emphatic as I am that there should be a distinctive interval signal at each of our broadcasting stations. When we came to a consideration of the different distinctive and distinguishable signals in use I asked George what kind of an interval signal he preferred.

"A plain straightforward note, musical if you like, but plain," he replied.

"Don't you care for novel interval signals like the cuckoo call, or a gong, or a pretty little tune, George?" I asked.

"No," he replied, "such things are only useful in serving to remind us that wireless is still in its infancy."

"What kind of interval signal would you yourself adopt for our British stations, George?"

"A simple buzzer note."

"The same for each station?"

"No. I would use the old letter call-signs in Morse, XX for Daventry 5XX, GB for Daventry 5GB, LO for London Regional, OL for London National—might have to alter that last one though—and so on."

"Simultaneous broadcasting would cause confusion, George."

"Not if I had my way. I should make each transmitter automatically transmit its own call-sign in the intervals."

"Rather difficult that, George."

"Well! the B.B.C. engineers have tackled and solved more difficult problems than that."

If we could have chosen the interval signals ourselves for our own broadcasting stations, would you have favoured George's suggestion, or have you a better one of your own?

◆ ◆ ◆

Good-bye Junk

Have you ever had to part with a goodly portion of your collection of wireless junk? Sad business, isn't it? To my mind, the clearing out of old treasures is one of the saddest tasks that can befall the true enthusiast. I know, because I have just concluded such a task.

The powers that be decided that my wireless junk room must be thoroughly cleaned, and that a good deal of the "old rubbish" need not go back, since I never used it, and never should use it again. Well! with a heavy heart I had to set to work, and I made several reluctant journeys to the dust-bin.

On my first journey, I took no less than eight old low-frequency transformers, all with burnt-out primaries. Some of these transformers

(*Continued on page* 86)

Out of other people's sets

UNDER MY AERIAL—Continued

had come out of my own sets, and some out of other people's sets. I don't know why I had kept these transformers unless it were that I thought the frames and laminated plates might come in useful if ever I tried to make a transformer myself.

The derelict stuff on my second journey comprised old valve holders, old filament rheostats, old and very obsolete switches, and two broken variable condensers.

Other journeys ended in my saying good-bye to a pair of dud phones, three or four old and very bored panels and a miscellaneous collection of old coils, home-wound and factory wound.

The result of all this is a clean and tidy junk room. How long it will remain tidy I do not know, but I do hope it will be many years before I have to part with any more of my "rubbish."

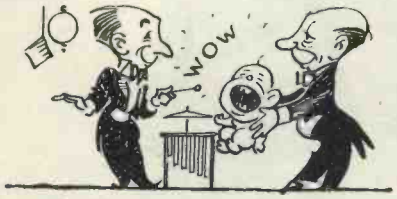
◆ ◆ ◆

University Wireless

Do you happen to know anything about the use and progress of wireless in any of the universities in the British Isles? I had a talk the other day with an undergraduate of one of our older universities, and, to my surprise, I found that wireless is not very popular at his university.

Another Special Supplement of Interest to All Listeners will be Included in the March Issue of "Wireless Magazine"

For one thing, there are stringent regulations regarding the playing of musical instruments, which can be played only during certain hours of the afternoon and early evening. They must not be played outside those hours. Since wireless is classified as a musical instrument, its use with a loud-speaker is restricted.



Classified as a musical instrument

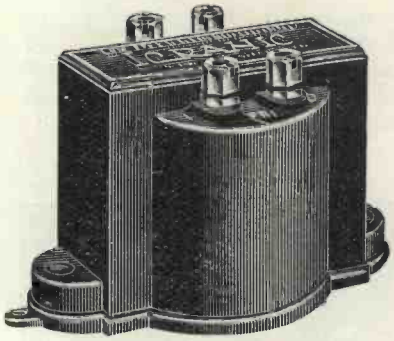
There are headphones, of course, but one can scarcely imagine a number of undergraduates sitting quietly round a room listening surreptitiously to a transmission with headphone just to defy the authorities. Still, the serious experimenter would find no difficulty in carrying on with a pair of phones during the prohibited hours.

My undergraduate friend told me a good deal about a fellow undergraduate who holds a transmitting licence and who transmits from the university town. It was that that made me wonder whether wireless was seriously studied at our universities and whether we could look to them for progress in wireless in the near future.

The Choice of Experts

IGRANIC
Type C30 L.F.
Choke
Price - **15/6**

Igranic components have again been recommended for use in conjunction with the sets published in this issue. Such recommendations once more serve to prove that IGRANIC have always set the high standard of radio reliability. Igranic components are cheaper to buy than most—more efficient than any.



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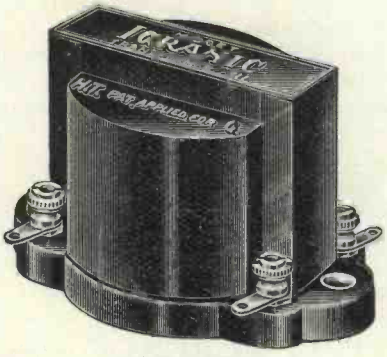

IGRANIC
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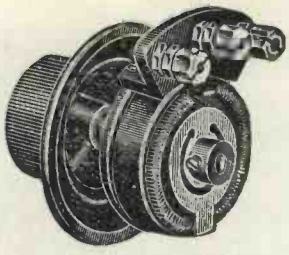
ROBUST and RELIABLE

HIGH in EFFICIENCY



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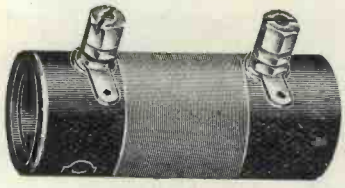

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"IS TELEVISION AT A STANDSTILL?"

By the EDITOR

MY article under the above title in the WIRELESS MAGAZINE of last November was replied to in the December issue, on behalf of Mr. Baird, by Mr. Sydney Moseley, the Baird Television programme director, and his reply included an invitation that I should pay another visit to the Baird studios and "see for myself."

I accepted the invitation and had a most pleasant afternoon with Mr. Baird, but, unfortunately, too late in the working month to allow of my giving my impressions in my January issue.

TELEVISION PERSONALITIES

On the left is Lord Ampthill, chairman of the Baird Company, and on the right is Mr. John L. Baird, the inventor

I am not at liberty to do more than speak of the televised pictures which I saw, the Baird Company considering that the time is not yet ripe to publish details of their new apparatus and methods, for which I am rather sorry, because in the meantime the H.M.V. Company have demonstrated television, not, I think, on a new *principle*, but certainly with apparatus of new *design* and have provided this magazine with full particulars and first-rate drawings, which I am publishing on other pages.

Translucent Screen

I was shown in operation a television receiver—a home televisor—in which the picture appears upon a translucent screen, thus doing away with the necessity of viewing it through a magnifying lens; an obvious advantage, because a number of people can now see the image at one time, whereas in the older form it is difficult for two people to look-in.

The quality of the image is much as before, although the little screen on which it is projected measures as much as 8 in. by 5 in. This is undoubtedly an achievement, and I hope that the laboratory model which I saw will soon be translated into a commercial design. The home televisor in its laboratory form can now give a picture of two or three people from head to foot instead of just one or, at the most, two people, head and shoulders only. In the commercialising of the Baird Televisor this should count for much.

Perhaps the most interesting demonstration which I witnessed was television on an "extended screen," the principle being to divide the televised scene into three parts and transmit each of them on to an oblong strip of translucent material; there are three such strips, their vertical edges adjoining, forming one screen.

One result is that the illumination is three times more intense than if the scene were transmitted in the ordinary way to a screen of the same area as the three-piece screen.

By the way, the H.M.V. demonstration above referred to used a five-piece screen, but Baird is televising an actual scene taking place on a stage 12 ft. to 16 ft. in length, on which real people walk about, whereas the H.M.V. demonstration was restricted to the televising of cinematograph films. Mr. Baird on his triple screen showed me at least three or four people at a time, and the picture gave plenty of action.

Mr. Baird has been experimenting, to my knowledge, with the television of films for some long time, and on this occasion he transmitted from film a boxing match full of vivacity and detail.

A development with great possibilities is the Baird portable television transmitter. We can never get away from the fact that the public's idea of television is a service of "hot" news pictures. Such pictures can only be got where the news is made—at public occasions. In other words, O.B. television is what the public wants.

A step forward in this direction has been made by Mr Baird in producing a portable televisor which could be used on special occasions to televise a picture, for example, of a public speaker or of anybody taking part in a public function, and I hope that he will have success in developing and commercialising the apparatus.

My Conclusions

In view of the questions asked in my article in the November issue, it is but fair that I should say what is the effect on my mind of the demonstrations accorded to me. I felt that Mr. Baird and his staff were doing their best to get down to realities and that they had made technical progress, but I was not aware, frankly, of much improvement in the quality of the ordinary televised picture.

By quality I have chiefly in mind detail, illumination, and that elusive thing, "likeness," but of course I admit that the use of the extended screen makes for better illumination than in earlier demonstrations and I am sure that in every case the pictures I saw were steadier, in other words "hunted" up and down the screen very much less.

Answering my own question, "Is television at a standstill?" I most certainly agree that television in the laboratory has gone forward, although as regards popular television—the provision of a satisfactory television service on the lines of the present sound-broadcasting service—I have a rather open mind.

B. E. J.

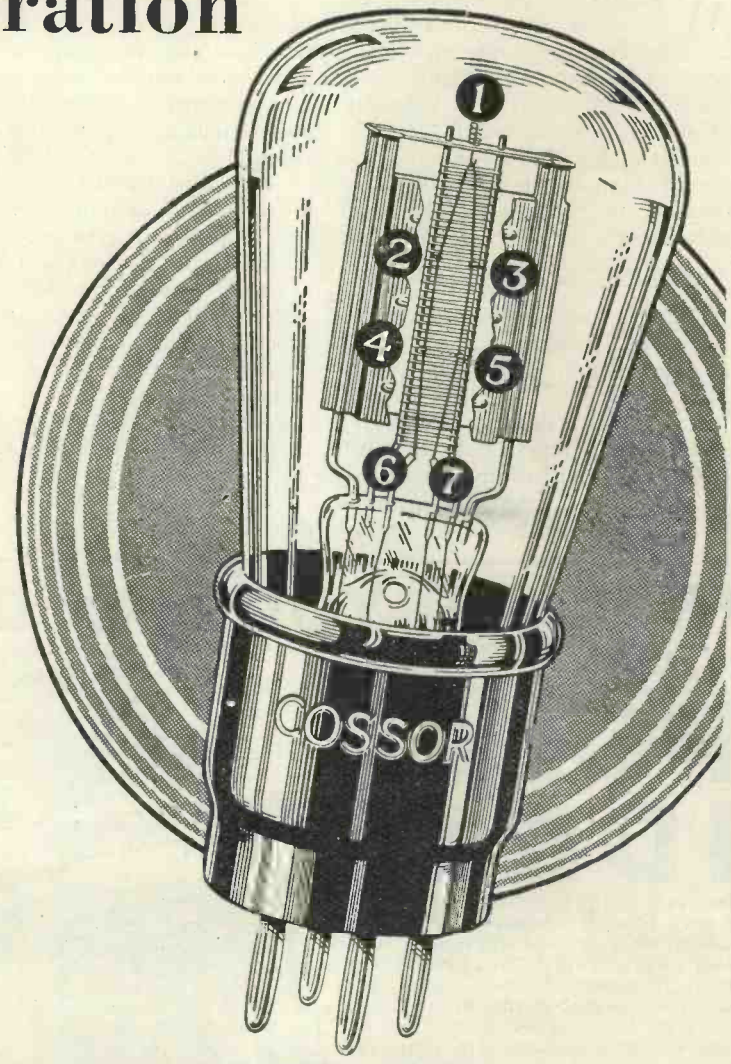
WATCHING WHAT?

This young lady certainly seems to be satisfied with what she is seeing in a Baird television receiver

Seven point suspension *definitely prevents* filament vibration

—the primary cause of microphonic noises

The cause of microphonic noises in a Receiving Set is generally to be found in a faulty Detector Valve. Usually it is due to filament vibration. The new Cossor Detector Valve (210 Det.) has been specially designed to overcome this fault. Filament vibration is rendered impossible by a new method of seven point suspension. The diagram shows the four insulated hooks which secure the filament in position and damp out any tendency to vibration. The use of this "steep slope" Cossor Detector Valve not only eliminates microphonic noises, but ensures great volume with exceptional purity of tone.



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We have just issued a novel circular Station Chart, which gives identification details of nearly 50 stations, with space for entering your own dial readings. Ask your dealer for a copy, price 2d. or send 2d. stamp to us and head your letter "Station Chart W.M"

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♡ 7024

Compiled by JAY COOTE

A LISTENER'S LOG

What Is Moscow's Power? :: Short Wave Relay :: A Strange Call
"Our Apple Trees" :: Interval Signals

WHAT is the actual power of the Moscow Trades Unions' station to which so many references have been lately made in the daily press? Some will tell you it is 75 kilowatts, others mention "over 100," and now I am told that it radiates something like 165 kilowatts in the aerial on the occasion of these notorious international evenings.

Shaking the Loud-speaker

Judging from the way the signals shake my loud-speaker, notwithstanding the distance, it might be even more.

Apparently it does not work every night at full strength but only when the rabid Bolshies of divers nationalities shout their poisonous propaganda through the microphone I have heard these tub-thumpers spout in English, French, Polish, Dutch, German and Spanish, and, although I understood some of them perfectly, I cannot realise how these senseless outpourings could impress any listener.

The international musical transmissions which accompany these verbose eruptions are poor and unattractive generally; personally, I find that a series of songs of liberty (or of oppression!) sung by untrained mixed choirs leaves me stone cold, but now and again one may hear a balalaika orchestra playing in a large hall.

When they restrict their repertoire to real Slavonic melodies they are worth hearing.

From a technical point of view, I grant that these transmissions may be of interest, Moscow is some 1,550 miles from London and distance to the D.X. hound is everything.

Those who are interested in short waves may care to know that some of these broadcasts are relayed to REN, which re-transmits them on 46.6 metres. Announcements are made in many languages.

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A Strange Call

On an evening or so ago I picked up a strange call in the ether; it was: "Hallo! Hallo! Radio Fer" Puzzles and mystery stations fascinate me as, no doubt, they do you, for the solving of these little radio problems adds spice and zest to casual listening.

Patience was duly rewarded, it was

(*Continued on page 92*)

WORKING VOLTAGES OR TEST VOLTAGES?

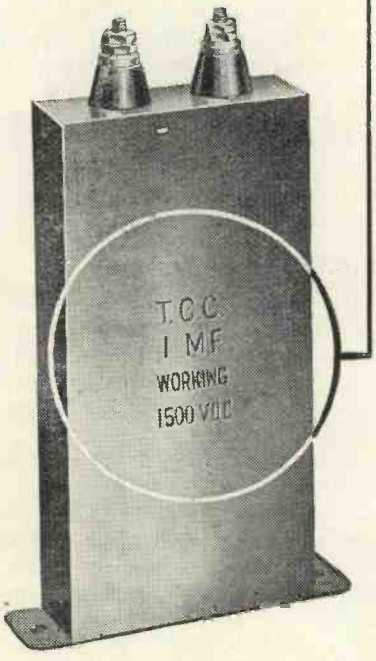
AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT BY THE TELEGRAPH CONDENSER CO., LTD.

At the present time there is some confusion regarding the most suitable method of indicating Condenser voltages. Some manufacturers, including ourselves, mark their Condensers with their actual *working* voltages. Others adopt the more spectacular method of indicating *test* voltages.

Because test voltages are obviously much higher than actual working voltages, the Condenser buyer may be led to believe that the higher voltage indicates a more efficient and better insulated condenser. This is not necessarily the case.

In the past it has been fairly safe to assume that the continuous working voltage of a Condenser was half of its stated test voltage. Unfortunately, this method of grading Condensers can no longer be universally relied upon since it has been found that Condensers of similar capacity and size have been sold stamped with varying test voltages, but with no indication as to the working voltage. (This formed the subject of a statement issued by us earlier this year in reference to condensers of foreign manufacture).

We, therefore, recommend all users in their own interests to see that the Condensers they purchase are definitely marked with their maximum working voltage. This will always be found on "T.C.C." CONDENSERS.



T.C.C. CONDENSERS

TELEGRAPH CONDENSER CO. LTD., N. ACTON, W.3

Mention of the "Wireless Magazine" will ensure prompt attention

A LISTENER'S LOG

(*Continued from page* 90)

not a "call from" but a "call to," and the caller was Radio Normandie. This little studio may only be a "one-horse" station at Fécamp, but it is surprising how its transmissions reach me on the south coast of England. Try for it between Cork and Cologne at any time after 8 p.m. G.M.T.

Now, Fécamp is in Normandy not very far from Le Havre and on the express trains between that port and Cherbourg, and also between the French coast and Paris, Radio Fer has equipped a number of passenger carriages with receiving apparatus

As a private transmitter, Radio Normandie is desirous of justifying its *raison d'être* and consequently almost nightly broadcasts a concert—mainly gramophone records—and a topical news bulletin for the benefit of travellers on these lines. The two calls are coupled at intervals and thus you hear Radio Fer and Radio Normandie in the course of the transmissions.

Possibilities of Future Extensions

There is every possibility of the Fécamp station assuming greater proportions as a French company has been recently constituted to take it over, lock, stock and barrel, and as it disposes of a capital of about one million francs some development may be expected.

By the way, for its time signal at 9 p.m. and sometimes when it closes down you may hear a melodious carillon of bells relayed from an old Bénédictine monastery.

It opens its broadcasts with a record of a local song, *Nos Pommiers* (Our Apple Trees), in view of its connection with the Normandy cider industry.

When the studio closes down for the night with its usual greetings to *Mesdames, Mademoiselles et Messieurs*, the last sounds to be heard are the strains of another vocal record, a very bright melody sung by a "top-hole" baritone. *Ma Normandie* is real patriotic sob-stuff comprising the conventional "land that saw my birth" and "my beloved country" music-hall poetry lines.

But for all that, Fécamp does not only supply canned music; it frequently switches you over to the wine bar of the Hotel Frascati at Le Havre. The orchestra you hear from that resort is a very decent one.

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B.B.C.'s Interval Signal

Notwithstanding its apparent objection to their use, the B.B.C., for the National programmes at least, has been compelled to adopt an interval signal when short pauses occur in the programme.

It is a pity, however, that nothing more original than the ticking of a clock could be evolved by the big brains at Savoy Hill. There are, as it is, so many metronome noises on the air already.

It seems to me that something more distinctive could have been thought out, some sound which, conveyed to the ears of near and distant listeners, would have proved, without doubt, the presence of a British station. Why not, say, the first four notes of the National Anthem or the opening bars of *Rule, Britannia*?

The Italians are using a special signal for their individual groups of transmitters, but as an opening signal they have adopted a gramophone record of a carillon of bells to the accompaniment of organ and orchestra.

RADIO IN REVIEW

By MORTON BARR

Moving-coil Loud-speakers

THOUGH a moving-coil loud-speaker is capable of giving better reproduction than any other type of instrument, it will only do so when operated under proper conditions—and these are not always easy to obtain. For instance, it is often a difficult matter to get satisfactory quality from a moving-coil loud-speaker when fitted to a highly-selective receiver.

For selectivity the input and intervalve coupling circuits must have a sharp resonance curve, which has the effect of "trimming off" the outer sidebands of the signals or, in other words, of lessening the relative intensity of the higher notes.

Since a moving-coil loud-speaker tends to favour the lower notes, even under normal conditions when the input is properly balanced, its response to an input which has already been robbed of some of the higher notes naturally becomes a bit "woolly."

It is a curious fact that the older or moving-iron type of loud-speaker is better adapted to handle these particular conditions, because here the natural high-pitched resonance of the armature or reed-driven instrument comes into operation and tends to restore the proper musical balance.

Volume Control

Another point to bear in mind about moving-coil loud-speakers is the importance of volume control. For an orchestral performance, where of course this type of reproducer is heard at its best, the ear will tolerate a generous volume of sound, because one readily accepts the notion of being situated close to the band.

If, however, the next item on the programme is a talk, the speaker "shouts," so that it is necessary to jump up and re-adjust the volume.

Attempts are being made to overcome this particular difficulty by using an "automatic" volume control similar to that which has already been successfully employed for preventing "fading" when listening to a distant station. In one case the strength of the carrier wave is controlled, whilst in the other it is a question of regulating the effect of modulation.

Changing the Type

Again, a moving-coil loud-speaker is seldom heard at its best when used with a set originally designed for operating a moving-iron instrument. The reason is one to which reference has already been made. The ordinary or moving-iron type of loud-speaker tends to accentuate the high notes if fed with a properly-balanced input. In order to offset this tendency, a manufacturer will often deliberately design the valve couplings so as to over-accentuate the lower frequencies. The high-pitched resonance of the speaker then comes into play to restore the correct balance.

(Continued on next page)

RADIO IN REVIEW—Continued from preceding page

But when a moving-coil instrument is applied to the same set, the lower notes, being already over-strong, are still further accentuated in the loud-speaker, and the reproduction becomes unnaturally low-pitched and gruff. This simply emphasises the fact that in order to get the best out of a moving-coil instrument it must be used with a properly-designed amplifier. Otherwise the experiment of changing over from one type of loud-speaker to another may prove disappointing. The difficulty does not, of course, arise when, as is sometimes the case, the loud-speaker and amplifier are sold as one unit.

Using a Pentode

In a moving-coil loud-speaker the current flowing through the coils should be constant at all frequencies, if the high and low notes are to be correctly reproduced. Now a pentode valve delivers the same current no matter what impedance is in the plate circuit, and for this reason it is particularly suitable for driving moving-coil instruments.

A three-electrode power valve is equally suitable if it is driven from A.C. mains. But where the power supply is limited, as it is when drawn from batteries, or even from D.C. mains, the pentode is to be preferred, because it is able to pass a higher proportion of the available power on to the loud-speaker for conversion into sound.

With a pentode the loud-speaker impedance should be as high as possible, that is, there should be at least 2,500 turns on the moving-coil, or else a step-down transformer should be used. With a 4-1 ratio, the effective impedance is increased by sixteen, that is, by the square of the ratio.

By the way, if for any reason the loud-speaker is temporarily disconnected from a set containing a pentode output stage, care should be taken not to turn on the valves until the loud-speaker has been replaced. Otherwise very high voltages are liable to be created on the plate of the valve. With an amplification in the neighbourhood of 100, even a small input voltage may result in damaging the valve unless it has a proper load (that is, the loud-speaker) to work into.

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"Graded" Licences

The suggestion to replace the present uniform B.B.C. licence of 10s. a year by a sliding scale of fees, based upon the type of receiver used, has not so far been looked upon with favour by the authorities, possibly on account of the labour involved.

At the same time, there is something to be said in favour of letting the "crystal merchant" off a little more lightly than the man who indulges in a ten-valve super-het.

The change, if any, should, of course, be by way of a reduction of the tax now levied on the simpler sets. So long as the P.M.G. enjoys a handsome yearly surplus, and the B.B.C. can afford to subsidise grand opera, there is no necessity for increasing the present maximum of ten shillings, which is sufficient to cover any multi-valve set. The crystal user, and say the one-valver, might be let off at half-price.

AN OUTSTANDING RANGE OF A.C. SCREENED GRID VALVES

Mullard A.C. types S.4V, S.4VA and S.4VB are indirectly heated screened grid mains valves having amplification factors ranging from 900 to 1,500. In conjunction with efficient circuits these valves make possible stage gains hitherto considered impossible, and definitely set a new standard for H.F. amplification. As with all Mullard indirectly heated mains valves, the rigid and compact design of the electrode system, results in very high performance. From this range of valves a choice of H.F. amplifiers to suit any circuit can be made.

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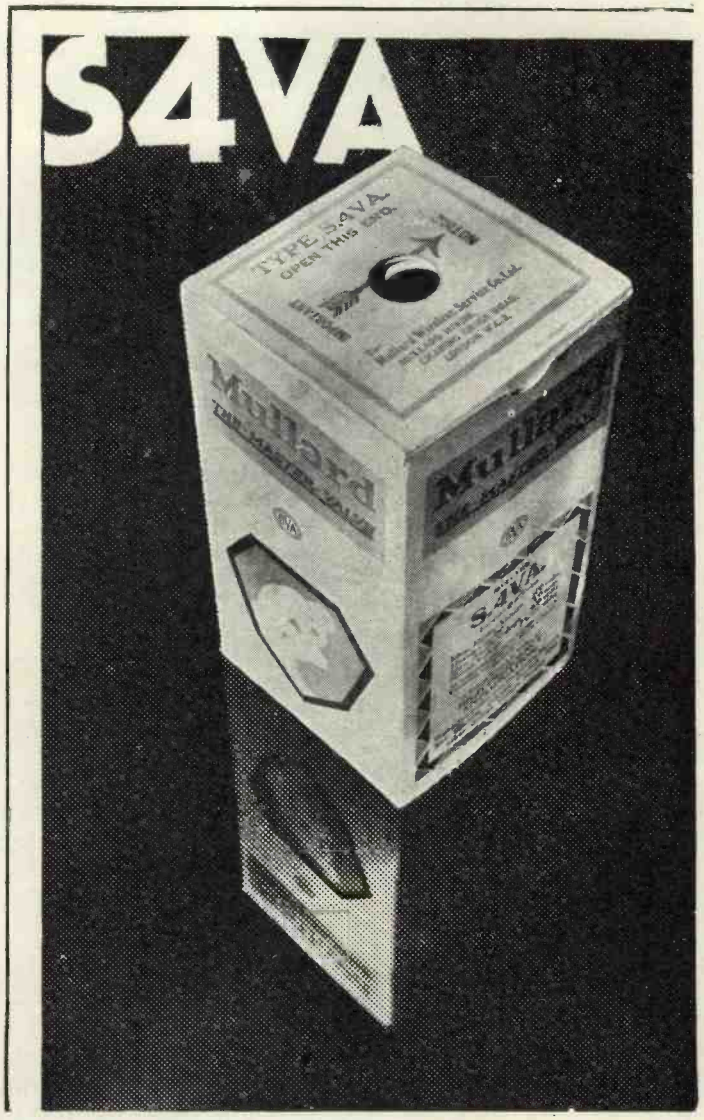


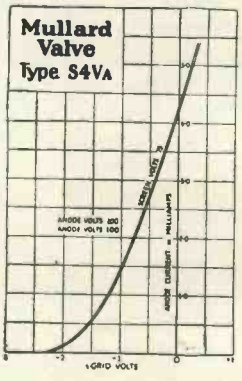
CHARACTERISTICS

S.4V.

Max. Heater Voltage ...	4.0 volts
Heater Current ...	1.0 amp.
Max. Anode Voltage ...	200 volts
Positive Screen Voltage	75 volts
*Anode Impedance ...	909,000 ohms
*Amplification Factor ...	1,000
*Mutual Conductance ...	1.1mA/volt

* At Anode Volts 100. Screen Volts 75. Grid Volts Zero.

S.4VA.



Max. Heater Voltage ...	4.0 volts
Heater Current ...	1.0 amp.
Max. Anode Voltage ...	200 volts
Positive Screen Voltage	75-100 volts
*Anode Impedance ...	430,000 ohms
*Amplification Factor ...	1,500
*Mutual Conductance ...	3.5mA/volt

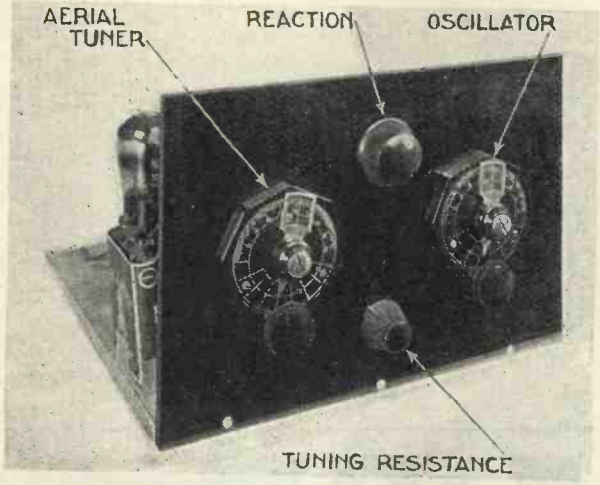
* At Anode Volts 100. Screen Volts 75. Grid Volts Zero.

S.4VB.

Max. Heater Voltage	4.0 volts
Heater Current ...	1.0 amp.
Max. Anode Voltage ...	200 volts
Positive Screen Voltage	75-100 volts
* Anode Impedance ...	257,000 ohms
* Amplification Factor ...	900
* Mutual Conductance ...	3.5mA/volt

* At Anode Volts 150. Screen Volts 75. Grid Volts −1.

THE HYPERDYNE SHORT-WAVE ADAPTOR



ACCESSIBLE PANEL CONTROLS

This photograph shows the arrangement of the controls on the Hyperdyne Short-wave Adaptor

I HAVE received a number of reports from readers on the performances of their own Hyperdynes. In the majority of cases the receiver has worked without any trouble and has given the specified performance straight away. In other cases some slight difficulty has been encountered, usually due to oscillation in the intermediate amplifier.

Symptoms of Oscillation

This can always be detected by the following symptoms: If the oscillator dial is rotated a number of whistles will be tuned in, and if the tune of the intermediate amplifier is varied slightly, the note of the whistle will alter Normally no whistles are tuned in.

Although the original amplifier was quite stable and seemed to have a good factor of safety, one nearly always finds in these cases that slight differences in construction may be causing the trouble.

I therefore obtained a Hyperdyne which had been made up to the published details, but which was giving a quite unsatisfactory performance. I found at once that the intermediate amplifier was oscillating, and on replacing it with my own amplifier the set behaved perfectly satisfactorily.

I examined the amplifier to find wherein the difference lay, and discovered a number of points of deviation from the original which had all conspired to make the set unstable.

I will set them out below in their order of importance:—

1. — The intermediate coils must be mounted horizontally in the position shown in the photograph on page 512 of the December issue.

2.—The connections to the first coil must be taken direct to the coil itself, and not to terminals on the top of the panel. If this latter arrangement is resorted to the leads come too near the anode of the first screen-grid valve and oscillation sets in.

3.—The grid leads to the second high-frequency and detector valve (Nos. 66 and 68 on the blueprint) should be kept short.

4.—On the two high-frequency coils, the primary windings (seventeen turns of No 34 d.s.c.) should be kept towards the earth end of the secondary, as shown on page 511.

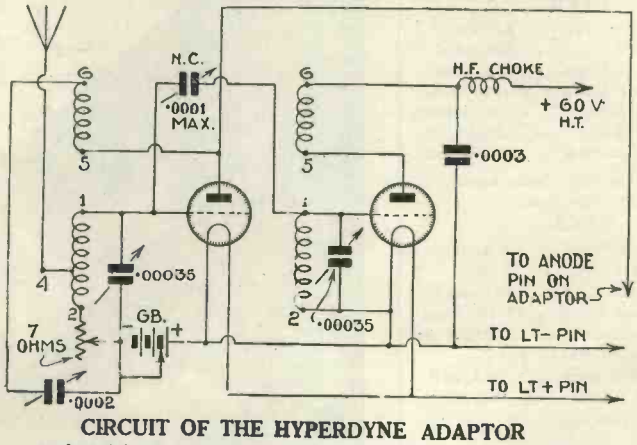
These were the principal points of difference. Provided that attention is paid to these matters the amplifier should be quite stable. The additional contact to the screening box (lead No 16) is important, as at these short wavelengths the screen is not all at the same potential, and earthing at one point is not enough.

The Hyperdyne is a new-style super-het with screened-grid valves and has been designed by

J. H. REYNER,
B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.

Full details were given in the December and January issues. Here we present details of a simple unit by means of which the main receiver can be converted in a few minutes for short-wave reception.

If any difficulty should be experienced with self-oscillation, even after all these precautions have been tried, the condensers inside the intermediate amplifier, which are specified as .002 microfarad, can be increased to .01 microfarad. This will make the whole amplifier absolutely stable, even if the high-tension voltage is increased to 150 volts.



CIRCUIT OF THE HYPERDYNE ADAPTOR

Included in the circuit are a detector valve and an oscillator

Oscillator Tuning

There is one final point at which some trouble might be experienced, namely the oscillator condenser. A .00025-microfarad condenser is shown in parallel, but it may be found that with this arrangement the circuit does not quite tune up to 2,000 metres. Should this be found to be the case, it is better to use a .0005-microfarad pre-set condenser, which can then be adjusted to give 2,000 metres with the dial at 180, as shown

(*Continued on page 98*)

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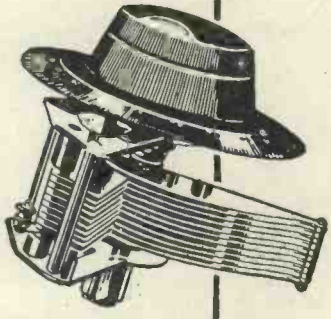

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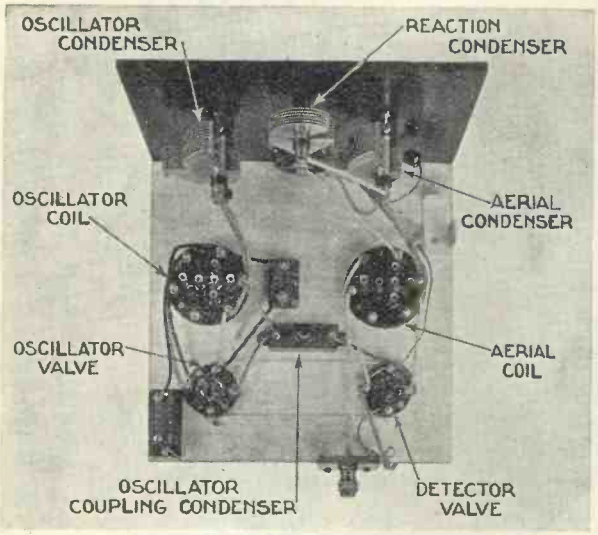
THE HYPERDYNE ADAPTOR—Continued



THE UNIT IS SIMPLE TO BUILD

The disposition of the parts will be clear from this plan photographic view

on page 511. I did not suggest this in the original instance as I did not want to increase the apparent difficulty of the receiver.

Once one has used the set, however, and got used to its operation, it is quite a simple matter to replace the fixed condenser with a pre-set, which can be adjusted once and for all to give the correct setting.

One final point before passing on to the short-wave adaptor. Many readers have written in to ask whether the set can be used on a frame aerial. It can, of course, although to my mind one of its advantages is that it does not require a frame aerial.

The best plan is to use a frame simply as a collector. Take one lead from the frame to the aerial terminal of the set, and do the tuning on the DWA coil included in the receiver.

If one wishes to use the frame as a frame, however, then the DWA coil must be removed and the frame aerial must be substituted. The frame must be of dual-range variety, and it should have a reaction winding on it.

Owing to the decreased damping obtainable with a frame, however, it is possible to leave the reaction winding off, if this is felt to be absolutely necessary The diagram on page 100 gives details of the connections to the frame aerial.

Short-wave Reception

Now to turn to the short-wave adaptor. It was my intention that an additional short-wave tuning circuit should be connected to the receiver and that the same oscillator should be used with a different coil.

There are one or two difficulties in this operation, however, and it was ultimately deemed preferable to make up a separate short-wave oscillator and detector.

These are both mounted in a small compact unit, and this system gives both the short-wave controls on the same panel, instead of one being on

(*Continued on page* 100)

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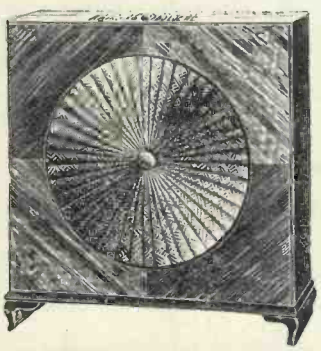

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Kit "C"		£13 18 0		25/5

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Kit "A"	Cash Price	£2 18 9	Or 12 monthly payments of	5/4
Kit "B"		£3 15 9		6/11
Kit "C"		£4 8 3		8/1

BROOKMANS A.C. TWO

Kit "A"	Cash Price	£10 7 11	Or 12 monthly payments of	19/1
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Kit "C"		£14 17 5		27/3

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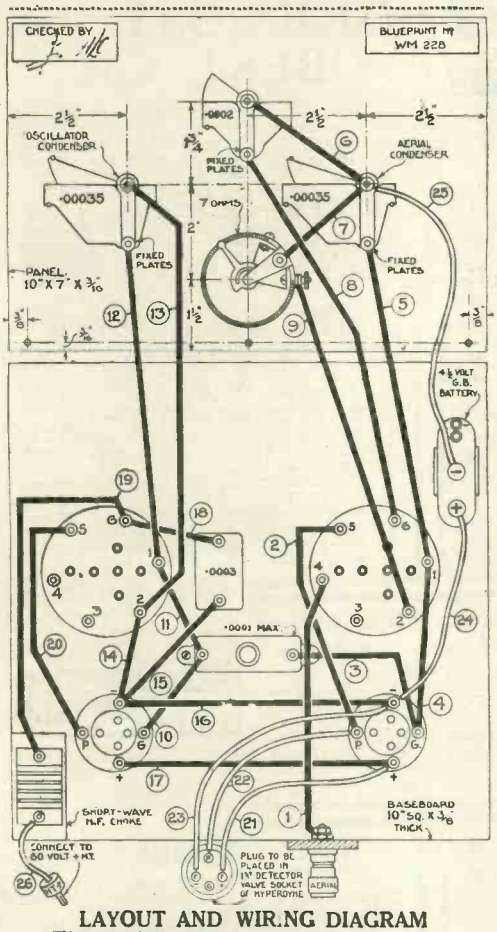
THE HYPERDYNE ADAPTOR—Continued



LAYOUT AND WIRING DIAGRAM

This wiring diagram can be obtained as a full-size blueprint if the coupon on page 112 is used by February 28. Ask for No. WM228

the adaptor and the other on the main set. A small amount of duplication is required by this method, but results on the whole are better.

As will be seen from the photographs and diagrams, the adaptor is made in such a form that it obtains all its supply of energy by plugging it into the detector valve holder, the detector valve itself being removed and inserted in the detector socket of the short-wave portion

Oscillator Valve

The oscillator valve can either be the same as is used in the main set, being transferred from the main set to the adaptor, or, if convenient, another valve may be used. Thus no alteration is required to the connections. It is merely necessary to remove the two valves and plug in the adaptor, when the set is all ready for business, except that the H.T.+ lead from the adaptor should be taken to a tap of about 60 volts.

The adaptor itself consists of a detector tuning circuit of the normal type, together with an oscillator coupled thereto in the same manner as is used for broadcast reception.

The oscillation is, of course, at a different frequency, and an AMS/2 or AMS/4 coil is used, according to the wavelength to be received A similar coil is used for the detector tuning and the two dials more or less go together

Damping Resistance

It will be seen that a resistance has been included in the detector circuit. This is put in with the deliberate intent to increase the damping. When the circuit was first hooked up it behaved in a very pleasant manner and the stations could be pulled in without trouble

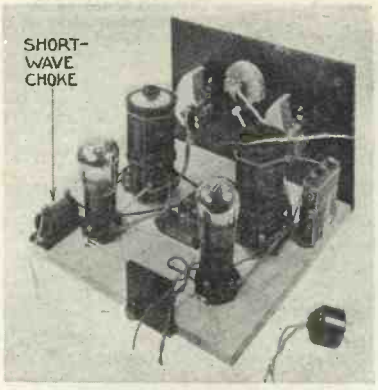
When it was built in its final form nothing could be obtained on it for some time until it was discovered that the tuning was exceptionally sharp. Even when this fact had been realised it took the best part of a quarter of an hour to tune in a station, even with an expert hand. I felt that this was quite an impracticable set to publish.

After many experiments it was found that the inclusion of a resistance in the tuning circuit flattened the tuning sufficiently to enable the stations to be tuned in normally.

It was, indeed, the added damping arising from the higgledy-piggledy arrangement of the hook-up which made it behave so nicely. The surprising point is that the signal strength does not suffer to any marked extent by this increased damping in the aerial circuit.

This is due to the fact that an oscillating detector is employed, for it is a well-known fact that the rectified current with this form of detector is practically independent of the strength of signal, and depends principally on the strength of the oscillator.

In tuning, the process is to start off with the resistance well in and find the station. The resistance may then gradually be cut out, retuning at the same time until a point is found where the tuning is becoming unpleasantly sharp.



READY FOR USE

Here you see the adaptor ready for use with valves and coils in position. A plug on the unit is plugged into the set

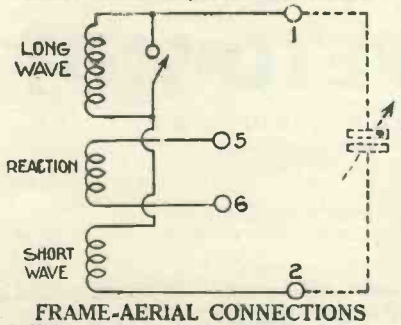
At this point, which may occur before the resistance is completely cut out, the signal strength will be found to be as good as one requires. One can obtain quite good signals, indeed, by finding the average position of the resistance and leaving it set. The receiver is then in a good condition for searching, and at the same time the signal strength is quite good enough for ordinary purposes.

Simple Construction

I need not describe the construction. The arrangement is so straightforward and simple that no comment is required I must emphasise the need for very good dials to avoid backlash. This is more than ever important on the short waveband.

I might also mention the desirability of keeping the leads from the tuning condensers to the coil holders close together, to make sure of getting down to the minimum wave-

(*Continued on page 102*)



FRAME-AERIAL CONNECTIONS

This diagram shows how to connect a frame aerial to the Hyperdyne

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THE HYPERDYNE ADAPTOR—Continued

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CHOKE, HIGH-FREQUENCY
1—Bulgin short-wave, type HF3, 3s. (or Wearite, Polar).

COILS
2—Lewcos six-pin short-wave, type AMS2, 12s.

CONDENSERS, FIXED
1—T.C.C .0003-microfarad, flat type, 1s. 3d. (or Dubilier, Lissen).

CONDENSER, VARIABLE
2—Formo .00035-microfarad, 9s.
1—Formo .0002-microfarad, midget type, 2s. 9d. (or Bulgin).
1—Formo pre-set, .0001 microfarad max., type F, 1s. 6d. (or Lewcodenser, Igranic).

DIALS, SLOW-MOTION
2—Ormond, type R/320B, 7s.

EBONITE
1—Trelleborg 10-in. by 7-in. panel, 4s. 6d. (or Becol, Red Triangle).

HOLDERS, COIL
2—Magnum six-pin, 5s. (or Lewcos).

HOLDERS, VALVE
2—Lotus, type VH/27, 3s. (or W.B., Clix).

RESISTANCE, VARIABLE
1—Lissen 7-ohm rheostat, 2s. 6d. (or Wearite, Varley).

SUNDRIES
Glazite insulated wire for connecting.
1—Ebonite knob.
1—Baseboard, 10 in. square (Pickett).
1—Bulgin four-way multiple cable plug, 2s.
1—Terminal, 1½ in. square.
1—Ever Ready 9-volt grid-bias battery, 1s. 3d. (or Lissen, Pertrix).

TERMINALS AND PLUGS
1—Belling-Lee terminal, marked: Aerial, 6d. (or Eelex, Clix).
3—Belling-Lee wander plugs, marked: G.B.+, G.B.—, H.T.+, 9d. (or Eelex, Clix).

The prices mentioned are those for the parts used in the original set; the prices of alternatives as indicated in the brackets may be either higher or lower

length required. If the leads are kept far apart the set may not tune down.

The operation is exactly the same as on the broadcast band. The oscillator dial is the more sharply tuned, but the difference is not so marked and both dials require careful handling. The manipulation is easier, however, in that the dials move more together than they do on the main portion of the set. To find the stations in the first place, set the tuning dial and slowly rotate the oscillator dial around in the corresponding position.

At one point signals or mush will come up, showing that the circuit is in tune. The two dials may then be moved round together, when stations will be found without difficulty. A weak station may be increased by the reaction control at the top of the panel.

No Alterations

The main part of the receiver does not require any alteration. The intermediates should be left set at exactly the same position as is usually employed for broadcast reception, and to return to the broadcast band it is only necessary to remove the adaptor and reinsert the valve or valves in the detector and oscillator sockets. The H.T.+ from the adaptor can be left connected, if desired

[*Since this article was written we have received the following additional notes from J. H. Reyner.*—

"In the original set .002-microfarad condensers were specified between the H.T. points and earth. It has since been found that .01-microfarad condensers are better.

"The correct oscillator coil for the broadcast band is the AMS/9.

"In some cases intermediate amplifiers have been made up using paper-dielectric condensers. These amplifiers operate satisfactorily, but owing to the increased loss due to the solid dielectric between the condenser vanes, the efficiency is not as high as with the original air-dielectric condensers. For the best results, therefore, the specified condensers should be employed in the intermediate amplifier."]

A QUAINT INSTRUMENT

By WHITAKER-WILSON

THOSE of you who listen to the serious music in the broadcast programmes may have been interested in the quaint sounds of the old-world harpsichord, especially during the Bach cantatas on a Sunday afternoon and occasionally in the symphony concerts.

The twangy, plucking effect never fails to appeal to the intelligent listener as being exactly the right effect for music of a century or a century and a half ago.

Percursor of the Piano

The harpsichord, it need hardly be said, is the immediate precursor of the piano and in many ways resembles it. On the other hand, to compare the harpsichord with a modern grand piano is rather difficult, as the latest improvements take us further and further away from the principle of the former.

The piano, as we all know, depends largely on a perfect balance of the hammer each key controls; those with a perfect touch—and there are many nowadays—have quite elaborate actions.

The pianoforte is so called because it was considered to be the soft (piano) and loud (forte) instrument at the time it was first made; it must be remembered that the harpsichord was incapable of tonal expression.

No amount of *hitting the key* would produce more sound; if one hit it too hard the key simply broke, or at least got out of gear. If you think of an instrument capable of producing all the harmonic effects you desire, but which could not record any accentuation at all you will realise the first of the limitations of the harpsichord.

In terms which will appeal to you from the wireless point of view, *the harpsichord had no volume control on it.* As often as not, the harpsichord was a mere scratch with a sound at the end of it.

The action of a harpsichord was undoubtedly an improvement upon any of its predecessors, but the makers must have felt themselves that they had missed the 'bus, as we say, because the dulcimer, from which all these keyed instruments had been evolved, was struck with free hammers; you struck them yourself, of course.

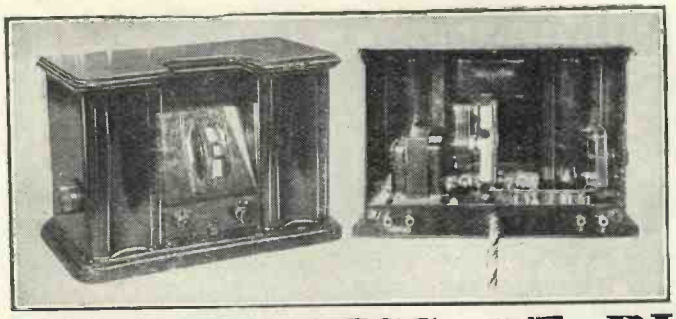
One of the first improvements of the harpsichord was to make it a two-manual instrument (an idea borrowed, of course, from the organ), and to give two, three, or even four strings to each note. This latter device is still employed in modern grand pianos for all except the bass strings.

Contrasting Tones

Although there was no chance of accentuation or even gradation of tone as we now understand it, there was a possibility of *contrasting* the tone on the two manuals.

The principle of the harpsichord, in common with that of the spinet, the virginal, and the clavichord, was that instead of the string or wire being struck by a hammer (as in the piano), the far end of the lever belonging to the key was furnished with a jack in the centre of which a piece

(*Continued on page* 104)



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Two views showing the attractive external appearance and internal construction of THE BURTON EMPIRE TWO-VALVE RECEIVER. This set is built entirely with components of our own registered design and manufacture. It gives wonderful reception of all local station programmes and numerous foreign ones, too, under favourable conditions, at good loud-speaker strength. It is a very sensitive set and gives fine quality of tone. Exceptionally good value at **57/6** without valves

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If you are building a set specify BURTON COMPONENTS—the parts that are guaranteed to be successful. Write for latest list fully describing the complete range of BURTON CONDENSERS, VALVE HOLDERS, CHOKES, TRANSFORMERS, SWITCHES, TERMINALS, etc.

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A neat and compact instrument of the highest efficiency, being carefully wound to give correct ratios. Enclosed in a neat moulded case giving a high-grade finish.
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The McMICHAEL RECEIVER on the 10.10 a.m. KING'S CROSS to LEEDS train daily

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The M-L D.C. to A.C. Rotary Transformer enables an A.C. All Electric Set to be operated from D.C. Mains, L.T. Accumulator or Private House Plant. Supplied to run from any voltage 12-250 v. D.C. 40 watt model, £13; 85 watt, £17.

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There are no running costs as no energising current is required. It is by far the greatest advancement ever made in loud-speaker design. The original N & K speaker can only be obtained from us.
The new N & K electric pick-up is an example of the latest development in pick-ups. As a result of its extreme light weight, record wear is reduced to a minimum. Pick-up only £1 17s. 6d., pick-up with tone-arm and volume control £3 3s. 0d.

Call for a demonstration or ask your dealer. Full details will be sent free on request on receipt of P.O.

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Look out for our March issue published on February 20

It will contain a Special Supplement that will be of interest to every owner of a receiver

Make sure of getting *your* copy

March issue

February 20

LIMIT'S NEWEST SOUNDBOX

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The original Limit soundbox, priced at 10/6, still maintains its high reputation in the gramophone world. If any difficulty in obtaining write for name of nearest stockist.

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QUEEN ANNE STYLE WIRELESS CABINET
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Advertisers like to know you "saw it in the 'Wireless Magazine'"

A QUAINT INSTRUMENT—Continued

of crow quill was firmly embedded.

When the finger depressed the key (there was not much actual *striking* in harpsichord-playing) the jack was thrown up and the crow quill caught the string and twanged it. Hence, the peculiar twanging sound of the instrument which, by the way, broadcasts exceedingly well.

In Fig. 1 you see part of the action of any of the harpsichord family of instruments. The jack simply swings up as soon as the key is touched at the other end.

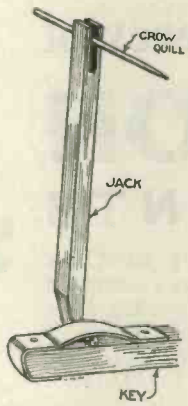

Fig. 1.—Part of the action of the harpsichord

Cristofori

If you will compare this with Fig. 2, which is of Cristofori's invention (he was the first maker of a pianoforte), you will see how much more elaborate his ideas were in comparison with the earlier conceptions.

You will notice the pad which raises the second lever, the hopper, centred and controlled by the springs which I have indicated by dotted lines; it effects the escape of the hammer when the note has been struck. When the hammer is at rest the head of it lies in the fork of silk. When the key is depressed the tail of the second lever draws away the damper from the strings and therefore allows them to vibrate freely and so produce proper tone.

This illustration, which is only rough, may serve to give an idea of the improvement which Cristofori made. Naturally, the desire to produce more and more tone meant a stronger string; eventually it meant a stronger frame.

Light Hammers

Cristofori's hammers were light compared with the weighted hammers of a modern grand piano; even so, they were too heavy for the type of string used for harpsichords.

There are two of Cristofori's pianos still in existence, one at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, and the other at Leipzig. Harpsichords themselves are still made, though only for the special purpose of playing music intended for them.

It is a strange point, musically, that harpsichord music can rarely be rendered satisfactorily on a piano. The atmosphere of the instrument is remarkable, but it must be remembered that it held an important place in music before the advent of the piano in the early part of the eighteenth century.

On the other hand, there is a great deal of pleasure to be derived from listening to a harpsichord in an orchestra. It is an old-world instrument and the effect it produces is old-world.

It is strange how one instrument should have the power to create an atmosphere; no other instrument in the orchestra could have done it, not even the *oboe d'amore*. But why not? After all, the violin is a far older instrument than the harpsichord; indeed, there are very few instruments in a modern orchestra that are *not* older than the harpsichord.

I suppose the real answer to the question is that those other instruments exist in practically their original forms; at any rate they are there to play what they are required. But the harpsichord has since been replaced by the piano which is the instrument of the home.

That last fact is very important, of course. However unfamiliar some of us may be with orchestral instruments, there are few of us who are not familiar with the tones of a piano.

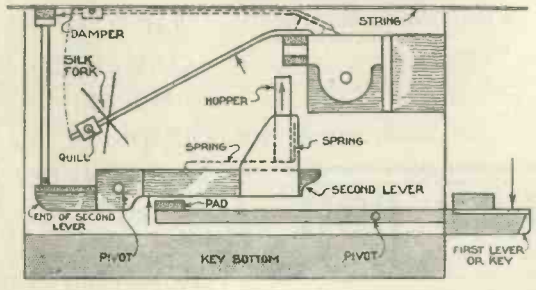

Fig. 2.—How Cristofori's action worked. There are still two of his instruments in existence

The harpsichord is a link with the past, and a link that is not likely to be broken yet awhile, if ever. Fortunately, the B.B.C. is not listening to the cries of the low-brows who advocate the total abolition of chamber and symphony concerts; it will be a sad day for England's artistic soul when the low-brow prevails.

We owe the harpsichord a great deal; from it our own piano was directly evolved, to begin with; but, apart from that, we owe it a debt of gratitude for its power to take us away from this present, so to speak, and to give us an occasional glimpse into the artistic past

COWBOY RADIO

IN the Argentine, on a cattle ranch, 60 miles from the nearest city, Walter L. Kelly is closely in touch with world affairs. The answer is radio.

The Kelly estancia, which means much, when translated, is divided into fields—fields for cattle, some for sheep, others for linseed, corn, alfalfa.

The fields are separated by wire fences and the topmost wire of the fence is used for an inter-communication system which connects the house and office with all the tenants, with the hotel in front of the railway station at Solis, about 60 miles from Buenos Aires.

Talking on the Fence

The main house and out-buildings are connected by a sixteen-station electric inter-communication system, so that from any room in the house it is possible to talk with any one on the outside fence system.

The telephone system, therefore, serves a double purpose. It may be used for communication purposes on affairs of the ranch or, in the evenings, Mr. Kelly may distribute to his tenants the output of his short wave radio receiving set. With a suitable receiver, it is possible to tune in on the radio programme at any point on the fence.

This enables the operator to tune his receiver for a particular station and then, at the hour stock or produce market reports are on the air, to tune in at whatever point of the ranch he happens to be at that time.

Radio reception from the fence at any point requires only an ordinary sensitive telephone receiver without batteries.

F. P.

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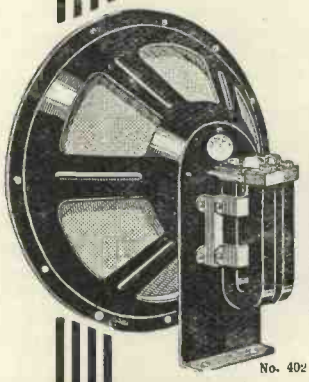

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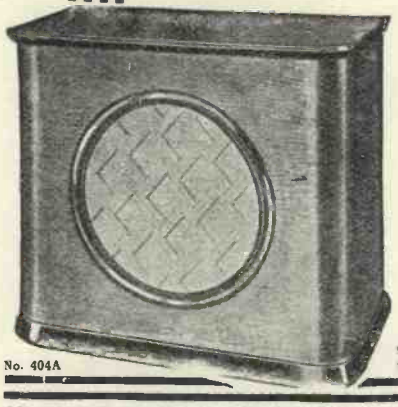

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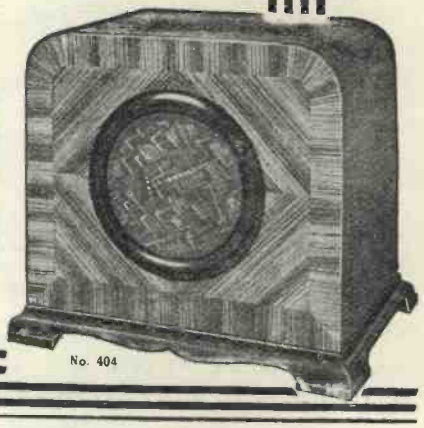

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H & B

COILS

For Super Efficiency H. & B. Coils are wound on Trelleborg's 12,000 volt per m/a Test Ebonite. Losses are therefore cut to the minimum.

Set of coils for the Reyner's Hyperdyne	17 6
Special short-wave H.F. choke	2 0
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"CHALLENGE THREE," carefully matched, per pair	1 1 0
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"SEARCHER TWO," "A.W.," August 23, per pair	9 6
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"BROOKMAN'S BY-PASS"	3 0
"MUSIC LEADER," "A.W."	10 6
"JAMES' S.G. PORTABLE 3," "W.M.," July	9 6
"JAMES' A.C.5," "W.M.," Jan. Set of 4 Coils	1 10 0

NOTE.—We supply Coils for any set described in "A.W.," "W.M.," etc. Any Coil built to your specification. Prices on application.

For the convenience of "Wireless Magazine" readers, we have specially compiled a 12-page folder giving complete details of the sets described in the supplement given with this issue. This folder gives full details of the components, prices, of all the twelve sets and units.

H. & B. Kits contain all necessary wire and screws.
H. & B. Kits have the panels and strips ready drilled.
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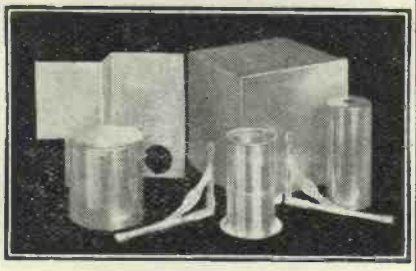
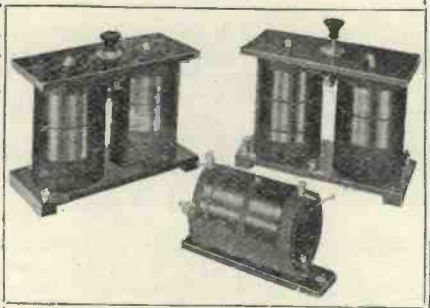


COILS



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Every screen made of heavy gauge *British* aluminium, exactly to specification, and supplied with necessary earthing tags and screws.

Every screen listed below is in stock and can be despatched immediately.

	s.	d.
Standard 10 in. by 6 in., with two terminals	1	6
"Lodestone 3 and 4"	1	6
"James S.G. Quality 5" set	5	6
"Brookmans 3"	2	6
"Brookmans 4" set	5	6
"Sunshine Portable"	1	6
"Clarion 1930 3"	1	6
"Interceptordyne" and foil	5	6
"Ether Searcher" panel screen and base	11	6
"Music Leader" Box	5	6
"Horizon Four"	2	6
"Continental Portable"	1	6
"James S.G. Portable" chassis	9	6
Challenge Four with Foil	3	6
Challenge Three with Foil	2	6
Challenge Radio-Grand with Foil	2	6
Short-wave Adaptor with valve-holder attached, 8 in. by 7 in.	3	6
Regional A.C. Five (2), boxes and foil	19	6
Regional A.C. Four	2	6
Five Point Three	2	6
Falcon A.C. Three	1	6
New Brookmans Three	1	6
Five Point Four, with valve-holder fitted	2	6
Regional Band Pass Four	2	6
Aluminium Cabinet for Five Point S/W Three, complete with 5-ply baseboard covered with foil	18	6

Any screen or screening box made to any specification; quotations given by return.

To H. & B. Radio,
Please send me by return, post free, one of your leaflets giving full details of the Receivers described in the W.M. supplement.

Name .....

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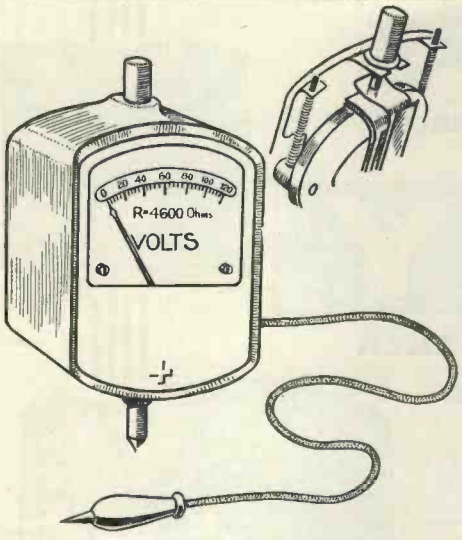
Block Letters. .....

When you send your order don't forget to say you "saw it in the 'W.M.'"

TESTS OF NEW APPARATUS



AN INGENIOUS METER

This is a new Ripault dual-range voltmeter. In the top right-hand corner is shown the press-button mechanism for bringing either of two scales in use

RIPAULT METER

MULTI-SCALE meters are enjoying wide popularity at the present time, owing to the save in cost as against two or three instruments performing a single function.

We have just received for test a rather ingenious double-range pocket voltmeter, marketed by Ripault's, Ltd., of Kings Road, N.W.1. This appears to be a single-range voltmeter, having a scale reading from 0 to 120 volts, and the standard fixed and flexible prod connections. A press button at the top, however, not only alters the range, but changes the scale to read from 0 to 6 volts, and thus avoids a multiplicity of scales.

The possibility of burning out the meter, by connecting it across an H.T. battery on the L.T. scale, is unlikely to occur, owing to the necessity for depressing the push-button to its lowest point in order to obtain an L.T. reading. Should the button slip while making the test no harm will occur, as the meter will then be operating on the 120-volt scale.

Degree of Accuracy

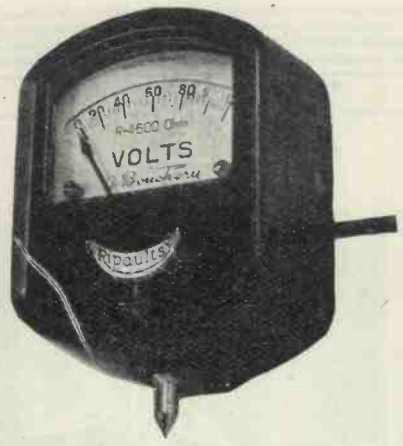
Tested against our standard laboratory instrument, this meter was found to be accurate on the low-tension range to within 2 per cent.; the H.T. range, however, read some 8 per cent. low. This is not an exceptional error for a moving-iron instrument. The total resistance is 4,600 ohms, which works out at a resistance of 38 ohms per volt. When measuring 120 volts on the meter the current consumption will be 26 milliamperes. This is a well-constructed instrument, and has several ingenious features.

COLASSION LOUD-SPEAKERS

WITH the object of producing a loud-speaker capable of giving good quality at a reasonable price, the Colassion models have been produced by W. L. Colassi, of Mark Lane Station Buildings, E.C.3. The first model we tested was the Colassion Junior, price £5. This was tried on a small two-valver and on our standard power amplifier. As a result of tests we can say that the sensitivity is above the average.

The cabinet of this cone loud-speaker has been designed to eliminate "boominess." It is nearly one inch thick. The overall dimensions are 19¾ in. by 19¾ in. by 10½ in. The cone diaphragm is driven by a reed movement having an exceptionally large permanent magnet. The whole construction is robust and the workmanship praiseworthy.

In view of the fact that a reed movement is used instead of the more usual balanced armature, we were particularly interested to note that considerable power could be handled without reed chatter. As regards sensitivity, the Colassion Junior was well up to standard.



NEAT IN APPEARANCE

This photograph shows how neat is the moulded case of the Ripault dual-range voltmeter

Tested with a frequency record, the response of this model was found to be quite constant over the greater part of the audible range, especially between 350 and 4,500 cycles. The response appeared to be accentuated on the lower register. Altogether the tone was very pleasing.

The Colassion Hyper loud-speaker is a more expensive model, price £10. The Hyper impressed us with its power-handling capabilities. The full output of the amplifier was handled without distress. Quality of reproduction was excellent.

For constructors, the Colassion chassis, price £5, is available. The massive unit and robust workmanship of this powerful chassis will make a great appeal to constructors. We were very satisfied with the performance of the chassis as regards both sensitivity and frequency response.

SANS PICK-UP!

MANY interesting demonstrations of the advance made in the design of loud-speakers, pick-ups, and home-recording apparatus were demonstrated by Mr. S. G. Brown, of S. G. Brown, Ltd., during a lecture given by him at the Institute of Electrical Engineers recently.

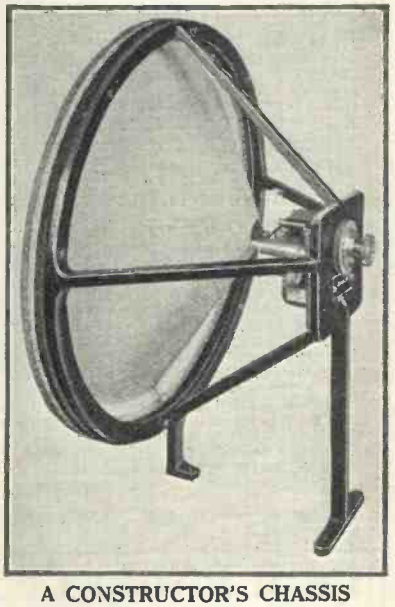
Probably the most interesting exhibit of the evening was a novel method of reproducing gramophone records on a loud-speaker without the use of an intermediate amplifier or electromagnetic pick-up. The latter was replaced by a new differential microphone, which consists of carbon granules placed each side of a centre disc similar to that in an ordinary mechanical soundbox.

Good Volume and Quality

This microphone, connected in series with the loud-speaker and a 6-volt accumulator, gave results that compared favourably with that of many electro-magnetic types of pick-up. Volume was good and the quality, taking into consideration that the idea is in its infancy, was quite passable.

Mr. Brown then showed his recent developments with home recording apparatus. The recorder consisted of a circular plate about 6 ins. in diameter that was kept revolving by a spring motor in which the gearing had been lowered in the ratio of three to one in order to secure greater power in the drive.

A pick-up was carried on the end of a hinged arm which was screwed steadily forward at about 100 threads per inch.



A CONSTRUCTOR'S CHASSIS

This Colassion chassis was found to give excellent results on test. It has a massive unit

Read This Artic'e Carefully and You Will Know

That Was — GERMANY!

Enjoying reception with a Marconiphone receiver and loud-speaker

Another title for this article by J. GODCHAUX ABRAHAMS might be "Broadcast German Without Tears." The author is an acknowledged authority on Continental broadcasting and has considerable linguistic abilities. In these notes he explains just the few words and expressions needed to identify German transmissions without any doubts. Last month French words and phrases were explained

"WAS that Germany?" is a question which you must have asked yourself many times in the course of a single evening. Did you get a satisfactory answer?

You were listening to the local station and then, your fingers idly twirling the dials—only a slight movement, perhaps—you heard a transmission which held your interest for a while. It was a foreigner. On that point you were certain, but—well, your knowledge of languages is, shall we say, weak? Was it a German, or ——?

Distinguishing Signals

Last month I tried to give you a few pointers which might help you to identify a French station; I think it is possible to show you how to distinguish whether the signal heard emanated from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, or whether a Swede, Dane, Dutchman, Italian, Spaniard, or Czech was responsible for the broadcast.

If you tuned in just as the station came on the air you could solve your problem immediately for it is the German only who uses the word *Achtung* (phon.: *Ar-toong*) in front of his call; the Austrian, Swiss, and Dutchman say *Hallo*. But possibly you did not pick up the call or, alternatively, no mention was made of any particular city or town.

Germans, in their language, are very fond of abbreviations; it is true that they are popular on this side of the Strait, but in their case it is a necessity if too much time is not to be wasted, as words of fifteen and even twenty letters are currently used in ordinary conversation.

For this reason, therefore, wherever possible these unwieldy sounds are curtailed. Take as an example the call you get from the new Mühlacker (Stuttgart) transmitter. How would you like to hear, at regular intervals —*Hier Sueddeutsche Rundfunk Aktiengesellschaft, gruppe Stuttgart (or Mühlacker) und Freiburg-im-Breisgau?*

No, it has been gratefully shortened to *Hier Suedfunk* and such shortened calls apply equally to Berlin (*Funkstunde*), Hamburg and relays (*Norag*); Langenberg - Cologne - Aachen - Muenster (*Coeln*), the Leipzig group (*Mirag*), and others.

The literal meaning of the word *funk* is spark, and was first adopted by wireless-telegraphy stations, hence *Bordfunker* ("Sparks," the operator on board ship). When it came to telephony another term had to be found, and *rundfunk* was coined to denote broadcasting.

Teutonic Roots

With very few exceptions the Germans are averse to the importation of words of foreign origin into their language and prefer to work out their own terms, putting aside the Latin and Greek in favour of Teutonic roots. As an example, although the word telephone is understood from the borders of the Baltic down to the Swiss frontier, and from the western to the eastern boundaries, officially it is only known as *Fernsprecher* (distant speaker), a very clumsy expression.

Stunde (*shtoonde*), actually "hour," is also used in this sense. From Berlin you will hear *Funkstunde* (spark hour), which, as the name of the authorised body controlling the various stations becomes a synonym of *Rundfunk*; Munich calls itself *Die Deutsche Stunde in Bayern* (the German broadcast hour in Bavaria).

Some Other "Funks"

Funk is coupled to many other words, for instance, *Schul* (*shool*) *funk* or broadcast to schools, and *Sport* (*shport*) *funk*, needing no translation. *Kinderfunk* (Children's hour) will also be heard during the afternoon.

Again, you cannot listen to a German station for long without hearing such a word as *Musik* (*moo-zeek*). You will find it in conjunction with *Unterhaltung* (entertainment) or light popular compositions; *Opernmusik*, from operas, especially during the later evening hours; and *Tanzmusik*, which you may translate for yourselves.

Here I must draw your attention to the pronunciation of certain letters of the alphabet. It is not a difficult task and should assist you greatly in understanding words heard. They are not difficult and can be easily memorised.

A as in *father*, *e* as *ay*, *g* (hard) as *gay*, *j* as *y*, *v* equals *f*, and *w* is the English *v*. Bear in mind that the German *u* is pronounced *ou* except

(*Continued on page* 110)

Here's why you should use this PICK-UP—

. . . it is chosen by the experts

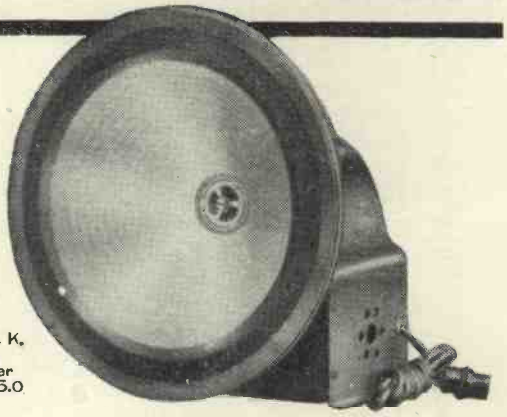
PRICE *with 4 Adaptors* **27/6**

The B.T.H. Pick-Up is always used where perfect reproduction is vital. Experts are unanimous in their choice of Pick-Up. They have proved that the carefully balanced design of the B.T.H. Pick-Up ensures the finest reproduction with minimum record wear.

Your records cannot give of their best until they are reproduced with the aid of a B.T.H. Pick-Up. Fitting necessitates no alterations to your machine because the four adaptors supplied with the B.T.H. Pick-Up fit any standard tone arm.

THE B T-H PICK-UP and ADAPTORS

Voted the best in its class



SENIOR R.K. UNIT
Without rectifier
Price - £6.15.0

JUNIOR R.K. UNIT
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PERMANENT MAGNET R.K. UNIT
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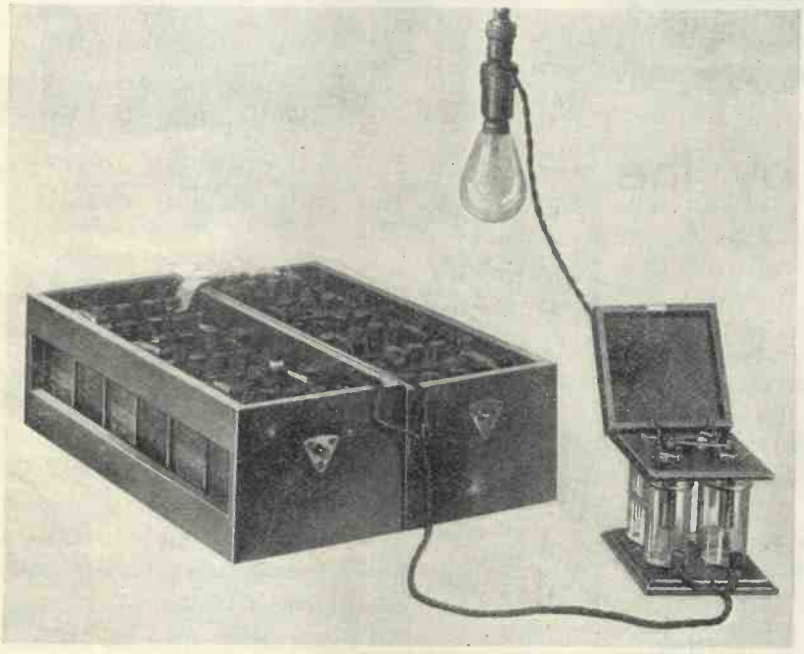
THAT WAS GERMANY !—Continued

where modified with the two dots, in which case it is the sound you know in *Mueller*. Also *s* followed by *t* can be rendered as *sht*-and.

The last letter of the alphabet, *z*, is hard, as if preceded by a *t*. The word *Zeit* (time), therefore, would be *tsite*, *ei* being equal to a long *i*.

Frequent Words

Whilst on this point may I give you examples of other words which occur frequently? They are *Konzert* (*kontzert*), *Zeitung* (*tsi-toong*) newspaper, *Tanz* (dance), and *zwischensender* (*tswishenzender*), relay station.



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Syncopated Melodies

The German announcer when informing you that syncopated melodies will be put over invariably uses the word *jazz* and its pronunciation at most studios is an exceptional one, namely, a sound like *yatz*, usually followed by a well-known fox-trot number. The Teuton in his term makes no distinction between the nigger jazzy atrocity and the more melodious dance tune much more in favour to-day.

Some expressions, you will have noted, require little explanation; of such are *Sender* as applied to the transmitting station; *Sendung*, the transmission proper; and *Programm*, which although apparently misspelt, is the synonym of our word for the same object.

On more than one occasion an announcer has told you *Wir bringen zunaechst eine Uebertragung aus* (or) *von* (as the case may be) followed by the name of a city or of some concert hall; possibly also a theatre or cabaret may have been mentioned.

Just analyse that German sentence, it's so simple. You can guess the first word. Yes, it's "We." *Zunaechst* means "next" and *uebertragung* indicates "relay." And there you have it. "We bring you next a relay from (or of)." If it is a dramatic performance, the word *Theater* (*tay-ar-ter*) follows, if a concert, possibly *Konzertsaal* or *Festsaal* (French: *Salle des Fêtes*), literally *Fête Hall*, or again, *Kursaal*, which is the hall attached to a *Kurhaus* or the principal place of entertainment in any watering, sea-side, or health resort; actually, the cure-house or, usually, pump-room.

Here you see how many English and German words possess the same origin.

Gramophone records, as you know, are largely used in Continental studios; in the German programmes they are a regular daily feature. They will be referred to as *Schallplatten* (sound plates), or if the name of the make is given it will appear as a direct translation, namely, H.M.V. (His Master's Voice) becomes *Die Stimme seines Herrn*.

Familiar Announcements

Certain announcements such as *Meine Damen und Herren* (ladies and gentlemen) must be familiar to all; it is a phrase not only used at the end of the transmission before the final *Gute Nacht* greetings, but by almost every lecturer who prefaces a talk in this manner.

However, there are exceptions, for if he desires to be less formal and more familiar he may address his unseen audience as *Liebe Hoerer und Hoerinnen*.

In English we only possess the word *listeners* as a general appellation, in German, as you see, there is a distinction of sex.

Flowery Speeches

At times, too, the studio announcer is inclined to be flowery in his speech; he will introduce a *Vortrag* (lecture) "to my respected or revered listeners" in the most starchy and ceremonious manner; at other times, such as when he compères a cabaret, he takes on the duties of what is styled in Teutonic circles a *conférencier* and generally endeavours to give an atmosphere of gaiety to the proceedings.

It is a curious fact that although *confé encier* is the French term for lecturer, in Germany it loses its true meaning entirely and merely denotes any person acting as M.C. to a variety show or cabaret. As an announcer in the studio he is a mere *Ansager*.

Announcing Music

If your receiver is one which brings in Continental transmission on many evenings you will have captured a concert from abroad. The speaker charged with the duty of giving to the listeners details of the programme will have said a few words regarding the orchestra, its conductor, the vocalists or instrumentalists.

(*Continued on page* 112)

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THAT WAS GERMANY!

(*Continued from page* 110)

An ordinary or "common" bandmaster is a *Kapellmeister*; if of a better quality, he may be called a *Dirigent*, but if famous it will be stated that the *Orchester ist unter der Leitung von . . .* (under the direction of). Now it is in such circumstances that you will stumble across sentences which puzzle you.

Similarly to the principle adopted by the B.B.C., important transmissions of more than local interest are simultaneously broadcast by a number of regional and relay stations. In such cases you would get the call and a series of other towns taking the S.B. included as *angeschlossene Sender* (connected transmitters).

Before Switching Back

Then, later, previous to their switching back to their individual programmes, you would pick up words to this effect :—*Nach kurzem Pause kommen alle Sender programmaessig mit ihren eigenen Uebertragungen wieder* (after a short interval all stations will come on the air again with their individual transmissions).

But few German studios run a continuous non-stop programme; in most of them there are short waits during which an interval signal is broadcast. Usually before this is done the announcer will say :—*Die Musik uebertragung aus . . .* or *Der Vortrag von Herrn Doktor X ist beendet* or *am Ende. Auf Wiederhoeren um. . . .* (the musical programme from . . . or the talk by Doctor *X*—they are all doctors in Germany!—is ended).

Coined Expression

Auf Wiederhoeren is an expression which was coined shortly after the advent of broadcasting in Berlin some years ago. The experimental "fan" morsed C U L (see you later), but as in broadcasting it was a question of hearing some other formula had to be discovered to convey a similar idea. Hence, "to our further hearing at. . . ." and then follows the ticking of the metronome or whichever signal has been adopted to fill the gap.

Running commentaries on sporting events are also popular features; for the word "commentary," however, *reportage* is used.

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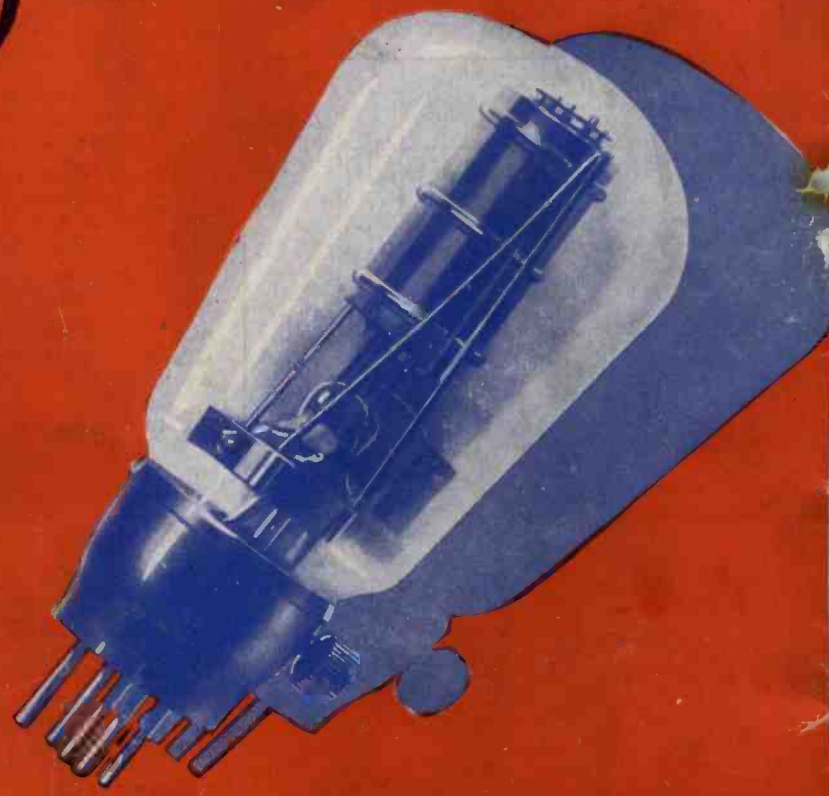

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