BAND-PASS SUPERHETERODYNE.


No. 584. Vol. XXVII. No. 19.


# have you met the PM. 250 A 

It is intended primarily for use as a large power amplifying valve in cases where the signal available from the preceding stages of amplification is already so powerful that if would overload any ordinary power valve. It is capable of delivering sufficient power for operating all forms of loudspeakerf including the moving coil type. Its excellent performance is obtained at a very moderaie anode voltage of 200, while the filament consumes only
 0.25 amp , at 6 volts which may, if desired, be obtained by a step-down transformer from the A.C. electric light mains:

## CHARACTERISTICS.

Max. Filament Voltage - - $6: 0$ volts *Anode Impedance - - 1,400 ohms<br><br>Max. Anode Voltage - - 200 volts ${ }^{\text {KMutual Conductance }} \mathbf{~} \mathbf{2 . 6} \mathrm{mA} /$ volt<br>*At Anode Volts 100; Grid Volts Zero.

PRICE 13/6.


Advert : The Mullard Wireless Service Co., Ltd, , Mullard House, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.


When you purchase a pick-up you must think beyond the question of reproduction. Some pick-ups plough up the record to such an extent that it is completely ruined in a very short time.
If you use the B.T.H. pick-up you will not only get the best possible reproduction but record wear will be reduced below that of the finest mechanical gramophone.

> PRICE

Pick-up with 4 adaptors for standard tone arms. Price 27/6 complete.


## ${ }^{\text {Twion }}$ NIKLLOY

Nikalloy, the modern metallurgical discovery has revolutionised radio reproduction. Its employment in transformers and chokes is the latest phase in the triumphant progress of R.I.

was the first L.F. Choke to have Nikalloy as a core, which gives astonishingly high inductance with minimum weight and size. It is specially recommended as an output . filter choke with the A.C. Pentode valve (and was selected as such by the designers of "The Wireless World" Regional One Receiver). It also gives absolutely best results as a smoothing choke.
Write for completo catalogue and leatetesivining full deseript.
R.I. Nisalloy components.

 Pro. Pat. No. 20286/30. An entirely new design in patent spring contacts, which patent spring contacts, which
are designed to provide the are designed to provide the
most efficient contact with the valve legs.

Price 1 /- each.
 contacts.

TELSEN FIVE PIN VALVE HOLDER.
THLA P FIVE PIN VAUVE HOLDER. Pro. Pat. No. 20286/30. Genuine
Bakelite Mouldings fitted with Nickel Silver shock-absorbing spring


TELSEN FIXED (MICA) CONDENSERS. shrouded in geraine Bakelite, made in capacitles up to complete with patent Grid Leak Cilps to facilitate series or parailel connection. Can be mounted vpright or flat. Tested on 600 volta.
Advt: of Telsen Electric Co., Lid., Birmingham.

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When Ferranti decided to market the small popular 2 mfd . Condenser for radio purposes, existing types were dissected and examined, and Ferianti said:
"We've got to make onie better!"
-and they did.
Instead of the metallised paper commonly used we employ pure metal foil inter-
Ieaued vith
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 insulation usualy provided and tivice the safety factor, The pure metal toil ensures ow. internal resistance, a higgyy important factor in Condenesers The improvemens incorparate in Ferranti Condenserf put up the cost of
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## When you can hear THE WORLD'S FINEST MUSIC



Undy 8 pole loudspeaker, in beautiful oak 70


Undy 8 pole loudspeaker, in highly pol- $80 /=$ cabinet de luxe:
on the


## 8 POLE

 DYNAMIC SPEAKERThe construction of the Undy 8 pole loudspeaker is a milestone in the development of wireless.
On account of its superior construction it meets the most exacting demands in sensitivity, power and frequency range.
Do not fail to hear this loudspeaker to-day at your dealer's-you will be surprised !

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your usual Dealer.
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Undy 8 pole dynamic loudspeaker, in polished walnut cabinet. The moderate-priced speaker
for the most exacting requirements.

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## TWO GREAT ACHIEVENENTS IN THE WORLD OF MUSIC

Celestion W. 5 Pick-Up incorporates an entirely new form of damping which allows the needle to follow the record grooves of frequencies as low as 25 with the utmost ease. Record wear is practically non-existent and the method of damping is exclusive to the Celestion Pick-Up. The truly remarkable response curve of 25 to 8 ,ooo cycles gives some indication of the marvellous quality you can obtain. Ask your dealer to demonstrate. Price, complete " with Tone Arm and quick $\mathbf{~ n} 3.15$


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The BurTon BAKELITE (Dielectric) CONDENSER. Entirely eliminates shorting and ensures a perfectly clean contact with centre spindle at all times. Supplied with pointer knob, onc-hote fixing. Two capacities.
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Price $2 / 9$ each.

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Celestion Loud-Speaker Model D. 50 has been described as the Speaker which gives Moving Coil results with no trouble. Incorporates unique features by which it responds to frequencies as low as 50 cycles as well as the highest harmonics of the violin. Beautiful cabinet of modern design. Resistance 750 ohms. Prices:

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Mention of "The Wareless World," when worntang to advertasers, will ensure prompt altention.


WRITE FOR THE FULL O'POWER BOOKLET
whichcontains many useful notes for listeners, toand prices of the complete range of Full O'Power Batteries.

SIEMENS BROTHERS
\& CO. LTD.,
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Telephone: WOOLWICH 1161.

B5 Advevtisempnts for "The Wireless Worde's are onlv accented from firms we believe to be thoroughlv reliable.

HAS CHANGED THE FASHION IN SPEAKERS . . . for good! LAMPLUGH
LEADS AGAIN
with this ALL-BRITISH


Manufactured under Farranà and Lektu. phone $\begin{gathered}\text { Standard } \\ \text { Patcut } \\ \text { Appliching }\end{gathered}$ Patents.

## STEREOSCOPIC REPRODUCTION

Every instrument of an orchestra reproduced with amazing fldelity... clear.... distinct peasily separable. uncanny realism.
This Speaker has been acclaimed in the Press as a revolution in the principles of qualities of the finest moving coil without its drawbacks.. no hum .. . no heat . . . electrically energised "Pot." Sensitivity is such that we guarantee adequate volume two-valve set using Power or Pentode valve.
Give your set a chance... LAMPLUGH INDUCTOR Dynamic SPEAKER... the difference will be instantly obvious. When ordering, specify the ALL - BRITISH. LAMPLUGH! INDUCTOR Dynamic SPEAKER

Sold with a twelve months' guarantee.


## S. A. LAMPLUGK LTD.,

KING'S RD., TYSELEY, BIRMINGHAM
Bcottish Distributor: Mr, MICHAEL BLAGK, 184, GEORGE BTREET, GLASGOW.

##  PRECISION CONDENSERS for faultless finish


J.B. NEUTRALISING CONDENSER 3/6
J.B. have concentrated for years Precision Condensers and Dials. The excellence of these products to-day justifies this specialisation.
No one could glance at a J.B. Condenser without being struck by its beauty of finish and its workmanlike appearance. Closer inspection shows all the accuracy, careful thought and attention to detail that have gone to make it what it is.
There is a J.B. Precision Condenser for every purpose. The J.B. Neutralising and Midget Condensers are two instruments of advanced design. Both are characterised by their rigid construction, efficient insulation and low minimum capacity.


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Advertisement of Jackson Bros., 72, St. Thomas' St., S.E.1. Telephone : Hop 1837.



The MAZDA AC/PI CHARACTERISTICS :
Filament Volts
4.0

Filament Amps (approx.) . . 1.0
Max. H.T. Voltage , , 200
Amplification Facior . . 5
Anode A.C. Resistance (ohms) . 2,000
Mutual Conductance (mA/V) . 2.5
PRICE 17/6

EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC CO., LTD. Incopporating the Wiring Supplies, Lighting Engineering, Refriger-
ation and Radio Business of the British Thomson-Houston Co, Ltd. Rädio Division:
1a Newman Street, Oxford Street, W. 1 Showrooms in all the Principal Towns
EDISWAN

There is no need to use a directly heated output valve in your all-mains set - with consequent risk of hum and the additional inconvenience of having to provide a separate L.T. winding on your transformers. Use the AC/PI - the finest output valve ever developed for all-mains sets, a valve which gives a huge output at only 200 volt H.T. 4


## The Radio <br> 

THE Peerless 8 is stocked by all up-to-date high class dealers throughout the country. Write to-day for full details.

The Rothermel Corporation Ltd. 24, Maddox Street, London, W.1. Phone: may Fatif o5789.<br>Continental Sates Office: 27, Quai du Commerce, Brussels, Belgium.

of To-morrow is here to-day

Peerless A.C. Screen Grid 8

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 units of the Peerless Eight and consider the marvellous value which you receive.

3 Screen Grid Radio Frequency. Power Detector. Power Outbut. Oversized Power Pack. Dynamic Speaker Reproduction. Complete Wave Length Range 200-2,000 metres. Marvellous selectivity, Sensitivity and Tone, Completely shielded and A.G. operated. Illuminated Drum Dial Tuning. Noiseless Volume Control.

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## Another Lewcos Achievement

LEWCOS engineers are occupied year in and year out on problems connected with the improvement of radio reception and this new component-the L.F.T.3-is one of the most successful of Lewcos achievements. It has a Constant Inductance for different values of anode currents.
With an ordinary transformer the inductance of the winding is considerably different for varying anode currents. In other words, the two halves of the low frequency wave are not amplified equally, introducing marked distortion. If the inductance is constant, however, as in the Lewcos L.F.T.3, the amplification remains the same, irrespective of signal strength. Write for fully deseriptive leaflet, Ref. L.F.T. 3 .


THE LONDON ELEGTRIC WIRE COMPANY AND SMITHS LIMITED,
Church Road, Leyton, London, E. 10.

## Oubiliers

 mica condenserfor every job !

TYPE 620
For use in radiocircuits where comparatively small capacity is required. Arranged for vertical mounting. PRICES $1 / 8$ to $3 /-$


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As 620, but arranged for horizontal mounting. PRICES $1 / 8$ to 3/-


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Primarily designed for resistance coupling, but suitable for use in other circuits where \& comparativelylarge capacity, capable of withstanding seyeral hundreds of volts, is required.
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Use Dubilier Condensers and be certain of satisfaction.

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DUBILIER CONDENSER CO.(1925) Ltd., DUCON ẄORKS, VICTORIA ROAD, N. ACTON; W.3.

## (8iH)

## Electric

 Gramophone Motor
## for better

Music in the Home!

## No winding

 Just switch on!Why keep on laboriously winding that clockwork gramophone, when, with the aid of the B.T.H. Electric Gramophone Motor, you can easily convert it into a first-class electrically-operated instrument? Easily fitted-only one hole to cut, will operate from your lighting supply, even speed-never runs down, plays 900 records for one unit of electricity.

## Costs only £3-3-0

from all high-class dealers.


## The British Thomson-Houston Co. Ltd.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS AND MANUFACTURERS
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## How's this forSelectivity!

The "Wireless Trader" test report on the GAM-BRELL A.C. THREE, said:-
"TOULOUSE, clear of LONDON REGIONAL, LANGENBURGH clear of MIDLAND REGIONAL, KOENIGSWUSTERHAUSEN clear of $\overline{5 X X}$ and RADIO PARIS, a feat not generally performed by a set of this nature under these conditions of test.
" 11 miles from Brookmans Park . . it was possible to limit the spread of both the London Regional and National stations to 3 degrees on a 100 scale. This, of course, represents extremely good selectivity and sensitivity.
"The tone was found to be well balanced, with a good bass response and crisp high frequencies.'

The "Music Seller" said :-
"With a little care and practice in tuning, some forty stations are to be received at good strength.

THE GAM-BRELL A.G. 3 and 4 v. RECEIVERS as tested by the above journals.
These sets incorporate every possible refinement. Modern circuit gives long range, good volume and perfect reproduction. Reception of programmes in any room without the use of an aerial. Many British and device gives hair-line to broad tuning at will. Calibrated wavelength chart makes tuning exceedingly simple. Terminals for pick-up. Volume control on radio and gramophone.


All-Electric Three For A.C. £26 15 For D.G. £24 0

All-Electric Four
For A.C. £33 0 For D.C. £27 0
Both in Oak or Mahogany

Write for full descriptive leaflet of Gam-brell Al1Electric Receivers.

There are now three types of the famous GAM-BRELL NOVOTONE

The full beauty of the bass notes and the brilliance of reproduction when using electrically recorded records, can only be obtained by placing, a Novotone in your amplifying circuit.

Even in present-day recording there Even in present-day recording there compensated for if realistic reproduction is desired.

Type S
for Standard plekType ${ }^{-}$ Type H for High resistance pick-ups
Type $J$
exactly as type. $s$ but having less amplifcation $\pm 3 \mathrm{~s}$.

The NOVOTONE imparts to your records :
Full-bodied and true reproduction of the bass notes. Appreciable brilliance of the higher notes. An increase in general amplification.

Full descriptive Novotone Folder on request.
GAMBRELL RADIO LTD.,
6, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, W.G.2.

LITTLE STORIES OF GREAT MOMENTS


There was gladness in some hearts and consternation in many when Stephenson's Rocket started on its first perilous journey. Long embittered critics were confounded and the habits of a nation transformed. It was the complete triumph of a lifetime spent in doing one thing and doing it well.
It is this same spirit of "doing one thing and doing it well" which has, for years, been behind all T.C.C. endeavour. That is why T.C.C. have
 never made anything but Condensers, and that is why T.C.C. Condensers are unmatched -for accuracy and for dependability.
One of the many types is shown here. It is the T.C.C. 0003 mfd . Upright Mica Condenser. Price $1 / 6$.


TELEGRAPH CONDENSER CO., LTD;, N. ACTON, W. 3.
 Aproved that. The CYLDON Diffzential Condenser (illustra ted in inset) is the only air dielzetric differential. Well worth the extra cost, 100.

## SHORT WAVE TUNING REVOLUTIONISED BY SERIES GAP

ALWAYS first with essentially nevs developments since the infancy of Radio. CYLDON marked a milestone with Log Mid-Line. Now Series Gap, to revolutionise tuning on 'low down' waves, a double section CYLDON without pigtail or rubbing contact, with dead end plates and dead centre spindle. The new tuning principle introduced opens out the tuning scale at 5 to 10 metres to broadcast simplicity and entirely eliminates 'condenser noises.' Added to a mechanically correct design, superior materials, construction and workmanship, the choice of a condenser for short waves is decidedly limited to Series Gap. Build with CYLDON. It costs more, but many outstanding constructional features amply justify it.



FIVE YEARS GUARAMLE

SYDNEY S. BIRD \& SONS LTD. CYLDON WORKS, Tele :
SARNESFIELD ROAD, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
2071/2

## FERRANT AGAIN!

For the second year in succession, the FERRANTI MOVING COIL SPEAKER has been selected as the best in the " Wireless World " Olympia Show Ballot for "Loud Speakers of all types."

Chassis only, as shown, $£ 9: 10: 0$.
Also available in Table and Pedestal Cabinets in Oak, Mahogany and Walnut, and a Table Model in Rexine covered Metal Case. Ask your dealer or write for descriptive pamphlet.


FERRANTI Ltd., Head Office and Works, HOLLINWOOD, LANCS. LONDON: Bush House, Aldwych, W.C. 2

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SCIENTIFIC FACT

## EXPERT APPRECIATION

## PUBLIC APPRECIATION

FOR THE FINAL STAGE OF THE A.C. ALL-ELECTRIC RECEIVER - MARCONI ML-4, an indirectly heated output valve of exceptional efficiency, combining an amplification factor of 9 with an impedance of only 3,000 ohms-mutual conductance $3.0 \mathrm{M} . \mathrm{A} / \mathrm{VOLT}$. ML-4 provides a stage magnification which hitherto has only been possible with valves of much higher impedance; at the same time its undistorted output is ample for most requirements. In construction it retains the essential features of all Marconi A.C. valves-lasting emission, permanency of characteristics, special mesh anode and exceptional vacuum. ML-4 is the ideal output valve for most A.C. Receivers. ITS DEPENDABLE EFFICIENCY HAS BEEN PROVED BEYOND DOUBT-MARCONI ML-4 IS ALL BRITISH-AND COSTS ONLY 17/6. CHARACTERISTICS.

| Amp. factor-9 | Fil. volts. -4.0 |
| :--- | :--- |

Impedance-3,000 Ohms Fil. amps.-1.0
Mut. Conductance-3.0 MA/V. Anode Volts- 200 max.
MARCON ML-4-THE FOREMOST INDIRECTLY HEATED OUTPUT VALVE FOR A.C. RECEIVERS-PRICE $17 / 6$
Marconi Valves are used by The B.B.C., Imperial Airways, Croydon Control Tower, Metropolitan Police, Trinity House Beacon Stations and Lightships, Empire Wireless Communications, Large Passenger Liners, \&c., \&c., because of their longer life-clearer tone-greater range and volume.

A letter typical of many received regarding the splendid service given by Marconi Valves:-
"On May Ist, 1924, I purchased two of your valves-2-volt General Purpose Type, costing at that time 21/each.
These valves have been in daily use ever since, and to-day are giving me fine results. I have also another one bought three years ago, and these three are working on a P.W. Magic 3 set which I constructed a few weeks ago - . . . Your notice re long life attracted my attention, and I thought how true it was, as I have found it out myself. . . . The volume and selectivity are wonderful, considering I have no Power Valve in my set." W. S. R., Swansea.


Editor: HUGH S. POCOCK. Assistant Editor : F. H. HAYNES.<br>Editorial Offices : II6-1ı7, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. - - Editorial Telephone : City 9472 ( 5 lines). Advertising and Publishing Offices: DORSET HOUSE, TUDOR STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. Telephöné: City 2847 ( 53 lines).<br>Telegrams: "Etheworid, Fleet, London."<br>Coventry: Hertford St. Birmingham : Guildhall Bldgs., Navigation St. Manchester: 260, Deansgate. Clasgow : 101, St. Vincent St., C.2. <br>PUBLISHED WEEKLY. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AT NEW YORK. N.Y<br>Subscription Rates: Home, $£ \mathrm{I}$ Is. 8d.; Canada, £I Is. 8d.; other countries abroad, $£ \mathrm{I}$ 3s. Iod. per annum.<br>As many of the circuits and apparatus described in these pages are covered by patents, readers are advised, before making use of them, to satisfy themselves that they would not be infringing patents.

## Circuit Diaģrams and Service

$A^{\mathrm{T}}$T a time when so much interest centres around the problem of what is the best means of ensuring service in connection with the sale of wireless sets, we think it an opportune occasion for raising a matter which, in our opinion, has a most important bearing on this intricate subject.

There was a time, happily now past, when wireless was such a mystery that sales of a receiver could be enhanced by advertising that it incorporated a "special patented circuit." The more mysteriously new or unusual the circuit, the more likely the receiver was to attract public interest. But the secrets of circuits can no longer be used as a stimulus to sales, and this out-ofdate policy has led to the practice of withholding from the purchaser of a receiver the circuit diagram. As a result the owner of a set is often unable to carry out simple tests for himself if anything goes wrong, and the local service agent-unless he is intimately acquainted with the particular receiver - may actually spend hours in tracing out the circuit of a modern complicated receiver before he is in a position to begin to tackle a correction or repair intelligently.

We see no reason why a set manufacturer should disclose to all and sundry in his leaflets and catalogues the circuit diagrams of his sets if he prefers to withhold this information, but surely the purchaser of a receiver has the right to expect that the manufacturer will communicate to him the nature of the circuit, seeing
that, having once purchased a set, he could, with the expenditure of time and trouble, obtain the circuit eventually for himself, either by tracing it out or by getting an expert to do so for him.

We believe that an important step towards reducing service troubles would have been taken if manufacturers agreed to include a detailed circuit diagram with every receiver sold.
After all, what possible purpose can be served by withholding this information? If a manufacturer is afraid that a competitor may copy his desigñ, he is certainly not safeguarding himself by declining to supply a circuit diagram, for any manufacturer who desires to copy the design of another will purchase a set for himself and an hour or two in his laboratory will serve to disclose everything connected with that receiver on which he desires to be informed.

This reticence in supplying circuit information is peculiar, we believe, to British manufacturers. In America circuit diagrams are supplied and are regularly published without the least reserve, and the position is the same with most of the established manufacturers on the Continent of Europe.

We would strongly urge that manufacturers should at once decide upon a policy of including the circuit diagram with every receiver sold, the circuit to be securely affixed to the receiver on the inside of the lid of the cabinet, or some other convenient permanent position.

## The world WAN 1 HD PASS

A Long $=$ Range Frame $=$ Aerial Receiver.
By A. L. M. SOWERBY, M.Sc., and H. B. DENT.

EVER since the opening of the twin transmitters at Brookmans Park it has become evident, at least to the Londoner, that the most difficult problem confronting the listener is that of attaining selectivity enough to enable stations other than the two "locals" to be heard without interference.

The problem of selectivity can be approached from several different angles. If a full-sized aerial is used in conjunction with a set employing three or four tuned circuits in cascade, loss of sidebands becomes excessive before even moderate selectivity is reached. If a bandpass filter is used to avoid this defect, the total number of tuned circuits becomes considerable.

## SPECIFICATION.

A selective frame aerial receiver embodying the supersonic heterodyne principle. Battery-operated but an H.T. eliminator can be employed. Band-pass tuning for the I.F. amplifier. Provision made to receive the local programme on three valves using an H.F., detector and pentode circuit.
Screen-grid valves employed in H.F. and I.F. amplifiers also for the first detector.
Leaky grid second detector followed by 7:1 transformer to a pentode output valve.

Waveband switching.

If, as an aid to adequate selectivity, the full-size aerial is dropped, and a frame aerial substituted for it, most of the difficulties disappear, for, we no longer have such overwhelming power delivered to the set from the local stations. It thus becomes reasonably easy to cut them out. To set against this, however, we now require very considerable highfrequency amplification to make the more distant stations audible. In practice, two or three stages will be found necessary, unless, of course, we are prepared to push reaction beyond the limits set by the requirements of good quality. Such high overall gain as is required when using a frame aerial makes it once more necessary to resort to the most meticulous care in


Simplified circuit diagram : detalls of the switching have been omitted.


Complete circuit diagram. Values are as follows: $\mathbf{C}_{1}, \mathbf{C}_{3}, \mathbf{C}_{12}$, $0.0005 \mathrm{mfd} ; C_{2}, 0.0001 \mathrm{mfd} ; C_{4}, C_{17}, 0.0001 \mathrm{mfd} ; C_{7}, 0.0002 \mathrm{mfd}$; $\mathrm{C}_{5}, \mathrm{C}_{6}, \mathrm{C}_{8}, \mathrm{C}_{3}, \mathrm{C}_{1 \mathrm{n}}, \mathrm{C}_{1 \bar{n}}, \mathrm{C}_{21}, 1 \mathrm{mfd} ; \mathrm{C}_{13}, \mathrm{C}_{18}, \mathrm{C}_{23}, \mathrm{C}_{23}, \mathrm{C}_{24}, 2 \mathrm{mfds} ; \mathrm{C}_{29}$ $0.0005 \mathrm{mfd} ; \mathrm{C}_{19}, 0.001 \mathrm{mfd} ; \mathrm{C}_{11}, \mathrm{C}_{14}, 0.001 \mathrm{mfd} ; \mathrm{C}_{16}, 0.0003 \mathrm{mfd} ; \mathrm{R}_{1}$, $\mathbf{3 0 , 0 0 0}$ ohm potentiometer ; $\mathbf{R}_{2}, \mathbf{2 5 , 0 0 0}$ ohms; $\mathbf{R}_{3}, \mathbf{R}_{1}, \mathbf{R}_{6}, \mathbf{R}_{3}, \mathbf{1 , 0 0 0}$ ohms; $R_{i}, R_{9}, 0.5$.megohms; $R_{7}, 50,000$ ohms; $R_{10}, 30,000$ ohms tapped at 20,000 ohms
screening-no longer for the sake of selectivity, but in order to make the set stable.

By making use of the superheterodyne principle the extremely high standard of selectivity here suggested as desirable can be attained without the use of any out-of-
the-way precautions. The receiver here illustrated reaches this standard-can, indeed, be made to exceed it-when the directional properties of the frame aerial are used to help it. Nevertheless, it makes use of quite sketchy screening, and has but three tuning controls.

## LIST OF PARTS.

```
2 Fariable condensers, 0.0005mfil.(J.B. Double Thumb Gang),
    Variable condenser, 0.0005 mfd. lefi hand with rernier thumb
        control drum dial'(J.B., with No. 2 control).
G Valve holders (Burton Midqet).
1 H.F. chole (McMichael.Binocular Junior).
1 H.F'. choke (Burndept).
H.F chokes, iron-cored (Wearite II.F.O.).
1 L.F. transformer, 7:1 (Ferrandi AF6).
1 L.F. transformer, 7: 1 (Ferranti AF6).
4 S.G. cells, 0.0 volt (Siemens).
7}\mp@subsup{}{5}{W}\mathrm{ Fived condensers, 1 mfd. 400 volt D.C. test (T.C.C.).
5 Fixed condensers, 2 mfl. 400 volt D.C. test (T.C.C.).
4 Decoupling resistanres, 1,000 olmms (Wearite).
    4 Decoupling resistanres, 1,000 ollms (Wearite).
1 Resistance, 25,000 ohms (Colvern, Colverstat).
Resistance, 50,000 ohms (Colvern, Colverstad). Ci, Clostat)
```



```
1 Suvtch, 4-pole change-over, lever pattern (Utility Wr.147/4).
1 Grid bias battery,'4\frac{1}{2} volts'(Siemens).
I Gridl bias battery, 16\frac{2}{2}}\mathrm{ volts (Siemens).
1 Sicitch, 3-point direct indicating (Gripso).
IH.F. transformer 7. (Wearite H.F.O.)
1 Wire potentiometer, 30,000 ohms (Claude LyOns, Clarostat),
Sutch, s-point direct indicating (Gripso).
```

${ }_{2}^{2}$ Grid leaks, 0.5 megohm (Ediswan).
2 Porcela in 'rid leak holders (Bulgin)
1 Fixed condenser, mica, 0.0001 mfd. (T.C.C. upright t!pe).
1 Fixed condenser, mica, 0.0002 mjd. (T,C.C. upright type).
1 Fixed condenser, mica, 0.0005 mfd. (T.C.C. upright type).
1 Fixed condenser, mica, 0.001 mfd . (T.C.C. upright type).
1 Fixed condenser, mica, 0.0001 mfd. (Graham Farish Parvor)
1 Ebonite 6-ribbed former, $2 \frac{1}{2 n}$. dia., Gin. long (Becol No. 2)
1 Semi-fixed condensers, 0.001 mfd. (R.I. Varicap No. ${ }^{5}$ ).
1 Semi-fixed condenser, 0.0001 mfl . (R.I. Varicap Ne. 2).
1 Pair Brackets, 4in.' (Magnum).
10 Terminals (Eelex).
1 Terminal strip, 18 in. $\times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ in.
1 Screening box, $0 \frac{1}{2} i n . \times 6$ tin. $\times 6 i \mathrm{in}$. (Magnum).
1 Sereening box, $4 \frac{1}{2} i n . \times 6 \frac{1}{2} i n . \times 6 i n$. (Magmim).
2 oz. each Nos. 28,34 and 38 D.S.C. wire.
2 oz. No. 28 D.C.C. wire.
2 oz. No. 30 enamelled wire
Wood, screats, systoftex, wander phug, etc.
Approximate cost (excludiny valecs), £1:.

In the "List of Parts" included in the descriptions of THE WIRELESS WORLD receivers are detailed the components actually used by the designer and illustrated in the photographs of the instrument. Where the designer cousiders it necessary that particular components should be used in preference to others, these components are mentioned in the article itself. In all other cases the constructor can use his discretion as to the choice of components, provided they are of equal quality to those listed and that he takes into consideration in the dimensions and layout of the set any variations in the size of alternative components he may usc.

Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-
Those who have forgotten how a superheterodyne works are referred to a recent article (The Wireless World, October Ist, 1930) in which the basic principles of this much-maligned instrument are discussed. In the present receiver the intermediate frequency is about 30 kc ., and not 100 kc ., which was the figure assumed for purposes of example in the article mentioned. This low intermediate frequency was chosen for the sake of the higher selectivity which it makes possible. Two stations transmitting on frequencies differing by 20 kc . will still be separated by 20 kc . after the frequency-changing process has taken place. Since 20 kc . is a small percentage of $\mathrm{r}, \mathrm{ooo} \mathrm{kc}$., it will be difficult for a tuned circuit to differentiate between the two stations if they originally transmit at about that frequency; the same 20 kc . is a very big percentage of the intermediate frequency. We may wish to listen to a
of the fact that we really need to listen to a whole band of frequencies, but it does give an idea, even if an exaggerated one, of the enormous gain in selectivity conferred by the adoption of the superheterodyne principle with a very long intermediate wavelength
The circuit adopted for the present receiver is unlike the conventional superheterodyne in several respects. The first valve is a high-frequency amplifier of usual " design, intended to give the signals a preliminary "boost" before they reach the frequency-changer. It also completely removes "second-channel" interference (except, of course, from the local station), and makes it possible to obtain high enough amplification with only a single intermediate stage, so that noise derived from the oscillator is not amplified enough to become audible. Finally, it ensures that if any long-wave interference is picked up by the


Three-quarter plan view with covers of screening boxes removed. Note the method of mounting the I.F. band-pass transformer.
station on 300 metres, but may suffer interference from a station on 306 metres. Separation will be, a matter of difficulty. By using a frequency-changer, followed by a $30-\mathrm{kc}$. amplifier, the interfering station is given as big a proportional separation from that which we wish to hear as if we had banished it entirely from the broadcast waveband and compelled it to transmit on 900 metres. This comparison is not strictly fair, on account
frame from commercial telegraphy stations, this shall not be passed on to the intermediate amplifier, and, conversely, allows the set to be connected to a small aerial if desired without making oneself a nuisance to others by radiation from the oscillator. It is thought that this list of advantages is formidable enough to compensate for the extra tuning control involved by the fundamental H.F. stage.

Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-
For first detector a screen-grid valve, adjusted to act as anode-bend rectifier, has been chosen. Justification for this departure from precedent is found in the fact that the frequency-changing stage as a whole amplifies some 30 to 50 times. Users of triodes have usuatly

implied, if they have not stated, that a loss at this point is to be expected.

The L2io valve used as oscillator has an untuned grid coil, and a tuned plate coil, since it is found that harmonics are less prominent with this arrangement. The anode current of this valve, which, if uncontrolled, is liable to run up to fantastically high values, is limited by a series resistance between the valve and H.T. + to about $2 \frac{1}{2}$ milliamps. Oscillations are fed into the grid circuit of the first detector by a pick-up coil in the usual way.

The coupling between the first detector and the single I.F. valve is made by a long-wave band pass filter of suitable design. The two parts of the filter are tuned by semi-fixed condensers to give the response curve required, and when once this has been done the filter need not be touched again.
The intermediate-frequency valve is a screen-grid valve, coupled to the second detector (a triode) by a McMichael Junior Binocular H.F. choke, which, with the addition of another semi-fixed condenser, forms a tuned-anode circuit.
The second detector is another L210 valve, working as grid-circuit rectifier, supplied, for the sake of good quality, with as great an anode voltage as is economically possible. It is followed by a two-stage low-pass filter to remove the long-wave component of the anode current, the audio-frequency component being passed on, through


Details of the wooden frame giving the principal dimensions; note the supports on the underside for the large grid battery.
ing is as nothing compared to the inefficiency of using six valves to receive the local station.

The receiver therefore combines two sets in onethere is a simple receiver for local-station work, while

## Band-Pass Superheterodyne:-

the flick of a switch converts it into a long-range receiver of exceptional selectivity for picking up more distant stations. In either form it covers both the usual wavebands.

The presence of the switch has raised the minimum capacity across the second tuning condenser to so high a value that a 0.0005 mfd . tuning condenser has to be used to cover the 200-600-metre band. Edgewise drums are provided for both frame and H.F. tuning, there being a trimmer across the frame condenser to permit of matching the two circuits. This done, the set, even when all six valves are in use, has virtually only two tuning controls. The third control, the osciliator tuning, has a slow-motion drive, as the tuning of this circuit is necessarily very sharp.

Of the remaining controls on the panel one is a volume
specified and to have a pentode, and not a power valve; in the last holder.
The "On-off" switch, besides controlling the filaments, breaks the H.T. return lead in order to cut off the current drawn by the potentiometer supplying the various screening grids, which would otherwise inflict a continuous drain on the batteries.

The total consumption of the set was found to be 22 milliamps at 160 volts with the particular set of valves used for test; this is not too much for dry batteries of large capacity, and is easily provided by H.T. accumulators. It can be reduced, if necessary, by using a pentode of lower current consumption-and hence with less power output-than the Marconi PT240, which was the writers' choice. The set is run off a single voltage, the necessary voltage controls being provided within the set. In addition, there is sufficient decoupling to permit

control. This operates by varying the voltage applied to the screening grid of the fundamental H.F. valve, and therefore can be used as well with three valves only as with the full six. The superheterodyne part of the receiver works " all out" whenever it is in use. No postdetector volume control is fitted, for the second detector can only just supply the pentode with the signal voltage it requires before it is itself overloaded. For the same reason it is vital to use the high-ratio L.F. transformer
the use of any eliminator capable of delivering the neces sary current ; no decoupling or voltage dividing resistances need be incorporated in the eliminator. A separate H.T. terminal is provided for the oscillator in case extra smoothing may be needed for this valve, which is the most sensitive to hum. In normal use this terminal wild be strapped to the main H.T. terminal.

Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-
Two points, of interest to the prospective builder of the set, have been particularly kept in mind throughout the design. Perhaps the more important of these is that special care has been taken to eliminate stray reaction
fication between frame and loud speaker is in excess of a hundred million times, the receiver may be built with complete confidence by any constructor who has handled a set containing a high-frequency stage.
The second point is that the special coil-assemblies


Drilling details of the front panel and the terminal strip. Sizes of holes are as follows: A; zin. dia.; B, 7/32ln. dia.; C, din. dia.; countersunk for No. 4 wood screws ; D, tin. dia.
effects. As a result, the set is very easy to reproduce, for it does not depend for its efficiency upon small stray couplings or the characteristics of individual valves. Although, at a conservative estimate, the overall ampli-
inseparable from a superheterodyne have been reduced in number as far as possible, and those which could not be eliminated have been made cheap and very easy to assemble.
(To be concluded.)
$\int$ HE practice of using a variable instead of a fixed potentiometer for supplying the auxiliary grid of an S.G. valve is becoming increasingly common. A common practice is merely to connect a special power potentiometer having a value of about 50,000 ohms across the source of H.T., the auxiliary grid of the valve being connected to the slider. The danger of this, however, is that it is very easy to apply the full voltage of the eliminator to the screening grid. Not only is this detrimental to the valve, but it is totally unnecessary, since the requirements of the screening grid in the matter of

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## ADJUSTING SCREENING GRID POTENTIAL.

voltage are rarely more than half, and sometimes less than one-third, the requirements of the plate. It is an excellent idea, therefore, always to connect in series with the positive side of the potentiometer a fixed resisten which is equal in resistance value to that of the potentiometer. Apart from its function of preventing toc high a voltage value being applied to the auxiliary grid of the valve, this arrangement enables the potential of the screening grid to be adjusted more easily, since the variation of voltage for a given movement of the slider of the potentiometer is obviously halved.

# —PRE-SELECTION- 

How to Prevent Cross=modulation with the Screen=grid Valve.

By W. I. G. PAGE, B.Sc.

MANY readers will probably have found that there exists with the screen-grid valve in certain circumstances a form of interference which was not experienced with the neutralised triode. A faint but irritating background of music or speech may mar the reception of a foreign transmission, the unwanted signals being traced probably to a highpowered station many kilocycles away-so far away, in fact, that the trouble can hardly be accounted for by ordinary lack of selectivity. Adding tuned H.F. stages which increase selectivity does not always reduce this type of interference, so that we must search for some cause other than damping due to low dynamic resistance.

As the phenomenon is only met with where the first valie in a set is of the screen-grid variety it will be as well to examine what happens when the grid and plate circuits of such a valve are tuned to a transmission. At resonance these circuits behave as pure resistances, and for the present discussion we need only consider the effect of the plate circuit-the grid circuit being looked upon as a necessary arrangement to produce volts for the grid of the valve. When a signal is received, three important things take place in an amplifying valve. The grid voltage swings equally on either side of the bias

A SHORTCOMING of the screen-grid valve which is not always appreciated is its inability with ordinary tuned circuits to accept signals larger than a small fraction of a volt without introducing a peculiar form of interference known as cross-modulation. While a pre-H.F. volume control does much to mitigate the trouble, of primary importance is the selectivity of the first tuned circuit. It is shown that a resonance curve of rectangular form such as that of a band-pass filter is highly desirable for this circuit. The more efficient the intervalve coupling the greater is the tendency towards cross-modulation.
potential, the anode voltage swings well above and below the actual pressure applied, and the anode current changes in sympathy. The cycle of events can be critically examined by drawing a straight line across the anode volts/anode current curves of the valve. By Ohms Law $R=\frac{\mathrm{E}}{\mathrm{C}}$ where R can represent the dynamic resistance of the tuned plate circuit at resonance and E and C the necessary change of voltage and current. To represent, for instance, a tuned circuit of 90,000 ohms-rather better than a good plug-in coil,
 must draw a line to embrace a change of 160 volts and 1.65 mA . for $160 / 0.00165 \mathrm{amp} .=90,000$ ohms approximately. Such a line _known as a "load line"-is drawn in Fig. I and marked AOB. Similarly a load line of 200,000 ohms for a really efficient $3 i n$. coil is plotted as COD.

To trace out the cycle in the case of the valve whose characteristics are given in Fig. I-one of the latest A.C. screen-grid valves-we must make the load lines cut the operating point $O$, which is the normal point of bias ( $-\mathbf{I} .5$ volts) and the maximum H.T. ( 200 volts) under static conditions. Let us now assume that a signal of one volt is applied so that the grid swings to -2 volts on the right and -I volt on the left-it must not trespass beyond the latter point because grid current begins to flow when the grid is nearly one volt negative in the valve under discussion. The working cycle is given either by $A O B$ or COD, the first for the "poor" coil of 90,000 ohms and the second for the "good". coil of 200,000 ohms. Clearly, the poor anode coil gives fairly linear amplification, for $A O$ is nearly equal to $O B$, so that the anode voltage change is nearly proportional to the grid voltage change. With the good coil OD is nearly twice as long as CO, and for a grid swing of $\frac{1}{2}$ volt either side of the bias point the anode voltage change would be anything but proportional-one half-cycle would be amplified much more than the other, which would result; of course, in rectification. To find out the grid swing along COD giving nearly linear amplification, $\mathrm{Eg}-\mathrm{I} .4, \mathrm{Eg}-\mathrm{I} .6$ volts, etc., would have to be plotted, but an estimate shows the figure to be $\frac{1}{10}$ to $1 / 5$ volt. The deduction is that with an efficient

Pre-Selection. -
intervalve coupling following a screen-grid valve the input may have to be reduced to a small fraction of a volt, otherwise rectification ensues. If a poor anode coil is used there is less chance of trouble from this cause, but a greater number of stages must be employed to make up for lost amplification,

Rectification per se is likely to cause distortion; but there is a more obscure effect due to the voltage cieveloped in a moderately unselective aerial circuit by a powerful station differing in wavelength by many metres from the station it is desired to hear. Let us consider Fig. 2, where a typical resonance curve XYZ is given for the aerial circuit L . The skirts X and Z may extend to 60 or more kilocycles either side of the tune point, and it is possible that a powerful station $Z, 50$ kilocycles away, may develop a large enough fraction of a volt


The input coupled circuit of "The Wireless World Four" which functions as an efficient pre-selector. The valve and coil screens are not shown
grid swing to cause rectification, the resulting lowtrequency impulses will modulate the H.F. carrier of the station being received, and interference known as crossmodulation or secondary modulation will appear. This explains the form of apparent unselectivity referred to at the beginning of the article.

The curvature of the anode volts/anode current characteristics of a triode is in the opposite direction to that of a screen-grid valve, so that the load lines follow a path of more linear amplification the better the anode coil ; furthermore, larger grid swings generally are possible without rectification. Before discussing methods of combating the evils of cross-modulation in the receiver the suggestion is put forward that valve manufacturers should try to prevent the flow of grid current on the negative side of zero grid with S.G. valves. This, together with a general reduction of A.C. resistance, would help to minimise unwanted rectification.

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The first thing that would suggest itself to the designer of an S.G. set is a pre-H.F. volume control to cut down the response to the unwanted station to such small limits that rectification does not occur. It may often happen,


Fig. 2. -The voltage developed on the grid of the S.G. valve by 7, a station 50 kilocycles away from resonance may be sufficient to cause cross-modulation when the response curve of trol is adjusted until all traces of cross-modulation disappear it is possible that the voltage developed by the desired station will have become excessively small.
however, that to do this the wanted station, which, perhaps, is a distant one, may be reduced so much in signal strength as to require a wasteful extra number of amplifying stages, in which valve noise may become troublesome. When it is realised that the signal from a Regional station may develop up to 8 or 9 volts across the first tuned circuit of a receiver used with an outside aerial a few miles from the transmitter, it will be obvious that a pre-H.F. volume control is essential to prevent ordinary overloading, but alone it is not necessarily a sure cure for cross-modulation.

From the foregoing it is, therefore, of primary importance that in the selectivity scheme of a modern receiver special attention be given to the first tuned circuit. There must be no tailing off in the resonance curve as in Fig. 2, otherwise rectified voltages may appear from unwanted stations $30,40,50$ or more kilocycles away. The response curve of this circuit must have the minimum of skirts and approximate to the dotted rectangle (see Fig. 2) embracing but io kilocycles. This is only possibie


Fig. 3.-Wlll it come to this? A pre-selection band-pass filter with four ganged condensers. The mixed capacity and inducover the waveband
with a coupled circuit, the simplest form of which is the two-member band-pass filter. The overall selectivity of a screen-grid receiver is not determined entirely by the number of tuned circuits or by their efficiency, but to a great extent by the behaviour of the first circuit or pre-

Pre-Selection.-
selector. If cross-modulation occurs in the first circuit any number of highly selective high-frequency stages will not help. An efficient pre-selector is also necessary to combat the evils of beat interference. ${ }^{1}$
The writer does not wish it to be inferred that all screen-grid sets without input band-pass filters must suffer from cross modulation. There are localities where quite modest aerial circuits suffice, but with the increasing congestion of the ether the harmful effects of rectification are bound to be met sooner or later unless the response of the first tuned circuit is kept within certain defined limits. It is undoubtedly important to see that any adjustable voltage controls which may be
${ }^{1}$ See note elsewhere in this issue entitled "Beat Interference."
included in the first screened valve circuit are only used to obtain optimum working conditions, and not to prevent instability by overbiasing or unduly reducing screen volts. Either of these causes greater curvature in the valve characteristic with consequent increased chance of rectification.

Pre-selection will become increasingly important as the Regional scheme develops, and it may be necessary to consider input filters with three or four members (see Fig. 3), for the greater the number of coupled circuits the more nearly is the ideal rectangle approached. The succeeding intervalve couplings would need to be of only small dynamic resistance, for the whole of the necessary selectivity would have been obtained in the aerial circuit.

## Transmitters Notes.

Intemational Short-Wave Radio League. In our issue of July zoth we drew attention to a society of short-wave listeners that had recently been formed in U.S.A. with its headquarters at, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass, and we can now state that a European branch of this League has been established, with offices at 105, Lord Street, Southport, in charge of Mr. M. Barnett. The official builetin will be published monthly, and a specimen copy will be sent free to those intterested if they will send in their names to the European headquarters.

## 28 Megacycle Transmissions.

Mr. D. W. Heightman (G6DH) is transmitting from Clacton-on-Sea on 10 metres every Saturday at 14.00 and on Sunday
at $11.00,14.30$ and 16.00 G.M.T., using a DET1 S.W. valve with a self-excited circuit and coupled by a two-turn coil to the end of a horizontal aerial 20 metres long, i.e., the aerial is voltage fed and working on its fourth harmonic. Commumication has heen established with Finland, Northern Rhodesia, and Egypt, and reports received from the Azores, South Africa, Iraq and the 9th district of U.S.A.
Slort-Wave Experineents.
Mr. H. E. Whatley (G2BY), 37, Paddenswick Road, Hammersmith, W.6, who is one of the enthusiastic group of shortwave workers in the western district of London to which we drew attention in our issure of March 12th, asks us to state that he is transmitting regularly on the


G2DT, owned and operated by Mr. E. T. Somerset at Dorking, Surrey. In the centre is the 7,14 and 28 MC receiver with Reinartz-Grebe circuit and a screen-srid detector. On the recelver stands the frequency-monitor supporting the Wortley-Talbot challenge cup awarded by the R.S.G.B. in $1929-30$ for early work on 5 metres. The transmitters comprise one for 56 MC , one TP. TG for 14 MC , and on the right is seen the 7 MC
Hartley transmitter and a $28 \mathrm{MG} 1-\mathrm{V}-1$ receiver.

5-metre waveband almost every Sunday bet ween 14.00 and 15.00 G.M. T., and will we.come reports. He keeps up regulat schedules with G2OL, G6NN, G6WN, G 20 W , and G 6 CO on 5.26 metres.
He is also experimenting on the 20 metre band, and will be interested to learn up to what distance his ground-wave is audible. He will therefore be grateful for reports from listeners within 150 miles' radius of Hamnersmith and ottside the London area.

## Beam Tests by PCJ.

The new beam aerial at the Philips short-wave station in Eindhoven, Hiolland, mentioned in "Current Topics" on October 15th, is favourabiy reported on by listeners in the neighbonrhood of Colombo. In the bulletin of the Radio Club of Ceylon for the week ending September 27 th a listener stated that signals on September 24th, at ahout 10 p.m. (Ceylon time), when transmitted by the beam ( B ) aerial were very strong, and overloaded his loud speaker, but when PCJ switched over to their normal aerial (A) a decided decrease was noticed, and the signals gradually faded out. Another listener 70 miles east of Colombo found the strength of PC.J on aerial B greater than that of the local station, A little fading was noticed, but even with his aerial cut out the signals were still faintly audible.

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Another W.A.C. for Telephony.
Mr. F. R., Neill has been awarded the W.A.C. 'Phone Certificate of the I.A.R.U. for working all continents on telephony from his station GI5NJ at Belfast. This was the first amatem transmitting station licensed in Northern Iteland, and the first in Ireland to gain the W.A.C. certificate for telephony, though it has previously heen gained in Great Britain by Mr. H. L. O'Heffernan (G5BY), whose station is in Croydon.

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## New Call-signs and Addresses.

(e.: $2 A \mathrm{JT}$ ) C. C. Mortimer, The Grosvenor Thornton Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, G5WY C. L. Woon, 95, Fore Streèt, Exeter
2AJY H. C. Thornton, 181, Woodside, Todmorden
2BYP F. M. Sunith, 253 , Westbourne Avenue, Hull


Events of the Week in Brief Review.

## RADIO COMMEMORATION.

On November 2nd (All Souls' Day) all Italian wireless stations observed a profound silence for a brief period, writes our Turin correspondent.

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LISTENERS CHOOSE THEIR ANNOUNCER.
Out of 116 applicants for the post of announcer at Radio-Barcelona, six were chosen to undergo the acid test at the microphone. Each candidate was given an evening to himself, and listeners were asked to express their preference by vote.

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NO MORE RADIO EVENINGS.
Several towns are known to have instituted laws forbidding the use of loud speakers after about 10 p.m., but the town of Arles-en-Provence (France) has gone further. The police superintendent there has issued an edict that all loud speakers are to " shut up" at sunset!

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## A Radio duel.

Probably the first duel in radio history is that which has just been fought between M. Georges Delamare, director of the Tour Eiffel studio, and M. Georges: Armand Masson, an artist, whose caricature of the former in a French radio journal gave offence. Happily, no blood was shed, writes our Paris correspondent. Four bullets were exchanged without " reception" on either side.

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DRAMATIC BROADCASTING STATION.
The Berne broadcasting station, which will shortly resume transmissions, will specialise in radio drama. A. school of radio elocution is to be formed for the training of the fifteen or twenty actors who will compose the station's dramatic company.

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## MICROPHONE CONTROL AT R101 ENQUIRY.

Six microphones and four loud speakers are being used at the official enquiry into the R101 disaster, which is being held in the hall of the Institute of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London, S.W.1. The installation, which was specially designed by the Marconiphone Company, includes an ingenious system of control whereby the various microphone circuits can be cross-connected so that, for example, questions and answers from different parts of the hall can be heard clearly by all concerned.

## THE REASON.

Yet another excuse has been found by the wireless "pirate." A farm labourer at Market Bosworth, summoned for operating an unlicensed set, pleaded that he did not get a licence às he was expecting to leave the district soon.

## OOOO IRISH:

For the best criticisms of the Dublin and Cork programmes an Irish newspaper offers fifty free wireless licences. Problem: Does one criticise without a licence?

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RADIO ON ITALIAN TRAINS.
Successful tests are being conducted with radio receivers on trains running between Milan and Turin. Travellers can listen in on payment of three lires.

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## RADIO AGEN REDIVIVUS.

We understand that Radio Agen, the station which was almost completely destroyed in the great French floods some months ago, will again make itself heard in the near future. A State subsidy of $£ 2,400$ has been allotted for its reconstruction.

## FRENGH STATION RESUMES BROADCASTING.

Montpellier-Languedoc, which lapsed into silence a year ago, has suddenly resumed transmissions on its allotted wavelength of 286 metres.

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## FINE VOLUME CONTROL.

A Bethnal Green wireless dealer has been fined 40 s . with three guineas costs at the Old Street Police Court for operating it loud speaker outside his shop in such a manner as to cause annoyance and disturbance to the public.

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O.B.E. FOR R101 WIRELESS OPERATOR.

The traditional heroism of the wireless operator's profession was splendidly maintained by Mr. Arthur Disley, operator on the R101, whose gallantry has been recognised by the award of the Medal of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service.

Mr. Disley, after escaping from the airship wreck with serious burns, refused treatment before he had telephoned the first details of the disaster from Beauvais to the Air Ministry.


[^1]BROADGAST RECEIVER PATENTS
We learn that the Gramophone Co., Ltd., Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co. Ltd., and Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., have made arrangements whereby patents owned or controlled by any or all of the three companies, including those resulting from the research facilities at their disposal, will be available for use by licensees through a single organisation.

Applications for a joint licence by the three companies are invited from interested manufacturers of broadcast receiving apparatus. Such applications should be ad dressed to Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Marconi House, Strand, Loindon, W.C.2. In approved cases a licence will be granted which will be generally similar is regards conditions and field of use to the licence hitherto issued by the Gramophone and Marconi companies jointly and known as Type " A 3 ," or the Marconi general licence.

All present holders of the usual "A3" licence will be able to olstain the benefit of patents owned or controlled by Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., without any increase in the rates of royalty.
$1,200 \mathrm{~kW}$. FROM KDKA ?
Broadcasting power in excess of 1,000 kilowatts is the ultimate goal of station


IN SUNNY SPAIN. Radio Barcelona, which operates on 268 metres with a power of 10 kW .

KDKA, whose engineers are now conducting experiments with the new 200 kW . Westinghouse valves in the expectation of going on the air sliortly in a series of
after-midnight tests with super-power, writes our Washington correspondent.

KDKA's experimental licence from the Federal Radio Commission authorises the use of up to 400 kW . in the series of experiments. This will require the use of two of the giant 200 kW . valves, each of which stands 6 ft . in height and requires the passage of five tons of cool water through its water jacket every hour.
It is learned on reliable authority, how ever, that the Westinghouse engineers are arranging the plant of KDKA so that six of the valves may ultimately be used, which would give the station an output of 1,200 kW .-the highest power ever attempted on either the broadcasting or communications wavelengths.

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## RADIO RESEARGH CENTRE FOR

Italy will soon possess a new radio experimental station, controlled by the Central Council of Research, of which Marquese Marconi is president. At the last meeting of the Council, writes ou Turin correspondent, it was decided that experiments should be made in television, a subject which has been neglected in Italy. The director of the new research centre will be Prof. Dr. Vallauri.

A Proud Record.
Forty-four lectures and demonstrations in one year, Lesides visits to Brookmans Park and ford and District Radio Society of the Woodat the annual meeting held on Oetober 20th In view of the growth in membership it $h$ heen decided to move the Society's headquarters to The Men's Institute, High Street, Wanstead, li.11, where the first meoting will be held on November 6th at 8 p.m.
Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Crisp, 7, Ramsay Road, Forest Gate, ti.7.
Short-Wave "Superhet:" Adaptors.
The design of peak amplifiers to cope with the narrow frequency band available to amateurs members of the a profitable discussion among Radio Society at a recent meeting
Another topic which is to be discus
Another topic which is to be discussed at an adaptors on the lines recently suggested by The Fireless World.
Full details concerning the Society can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary (temporary), Mr. C. J. Townsend, 14, Hamilton Street, N.W.i.

## A Radio Film.

 0000Two interesting films were shown at a recent meeting of Slade Radio (Birmingham).
The two came under the title of "Radio Record," and the first, entitied "Pertrix," showed many of the operations in the making of these well-known batteries.
The second, the "Mazda Valve" film, disThe films were supplied by Messrs Ltd., and slown by Mr. Martin, of the Midlani hadio.
The month of November sees the Society utering on its third year with expectations of still greater prosperity in the future.
Wireless enthusiasts interested in the society are invited to write to the Hon. Secretary, 110, Hillaries Road, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham: who will he very pleased to forward details of

## Behind the Screen.

Remarkable evidence of the advances made n loud speaker design was forthcoming at the ast meeting of the North Middlesex Radio was carried out. a mumber of instrunients owned lhy various members was tested, switching arrangewents euabling a rapid change-over to be made from one speatier to another. The

## NEWS FROM THE CLUBS.

test was made on broadeast speech and music, and ail the loud speakers were concealed by a curtain to aid unbiased judgrenent. On counting the votes, it was found that the flrst three instruments were identical for both tests A noteworthy feature of the test was the great strides made in the reed-driven type particularly in the response to the lower notes The Society is open to receive new members at any time, and any who are interested in
wireless in the district are invited to apply

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th

Institution of Electrical Engineers, Wirsless Section.-At 6 p.mi. At the Institu-
tion, Savoy Place, Addrcss by the Chairman, Mr. C. E. E. Richard, O.BE.
North Midalesex Radio Society. - At 8 p.m. At St. Paul's Institute, Winch
more Mill, N.21. Locture: "The Theorv Design and Operation of Pick-ups," Mr. W. D. Qliphant, B.Sc. (Burndept Musucell Hill and District. Radio Societu.At 8 p.m. At Tollington School, Tether-
down, N.io. Lecture by Mr. H. E. Penose (H.M.V.), who will Memonstrate Epidioscope and new H.M.V. Radio ramophone

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6th.
Ilford and District Radio Society.-At the Lecturr: "A.C. Operation," by Mr. $F$ Youle, of the ifarconiphanc Co., Ltd. Slade Rudio (Birmingham).-At 8 p.m.
At the Parochial Hall, Broomfield Road. Erdington. A novel microphone test FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7th
junnction with Lensbury Rritain (in con At 6.15 p.m. At 16 , Finsbury Circus E.C.2. Discussion of Radio Rectifiers TUESDAY, NOVEMBEP
Bec Ratio Society.-At 7.30 p.m. At Bc School, Beecheroft Road, S.W. 17 . Lec*
ture: A.C. Valves," by Mr. G. Parr
(Entiwan).

Ior. particulars to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. M Laister, "Windflowers," Church Hill, N.21, or to attend any meeting. These are held in the lower clubroom, St. Paul's Institute, Winchmore Hill, on alternate Wednesdays at 8 p.m., and an attractive syllabus of lectures, demonstra tions, etc., has been drawn up for the session.
New Headquarters in Golders Green
New headquarters have been found for the Society, which has moved to Woodstock School, Golders Green Road, near Golders Green Tube Station. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 8.15 p.m. The interesting winter programme will nclude visits to the National Physical Laboratories at Teddington, the Air Port at Croydon, and the Gramophone Company's factory Recently
Recently Mr. Maurice Child gave a helpful ecture on "Difficulties and Troubles in Wirehints on remedying lecturer supplied valuable A few vacancies exist
ull particulars will be sent on members, and the Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. II. A. Scarlett D.S.o., 60, Pattison Road N.W. A. Scarlett, 0000
A High-frequency Dispute.
A storm of protest arose at the last meetng of the Soutl Croydon aud District Radio Society, when, in a discussion on the redesigning of one of the chief demonstration sets, it Was suggested that $\mathbf{H} . F$. amplification would be unnecessary. Calm reasoning gradually invaded he meeting. After all, did the Society really need a receiver capable of doing what the vocierous pro-H.F. members demanded? What it ive perfect reprodarlion of the which would ive perfect reproduction of the local statiou' It was ev
It was eventually agreed that this particular ion and was gradually built up diagrammatically on the blackboard. It was decided that all current hould be taken from the A.C. mains. The alves flaments would he indirectly heated by A.C. current, except the last, which would hav tie alternating current applied "raw" to it flament. The Society's famous mains unit would e incorporated to supply H.T. and a dry metal ecil oil loud speaker with fleld current
It was decidery Mr F Cumbers 14 , dẹn Road, South Croydon.

# - due to its abnormally low inter-electrode capacity 

The effective H.F. amplification per stage that can be obtained in any Screened Grid Set is largely controlled by the inter-electrode capacity of the S.G. Valve. It is well known that the lower the self capacity of the valve the greater its effective stage amplification. Important features in its design and construction permit the interelectrode capacity of the new Cossor 215 S.G. to be reduced to the order of .001 micro microfarads. This is substantially lower than the self capacity of any other Screened Grid Valve on the market. It follows, therefore, that this new valve permits a big increase in effective amplificalion. In fact, results are obtained which, a year ago, would have been considered quite impracticable.

# COSSOR 215 S.G. 

GREATEST<br>A. C. Cossor Ltd, Highbury Grove, London. N.5.<br>Effective<br>STAGE<br>GAIN<br>B25 Advertisements for "The Wireless Woild" are only accepted from firms we believe to be thoroughly reliable.

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No brushes or commutator to cause interference. No belt The motor runs smoothly and silently, without variation i. the revolution speed even with largely fluctuating mains cut-out. For $100-130$ and $200-250$ v. A.C. $73^{\prime \prime} \times 5 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \times 5 n \frac{\overline{7}^{\prime \prime}}{}$.
$£ 4 / 17 / 6$ (without Unit Plate, $\varepsilon / 110 / 0$ ).
Super Pickup and Arm; $£ 2 / 2 / 6$.
Portable Gramophone Cabinet fitted
with Paillard Motor, Super Pickup
and volume control; £8/15/0 complete.
APOLLO GRAMOPHONE CO., LTD., 4-5, Bunhill Row, LONDON E.C.1.

[^2]

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

BROADCASTING in France is much more casual than at Savoy Hill. I had some experience of this recently, when asked to give two talks to the French wireless public.
A friend and I arrived at the offices of the broadcasting station of "Radio Paris" about 7 o'clock so as not to be late for the appointment: Our punctiliousness was quite unnecessary. The large house in which are situated the studios is not far away from the Eiffel Tower. We walked in at the door marked "Artistes," expecting to be challenged by a doorkeeper, $\mathrm{t} \cdot \mathrm{t}$ as there was no one there, we walked timidly upstairs, anticipating that every moment some fierce guardian of the sacred spot would demand to know our business. But apparently the whole house was deserted. If it had not been for loud speakers situated at the corners of several rooms, from which issued the sounds of some gentleman giving what appeared to be an interminable lecture on some intensely dull and technical subject, we should have imagined that we had come to some French gentleman's house that was shut up for the summer.

## A Mysterious Door.

At last we came to a door that was closed, rather like the pass door that-leads behind the stage of a theatre. On this was written "Danger de Mort." We hesitated. Should we open the door and risk instant electrocution, or should we continue to wander along deserted corridors, possibly missing our appointment? Discretion prevailed, and we turned our backs on the mysterious door and walked up yet another flight of stairs. Here on a landing there were as many closed doors as in a French farce. We opened three nervously, only to find that the rooms were empty. The fourth suddenly opened and two gentlemen in straw "boaters," both smoking cigarettes and talking at once, hurried out, passed us as if we were non-existent and ran down the stairs. Again there was complete silence;, except for the invisible lecturer
We then turned the handle very gently of the fifth door, and peeped in. There, sitting alone at a table, was the lecturer talking ints the microphone. We closed the door again very softly and experimented with
the last and sixth door. A courteous official rose and shook hands. He said that he was "enchanted" to meet us, and invited us to wait downstairs.
Then, realising that I was English, he asked: "Would you care to see some of the works behind the scenes?" I replied that nothing would give me greater pleasure than to have the privilege of visiting their engineering staff. He bowed, led us once more down the stairs, pushed carelessly at the door marked "Danger de Mort," and beckoned us to follow him. Within were the various instruments, all meticulously clean, and the whole room in fact looked rather like the bridge of a British battleship. Beyond was a spacious studio with the music stands for about sixty instrumentalists. The whole place was hung with grey velvet curtains was very clean,

[^3]"Vous Venez D'Entendre."-
and gave the impression of smoothness and efficiency.
We were then taken upstairs again to a similar studio, and I was asked to sit down at a table, where, at a given signal, I began to talk. As soon as I had started our guide left us alone in the studio, and I wondered exactly what would happen should I venture to make some reckless or indiscreet statement. Was somebody listening in the lonely building who would have cut me off at any offence? There had only been one mechanic in the instrument room, and except for our guide, no other official had been seen. However, nothing untoward occurred, and our duty over, we walked out while the official had taken our place and was giving announcements.
On another occasion I spoke from "P.T.T.," which is a Government wireless station and is situated in the Government offices of th: Post and Telegraphs. It was a little after $8 \mathrm{p}: \mathrm{m}$. as I walked into the courtyard and liundreds of officials were just leaving work. There was the same rush, the same harassed appearance, the same impression of born bureaucrats as may be witnessed every day by the Londoner who stands at the corner of Whitehall at 5 p.m. The French civil servant apparently leaves off work three hours later, having had, of course, two hours for lunch

We were shown into a studio where a gentleman at the microphone was dilating on the virtues of certain photographic apparatus. The studio here was very dif-
ferent from that of Radio Paris, for everything was shabby, and there was an atmosphere of improvisation. It was part of one large room, possibly at one time the salon of the old house, which was divided into two by curtains.

The director then invited us to venture behind the curtains. Walking along creaking boards, we followed him and found the instrument room on the other side. One mechanic was doing all the work, and the floor was littered with wires, almost as if the instruments had only been put together half an hour before.

The photographic lecture was rather dull, and the director courteously offered to stop it so as to allow me to speak before my time. But remembering what a heineous crime it is at Savoy Hill to depart even for half a minute from the authorised programme, I said that I would wait a little longer for my dinner and come on at the advertised time.

At last the discussion of plates and developers and printing frames ceased. An electric sign close to the microphone announced that the next talk would be broadcast, not only in the Paris region, but around Limoges and Toulouse

I gave my talk, and was replaced by a weary looking teacher who was to give a lesson in English. As we left the building we heard him monotonously repeating, "La parapluie-the Um-brel-lah," and I rejoiced to think that before long I should be able to tune in once more for Jack Payne!

## BEAT INTERFERENCE.

## The Dangers of Rectification in H.F. Valves.

AN article in this issue entitled "Pre-Selection" explains that a receiver with a selective aerial coupling will give greater freedom from interference than one in which the same degree of selectivity is obtained chiefly by means of the inter-valve couplings. Some form of band-pass filter is almost essential under modern broadcasting conditions in order to avoid not only cross-modulation or secondary modulation, but also " beat" note interference.

With an unselective aerial circuit the local stations may impress quite a large voltage upon the grid of the first H.F. valve, even although the aerial circuit is tuned to a frequency very different from either of the local stations. Nearly all H.F. valves rectify to some extent, and consequently, the output of the first H.F. valve consists of a large number of different frequencies. Among these frequencies are two equal to the sum of, and the difference between, the two original frequencies. When the intervalve tuned circuits are tuned to either of these "sum" and "difference" frequencies, the programmes of both stations can be heard simultaneously and without an audible heterodyne whistle.
The action is identical with that of the ordinary superheterodyne receiver, for the H.F. valve takes the place of the first detector, and one of the transmitters replaces the local oscillator. On the medium waveband trouble will usually occur from the "sum" frequency, and the interference will be greatest on the shortest wavelengths. "Difference" frequency jamming may be found, how-
ever, but this will usually be evident on the higher wavelengths.

On the long waveband the trouble usually arises from the "difference" frequency. The beat note of any two stations, on any wavelength, whose frequency difference falls between about 150 kc . and 330 kc . may cause trouble. The writer recently experienced jamming of this kind from the two Brookmans Park stations; both stations were audible and sharply tunable on a wavelength a little lower than 1,000 metres.

## Band-pass Filter Provides a Cure.

Now the National and London Regional stations transmit with frequencies of $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 48 \mathrm{kc}$. and 842 kc . respectively; the frequency difference, therefore, is 306 kc ., which is equivalent to a wavelength of 980 metres. The trouble was easily cured by substituting a band-pass filter for the single-tuned aerial circuit. The extra selectivity afforded by the filter reduced the undesired input voltages sufficiently to prevent the H.F. valve from rectifying appreciably, thus preventing the fromation of a beat note.
It is thought that this form of interference may be widely experienced and unrecognised. It is often impossible to detect it, unless the two stations heard can both be definitely identified. It is easy to mistake it for two transmitters working on the same wavelength, and to blame the crowded conditions of the ether, whereas the fault really lies in the receiver. W. T. C.

Trouble in the Midlands
Many receivers in the Midland region probably underwent a healthy overhaul between October 7th and 16 th. During this period signals were noticeably weaker, and, in the absence of a statement by the B.B.C., many listeners quite naturally attributed the fault to their sets. Actually the trouble was due to a damaged aerial, which was temporarily replaced by a stand-by antenna 370 feet ligh.

## 0000

## A Word to the Engineers.

The time seems opportune to repeat a -plea' made in these columns on August 27th. When a B.B.C. station reduces its radiation, even for a short period, the public should be informed. The humility of the average listener is such that he will always suspect his receiver before considering the possible vagaries of the transmitter.

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## Perish the Thought!

Can it be that the B.B.C. engineers suddenly reduce transmission power in order to promote the general overhaul of receivers?

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## More About Empire Broadcas'ing.

As I hinted at recently, the discussion on Empire Broadcasting at the Inperial Conference has turned in the direction of a quid pro quo arrangement, the Dominions being desirous of exchanging programmes with this country.

In addition to the sentimental value of such a plan, the delegates see its uses in the stimulation of Imperial trade and commerce.

## 0000

Four Programmes from Britain.
The latest proposals are for four separate Empire programmes daily from Great Britain: a Colonial programme in the afternoon, a programme for Africa coinciding with the ordinary evening programmes of the B.B.C., an Australasian programme in the morning outside the existing B.B.C. transmission hours, and a Canadian programme in the "small hours," which would require a special staff,

## 0000

## Staff Attitude at Savoy Hill.

There is some eagenuess at Savoy Hill over the new jobs that are likely to arise when Einpire Broadcasting is adopted, and it would not surprise me if some of the lost sheep who recently strayed into the talkie and gramophone wilderness were to return to Savoy Hill in the interests of the Empire.

## A Dismantled Aerial.

A friend who notors daily past the Brookmans Park station was mildly startled the other day on seeing that the "National" masts were bereft of their aerial wires. The explanation is simply that the aerial was being thoroughly cleaned. Now that the Regional transmitter handles the bulk of the daylight transmissions, the National can enjoy a wash and brush up almost any day. Not so the Regional, which has to confine its ablutions to queer, unheard-of hours, such as 6 a.m. on Sunday.

# BROADCAST BREMTIES 

By Our Special Corréspondent.

## A Forgotten Birthday.

There comes a time when a man wishes to forget his birthday. The same sentiment seems to be swaying the B.B.C., for I find that, for the first time since 1923, there are to be no staff birthday celebrations on November 14th.

## The Impersonal B.B.C.

A man may have personal reasons for keeping his birthclay dark, but the reasons of the B.B.C. are literally impersonal, there being so few left of those original persons who set the ball rolling in Novenber, 1922. Again, the B.B.C. itself, now a rast Corporation, has lost


MOORSIDE EDGE. A photograph taken station building for the Northern Regional transmitter. The design is identical with that of Brookmans Park. The masts are 500 feet high.
the intimate touch with its listeners, and we are no longer kept agog over the doings and sayings of a dazzling family of microphonic uncles and aunts.

## Those Pioneers.

Of the very first pioneers I can think of only three who are still to be found at-Sayoy Hill. They are Sir John Reith, Mr. Stanton Jefferies, and Miss Cecil Dixon.

But I must not forget that frequent visitor, Lord Gainford, now Vice-Chairman of the Governing Board, who accepted the chatrmanship of the British Broadcasting Company in December, 1922.

For India via 5SW.
For the benefit of Indian listeners His Majesty the King Emperor has approved the broadcasting through the short-wave station 5SW of his speech at the opening of the Indian Round Table Conference at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 12th. The speech will go out from all the B.B.C. stations, and will be followed by that of the Prime Minister.

## The National Orchestra at Close Quarters.

The new series of Sunday evening orchestral concerts from Big Tree Wharf studio opened in promising style on October 26th. As a member of the studio audience I felt that the listener by wireless was probably receiving a more proportionate impression of the abilities of the new orchestra than was possible to per sons seated within a few feet of the 'cellos and the brass.
Even at close quarters, however, there was no mistaking the richness and balance of the orchestra on which Mr . Adrian Bonlt has bestowed so much care to bring to perfection. Only 78 of the 114 players were engaged, but they gave all the rolume that the microphone could have required

## \section*{Looo} <br> "Joe" Lewis in London.

Mr. Joseph Lewis, who had a large "following" in the Midlands by reason of his success as musical director at the Birmingham station for seven years, has now been transferred to the headquarters staff at Savoy Hill. He will act as a conductor of the B.B.C. Orchestra, and will be actively concerned in pro-gramme-building on the musical side.
At one time Mr. Lewis was assistant conductor of the City of Birmingham Orchestra under Mr. Adrian Boult.

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## Ceolraidh Ghaidhlig Inbhirnis.

This is the real title-I always suspected it-of the Inverness Gaelic Musical Association, which is to broadcast a concert from 5 XX on November 20th. The long-wave national transmitter will be used to ensure that the choral selections can be heard in the far north of Scotland, an area outside the range of the Scottish stations.

## Is the World Out of Joint?

One of the most important series of talks that the B.B.C. has yet undertaken will be opened on November 10 th by Professor Arnold Toynbee, his title being "World Order or Downfall?"
I am told that the talks will be a warning to our civilisation against the danger of disintegration which threatens it unless immediate steps are taken to save it.
Story of the Week.
During an orchestral rehearsal in the stuclio last week Mr. Adrian Bonlt's lady secretary was sitting near the conductor, notebook on knee, ready to record any points which might arise, when Mi. Rubinstein, the pianist, walked in. Directly he saw the yomg lady he imagined her to be an autograph hunter. With an impatient little bow and "But permit me, Madam," he signed his name in her book.

# Unbíased. 

IHAVE been amusing myself recently with a home recording outfit, borrowed from an obliging friend who was persuaded into buying it against his will by a clever salesman at Olympia, who emphasised the necessity of his perpetuating his voice for the benefit of posterity, although he omitted to explain precisely why posterity should be thus inflicted. I must confess that I did not expect anything much in the way of results owing to the extremely low price of the outfit, and was all the more surprised, therefore, at the remarkable clarity with which my voice was reproduced. I am not going to pretend, of course, that the results were in the same street as those obtainable from a recording by one of the big gramophone companies, but my voice was clearly recognisable, and indeed I tested this by literally trying it on the dog, a procedure which was suggested to me by the well-known symbol of our old friends the Gramophone Company. My only complaint was that the volume obtained was extremely poor on an ordinary non-electric gramophone, but since the apparatus is actually intended to be reproduced through a pick-up and amplifier this is not really a disadvantage. Curiously enough, I noticed that in my very first effort my voice was very tremulous, betraying a state of nervousness which, indeed, I felt whilst actually speaking into the instrument, although I was alone in the room at the time. The feeling was akin to that which I experienced the first time I ever faced the microphone at the old 2 LO , and which was only overcome in subsequent broadcasts by following certain sage advice offered to me by my old friend and monitor Captain Eckersley. Even to this day, however, I must confess to a certain feeling of trepidation each time I "go on the air," as the Americans put it, and I am always glad when my "turn" is over.

## Tell-tale Screeches.

I got most amusement out of the apparatus, however, by "canning" certain portions of the broadcasting programme, parts of which came out extremely well. Now it so happens that I possess a neighbour who, figuratively speaking, still dwells in the dark ages of radio, and possesses a fearsome engine of reception in the shape of a brute-force stabilised $3-\mathrm{v}-3$ receiver of 1922 vintage, which in spite of its three H.F. stages also has a huge swinging reaction coil to overcome, when needed, the aforementioned brute-force stabilisation, which consists of aerial damping and grid current. This reaction coil is used freely, far too freely for the comfort of myself and my neighbours, and its effects show themselves clearly in my record of the news bulletin, which is punctuated hv horrible screeches and
 prof wondering if this clearly recorded proof of legal and moral turpitude would be admissible as evidence in a court of law. If so, I can foresee that the vendors of the recording apparatus are likely to reap a rich harvest on the sale of their instruments to fellow sufferers who, like myself, know full well who is the offender, but have no really substantia! testimony to offer to the Postmaster-General. Evidence against pirate transmitters could be similarly recorded.

## Capturing Croydon.

There is one source of entertainment which I always find interesting, although perhaps strictly speaking not amusing, and that is the continuous variety turn provided by Croydon and his ethereal satellites. Most sets are capable of tuning to these transmissions, but in the case of more than one of the sets I have tested recently I have found it impossible to tune in Croydon at full strength owing to the fact that the long wave side of the receivers in question did not quite tune down to the necessary wavelength. This need not be so, of course; as a few moments' reference to the necessary abac will show that with a tuning condenser of the conventional maximum capacity it is possible to cover both short and long broadcasting wavebands without a break, using only two tuning coils, provided that moderate care is taken to design the coils correctly and to use condensers of reasonably low minimum capacities. To do this does, however, require extreme L.C. ratios at certain points of the scale, and consequently either sensitivity or selectivity suffers at these points, and it would be better to cover it by three coils with proper low-loss switching arrangements, a procedure which is actually adopted in one particular commercial receiver I have used.

## Comparisons are Melodious.

Now that the moving-coil type of loud speaker has become almost ubiquitous it seems hard to realise that it is only four years since it first made its appearance in this country. I well remember my first constructional effort in this direction, which might aptly be described as being all bass and battery, since its over-emphasis of the former and heavy demands on the latter were its principal features; but still, its quality of reproduction was a marked advance on anything that had been heard up till then. Judged by modern standards, of course, its efforts were atrocious, and I sometimes drag it out of my radio museum and compare it with my latest instrument to my infinite satisfaction.

# Picture <br> Analysis and Television 

Reducing the Width of Sidebands by Graded Definition.

By J. H. OWEN HARRIES.

INN television there are two mutually opposing factors, namely, the size of the picture and its clearness ; and the limitations of technique as regards the total amount of detail, or "clearness," it is possible to transmit. For example, if either picture size or clearness is doubled, the transmission band-width will be doubled also.

For producing televised pictures of commercially useful size and proper uniform clearness over the whole surface, both the scanning speed and transmission bandwidth must be very great indeed. For instance, a picture the same optical size as that of the screen in a cinema theatre, viewed from the best seats, and having a "clearness" the same as that of pictures sent by the well-known newspaper systems of photo-telegraphy, may be rigidly proved to need about 300 strips per picture, and a transmission band width of $1,500,000$ cycles odd-a totally impractical figure. This admits of no argument. The question, then, is, in what way can these facts be utilised-they cannot be ignored-and a commercial system produced?

The "tolerance" of the brain to moving images is far too slight an aid out of this difficulty. Hitherto, television using radio transmission has been limited to very small "head and shoulder "' pictures for this reason. Even in laboratory working, where wider transmission bands may be used, it has been far from possible to obtain the amount of detail really needed. The author has, therefore, devised and worked out a method of overcoming these rigid requirements of the usual television transmitted picture. He has found that the solution lies in the interpretation of the word "whole" in the second paragraph above, and in the exploitation of a not very well-known physiological property of human vision.

Briefly, the method consists of only reproducing the portion of interest in a picture in full detail. The rest of the picture is "blurred." Thus only part of the surface of the picture requires a wide transmission band width per unit area. The portion of interest of the scene will be small, and, therefore, though of high definition, will be practicable to transmit. The rest of the picture will also be easy to transmit because, though large, it is of low definition and will not require a wide transmission band width. It will be shown that the
$O^{N E}$ of the limitations in television is the high frequency that results when an attempt is made to sub-divide the picture into a sufficient number of points of light to give sharp definition. A considerable saving results by grading the analysis of the picture so that nothing is lost at the centre of interest while the background is effective but less well defined.
result is a very substantial economy of transmission bands.

## How an Observer "Sees" a Scene.

The image of an object on the retina of the eye is extraordinarily imperfect. If the arm is held out at full length, only the area of the thumbnail is seen clearly at a time. The rest of the image on the retina of the surroundings is very blurred indeed. Most people have considerable difficulty in believing this fact, for they feel that they can see much better than this. Why?

The answer is that a purely mental action ot the brain enters into the question. Quite unconsciously the very small "point of distinct vision" is moved over part of the field of view. It is guided to objects of interest in the field of view by the blurred image on the rest of the retina ("out of the corner of one's eye," colloquially) and by previously remembered details of the scene. The brain and mind then build up a more or less complete mental image of the whole scene, from the blurred image and from the tiny, clear "bits" the moving eyes supply it with-a kind of rapid and endless jigsaw puzzle.

A trained observer will get a much more complete idea of his surroundings than an untrained one, but even the most stupid person will build up a marvellously good mental picture, especially when aided by the sense of hearing as well. Yet the actual optical image is a very crude one. Further, observation shows that the point of distinct vision is moved over astonishingly little of the field of view. It is extraordinarily tiring to try to examine more than a very small part of the field of view all over by the point of distinct vision. Watching a game of tennis from a position 100 close to the net will show this. For similar reasons the page of a newspaper is divided into narrow columns. Proof-readers know the tiring effect of reading a MS. with long lines travelling right across wide pages.

## The Movements of the Point of Distinct Vision.

Fig. I shows the relative sizes of the tiny point ( $a$ ) of distinct vision and that of a cinema screen seen from the best seats in the theatre. The point does not move all over the screen at each change of scene shown, and the screen is not therefore examined in detail. Most

Picture Analysis and Television. people imagine that it is examined in detail, for they judge from the adequateness of the mental image they remember of the scene. They imagine, as a rule, that their point of distinct vision travels completely over the


Fig. 1.-The circle (a) repre sents the average area of distinct vision when viewing a cinema screen, while (b) is the approximate area actually ex plored in detail
screen, but they will be partly undeceived if asked to describe the scene in detail. It will be found that the remembrance is of the "centre of interest" of the scene only (e.g., the hero's and heroine's faces), and the rest is casually dismissed as being "a dining-room" or "a forest"-but whether the room is well furnished, or how it is furnished, or whether the forest is of oak or beech trees, is quite for-gotten-or, rather, has never been known.

Experiment shows that a characteristic path of the point of distinct vision is about as in (b) Fig. I. Inside the dotted line the screen is continually re-examined in detail. Outside this area, unless the producer especially intends otherwise (which is only very occasionally the case), the blurred area of the image on the retina and the sounds (if the film is a talkie) are relied upon by the audience to keep them au fait with the play. One cannot obtain exact figures for the relative times the eyes rest on the dotted, enclosed area (b) and on the rest of the screen in Fig. I, because of the obvious dependence of these times on the exact nature and artistic treatment of the subject filmed. But a guide is as follows:-It has been stated, on good authority, ${ }^{1}$ that the majority of dramatically interesting situations in a play on the screen reduce to two, or, at the most, three,

[^4]persons. These would be shown in "three-quarter close-ups" on the film (showing only a half to threequarters of the figure). Also, it is stated that in ordinary motion picture practice, it is usual to have 80 to 90 per cent. of the film in the form of such " three-quarter close-ups."

## "Vignetting" in Films.

The observer's seemingly paradoxically adequate notion of the story or event about which the film producer is trying to tell him exists because of the beforementioned building-up action of the brain, and because the producer, like all artists who create for the eye, deliberately keeps his "centre of interest" in or about a small part of the picture. All artists do this. The spot light in the theatre is an adaption of the principle. A painter is not photographically accurate. He accentuates his "centre of interest," and glosses over the rest. A cartoonist carries this to its extreme. "Vignetting, " or deliberate blurring of the edge of the picture,
is an artifice frequently resorted to by many film producers.
The results of experiments on these lines may be summed up by stating that, in order to "see" a scene clearly, an observer has only to actually see a small part clearly at a time. If the observer also has the use of his sense of hearing, the portion of the scene actually examined in detail by his point of distinct vision will be still

Fig. 2.-The large clear-allover picture which is the un obtainable ideal.

## Picture Analysis and Television

in film work is, gained by blurring the barkground. As a rule, the blur is positioned best at the edges of the picture.

## Adaptation to Television.

A method ${ }^{1}$ of adapting the principle to television consists in transmitting two images of the same scene. One large, and therefore blurred, and one small and clear. They are combined at the receiver to make a composite unevenly defined image. The result may be compared with the use of a spot light in a theatre.

Since the arrangement is purely dependent for success on physiological reasons, it is, unfortunately, very hard to convey the idea on paper. But the illustration (Fig. 2) represents a large, clear-all-over picture, such as is unobtainable in television transmission. In Figs. 3 and 4 are shown the nearest practical approach to this ideal possible hitherto, i.e., Fig. 3 shows the small part of the ideal (Fig. 2), which can be transmitted so as to be clear all over; and Fig. 4 shows a picture the same size as the ideal (Fig. 2) but blurred all over due to the limitations of analysis.

Finally, Fig. 5 shows the combination of Figs. 3 and 4 in accordance with the proposed method. The much closer approximation to the ideal, compared with either Figs. 3 or 4 alone, found in this case needs no comment.

The amount of trans-
of the width of the border. Thus a small increase in width means a large increase in economy. But the eye is only concerned with the width of the border in judging how much economy is allowable
As an example of the economy possible with a narrow


Fig. 6.-Relative sizes of the
border, consider the trans mitting of a picture $4 \times 5$ inches square or 20 square inches with ten pictures sent a second, or $20 \times 10$ that is, 200 square inches of picture will be sent a second. A moderate degree of clearness would be obtained with a transmission band width of 500 cycles per square inch sent per second. Hence, the total band width required is 100,000 cycles wide, which is impractical.
By making use of the modification here described, the small clear-all-over centre may be 6 square inches in area. With the above values of band width per square inch per sec. and picture rate, the transmission band will be 30,000 cycles. The large blurred picture will need 200 square inches per second. The band width might be reduced to roo cycles per square inch per second, and the band width will be 20,000 cycles.

The total band width needed, therefore, is $30,000+$ 20,000 , or 50,000 cycles, giving an economy of about a half. The relative sizes of the clear and blurred parts are shown in Fig. 6.

For purposes of explanation in this brief article, transmission band-width economies only have been mentioned. Actually, important savings also occur in light sources, scanning speeds, and in synchronism, etc. The result is that even a seemingly small economy in the total detail it is necessary to transrait each second is of great practical importance.

Fig. 5-By grading the definition so as to obtain a sharp image at the centre of interest little is lost.
mission economy effected by the new method depends on the area of the blurred border of the picture. Hence the cconomy is proportional, roughly, to the square
${ }^{1}$ Brit. Pat. No. 326.603.
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## WVIRELESS WORLD



A Review of Manufacturers' Recent Products.

at 15s.

## TRANSFORMERS AND CHOKES FOR

"THE WIRELESS WORLD FOUR."
A range of transformers and chokes is being produced by W. Bryan Savage, 292, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, for use with "The Wireless World Four," described in recent issues. The mains transformer gives the following outputs: $300-0-300$ volts 50 mA ., 5 volts $1: 6$ amps., 4 volts 3 amps , and 4 volts 0.275 amp . This transformer has been tested by giving inclusion to it in "The Wireless World Four" receiver, and measurement of the various anode voltages showed that under conditions of load all potentials were correctly maintained. The type number of this transformer is W.W. 4 and the price is 34 s .
The output choke has a core of gener= ous cross section, and its inclusion in the receiver gave entirely satisfactory results. In addition to being centre tapped, another tapping is included stepping off a quarter of the total winding. It bears the type number L.C. 36 PG and the price is 19 s : 6 d .
Smoothing chokes were similarly tested and were found to be entirely satisfactory, while their resistance was such that the various voltages were correctly maintained. It will be remembered that the bias of the output valve is obtained by a voltage dropped across one of the smoothing chokes. Its resistance value is therefore important, and it was noted that it had been adjusted to 440 ohms, which is, of course, the correct value.


Savage mains transformer, tapped output choke and smoothing choke produced for "The Wireless World Four."

## WEEDON'S SELF-CENTRE FOR CONE DIAPHRAGMS

This centre-fixing device, which was originally produced for use with the double-cone type linen diaphragm, has


Weedon's "Self-centre," fitted with Weedon's "Self-centre," fitted with
adjustable
spindle for
wise on
been redesigned, and in its new form is suitable for attachment to any type of cone diaphragm. It consists of two large diameter aluminium washers clamped on a hollow boss through the centre of which passes a spindle. The spindle is adjustable for length, and on one end is mounted a collar to take the driving spindle on the unit.
This centre-fixing device is made by J. H. Weedon and Co., 80, Lonsdale
weathered oak with a fret cut to resemble a set of organ pipes, this loud speaker is notable for its simple and dignified design.
The useful frequency response lies between 150 and 3,500 cycles, and over this range the output is remarkably uniform. There is a minor resonance at 2,200 cycles and another between 250 and 350, but the latter is not sufficient to marr the reproduction of speech. From 3,500 up to 6,000 cycles there is still a definite response, but at a low level compared with the output in the $150-3,500$ cycle band. Similarly, although the output falls below 150 cycles, there is still something at 50 cycles, and there is no trace of frequency doubling at the latter frequency.


Philips type 2024 loud speaker in weathered oak cabinet.
The variation of impedance with frequency is shown in the following table :-


The sensitivity, although satisfactory, is slightly below the average, but the power handling capacity is more than sufficient for all ordinary domestic receivers. Made by Philips Lamps; Ltd., 145, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, the price is $£ 410$ s.

## STIKTAPE AERIAL.

This aerial consists of a narrow strip of material, closely resembling adhesive in sulating tape, $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. wide, on one side of which is stuck a strip of stout tinfoil The foil terminates in a spade terminal for connecting to the set.

The adhesive side will stick to any clean, dry surface, such as glass, cloth, wallpaper, wood, or any painted surface free from dust particles, so that its in stallation is a very simple matter. A further use would be as an indoor earth lead, when the strip may be laid below linoleum or other floor covering, thus being conceiled and protected from damage.

It is essential to see that the foil does not become broken, a circumstance that might readily occur and not be observed, particularly when using the " Stiktape" as an earth lead.

This is of American origin, and marketed in this country by the Rothermel Corporation, Ltd., 24, Maddox Street, London, W.1.

It is sold in tins containing 50 feet approximatel $y$, and the price is 5 s .

"Stiktape " aerial is an adhesive strip coated on one side with tin foil.

## M-L ROTARY TRANSFORMER.

The machines dealt with in this review are the types H.E.A. and H.F.A., designed to deliver an A.C. output at 110 volts, or 230 volts, 50 cycles when connected to a D.C. supply main. The machines are ayailable for high-voltage input of the order of that supplied to priyate houses or wound to operate from a lowvoltage source, such as a 6 -volt or a 12 -volt accumulator... Machines can be obtained wound especially to suit the voltage of country-house installations or the D.C. plants on private yachts, thus enabling "All-A.C." sets to be operated when only a D.C. supply is available.

The H.E.A. machine is capable of delivering a $40-$ V.A. output, while the H.F.A. type gives 85 V.A. The corresponding machines for low-voltage input


M-L rotary transformer, Type H.F.A., rated at 85 V.A. output and regulating resistance.
circuits are designated types T.E.A. and L. F . A. respectively.

The first measurements made were the
and a super-power anplifier. There was considerable interference, which drowned all but the strongest proadcast matter. The special Anti-Interference Unit designed for use with these machines was then comnected up, and this entirely eliminated every trace of electrical interference, although no special precautions were taken to screen the D.C. supply leads or the A.C. output leads. The machino was located about three feet from the receiver.
The machine is not excessively noisy mechanically, but for full enjoyment of the broadcast matter it should be mounted in a soundproof cabinet or housed in a separate room and mounted on rubber blocks to deaden the noise. The Anti-Interference Unit for these two machines costs $£ 410$ s. These units will not be required when the rotary transformers are used to operate amplifiers only.
The price of the Type H.E.A. (and L.E.A.) rotary transformer is $£ 13$ : the

Type H.F.A. Rotary Converter- 85 V.A. Rating.

| D.C. Input. |  |  | A.C. Output (R.M.S. Values). |  |  | Efficiency. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Volts. | Current mA. | Watts: | Volts. | Current mA . | Volt/Amps. |  |
| 200 | 295 | 59.0 | 310 | 40 | 12.4 |  |
| 200 | 355 | 71.0 | 302 | 80 | 24.2 35.0 | 34.0\% |
| 200 | 417 | 83.5 | 292 | 120 | 35.0 45.3 | 42.0\% |
| 200 | 485 | 97.0 111.0 | 283 274 | 160 200 | 45.3 54.8 | 46.7\% |
| 200 | 555 | 111.0 | 274 | 200 240 | 54.8 63.8 | 49.4\% $51.0 \%$ |
| 200 | 625 690 | 125.0 138.0 | 266 | 240 280 | 63.8 72.0 | 51.0\% |
| 200 200 | 690 750 | 138.0 150.0 | 257 248 | 280 320 | 72.4 79.4 | 53.0\% |
| 200 | 810 | 162.0 | 239 | 360 | 86.0 | 53.0\% |
| 200 | 870 | 174.0 | 230 | 400 | 92. 0 | 52.8\% |

A.C. voltage output at various current loads; the input current was measured also. The machines tested were wound for 200 volts D.C. input and rated to give 23.) volts A.C. output. The results obtained are given below in tabulated form, the last column giving the output as a percentage of the input.
A similar set of measurements were made with the $85-V . A$. machine-type H.F.A.-and these are given also in tabulated form.

In both cases the rated output voltage is obtained only when the machines are fully loaded. When the output load is comparatively light an input-regulating resistance must be used. A suitable resistance is supplied by the makers, the price being $£ 2$.
The machines were tested for interference by using a fairly sensilive A.C. receiver embodying a screen-grid valve as H.F. amplifier, a regenerative detector,

Type H.E.A. Rotary Converter-40 V.A. Rating.

| D.C. Input. |  |  | A.C. Output (R.M.S. Values). |  |  | Efficiency. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Volts. | Current mA. | Watts. | Volts. | Current ma. | Volt/Amps. |  |
| 200 | 200 | 40.0 | 290 | 20 | 5.8 | 14.5\% |
| $\because 00$ | 232 | 46.5 | 283 | 40 | 11.3 | 24.3\% |
| 200 200 | 295 | 53.0 | 277 | ${ }_{80}^{60}$ | 16.6 | 31.4\% |
| 200 | 325 | 59.0 65.0 | 264 | 100 | 26.4 | 40.6\% |
| 200 | 350 | 70.0 | 257 | 120 | 30.8 | 44.0\% |
| 200 | 380 | 76.0 | 250 | 140 | 35.0 | 45.7\% |
| ${ }_{200}^{200}$ | 412 | 88.5 | $\stackrel{243}{236}$ | 160 | 38.9 | 47.0\% |
| 200 200 | 450 490 | 90.0 98.0 | 236 230 | 180 200 | 42.5 46.0 | 47. $47.0 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

85-V.A. model, Type H.F.A. (and L.F.A-) costs $£ 17$.
All M-L machines of less than $100 \mathrm{~V} . \mathrm{A}$. output have permanent magnet fields and
 anti-interference unit designed for use with M-L. machines Types H.E.A., L.E.A., H.F.A. and L.F.A.
a double-wound armature is standardised throughout. The comnutator and slipiings are mounted on one end of the armature spindle, and on the other end is a small fan for cooling purposes. The makers are the M-L Magneto Syndicate, Ltd., Coyentry.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.
Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, "The Wireless World," Dorset House, Tudor Street, E,C.4, and must be accompanied by the writer's name and address.

## BROADCASTING GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

Sir,-I was considerably alarmed to read your suggestion in The Wireless World of October 15th that the B.B.C. should introduce gramophone records in their programmes " without necessarily making any announcement to that effect."
Gramophone records can usually be distinguished by what might be termed "pitch-wobble"-a wavering in pitch, particularly noticeable in sustained notes. This is a form of dislortion peculiar to the gramophone, and can be rather distressing to a musically sensitive ear. Being a mechanical defect, however, it may be overcome in the near future. Herein, in fact, lies the danger of your suggestion.
To a person of inàgination a great part of the pleasure of listening to a wireless transmission lies in the knowledge that one is listening to a performance that is actually taking place at the same time. One visualises, for example, the great concert hall with its audience and orchestra; sees the conductor as his entrance is greeted with applause; and experiences the thrill of the sudden stillness as he raises his baton. There is that feeling of being "en rapport"" with the artist, and not merely listening, but " listening-in." It is this that makes wireless reception worth while, despite such drawbacks as heterodyne, atmospherics, and Morse interference. Once, however, let there be a doubt as to whether one may be listening to a live performance or a record, and the peculiar fascination of wireless reception is gone, never to be recaptured.
By all means let us have occasional broadcasts of records, but let them be announced as such.
For ny own part, though, if I had wanted to listen to records I should have bought a gramophone instead of a wireless set. Even a gramophone record sounds better first hand Grimsby.

ERNEST W. DUNN.

## PITCH OF THE HUMAN WHISTLE.

Sir,-Sir Richard Paget, in his book, "Human Speech," which Mr . Harmon mentions, also states, in connection with the pit: h of the human whistle, ". . . there is an unexpected difficuity in identifying by ear the actual octave in which a whistled note - should be placed in relation to notes produced by the vibration of the rocal chords. We normally imagine that a whistled note is an octave lower than it really is."
One might expect that the difficulty would be less when comparing the whistled note with the notes of a piano. Yet some 85 per cent. of Mr. Harmon's observers placed the lower limit of the human whistle at middle C. Mr'. Harmon asks, "Were the majority of these people making what Mr. Pile calls a common mistake?" I believe that they were, and that the experiment shows how common the mistake may be.
The difficulty arises, not on account of the complexity of the whistled note, but from the complexity of the piano note with which it is compared. When a purer comparison note is used, such as that given by a tuning fork, a tin whistle, a Joud speaker driven by pure audio frequency current, or a good gramophone running on a constant note record, the tendency to assign the whistled note to the wrong octave is greatly reduced. The beats between a low-pitched whistle and a. 512 -cycle tuning fork can readily be heard, but no such beats are obtainable with a fork of 256 cycles (middle C).
If Mr. Harmon will try this I think he will be convinced that the pitch can be definitely ascertained without the need for any oscillograph analysis
N. FLEMING.

Teddington.
Sir;-Mr. Fleming s experiments give valuable information on the question as to the lower limit of the pitch of the human whistle, and they serve to illustrate the remarkable nature of
this sound. In repeating Mr. Fleming's results I have found that some observers identify a whistled note with middle $C$ on the piano, and immediately afterwards identify the same whistle with upper $C$ on a tuning-fork! This is a somewhat embiarassing experiment, as the subjects of it feel that they have been caught out in an unfair manner.

Will someone who possesses the necessary apparatus produce an oscillogram of a low whistled note? Perhaps the research department of the B.B.C., or of one of the gramophone companies, might be induced to settle the question.

JOHN HARMON.
Sir,-With reference to the correspondence on the above subject, I think that the reason why Mr. Harmon's test was so inconclusive was owing to the difficulty of comparing the pitch of two such entirely different tones as those of the piano and the human whistle. The piccolo stop of the organ provides a satisfactory means of comparison owing to the similarity of its tone to that of the human whistle, and on experiment showed, beyond any manner of doubt, that upper $C$ and not middle $C$ is the lower limit of the latier:
It would be interesting to hear Mr. Harmon's explanation of the alleged lack of fundamental power in deep organ tones. While not professing any special knowledge of acoustics, I am firmly of Mr. Seymour Pile's opinion that the notes produced by large wood organ pipes are almost devoid of harmonics, and very much doubt whether bottom $\mathbf{C}$ on a 32 -foot length pipe (one octave below lowest $C$ on the piano) would produce any sound whatever in a moving-coil speaker.

Bromley, Kent.
VERNON C. COOMBS.

## SHIELDING AND H.F. RESISTANCE OF COILS.

Sir,-I have read with great interest Mr. Horle's letter in your issue of October 29th with reference to the change in resistance of a radio-frequency inductance coil when placed inside a metal screen. In stating that a coil may show a lower resistance when screened than when unscreened, I assume tlat Mr. Horle is confiming his attention to the properties of the coil itself, and that the decrease in resistance is not due to the fact that some component, whether a conductor or insulating material, is screened from the field of the coil when the screening conductor is placed over the coil. It can easily be understood that where the resistance of a coil includes the losses in some neighbouring component or material, the reduction of the field common to the coil and this material by the interposition of the screen will cause a decrease in the resistance of the coil. I gather that Mr. Horle's remarks refer to the actual wire resistance of the coil quite apart from the effect of any external objects. In this respect I regret to state that I have no knowledge of any results showing that the resistance of a screened coil is lower than that of such a coil unscreened. So far as I ain aware, no results of this nature have been published, and I think it would be very useful to all who are interested in this matter if Mr. Horle could be induced to publish some of the results of the measurements on coils to which he refers. At the same time it would be useful if Mr. Horle could describe briefly the method employed for the measurement of these resistances at radio-frequencies. While it is not inconceivable that for a coil carrying current at radio-frequencies, the secondary field due to the presence of a screening container night so alter the distribution of current in the conductor of the coil, it is not easy to visualise how such a result may be brought about.
Any further explanation which Mr. Horle could offer on this point in reference to his own measurements would be very useful and of great interest.
Teddington, Middlesex.
R. L. SMITH ROSE.
R. L. SMITH ROSE.


The Service is subject to the rules of the Department, which are printed below; these must be strictly enforced, in the interest of readers themselves. A selection of queries of general interest is deall with below.

What Is a Filter?
A number of band-pass circuits have recently been described in your journal, but I am still uncertain as to what is the essential difference between a filter and a two-circuit aerial tuner. Will you please examine the enclosed diagrams of various aerial input tuners, and tell me how each of them should be classified?
R. De L. J.

Each one of your sketches (not reprocluced) shows an arrangement that may, by proper adjustment of coupling between individual circuits, be made to operate as a band-pass filter. Broadly speaking, two circuits suitably linked together capacitatively or inductively, or by a combination of the two methods, are always capable of providing a "double-humped" resonance curve. The real difference between the filter and the two-circuit tuner is that the former is deliberately designed with the object of getting a resonance curve of this kind, and not merely from the point of view of attaining maximum signal strength and selectivity.

## RULES.

The free service of THE WIRELESS WORLD Technical Information Department is only available to registered readers and subscribers. A registration form can be obtained on application to the publishers.
(1,) Every communication to the Information Department must beqar the reader's registration number.
(2.) Only one question (which must deal with a single specific poinl) can be answered. Letters must be concisely worded and headed "Information Department."
(3.) Queries musi be written on one side of the paper and diagrams drawn on a separate beet. $A$ self-addressed stamped envelope must (4.) Desion or circuit di.
(4.) Designs or circuit diagrams for complete receivers or eiminators cannol ordinarily be not be done to questions of this kind in the course of a letter.
(5.) Practical wiring planscannot be supplied or considered.
(6.) Designs for components such as I.F. chokes, power transformers, complex coil assemes, ctc., cannol be supplied.
(7.) Queries arising from the construction or operation of receivers must be confined to conWorld": to standard manufactured receivers. or to " $\dot{K}$ it" sels lhat have been reviewed used in their original form and not embodying modifications.

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## For Long-range Work.

Will you please give me a word of advice regarding the simplest and least expensive circuit arrangement likely to be suitable for consistent long-distance reception of British and foreign stations? The set is to be used in the West of England, and, as it must be battery-operated, I naturally do not wish to use more valves than are necessary. A. E. B.
Although the modern three-valve H.F.-det.-L.F. set can be highly sensitive, and often affords satisfactory reception of foreign stations, particularly after dark, we always consider that two H.F. stages are almost essential for consistent longrange work. If this attitude is tenable -and there can be little doubt that it is, especially when the set is to be used in a remote locality-the simplest arrangement likely to meet your needs is a 2-v-1 circuit, probably with grid detection and reaction
Although interference is unlikely to be particularly troublesome, it is strongly recommended that either a two-circuit aerial tuner or an input filter should be used ; it is now generally admitted that the screened valve can hardly give of its best unless the principles of "preselection" explained in this issue are used.

## 0000

"The Wireless World Four" Output Stage.
As my requirements in the matter of volume are comparatively modest, I propose, in building "The Wireless World Four," to substitute a P. 625 output valve for the super-power pentode as specified. If this alteration is permissible, will you please let me lnow what circuit modifications will be necessary? H. C.
By substituting a triode, a certain reduction in overall magnification will be brought about; there will also be a loss of 'power output, as you yourself suggest, but otherwise there is no objection to making this change.
It so happens that the P.M.24A. and P. 625 valves consume almost exactly the same anode current, and also require simila: values of negative grid voltage. In consequence, the values of resistances,
etc., as already specified, may stand unaltered; but a voltage-absorbing resistance should be inserted in series with the aṇode, as shown in Fig. 1. This diagram indicates all necessary modifications; from it you will see that the tone-regulating resistance and condenser are onitted, and that a plain output choke is used in place of one with a centre tap.


Fig. 1.-"The Wireless World Four ' output stage with a triode in place of the original pentode.
$0 \cap 0$
Bias Resistance Calculations.
$I$ understand that output valves used in a push-pull arrangement are normally supplied with a negative bias of the same value as if they were used singly. If this is correct, I suppose that one can safely assume, when changing over to the push-pull system, that no change would be necessary in the value of an automatic bias resistance?
R. D. M.

No, this is wrong, as the current pass ing through the bias resistance will be approximately doubled when an extra valve is added; in consequence, its ohmic value should be halved to produce the original bias voltage.

## Automatic Bias for Anode Bend

 Detection.I have successfully converted my 1-v.-1 receiver for A.C. mains operation as far as its H.T. and L.T. circuits are concerned, and should now like to make provision for automatic bias both for the anode bend detector and for the output valve. With regard to the last-mentioned, $I$ do not anticipate any trouble, as it is intended merely to insert a resistance in the negative feed lead-there is ample H.T. voltage to spare. My real difficulty is to arrange for detector bias; as I use different types of valves in this position, some provision for continuous adjustment must be made. Any suggestions as to how this problem may be solved in a simple and inexpensive mamer would be appreciated. It should be added that indirectly heated valves are now used.
B. C. A.

You do not tell us the total anode current taken by the set, or the maximum


Fig. 1.-Variable "automatic" bias for an anode bend detector.
value of negative bias needed for the detector; without this information it is not possible to give full information regarding this alteration, but we think that the arrangement suggested in Fig. 1 will be found satisfactory.
As you will see from this diagram, the normal grid bias resistance $R_{1}$ is connected in series with a potentiometer; the sum of these two resistances should be equal to that required to produce the proper voltage drop for application to the output valve grid.
The detector grid return lead is taken to the potentiometer slider, and so any voltage from zero up to the maximum developed across the resistance may be applied. This brings us to the crux of the matter-the resistance of the potentiometer. Allowing a total anode current of 30 milliamps-a reasonable enough figure for a set deriving its H.T. from the mains-a potential drop of 12 volts will be produced across 400 ohms, which is the value of the usual commercial component. This voltage is likely to be sufficient for
any valve ordinarily used as an anode bend detector, but if more is required, or if total plate current amounts to less than that assumed, it will be necessary to use a potentiometer of higher resistance.
Grid decoupling resistances and condensers, which may be of 100,000 ohms and 2 mfds ., are indicated by $R$. and $C$.

## 0000

## Economies in Anode Current.

I am about to construct a self-contained 4-valve battery set, but an uncertain whether to adopt an H.F.-det.2L.F. circuit or to use tuo H.F. stages followed by a detector and one L.F. stage. It is specially desired to reduce anode current consumption to the lowest possible figure. Bearing this point in mind, will you please advise me as to which arrangenent is likely to be the most satisfactory?
W. B.

The difference in anode current consumption between an $S$.G. valve and a triode of the type likely to be used in a high-magnification L.F. stage is almost negligible, and would hardly amount to more than a milliampere or so. By using resistance coupling, possibly as much as 3 milliamperes might be saved by adopting the " 2 -L.F." circuit, but annplification would possibly be insufficient for a frame aerial set with a single H.F. stage. The "2-H.F." circuit is undoubtedly the best for your purpose, buit is, of course, more difficult to design and to construct.

## 0000

## Better Coils: Larger Coupling <br> Condensers

1 am thinking of making up a capacitycoupled inpui filter with two 3 in Litz-wound coils ("Wireless World" specification) which are already in my possession. A single-knob tuning of low-resistance circuits of this kind is unlikely to remain "in step" over the whole tuning range, it is proposed to fit a trimming condenser in an acces. sible position on the front panel. The filter is to be followed by a two-stage H.F. amplifier.

Do you consider this to be a practical scheme? Of course, $I$ intend to use a smaller coupling condenser than usual, as the coils are of higher efficiency than those generally used in filter circuits.
J. R. S.

It is always rather dangerous to uss coils of exceptionally low resistance in a filter, although in your case the resulting sharply defined tuning peaks are not likely to be altogether a disadvantage, as there is to be a succeeding H.F. amplifier, presumably with intervalve couplings consisting of single-tuned circuits.
Your proposed external-trimming condenser will be of some value, but its inclusion will not completely overcome the inherent difficulties in the way of "ganging " tuned circuits of high efficiency.
Finally, we would point out that it is wrong to assume that the coupling condenser should be smaller than usual. Actually, the contrary is the case, and we suggest that you should use a mutual capacity of at least 0.015 mfd .

Capacity-coupled Two-circuit Tuners.
$I$ have just made a two-circuit tuner uni with a tapped aerial connection to the first coil and capacity coupling (by means of a small variable condenser of 0.00015 mfd .) between the two circuits

Selectivity is disappointing, although it is better than that of the singlecircuit "aperiodic" tuner previously used. Coils are of 3in. diameter wound with No. 22 gauge wire in accordance with the instructions given in your issue of September 3rd, and I an sure that there are no high-resistance joints or serious leakages. Can you suggest why tuning should be tess shaip than one would expect?
H. M. С.

A capacity-coupled tuner of this type should be highly satisfactory, and, with a sufficiently loose coupling between its circuits, should provide high selectivity. We think that your failure to obtain these results must be due to the use of an excessively large coupling condenser; the capacity of the component that you are using may be too great, even when it is set at minimum.
It is therefore suggested that you should either obtain another condenser with a maximum capacity of certainly not more than 0.0001 mfd , or even considerably less, and with a low minimum value, or that you should remove about half the vanes from your present condenser.

## FOREIGN BROADCAST GUIDE.

## FRANKFURT-AM-MAIN

## (Germany).

Geographical Position : $50^{\circ} 6^{\prime} \mathrm{N} .8^{\circ} 40^{\prime} \mathrm{E}$
Approximate air line from London: 397 miles.
Wavelength : 390 m . Frequency : 770 kc . Power: 1.5 kW .
Timé : *Central European Time.

* Coincides wilh B.S.T.


## Standard Daily Transmissions.

05.55 B.S.T. weather forecast from Stuttgart ; 06.00 physical exercises; 07.00 (Sun:) relay of concert from Hamburg; 08.15 relay of concert from some Rhineland Spa, e.g., Kreuznach, Wiesbaden, etc.); 12.15 gramophone records or orchestral concert : 16.00 (Sun.) relay from Wiesbaden Kurhaus; 19.30 or 20.00 main evening programme; 23.00 dance music; occasionally night concert from 00.30 to 01.30 .
Man and woman announcers. Opening Call: Hier Suedwestdeutsche Rumdfunk Frankfuri-am-Main und Cassel.
Interval Signal: Metronome, followed by abbreviated call: Franlfurt-am-Main und Cassel.
Regularly exchanges programmes with Stuttgart.
Closes down with usual German formula and the playing of Deulschland ueber Alles (German National Anthem).
Relay: Cassel, 246 m . ( $1,220 \mathrm{kc}$.)

## WHICH DO YOU PREFER



## 66R



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loneons.
HIRE a McMichael Portable Set, by day or week, sultant, 55, Ebury St., S.W.1. Sloane 1655. [0328 $\mathbf{S}^{\text {TRAIGHT }}$ antee; 8 Five Portable, makers' 12 months' guarRd., Sheffield. G.E.C. World Wide Screen Grid Four. milliamplators, L.T 6 v . Marconiphone moving coil speaker, latest, in mahogany cabinet, set and batteries in 4 ft . high mahogany cabinet, double doors, all new 1930 ; heard any time; cost £48, accept £22.-Hopkins, 126, Long st., Bitmingham.


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## Receivers for Sale.--Contd.

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 mahogany, £18.-Saul, 8, Ansdell Rd., S. Ansdel,
Blackpool. Foreign Listeners Four, perfect, fin; Loftin Whition $£ 10$ gramophone amplifier, magnificent repre A.C.-Chamier, Vickers House, Westminster. $\quad 1950$ 6-VALVE McMichael Superhet, also speaker, frame
 mingham.
$\mathbf{N}^{\text {EW Kilomag }}$ Four, in special cabinet, complete ton, Sissinghurst' Court, Cranbrook.
 down, Whitehill; Hants. ${ }^{2}$ [1963 $\mathbf{N}^{\text {EW }}{ }^{1930} ;{ }^{1930}$ Osram Music Magnet Three, with valves, Leeds. [1958 HIGH Quality Console 2 -valve Receivers, with incoraerial tuners, from $5 /-$ - 2 -valve sets, in Camco cabinets, 54/-; retail; lists free.--Chalgrove Radio, 6, Grove St., $W$ elingborough.
YOUR Old Receiver or Component Taken in Part Y Exchange for New; write to us beiore purchasing elsewhere and obtain expert adivice irom wireless en send a list of components of the components themselves, and we will quate you by return post; thousands of satisfied clicnts.-Scientific Development Ca.,
[0226
57, Guildhall St., Presion. $\mathbf{A}^{\text {MPLION }}$ perlect 4 -valve 2S.G. Portable, in use 3 weeks, $W^{W}$ ireless $W$ orld. $\mathbf{E}_{\text {ceiver, }}^{\text {LECTRIC Gramophone }}$ and 5 -valve Wireless Removing coil speaker, last stage 1 L.S. 6 , 240 V . A.C., superlative reproduction, of radio and records, infinitely better reproduction than any commercialy prodace
article cost over $\mathcal{\&} 100$, accept $£ 45 \ldots$ Mann, 41 , Montagu Rd. Tel.: Hendon 2737. [1980 $\mathscr{E}^{25}$ ceiver, Nearest.-Marconiphone 3 S.G., D., ${ }^{\mathbf{P}}$ reMarconi eliminator; cost $\mathcal{E 3 5}$ last April; sale by
[1986 PHILIPS Receiver, A.C. 240 , with Marconi moring

McMicHAEL Super Range Portable Four, 1930 , Me perfect condition, with Ekco Hi.T. unit; \&17, or
nearest ofier.-Cooper, 33 , Pullan Av., Eccleshill, Bradnearest ofier.-Coojer, 33, Pullan Av., Eccleshill, Brad-
ford. $\mathbf{M}^{\text {EGAVOX, to }}$ incorporated Regentone H .T. eliminator or or standard No. ${ }^{3}$ H.T. battery, nunsed, gramophone pick-up)
and control, Baker Perm-ectectro MI.C. speaker chassis: and control, Baker Perm-electro M.C. sneaker chassis:
cost $£ 6$, accept $£ 23$, or will separate.-5, Lychett

$\mathbf{M}^{\text {cMiCHAFL'S }}$ Screen Grid Dermic-Three, comMete with A.C. $200-250$ eliminator, accunulatir, trickle charger attached; fill 10 ; equals all electric,
perfect.-Nelson, 9 , Brewster Garidens, North Kensingfon, W.10. After 8 p.m., or 'phone: Temple Bar
[1995 $5^{-V A L V E}$ Hide Case Portable, fitted Regentone com$\mathrm{J}_{\mathrm{E} 2 / 10 \text {, demanstration after } 7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m} .-28,}$ St. Audrew's Av., Sudbury, Wembley.
[1996 P.P.V. 2 Set, H.T. 120 v , and L.T. accumulator, comradiogram Ormond speaker: £5/5; with B.T.H. H.T.
 $\mathbf{M}^{\text {ARCONI Superhet }}$ Model 82, complete, gond conunit aion, unt, atcumulators, 2 speakers; sacrifice, what ofiers

- Full particulars from Captain $\mathbf{X}$., c/o F. T. Harris
[2008 and Co., Bude.
W IRELESS World " Record III, including new £30 6 months ago; best offer accepted; week's trial glady--Hear it at 7 , Whitchurch Gardens, Edgware.
[2010
IPhone: 0493 .
CONVERT Your Set to All Electric:-Complete kits A. for voltaminatiors transformers for A.C. vaives, 4 v . 3 ' amp. A.C. voltage; transiormers valves from all cormponents tested and ${ }^{\text {anaranteed; write for lists, stating requirements.- }}$
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[2022




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## Receivers for Sale.-Contd

 ThoUSANDS of "Wireless World " Readers arè Coils.-Guilding the Band-pass Three. See adyert. under
[2003

## ACCUMULATORS-BATTERIES.

$\mathrm{W}_{\text {approximately }}^{\text {ET }}$ Replacements, new process sacs,
 particulars iree.-Scotish Batteries, Braeside, Uphail
Station.

 | Wimbledon. |
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| [2012 |

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TANTALUM and Lionium for A.C. Rectifiers, blue Blackwells Metallurgicill Works, Lit., L.T. chargers.-

$\mathrm{C}^{\text {MESTER BROS.-All types of mains transiormers }}$ 495, Cambridge Rd., tond specification.-Chester Bros., Chester Broa, london, E.2.

 $\mathrm{C}^{\text {HESTER BROS }}$ ductance, trpe $\mathbf{C}$ S. 2 , 45 hething chokes. constant
CHESTER BROS. Write for lists of models. Please note change of address. $\begin{aligned} & \text { [1477 }\end{aligned}$
$\mathbf{R}^{\text {ADIELLE }}$ D.C. 100 (200-250 D.C.) , output 200
 Grosvenor Gardens, Muswell Hill, London, N.10.• [1969
 Rise, Sheffield. SAVAGE'S S Specialise in Wireless Power trom the $^{\text {Mains; reliable }}$ $\mathbf{S A}^{\text {AVAGE'S }}$ Transformer Laminíations and BakeIite ior list. $\mathbf{S A V A G E S S}_{\text {volts D. }}^{\text {D. }}$ Reliable Smoothing Condensers, 1,500

$\mathrm{S}^{\text {AVAGE'S Power Chokes for the Power Pentode Two }}$ 19/6; many other types available, witite for list. G
$\mathrm{S}^{\mathrm{AVAaE}}$ house Mains Transtormers for the New Westing
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$\mathrm{S}^{\text {AVAGE'S " Wireless }}$ Wains teransformer, W.W.4, $34 \%$ Four Equipment bias chakes thpe W.W:4C. 16.4, each; smoothing and
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The greatest range of Permanent and energiser Speakers in the World. (See page 24)).

Mention of "The Wiretess World," whe wiriting to advertisers, will ensure prompt attention.

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$\mathbf{M}^{-1}$ Generator, type E, 12-volt input, 400 -volt apparatus, as brand new; $£ 10 . \sim$ J. R. Jefiery
 6128.
B. T.H. Tungar Rectifier for Sale, A.C., volts ent condition; accept volts. 75, D.C. amps. 6; excel Oranborne Gaidens, Welwy Garden City, Herts. $\mathbf{B}_{\text {chokes, }}^{\text {RYCE'S }}$ 220 ohms retant Inductance Smoothing or Output

M AINS Transformers for Westinghouse Metal Rectifiers, from 16/6; mains transformers and smooth ing chokes made to syecification in 24 hours.-Chalis,
[1999
DAVENSET Battery Charger, A.C. 200-220 volts, $D$ output $40-2$-rolt, 20 act. amp. hr . cells; list price L14, accept $\mathbf{x 6 / 1 5 , ~ c o m p l e t e ; ~ i t t l e ~ u s e d . ~ C l i f f o r d ~}$ $\mathrm{E}^{\text {DISWAN }}$ 12-volt 2 -amp. Trickle Charger, brand new; 37/6, or offer.-Girenfell, 8, Beacontree Rd.

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DIGBY'S Cabinets.-Table models in solid oak and hogany; from 11/6
$\mathrm{D}^{\mathrm{IGBX}} \mathrm{ebonite}$ Cabinets, frequired
$\mathrm{D}^{\text {IGBY'S }}$ battery components.-Pedestal model, with
$D^{\text {IGBY'S Cabinets Made to Customer's } 0 \text { wn }}$ - Designs.
DIGBY'S Cabinets.-Write for new 16-page art cata, Phone: Bishopsgaté 6458 .
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PENTODE Model with LINEN DIAPHRAGM

Every owner of a receiver using a Pentode valve should possess this amazingly efficient Speaker. Equipped with a linen diaphragm. It gives remarkably realistic reproduction of both speech and music. Connected to the "Wireless World" Regional I, this Speaker gives full loud speaker volume on one valve only! Abundant proof of its wonderful efficiency.


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89 SELHURST ROAD, S. NORWOOD, S.E.25. WORKS AND DEMONSTRATION ROOM : 42 CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD, E. CROYDON 'Phone: CROYDON 16 I 8.

## Gramophones, Pick-ups, etc.-Contd.

$G^{A M B R E L L}$ Novotône, $£ 3$; Lissen needle armature Grapes Hill,'
150rwich. . $\mathbf{B}^{\text {ANKRUPT }}$ Stock ${ }^{3}$ 9:valve gramophone ampli Biers, suitable for cinema, and demonstration work, containing the following: Three-stage, push-piek-up arms, 2 Kelster Brandes ele:tric turn-tables universal voltage, Weston meters, M.L., H.T. and L.T smoothing equipment. in metal cases, size, $33 i n$. hiph 19in. wide, 36in. long, as new and in working order suitable for A.C. or D.C. when worked by motoz

3 DiTTO similar cases: $\underset{\text { Resistance and Choke Coupled, in }}{ }$ similar cases; $£ 17 / 10$ each.-Below.
$\mathrm{O}^{\mathrm{NE}}$ Samson 12 -valve, 3-stage push-pull amplifier Stype Pam 16. in oak case, £18; valves to suit St. Rd., Commercial Rd., London, E.1. $\quad$ [2@o9

## VALVES.

$A^{\text {MpLIFIER }}$. Valre.-If you require power you canpairs if required).
FILAMENT Volts 6 plate volts 400 (maximum), I grid bias 84 volts (approx, impedance 800 ohms amplification factor 3.8 , mutual conductance 435 Wireless World," 24th July, 1929, then send to North London Valve Co., Itti., 221/2, Cazenove Rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.16.'
$S^{\text {END for Quotation for American Tubes; Hiatron }}$ ham.

## LOUD SPEAKERS.

 now "Sound Advice is Yours for the Ashing "; write now for new edition; see displayed advertisement an
page 23.
[023!
$\mathbf{R}^{\text {EALISTIC }}$ Speakers, Irue to name, the greatest write todance to perfection, not a cone or horn type. speakers - definnstrated dails; Realistic chassis and Penton St., N.1; also 52, Broadwater Rd., Worthing

I AMPLUGII Inductor Speaker Chassis, as ae
-Chalkley, Grove St., Wellingborough. ${ }^{\text {- }}$ [1955
Londona. Moving Coil Speaker, permanent mag. Lodge, St. Faith's Rd., Dulwich. H. Brundle, ${ }_{[1956}^{\text {Ely }}$
 Sound sales.
Magnavox--still time to secure a bargain.
SOUND SALES Super Speakers.
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$\mathrm{S}^{\text {OUND SALES Will Give You the Highest Possible }}$ Allowance on Your Old Speaker in Part Ex. change offer is restricted to nodel Magnavox Speakers; gain lines.-Sound Sales, Tremlett Grove, Highgate.

Ferranti A.C. Speaker Chassis, cost $£ 11 / 15$. 4 months old, perfect condition; accept $£ 7 / 15$.- Gill Commercial Hoca, Xasmarl, swansea. 1968 $\mathbf{B}_{\text {tode }}^{\text {AKER'S Soil; }}$ Super Power Moring Coin, Speaker, pen. Limes," Highgate Rd., London, N.W.5. [1987 $\mathbf{R}^{\text {ICE KELLOG }}$ M.C. ${ }_{\text {transformer. }}^{100-250}$ D.C., with input
 Rd., Teddington. $[1984$ TRISH Linen for Loud Speakers, $20 \times 20,1 / 6 ; 22 \times$ Irish 22, 1/9: $24 \times 24,2 /$.ine Warehouse, Host iree. St., Bollon. (The size less World. regrets that owing to a printer's error
the word ion ", was omitted from the first line ol this advertisement inserted in October 22nd issue.) ${ }^{\text {a }}$
$\mathbf{B}^{\text {LUE Spot Pick-up, played less than }} 50$ recoids South View," Barcombe, Sussex.
$\mathrm{B}_{4} 5$ Advertisements for "The Wireless World" are only accented from frms we believe to be thoroughly reliable.


Wride for illusirated Catalogue to
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## 

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## Edtorial Comment

## A Maximum Royalty.

WE ${ }^{2}$ have on several nerasioms retharkedt that the old royalty of 125.6 . 6 . . valve stage, which British manufacturers have paid on their recuivers unell the comparatively recemt induction, had Uie oflert of influencing receiver destgn in the direction of ltraiting the number of valves. Darmfacturers strained to get the uthnest out of the minimum namber of valves, and this very often resulted in serfously handicapping the designer of a sel who, 4 he had had a free hand. would have producerl a briter set il an extra value or oo had been permissuble.

American sety have not peid royelties th propartion to the number of valves, and this is probably one of the reasons why meerly all the belter closs Amertan sets employ many more values than our oww and are credited. whit bine on the whole more selective than any but the moet modern of Britich setc.

Now that agreement has been reached on the subject of liensing under the patents owned by Marconl's the Gramophone Company, and Standard Trelephones. as antominced in out issue last week, and the royalty to to be utbetantially lrse than formerly, the question arioss as to wheiner it theuld toot be to the bemefit of all concenod if a naximum royally Were fireet no that any recelver employing valve in excess of. suy. fouts stages, would not be colind upreer io pay a proportionotrly incrotaing royulty. Such an

## In This Issue

scamenoghto ralve

 CI RAENT TOPICS. OUT SUNO COMPETITIOW
 "THE WITRLEAS woRGD * BAWD-PAEs surswarernhoorve. Tmbonx of ThiE VALVE AMPLAFBEF
 mEADENS PRONAEVAK
orrangement would, in our opinion, stimulate the produxtion of sets of more valive stages, and the designer would have a free hand in the choice of circuit, irrespecflve of the number of valve stages.

It seems fairly certain that better eets would result from such a policy. whilst the cost of sets amploying more valves might not be serionsly enhanced, because. to aome extent, elaborate screening and other points which are a costly item in mannfacture would be minimised where the aim was no longer to get the last ounce out of every valve stage.

## Gramophone Broadcasts.

WE believe that the recent experiment of the B.B.C. in transmitting an all-gramophore record concert met with wide approval One is prompted to enquire why these tramemistions, which must obviously be comewhat inferior to direct broadcasts, should be so well received. First, we thinds that the gramophone record concert had the advantage that every item was short - limited to the length of a record -so that Misteners had plenty of variety, ands secondly, the items were by firs-class performers representing a fund of talent which could not possibly have been gathered together in the flest for one evening's pelformance. If there is any lesson to be learneal from the experiment it would seem to be that the publi: appreciates brevity as a change in broardeast subject matter.

# SCREFN-GRID VALVE AS LOW-FRLQUENCY AMPLIFIFR 

# Obtaining Stage Gains of 200 and Over. 

By D. McDONALD, B.Sc.,<br>of the Engineering Iaboratory; B.I.A. Co, Rugby.

THIS article describes what the author believes is a new method of connecting a screen-grid valve for audio-frequency amplification, enabling a stage gain of over 200 to be obtained. Before describing the method, it will be well to run over the elementary principles of resistance-capacity amplification.

The maximum amplification that can be realised with a triode is, for the case of resistance-capacity coupling, considerably less than the amplification factor of the valve, and for transformer coupling may actually reach the full magnification factor, and even pass it at the secondary resonance. If $R_{1}$ is the effective anode load resistance, $\mathrm{R}_{a}$ the A.C. resistance of the valve, $\mu$ the magnification factor, and $m$ the effective stage amplification, then for resist-allce-capacity coupling we have $m_{b}=\mu_{\mathbf{R}_{1}+\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{a}}}^{\mathbf{R}_{1}}$.

The term $R_{2}$ is called the effective anode resistance hecause it is composed of the actual anode resistance and the grid resistance of the following valve in parallel. Fig. I(a) shows the valve $\vec{V}_{2}$ resistance coupled to $V_{s} ; R$ is the anode resistance, and $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{G}}$ the grid resistance. The equivalent circuit for alternating signals is shown in Fig. I(b). The resistances $R$ and $R_{G}$ are in parallel, since the H.T. positive and H.T. negative should be at the same A.C. potential, the battery providing no effective resistance.
The stage gain is: $m=\frac{V}{E_{v}}=\mu \frac{\mathbf{R}_{1}}{\mathbf{R}_{1}+\mathbf{R}_{a}}$, where $\mathbf{R}_{1}=$ $\mathrm{RR}_{\mathrm{G}}$ $\frac{R+R_{G}}{R+R_{G}}$. This formula does not take into account the offect of the succeeding valve in shunting the resistance $R_{G}$ with its own input impedance, which is never infinite. It always consists of a resistance term sind a capacity term. The resistance may be positive or negative, depending on whether the valve anode load is capacitative or inductive. The chief trouble, however, arises with the capacity term. Obviously, if this


Fig. 1.-Circuit of a conventional resistance-capacity coupled L. F. stage $(H)$. The equivalent circuit with the valve as a foupled alternator is shown in (b).
capacity is large enough, it will effectively shunt $R_{G}$, at the higher frequencies, and hence lower the magnification. Roughly, this capacity is equal to the anode-grid capacity of the valve multiplied by the effective amplification of that valve. Even for small valves this capacity may be several hundred micromicrofarads, and this, in some cases, definitely limits the value of $R_{G}$ to a rather low value.
For screen-grid valves, if we assume perfect screening of the anode in the valve, it can be considered as a constant current generator. That is, for a given signal on the control grid a definite fixed alternating current flows in the anode circuit. This is true only if the anode voltage is above the screen-grid voltage; this latter point is important. It can readily be seen that if the above conditions are fulfilled, any value of resistance can be placed in the anode circuit, and there will be developed across this resistance a voltage equal to the product of that resistance and the alternating current.
This can be represented by Fig. 2,- if $g$ is the mutual conductance of the screen-grid valve in milliamps per volt on the grid, and $\mathrm{R} \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{G}}$ are as before; then a current of $g E_{g}$ milliamps flows through the circuit and develops across $R R_{G}$ a voltage $V$.
And $\mathrm{V}=\frac{g \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{g}}}{\mathrm{r}, 000} \times \frac{\mathrm{RR}_{\mathrm{G}}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{G}}}$ volts $=\frac{g \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{g}} \mathrm{R}_{1}}{\mathrm{I}, 000}$. Hence $m=$ $\frac{V}{\mathbf{E}_{0}}=\frac{g \mathbf{R}_{1}}{1,000}$

Thus, we reach the conclusion that the magnification for resistance-capacity-coupled screen-grid valves is dependent only on the mutual conductance and the anodeload resistance, so long as we have perfect screening of the anode and so long as the anode voltage is greater than that of the screen grid. No screen-grid valve has a perfectly screened anode, and it will be shown later that the loss of magnification due to imperfect screening may be considerable.

Screen-Grid Valve as Low-frequency Amplifier.-
Now, if the anode voltage can be kept above that of the screen grid, very large magnifications can be obtained. For instance, if we have $\mathrm{R}_{1}=500,000$ ohms, $g=0.5 \mathrm{~mA} . /$ volt, $m=\frac{\mathrm{R}, g}{\mathrm{I}, 000}=250$. It can readily be seen that the slope is a maximum for high anode current, and diminishes as this is reduced. In other words, the curve of anode current against control grid voltage _-keeping the screen-grid voltage constant._curves round at the foot, and tends to a straight line farther up. Of course, the valve for this purpose should be worked on the straight portion.

This will be made clear by referring to the curves for an A.C./S.G. valve shown in Fig. 5. These show the variation in anode current when the control grid volts are varied, keeping the anode voltage constant. The slope of these curves at any point gives the value of $g$, which is seein to decrease very much for very low values of anode current, no matter what may be the anode voltage or grid voltage.

Here we have a limitation, because to pass a reasonably high anode current through, say, 500,000 ohms would require an enormous anode voltage. The figure of merit for a value for this work twould be the value of $g$ for a very low anode current. The chief difficulty encountered when running


Fig. 2. - The screen-grid valve may be considered q constant current \&enerator if the anode voltage is maintained above that on the screening grid. The amplification of a screen-grid resistance-coupled L.F. stage repenis almost entirely upor mutual condinctance and anode load resistance.
> $I^{T}$ is well known that there is a serions limitation in the stage gain possible with L.F. resistance coupling usind theee-clectrode valves. This is duc to the imput impedance which resulls from an appreciable internal anode-y id capacily. In this article a method of delection and lowfrcquency amplification is given, using the screen-grid valve which has negligible inpul impedance. Slage gains of over 200 are shown to be possibls, and an ingenious automatic compensating device to keep the sercen vollage below that of the anode is described.
is shown in Fig. 3. This employs a large trailing resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{T}}$, through which the anode current passes and creates a negative bias voltage several limes too great for the valve. This voltage is reduced with respect to the grid by a battery as shown, which is of such a value that the grid volrage becomes norinal. The condenser merely by-passes the alternating currents. It can be seen that, if the valve is changed, any change in anode current, however small, causes a relatively large change in bias voltage, which, to some extent, tends to bring the anode current to the normat value. This method operates satisfactorily, and is used at present in one commercial, direct-coupled amplifier. with this difference, that the battery is replaced by a positive voltage obtained from a potentiometer. The objection to this method is that it is clumsy and rather expensive.

## Automatic Screen-grid Conipensation.

The author has devised a method of compensation which is cheap and simple and practically fool-proof. ${ }^{1}$ 'This consists in deriving the screen-grid voltage direct through a high resistance from the anode, as shown in Fig. 4, fixing the voltage of the screen to earth by a condenser as shown. As this screengrid resistance effectively shunts the anode resistance, it should be made at least twice as large. This connection, in effect, makes the screen-grid valve as simple to use as a triode, as we need now only supply one H.T. voltage, while amplifications of the order of 200 can be obtained.

The action of the valve with this connection may seem rather complex at first. In fact, it would be rather difficult to calculate the running conditions, as even when the complete performance curves of the valve are known, including the screen-grid current values, it necessitates a trial and error method of arriving at the screen-grid voltage. However, the working is easy to visual-
 Fig 3.-A trailling resistance
R in assoclation with a grifl hattery tends to keep the hattery tends to keep ithe
anodecurrent constant, which in turn prevents the anode in turn prevents the anode voltage from decreasing the figure below that of ise. First, we have the screen-grid and anode current passing through the anod' resistance and causing a certain voltage drop therein. Then from the anode the screen-grid current causes a further drop in $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{g}}$. The latter drop constitutes the working voltage difference between the anode and the screen grid. When the signal comes on, the screengrid voltage does not fluctuate, being practically at earth

Screen-Giid Valve as Low-frequency Amplitier.potential for alternating currents, due to $C$ offering little impedance compared with $\mathrm{R}_{8}$. However, the anode voltage does fluctuate, and the voltage difference mentioned above should be greater than the peak value of the voltage swing.

It will be found that for large voltage outputs, say, of the order of 100 volts, $R_{s}$ should be of the order of 0.5 to I megohm; indeed, it is inadvisable to go below these values, as this resistance effectively shunts


Fig. 4.-Automatic screeninggrid compensation can be arranged by feeding the screen and anode through $\mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{s}}$ and- R respectively. the anode resistance for alternating signals. In any case, the value of $\mathrm{R}_{8}$ does not scem at all critical. This method also provides a convenient and cheap method of supplying screen-grid voltage, and if a value of $R_{s}$ is chosen sufficiently high, say, 0.5 megohm, it seems that the connection would also hold for high-frequency amplification, although this has not been tried out.

The value of the condenser C should bear the same relation to $\mathrm{R}_{8}$ as the coupling condenser to the value of $R_{G}$. That is, its impedance at, say, 50 cycles per second, should be reasonably small compared with $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}}$.
It may be thought at first that, in the case of a valvetaking negative screen-grid current, the screen volts would rise above the anode volts. This, however, will not occur, as negative screen-grid current arises from secondary emission from the screen grid, and no emission will occur unless the anode voltage is above that of the screen grid. In connection with this it might be advantageous to shunt the condenser $C$ with a resistance. This would ensure a greater voltage difference betwcen the screen grid and the anode.

The amplification which could be obtained from screen-grid valves by the above method was measured at various anode voltages, and with various values of $R, R_{s}$, and $R_{G}$, the frequency being 500 cycles per second. These are shown in Tables I and II. Table I is for a Mazda A.C./S.G. valve. It will be noticed that, by changing the anode voltage from 450 to 570 , the value of the stage gain is nearly doubled. This is probably due to the value of $g$ increasing. The value of $g$ at the low anode currents used is very much smaller than the rated $g$.

TABILE I. $\mathrm{E}_{3}=$ Battery volts.

| E. ${ }_{\text {b }}$ | E. ${ }_{\text {. }}$ | R . | Rs. | Ra. | m. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 450 | $-1.5$ | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | $3 \times 10^{8}$ |  |  |
| 570 570 | -1.5 -1.5 | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | $3 \times 10^{6}$ $1 \times 10$ | 3 <br> 3 <br> $\times 10$ <br> $\times 10$ <br> 106 | ${ }_{210}^{127}$ |
| 87 570 | -1.5 | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ <br> $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ 1 1 | 1 $1 \times 10^{6}$ 1 $\times 10$ | 187 156 |
| 570 | -1.5 | $0.25 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{81}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ <br> $1 \times 10^{6}$ | 156 163 |
| 500 | $-1.5$ | $0.2 \times 10^{6}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{4}$ | 10.5 $\times 10^{6}$ | 163 84 |
| 450 | -1.5 | $0.2 \times 10^{6}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{3}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | 77 |
| 400 850 | -1.5 | $0.2 \times 10^{\circ}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{8}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | 70 |
| 350 300 | -1.5 | $0.2 \times 10^{0}$ $0.2 \times 10^{8}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{81}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{4}$ | 64 |
| 300 | -1.5 | $0.2 \times 10^{8}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{5}$ | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | 57 |

Table II shows the results for a Mazda 215 S.G. valve, and Table III the effect of frequency on the amplification, the slight fall off at the higher frequencies being due to the input capacity of the thermionic meter used to measure the volts across $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{G}}$. This latter effect, and the grid current, and leakage current in certain valves, limit the value of $\mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{G}}$ to less than I megohm for power valves. Also, 0.5 megohm should be considered the maximum for R. Even with these limitations, this method can be put to good use, and if the anode voltage is kept sufficiently above the screen grid, by suitable values of $R$ and $R_{s}$, a voltage swing of roo can be obtained across $R_{\mathrm{G}}$ -

The value of the magnification obtained for the 215 S.G. valve was calculated from the measured slope at the operating conditions. This was about 20 per cent. higher than the actual value. The reason for this was put down to the assumption that the valve anode current was unaffected by anode voltage, when the latter was above the screen-grid voltage, i.e., that the valve was perfectly screened. Actually, in every screen-


Fig. 5.-Grid volts/anode current curves of an AC/SG valve. grid valve the curves show a slight variation in anode current with anode volts. Of course, the effect of this would be to decrease the amplification.

TABLE 1 .

| Eib. | Fu. | R . | Rs. | Re. | m. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 450 | $-1.5$ | $0.5 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ |  |
| 360 | $-1.5$ | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{80}$ | $1 \times 10^{8}$ | 78 |
| 270 180 | -1.5 | $0.5 \times 10^{0}$ | $1 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{88}$ | 63 |
| 180 | $-1.5$ | $0.5 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{4}$ | $1 \times 10^{\text {c }}$ | 45 |

TABLE HI.

| Cycles. | R1s. | 12. | Rs. | Ra. | '11. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 50 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{8}$ | . $1 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | 90 |
| 950 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{4}$ | 93 |
| 500 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $!3$ |
| 1,000 | 4.0 | $0.5 \times 10^{4}$ | $1 \times 10^{8}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | 93 |
| 3,000 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{4}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{8}$ | 92 |
| 6,000 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{4}$ | $1 \times 10^{4}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | 84 |
| 8,000 | 450 | $0.5 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{6}$ | $1 \times 10^{4}$ | 77 |

The screen-grid valve used in this manner makes an excellent detector, and no trouble was experienced in loading up a Mazda P.P. $3 / 425$ power valve with a grid swing of approximately too volts straight from the detector, resistance-capacity-coupled. No reaction was used, as the station was local. Another advantage of using the screen-grid valve in this position is that it imposes very little load on the tuned grid current when used as an anode bend detector, hence tuning can be made much more efficient and sharper.


A Photo=Electric Model de Luxe. by D'orsay bell, m.a.

> Note.-When this article was submitled to us, we wotc to our contributor to enquire whether it was intended as a serious scientific contribution or as an claborate jest. The reply is diven below. - Ed.


#### Abstract

To the Editor of "The Wireless World." Dear Sir.-I was glad to receipe your cnquizy, as it gives me an opportunity to state definitely the lines on which this articleJike all my numerous other articles-was written. So fat as statements as to Wireless and allied subjects are concerned, these are all based on serious scientific announcements. In suggesting futare devclopments I may allow myself to give rein to my imagination-as I may do also in incidental remarks which are in no way connected with Wireless; but apart from these casily identified points I am always ready to give chapter and verse for anything I say in my a ticles. I hope you will publish this letter, becallse 99 per cent. of the value of these articles would disappear if their realess imagined they were mere fiction.


Yours faithfully, D*ORSAY BELL

IN a previous article' I said that the photcelectric celt was begimning to be used for about as many pur poses as the Austin Seven. Since writing those words I have been more and more impressed with the excellence of this comparison. The very next day, a few hours after meeting a Baby Austin tootling. along with two large milk churns sitting pompously side by side, I was told that a new use had been found for the photoelectric cell_it is being carried round from house to house by officials of electricity companies to test the accuracy of their meters by an ingenious stroboscopic method. A few days later, after dodging, on my way, two Austin Sevens masquerading as (a) a motor lire-escape (or perhaps it was only a window-cleaner's gaclget) and (b) as a chim-ney-sweep, complete with paraphernalia, I saw a journal which described how photoelectric cells are now being used to weigh paper in the process of manufacture (the weight is proportional to the opaqueness, and to measure this is, of course, child's play to the photoelectric cell),
${ }^{1}$ Thre Wireless Wordd, 29th January, 1930.
and how they are also being useck to watch over the level of liquids, especially in high-pressure plants.

During the next week I noticed a Baby Austin with a perambulator handle at the back for lifting it up over the doorstep into the hall-where, I imagine, it acts as a vacuum cleaner; immediately after that, I read that the very latest thing on the German State Railways is an automatic train control system in which a pulsating beam of light is sent out vertically from the cab of the engine and reflected back on to a photo-sensitive cell in the cab by mirrors erected overhead at suitable points on the track; these mirrors may be manipulated like ordinary signals, and in addition the cab installation may have a speedometer device incorporated so that the train is automatically pulled up if it passes a mirror at an excessive speed.

## The New Model

These are just a few examples, chosen at random, of the multifarious new uses for photoelectric cells. Many other uses were mentioned in my previous article-and of course the best known use of all is in connection with commercial facsimile telegraphy, television; and above

The 1931 "Super" Cell.-
all, the talkies. And now comes quite a sensational annotncement-the discovery of an entirely new design of photoelectric cell, claiming enormous advantages over the usual kind.

In terms of the Austin Seven, it is as though the I93I model had the following specification features: Speed on top gear, I to $300 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. ; petrol consumption, 250 m.p.g. : can be folded up and packed behind the umbrella stand., That this is hardly at all an exaggerated way of regarding the claims of the new cell is indicated by the following fact-the inventor (a serious scientific worker writing in a highbrow scientific journal ${ }^{2}$ ) distinctly implies his belief that with a little improvement his invention will be useful for the direct conversion of the sun's energy into electrical energy. In fact, the baby car specification suggested above-which you thought rather far-fetched-may very shortly be regarded as old-fashioned; the modern specification may contain such phrases as " daylight performance $100 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$., moonlight performance $70 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$., emergency (glow-worm) performance $25 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. ."
The idea at the bottom of this new invention is quite a simple one. In all photoelectric cells the action depends on the fact that a ray of light, falling on a metallic surface (usually potassium), supplies certain electrons inside the metal with enough additional energy to enable them to emerge from the surface and buzz off to the anode across the intervening space_-_generally a vacuum or a rarefied gas. Now these electrons, when they emerge, are not so full of energy as they might be, because they have had a struggle to get past the surface of the metal; and the severity of the struggle depends on what is called the "contact potential" between the surface and what is touching it (the vacuum or the rarefied gas, in the ordinary cell). It has been realised for some time that the contact potential between a metal and a semi-concluctor, such as copper oxide, silver iodide, etc., is far less than the contact potential between a metal and a gas or a vacuum ; but hitherto no practical use has been made of this fact. Now Herr B. Lange has made very practical use of it.

## Shorter Journeys for Electrons.

Full details have not yet been published, but the general idea is as follows. Instead of having his photosensitive surface exposed to a vacuum or to a rarefied gas, Lange squeezes up against it a layer of semi-conductor; on the other side of this layer he presses his anode-as shown in the diagrammatic representation on this page.

The first result of this arrangement is that, instead of

[^11]- Pe Pello
having a metal-to-vacuum or metal-to-gas surface for the electron to penetrate, he has a metal-to-semi-conductor surface with its low contact potential ; the second result is that, instead of leaving quite a large distance for the electrons to traverse before reaching the anode, he can reduce the distance to microscopic dimensions by making his semi-conductor layer very thin indeed-in fact, he makes it so thin that it is only a molecule or two thick.


## Efficiency Already Increased Ten Times.

The first fact ensures that for a given amount of light energy the photoelectrons emerge with far greater energy than in the older type of cell; or, alternatively, that they emerge with the same energy as in the older type, in response to an amount of light energy far too small to have any effect on the alder type. Incidentally, this means that the new cell is sensitive to rays in the infrared part of the spectrum; it will respond to waves ten times longer than the ordinary average cell will respond to.
The second fact ensures that the cell has practically no inertia or "lag," and will therefore reproduce very high frequencies perfectly-an important point for


Diagrammatic representation of Herr B. Lange's photo-electric cell, for which enormous advall celt, for which eno
tages are claimed. fied gas, the ray of light passes through the vacuum or gas, falls on the sensitive surface, and ejects the electrons from that same surface, in the new cell the light has to fall on the outside of the sensitive metal plate, and yet the electrons have to emerge from the inside surface next to the seni-conductor and the anode plate. This seems to imply that the photo-sensitive metal plate must be very thin. Nothing, however, is said about this, but the inventor states definitely that he has already obtained efficiencies ten times greater than those given by the older type of cell, so that this point does not seem to present any difficulty. By suitable choice of the semi-conductor, it is apparently possible to produce a kind of resonance effect between the atoms of the latter and the electrons, with the result that sensitivity can be very greatly increased for a particular part of the spectrum. No doubt this property of the new cell would be made use of in any attempt to convert the energy in sumlight into electrical energy. Herr Lange's paper is stated to be only a " preliminary communication"; further news from him will be awaited with considerable interest.

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Events of the Week in Brief Review.

DID YOU HEAR THEE BUZZ?
Radio-Strasbourg P.T.T., which gave its inaugural transmission yesterday (November 11th), sends ont an identification signal consisting of a deep buzz sounded for five seconds with five-second intervals. The power is 12 kilowatts, and the wavelength 345.2 metres.

## 0000

BRITISF RAILWAYS, PLEASE NOTE.
The legend, "Radio," now appears on certain of the coaches on the IVarsaw Lodz railway, indicating that travellers should choose these if they wish to enjoy broadcast reception. The charge is ninepence per pair of headphones.

The man who saw "Radio" on a British railway coach is receiving optical treatment.

0000

WAVE-SHARING IN AMERICA.
Mexico's highest powered broadcasting station has begun operations on a wavelength of 385 metres. The station is situated in Mexico City, writes our Washington colrespondent, and employs the call-sign XEW. Actually the wavelength is shared by CKY, Winnipeg, and by a number of low-power American stations, but no interference has been reported.

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WHERE TŌ FIND THE "RADIOS."
New York leads other American States in the number of wireless sets within its borders, - the estimated total being 1,752,000. Next comes California with approximately $1,470,000$. These figures have been evolved by the Department of Commerce after a rough survey of the 1930 Census forms, in which, for the first time in U.S. history, citizens were required to answer the question: Have you a radio?

The grand total of receivers in the United States is estimated at $13,478,600$. 0000
RECORDS, OLD AND NEW.
Pre-war gramophone records in which all frequencres under about 400 cycles, and all above 1,200, were lacking, provided $n$ striking contrast when compared with modern electrically recorded specimens during the lecture-demonstration given by Mr. J. H. A. Whitehouse (of the Gramophone Co., Ltd.) at Portland Hall, Regent Street Polytechnic, on Wednesday last, November 5th. Mr. Whitehouse's lecture, which dealt entertainingly with the progress of sound reproduction, was one of a series on "Science in Everyday Life", which are being delivered in the coming weeks on behalf of King Edward's Hospital Fund for Lout.
don. The complete programme can be obtained at the Polytechnic or on application to the Secretary, at 7, JValbrook: E.C.4.

## - OOO

## GERMAN LICENCE FIGURES

On October 1st German licensed listeners numbered $3,241,725$, as compared with $2,843,569$ at the corresponding period last year.

## 0000

## A RADIO BANQUET.

One of the strangest banquets ever held took place on Saturday, November 8th, when $1 \mathrm{I}, 000$ employees of the H. J. Heinz Company, distributed all over the world, sat down at exactly the same moment to exactly the same menu to listen to exactly the same speeches.
President Hoover was one of the speakers, and others included Mr. Howard Heanz, president of the company, and Sir Henry Worth Thornton, head of Canadian National Railways.
In America the main banquet was held at Pittsburgh, while other banquets were held in Londons Manchester, Liverpool,


Cage aerials at sea. Owners of small single-masted ships are showlng a preference for aerials occupying a minipreference for aerials occupying a minimum amount of space. This recent pho: shows the Ashton cage aerial in use.

Bristol, Leeds, Hull, Birminghan, Edinburgh, and Glasgow; the London banquet being held at the Heinz headquarters at Harlesden. Other feasts took place simultaneously in cities in Canada, Australia, France, Germany, Spain, and Belgium.

All the gatherings were linked up by wireless, the speeches being broadcast from the Pittsburgh short-wave station, on $4 E$ and 25.4 metres.
In London and the other European centres the land lines were connected to a Marconiphone installation. In London alone some six or soven hundred people were present.

## 0000

THE POWERS THAT RE.
According to a German Statistician, the total energy radiated by the broadcasting stations of the Fatherland amounts to 535 kilowatts. Other countries listed are Britain, 470 kW .; Russia, 222 kW . Sweden, 120 kW.; Czecho-Slovakia, 107 kW . ; and France, 64 kW .

## 0000 PTIMIST.

Having advocated stringent regulations for the suppression of all electrical apparatus causing interference with radio reception, a Paris wireless journal has received a letter from a reader which runs as follows:-
"Should your campaign prove successful, we shall no doubt soon read in the Press that $M . \quad$ _ possessor of a crystal set, has obtained a legal injunction shutting down a 30,000 -kilowatt generating station!"

## 0000

## ANOTHER 50 hw. STATION

The Columbia Broadcasting System will sloortly rebuild station WABC, Wayne Township, Passaic County, N.J., installing a 50 kw . transmitter. Authority for the power increase has been granted by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey, which has assumed jurisdiction over inter-State radio.

## 0000

## CATHOLIC RADIO CONGRESS

Despite the presence of two cardinals and several hishops, the "Wireless Catholic Congress" which was held in Paris on November 4th, 5th, and 6th was not purely religious in scope, writes our Paris correspondent. Radio apparatus and gramophones were on view, and the discussions dealt with the programme side of the organisation of listeners. Members of the Congress visited "Radio Paris" and other stations.

## Our Show Competition

## WINNING APPARATUS

N the following pages we illustrate and describe the apparatus which, in the voting competition arranged by "The Wireless. World" in connection with the Olympia Radio Show, gained first place in the total of votes cast by our readers in each of the various classes into which we divided the Olympia Show exhibits as a whole. It will be recollected that readers were asked to vote, first for what they considered to be the outstanding single exhibit at the Show, and, in addition, to make their choice of apparatus in each of seven classes into which the exhibitts at olympia as a whole were divided. The classes were:-(1) Receivers of all types, either mains or battery operated. (2) Radio Gramophones. (3) Batteries of all kinds, including accumulators for both high tension and low tension. (4) Mains supply units, both D.C. and A.C. (5) Lound speakers of all types. (6) Valves. (7) Other apparatus
not classified above, also amplifiers, component parts such not classified above, also amplifiers, component parts such as transformers, condensers, tuning coils, resistances, etc., etc.
As already announced, the Pye "Twinltripes" A.c. receiver was voted the outstanding single exthibit, and the following apparatus gained first positions in the various classes:-(1) Pye "Twintriple"' A.C,
receiver. (2) R.G.D. Radio Gramo receiver. (2) R.G.D. Radio Gramophone de Lutee. (3) Exide "Gel-Cel." (4) Clarke's "Allas"
combined climinator and combined eliminator and trickle charger, model A.C. 18s., (5) Ferranti Magno-Dynamic Speaker. (6) Mazda A/C Pen. (7) Jackson Bros. "Chassimount" " condenser. An announcement. has already
been made of the nawes of been made of the names of the readers of "The Wireless World" who have won the prizes in the ballot for their forecasts of the popular vote.

A$S$ so much attention has been devoted to the self-contained or portable type of receiver in this country, it is surprising that the average set of this class should embody so few features of real technical interest. Most of the designs are empirical, and although results are generally good enough, it is hardly an exaggeration to say that such sensitivity as they possess is largely due to incidental or intentional reaction effects. Those responsible for these sets seem to have been satisfied to copy an arrangement known to work tolerably well, and then to assert their individuality by devising fancy fretwork to cover the loud speaker diaphragm.

This state of affairs was bound to change, and for some time there have been indications that manufacturers are taking the "portable" more seriously. At any rate, the new Pye sets are illustrative of an important technical advance, and the self-contained A.C. "transportable," which forms the subject of this descriptive article, is interesting in every way-with regard to its circuit arrangement, its constructional details and its performance.

## 

As shown in the actompanying circuit diagram, four indirectly

H.F: amplifiers are linked by simple tuned-anode couplings and are followed by a power grid detector, with a filter to separate H.F. and
L.F. components in its a node circuit. This valve is coupled to the L.F. stage through a directly connected transformer having a high permeability core. A choke filter output for the loud speaker is included.

All three tuning condensers are controlled by a single knob, and are fitted with trimmers; that for the frame aerial circuit is operated by an external knob, but the remaining two are fixed at the works and do not need any subsequent adjustment.

Volume regulation is effected by variation of the grid bias voltage applied to the first H.F. valve, and the operation of this control may also be regarded as a form of reaction adjustment.

Power supply is through a Westinghouse metal rectifier connected in a voltage-doubling circuit, the smoothed output being applied across a potentiometer, from which suitable operating voltages for both grid and plate circuits are taken. Decoupling resistances and by-pass condensers are connected at every point where harmful interaction is likely to arise. A special tapped choke is used for smoothing, and is so arranged that A.C. potentials developed across it are balanced out.


Pye "Twintriple" A.C. Receiver.-
In order not to distract attention from essentials, a few details have been omitted from the circuit diagram. Wave-range switching is effected by joining each set of longand short-wave inductances (including those of the frame) in series, and connecting short-circuiting switches -which are, of course, linked mechanically-across each of the long-wave sections. To prevent disturbances of the ganged tuning system when changing over, special balancing condensers are connected between the tuned-anode coil junc-
metal plates are used to divide up each of the "H.F." compartments and, in addition, there are sealed rectangular metal boxes for each of the tuned-anode coil assemblies.

The sensitivity of the receiver is altogether exceptional, and, in spite of the fact that the pick-up of comparatively small frames is relied upon (there is no external aerial connection), real long-range reception is definitely assured even under comparatively poor conditions. Continental stations can not only be heard, but their programmes can be appreciated. Background noise is
response over the upper middle register is particularly well maintained.

Selectivity is considerably above the average standard, even for a " 2 -H.F." set, and, at seven miles distance from the twin London stations the two transmissions may not only be separated easily, but other stations on intermediate wavelengths may be received without interference.

The complete set weighs about 35 lb ., and is compact enough to be moved from room to room; it is fitted with convenient hand grips for


Circuit diagram, simplified by omission of certain features discussed in the text. An electrolytic condenser (C) is used for smoothing the blas voltage supply.
tions and earth. Other features not shown include a gramophone pick-up jack in the detector grid circuit and a combined plug socket and switch to allow of the use of an external loud speaker, either in conjunction with, or instead of, that already included in the set.

The aluminium chassis is built up as three units: receiver proper, shielded valve compartments, and power supply unit. This metal chassis, of which the general construction is shown in the accompanying illustration, is beautifully made; die-cast
well below the average level for such a sensitive set, and there is a complete absence of A.C. hum, due probably to the special smoothing circuit.

Quality of reproduction must not be judged by the usual "portable" standard, as, in an A.C. receiver, ample power is available. In this respect, the set makes an extremely good showing, and the, special "Celestion", loud speaker seems to suit its characteristics admirably. There is a slight resonance round about 400 cycles, but uniformity of
this purpose. Operation could hardly be simpler, as the trimming condenser does not need continuous adjustment, and the main tuning dial is directly calibrated in wavelengths.

Internal construction is unexceptionable, and there is no evidence whatsoever of skimped work; the set seems to have been built without regard to cost, and could not be considered dear if it were priced at considerably. more than 28 guineas. The makers are Pye Radio, Ltd., Radio Works, Cambridge.

THE popolarity of the radio gramophone ts dae primarily to the wide ramge and varicty of citertainment provided by a single comspact unit of furniture. Nearly all denigners have taken advantage of the facilities offered by the self-coit tained cabiniet form of construction to fit moving-coil loud speakers and suftably matched power amplifiers. In mont cases, thereforen quabity and volume of reproduction leave little to be desired. Generally speaking. however, the radio side bas been allowed to take a position of subsidilary importance to the gramophone side, and in most cases only local station radio reception is catered for.

In the R.G.D. Type S 6 radin koamophone the entertainment value of foreign-station reception has not been overlooked, and in this respect the radio section is not inferior to the best receivers designed exclusively for long-range reception. Further, fange has not been achieved by sacrificing quality, for the circuit includes band puss tuning, powet-grid detection, and otber modern developments designed to prea serve quality in the H.F. stages.

## The Circuit.

Briefly, the circuit is constifuted as follows:- Two H. F. stages employing AC/SG valves, and coupled by parallel-fed tuned grid circtuits. aro preceded by a capacitycoupled band-pass folter which may be excited cither by an external acrial or by the energy picked up on the perforated metal screen forming part of the ventijated back panel of the cabimet.

The screen-grid potential for both H.F. valves is supplied from a common variable potentiometer, both grids being provided with decoupling resistanices and by-pase condensers. The potentiel variation available not only serves as a pre-detector volurne control, but is also sufficient to permit oscillation in the R.F. stages, and the control is therefore marked "Reaction" on the front panel.
The defector is resistance-coupied

## R.G.D. <br> Rantiogramophone De Iuxe

inctuded in the grid circuit of each valve.

A Bayliss mains transformer of massive construction is the nucleus of the power supply unit.
to the first L.F. stage, and the anode voltage and circuit constants are so adjusted that the $\mathrm{AC} / \mathrm{HL}$ valve functions as a "power-grid" rectiher with zero grid bias.

## Volume Control.

Following the detector is a simple but effective volume control which controls both radio and gramophone. This takes the form of a centretapped potentiometer, with the centre point earthed. Volume increases as the slider is moved outwards in either direction from the zero position, and a quiet fade-out from radio to gramophone, or vice versa, is, therefore, possible. The pick-up is a new type R.G.D. with a good overall characteristic and
 There are three separate filament heater windings, one for the first four stages of the receiver, another for the two power valves, and a third for the rectifier. The latter is a type D.W. 30 full-wave valve. the output from which is smoothed by a double filter. The choke in the second stage of the smoothing circuit is proxided by the field winding of the loud speaker, which is energised by the total anode current of the set. Grid bias is provided by separate resistances in series with the cathodes of the ralves in each stage.

The circuit is divided structurally into two units-the receiver-amplifier, which occupies the top half of the cabinet immediately behind the control panel, and the loud speaker and power unit, which is mounted behind the ornamental grille at the bottom of the cabinet. Connections between the two units are neatly executed in lead-covered wire in conjunction with shrouded power-type terminal blocks. The porcelain fuse-holders are also of the power type, and are placēd in an accessible position on the inside of the cabinet.

## Screening

The layout of the receiveramplifier unit gives a clean external appearance. The only components which appear on the outside of the heavy leaded iron chassis are the condensers, coil units, and valves. The coils and condensers are provided with individual screening boxes, but the valves. which are placed in an accessible position along the back of the chassis, have only their

## dow damping and record wear.

An $\mathrm{AC} / \mathrm{HL}$ is used in the first I.F. stage, and is coupled to the output stage through a Ferranti AFs transformer.

Two $A C / P_{3}$ values in parallel supply the "Rola" moving-coil lond speaker through a 12: 1 ratio transformers Series resistances are
anocle teads screened in small-
eter vertical tubes. The condiameter vertical tubes. The con-
densers and coil switches are linked by rods running parallel with the front panel, and the single tuning dial is illuminated.

The power chassis is also constructed of heavy gauge leaded iron, and contains the mains transformer and smonthing circuits and the out-


Layout of components in the receiver unit of the $R . G . D$. Type S.6 A.C. radio gramophone and inside view of cabinet with rear panel removed.
R.G.D. Radio Gramophone De Luxe.put transformer to the loud speaker: The loud speaker is mounted on top of the case, together with the rectifying valve and the terminal panel for adjusting the primary of the mains transformer to the supply voltage.

## Cäbinct Design.

The cabinet is of exceptionally massive construction, and is entirely free from resonances. Actually, the thickness of wood is nowhere less than $\frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$., and the sides are as much as $1 \frac{1}{8} \mathrm{in}$. The loud speaker fret is also made unusually
and long), and, on the extreme right, "Volume," for changing silently from radio to gramophone reproduction.

We have had an opportunity of handling the instrument under working conditions, and the performance is fully in keeping with the circuit specification. The radio side is extraordinarily lively, and aftez clark no difficulty should be experienced in tuning in at least thirty stations with an outside acrial, or twelve stations when using the meta grille at the back of the cabinet. The band-pass filter functions admirably, and there is a precipitous
also gives no opportunity for criticism. There is no evidence of booming in the lower register, and the high-note reproduction is excellent. Both speech and music come through in a natural and effortless manner. For those who prefer the "mellow 'cello" type of quality a tone control has been fitted to suppress the upper register, but most cliscerning people will appreciate the excellent high-note response provided.

## D.C. and A.C. Models.

A model designed for D.C. mains is also available. The valves used


Circuit diagram of the R.G.D. radiogramophone Type S.G. A.C.
thick to prevent vibration. A recessed joint round the edge of the lid is a refinement which effectually keeps in all mechanical noise emanating from surface scratch.

The receiver unit is tilted, and the control spindles pass at right angles through the sloping control panel. The latter is of solid bronze, so that its rich colour is not likely to deteriorate with time. From left to right the controls are as follows:"Tone" (high and low), "Reaction" (s.g., potential variation on both H.F. valves), "Tuner" (friction drum drive to the four gang condensers), "Wave Range" (short
cut-off at each side of the useful fre-m quency band. It was specially noted also that no change in quality takes place as the condenser is moved into or out of tune with a station, even when making full use of reaction with the small internal aerial. This is convincing proof that there is no cutting of side bands.

## Volume and Tone Control.

The volume available is more than sufficient for most domestic requirements, and the instrument is easily capable of supplying dance music, etc., for hotels and restaurants. The quality of reproduction
are the same as in the A.C. model, and the series resistance is provided with a special heat deflector which prevents an uncomfortable temperature rise in the interior of the cabinet. Since the H.T. voltage is limited with D.C. mains, provision is made for the introduction, if desired, of a bias battery for the output stage in order that the anode voltage may not be reduced by the volt drop in the usual cathode resistance.

There is also a special 50 -watt super power model with two $\mathrm{DO}_{25}$ valves in push-pull in the output stage.

USERS of portable sets realise that rarely is the accumulator entirely unspillable. The principal difficulty arises from acid spray finding its way through the vent hole and producing serious corrosion not only on the accumulator terminals and leads themselves but on metal parts in the receiver. The vital need of rendering the accumulator unspillable and spray-proof has been tackled by the Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., whose London address is $215-229$, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.z.
This season a new battery has been introduced in which a jelly electrolyte is used which prevents spraying and avoids the free flow of the acid within the case. The use of jelly electrolyte in accumulators is not a new principle, and it will be remembered that Exide H.T. batteries were a vailable at the start of broadcasting, optionally rendered unspillable by this method. The particular merit of the use of jelly electrolyte in a portable battery is that the acid is kept

## ExideGelCel

in contact with the entire surface of the plates irrespective of the position in which the battery is standing.


Exide Gel-Cel accumulator.
This form of electrolyte does not enter into the chemical reaction which takes place inside the battery,
but merely serves as a means to hold the acid in the neighbourhood of the plates and thus prevent it flowing. Generous precautions are, however, taken to provide an acid lock in the top of the cell, so that gases may escape without carrying acid spray.

A special feature of the battery is its robust construction, brought about by the use of shaped celluloid pressings for top and bottom. By this means sharp corners are avoided and enormous strength with stiffness obtained. The-Gel-Cel Type JWE'/ measures $4 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} . \times 4 \mathrm{in} . \times 3 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. and ha; the high ampere-hour capacity of 24 , and allows a charging rate of 2 amperes. Seven positive and eight negative plates are fitted, measuring about 4 in . $\times$ I立in., thus giving a plate area greater than that customarily met with in portable-set accumulators. By the use of different screw threads on the positive and negative terminals, these cannot be interchanged, whilst one is octagonal and-the other round.

(NE never quite knows what to do when the question arises of converting an existing battery-fed set for A.C. mains operation. If it is decided to make a clean sweep and to fit indirectly heated valves, with appropriate arrangements for supplying


Compaciness is a feature of the Allas cumbined ellminator and irlckle charger.
their anode, grid, and heater circuits with suitable voltages, there is an unpleasant possibility that, due to the improved "figure of merit" of the new valves, uncontrollable instability may result unless extra screening and, perhars, more than usually extensive " decoupling" is provided. Further, the cost of a complete conversion is conisiderable, and there is

## Clarke's Atlas Combined Lliminator

 often a natural reluctance to replace a set of valves that may still be capable of working satisfactorily for many months.In such circuonstances, the easiest. simplest, and certainly the cheapest solution of the problem lies in the fitting of an H.T. battery eliminator for anode current supply, coupled with the use of an L.T. trickle charger, which admittedly will not "eliminate" the filament accumulator but does largely eliminate all trouble in connection with it.

There remains the grid bias battery. Opinions are divided as to the desirability of eliminating this component; if the set is to be operated by someone without technical knowledge it is certainly as well that grid potentials should be provided automatically, but, when dealing with a converted battery set, it is not often worth while to introduce this. extra complication, at any rate if the user realises that the battery should be tested occasionally.

The Atlas combined eliminator is
intended for meeting anode current demands of the typical domestic receiver, and also includes the necessary equipment for recharging L.T. accumulators of 2,4 , or 6 volts at about 0.5 amp .-a rate that is more than adequate, in ordinary circumstances. The apparatus is mounted in neat


Internal arrangement of the eliminator
components.
and compact ventilated metal case measuring about $3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. high, 5 fin. wide, and roin. deep. It is designed for operation on A.C. supplies of $200-250$ volts, $40-120$ cycles. A Westinghouse rectifier, with a rated output (after smoothing, and allowing a reasonable figure for choke resistance) of 25 milliamps. at 150 volts is connected in the conventional

Clarke's Atlas Combined Eliminator. -
"voltage doubler" circuit. Its output will change with load, and the accompanying graph shows the voltage actually existing between the "negative" and " +150 " sockets for different current demands.

There are two other output sockets, through which the earlier valves are fed : the first, marked " o-IOo volts," is connected to an internal potentiometer with a variable resistance element, and is intended for supplying a low output current, as, for example, that passed by an H.F. valve screening grid or a detector: The remaining output is through a series variable resistance, which, like the potentiometer element, is of the compression type. It must be re-

1FOR the second year in sliccession a Ferranti loud speaker has recorded the greatest number of votes in the loud speaker section. This year it is the "Magno Dynamic" moving-coil unit which has so favourably impressed visitors to Olympia. This is hardly surprising, for now that the flux densities provided by permanent magnets have been brought up to the standard set by mains-energised field magnets, we are at last relieved of the complication, expense and maintenance of A.C. rectifiers and the anxieties associated with back E.M.F.s when switching off D.C. mains fields.
In designing the permanent magnet, special attention has been directed to the question of permanence, and in this connection the designers are able to draw on 40 years' experience in the manufacture of permanent magnets for electric supply meters and measuring instruments, in which permanence of calibration is of prime importance. It is, therefore, interesting to find that the steel alloy in the field magnet contains as much as 35 per cent. of cobalt, and is by no means cheap to produce. The design of the magnet has been patented, and it is magnetised in a special machine so that it is not necessary to leave a magnetising coil inside the core. The pole pieces are electro-plated to


Regulation curve, showing how voltage rises as the output load is reduced.
membered that, in estimating the current and voltage obtainable from the power socket, it is necessary to subtract the current drawn through the variable outputs.

Another Westinghouse rectifier of

## Ferranti Macno-Dynamic loud Speaker

prevent the formation of rust in the air gap, which is only 0.075 in . wide. With this magnet a total flux density of 13,000 lines per square centimetre is obtained, and the useful flux density in the vicinity of the moving coil is 8,000 lines per sq. in. This

figure is obtained by making use of a specially designed instrument in which the movement of the search coil is limited to $\frac{3}{16} \mathrm{in}$.

The design of the diaphragm and
the low-voltage type is fitted for charging the L.T. battery, which is permanently connected to both unit and receiver, and automatically goes " on charge" when the H.T. circuits are switched off.

A test of the eliminator shows that it operates quite satisfactorily in conjunction with a typical H.F.-det.L.F. three-valve set, and that there is hardly any trace of hum. When it is connected to a receiver with two L.F. stages, care should be taken to see that the manufacturers' instructions regarding separate feeds to each valve are observed.

The unit is made by H. Clarke and Company, Ltd., Atlas Works, Old Trafforl, Manchester, and costs $f 6$ complete.
moving coil is similar to that of the other moving-coil loud speakers in the Ferranti range. The 90-degree diaphragm is of comparatively small diameter, and is fitted with a centring device at the apex to prevent lateral movement of the speech coil. The latter has an average impedance of 20 ohms, and for the purpose of our own tests a Ferranti type $\mathrm{OPM}_{3}$ output transformer was used. Where push-pull amplification is employed a type OPM3L transformer will provide suitable matching.

Comparison with the records of previous tests on the mains-energised "Elec-tro-Dynamic" Ferranti loud speakers showed that the sensitivity of the permanent magnet model is only very slightly less; indeed, a direct comparison would be necessary in order to appreciate the difference. Frequency tests over a range from 50 to 6,000 cycles revealed that the response in the middle register is sensitively uniform from 200 up to 3,000 cycles Above and below these limits the characteristic rises. The increased output down to 50 cycles is sufficient to give body to the general result without introducing objectionable "boom." It is from 4,000 cycles upwards that the response is so unusually good. and the resulting brilliance imparted to the quality is probably unequalled

Ferranti Magno-Dynamic Loud Speaker.by any other loud speaker. With a well-designed amplifier a certain amount of hiss may be experienced, but this is easily overcome with a

IHIS valve, the sole represen tative of the pentode class with an indirectly heated cathode, affords striking evidence of the extraordinary advance which has been made in valve design and manufacture, and well deserves the high praise bestowed upon it by readers of The Wireless World. When one reflects on the difficulties encountered in supporting rigidly three grids, a large anode, a hairpin heater, a

cathode, two getter plates and a number of mica supports in such a restricted space, one realises that the factory production of such a valve is no mean achievement, and must be attributed to research over a long period. Mazda valves are made by the Associated Electrical Industries -a concern in which the research and manufacturing resources of the Metropolitan-Vickers, B.T.-H., and Edison Swan companies have been combined. It will be remembered that the Cosmos $A C / G$ and $A C / R$ valves made by the Metro-Vick Company in 1927 were the forerunners of a highly successful series of indirectly heated valves which are now available.

The intricate construction of the A.C. / PEN can be seen from the illustration. The hairpin heater, whichconsumes I amp, at 4 volts, consists of a tungsten filament which has "been dipped into a porcelain "slip."
simple form of tone control. In fact, it is quite a new experience to have a reserve of high-frequency output with which to experiment.

The choice of a permanent magnet

## Mazda A.C./PenValve

This is inserted into a nickel tube or cathode which is coated with the necessary emitter, and the whole assembly is held in position by mica locking bars. Surrounding the cathode is a control grid around which, in turn, are the screen grid and the earthed grid, all rigidly held not only by mica cross members but also by vertical supports which are embedded in the glass pinch. It is of fundamental importance in a pentode that there should be no negative resistance kink in the working characteristic due to secondary emission ; this is effectively avoided by the presence of the outer grid, which is internally connected to the cathode.

The multiple-electrode structure, including a reinforced anode, is stiffened by four nickel uprights attached to a monel-metal band clamped by a bolt and nut to a waist in the lower part of the glass pinch. As the valve normally dissipates about 8 watts, longitudinal expansion of every electrode is arranged.

Under amplifying conditions, with
moving-coil loud speaker is significant, for we believe that this type is destined ultimately to displace the older type of mains-energised field magnet.

Io volts negative bias and maximum anode and screen voltages of 250 and 200 respectively, the A.C./PEN will deliver about $\frac{1}{2}$ watts of undistorted A.C. energy, assuming that it is worked into a load of correct value. Whilst a triode will not give


Curves showing the percentage distortion with different speaker Impedances. The optimum load is $\mathbf{8 , 0 0 0}$ ohms.
audible distortion when a small deviation is made from the optimum load, a pentode will give a poor


Showing the disposition of the three grids (left). On the right is seen the multipleelectrode structure frmly bolted to the glass pinch. Two getter plates ensura a perfect vacuum.

Mazda A.C./Pen Valve.--
account of itsèlf unless the speaker impedance is chosen with accuracy. The accompanying curves show the percentage harmonic distortion given by the A.C./PEN when the load in the anode circuit is varied from 2,000 to 30,000 ohms.

It will be seen, for instance, that a moving-iron speaker having an impedance rising to 20,000 ohms at the higher frequencies will cause a third harmonic component of nearly twelve per cent., which is very dis-
tressing to the ear, whilst with an 8,000 -ohm load the distortion of both second and third harmonics is below five per cent. and is unobjectionable. With a moving-coil speaker having a special pentode speech coil the impedance of which does not vary substantially over the musical range, the A.C./PEN can be used with an ordinary one-to-one choke filter output, but with a moving-iron speaker an impedance-limiting arrangement, consisting of a condenser and resistance in series, should be used across
the output device, and a tapped output choke should be employed to raise artificially the impedance of the speaker, which has probably been designed to give of its best at about 256 cycles when coupled to a $2,000-$ ohim triode. Not only will the A.C. pentode give a greater output per given volt grid swing than any threeelectrode valve, but it will also deliver sufficient energy as a power gricl detector to work a loud speaker direct without an intermediate lowfrequency amplifier.

AI the time that the single-dial control of a multi-stage screen-grid amplifier was first introduced, difficulty was experienced in finding a condenser that could be readily gang operated. It was necessary to adopt the hollow spindle J.B. model as the most satisfactory, and to provide a steel shaft to link up the four sections.

Jackson Brothers, of 72, St. Thomas's Street, London Bridge, L.ondon, S.E.I, have quickly applied themselves to this new problem and produced a popular type of gangoperated condenser assembly incorporating two, three, four or five sections. This new gang-operated assembly made its appearance on the market shortly before the Radio Show, and is known as the "Chassimount." To conform to the popular requirement, a drum indicating dial is incorporated, though knob operation through a reduction gear is fitted in preference to thumb dial control. Passing through the centre of the drum is $\bar{a} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. steel shaft which engages in bearings set up in the screening barriers between each section. The fixed plates take their support

provide complete screening between successive sets of fixed plates.

When balancing between the individual tuned stages is necesfrom the substantial aluminium barriers between the sections, and these in turn are held rigidly in posi-
sary it is readily obtained by the use of the simple trimming condensers associated with each con-

tion by means of four spacing bars running the entire length of the assembly. Easily removable shields clip over the individual sections and
denser section. The plates are of brass and are shaped to follow a logarithmic tuning scale. Pigtail earthing is fitted to the centre shaft.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

[^12]The Chronicle Wireless Annual (Eighth Edition), containing constructionat articles on Various Types of Mains and Battery-operated Receivers, wifh useful information concerning Wave Traps, Volume Control, Operating the Televisor, Gramophone Amplifiers, Radio Societies, and many other wireless subjects of interest alike to the home constructor and the ordinary listener. Prepared by the Manchester Bvening Chronicle. Pp. 191, with ummerous illustrations and diagrans. Published by Allied Newspapers, Ltd., Manchester, price 1s.

Easy Lessons in I'elevision, by R. W Hutchinson, M.Sc. A book for nontechnical readers, explaining the elementary principles of Electricity and Light and describing the Apparatus used in Television with the purpose and use of each component, and practical points to be observed in working the Televisor, synchronising the Motor and other adjust. ments, with a chapter on Tele-Cinematography, Tele-Talkies, Tele-Photography, etc. P. $175+$ vi, with 129 illustrations and diagrams. Published by the University Tutorial Press, Ltd., London, price 1s. 9d.

Details of Construction.<br>(Conchided from page 517 of previous issue.)

By A, L. M. SOWERBY, M.Sc., and H. B. DENT.

THE general layout of the receiver can be seen at once from any of the photographs. The baseboard is raised considerably, so that the decoupling components and grid-bias batteries, together with all the battery supply leads, can be rum below it out of the way. This style of construction is particularly convenient when dealing with a receiver in which there is a certain amount of screening, as leads can be brought up through the bottom of the screening boxes.

The panel has been kept short, and the components upon it symmetrically arranged, by putting the high frequency stage and the frequency-changer immediately behind the panel, with the rest of the set running back from right to left behind them. This brings input and output of the set into close juxtaposition, but thanks to a capacity screen between them and an efficient lowpass filter in the anode circuit of the second detector, no ill-effects result.

Wood has been used in place of the conventional
ebonite as the material for the panel; its main advantage is cheapness. To the writer's eye it is as sightly as ebonite, but those who prefer to use the latter will find that the set works neither more nor less well as a result of substituting one for the other. For the two terminal strips, paxolin sheet has been preferred to ebonite on account of its greater mechanical strength.

## Coil Details.

The first stage in the building of the receiver is the construction of the "chassis," which will naturally be done while the local dealer is getting in those components which he does not normally stock. The construction of the special coils employed in the receiver is also a task that can be embarked upon at an early stage. The two oscillator-couplers and the intermediatefrequency filter are wound on slotted formers built up from discs of $\frac{1}{8}$ in. plywood, strung together on short lengths of 4 BA rod. Sixteen discs, 2 in . in diameter, and ten discs $1 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. in diameter, are needed for the whole set of coils. In winding them the ends of the wire are secured by bringing them out through holes in the larger discs, and the wire is run into each slot in turn by fixing the former: in the chuck of a hand-drill and turning the handle just as fast as one dares, guiding the wire with one hand.

There are two large discs separating pick-up and reaction coils in the oscillator-couplers so that the ends of the reaction coils may be brought out . between the discs without difficulty. Plate and reaction coils should be wound in the same direction, when the inside end of the plate coil goes to plate, and the outside end of the reaction coil to grid. (Actually, in the set, both go to switch.) Reversal of either of these two windings will prevent the oscillator from oscillating. The direction of winding and connecting the pick-up coil is a matter of complete indifference.
"The Wireless World" Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-
Some care must be taken in winding the I.F. filter coils; each of which has two slots with the windings connected in series. In each coil the wire is wound clockwise in one of the slots and counter-clockwise in the other ; the two outer ends are then connected together, leaving the inner ends only as connections to the semi-fixed tuning condensers, A set containing wrongly-wound conls would show no visible fault, but would give no signals whatever. Coupling between the two parts of the filter is magnetic, fixed by the difference between them. Anything from rlin. to Ifin. betweeh inner faces of the two assemblies will be foiind perfectly satisfactory. The filter, like the oscillator-couplers, is mounted betwẹen a pair of small brackets, to which it is clamped by nuts on the 4 BA rod that holds the whole together.

The colls wound and the various other components collected, the assembly of the set can begin in earnest. It whll be well to start by mounting on the baseboard and panel all the components that are external to the two main screening boxes, with the exception of the pair of H.F. floning condensers and the upper one of the two switches. The small box for the long-wave filter, which has been ased as a precaution against direct pick-up of long-wave interference, can also be momed in position at this stage.

As soon as this is done, it will be apparent finat a gool deal of the wiring can be carried out at once; it is a good plan to do it before the main screening boxes are put into position.

In going over the sub-baseboard connections, it will be noticed that there is a tapped 30,000 ohms resistance: the smaller section of this does duty as decoupling resistance, the rest acting as anode resistance for the second detector. A fixed resistance and a variable potentiometer are used in series to feed the screening grid of the first valve, and criticism may be levelled at taking the supply for the other two screening grids from the junction of fixed resistance and potentiometer. Admittedly, the voltage at this point depends to a slight extent on the corrent drawn by the first valve, and so on the setting of the volume control; the range of variation, however, is smah, and lies between 55 and 65 volts, over which range the I.F. stage-gain and detector efficiency are not andibly, though they ane measurably, altered.

As is usual where switches are used, there is a certain congestion of wires round the lower switch. The fact that the switch makes a convenient anchorage for six out of the twelve wires which form the ends of the oscillator-coupler windings is, perhaps, some compensation.

The fact that a frame aerial is to be used makes it necessary to screen all circuits carrying amplified high-frequency currents with some care. This accounts for the fact that the contents of

the main screening box are many and crowded. The components in this box are mounted on a small wooden baseboard, part of which is cut away to clear the tuning condenser. It is particularly to be noticed that the switch, which appears to be solely dependent on the panel for its support, is in reality mounted on a smail bracket on this little base. The first stage in assembling the contents of the box is to mount and wire up as far as possible all the components, not forgetting the Graham-Farish condenser, which is the grid condenser of the detector in the three-valve arrangement. This has been slung on the wiring through sheer lack of space, but being small and light it is quite adequately supported.

When these jobs have been attended to, the screeningbox can be mounted in position, with the tuning condenser through one side and with the slot for the switch registering with the slot on the panel. The baseboard with all its components is then dropped in the box, and the wires connecting it with the rest of the set soldered into position. A smal! iron is recommended here, as some of the joints are a little difficult of access.

## "The Wićeless World " Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-

The contents of the smaller box can next be mounted on their base. As the H.F. choke used as an I.F. tuning coil is binocular, its close proximity to the screen is not harmful. The two Wearite chokes, with their associated condensers, and the condenser incorporated in the primary of the AF6 transformer, form a low-pass filter which should, theoretically, stop all but a fraction of I per cent. of the intermediate frequency, while passing about 75 per cent. of high audio-frequency notes of frequency 5,000 cycles per second. Whether its practical performance is as good as this is not known; at all events no signs of any I.F. currents could be detected in the loud speaker leads, while high audio notes are satisfactorily present. When the components in this compartment have been wired up-as far as possible, they can be dropped into their box, and the remaining coninections made. There are no special constructional difficulties here.

The last component to be fitted will probably be the
makes a circuit much more difficult to follow, special attention should be paid to the wiring in this neighbourhood, where mistakes are most likely. Another possible fault is omission of the earthing connections to the various screens; without them the receiver will not be stable.

The receiver should now be ready for its first adventure in reception. The valves used for trial purposes, and selected as most suitable; were Mazda SG 215 screen-grid valves, Mazda L2io valves as oscillator and second detector, and an Osram PT240 as output valve. As has already been pointed out, the use of a pentode here is quite essential. The two triodes should be identical, or nearly so, because both have to act as grid detector preceding the transformer, one for local reception and one when all six valves are alight. The two H.T + terminals should be joined together, and a 160 -volt battery connected. Grid bias for the osciliator should be set at 12 or 3 volts, and for the first detector at 3 volts; variations may be needed when the


Layout of the components on the top and the underside of the baseboard.
screcning box surrounding the H.F. valve; this was found necessary, because there was sufficient capacity coupling betiveen the plate of the valve and the fixed plates of the frame condenser to cause instability on both wavebands.
Before putting valves into the sockets for the set's first trial it is as well to check over the wiring to make sure no mistakes have been made. As switching always
set has been got going. A centre-tapped frame aerial, if one is available, should be connected to the "Input" terminals, but if no frame is to hand a centre-tapped tuning coil may be used in place of it, a few yards of wire to act as aerial being connected to the "Input" terminal farthest from the panel. If an aerial is used it will be necessary to connect an earth-lead to the set (or to the L.T. accumulator); when using a frame, it
"The Wireless World" Band-Pass Superheterodyne.makes no difference whatever whether the set is earthed or not.

With the lower switch up (medium waves) and the upper switch down (three valves) and the volume control set at maximum, the local station should be heard on rotating the twin tuning dials on the left of the panel. With the small energy collected by a frame or tiny aerial, tuning will be found to be very much sharper than the habitual user of a full-size aerial would expect.

It may be helpful to state that in the original set the condenser across the filter primary was screwed right home, that on the secondary nearly down, and the one across the tuned anode circuit was practically not screwed down at all.

When the I.F: tuning has been set roughly with the aid of signals from the local station, something a little more distant may be tried for-Midland Regional, for example. With this station tuned in, and the volume control turned well down to keep the signal strength


Plan view of the undersite of the base, showing the position of the oscillator colis and wavechange switch.

The focal station is next tuned in accurately on the two dials, and the volume control slowly turned down till the signals are reduced to a faint whisper. Next, the upper switch is turned to bring in all six valves, and the oscillator dial is swung until signals are heard orice more. The semi-fixed condensers controlling the inter-mediate-frequency tuning can now be set for maximum signals. In doing this, it is absolutely necessary that signals be kept very low by manipulation of the volume control, and, if necessary, of the frame tuning condenser, for the second detector chokes up and gives almost no output of signals if it is heavily overloaded, so that on an overwhelming signal londer music may be heard with the I.F. tuning set well away from its real best adjustment.
low, some more or less final touches may be given to the I.F. tuning condensers.
Next, the frame is turned to find the exact minimum position for 5 GB , and is then set about twenty degrees from this position. By turning all the tuning condensers back by one degree, and then exploring a little with the slow-motion drive on the oscillator condenser, Langenberg should be hearl. With its aid a really perfect and final setting of the three semi-fixed condensers can be achieved, for the presence of 5 GB at a distance of 9 kc . away enables the width of the band passed by the I.F. filter to be correctly adjusted. If the settings are correct, it should not be possible to hear Langenberg without slight interference from ${ }_{5} \mathrm{~GB}$, the latter station making it eelf heard by a kind of intermittent quacking
"The Wireless World "Band-Pass Superheterodyne.-
noise. This is the high-note modulation of 5 GB , overlapping into the frequency band which we need to receive from Langenberg if we are to reproduce the higher notes that the German station transmits. When a setting of the I.F. condensers has been found, such
six valves alight a station is tuned in at the bottom of the wavelength scale ; the frame condenser will read higher than the H.F. condenser. The frame condenser is set to the same reading as its neighbour, and the station tuned in again by using the trimmer. Next, a station of wavelength well over 500 metres is found, anc


Practical wiring plan of the components above the baseboard.
that the highest notes of music, or the consonants in speech, just break through intermittently when the set is tuned to Langenberg, their adjustment may be reckoned exactly right.

To listen to Langenberg in earnest the frame is set to the exact minimum position for 5 GB , when the interference naturally stops.

The adjustment of the intermediate-frequency part of the receiver completed, nothing remains but to $\log$ stations. This attractive process will be considerably facilitated if the trimmer connected across the frameaerial turing condenser is brought into use. With all
any difference between the readings of the two condensers is noted. Reverting to the originallow-wave. length station, the H.F. condenser is set as before, bui the frame condenser is set as many degrees behind or in advance of it as was required for the other station, and the trimmer is readjusted. Proceeding in this way, tuning in the two stations alternately, a setting of the trimmer is eventually found which allows one dial to be in advance of the other by the same amount at both ends of the scale. The two may now be regarded as ganged in the sense that they can be rotated together, like a single control, when searching for stations, but
"The Wireless World" Band-Pass Superheterodyne.independent fine adjustment for close tuning is still perfectly possible, for there is no mechanical linking.

The standard of sensitivity to be expected of the receiver may be gauged from the fact that when using an 18 -inch frame aerial Langenberg's lunch-time con-
this the frame was naturally set to minimum on the local station. Algiers, on 363.4 metres, though faintly received, suffered no interference whatever from the local station. The same separation of 18 kilocycles on either side of either of the local transmitters was quite enough to free the received station from interruption. Much


The connection to the components situated below the baseboard.
cert was found, in the heart of London, to deflect a milliammeter in the anode circuit of the second detector by about three-quarters of a milliampere. As a guide to the selectivity, it may be said that a news bulletin from Stuttgart, working on 360 metres, could quite easily be followed, even by one whose German is not too fluent, while the London Regional station was pouring out its 45 kilowatts on 356.3 metres at a range of a dozen miles or so. Interference from the local station took the form of a very noisy background, with London's high-note modulation breaking through intermittently. The London programme could not, of course, be followed. For
higher selectivity than this can be had if one is content to cut off the sidebands in the I.F. amplifier ; the results given are those obtained with the I.F. filter adjusted for adequate high-note reproduction in the manner already described.

Unfortunately, a few minor errors crept into the theoretical diagram included in last week's issue; Cro connects to junction of $\mathrm{Cri}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{4}$; the lead from local station switch connects to junction of C2I and Rio. R8 and Ci8 are below the baseboard. The two leads from switch S 2 should join to the moving contacts on S3, not to coils L7 and L.8, as shown.

# The <br>  

Principle of Capacity Coupling.

By S. O. PEARSON, B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.

(Contimued from page 462 of Ociober 22nd issue)

IN last week's issue it was pointed out that before a valve can be made to act as a voltage amplifier an impedance must be connected in the anode circuit, and that the properties of the circuit as a whole depend on the nature of this impedance. Let us first consider the simplest case where the added impedance takes the form of a pure resistance. It should always be borne in mind that resistance in an A.C. circuit is actually a special form of impedance where the voltage and current are in phase, and where the power consumed is given by their product in the ordinary way. Dividing the voltage applied to an A.C. circuit by the current in it always gives the impedance (the exteint to which the current is impeded) and if the voltage and current happen to be in phase or in step the impedance is in the nature of a pure resistance or its equivalent.
In the circuit of Fig. I a non-inductive resistance R is connected in the anode circuit of a valve whose amplification factor will be denoted by $\mu$ and its internal A.C. resistance between anode and cathode by $\mathrm{R}_{a}$. If a small alternating voltage $V_{l}$ is applied to the grid of the valve it will have the effect of introducing into the anode circuit an alternating volttage of the same frequency, and whose magnitude is $\mu V_{g}$ volts. Now the A.C. resistance between the anode and cathode of the valve is constant for all low and moderate frequencies, and is, therefore, equivalent to a simple noninductive resistance. Hence the total A.C. resistance of the anode circuit is $\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}$ ohms. It follows, then, that the effective alternating voltage $\mu V_{\sigma}$ in the anode circuit due to the action of the grid will set up an alternating current whose magnitude is $\mu \mathrm{V}_{g} /\left(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}\right)$ amperes round the anode circuit. This current is additional to the normal steady direct current taken by the valve, and is, therefore, the alternating component of a more complex current.

The D.C. component is merely a necessary evil whose effects have to be eliminated when we come to transfer the amplified afternating voltage to the grid of a succeeding valve. We are, therefore, concerned only with


Fig. 1.-When a non-inductive resistance $R$ is connected in the anode circuit of $a$ valve, the theoretical value of the voltage amplification obtained is $\mu \quad R$ $\mu$ is there of the amplification factor of the valve and $R_{a}$ is its A.C. resistance.
the alternating component of voltage set up across the anode resistance as a resul of the alternating component of current, namely, $\frac{\mu V_{g}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}}$ amperes, flowing through it. By Ohm's law this alternating voltage is given by the product of the resistance and the current, its. value taing, therefore, $\mathrm{V}_{r}=\mathrm{R} \times \frac{\mu \mathrm{V}_{g}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}}$ volts. Dividing this voltage by the original alternating voltage $\mathrm{V}_{g}$ applied to the grid of the valve we obtain the actual voltage amplification $n$ obtained with the circuit arrangement of Fig. r. We have then

$$
\begin{equation*}
n=\mu \frac{\mathrm{R}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}} \tag{I}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now, obviously, $\frac{\mathrm{R}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{a}}$ is a quantity which is less than unity for all values of external anode resistance $\mathbf{R}$, and therefore the actual voltage magnification obtained must always be less than $\mu$, the amplification factor of the valve. But if R is made very large compared with the A.C. resistance $\mathrm{R}_{a}$ of the valve, the value of the above fraction will be very nearly unity, and the voltage amplification obtained will be very little less than the amplification factor of the valve.

This simple theory as it stands leads one to the conclusion that the amplification obtained is quite independent of the frequency, and that the higher the value of the anode resistance $R$ is made the greater will be the voltage magnification. But there are other factors which have to be taken into account at high frequencies, or when the added resistance $R$ is very large compared with the internal A.C. resistance of the valve.

## Loss of Anode Voltage.

For the present the question of frequency will be ignored. It was mentioned above that the presence of the D.C. component of current was a necessary evil ; the particular evil here is that a certain voltage is required to drive this current through the anode resistance R and that, therefore, the actual mean potential of the plate or anode of the valve is less than the high-tension

The Theory of the Valve Amplifier. supply voltage by this amount. Thus, if $I_{a}$ is the mean anode current in amperes, and $E$ the high-tension supply voltage, the voltage at the anode will be only $E-I_{a} R$ volts. Consequently, if $R$ is made very large, the anode potential may be reduced to such a low figure that the valve ceases to function properly. In practice it is generally safe to employ anode resistances up to five times the $A^{\circ}$.C. resistance of the valve, but a figure as high as ten tirnes often proves quite satisfactory under certain conditions:

At the present stage, however, we are not concerned so much with the principles of resistance amplification in particular as with the general principles of cascade amplification. Consideration of the case with a simple resistance in the anode circuit merely serves as a good starting point, and gives an illustration of the general principle.

Whatever kind of impedance is connected in the anode circuit of the valve, the same general law applies, namely, that the higher the value of this impedance compared with the A.C. resistance of the valve the greater will be the voltage amplification obtained, although this can never reach a figure as great as the amplification factor of the valve (unless transformer action

One of the most important points to be borne in mind is that for the sake of economy and practicability it is essential to employ a common source of high-tension supply for all the valves in the receiver, and the same applies as regards the filament heating supply. These conditions are all-important in determining the nature of the coupling between two successive valves. The use of a common H.T. source makes it essential to connect the anode impedance of each valve between the positive H.T. terminal and the respective anodes, and this means that the added impedance itself is at a high D.C. potential relative to the cathode circuits, and therefore direct connection of an anode impedance to the grid and cathode of a succeeding valve would be impossible.

Referring again to Fig. I, it will be realised that the end $Q$ of the anode resistance has a constant potential equal to that of the positive terminal of the H.T. battery, but that the end $P$ is varying in potential in conformity with the alternating voltage applied to the grid of the valve. Thus, quite apart from the mean or D.C. potentials, the point $Q$ is at zero alternating potential, whilst $P$ is a point where an alternating potential exists. It is the varying or alternating voltage at $P$ that has to be transferred to the grid of the next valve


Fig. 2.-Diagrams explaining the process of coupling two valves in cascade.
is resorted to). Whatever form the anode impedance takes, the variations of voltage set up between its ends should be a faithful reproduction of the voltage variations applied to the grid of the valve, and this is obviously the case for a pure resistance whose value is independent of frequency. With certain modifications this is also true for other types of anode impedance.

## Coupling the Valves.

Having reproduced the signal voltage with increased amplitude across the added anode resistance or impedance, the next step is to provide a means of transferring this voltage to the grid of the succeeding valve.

This process is not quite so straightforward as it might appear, because only the alternating voltage must be transferred, to the total exclusion of any D.C. component of voltage which might exist across the anode impedance. In the case of resistance coupling the D.C. component is actually larger than the useful alternating voltage.
without allowing the D.C. potential to get across, and the means of doing this is afforded by the properties of a condenser. Although an alternating current can be passed through a circuit with a condenser in series, no direct current can be made to pass (unless the insulation is bad). Thus, by connecting a condenser between the point $P$ and the grid $G_{2}$ of the next valve, the desired effect is obtained.

In order to show clearly the successive steps in connecting two valves in cascade, and to explain the precise object of each step, the diagrams of Fig. 2 are included. The two valves $I$ and 2 are shown at (a) with their cathodes joined to the negative high-tension terminal. Between the anode of the first valve and the positive H.T. terminal is the external anode resistance R. (or possibly some other form of impedance Z). Assuming that the voltage to be amplified is applied to the input terminals at the left, the amplified potential variations set up at $P$ must be made to produce the same variations at the grid of valve 2. Consequently, a

## The Theory of the Valve Amplifier.

condenser C is connected between P and $\mathrm{G}_{2}$, as shown at (b) in Fig. 2 .

If no grid current flows in valve 2, and if the capacity between the grid and other electrodes is negligibly small compared with that of the coupling condenser C , it follows that the fluctuating voltage on the left-hand side of C cannot possibly cause any alteration in the charge which this condenser might possess in the first instance. A variation of charge can only be produced by a flow of current. Thus, the potential difference between the plates of the coupling condenser is a fixed quantity, and therefore both plates follow the variations of voltage at the anode $P$ of the preceding valve. So, although the actual potentials of the plate of valve $I$ and the grid of valve 2 may be different, they both vary about their respective mean potentials in the same way and to the same extent.

## Necessity for a "Grid Leak."

Whilst the voltage variations at the anode $P$ are faithfully copied at the grid $G_{2}$ with the simple circuit arrangement of Fig. 2 (b) when the coupling condenser $C$ has a sufficiently large capacity, there is another important factor to be taken into consideration, which relates to the functioning of the second valve. Although an alternating voltage is applied to its grid, the mean potential of the grid must be maintained at such a value as to make the valve operate over the correct portion of its anode characteristic curve, whether this second valve acts as a detector or a second stage amplifier. In Fig. 2 (b) the grid of the second valve and the condenser plate connected to it are insulated from the rest of the circuit, and, therefore, the grid is free to take up any mean potential as determined by slight leakage or even electrostatic induction; for instance, if the dielectric of the coupling condenser C were not a very good insulator the grid side would tend to take up the same positive potential as the plate of the first valve. The grid of the second valve would thus be given a high positive voltage which would prevent the valve from functioning, and might even cause damage.

Assuming that the second valve required a mean potential negative with respect to the cathode, the next step is to consider how this can be applied without upsetting the transfer of signal voltage variations from the previous valve. If a battery of the correct voltage were to be connected directly between the grid and cathode (positive terminal to cathode and negative terminal to grid) the desired negative grid bias would be obtained, but the grid voltage would then be rigidly fixed relatively to that of the cathode, and no voltage variations would be imparted to it from the preceding valve. The voltage at the point $G_{2}$ must be free to vary in accordance with the voltage at $P$, and yet the mean voltage of $G_{2}$ must be maintained at a definite negative value. These two requirements are diametrically opposed as regards fulfilment the one calls for an insulated grid (infinitely great resistance between grid and cathode) and the other for a battery, or the equivalent, to be connected between the grid and the cathode.

The difficulty is overcome by using the battery as sugpested, but with a very high resistance connected in
series with it. The grid bias battery and the high resistance are denoted by G.B. and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ respectively in Fig. 2 (c). The positive terminal of the battery is connected directly to the cathode of the valve and the high resistance comes between the negative terminal of the battery and the grid of the valve.

The high resistance $R_{2}$ is generally referred to as a "grid leak," but when used in this manner it does not represent a leak at all. (The term "grid leak" really only applies in the strict sense to a grid-detector valve.) Since no direct current can flow either through the coupling condenser or between the grid and cathode inside the valve (on account of the negative bias) it follows that the resistance $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ will in normal circumstances carry no direct current, and there will be no D.C. potential difference between its ends. The mean potential of the grid of the valve is, therefore, equal to the potential of the negative terminal of the battery G.B. for any value of $R_{2}$ provided $R_{2}$ is small compared with the insulation resistance of the grid circuit, the latter resistance being usually of the order of tens or even hundreds of megohms.

Now, as regards the reason for introducing the highresistance $R_{2}$. The essential condition for the transfer of the full voltage variation at the anode of the first valve to the grid of the second is that the charge held by the coupling condenser $C$ shall be the same at all times. Joining $G_{2}$ directly to the negative terminal of the battery G.B. would destroy this condition, and yet $\mathrm{G}_{2}$ must have an average potential equal to the negative terminal of G.B. Hence a compromise is adopted, $R_{2}$ being made so high that it has only a small disturbing effect on the action of the coupling condenser, but is, nevertheless, quite effective in conveying the necessary negative bias to the grid of the valve. This is a general principle adopted in conjunction with several coupling arrangements.

## (To be continued.)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 th.

Lensbury Radio Society (in conjunction with R.S..1.B.)-At 6.15 p.m. At 16, Finsbury Circus, E.C.2. Lecture-demonstration "MT. The Latest Developments in Gound Meproduction," by Dr. N. W. Melachlan, M.I.E.E.

Muswell Hill and District Radio Society.-At 8 p.m. At Tollington School, Tetherdown. N.10. Lecture and denonstration, by. Mr. Frank Murphy, B. Sc., to include demonstrations of andio-frequency oscillator for checking loud speaker performance.
Tottenham Wireless Society.-At 8 pm . At 10, Bruce Grove, N.17. Sale and exchange.
Edinburgil and Dis THURDAY, NOVEMBER 13th Mr. J. L. Minto.
Golders Green and Hendon Radio School, Golders Greell Road N W 11 At oris pin At lloodstock related by inembers of Golders Green, North Middlesex, and Westerin postal District Societies.
Slade Radio (Birmingham). At 8 p.m. At the Parochial Hall, Broomfield Road, Erdington. Lantern lecture : "Batteries and Their Maintenance," by Mr. O. P. Lockton (or Messrs. Exide).

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14th.

Bristol and District Radio Society.-At 7.15 p.in. In the Geographical Theatre, University of Bristol. Lecture: "Modern Mains Receivers," liy Mr. E. J. Ponnd (of Messrs. L. Mcmichael, Ltd.).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 th.
Totienilam Wireless Society.-Visit to Brookmans Park.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 th .
Bec Radio Society.-At Bec School, Beechcroft Road, S.W.17. At 7.15 pmm . (Beginners Section). Lecture: "Radio Curreuts and Their leception." At 0.10 p.m.: Demonstration of members' apparatus.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19th.
Muswell Hill and District Radio Society, At 8 p.m. At Tollington Selhool, Tetherdown, N. 10 Lecture, by Mr. J. L. Thompson, to inelude demonstration of Cossor sets.

The Orchestra.-Theatres and Licence Surplus.-Cinema Organs.

## Secret Name for New Orchestra?

The problem of naming the B.B.C.'s new Symphony Orchestra exercised its sponsors from the very beginning, but publicly, at least, the orchestra still languishes without a title. I understand, however, that a name has already been metaphoricully inscribed in copper plate, and now nestles privately in a little back drawer of the Director-General's clesk.

## Waiting.

-0000
What that name will be, and why, must remain undisclosed until the probable occurrence of an historic event, early in the New Year.

What I can disclose is that the B.B.C. will not use the name suggested by fo newspaper correspondent, viz., "broadestra." Neither are they attracted ly "Boultestra."

## Interest in America.

The fame of the orchestra has almady spread to America. The Columbia system has announced a relay throughout the U.S. of the orchestra's performance at the Queen's Rall on Wednesday, November 19th, when Sir Henry Wood conductox
The transmission will be picked up from 5SW.

## 0000

## A Compliment to 5SW.

That the Americans calmly rely on the afficiency of the Chelmsford short-wave station is a real tribute to 5SW. For a trand-American relay elaborate arrangements have to be made with a very large number of small stations, and the U.S. hroadcasting authorities do not waste "hook-ups" on items which are doubtful.

## 0000

## Scotland's Radio Show.

Edinburgh holds a joy week beginning to day (Wednesday) when Sir John Reith, speaking into a microphone at Savoy Hill; opens the Scottisla Radio Exhibition in the Waverley Market.

The chairman on to-day's occasion will be the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and others present will include Mr. Gladstone Murray, the B.B.C. Assistant Controller, and Mr. Cleghorn Thomson, the Scottish Aren Disector.

## A Model Studio.

The "star" exhibit will be the 13.B.C.'s stand, which takes the form of a model studio surrounded by glass, through which the public will witness hroadenst artistes performing before the microphone.

The last occasion on which the B.B.C.
gave this very attractive kind of demonstration was, I believe, at the Olympia Radio Show in 1926.

## Hands Off the Licence Surplus !

With that attractive little pile, i.e., the broadcast licence surplus, lying mo used at the Treasury, is it any wonder that certain hungry birds are beginning to flutter round in hopes of a free meal?

## FUTURE FEATURES.

NovbmakR 19TM. - Symphony conceíl from Queen's Hall.
Novsmara 20tir,-Guelic concert from Aberdèn.
Novimaber, 21 st.-" Pelléas and Méli. sande," a lyric drama hy Maurice Maeterlinck
Novemiber 22 No .-Running commentary on Arsenal v. Middlesbrough footbail match, by Mr. George E'. Allison.

## London Regional.

November 16th, Military band concert.
Nopemper 17TH.-Britss band concert from Newcastle
NoVimark ${ }^{18 \text { sande. - "Pelléas and Méli- }}$ sande.
Novemara 10Th. "Before the Party" Hdapted for broadeasting from story by Somerset Maugham.
NovgMaEt
gramme fram Holland. gramme from Holland.
Midland Regional.
Novemarr 17TH-"Stars of the Past."
Some melodies of bygone diays.
Novbabir 18ti. - "Syncopated lial. [sins.'?
West Regional (Cardiff).
baber fronl Park Hald, Cardili
North Regional (Manchester and Leeds). November 17Th.-A Jewish urchestrail programme.
Novbmabr Belfast. 18 Tir. - The Drone," a comedy hy Rutherford Mayne.

## The British Drama League.

Prominent on the scene is the British Drama League, championed by Mr. Granville-Barker, who is reported as advocating that " a grimit from the B.B.C. fonds (sic) might be allotted by the Government as a credit for the establishment of " national theatre."

## Pity the Poor Listener.

Doubtless Mr: Granville-Barker actu. ally refers to the licence surplus; the B.B.C. pleads "not guilty" to the accumulation of profits, all the money which reaches the Corporation being spent on programmes.
As a broadeast listener paying my ten shillings per annum, I find it difficult to remain calm in face of a proposal that some of my money should be deroted to a theatre from which I may never derive "1 ha'p'orith of benefit.

## The Stage and the Microphone.

True, the National Theatre might offer broadcasting facilities, but it is a notorious fact that the average stage play is unsuited to the microphone. After much wrangling with the theatre interestis the B.B.C. was granted permission to hroadcast twenty-six times per anmm from various playhouses, brit the privilege has not been exercised owing to lack of suitable material.

## 0000

## Permanent Vaudeville Artistes.

The B.B.C. has decided to stant a a:ew experiment in vandevile on November 24 in the National programme.
A band of regular artists in these programmes will perform under the nave of "The Foursome," and it will be their job to link up the performances, announce the "stars," sing chornses and generally keep things moving.

Members of "The Foursone" are Hermione Gingold, Olive Groves, Bernard Clifton and Enest Sefton.

## \section*{O.} <br> Studio Opera Season Ends.

On November 18 and 19 the last of the present series of studio operas, Debussy's "Pelléas and Mélisande," will be broard. cast from the Regional and National transmitters.
The studio series started in September, 1929, with "Thais."

### 0.000

## Organs.

The first of a series of talks on pipe organs will be broadcast by Mr. K. II. Anderson from NLidlind Regional on November 28 th.

## 0000

## Are Cinema Organs Played Out?

How many listeners, I wonder, noticed that the cinema organ recital advertised in the official programme for $10^{\circ}$ clock on T'uesday of last week never took place? I am not specially interested in the reason why this recital "misfired"-I believe it was due to a forgotter stage rehearsal in the Victoria Theatre. What interests me is the fact that not one listener sent a jetter of enquiry to the B.B.C.

## 0000

## Church Organ Broadcasts in Request

Correspondence received at Savoy Hill seems to indicate that the bleating and hiccoughing cinema organ is no longer in request. On the other hand, real organ music was never more popular, a favourite organ with listeners being the splendid instrument in Alt Saints; Margaret Street, which gives good results despite the ahsence of cycle bells, cuckon clocks, tambourines, alligators' jaws, or even a fow homely fly switters.

## READERS' PROBLEMS.

The Wireless World" Supplies a Free Serviçe of Technical Information.
The Service is subject to the rules of the Department, which are printed below, these
nust be sirictly enforced, in the interest of readers themselves. A selection of
queries of general interest is deall with below.

## The Best Anti-interference Circuit.

Due to the fact that interference from aloctrical circaits is severe, I find that the ordinury type of sensiline recciver wilh ant open aeriabearlh system is almost useless for distont receptions In an attempt to onercome this difnculty I infend to curry out some experimenta with a frame aerial, and whould like to set up the best possible arrangement; a tro-circuit input tuner rould not be objected to, an it is understood that this complication 16 well worth while.

IFill you please recomnend the most promising circuit? A.C. volces are to bo used in the recairem, which will hure at least two II. F. stages.
N. $P$.

We thiak you will find it difiticult to netter the input circuit showes in Fig. 1 , which comprises a tuned centre-tapped


Fig. I-A togasiy coupled frame aerigi circult with earifed centre point. $k$ ts associated by-pasis condenoer.
franse, boasely coupled to a secondary circuit The coupling coil. by means of which ehergy is transterned from one cir: suit to apofher, is inserted at the mid. grint of the irame aorial winding, and its epatre point is aarthed in order to ming mies "vertical" pickup. For reception un tho medium waveluand a coupling coll wieh from six to einght lurns should be quite adequate, and arrangements should Lo anade to virye ite posiliou in relation to The low-polential end of tho secondary inductanca.
Of courme it will be necessary complotely to thieid the mecqudary and other theciver cincuits from the frame aerial.

## The Effects of Dampness.

1 ham bees agrecully surprised to find that there is very little interference to my broudcast reception from a recently installed high woltage ocer* head power lime thich rums within some thirty yards of the bottonn of my garden. Un a few aceasions, hom. cier, "cracllings" have been ob served they generally seem to coin. cide with rdiny wrather, and are presumably due to beakayes at the insuletors.

U/ late it has been noticed that thim interference is sometimes evident when thers is no rain, and, further, That the interferemes is aven mare pronouneed than formerly. Do you thimk it is slue to the fad that a harvier nurrent is now beiny passed afony the mupply yires? 1/ sa, I fear that inferfercnae is rikely to become more serious in the future, ws the nev system of electricall supply becomes more seislely used.
L. B. F.

It is almosf certalu Hiat the interferonct. you thav recently exporienced is due ©olely to the damp weathor which we hare to expect in this country in the atulumn. It has often been observed thet "brusin. ing" over insulators takes place mono freely in humid meather than when rain is actually falling.

0980

## On the Verge of Self-oscillation.

My ept panode bend detector and two resistumerencoupled La.F. atagee) mork. quite well as " rectiper of srireless aigmale, bot tercta to "\% motor borit" when a grumophane pirbuup is used. I cammat ace why this ahould be, ow the circuil is rimhually urchemged, excegt, for the fact that the pirk. up is inserted in series arilh the derector grid, and bias ts avitubly reduced to coucert this entre into an l.f. Emipficer. IT ill you flease give me ar exwanalioin, crut, if possible, acule a inggestion as. to how L.P. escillution mey be prectensed ?
I. N. D.

When the detector is conserted iuto an ampalifier by reducing its grid bies, the impedanco of the valve is reduced, and it gives a ligger overall mugnification. This, in turn, will be respousible for an increased tendency towards inglability; it is quite probable that this tondency in present even when tho meceiver is operas ling in tho normal way, and consequently tho set is nover working at fits hest.

We ruggesf that you should fit suitable decoupling resistances and by-pass condensers, or, if you hove ailready done so, you should increase the values of all the decoupling comproventr.

## An Improvised G.B. Ehiminator.

In the interests of economy I should like to make use of a quantity of absolete apparatus already in my possession for the construction of a grid bias battery eliminator. - It is intended to use un ordinary triode calre with grid und anode tarminals connected together as a rectifier, and, as all A.C ripple must obviously be ceoided, I am thinking of using, as a smoathing choke, an old L.f'. transformer wilh primary und secomary joined in series. Do you consider that this will be atisfactory?
H. D. V.

In this particular case the high D.C. resistance of the transformer windiugs should not be a serious disadvantage, and so your proposed plan should vield satis factory results.

Care should bo taken to see that the windings are connected together in the correct sense, so that maximum inductance may be obtained.

## 0000

## Short-Wave Sets and Eliminators.

I um thinking of making one of the sfiortwace sets ciescribed in your journal. bus amm undecided ichether to adopt the circuit of the "Superketeradyne Shorb- Ware Adaptor" (April 23 rd 1930), or the "S.G. Short. Wace Three "(Jammary 1si, 1930), Of course, the adaptor would be operated in com. junction rith my normal broudcate receiter. Which of these sets mould be likely to worl best with am H.T. eliminatar?
I. R. R.

There can be no doubt that the circuit of the "8.G. Shosk Wave Three" is the better when anode carrent is to be supplied by an eliminator. The superheterodune unit, which includes an oscillating valve, would be defuitely unsuitable for your needs, as any remaining tracos of "hum" would modulate the oscillations , produced by this valie.

## RUI.ES

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[204i
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Reyent Radlo Supply Co
Heh & Bundy, Lid
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Six-Sixty Radio Colion, Lhd (Peerlesy)
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Standard Battery Cu
stundard Telephones & Cables, Lid
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'Telegraph Cundenser Ca, Lid.
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Warley (Oliver Pell Control, Lid.) ....................
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through an eliminator with the Heayberd
tur the mains have been proved inconsistent in their output. gower for rnedern tyet of valves. The Heayberd low-tension transformar is desimmed for use with Westinghouse metal reetifer; for supplying steady, cotastant, bum-tree power for the filaments of the ruodern ratio valve.
Translonmerimimator, Lut spevily Heaybend Low-Tension Jower


## The "MEMBRA" <br> inducror dxnamic LOUD - SPEAKER <br> Manufactured under FARRAND LICENCE.

The greatest advance made in design and construction of loudspeakers is embodied in the "Membra." Its astounding beauty of reproduction and extraordinary sensitivity surpasses that of the Moving Cail types. A most important point about the "Mernbra" is that Two sets of Terminals are provided so that it can be used for either High or Low impedance valves. The "Membra" is permanently adjusted and perfect reproduction is secured over the entire frequency scale.

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Inductor Dunamic Loud-Speaker can be obtained aromplly through any Dealer.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { CHASSIS complete } \\
\text { (as illustrated) } \\
\mathbf{\$ 3} 10
\end{array} \\
& \text { SPEAKER complete }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { or "CAMCO" } \mathbf{M} \text { " } 15 \\
& \text { BEAM LTD., }
\end{aligned}
$$



Chassis diam. 12". Depth. $81^{\circ}$. Cone diam. 933.

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"Tre e performance is remarnate tor ite unusual outpat in the oass. The general efect is perchaps tho clocest affiorimation to that of the moving coll that thas yet peen achievod Whn a moving tron zemature.
-Wirlesw World Teth Repori, July 30 ht Chassir Complete ….. 310 o Also in Cabinets and on Sourd Screens of dittinctive and artistic design.
The N \& K PICK-UP, developed on entirely neev principles will reproduce Gramophone music at its best.
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A. ERODERSEN


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CONTINUOUS WIRE H.R. POTENTIOMETERS : 20 MODELS FROM $100 \cap 0 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~A}$ TO $50,000 \cap 10 \mathrm{~mA}$

25,000 $\cap$ for W.W. FOUR
35,000 $\Omega$ for W.W. "SUPERHET" - 8/$10,000 \Omega$ DUAL " CONSTANT-INPUT RESISTANCE" - $17 / 6$

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 Rotary Converters for operating from low voltage storage batteries． Test sheets，etc．，are issued with each component where required， indicating its performance under final test，which are guaranteed． Our Technical Dept．will be pleased to advise and give assist－ ance where possible to retailers， service agents and others who care to avail themselves of this．
We invite members of the Trade to our Audition room at any time， pue әұедяsuouәp ueว วм әләчМ show our products，and give use－ әгәчм đјач рие ио！ұешлоји！［n］ required．

 equipment．
 to 130,000 Volts，oil insulated，for Testing purposes，pressure testing outfits，self－contained apparatus for testing overhead porcelain in－ sulators，etc．，general Testing






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A．F．BULGIN \＆CO．，Ltd．，9－11，Cursitor St．，Chancery Lane，LONDON，E．C． 4 BATTISS ROTARTCOIEFRTERS （D．C．to A．C．）for Radio \＆Gramophone Equipment $\qquad$
FOR THE MAINS









## yOI <br> 



The DO/25 valve has been produced to meet the demand for a reliable output valve suifable for use in Radio Gramo: phones, Public Address and similar equipment.
As a result of its low impedance (1150 ohms) this valve will give an undistorted output ample for operating a number of speakers of either the moving coil or electro-magnetic types, while its amplification factor of 3 and a mutual conductance of $2.6 \mathrm{~mA} /$ volt make it suitable for following an amplifier having only a moderate stage gain.
The DO/25 is designed for operating on anode voltages up to 400 volts, while its filament, which consumes 1.8 amps at 6.0 volts, may be supplied with raw A.C. obtained by means of a step down transformer from the mains.

Price 30/-

# Mullard THE •MASTER •VALVE 

[^15]

Wednesday, Novenmber 19th, 1930.


## ONLY D.C. MAINS!

YOU can operate an receiver from electric Mains, Private House Plant or L.T. Accum ulator by means of an M-L D.C. to A.C Rotary Transformer Send for "The Book of the M-L Rotary Transformer,' which gives full details.
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D. C. to A.C. ROTARY TRANSFORMER


BLUE SPOT'S



## The

 MAZDA AC/PI CHARACTERISTICS:Filament Volts4.0

Filament Amps (approx.) . . 1.0
Max. H.T. Voltage . . . 200
Amplification Factor . . 5
Anode A.C. Resistance (ohms) . 2,000
Mutual Conductance (mA/V) 2.5
PRICE 17/6

There is no need to use a directly heated output valve in your all-mains set - with consequent risk of hum and the additional inconvenience of having to provide a separate L.T. winding on your transformers. Use the $\mathrm{AC} / \mathrm{PI}$ - the finest output valve ever developed for all-mains sets, a valve which gives a huge output at only 200 volt H.T.!



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## VOTED The FINEST: RADIO GRAMOPHONE at OLYMPIA

$1{ }^{\text {st }}$ place in "The Wireless World" Competition
You have read all about the
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"Wireless World"
NOW HEAR A
Demonstration.

## ABSOLUTE REALITY

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radio equiplent co., Huddersfield.

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## THE <br> D_GiD. DE LUXE



## QUALITY VOLUME

THE R.G.D. DE LUXE ALL ELECTRIC RADIO GRAMOPHONE.

THE public were able to say that this instrument gives the very best that both radio and gramophone can give as the instrument "Ideal for quality. Its radio side is so powerful that given favourable
atmospheric conditions over 30 stations can be received witl ample volume. atmospheric conditions over 30 stations can be received witli ample volume
The quality of reproduction from distant stations is equal to that of local stations. All Mains operated, with exclusive cabinet design.

> in oak, £80 mahogny, £85 Send for illustrated calalogue and hiterature. (Agencies vacant.)

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Price 13/6 each.
A low impedance valve for use as the oulput valve in battery-operated receivers, type PM. 252 is the " super-power" valve of the Mullard 2-volt range. The large permissible grid swing permits the valve to handle big signal voltages while as a result of its low impedance ( 2,600 ohms) and excellent mutual conductance ( 2.1 milliamps per volt) it will give a large undisforted output sufficient for operating the average domestic speaker or radio gramophone.

The P.M. 252 is very economical in operation, the filament consumption being only 0.3 amp at 2 -volts. It can therefore be employed in portable receivers without imposing too great a load upon the low tension accumulator.
 THE P MASTER •VALVE

[^16] Arks.

A3 Advertisements for "The Wireless Whatd" are onlv accepted from firms we believe to be thoroughlv reliable
 papers say of the Varley Senior All-Electric Transportable Receiver: "Quality the outstanding feature" . . . "Exceptional Selectivity". . . "Stations simply rolled in" . . . "No hum."
Varley's long experience-and "matched impedance" made possible by that experience-are responsible for the outstanding quality, range and selectivity of Varley All-Electric Receivers. In every Varley Receiver each valve is working at its best. The windings of each coil, choke, and transformer are exactly matched electrically, to the valve which precedes it. This is the reason for the wonderful performance of Varley Receivers, for the deep powerful bass and the brilliant treble.

## A Remarkable Receiver-

 Hear it Yourself To-day.One-dial tuning.
Trang portable.
Complete stability

lengths, Elearti-
cal reproduction cal
of
reproduction
gramophone Of grariophone
records. Excepp-
tionsily records. Excep-
tionally attractive polighed walnut for A,C, or D.C. Varley Senior All-Electric Transportable Receiver
A.C. Model. List No. AP 12 \&26. D.C. (convertible) Mode1. £26 No. AP 13

Varley Junior All-Electric Receiver.
A.C. Model. List No. AP $\mid f 15: 15: 0$



LITTLE STORIES OF GREAT MOMENTS


When a young shepherd boy, bitien by a mad dog, was brought to him for inoculation, Louis Pasteur, the great French scientist, was tormented by indecision. Should he put his life's work to the test? Would it save-or end-the boy's life? He decided, the boy was saved, and long years spent in doing one thing and doing, it well, were rewarded with success.
It is this same spirit of" doing one thing and doing it well" which has, for years, been behind all T:C.C. endeavour. That is whyT.C.C. have never made anything but Con densers, and why T.C.C. Condensers are un-matched-for accuracy and dependabilisy. The T.C.C . 0003 mfd . Flat type Mica Condenser is shown here. Price 1i3.


TELEGRAPH CONDENSER CO., LTD., N. ACTON, W. ${ }^{\text {W. }}$.

ONE SCREEN GRID

## OR TWO.

In designing the four-valve screen grid Murphy Portable we had two obvious alternative arrangements to consider.
(a) Screen grid H.F.-detector-L.F. valvepower valve.
(b) Screen grid H.F.- screen grid H.F.-detector-power valve.
The following aspects were considered :
(1) Total amplification possible
(2) Selectivity.
(3) Quality.
(4) Simplicity of operation.
(5) Ease of manufacture.
(6) Uniformity of product.

## H.F. GAIN.

With two stages in cascade, unless extraordinary precautions are taken, involving very thick screens, two H.F. stages cannot be safely worked at more than

$$
50 \times 50=2,500
$$

One stage alone could reasonably be made to give 80
The detector efficiency in both cases varies with its input and will be called $D$.
The 2-S.G. set could reasonably be coupled to the power valve with a 3:1 transformer and using a detector valve with an $M$ factor of 20 ; the figures for a 2-S.G. fourvalve set are:-
Total gain up to the input of the power valve

$$
\begin{gathered}
50 \times 50 \times D \times 20 \times 3 \\
=150,000 D
\end{gathered}
$$

With the 1-S.G. using two transformer L.F. stages, the first transformer being shunted for the sake of quality, the total corresponding gain would be

$$
\begin{gathered}
70 \times D \times 20 \times \frac{3}{2} \times 20 \times 3 \\
=126,000 \mathrm{D}
\end{gathered}
$$

or substantially the same, assuming equal detecting efficiencies, which is approximately true. Variations in valves which always occur would modify the figures.
Triodes are reasonably constant in gain, but an allowance of $\pm 20 \%$ must be allowed with S.G.'s. The limits for 2 S.G. sets would therefore be

$$
96,000 \mathrm{D} \text { to } 216,000 \mathrm{D} \text { total gain, }
$$

and for the 1 S.G. set

$$
100,000 \mathrm{D} \text { to } 150,000 \mathrm{D} \text { total gain. }
$$

It was anticipated, therefore, that a good specimen of a 2 S.G. set might be rather more powerful than a 1 S.G. set, and a good 1 S.G. set better than a poor 2 S.G. set in which the H.F. valves were below average.
These calculations have been checked and found correct by comparative tests.
Since no clear gain in total amplification could be depended upon with 2 S.G., and in fact, with poor valves, it might be less than with 1 S.G., the latter appeared to
us as the better solution, because it gained especially as regards
(a) Simplicity of operation:
(b) Ease of manufacture (resulting in lower selling price).
(c) Uniformity of product,
with quality of reproduction, and selectivity substantially equal in both cases.
The above figures for the possible H.F. gain in commercial practice are probably on the high side. They represent 2,500 H.F. gain, whereas the published figures for sets of this type places the total H.F. gain at 1,000$1 ; 500$, which would bring the total gain of a $2 \mathrm{~S} . \mathrm{G}$. set to 60,000 D-90,000 D.

## 4-VALVE SCREENED GRID RECEIVER SINGLE TUNING CONTROL -

Completely Ganged Circuits CALIBRATED in WAVELENGTHS.
Fitted in beautiful Walnut Cabinet, weight 32 lbs.
No aerial or earth required.
B.R.V.M.A. Valves.

2-volt, 23 A.H. Unspillable Accumulator, mounted on acid-proof rack.
108 -volt H.T. Battery, 12 mA . rating.
Average H.T. consumption, 8-9 mA.
Gramophone Jack.
External Loudspeaker Jack
External aerial and earth sockets.
Excellènt loudspeaker reproduction, giving very enjoyable music and particularly clear speech.
Range and selectivity equal to, if not better than, any other portable set on the market.

## PRICE 17 GUINEAS

including valves, batteries, turntable and Royalties.


## COUPON.

Murphy Radio Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts. MURPHY RADIO PORTABLE.
Send me copies of the "Wireless World" and "Wireless Trader" reports on the set.
Name
Address

## Creators of High Grade Precision Condensers


$\begin{array}{lll}\text { STG } 95 \text { Twin. } 0035 & 30^{\prime} \\ \text { STG } 35 \text { Triple } 00-5 & 46 / 6\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { STG } 35 \text { Triple } .00 .5 & 46 / 6 \\ \star \text { STG } 45 \text { Four } 00 \text { ( } & 65 \text {.- }\end{array}$
$\star$ Specified for the WIRELESS WORLD FOUR Supplied complete, assemb!ed with special screen;.

## CYLDON ALONE GIVES ACCURATE MATCHING

Gang conirol, adopied for the Wireless World Four, depends entirely for its eificiency upon accurate sectional matching such as CYLDON conslruction alone can give. Superior raw material skilfully fashioned, many outstanding mechanical features, gauge tested machined parts, precision built, and capacity bridge lested after compleie assembly, recommends you to build with CYLDON . . . it costs more but its construction amply justifies it. Send for details of full range.


## Another Lewcos Achievement

LEWCOS engineers are occupied year in and year out on problems connected with the improvement of radio reception and this new component-the L.F.T.3-is one of the most successful of Lewcos achievements. It has a Constant Inductance for different values of anode currents.
With an ordinary transformer the inductance of the winding is considerably different for varying anode currents. In other words, the two halves of the low frequency wave are not anplified equally, introducing marked distortion. If the inductance is constant, however, as in the Lewcos L.F.T.3, the amplification remains the same, irrespective of signal strength. Write for fully descriptive leaflet, Ref. L.F.T. 3 .


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Church Roàd, Leyton, London, E. 10.

 -it represents a very definite advance in Radio Battery manufacture. Modern machinery ensures that every battery produced is of identical efficiency ; there can be no risk of buying a Full $O^{\prime}$ 'Power which is " not quite up to standard." What is more, this new method of manufacture has given the Full O'Power battery a far larger output of power and a far longer working life. You cannot appreciate the extent of this added power, this added life, until you have actually experienced it. Buy a Full O'Power to-day, take it home and make the test yourself. Your radio reception will acquire a new strength and purity, and, as the months slip by, you will realise what "long life" means when

Specified for MULLARD 'ORGOLA,' COSSOR
and FERRANTI SETS. you are using a Full O'Power-the battery that is "definitely superior."

## SIEMENS <br> 

BATTERIES

## Buy one today ytest it for yourself!!

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## It's cheaper to charge your batteries at home!



## With the

You can recharge your L.T. batteries at home for a mere fraction of the cost of sending them to the charging station. There's no continual shifting of batteries with consequent damage to clothes and carpets. There's no burdensome fetching and carrying. Your batteries are always ready when you want them, and above all, an Ediswan home charger pays for itself in a very short time.


Ash your dealer, or write to us, for leaflets giving Nikalloy Three - the "Hypermu"" "Hypermite," and Hypercore."

Mention of "The Wircless World," wien writing to advertisers, will ensure prompt attention.


Undy 8 pole loudspeaker,


Undy 8 pole loudspeaker, in highly pol- 8 walnut $\% /=$ cabinet de luxe.

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The construction of the Undy 8 pole loudspeaker is a milestone in the development of wireless.
On account of its superior construction it meets the most exacting demands in sensitivity, power and frequency range.
Do not fail to hear this loudspeaker to-day at your dealer's-you will be surprised!



Obtainable from your usual Dealer. ASK FOR DEMONSTRATION.


Undy 8 pole dynamic loudspeaker, in polished walnut cabinet. The moderate-priced speaker
for the most exacting re- $5 /=$

[^17]
## ปUNNITT



Write for complete CENTRALAB Cata-logue-it's FREE.


Everything in the Junit has been designed for your convenience. It is very compact, being only $9^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime} \times 3 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{}$. It operates on all mains from $200-250$ volts. It is constructed to give perfect screening. It will operate all modern sets. The unit is so designed that your existing battery leads will easily reach the corresponding terminals on the unit. You need not buy additional leads.

UNIT TYPE 150/4 A.C. load and incorporat 25 millianperes load, and incorporating 4 volt centre
tapped winding for supplying filament tapped winding for supplying filament cutrent for indirectly heated valves. ize $9^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{\frac{1}{2 \prime}^{\prime \prime}}$

Tappings: One fariable $0-150$

UNIT TYPF 120.
Giving 120 volts at 20 milliamperes loact. Size $9^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime} \times 33^{\prime \prime \prime}$

Tappiaks: One variable 0-120
Price s4:7:6
UNIT TYPE 120/T.C:
Giving 120 volts output at 20 milli amperes load, and also containing accupulators fize $9^{\prime \prime} 4$ or $^{\prime \prime} 6$ volt Tappings: one variable $0-5^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{2 \prime \prime}$

Price $55: 17: 6$

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Regattas are won when Con trol is at the Helm. Every carefree gust of wind must be controlled. . every sall bellying properly, working the sloop final buoy and down the last leg, the winner. In millions of homes radio skippers are cruising round the dials with CENTRALAB Controls at the helmsman's hand. With CENTRALAB Control at the helm there is always smooth, noiseless reception. Be sure it's a CENTRALAB
Control.

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## MAKE YOUR ValVES SAFE



Somebody's valves "gon west"-new, perhaps. Pro tect yours, for mistakes are easy. Just connect the new Belling-Lee "Wanderfuse" in your H.T, - lead in place of the existing Wander Plug It takes no more headroom, but il's a fuse as rich. Now our valves are safe, even i ou hash the H.1. across them. No tools rępuired; no alterations to set.
'WANDERFUSE" complete with fuse ( $150 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{a}$ ), $1 / 6$.
Supplied in black or red. Spare Ty/scs (1;jo m;a), gd. on in place of the usual nut

Price 6d each For Screen Grid or Pentorle. First protect your valves with a "Wanderfuse," then minimise your fuse renewals by fitting this Safety Anode
Connector:
FREE.—Write for the Beiling-Lee nections"(2nd Edition).

$:=14$ 4 $-2=$
fOR EVERY DADIO CONNECTION
Advi. of Belling \& Lee, Ltd., Qucensway Works, Pomders Lnd, Middlesce.


# BLUE <br> S <br>  



A magnificent speaker. From its beautiful walnut cabinet 71 R reproduces clearly and faithfully every sound the microphone receives. Ask at your dealer's to see and hear Blue Spot 71R for yourself. You'll be astonished how good it is.
PRICE

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# THIREE NEW MARCONI VASKVES I 

## COMPLETING A WONDERFUL 2-VOLT SERIES!



A new screen grid valve which at last provides, in parfectly blended unison, every feature required in the ideal H.F. amplifier. Marconi S2/c combines a very high amplification factor with very moderate impedance; enormous magnification is thus easily obtainable in any receiver; at the same time the minute self capacity ensures perfect stability. Rigidly constructed and unvarying in characteristics, $52 / \mathrm{c}$ will set new standards in successful H.F. amplification

## 20/

Remarkably high mutual conductance-1.55 MA/volt-excellent amplification combined with particularly fine reproduction-these are outstanding points in the performance of Marconi $L 2 / \mathrm{b}$, a new 2 -volt low frequency and general purpose valve of exceptional efficiency. $\mathrm{L} 2 / \mathrm{b}$ is a sensitive heavy duty detector, and a supreme initial L.F. amplifier; its low impedance permits of perfect reproduction with transformer coupling, the very high
stage gain greatly increasing the overall efficiency of any receiver.
A new 2 -volt super power valve of amazing efficiency with characteristics superior to those of any equivalent 6 -volt type-truly a crowning achievement of Marconi research! Marconi P2/b successfully unites a high amplification factor with the low impedance of only 1,850 ohms, a figure ideally suited to the average cone or moving coil speaker. Exceptionally steep slope renders it the foremost output valve for every battery operated receiver in which ample volume, pure tone and strict economy in current must combine for perfect reception.
$13 / 6$

| CHARACTERISTICS. |  | S2/c. | L2/b. | P2/b. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amp. Factor Impedance |  | $\begin{gathered} 330 \\ 300,000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15.5 \\ 10,000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.5 \\ & 1.850 \end{aligned}$ |
| Mmpedance . . ${ }^{\text {Mut }}$ Conductance | $\cdots$ | 300,000 1.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 10,000 \\ & 1.55 \end{aligned}$ | 1,850 3.5 |
| Fil: Volts . . |  | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Fil. Amps. |  | 0.15 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| H.T. Volts-(max.) |  | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| Price . . | $\ldots$ | 20/- | 8/6 | 13/6 |

The Valves the


Experts use!

# Editor: HUGH S POCOCK. <br> Assistant Editor: F. H. HAYNES <br> Editorial Offices: II6-mi7, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. $=-\quad$ Editorial Telephone : City 9472 (5 lines). Advertising and Publishing Offices: DORSET HOUSE, TUDOR STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. Telephone: City 28.7 ( 13 lines). <br> Telegrams: "Etheworid, Fleet, London." <br> Coventry: Hertford St. Birmingham : Guildhall Bldgs., Navigation St. Manchester: 260, Deansgate. Glasgow: 101, St. Vincent St., C. 2.  <br> PUBLISHED WEEKLY. <br> ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AT NEW YORK, N.Y. <br>  <br> As many of the circuits amd apparatus described in these pages are covercd by patents, readers are advised, before making use of them, to satisfy themselves thal they weolld not be infringitio patents. 

## Ediforial Comiment

## Modern Sets and Circuits.

ITN this issue we include the list which we annually compile of receivers, with general information on the nature of the circuits employed and other details to make up an index or reference guide to assist our readers in the selection of sets for any particular requirements.
In view of the number of sets it is necessary that the published information should be condensed and rather brief, but every effort has been made to ensure that all the more important particulars are included.

The work of compilation of this list has served to remind us once again of the growing complexity of the average receiver of to-day, and to emphasise the importance of the proposal which we recently set forth in these columns that every receiver issued should carry with it a circuit diagram for the information of the purchaser and as a guide in the event of service to the set becoming necessary.
In our correspondence columns we publish a letter from a firm of manufacturers who, recognising the importance of our suggestion as an aid to service, have written to us to say that they are taking immediate steps to arrange for circuit diagrams to be supplied with every new receiver issued. We hope that this lead will be followed by all manufacturers who have not already adopted the policy, and we can scarcely believe that there are

## In This Issuie sмоотнім

the chotce of a receiver. CURRENT TOPICS.

RECEIVING SETS OF TO-DAX BUYERS' GUIDE, 1930-31 theory of the valve amplifier. broadcast brevities.
letters to the editor. readers' problems.
any manufacturers who will find legitimate reasons for withholding this essential information from the purchasers of their sets

It is not enough that a circuit diagram should be included with the literature or instruction leaflet accompanying a set, since this information almost invariably goes astray in time, and is seldom available at the critical moment when some defect develops in the set. The circuit diagram should, as we suggested, be positively attached to the set, either in the lid or at the back of the cabinet in some position where it can easily be got at for reference, but from which it is not likely to be removed.

The time has long since passed when tracing out of the circuit of the receiver was only a matter of a few minutes. It is only necessary to study the pages of the present issue, the details of receivers included in the Buyers' Guide section, and the analysis of modern receiver design, to be satisfied on this score, and to realise that the task of tracing out the complete circuit must be, in some cases, a matter of two or three hours' work, even for an expert, and then accomplished only at the risk of completely dismantling some parts of the receiver in order to get access to hidden details.

Again we would urge that every manufacturer should give attention to this point, and that purchasers of receivers should insist upon the supply of a complete circuit diagram whein taking delivery of a new receiver.


# A Guide to the Choice of <br> Components for Eliminators. 

By W. T. COCKING.

(1)MOOTHING circuits are of many types, but in nearly every case their principles of operation are the same. They depend for their action upon the presence of a high impedance, represented by the choke in the choke-capacity circuit of Fig. I(a) and by the resistance in the resistance-capacity circuit of Fig. I(b), in series with a low impedance, which usually consists of a condenser. Since the total circuit impedance to alternating currents is large, only a small current flows through it.; and, consequently, only a small output of voltage is set up by the passage of this current through the low reactance condenser.
The output of a full-wave rectifier consists of a pulsating direct current, which, for the purposes of this article, can be considered as being equivalent to a pure direct current upon which are superimposed a number of alternating currents of various frequencies. The


Fis. 1.-The simplest chokecapacity smoothing circuit (a). A resistance-capacity smoothing circuit, more ling circuit, is given in (b).

> THE problem of smoothing in A.C. mains sets has been rather orershadowed of late by the attention which has been devoted to the elimination of the flament heating accumulator and the grid bias battery. This is due to the fact that there is no real difficulty in eliminating hum from the H.T. supply by the present methods, and any research into smoothing circuits must have for its object the attainment of a greater economy of apparatus. Attention is given in this article to the problem of progressive smoothing whereby each stage of a set is considered with regard to the amount of subsequent amplification.

It will be seen, therefore, that the smoothing circuits must be operative over a large band of frequencies; it is not necessary, however, to eliminate hum completely, but only to reduce it to a level which is just below audibility. Consequently, the current for the power output stage of a receiver does not require smoothing to such a great degree as that for the earlier stages, as these are followec by a large amount of amplification. It is possible, therefore, to develop proportional smoothing circuits, which give a maximum of smoothing with a minimum of apparatus. In practice, such circuits give excellent results, but it is essential that they should be designed for the particular set with which they are to be used. In general, a proportional smoothing circuit will not work well with sets other than the receiver for which it is designed.

Little data appears to be available for the design of such circuits, and it is the purpose of this article, therefore, to show methods whereby the amount of smoothing necessary in any given case can be determined, and the circuit and values of components chosen. In order to simplify the discussion, the rules and principles underlying the design will be considered in conjunction with the practical design of a filter for a particular receiver. This set will be taken to consist of an AC/HL power-grid detector coupled to a single P. 625 output valve by means


[^18]Snoot:ing. -
of a 3.5 - ratio transformer, and the detector may or may not be preceded by H.F. stages.
In Fig. 2 is given the circuit of a suitable proportional amoothing circuit for such a set, and the problem becomes one of determining the minimum values for the chokes, resistances and condensers. It will be seen that the first smoothing stage, consisting of the choke $\mathbf{L}_{1}$, and the condenser $\mathrm{C}_{1}$, smooths the whole H.T. current to the degree necessitated by the output stage; the second stage, consisting of the choke $\mathrm{L}_{2}$ and the concienser $\mathrm{C}_{2}$, provides the additional smoothing necessary for the detector and H.F. stages.

## The Detector Circuit.

Let us begin with a consideration of the detector smoothing circuit, which is comprised principally by the choke $L_{2}$ and the condenser $\mathrm{C}_{2}$. This circuit must reduce the hum which remains after the first smoothing stage to a degree sufficient to eliminate audible hum from the detector circuit. Obviously, the amount of smoothing required will depend upon the amplification given by this stage of the set, and will be greater the greater the amplification. If the first smoothing stage reduces the hum to $x$ per cent. of its musmoothed value, it must be reduced to $x / \mathrm{A}$ per cent. for the detector circuit, where $A$ is the amplification between the anode circuit of the detector and the anode circuit of the output valve. This somewhat unusual method of reckoning stage gain is necessary when considering smoothing circuits, and throughont this article the term "stage gain" must be taken to mean the amplification reckoned between adjacent anodes.

Since the total hum rediuction for the detector is $x /$ A per cent., the hum in the detector circuit must not be more than roo/A per cent. of its value in the output valve circuit ; that is, the choke $L_{2}$ and the condenser $\mathrm{C}_{2}$ must reduce lium to $100 / \mathrm{A}$ per cent.

Provided that certain assumptions be made and the effect of the receiver characteristics upon the smoothing be ignored, it can be shown mathematically that the smoothing given by any choke and condenser, the product of whose inductance and capacity is the same, will be identical. Briefly, this means that a 4 mfd . condenser and a 10 H . choke will give the same results as a 2 mfd. condenser


Fig. 3.-The approximate smoothing obtainable with any combination of inductance and capacity can be read off from these curves; the figures marked against each curve refer to the product of inductance in henrys and capacity in
microfarads for that curve.
and a 20 H . choke. This leads to a convenient method of expressing the efficacy of various combinations of inductance and capacity; and the curves of Fig. 3 give the approximate amount of hum in the output of a circuit of the type of Fig. I(a), expressed as a percentage of the input hum. The figures marked against each curve refer to the LC product for that curve, $L$ being taken in henrys and C in microfarads.

The smoothing of the resistance-capacity circuit of Fig. I(b) can be expressed in exactly the same manner, and the curves of Fig. 4 give this information; different combinations of resistance and capacity whose products are the same give the same results, and the curves are acrordingly marked in RC products, $R$ being taken in ohms and C in microfarads.

Now from an inspection of these curves we can readily choose values for the smoothing equipment, provided that the required percentage hum reduction is known. In the example, the stage gain is $2 I$, so the reduction of hum to be given by the second smoothing stage is roo $/ 21$ per cent., or 4.75 per cent. An LC product of 56 will give this degree of smoothing at roo cycles, and since this means a 28 H . chòke and a 2 mfd . condenser, we should normally choose such convenient values which are standard.

We have now to determine the smoothing necessary for the first stage; and, unfortunately, this can only be done by experiment, for the maximum permissible hum is largely dependent upon the loud speaker employed. It has been the writer's experience that with the output stage mentioned and a good reed-drive type speaker, an LC product of about 30 will give sufficient smoothing. One would usually choose, therefore, a 15 H . choke and a 2 mfd . condenser; but when a moving-coil speaker is used greater smoothing may become necessary, and it is unwise to use anything less than an LC product of 60 ; that is, a 4 mfcl . condenser with the same 15 H . choke. It will be realised that no alteration of the second smoothing stage should be necessary with this type of proportional smoothing circuit, for increasing the first stage smoothing automatically increases the smoothing of the whole receiver.

No mention has been made of decoupling in the foregoing discussion, but the inclusion of suitable circuits

Sinoothing.
is very important. In general, it may be said that a set of the type mentioned will not work satisfactorily with a proportional smoothing circuit unless thorough decoupling be included. Now the normal resistancecapacity decoupling circuits are in no way different from smoothing circuits, and, as usually connected, they add very considerably to the smoothing. The curves of


Fig. 4.-The smoothing given by a resistance-capacity circuit
can be seen from these curves; the figures marked against each curve refer to the product of resistance in ohms and
capacity in microfarads for that curve. The relative efficacy of various decoupling circuits can also be seen.
Fig. 4, therefore, may be used as a measure of the clecoupling efficiency of any resistance-capacity combination. Now an inspection of Fig. 2 shows that the second smoothing stage will apparently act as a decoupling device, the only difference from the usual circuit being the use of a choke instead of a resistance. This difference, however, is important, for the choke-capacity circuit has a resonance frequency at which there is no smoothing and no decoupling. This is not serious from the point of view of smoothing, since the usual values of components give a resonance frequency lower than the lowest hum frequency. This resonance frequency usually occurs at a frequency between to cycles and 40 cycles, and it is just this range of frequencies which is of most importance from the point of view of feed-back. Unless prohibitively large values of inductance and capacity be used, the choke-capacity circuil will not give immunity from feed-back troubles.

It will be seen, therefore, that it is necessary to include the resistance-capacity decoupling circuit comprised by
$R_{1}$ and $C_{3}$ in Fig. 2. The value of this resistance is determined by the D.C. voltage drop which can be allowed and the steady anode current of the valve; the only control over decoupling, therefore, is that afforded by a variation in the condenser capacity. It is impossible to give values for these components, since the amount of decoupling necessary will be largely dependent upon the method of coupling the loud speaker to the output valve. In the writer's opinion, the RC product of the detector decoupling circuit should not be less than 40,000 when a choke-condenser output feed to the speaker is used. This may lead to an excessively large value of capacity when power-grid detection is used, for a high resistance is often impossible, owing to the D.C. voltage drop.

## Practical Details.

It is of interest, therefore, to compare the smoothing necessary for the detector stage with the well-known circuit of Fig. 5, in which the smoothing for the different valves is completely separate. In Fig. 2 the detector smoothing circuit consisted of two choke-capacity circuits with LC products of 56 and 30 ; these give hum reductions to 4.75 per cent. and 9 per cent. respectively, or a total hum reduction to $0.0475 \times 0.09=0.00428$, or 0.428 per cent. In order to obtain this degree of smoothing in a single stage an LC product of about 640 is required; and this would mean a 4 mfd . condenser and a 160 H . choke. If, however, the smoothing given by the resistance-capacity decoupling circuit of Fig. 5 be included, the choke inductance can be considerably reduced. An RC product of 40,000 will give a hum reduction to 4 per cent., and the choke-capacity stage need only give a reduction to about 10.7 per cent. An IC product of only 28 will give this degree of smootining; it would, however, be unwise to use such a low product, and in practice one would employ a 30 H . choke, and find by experiment the smallest satisfactory value for the condenser.
With the particular receiver which has been chosen for the purposes of illustration, the smoothing circuit of Fig. 5 is likely to prove more satisfactory than that of


Fig. 2, solely on account of feed-back. The elimination of the final traces of hum, however, may prove more difficult, owing to the fact that the LC products of both smoothing branches must be increased if at any time a reduction of hum becomes necessary. With the circuit of Fig. 2, on the other hand, an increase in the LC product of the first smoothing stage is all that is required.

## Smoothing. -

The adrantages of push-pull have been often discussed in the pages of this journal, but it does not seem to be generally realised that its use is often a true economy. The smoothing required is only small, and feed-back is almost non-existent. It has been found that with unmatched P. 625 type valves an LC product of only 16 for the first filter stage will give sufficient smoothing,


Fig. 6.-A special tuned smoothing circuit; the parallel tuned circuit $L$ and at resonance, and at this frequency the smoothing while the resistance-capacity decoupling circuit of Fig. 2 can be entirely omitted. It must not be forgotten, of course, that any reduction in the first stage of series smoothing equipment must be compensated for by an increase in the second stage, as otherwise the detector will introduce hum. Sometimes, therefore, the greatest economy is obtained by using a larger LC product for the first stage than is strictly necessary, and a more usual value for the second stage.

This is the procedure adopted in the Band Pass Four receiver, in which the first smoothing stage consists of a 12 H . choke with a 2 mfd . condenser, giving an IC product of 24 and a hum reduction to II per cent. This is just about twice as much smoothing as is necessary for the output stage, but it saves using an excessively large choke for the detector stage. The second smoothing choke has an inductance of about 32 H ., and, with the 2 mfd . condenser, gives an LC product of 64 , and a lium reduction to about 4 per cent. The total detector smoothing, therefore, is about $0.04 \times 0 . \mathrm{II}=0.0044$, or 0.44 per cent., which agrees well with an experimentally found figure of 0.475 per cent.

## Tuned Smoothing.

The curves of Fig. 4 for a resistance-capacity circuit show that the smoothing given by such circuits can be very high, and a comparison with the curves of Fig. 3 for a choke-capacity circuit is interesting. It will be seen that for the same amount of smoothing at a fairly high frequency the resistance circuit is the more effective at the low frequencies. This is duc to the fact that a resistance is constant to currents of all frequencies, whereas the reactance of a choke steadily falls as the frequency is decreased ; also, there is no resonance frequency with the resistance-capacity circuit.

The practical result of this better low-frequency smoothing is evident, not so much in a reduction in hum as in a greater freedom from feed-back troubles. It is a true economy, therefore, to use reșistance-capacity circuits where the D.C. voltage drop will allow of it. Indeed, it is often of advantage to increase the voltage output of the rectifier solely to allow of, their use.

Since the principle of smoothing circuits depends upon there being a high impedance in series with a low impedance, it would appear that much better smoothing would be obtained by tuning the choke in the manner shown in Fig. 6. It will be seen that the choke L and the condenser $C$ together form a parallel resonance
circuit, and that at the resonant frequency they will be equivalent to a very high resistance. At this frequency, therefore, the smoothing is extraordinarily good; but unfortunately, at frequencies well removed from resonance, the impedance of the circuit is less than that of the choke alone, and the smoothing is then not so good.

This is shown by the curves of Fig. 7, in which curve A is for the usual circuit of Fig. $\mathrm{r}(\mathrm{a})$, with a 25 H . choke and a 2 mfd . condenser, the choke having a resistance of 750 ohms. Curve B is for the circuit of Fig. 6, and for the same value components, the condenser C having a capacity of o. 1 mfd. At roo cycles, the tuned circuit reduces the hum to 0.3 per cent., as compared with the reduction to 5.5 per cent. for the ordinary circuit--that is, it is just eighteen times as efficient. At 200 cycles,


Fig. 7.-Curve A is for an ordinary choke-capacity smoothing circuit, with a choke inductance of 25 henrys, a resistance of 750 ohms, and a 2 mfd. condenser. Curve $B$ is for a tuned smoothing circuit with the same constant as for curve A and the
choke shunted by a 0.1 mfd. condenser. Note the high degree by a 0.1 mfd. condenser. Note thething obtained at 100 cycles.
however, the tuned circuit only reduces the hum to 3.8 per cent., while the ordinary circuit gives a reduction to x .2 per cent. ; that is, at this frequency the usual circuit is about three times as good. At slightly over r40 cycles it will be seen that the curves cross and the two circuits are equally efficient.

Smoothing. -
In practice, the tuned smoothing circuit usually reduces the roo cycles hum below audibility, but introduces hum of a higher frequency which may easily be more noticeable. When used in conjunction with an ordinary circuit, however, it offers a very simple and inexpensive method of eliminating the final traces of hum from a receiver. In the circuit of Fig. 2 it should always be the second choke which is tuned, for in this position the reduction in high-frequency smoothing is the least serious. It has been the writer's experience that the tuned circuit is of little use with reed-drive type loud speakers, since the principal hum which they reproduce is of fairly high frequency, but that it may be of great value with the moving-coil speaker, which will readily reproduce the lowest hum frequencies, and which are the most difficult to remove with the ordinary circuits.
No definite design rules can be given, beyond saying that the larger the choke inductance and the lower the resistance, the better will be the smoothing at all frequencies. A large choke inductance means a smallcapacity tuning condenser, and consequently a small shunting effect upon the high frequencies; while a large ratio of inductance to capacity and a low resistance mean a high effective resistance at resonance. It should be noted that this is opposite to the ordinary circuit, where a large resistance is of advantage in smoothing. Just as with the usual circuits, the smoothing is dependent upon the capacity of the condenser $C_{1}$, and an increase in this will always increase the smoothing at all frequencies. In all cases it must be decided by experiment whether this tuned circuit will be of advantage or not; but it is well worth a trial, since when it can be used it is very economical.
It must be remembered that the methods of comput-
ing hum, and the smoothing equipment required for its elimination, which have been discussed in this article, are not strictly accurate. In the first place, the total smoothing given by two series-connected stages is not equal to the product of their individual smoothing, as has been assumed. Provided that the figures are taken at a frequency which is not close to the resonance frequency, however, the discrepancy will not be large. Secondly, in calculating the curves for choke-capacity circuits, no account has been taken of the choke resistance, which increases the smoothing, and it has been assumed that the reactance of the condenser is small compared with the choke-reactance, which is nearly true for a frequency of 100 cycles. Probably these two effects nearly balance, so that the curves are more accurate than might at first appear.
The greatest error, however, is that introduced by neglecting the effect of the receiver itself upon the smoothing circuit. It is quite impossible to include this in a general treatment; formulx could be developed to meet this case, but they would be so complex that the labour involved in working them out would be greater than that necessary to determine the best smoothing circuit experimentally. Apart from circuit analysis, the use of formula for circuit calculation is only justified when the labour involved in their solution is less than that required for finding the values experimentally.

It is thought that the methods and curves given in this article are sufficiently accurate to enable a very fair approximation to the correct values to be obtained in any given case, and it is not intended that the smoothing circuit should be completely designed by their use. Rather is it intended that the approximate values should be found quickly, and used as a basis for the final experimental determination.

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Factors to be Considered in Selecting a Receiver.

1T is probable that a large number of people-perhaps the majority-buy a particular make and type of receiver as a direct result of personal recommendations. This is an excellent plan, but, unless discrimination is used, it is fatally easy to make a wrong choice. It does not follow that a set capable of satisfying one kind of taste in one locality will prove equally suitable in the hands of another user whose needs and geographical situation-from a "wireless" point of viewmay be entirely different.
Before even considering thie various types of apparatus, it is as well to attempt to formulate some concrete ideas as to what will be required in the way of programmes. It is safe to assume that every listener wants to receive the transmissions of his local station as well as possible; those who feel the need of nothing more can be placed in a definite category, and, thanks to the excellent distribution of broadcast signals over the country, comparatively simple and inexpensive apparatus will satisfy them, unless exceptional volume is expected. Next come those who like rather more varicty, but who do not wish to expend more than is necessary to ensure occasional long-distance reception under fairly favourable conditions. Finally, there is the type of listener who regards the reception of foreign stations as being the most important consideration.
It would be misleading to suggest that a long-range receiver cannot be suitable for local-station work, but it is hardly economical to buy and to maintain a complicated super-sensitive set when little or no use is to be made of its capabilities. If only for this reason, it is as


Sets for various localities and requirements. The effects of poor receiving conditions are taken into account by allowing an ample receiving conditions are taken into account by
margin of sensitivity.
well to start with a predetermined idea as to what is wanted. Probably the majority of listeners will favour the golden nean, and will place themselves in the second of the admittedly rather arbitrary classifications set forth in the preceding paragraph.
Unfortunately, it is not possible to give, say, a tabulated list of recommended circuit arrangements for these various requirements without taking into consideration the complicating factor of selectivity, the need for which will vary from place to place. By dividing the areat around a broadcasting station into zones, as in the accompanying diagrammatic sketch, and by further dividing these zones into sections corresponding to receiver performance classifications, the suitability of various sets can be indicated pictorially. But one should hasten to add that this chart must not be relied upon implicitly as a guide; there is as yet nothing approaching standardisation of sets, and, even if uniform receiving conditions could be postulated, the distribution of signal strength around a broadrasting station is by no means uniform. In spite of the fairly obvious limitations of the chart, its indications may at least serve as indications as to what to look for in a set.

As we have alreacly assumed that the localstation listener will not expect to receive more than one programme-or two programmes if he is blessed with a "Regional" transmitter-it may be said that, for him, the problem of selectivity lardly exists. Two powerful stations can be separated by almost any modern receiver if provision is made for reducing aerial input to a sufficient extent. Accordingly, as shown on the

The Choice of a Set.-
chart, a simple detector-L.F. fwo-valve set should meet the case within the ten-mile zone; there is not the slightest reason why such a receiver, if fitted with a "power" detector and a suitable output valve, should not provide reception, within its limitations as to range, of a quality that is not to be excelled for fidelity by any other circuit arrangement; at the same time, volume should be more than ample. Signals are usually so strong in this so-called wipe-out area that an outside aerial may well be unnecessary, and a self-contained two-valve set, generally with pentode output to provide extra magnification where necessary, may be regarded as an alternative that is likely to appeal on the score of tidiness, as all external leads are eliminated.

For use in the second zone, up to ranges of 25 miles, the detector-L.F. set is still suitable, though, where receiving conditions are poor, the extra magnification of a pentode may be of advantage. If a self-contained receiver is preferred, an H.F.-det. L.F. combination with built-in frame aerial will be a safe choice.
At distances up to 50 miles-and even a good cleal more, as we are here concerned with the range of high-power stationsthe same H.F.-det.-L.F. frame set should still have a fair margin of sensitivity if of good design, but, to be on the safe side, an extra L.F. stage, making four valves in all, may be preferred. In this zone the ever-popilar H.F.-det.-L.F. aerial set comes into its own; while, where low cost and simple operation are important, a detector-2 L.F. receiver may be chosen.

The requirements of the fistener who demands occasional long-distance reception in the wipe-out area while the local station is at work are admittedly rather diffcult to satisfy. A really good frame aerial set, with two H.F. stages, will afford a reasonable choice of programines free from interference, as will the simpler and less expensive three-valve H.F.-det.-L.F. type of set, provided it is of an exceptionally selective type. On the chart the need for selectivity of an unusually high order is represented diagrammatically by the inclusion of a filter, but the suitability of other circuit-arrangements must be admitted. As interference becomes less acute with increase of range, this favourite circuit combination in its more conventional form will yield sufficient selectivity. Another "general-purpose" set capable of yielding fair results where conditions are good is the detector-2 L.F. receiver with reaction.

For consistent long-distance reception in the wipeout area. it will be nhserved that the sets suggested are


Switch change-over for alternative programmes: a type of set likely to increase in popularity among non-technical listeners, as it allows of twin-station reception without complications.
similar to those recommended for general-purpose work in the same zone, but cleatly they should be both more selective and more sensitive if their object is to be fully achieved. Similarly, the receiver indicated for use outside the ten-mile limit should be the best possible examples of their class.

With regard to general considerations, it is not out of place to remind readers that there is no longer any reason why those with electric mains should not use this source of supply for operating their sets; indeed. to depend on batteries, except in cases of necessity, must now be considered as extravagant, except in the matter of initial cost. Similarly, one should not choose a battery-fed portable unless convinced that real portability will be required; if it is merely desired to move the receiver from room to room, it should be realised that the mains-driven transportable is definitely superior in performance, and that its upkeep should be negligible.
Those living in coastal areas should insist on a set which is both selective and sensitive on the longwave side, as they will depend largely on the longwave "National" transmitter. Some designers tend to neglect this part of the receiver
Most receivers nowadays have provision for the use of a gramophone pick-up, but, if it should so happen that the set which seems to be suitable in every other respect is not so fitted, it should hardly be "turned duwn" on this score alone, as the necessary alterations can almost invariably be made without much difficulty. A radio-gramophone, with built-in recorl turntable and pick-up, is clearly more convenient than a receiver with adaptor if the apparatus is to be in constant use as a gramophone reproducer, but it is almost certain to be more expensive, due to its more elaborate cabinet-work and the cost of extra components.

## VALVE DATA SHEET

NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE will contain an attractively printed Supplemenf giving detailed working data of over 350 modern valves, together with specially written anticles dealing with the application of valves to present=day requirements.

BROADCAST RECEPTION IN LONDON CHURCH
. In all-mains wireless set has been installed in the churel of All Hallows, barking-by-the-Tower. Fach day at 10.15 a.n1. the B.S.C. morning service is received for the berefit of visitors.

## 0000

MORE ROOM IN PARIS ETHER.
The Frencl Cabinet has sanctioned the removal of two well-known Paris stations to sites outside the city. Radio-Paris and Radio Petit Parisien will be transferred to Essarts-le-Roi and Molières respectively, both in the Seine-et-Oise department.

## 0000

LISTEN FOR VATICAN TESTS.
From a report received cill Paris we learn that the Pope's new short-wate station in the Vatican City is ready for operation and is merely awaiting the provision of an electric supply by the local anthorities. Tests may he expected before the end of the month. 'I wo wavelengths are avallable, vi\%; 50.26 and 19.84 metres, and the power is 12 kilowatts.

## 0000

NEW TOWER OF BABEL ?
An " intemnational publicity station, hroadcasting advertisenents in all Emopean languages, is the am attributed to a German company which is seeking powers to control the Laxembourg station when it lamelies on it new career in eighteen montlis time with a power of 100 kilowatts.
'The onginal Laxembourg station, which ceased transmission in Jamuary last, has been dismantled, and the masts are stated to be "for sale."

## 0000

## TROUBLE IN HOLLAND

Popular discontent in Holland over the Govermment radio censorslip has not been diminished by the decision of the Second Chamber to reject a measure for the withdrawal of the existing system. Recently a seven-mile procession of Dutch listeners filed throogh the streets of Houtrust, near The Hague, in protest against the alleged monecessary suppres. sion of politics at the microphone.

0000

## CANADIAN TRAIN-TALK WITH

After five months' operation of the commercial two-way telephone service on Canadian National Railway trains between Toronto and Montreal, the anthorities are able to declare the experiments it complete success. The quality of transmission has been rated 95 per cent. perfect by the Bell Telephone Co., amd on one call placed by a passenger to be connected witl J.ondon 100 per cent. efficiency was attained.
The " wired-wireless" system is in use, employing the telegraph wires paralleling the railway track; impulses being caried to "pick-np" stations at Morrisburg and Cobourg, Ontario, from which points connection is made to Kingston and with the general system of the Bell Telephone Co. of Canada.

A further development in the use of the radio telephone is foreshadowed by the anmonncement at Montreal that the new Camadian Pacific liner, s.s. Empress of


## Events of the Week in Brief Review.

Brituin, will be provided with equipment mabling passengers to speak from their staterooms to any desired shore station in Nortla America or in Europe, or to persons at seat on board the New York liners, s.s Mfajestic, Berengaria and Teviathan. This new 42,500 -ton liner will inaugurate a five-day service between Quebec, Cherbeurg and Southanpton.

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RADIO RELAYS NOT WANTED.
The West Hartlepool Town Conncil his rejected the application of Hartlepool Rarlio Relay, Ltd., to supply broadeast programmes to subscribers in the district from a central exchange.

ANTI-NOISE DEVICE.
Possibly with the idea of excluding the somed of neighbouring loud speakers, Mr Miram lerey Mixim has perfected is device which, installed at an open window; keeps out all extemal noises without interfering with the rentilation. Mr. Maxim, who is the son of the famous gun inventor, is president of the American Radio Relay League.

## 0000

M. A NEW APPOINTMENT.
ointed to s. Nacqueen has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. R. B.
Weaver as manager of the Wireless Department of The General Electric Co., Ltcl.

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LECTURE BY MR. S. G. BROWN.
Ar. S. G. Brown. F.R.S., will lectire (with demonstrations) on "Loud Speakers since then Conception, with Grmmophone Pick-ups and Wireless Recording Apparatus at the ordinary meeting of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, W.C. 2 , on December 4 th.

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## "BROADCASTING HOUSE" FOR <br> DENMARK.

Demmark is copying the examples of Britain and Germany in the const tuction of an immense palace of broadcastipir. 'The hailding, already half completed, is in Copenhagen, and will house the State boadeasting administration, studios, and a certain amount of tramsmitting plant. Adjoining it is the old Royal Iheatre, which will form two large studios with accommodition for public audiences.

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## GRADED LICENCE FEES FOR

French crystal users will probably benefit. by a lower tax than that required of owners of valve sets. D. Mallame, French Minister of l'osts and Telegrapins, proposes an annual tax of 30 firmes (abour 5 s.) on ecystal sets and 70 frames (about 11s. 10d.) on valve sets.

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## THE PIRATES' PLAYGROUND.

That Cardiff shelters move wireless "pirates" than any other area in the country was alleged in a statement last week by Mr. A. E. Bailey, the official in charge of the Post Office eietector vas which has recently been touving Cardiff. The street patrol with the van cluring the past fortnight is stated to have vielded nearly $f 800$ in increased licence revenne.

"SOUTHERN REGIONAL." Tomorrow (Thursday) will see the opening of Germany's first regional broadcasting station at Muhlacker, near Stuttgart, working on a wavelength of 360 metres. If this Southern Regional station proves successful the German
authorfies will follow the H . R. C. plan by scrapping existing stations and installing two other giant stations to cover the remainder of the country.


## The Trend of Modern Commercial Receiver Design.

THE British wireless industry offers to the public over 350 individual designs of complete radio receivers at prices ranging from 50 s. to $£ 250$. While the majority of these fall into well-defined groups in accordance with a few favoured and well-tried specifications, distinctive receivers combining in great variety the best features of all the conventional types are not lacking. The intelligent enthusiast with definite views on the merits of rival methods of H.F. amplification, detection, and power amplification, should therefore have little difficulty in finding at least one receiver which is a practical realisation of his ideal specification. As likely as not his requirements will be satisfied by one of the main groups to which reference has already been made.
Indeed, the numerical strength of any given circuit principle or complete specification, as revealed in the Buyers' Guide, may be taken as a criterion of its intrinsic value. Originality and technical merit are not the only standards by which the value of a new development should be judged. It must remove some obvious deficiency in the general standard of reception, and must be capable of commercial production at a price commensurate with the advantages it confers.
From this point of view it is instructive to compare the outstanding features of the Show, as recorded in the
" Trend of Progress," from year to year, with the figures
provided by the "Buyers' Guide." Many excellent ideas which have stimulated the imagination at Show time, and perhaps enjoyed a short vogue, have ultimately lapsed into obscurity when put to the acid test of supply and demand. It is hardly necessary to cite specific examples in support of this contention ; the figures and graphs speak for themselves, and the reader should have no difficulty in drawing his own conclusions.

Turning first to the leading types at present in vogue, we find that the standard radio receiver, in either table model or console form, constitutes the largest class. Its numerical strength is more than twice that of any other individual type. In the majority of cases ( 65 per cent. to be precise) provision is made for the attachment of a gramophone pick-up as an accessory, on the assumption that the user is already in possession of a motor and turntable.
Next in order of importance comes the portable. Although hard pressed by the radio gramophone, it still maintaius its position as rumner-up to the standard clomestic receiver. True, there has been some diminution in numbers cluring the past twelve months, but this is accounted for by the decline of five-valve portables using two H.F. stages with aperiodic coupling. The screen-grid portable with one H.F. stage is as popular as ever, and its position has been strengthened by the


Standard receiving sets of table and console type still constitute the highest class, with portables and radio-gramophones
competing for second place

Receiving Sets of To-day.-
advent of H.T. eliminators designed to fit in the H.T. battery compartment. Receivers so fitted are virtually dual-purpose instruments, and, where provision is made for trickle charging the L.T. battery in addition to supplying H.T. current, may be regarded as mains transportables for home use.
The radio-gramophone has enormously strengthened its position, and is now only I. 5 per cent. behind the portable. Combining, as it does, the two principal sources of electrically reproduced music in a single unit of furniture, its compactness and clean exterior make a wide appeal:
Compactness and neatness are also responsible for the establishment of a new class of receiver this year-the mains transportable. In appearance and specification this new type clearly acknowledges its origin to the conventional portable. The weight of the A.C. equipment -for it is essentially an A.C. type-precludes extensive transportation, but it is easily carried from room to room in the same house. With the removal of restrictions on the power supply, which obtain in the case of batterydriven portables, the quality and volume of reproduction have been greatly improved: indeed, there are instances of mains transportables with moving-coil loud speakers as standard items of the specification.


The cost of the majority of sets lies between $\dot{f} 10$ and $£ 50$.
Three-valve sets are still the most popular, and have consistently held the same percentage now for three years. The majority are of the H.F-det.-L.F. type, which gives excellent range and volume at a reasonable price. Credit for the success of this type must be given to the valve manufacturers, for the high performance is undoubtedly due to the efficiency of the modem screen-grid valve and the pentode.
The four-stage set is next in order of importance. The figures showing the proportion of single- and twostage H.F. amplifiers indicated that the additional valve in this class is generally a low-frequency amplifier, but there are a few cases employing two H.F. stages, a detector and a single L.F. stage.
There is a marked decline this year in five-valve receivers, which is accounted for principally by the discontinuation of a number of five-valve portables with two aperiodic H.F. stages. The majority of the sets in this class are high-class receivers and radio-gramophones with two and sometimes three tuned H.F. stages.
Sets with over five stages show an increase. This class incorporates the majority of the superheterodynes
in commercial production, several of which are available in portable form.
The smallest class of all is the single-valve class, and only one receiver of this type is recorded.


While the threc-valve set has maintained its lead now for three years its position is challenged by four-valve sets which shoty a steady increase.

Nearly three-quarters of the sets on the market today employ H.F. amplification. Of these 72 per cent. make use of a single H.F. stage, primarily for economic reasons, as the production costs of screening, ganging, and adjustment associated with two or more H.F. stages are high. The expense of two H.F. stages is justified only where exceptional range or selectivity is required, and, in general, the single stage is quite adequate for foreign station reception outside a 5 to 10 mile radius of a regional station. As the majority of receivers are installed outside this area, the popularity of the single H.F. stage is readily understood.

The effect of the decline of the aperiodic-coupled portable is again apparent in the relation between the methods of H.F. coupling. Last year aperiodic coupling constituted the highest class; to-day it is the lowest. Tuned anode is the most favoured individual class of coupling, but it is outnumbered by the combined tuned transformer and tuned grid couplings. The incidental advantages in the matter of the reduction of hum in mains receivers are responsible for the increased popularity of the latter systems of coupling.

It is gratifying to find that more than half of the receivers on the market to-day have only a single tuning control, i.e., excluding reaction and other auxiliaries. Of the single-control sets approximately 60 per cent. employ ganged condensers, the remainder being fitted with side-by-side drum dials which may be rotated either simultaneously or independently.


The introduction of power grid detection has checked the rise in popularity of the anode bend detector.


[^19]
## Receiving Sets of To-day.-

The art of manipulating two tuning controls is not difficult to acquire, and we therefore find that nearly all the remaining sets are fitted with two tuning controls. The fact that only 3 per cent. have threc or more tuning controls is indicative of the enormous increase in the difficulty of manipulating tuning controls when their number is higher than two.

The leaky grid detector shows no signs of being ousted from the premier position among systems of rectification. Efficiency is essential in the popular three-valve circuit (H.F.-det-L.F.), to which reference has already been made, and leaky grid rectification is invariably employed in this circuit. The numerical strength of the three-valve set is, therefore, one of the chief reasons for the high percentage of leaky grid detectors. Anodebend detection shows a decline, owing to the introduction of the new power grid system of rectification. This system has been made possible by the large number of mains-operated receivers in which the necessarily, high anode voltage is readily obtainable.

## Volume Controls.

Only 12 per cent. of the total number of receivers available are without any form of reaction control. Reaction is still the principal method of volume control, though many receivers employ pre- and post-detector volume controls in addition to reaction. The most popular forms of pre-detector volume control are potentiometer control of the screen-grid voltage, filament dimming in the H.F. stages, and last but not least, the use of a differential condenser in the aerial circuit. The

A.C. mains receivers now out number battery-fed sets, and
D.C. mains receivers show a marked increase.
majority of post-detector volume controls take the form of a potentiometer grid leak (in conjunction with the first L.F. valve, where R.C. coupling is employed) and a variable resistance in parallel with the primary where transformer coupling is employed.
Sets with a single L.F. stage account for slightly more than half the total number available. Again, the popular H.F.-det.-L.F. set is responsible, and the high amplification provided by the pentode should be given dite credit.

Less than I per cent. are provided, with three L.F. stages, and the remainder ( 43 per cent.) have two L.F. stages. Greater reserve of power and volume is available with two stages, and the circuit lends itself better to the employment of parallel or push-pull valves in the output stage. In the majority of two-valve L.F.
amplifiers the first stage is resistance-coupled and the second transformer-coupled.
If L.F. couplings are examined irrespective of the number of stages in the L.F. amplifier it will be found that transformer couplings are responsible for more than three-quarters of the total. Resistance-capacity coupling


The valve is now the most favoured form of rectifier in A.C. power supply units.
accounts for 14 per cent., so that the relation between transformer and resistance-coupling remains practically unchanged from last year.
The advent of small transfomers with nickel iron cores is responsible for a new form of coupling, i.e., the resistance-capacity-fed transformer in which the direct component of the anode current is by-passed from the primary winding. These couplings have rapidly risen to 6.5 per cent., while choke-coupling and other miscellaneous forms of coupling are down to 0.5 per cent.
The triode output valve continues to hold its own, and outnumbers the pentode by more than 2 to 1 . As yet, hosvever, the new indirectly heated power pentodes have hardly had time to make their presence felt, and there is every reason to believe that in the near future the odds will be shortened. For super-power reproduction paralleled output valves seem more popular than valves arranged in push-pull, and the percentages of both these methods are extremely low owing to the excellent characteristics of single power valles of large power-handling capacity.

## Loud Speaker Output Couplings.

With regard to loud speaker feeds, although the clirect method of coupling still predominates there is a marked increase both in choke-filter and transformer couplings ; this is accomnted for by the increase in the number of mains sets now available. Choke-filter-led transfomer couplings are also more numerous, due to the fact that many proprietary makes of moving-coil loud speaker are fitted with a built-in transformer.

Sixty per cent. of the receivers on the market to-day are designed exclusively for mains operation. Of those 44.5 pec.cent, are designed for the A.C. supply mains, ind these constitute the largest class.

Meta! cabinets are reduced in numbers from 28 per cent. to 4 per cent., while the wood cabinet, which has always constituted the largest class, has increased from 72 per cent. to So per cent. The new-type moulded cases shown at Olympia constitute 3.5 per cent. of the total, and we may safely expect an increase in this percontage during the coming season.

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Buyers Guide, 1950-31.-


THE WIRELESS WORLD, November 19th, 19io.

Buyers' Guide, 1930-31.-




Indirectly Heated A．C
Directly Heated A．C．

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## Radio Gramophone． Portable． Mains Transportalile <br> 


THE WIRELESS WORLD, November Iglh, $1 \varsigma 30$.
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# Some Aspects of Resistance=Capacity Coupling. 

By S. O. PEARSON, B.Sc., A.M.i.E.E.<br>(Continued from page $j 60$ of previous issue.)

HAVING given in outline the general method of coupling two valves in cascade where some form of impedance is connected in the anode circuit of the first valve and where the actual coupling is effected through the medium of a condenser, the next step is to analyse the circuit and resolve it into a simple equivalent A. C . circuit with the object of clarifying the method of calculation with different types of external anode impedance, and of showing the effect of cach component on the circuit as a whole.

The general type of circuit referred to is represented by Fig. I, the impedance in the anode circuit of the first valve being for the present treated as a noninductive resistance for the sake of simplicity. As pointed out previously, the properties of the amplifier depend to a very large extent on the nature of this anode impedance. The possible alternative arrangements will be treated both theoretically and numerically in due course.

An important fact to be borne in mind is that the current passing between the anode and cathode (or filament) inside the first valve also passes round the external circuits between the same two clectrodes. A current always flows round a completely closed loop.

Now, if we cxamine the circuit of Fig. I, ignoring for the present the portions of the circuit shown by dotted lines, we find that there are two separate and distinct external circuits between the anode and cathode of the first valve. One passes from the anode P , through the anode resistance R , and thein through the H.T. battery back to the cathode. The other circuit passes from P , via the coupling condenser $C_{1}$, through the grid - leak resistance $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ and the grid bias battery G.B., and thence to the cathode. It is assumed at the present stage that no current can flow between the grid and cathode of the second valve.
Obviously, then, to all outward appearances, there are two external circuits in parallel between the anode and cathode of the first valve. One consists of a iesist-
ance (K) and a battery (H.T.) in series, and the other is made up of a condenser $\left(C_{1}\right)$, a resistance ( $R_{1}$ ), and a battery (G.B.) in series. Now, under working conditions the current in the lead coming from the anode of the valve is a pulsating one equivalent to the sum of a D.C. component and an A.C. component.

Direct current cannot pass along a circuit with a condenser in series, and therefore the whole of the D.C. component is constrained to flow round the main anocle circuit. On the other hand, a condenser does not preront the passage of an alternating current, but merely opposes it to an extent depending on the frequency of the current and the capacity of the condenser. Therefore, the alternating component of potential difference between the point P and the common "earth " wire to which the cathocles and batteries are connected will drive an alternating current through the coupling circuit $C_{1} R_{1}$ and an alternating component through the main circuit via the H.T. battery.

## A Simple Equivalent Circuit.

Actually, we are only concerned with the alternating components of current and voltage, and therefore, in devcloping an equivalent simplified circuit, we cas leave out all such items as have no effect whatever on the alternating quantities. For instance, a battery with negligibly small resistance has no influence on the passage of an alternating component of cur-rent-it is merely responsible for the D.C. compo-nents-and therefore no batteries need to be included in the equivalent circuit as applied to the A.C. components only.

The part of the circuit between the cathode and the anode inside a valve can be represented by a resistance $\mathrm{R}_{a}$ and a source of alternating E.M.F., whose magnitude is $\mu \mathrm{V}_{g}$ volts, where $\mathrm{R}_{a}$ is the A.C. resistance of the valve, $\mu$ is the amplification factor, and $V_{g}$ is the R.M.S. value of the alternating signal voltage applied between the grid and cathode. At the present stage it will be assumed that

The Theory of the Valve Amplifier.-
any capacity which might exist between the anode and cathode, and any other stray capacities between different parts of the circuits, produce effects which are sufficiently small to be neglected. For tow frequencies this is literally true.

In building up the equivalent A.C. circuit we start with the source of alternating electromotive force $\mu \mathrm{V}_{q}$, in series with it being $R_{a}$, the A.C. resistance of the valve, as shown by the left-hand portion of Fig. 2 (a). The circuit then divides into two branches, one being the external anode circuit resistance R (the H.T. battery' is. omitted, as it has no effect on the alternating component of current), and the other being the coupling cuit $\mathrm{C}_{1} \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{d}}$. Both branches lead back to the cathode from whence we started in tracing through the circuit, and therefore these branches come together again, joining the common "earth" wire. We then have the completely closed circuit, as shown in Fig. 2 (a).

The branch $\mathrm{C}_{1} \mathrm{R}_{1}$, being comprised of a resistance and a condenser in series, has an impedance which depends on the frequency of the current. If the frequency is $f$ cycles per second, the reactance of the condenser is $X_{c}=I / 2 \pi f C$, ohms. Now, resistance and reactance in series must always be added together as though they were two quantities represented by two straight lines mutually at right angles (sce Wireless World, December Inth, 1929, page 654), and the impedance of the branch $C_{1} R_{1}$ is therefore given by $Z_{1}=$ $\sqrt{\mathrm{R}_{1}{ }^{2}+\mathrm{X}_{c}{ }^{3}}$ ohms. But, since the alternating voltage applied between the grid and the cathode of the second valve is actually that set up between the ends of the grid leak resistance $R_{1}$, it follows that in practice the reactance $X_{c}$ of the coupling condenser $C_{1}$ is arranged to be small compared with the resistance $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ at the lowest frequency likely to be met with. This is done in order that as little as possible of the available voltage shall be wasted in overcoming the reactance of the condenser. Thus, in all normal cases the reactance $\mathrm{X}_{c}$ may be neglected in comparison with the resistance $\mathrm{R}_{1}$, and the equivalent circuit can therefore be still further simplified by omitting $C_{1}$, as shown at (b) in Fig. 2, the impedance of the branch being simply equal to $\mathrm{R}^{\prime}$, ohms.

The circuit of Fig. 2 (b) is the simplest possible equivalent to the circuit between the two valves, being based on the assumption that the effects of the internal valve capacities and other stray capacities are negligibly small, this assumption being justifiable if the frequency is sufficiently low.

Under these conditions Fig. 2 (b) shows that the effec tive resistance of the external anode circuit is equal to the combined resistance of $R$ and $R_{1}$ in parallel. Thus, if $R^{\prime}$ is the resultant resistance, $\frac{\mathrm{I}}{\mathrm{R}^{\prime}}=\frac{\mathrm{I}}{\mathrm{R}}+\frac{\mathrm{I}}{\mathrm{R}_{1}}$ or $\mathrm{R}^{\prime}=$
$\frac{R_{1}}{R+R_{1}}$ ohms, and the theoretical voltage amplification obtained is given in the ordinary way, as previously explained, by $n=\frac{\mu R^{\prime}}{R^{\prime}+R_{a t}}$ very approximately at low frequencies.

## Numerical Example.

As a practical case let us assume that the first valve has an amplification factor of $\mu=35$ and an A.C. resistance of 15,000 ohms. Let the anode resistance $R$ be 200,000 ohms, or 0.2 megohm, and the grid leak resistance be I megohm. Then, assuming no loss of voitage due to the coupling condenser, the effective resistance of the external anode circuit will be

$$
\mathrm{R}^{\prime}=\frac{0.2 \times 1.0}{0.2+1.0} \times 10^{6}=
$$ 167,000 ohms, and the stage gain in voltage is therefore

$$
\begin{gathered}
n=\frac{\mu \mathrm{R}^{\prime}}{\mathrm{R}^{\prime}+\mathrm{R}_{a}}= \\
\frac{35 \times \mathrm{I} 67,000}{\mathrm{I} 67,000+15,000}=32 . \mathrm{I}
\end{gathered}
$$

If the effect of the gricl resistance is ignored the calculated stage gain is

$$
\frac{\mu \mathrm{R}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}_{4}}=\frac{35 \times 200,000}{215,000}=
$$

32.56, which is just a little higher than the actual valuc. Under these conditions the discrepancy is so slight that one would be justified in choosing the shorter and simpler method of calculation, but in cases where the main anode resistance $R$ is of the same order of magnitude as the grid leak resistance $R_{1}$, the influence of the latter becomes too great to be neglected, and the stricter method of calculation must be applied.

## Effects of Valve Capacities at High Frequencies

The simplified circuit of Fig. 2 (b) is a combination of three non-inductive resistances, free from capacity; hence the simplicity of the calculation. The results obtained in this manner are quite accurate at low frequencies because stray capacities are then negiigible in their effects. But at radio frequencies this is by no means tric. In particular, the capacity which exists between the anode and cathode of the first valve and between the grid and cathode of the second valve exerts a considerable influence, causing a reduction of the effective impedance of the external anode circuit as the frequency is raised. These inter-electrode capacities can he represented by an imaginary condenser $\mathrm{C}_{a}$ connected between the anode and cathode of the first valve and a condenser $\mathrm{C}_{a}$ between the grid and cathode of the second valve, as shown by the dotted portions of the circuit in Fig. I, the valves themselves then being assumed to possess no internal capacity.

Obviously, a condenser connected in sucl: a position as $C$ a will provide a third branch along which a portion of the high-frequency current will flow between anode and cathode. The higher the frequency the greater will

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## The Theory of the Valve Amplifier.

be the fraction of the total radio frequency anode current by-passed in this manner, and wasted as far as voltage production across the anode resistance itself, and across the grid-leak resistance, is concerned. Similarly, the conclenser $\mathrm{C}_{\boldsymbol{a}}$ will by-pass some of the current, which would otherwise flow through $\mathrm{R}_{1}$, resulting in still further recluction of the output voltage.

The equivalent A.C. circuit corrected for high frequencies is given in Fig. 3 (a), where $\mathrm{C}_{\boldsymbol{a}}$ represents the anode-to-cathode capacity of the first valve and its associated circuits, and $\mathrm{C}_{g}$ represents the grid-to-cathode capacity of the second valve. Now, in this diagram, $\mathrm{C}_{a}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{q}$ are actually in parallel, and they can therefore be replaced by a single imaginary condenser whose value is $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}=\mathrm{C}_{a}+\mathrm{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$. Similarly, R and $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ are in parallel and can be regarded as a single resistance $R^{3}=\frac{R R_{1}}{R+R_{1}}$ ohms. Hence the circuit can be still further simplified, as shown at (b) in Fig. 3

## Further Calculations

The complete numerical calculation of a circuit such as that of Fig. 3 (b) is by no means easy in spite of its appearance, because there are different phase angles to be taken into account. Perhaps the best scheme is to work backwards, assuming, say, 2 volts (R.M.S.) to be developed across $\mathrm{R}^{1}$, which will be supposed to have the same value as before, namely, 167,000 ohms. The current in $\mathrm{R}^{1}$ is, therefore, $\mathrm{A}_{1}=\frac{2}{167}=0.012$ milliamps, and is $i n$ phase with the voltage $V$ between the ends of R'. Supposing the total stray capacity $C^{1}$ to be 10


Fig. 3.-A.C. circuits equivalent to the intervalve circuit of Fig. 1 at high irequencies, showing the effect of the internal valve capa-
cities. In (b) $C$ ' stands for $C_{n}$ and $C$ in parallel and $R$ for $R$ and $\mathbf{R}_{1}$ in parallel.
micro-microfarads, the reactance of $\mathrm{C}^{1}$ at $10^{66}$ cycles per second (corresponding to a wavelength of 300 metres) will be $\frac{1}{2 \pi f \mathrm{C}^{1}}=\frac{10^{12}}{2 \pi \times 10^{6} \times 10}=15,900$ ohms. The lost current due to unwanted capacity is therefore $A_{2}=\frac{2}{15.9}=0.120 \mathrm{~mA}$.; and this leads the voltage by a quarter of a cycle, as we are dealing with a condenser.

The individual currents $A_{1}$ and $\AA_{2}$, being a quarter of a cycle out of phase, can be represented by two straighí lines or vectors mutually at right angles, as in Fig. 4. The resultant or total current $A$ is therefore given by:-
$\mathrm{A}=\sqrt{\overline{\mathrm{A}_{1}^{2}+\mathrm{A}_{2}^{2}}}=\sqrt{0.012^{2}+0.126^{2}}=0.1266 \mathrm{minliamps}$.

The total effective impedance of the external anode circuit is equal to the ratio of the voltage developed across it to the current in it, namely,

$$
Z^{1}=\frac{V}{A}=\frac{2 \times 1000}{0.1266}=15,800 \text { ohmis, }
$$

which is very little more than the A.C. resistance of the valve itself.

Thus at a frequency of a million cycles per second the effective impedance of the external portion of the anode circuit is reduced to about one-eleventh part of the value at low frequencies, namely, 167,000 ohms, although the stray capacity responsible for the reduction was assumed to be only to $\mu \mu \mathrm{F}$. In fact, with resistance-capacity coupling, the inherent capacities of the valves are the controlling factors in determining the anode circuit impedance at radio frequencies

The result of the last


Fig. 4. - Rotating vectors showing the phase relationships of the currents in the
circuit of Fig. 3 (b). calculation provides sufficient evidence to show clearly that resistance-capacity amplification is not a practical proposition at radio frequencies. Under the circumstances, no useful object will be served by calculating the actual voltage amplification obtained, this being fortunate because the different phase angles in the external and internal parts of the anode circuit render the process rather involved.
(To be concluded.)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19th.

Muswell Hill and District Radio Society.-At \& p.m. At Tollington school, letherdown, N.10. Lecture by Mr: J. L. Hompson, wilh remonstration of Cossor sets.
North Middlesex Radio Society.-At St. Paul's Institute, Winchmore Hill. N.2. Lecture: "Short Wave Work," by Mr. A. J. Hall (of Messis. Phips Lamps, Lt (d.).
Totteninam Wireless Society,-At 10 , Bruce Grove, N.17. Film, "Radio Record,' 'shown lyy Messrs. Ensign, Ltd

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th
Edinburgh and District Radio Society,-At 8 p.in. Lecture: "Grid Pover Betection," hy Mr. J. N. Fordyce.
Ilford and District Radio Society.-At the Wesleyan Institute, Geveland Road, High Koad. Visit of the southend and bistrict Radio Societ Demonstration of radiogram apparatus by the Chairman, Mr. A. Newman.
Slade Radio (Birmingham).-At 8 p.m. At the Parochial Hall, Pivoont field Roid, Frdington. Analysis of design and operation of at s.ci datector and power-stage receiver, conducted by Mr. N. B. Sinmonds

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st

Radio Society of Great Britain.-At G p.m. At the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, W.C.2. Lecture by Mr. Woodhall, of the M-L Magneto Co., Ltd.
Bristol and District Radio Society. - At 7.15 p.m. In the Geographical Lecture Theatre, University of Bristol. Lecture and Film: "Metal Rectifiers," presented by the Westinglouse Brake and Saxby Signal Co., Ltal.
Golders Green and Hendon Radio Society.-At 8.15 p.m. First Club Dinnce. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 th.
Bec Radio Society (Streatham),-At 7.30 p.m. At Bee Selioul, Becchernft Road, S.W.17. Lantern Lecture: "All Mains Working." by Mi. F. Youle, B.Sc., of the Marconiphone Co., Ltd. (It is regretted that, under "Forthcoming Events" in ovi lmst issuce.
Dr. N. W. MeLachlan's demonstration before the Tcnsbury Radio Society was inaduertently announced for November $12 t h$ instead of Norcmber 13 m , the acturl date of the cient. Ire apologise to all uho may have beci inconrenienced by the mistake.)
"Broadcasting House " from Within.
From the seventh floor of Broadcasting House the view is good, both horizontally and vertically. ertically because, a sky loaks cleaner than froin the pavemeul, 100 ft . below.
My arrival on the seventh floor was the climax to a delightful upward pilgrinage a few days ago from the basement 60 ft . below ground level, in company with Mr. Tudsbery, the B.B.C.'s civil engineer.

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Is the Place Big Enough ?
A confession mast be made. Viewed from the street the building convays the nischievous impression that it will not $k$ e quite big enough for its job. But the illusion-for surely it is an illusion-is more or less dispelled when one visits the interior and notes that Broadcasting House is built under, as well as on, the site.

## 0000

## Artificial Ventilation.

One descends 60 feet into the catacombs, where already two huge boilers and a number of oil-fuel tanks are in place and preparations are being made for the installation of the rentilation plant which will force refrigerated iil throughout the sound-insulated portion of the building. Air conduits, specially lined with felt to subdue the roar of the forced draught, already coil around the corridor ceilings like sei serpents, and are beginning to rear up the central tower, which will house the studios.

## Independence.

One imagines that the place is being built to withstand a siege, for not only has a 600 fi . artesian well been sunk to provide an independent water supply, but room las been found in this basement for a Diesel lighting plant which in an emergency will render the B.B.C. independent oi the electricity mains. And a floor ligher, stowed away beneath the sloping auditoritum of the large studio, will be the canteen which could surely sustain a multitude for weeks.

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## The Large Studio.

The design of the large studio is already apparent. In floor area it is slightly smaller than the temporary studio at Big Tree Wharf, but being much loftier (two floors, in fact), it has a greater cubic capacity; and it is not difficult to imagine that the tiers of the seats could hold a thousand visitors with ease.

Below the level of the street are a number of echo rooms, placed side by side, with special sound resisting walls. 0000

## The Studio Tower.

To aroid the transmission of unwanted sounds the central tower contains no vertical steelwork, and is therefore constructed of extra strong and heary brick. Climbing from floor to flow among the girders one can still distinguish the tower, but it is being rapidly surromaded by the outer shell containing the offices for the staff.


By Our Special Correspondent.

## The Problem of the Niche.

Sir John Reith's room was pointed out to me. The "D.G." will have an inspiring view down Regent Strect from the window just above the niche which crowns the main entrance. By the way, the filling of this niche seeins to be arousing some controversy; at least one very "daring" piece of statuary has already been declined with thanks.

## 0000

## Almost a Ship.

Just ontside Sir John Reith's window is a balcony almost analogous to the captain's bridge on a ship.
"The building is almost a ship," Mr.

"HROADCASTING HOUSE," TAKES SHAPE. A new photograph, showing the main entrance viewed fromi the sollth.

Thidsbery told me. "The foundations were surrounded by water, so we constrmeted a hall of concrete."

## 0000

"For this Relief, Much Thanks."
Amopos the aiamis of last week regarding the declaration that the Governmient had been asked to consider the use of the broadcasting licence surplus for the provision of a National Theatre, the Postmaster-General has given a reassuring answer in the House of Commons. In a reply to Tht. Com. Kenworthy, Mr. LeesSmith stated hat no scheme had been submitted to his department tor subsi-
dising a natioual theatre from the wireless licence surplus.

## The Royal Broadcaster.

Jisteners will again hear the Prince of Wales at the microphone on December 16th when His Royal Highness will broadcast a speech following the banquet of the Incorporated Sales Managers Associations.

## Radio Drama.

"A play it week " seems to be the New Fear motto of the B.B.C.'s dramatic clepirtment.

The first week of January will witness a broadcast pertormance of "The Key of the Situation," a play by Lance Sieveking, to be followed a week later by "The Path of Glory," the work of L. du Garde Peach. "Mackintoslh," id radio play adapted from a story by Somerset Maugham, will figure in the programmes for the third week of Jannary, and in the last week of the nionth Shakespeare's "Richard II" will be broatcast.

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## A "G.B.S." Play.

Farly in the spring bernard Shaw's "Yon Never Can 'Fell" will be produced at the microphone under the direc tion of Cecil Lewis.
"You Never Can Tell" takes an hour and three-quarters to perform, but I understand that an appropriate interval will be introduced to ease the strain on the listener's attention.

## $000=$

## The Troubles of Tatsfield.

Mysterious interference on Daventry's long wave has recently been troublinge the engineers at Tatstield. They wert asked to find the culprit, but the difficulty las in identifying him while Daventry was transmitting; always when the 1.3.C. station was silent the foreigner was also oft the ether.

## 0000

## An Offender in Turkey.

$\Lambda$ suitable opportunity seemed to he available during the B.B.O.'s silent period on Sundias between 6.15 and 8 p.m., so a watch was kept on November 2 nd, but without result. On November 9 th, however, a distant transmitter was picked up during the silent period, working almost on Daventry's wavelength, viz., 1,554 metres. The culprit was identified as Angora (Ankara) in Turkey, which has no business on any other wavelength but 961 metres.

The Union Internationale de Radiofusion is chastising Angora together with several other recent offenders, including Kosice, Limoges, Tallina, Falun and 'Turin.

## 000

Northern Regional Soon Testing.
The 13.13.C. engineers report that constructiomal work on the Northern Regional station at Slaithwaite is now complete. The erection of the Diesel engines, motor generator sels and both tramsmitters is expected to be completed by the end of November, so we may expect pieliminary tests hefore Christmas.

## Letters to the Editor.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.
Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, "The Wireless Wcrld," Dorset. House, Tudor Street, E.C.4, and must be accompanied by the writer's name and address.

## CIRCUIT DIAGRAMS AND SERVICE.

Sir, Whilst reading the November $5 \mathrm{tl}_{1}$ issue of your valuable Tournal the writer was particularly struck liy the contents of your Editorial. Certainly there is no reason why Circuit Diagrams should not be attached to the lids, or the backs of receivers. This omission in the past; camnot, as you remark, be easily explained. There is nothing to hide, and much to gain, and the manufacturer cught to have used this method of service assistance.

As you are aware, we manufacture yearly many thousands of receivers, and do all our servicing by correspondence, sending circuit diagrams when requested, but your remarks have awak. ened us to the fact that many a customer could get valuable assistance from a technical, or semi-technical, friend, if a circuit diagrain were immediately available. Many people would no donbt value a diagram if they had it, but wonld not tronble to send for it, preferring to return the receiver.

Thanks fo your bringing this matter to our notice, again we must mark against ourselves the fact that these diagrams should never have been onitted. We are now printing suitable diagran cards, which, when ready, will be attached to all new leceivers.

> For J. G. Graves, Ltd., Vireless Manufacturing Dept., G. Bafshaw.

Sheflield. G. Bagshaw, Fngineer' and Manager.

## PITCH OF THE HUMAN WHISTLE.

Sir.-Fiom recent correspondence in The Wireless World it would appear that the future of the nation depends largely upon the lowest frequency of the human (male! !) whistle. Messrs. Coombs, Fleming and Pile have obtained the correct answer (except for a few cycles) by "beat" methods-using pure tones. It only remains to give an oscillograple record which shows the wave form and enables the firequency to he found accurately.


## Oscillogram showing frequency and wave form of lowest whistled note obtained by G. A.V. Sowter, R.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.

A representative record was made by G. A. V. Sowler, B.Sc., and is reproduced herewith. To assist in producing the lowest frequency, a $500 \sim$ note was faintly sounded by a L.S. just hehind the soloist. This prevented him from whisthing sharp ! The whistle was simultaneonsly recorded alongside a $500^{\circ}$ ~ valie produced oscillation alibrated by a $500 \sim$ fork. The whistle is $492 \sim$, ie., $20 \sim$ below ppper $C$. Mr. Sowter can whistle slighty below this, but he is then barely audible. The wave form is substantially sinusoidal, showing the pure and flute-like warble of the performer.

The difficulty in obtaining beats with the pianoforte is due to
a preponderance of overtones, as explained by the above writers. I find, however, that beats can be secured with C ${ }^{112}$ ( 2048 ~) where overtones are less powerful. Whistling down the scale one stops about $\mathrm{C}^{1}(512 \sim)$.
The question of "foundation" given by lower frequencies is of great importance in orchestral and organ music. During demonstrations of the "Novotone" to the I.E.E. at Liverpool, thie R.S.G.B. at Savoy Place in 1929, and at the Physical Society Exhibition in 1920, I showed the effect of reproducing separately the registers below $150 \sim$ and above $400 \sim$. With the lower register alone, music had no character, and a conversation could le conducted with ease near the L.S. With the upper register alone conversation was difficult and the reproduction decidedly irritating. Although the greater acoustic energy resides in the lower recrister, the upper register causes a more acute mental effect. Rongh tests approximating to the above can be made as tollows : Eliminate the upper register by shunting a large condenser across the primary of the L.S. transformer; eliminate the lower registor by putting a small condenser in series with the speaker.

Referring to the letter by Mr. Coombs. Since a pure note of $16 \sim$ is inatudible, it would not be reproduced andibly by a J.S. It may be of interest to state that sound radiation of 1 watt at $32 \sim$ from a flat dise 8 in. diameter requires a total axial excursion of about 7 cm . At $16 \sim$ the excursion is about 28 cm . No commercial M.C. speaker can emulate this. Large excursions of the M.C. due to low frequencies are accompanied by overtones catused by (a) restriction of amplitude by, and inelastic restoring force of the surround or centering device, or both; (bi) reduction ot the field inside and outside the magnet. The variation in magnetic field will be treated in a torthcoming article. Close study of the M.C. speaker enhances one's scientific interest, but destroys one's sense of musical enjowment?
N. W. Mclichlan.

London, S.W. Nov. 6th.

## RADIO SERVICING.

Sir,-In connection with your editorial on the subject of servicing in a recent issue of The Wrireless Wurld, we wish to point out that we have been running courses of instruet ion for radio-gramophone dealers, salesmen and service men for over twelve months. These conrses were started last September at the request of the Gramophone Company, but, of course, they are open to aryone who is qualified to benefit by the instruction given.
The course consists of lecture-demonstrations and practical work in the electrical and wireless laboratories, and lasts from September to April.
The lectures are given with the idea of presenting to the student the basic principles underlying the working of much of the apparatus found in an electrical radio-gramophone model, with particular reference to methods of testing and to the answering of questions likely to be asked by prospective customers.
The practical laboratory work is designed to suit the needs of the service man in particular, and lere the student works throngh a carefully graduated series oin experiments with the riew to familiarising him with electrical circuins, measuring instroments, and methods of testing. Our aim is to educate rather than the student should learn by mere usage.

With reference to the last paragraph of your article, there is not at present any certificate of competence awarded by a recognised external examining body, except those awarded in Radio Communication by the City and Guilds of London Institute. which requirs a fuller course of study extending over a period of three years.
W. H. D.ITE

The Polvtechnic, Electrical Engineering Wireless Scction.
Department, 309, Regent Street, W.1.
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## Technical Information.

## A Use for "End Cells."

My 100-volt house-lightin! balfery is already being used (in conjunction with H.T. accumnlutors) for the supply of anode current, mid I wn now wondering whether it would not. be possible to use it conveniently for recharginti my 2 -volt L.T', accumu:lutor. T'Le lightin! plemt has a totnl of fifty-two large celld, but only fill! are in regmlar use; the remainin!! two end cells are intended for re!nlutin! purposcs. Hould it not be passible to use these cells (which normatly do no work) for charging the accummlotor, and if so, what ralue of resistunce should be connected in oralor to give a cherying rate of 1 ampere?
T. C. W.

This is quite a practical suggestion, and good rather than harm should be done to these extra cells by using them for charging. A resistance of 2 ohms will be required

## Replacing Old Valves.

Emphusis has recently been lairl on the fact that the new season's ralves are considerably improved in detail as compared with those of last year: locs not this mean that instability might well be produced by fittin!! 1930-1931 S.G. high-frequency. ralves, in place of those produced in 1929, in rereiver of the same date?
D. R. McD.

## hULES.

The free service of THE WHIELEAS WORLD Technical Information Department is only available to registered readers and subseribers. A registration form can be obtained on application to the publishers.
(1.) Every communication to the Information Deparyment must bear the reader's registration number.
asingle specific question (which must deal with a single specific point) can be answered. Letters must be concisely wo
mation Deptrtnent.'
(3.) Queries must be written on one side of the paper and diagrams draun on a separctic sheet. 4 self-addressed stamped cnvelope $m 21 / l$ be enclosed for postal reply.
(4.) Designs or circuit diagrams for complete receivers or eliminators camnot ordinarily be: iven; under present-day conditions justice cannot be done to questions of this hind in the course a ) Pra
(5.) Practic
(6.) Designs for components such as L.T. cholies, power transformers, complex coil assem. blies, etc., cannot be supplied.
(7.) Queries arising from the construction or operation of receivers mist be confined to constructional sets described in "The Wivelcss World" "to standard manufactured reccivers: or to " kit" sets that have been reriewed uspil in lheir original form and nol cmbodifing modificutions.


It is fortunate for all users of " H.F." sels that your assumption is incorrect. If manufacturers had merely improved the mutual conductance of their new screen-grid valves, there would be a risis that uncontrollable self-oscillation would result if they were used in receivers designed for less efficient ralves. But the important point is that improvements in mutual conductance have in nearly every case been accompanied by a corresponding reduction in residual inter. electrode capacity; consequeutly, the latest valves can in most cases be used in place of their less-efficient predecessors with an actaal improvement in results.

## 0000

## Power Grid Detection.

Is it libely that the performance of the "Banit-I'as.s Three" would be and versely affected by modifying the aclector so that it may act on the "power arid" principle? I intend to use butlery ralces, but the anode cincuit will be from 200-rolt. D.U' mains. T'. L R.
Whe detector-L.F. portion of this receiver can be modified to ahost any ilesired extent, and the use of a power nrid detector is certainly permissible. But we should draw your attention to the fact that special probloms are likely io be encountered when :mattemp is made to pat this system of detection into operibtion in conjunction with a comparatively low-roltage source of H.'T'. supply; sug gestions for overcoming these difficulties will be given in an article to lee pultlished very shortly in the pisges of this jourmal.

0000

## At the Low-potential End.

/ intend to conanect permanculty a milliammeter (reading 0-10) in the delec-tor-anolle circuit of my Band-pass Hour receiver, as $l$ rem told that this is a use/ul help in adjusting and thening the receiver. Will it he correct to insert the meter in the learl letween the chol:e U $_{3}$ and the resist ince $R_{8}$. I). S. 0

Although a detector anode milliammeter is ly no means essential, it is certainly a useful aid when making initial adjustments, and subsequently when operating the receiver: The instmment wom,d

The Service is subject to the rules of the Department, which are printed below: these must be strictly enforced in the interest of readers themselves. $A$ selection of queries of general interest is deall with below.
prolably operate quite satisfactorily if connected in the position yon describe, bit it would be much better to insél it at the point of lowest signal potential: this means that it should be joined helween the resistance $R_{8}$ attd the H.T. positive bus-bar (as shown in Fig 1). In this position it is impossible for it to cause instability.


Fig. 1.-The "Band-Pass Four" : correct position for a detector anode milliammeter.

## Suitable for Eliminator Feed.

Aly sel, built in the driys when neut ralisa. tion wers popular, has " halemeent triode $11 . H^{\prime}$ valve, anode beurl detection, and a single resistance-coupled L.l'. stage. I have mon: mored to " district where D.C. mains are arailable, and am thinking of trying to modily the set so that this source of supply may le used for anote current. The set has becn operated with a common_anode voltage of from 120 to 130 volts, but I belicve that when an eliminator is used it is best to provide sepurate feeds for earh valve. IVill you pherse tell me if this is so:"
H. H. A.

A set such as you describe is inherently free from interaction troubles, and it would probably yield satisfactory results if it were connected to the mains through a smoothing system without any voltageregulating devices. But to be on the sate side, it would perhaps be as well to insert a decoupling resistance of, say, 10.000 ohms in series with the H.F. valve anode, thas incidentally bringing down the applierl voltage to approximately the usual rating. A 20,000 ohm feed resistance might be joined in series with the detector anode, and in this case a by pass condenser of 2 mfds, should be provided; a considerahly lower capacity would be sufficient for the H.F. stage.


Fig. 2.-Amended circuit diagram of the "BandPass Superheterodyne": this should be substituted The Wig. 2 on page 513 o November 5 th.

## The Superheterodyne.

thlere securs to be an error in the theoretianl diarram of the Band-l'ass Superlieteroulyne in your issue of Notenber 5th; at any rate, I cuimot follow. the switching connections. Please tell me if any corrections should be mude. S. T. W

It is regretted that there were one on two errors in this circuit diagram; we would point out that they were corrected last week in the second part of the consiructional article.

We give herewith (Fig. 2) an amended diagram showing the correct comections.

## Balancing Out Capacity Coupling.

I am thinking of fitting A.C. valves in my receiver (whioh inchudes a neutralised triode H.F. valie), and am wondering whether it would he worth while to shield the value from the H.F. transformer? In any chse, extra soreening will be fitted in order to minimise the chances of instability being brouglit about by the improred charateristies of the new $11 . F$. valte. S. S. M.

In an H.F. amplifier of this kind, where stray electrostatic couplings may be balamced out by suitable adjustiment of the neutralising condenser; there would be ittle point in providing extra shielding or the ralve. It shonld be made clear, however, thit no ifl effects would result.

## Home-made Output Choke.

Will you please tell me if the J.F. choke, of which. the construction was described in your issue of October 29th, would the suitahle for use im an output filter circuit when a power pentode is used? I assume that there is nothing aguinst the addlition of a centre tap, to the wimding?
D. T. B.

This choke, which has an inductance under working conditions, in the order of 20 henrys, would be quite suitable for connection in the anode circuit of a power pentode, and there is no objection to adding tappings as required. While you are itbout it, it would periaps be as wel! to bring out severil tappings, so that the component cin he used for experimental purposes.

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## Effect of Body Capacity.

It is moticed that when I touch. - the detector anode terminal of my set (det.-2 L.F.) that signal strength rises appreciably. Can you give an explanation of this effect, and also say whether it indicates that something is wrong with the receiver? P. R.

It is possible that yom body capacity tends to increase the normal coupling between detector plate and grid circnits in such a way that reaction effects are increased wher the anode terminal is
touched, but we think it more likely that, by firtually adding to the existing capacity between anode, and earth, anti reaction feedback is reduced.
This is not an indication that anything is definitely wrong, but it would seem likely that an improvement could lie effected by increasing the present inode earth capacity by adding a small con denser of, say, 0.0001 mfd .

## FOREIGN BROADCAST GUIDE. <br>  (France).

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[^23]

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## Results

 not statistics
We feel that the figures and curves published in "The Wireless World " Editorial Columns last week may have unintentionally created the impression that the popularity of WESTINGHOUSE METAL RECTIFIERS is on the decline.
On the contrary their popularity is rapidly growing, as is evidenced by the curve above, which shows the actual total sales of all the older types of Westinghouse Metal Rectifiers, both manufacturers' and constructors' units, over the last two years.
This curve speaks for itself, and, what is more, it does not include the figures relating to the new types of high tension units which have been put on the market during the past two months, and of which over $\mathbf{1 7 5 , 0 0 0}$ háve already been sold.
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## N14.4

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Marconi MHL4, the foremost medium magnification $15 /=$

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THE VALVES,THE EXPERTS USE
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No. 587.
Wednesday, November 26th, 1930. Vol. XXVII. No. 22.

Editor: HUGH S. POCOCK. Assistant Editor: F. H. HAYNES.<br>Editorial Offices : II6-117, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. - - Editorial Telephone : City 9472 (5 lines).<br>Advertising and Publishing Offices: DORSET HOUSE, TUDOR STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.<br>Telephone : City 2847 (I3 lines).<br>Telegrams : "Etheworld, Fleet, London."<br>Coventry: Hertford St. Birmingham : Guildhall Bldgs., Navigation St. Manchester : 261, Deansgate. Clasgow: 101, St. Vincent St., C.2. <br>PUBLISHED WEEKLY. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AT NEW YORK, N.Y.<br><br>As many of the circuits and apparafus described in these pages are covered by patents, readers are advised, before making use of them, to satisfy themselves that they would not be infringing patents.

## Editcoinall <br> Comment

## Valve Classification.

AS long ago as March, 1925, our sister journal, Experimental Wireless, put forward a plea for the standardisation of markings for valves so that the classification or type designation by which the valve was known should provide an indication of the characteristics of the valve itself. Proposals put forward later were adopted by some valve manufacturers, and certainly served to clear up the confusion to some extent. If we look back to 1925 we find that the number of different types of valves being manufactured then was small as compared with the total of to-day, so that, if a good case could be made out in 1925, the arguments in favour of some satisfactory scheme of classification have gained force to-day.

An inspection of the Valve Data Sheet, published as a supplement to this issue, will disclose at once that type numbers have been allotted to valves with very little consideration of how this classification is to be interpreted by the user. The British Valve Manufacturers' Association has done useful work in many directions, and has helped to bring about a desirable amount of uniformity amongst manufacturers, but what we regard as the very important question of nomenclature appcars to have been neglected.
Manufacturers have adopted type numbers of their own to suit their convenience, and even their attempts at intelligent

## In This Issue

pentode versus triode.
explaining the valve data sheet. germany's first regional station. MAGNETS FOR MOVING COIL SPEAKERS. broadcast brevities.
practical hints and tips. UNBIASED OPINIONS.

## choosing a detector valve.

 tests on new apparatus. CORRESPONDENCE. readers' problems.classification seem to have broken down in many instances by the addition of an $X$, an $A$, or a $B$, in type numbers, the precise significance of these letters being in most cases only appreciated by the individual manufacturers themselves.
To put forward a constructive proposal as to what new classification might be adopted would require that we should be in possession of much detailed information as to the specifications to which manufacturers work, and we think it better that we should make no attempt at the moment to put forward suggestions of our own, but rather leave it to the valve manufacturers and the B.V.M.A. to give the matter their attention and see whether it is not possible to agree on some classification which will be uniform and at the same time informative from the user's point of view. In days gone by the operating voltage of the filament was one of the most important details to include in the type number, but to-day there are other particulars which are really of much greater importance which should be indicated in the classification

In The Wireless World of July 17th, 1929, an article appeared entitled "Valve Selecting Charts," where an attempt was made to group valves under their general characteristics, and we ielieve that a new classification of valves along these lines might prove to be the ideal scheme. It would be interesting to have constructive suggestions from readers who may have originated some fresh ideas on the subject.


## Their Relative Advantages Compared.

WHEN the pentode valve was first introduced, now more than two years ago, it was freely stated that it was quite incapable of giving reproduction of good quality when used with any speaker other than a moving coil. We were told in print that with any type of moving-armature speaker the highest notes would be badly over-emphasised, and that the bass notes would be missing altogether. Those of us who doubted the statements made a practical trial-and found exactly what had been predicted.
At that time the reason for this overaccentuation of high notes was not as fully realised as it now is, so that a suitable correcting device did not suggest itself. With the greater familiarity with the ways of the pentode that two years of experience has brought us, the cause of this poorly balanced reproduction has become evident, and this knowledge has, in turn, resulted in the ability to apply a correction which, if on paper imperfect, is yet amply good enough to deceive that most gullible organ, thie human ear.
At the present time the position is that even with a moving-iron speaker, in which category is included every speaker in common use, save those of the movingcoil type, it is possible to attain equally excellent quality with either a triode or a pentode in the output socket of a set. One more perplexity is thus added to the difficulties of receiver design-we have to decide between the conflicting claims of the super-power valve, on the one hand, and the pentode on the other.
Both pentode and triode, being output valves, have to draw power, in the form of direct current, from the H.T. battery or eliminator, and to convert as much of this power as possible into sound-waves through the medium of the loud speaker. This general statement at once suggests that the valve, as a unit, does not interest us; we are concerned, instead, with the combined behaviour of valve and loud speaker There are three points of view from which the performance of the valve loud speaker combination may be judged. It is evidently desirable, in the interests of ec.nomy of power, that the greatest possible proportion
> $I^{T}$ will probably come as a surprise to many readers that the high-voltage pentode, when fed into a suitable moving coil speaker, can give a better frequency response than the best that the power triode can produce. The conditions for distortionless reproduction with both types of valves are carefully examined, and attention is given to the design of compensating devices for pentodes when moving-iron speakers are employed. The author puts forward some interesting figures of merit for output valves in which sensitivity is expressed in terms of milliwatts undistorted output per volt grid swing.
however should be adequate to our needs; that, ever, is ensured by choosing a valve, whether pentode or triode, of suitable power-handling capabilities. Since both pentodes and super-power valves of different power ratings can be had, this question hardly enters into a comparison between the two types, since a valve can be chosen from either class to do the work required of it .
We will take, first, the relative efficiencies of superpower and pentode valves as measured by the relation between the power drawn from the battery or mains unit and that eventually handed to the speaker. In order to get a fair basis of comparison, we shall have to assume that the valve is supplied with signals just not strong enough to cause overloading, and that the loud speaker is correctly matched to the valve.
Analysis of the figures for undistorted power output, and comparison of these with the anode current and voltage, leads to the result that with the average pentode 2 I. 5 per cent. of the D.C. power drawn is passed to the speaker in the form of signals, while with the average triode of low impedance only I 6.3 per cent. of the power is usefully employed. ${ }^{1}$ Thus, for the same consumption of anode-circuit power a pentode may be

[^24]Pentode $v$. Triode.-
expected to make appreciably more noise than a triode before distortion begins.

The word average has carefully been used, for the variations from one individual valve to another are surprisingly large. The highest efficiency found for peritodes is 29 per cent., and the lowest I4.I per cent., while for super-power valves the corresponding figures are 24.8 and about II per cent. These variations are very largely due to differences in filament voltage and permissible anode voltage, for in both classes valves with six-volt filaments, or operating on anode potentials greater than 200 volts, show marked superiority.

## Defining Sensitivity.

It is found that two-volt super-power valves average I5.3 per cent., for example, as against I9. I per cent. for high-voltage triodes, while two-volt pentodes have an efficiency of 17.5 per cent., as compared with 26.4 per cent. for pentodes that will take anode voltages greater than 200 volts. From this the interesting fact emerges that in the two-volt class the superiority of the pentode is little more than io per cent., while the highvoltage pentode is over 50 per cent. more efficient than triodes of similar type. Probably the enormous popularity of the two-volt triode as an output valve for small sets has resulted in special at tention being paid to its design in the last few years; the highest efficiency in high-voltage triodes is found in valves the design of which has remained unaltered for a very much longer time.

It would appear safe, from the figures that have been quoted, to draw the conclusion that the listener whose supply of anode-circuit power is limited either in voltage or current-that is, the user of either dry batteries or D.C. mains-will be compelled to use a pentode if he wishes to obtain the maximum possible volume from his installation. If, on the other hand, unlimited anode current is available, the lesser efficiency of the triode ceases to be a matter of any importance.

This question of the efficiency of a valve as a converter of D.C. into A.C. power has been gone into at some length, for the reason that, so far as the writer knows, it has never before been discussed in print. As a result of this, the total anode-circuit consumption of power has quite fallaciously been taken as a measure of the power that the valve can deliver to the loud speaker.

The second point that we decided was desirable in an output valve was its ability to pass considerable power to the speaker on the strength of a small signal applied to its grid. The valve should, therefore, be


Fig. 1.-Curves connecting anode voltage and anode current in a triode. Current changes rapidly with changes in voltage.
As the impedance in the anode circuit rises the voltage As the impedance in the anode circuit rises the voltage
developed across it climbs slowly towards $\mu$ times the voltage
"sensitive," or should have a high amplification factor. We can obtain a numerical expression for the sensitivity of an output valve by dividing the power obtainable from it by the signal voltage necessary to induce it to deliver that power; we thereby obtain the sensitivity in milliwatts per volt.

Everybody knows that the pentode requires a fai smaller input than a triode of equivalent power to load it up fully with signals. Accepting the grid-bias required by the valve as a measure of the signal voltage it requires to develop maximum output, we find thai an average figure for the sensitivity of a triode is 25.4 milliwatts per volt, the corresponding figure for a pentode being 66.2 milliwatts per volt. It may be said at once that, owing to the fact that overloading with a pentode will often occur in the anode circuit before it takes place in the grid circuit, the difference in sensitivity is noticeably greater than these figures, which are not really fair, would suggest. But without taking full curves of all the pentodes, and subjecting them to a searching analysis, it is not possible to obtain a more accurate numerical expression of the average sensitivity of the pentode. One might guess it as not more than 50 per cent. higher than the figure just quoted.

In sensitivity, as in efficiency, it is found that the two-volt valves are in nearly all cases less attractive than their six-volt brethren; a usual sensitivity for a two-volt superpower valve is about 20 , though one very popular valve in this class has a sensitivity of only II. 8 milliwatts per volt. (Once again, these figures are not from the latest Data Sheet, and it is in this class of valve that some of the greatest adyances of the last twelve months will be found.)

## The Pentode, a Constant Current Device.

The greater sensitivity of the pentode has generally led to the recommendation that it should be used to follow the detector valve without the interposition of a low-frequency amplifying stage. The implication that, as it takes the place of both the output valve and the intermediate stage, it can therefore do the work of two valves and a step-up intervalve transformer, is seen by the figures given to be quite unjustified. The L.F. stage would yield an amplification of twenty times at the very least-more probably fifty times-and the figures arrived at for sensitivity show that the pentode will certainly not be satisfied with even one-twentieth of the signal input required by a triode of equivalent output. Although the advice to use the pentode immediately after the detector must not be allowed to hypno-

Pentode v. Triode.-
tise us into the belief that it gives the amplification of two valves, it is, nevertheless, sound enough. A detector of any type, coupled to a pentode (by a stepup transformer, if necessary), will be working with a


Fig. 2.-Curves connecting anode voltage and anode current in a pentode. The current changes very slowly with changes in voltage within the working range (nearly horizontal part impedance in the anode circuit is nearly proportional to the value of the impedance; in other words, the A.C. current is nearly constant.
signal voltage on its grid, which is about right for efficient and distortionless detection when the pentode is fully loaded. In this way the use of a pentode, rather than a triode, tends in many cases to improve quality by indirect means.

The third desideratum of an output stage, that equal power should reach the speaker for each volt of signals on the grid, irrespective of frequency, is rather more difficult to attain with a pentode than with a triode. With either type of valve this can be assured only by suiting the loud speaker to the valve with which it is to be used.
To do this on a singlefrequency is easy, but, since the impedance of the loud speaker, especially one of the moving-iron type, varies considerably with frequency, it is very difficult to get the relationship between valve and loud speaker correct for all notes. With a triode the general tendency is for the valve to develop much the same voltage across the speaker-windings at all frequencies, provided only that the impedance of the loud speaker is always appreciably greater than the internal resistance of the valve. As the frequency is raised, the impedance of the average speaker rises, too, and for the highest audible notes it may become as much as twenty times its value at the lowest end of the musical range. This means that the

Showing the pentode output arrangement of "The Wire Showing the pentode output arrangement of "The Wire-
less World described in this journal.
power handed to the loud speaker is much less for high notes than it is for low; and, although this seems quite wrong, it is just about what the average moving-iron needs to enable it to give well-balanced reproduction.

With the pentode, on the other hand, the general tendency is for the valve to deliver the same current, no matter what may be the value of the impedance in its anode circuit. Reference to the characteristic curves of a pentode will show this at once; the anode current is almost the same over quite wide ranges of anode voltage. With a constant current, the higher the impedance of the loud speaker becomes the greater is the power developed within it. Thus more power is given to the speaker at high notes than at low, which is an exact reversal of the conditions making for good quality from a moving-iron speaker. Used with a pentode, such a speaker sounds . highpitched, shrill, and tinny.

There is, however, an easy cure. If we connect in parallel with the loud speaker a resistance of a
 value about equal to the impedance of the loud speaker at a frequency towards the middle of its range, we get conditions which can be visualised from a consideration of Fig. 3. The variable resistance, marked Z, is intended to represent the variable impedance. of the speaker, while the fixed resistance $R$ is the added resistance just mentioned.
For low notes $Z$ is small, so that the constant current supplied by the pentode will flow through it rather than through R. As the frequency rises, and with it the value of $Z$, more and more of the constant current will be diverted through $R$, until, for the very highest notes, for which $Z$ is very high, $R$ may carry two or three times the current taken by Z. In this way the excessive strength of the high notes is a voided, the power not needed being deliberately wasted in the form of heat in the resistance $R$.
In practice it is usually best to put a condenser, of capacity about 0.005 to 0.01 mfd., in series with $R$, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. By this means the by-passing effect of R on the loud speaker at low frequencies is avoided, so that no loss of signal strength results from its introduction. Further, owing to the fact that the pentode requires an anodecircuit load higher than that provided by the average loud speaker, it is necessary; if the full power is to be

Fentode $v$. Triode -
developed in the loud speaker, to use a step-down transformer or tapped choke as coupling between it and the valve. Although one might carry out a suitable calculation to settle the best ratio, in practice it is usual to buy a multi-ratio transformer or a choke with several tappings, and find by experiment which ratio is best with the particular valve and loud speaker in use. Those who may wish to go a little more deeply into this aspect of the question are referred to an article entitled "Matching Valve and Loud Speaker,"" and for a more thorough and scientific exposition to a series of earlier articles by Dr. McLachlan. ${ }^{3}$
For feeding a moving-coil speaker, which requires the current through its coil to be the same, irrespective of frequency, the pentode valve is undoubtedly better than a triode. With the latter valve, neither the highest nor the lowest notes are reproduced with quite their full intensity; with the pentode, however, these variations disappear at once. Most moving-coil speakers have been designed for use with a triode; the cone is, therefore, usually constructed of a paper which tends to accentuate the high notes enough to make up for their natural deficiency. When a pentode is connected to such a speaker, this accentuation shows up in its true colours, and makes the music unpleasantly shrill. At the same time, the bass is not missing, being, in fact, better reproduced than


Fig. 4. - Output circuit (tapped choke) for pentode with moving-iron
speaker. $\mathrm{C}_{1}-2 \mathrm{mfa}$. $\mathrm{R}=$ speaker. $C_{1}, 2 \mathrm{mfi}, \mathrm{Rf}$
10,000 ohms, $C=0.01$
mfd These last two values are subject to considerable variation to suit the speaker. with a triode. By changing the cone for another made of softer paper, or even of linen, this excess of high notes, which appears to be due to resonances of some kind in the cone, can be avoided. Comparing a speaker so altered, and driven by a pentode, with another having a cone of hard paper, and driven by a triode, the comparison is all in favour of the former. Not only is the bass more fully represented in comparison with the middle register, but the high notes are far more like those of the original instruments, for they are now due to impulses received by the coil from the wireless set instead of being due to resonances in the paper. So far as the top register is concerned, therefore, one hears the harmonics of the orchestra rather than those of the loud speaker diaphragm.

For the sake of extracting the maximum power from the pentode, it is usual for a loud speaker coil for use with it to have a larger number of turns than would be put on for a triode. This, however, does not detract to any audible extent from the quality if the number of turns is not raised too much; the usually accepted number of 2,500 is perfectly satisfactory in practice.

[^25]With a coil proportioned for a triode, a step-down transformer or tapped choke should be used just as suggested with a moving-iron speaker.

Summing up, the writer would give as his opinion that a pentode, in conjunction with a moving-coil speaker designed to work with it, forms the output stage that every listener with a critical ear would wish to have. With a moving-iron speaker, the quality of reproduction with a pentode in the last stage can be made, if one cares to take the trouble, as good as that from a triode, while the higher efficiency and higher sensitivity of the pentode offer distinct and undeniable advantages. If there are no very rigid limitations on anode current, and the receiver has plenty of amplification, these special advantages of a pentode cease to carry so much weight, and it is possible that a triode will be used in preference.


Fig. 5. - An equivalent
circuit to that of Fig. 4,
using a multi-ratio transchoke.

## BOOK REVIEW

The Tallies. By John Scotland. Published by Crosby, Lock wood and Son.
The subject of the talkies is so new that, apart from scattered articles, mostly to be found in the technical or semi-technical periodicals, comparatively little has been written on the subject, so that a complete "story" of the talkies is a particularly welcome addition to the library bookshelf.

The publication under review has obviously been written as the result of a close study of the art of the talkies from the earliest days up to the present time, and, whilst the book has been written in such a way that no technical knowledge is necessary in order to be able to absorb the contents, yet in reading it one is conscions all the time that the author is in command of very complete information, both technical and general, covering the whole subject.

The first chapters are devoted to the early history of the sound film, and many interesting facts are disclosed which are probably not generally known, even by those who have studied the subject, indicating to whom we are indebted for the gradual development of the talking film in the early stages. The book proceeds to give a general description of the technique of the talking film, both from the point of view of recording and reprocluction, whilst the final chapters deal principally with the technical side of the apparatus, though expressed in language which the layman can understand. The book concludes with a collection of opinions on the talkies and their future.

In reading the book one of the most interesting sections to ns was the description of the revolution in picture making which the talkies hare brought about. Almost everything appertaining to the otaking of silent films had to be changed in order to fit in with talkie requirements. The noise of the silent film studio during the taking of a picture has been replaced by almost deathly silence necessitated in order that there should be no interruption or extraneons sounds recorded and reproduced. Even the lighting arrangements had to be scrapped and new installations fitted up so as to insure that neither electrical interference nor any sounds such as were formerly produced by are lights would intrude upon the background of dead silence, which talkie recording demands.
We can confidently recommend "The Talkies" as an excellent introchuction and résumé of the position of the new art as it stands to-day.


Hints on the Choice of Valves and their Couplings.

IIN the separate sheet of valve data accompanying this issue no fewer than 340 valves are classified under five main headings, arranged in such a manner that speedy comparison is possible, and the reader can judge for himself which valves are likely to yield the best results in his particular case. Of considerable importance is the inclusion for the first time of load 'figures or loud speaker impedance values for all output and pentode valves. This should prove helpful in selecting a suitable loud speaker for the last valve, or, vice versa, choosing for the loud speaker the correct valve and transformer ratio.

The following notes are intended to assist in the choice of the best valve for the various functions of a receiver, and refer to the different types of valve in the order in which they appear on the supplementary sheet.

## Screen Grid Valves.

Owing to the extensive research that has taken place in internal screening, and into the application of screening grids in cascade, staggered and cross-mesh screens, the interelectrode capacities have been reduced to such small limits-an average of about $0.003 \mu \mu \mathrm{~F}$.-that it has been found possible in this section to dispense with stage amplification figures for threshold instability.
optimum ratio transformer. It is $\frac{\mathrm{N} \mu \mathrm{R}}{\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{N}^{2} \mathrm{R}_{\theta}}$, where N is the step-up turns ratio found necessary to give adequate selectivity, R is the dynamic resistance of the tuned circuit, $\mathrm{R}_{0}$ the A.C. resistance of the valve, and $\mu$ the amplification factor.
There are four important factors which govern the choice of a screen-grid valve; the first is low residual capacity so that uncontrollable oscillation is avoided, the second a high amplification factor with medium A.C. resistance not exceeding about 500,000 ohms, and the third the greatest possible grid swing acceptance not curtailed by the early flow of grid current so that the bugbear of cross modulation and beat interference is minimised. The fourth consideration applies to A.C. screened valves only, and is that the cathode and heater should be able to withstand a difference of potential when automatic bias is derived from the voltage dropped across a resistance. The figures in the average anode current column are useful when it is desired to reduce the voltage from an H.T. eliminator. They are calculated assuming that the maximum anode and the optimum screen voltages are applied, and that with batteryfed and A.C. valves, 0.9 volt and I. 5 bias volts respectively are used, these potentials being the lowest which


Fig. 1.-The five per cent. distortion scale in which the divisions on the right of zero are $9 / 11$ th of those on the left.

Provided that external screening and decoupling are carried out with meticulous care, the maximum stage gains before oscillation takes place due to the valve are higher than are likely to be aimed at in practice with the type of intervalve coupling now in vogue. Accordingly, it is left to those who wish to work out threshold instability figures to refer to the explanation and formulæ given in the article which accompanied last year's valve data sheet (December $4^{\text {th }}$, 1.929), making use of this year's anode-grid capacity values. Neither does it appear necessary to quote optimum transformer ratio, for with the screen-grid valve this usually works out at one-to-one, but the inordinate lack of selectivity with such a transformer renders it necessary to sacrifice amplification for selectivity by reducing the number of primary turns. Perhaps the most useful formula, therefore, is that which gives the stage gain with a non-
can be safely employed before grid current is met Screen current is not published, as it differs somewhat widely from sample to sample, and little reliance can be placed on an average figure.

## Miscellaneous Valves.

This section contains valves with A.C. resistances over 7,000 ohms suitable for intermediate L.F. stages and the three forms of detection-anode bend, leaky grid and power grid. The grid bias of column B is for amplifying conditions, and has to be increased for anode bend detection. There are a number of special leaky grid detectors of non-microphonic construction now available of which mention might be made of the Marconi and Osram H.2, the Cossor 210 Det., and the Mazda H.L.21o. In A.C. sets power grid detection is to be recommended, as the distortion can be reduced to about I per cent. or 2 per cent. For this purpose the indirectly

Valve Data Sheet Explained.-
heated valves having A.C. resisfances between II,000 and 16,000 ohms should be chosen. Such valves are the Cossor 4I M.H.F., the Marconi and Osram M.H.4, the Mazda AC/HL, the Mullard 354 V , and the Six-Sixty SS.4GP.A.C.

Although, according to the work of P. K. Turner, it is impossible to find an anode bend detector on the market giving less than 7 per cent. second harmonic distortion, this method of rectification suggests itself where anode current is limited and where the very minimum of damping of the preceding tuned circuit is desired. Suitable valves for inputs up to 10 volts are those having A.C. resistances of about 7,500 to 9,000 ohms. These can be followed directly by an L.F. transformer, provided that the primary inductance is roo to I50 henrys. Where this type of detector is followed by resistance coupling, valves with a higher A.C. resistance up to about 35,000 ohms are desirable, but the input grid swing musi be restricted to 2 or 3 volts. For powergrid detection in batteryted sets the $L$ class of valve in the Cossor, Lissen, Marconi, and Osram and Mazda series, and the D type in the Mullard and Six Sixty series are suitable, as it has been ascertained that the watts dissipation limit is not reached at zero grid volts and 150 volts H.T. Considerable information can be obtained as to the best application of valves in this section from an article elsewhere in this issue, entitled "Choosing a Detector Valve," by W. T. Cocking.

## Output Valves

The valves under this heading are triodes, with A.C. resistances less than 7,000 ohms. The grid bias figures (column B) are for amplifying conditions, but it is pointed out by the makers that they should not be rigidly adhered to and are only a guide. The correct functioning of the valve cannot be guaranteed unless the anode current figures in column $C$ are maintained at the right value. It is regrettable that the manufacturers have been unable to agree to a standardised method of calculating undistorted power output and optimum load. These constants are undoubtedly of vital importance for the correct design of an L.F. amplifier and for the choice of a suitable loud speaker; in fact, without them the amateur may find himself, in the position of a person buying a car without knowing the horse-power. Column D shows the greatest output that can be obtained with the maximum of 5 per cent. second harmonic distortion, whilst column $G$ gives the optimum load or loud speaker impedance for which the output


Fig. 2.-Anode volts-anode current curve of a typlcal power output triode where the watts dissipation limit is 10 . If the zero of the distortion scale is placed on 0 ( $-32 \frac{1}{2}$ grid volts)
the same reading in the scale is obtained at zero and the same reading in the scale is obtained at zero and -65 grid volts. From the points $A, B$ and $C$, the optimum load
and undistorted, output can easily be calculated.
has been calculated. Measurement has been carried out by the graphical method, making use of the anode voltsanode current curves now willingly supplied by most valve manufacturers.

A special 5 per cent. distortion scale on celluloid, illustrated in Fig. I, is then pressed into service. This has been designed for The Wireless World and can be obtained from Messrs. H. K. Lewis, of Gower Street, London, W.C.I. To exemplify its use the curves of a typical power valve are given in Fig. 2. The zero of the scale is pivoted on the makers' grid bias point marked $O$-in this case minus $32 \frac{1}{2}$ volts and when the readings on the scale for zero grid volts and minus 65 volts (twice the bias value) are the same, the load line for a maximum of 5 per cent. second harmonic is located. This line, which represents the best loud speaker impedance, is shown in the illustration as $A O B$, and its value in ohms is got by dividing CB by AC. It is generally found that the load works out to be about twice the A.C. resistance of the valve taken under working conditions, but when there is a maximum watts dissipation curve limiting the anode current it will be realised that the load line may have to be tilted towards the horizontal to avoid intersecting it. With most of the large output valves, therefore, we find, on examining column $G$, that the optimum load must be three or even four times the valve's resistance, and should it be higher than, say, 5,000 ohms-the average impedance of a highresistance moving - coil speaker-a suitable output transformer ought to be employed. The maximum undistorted output in milliwatts is equal to $\frac{\mathrm{AC} \times \mathrm{BC}}{8}$ where AC is expressed in milliamperes.
An interesting development in output valves is the directly heated A.C. series with 4 volt I amp filaments. Owing to the absence of subsequent amplification they are quite free from hum, and can be designed to give greater output than is possible with an independently heated cathode.

## Pentode Valves.

The increasing popularity of the pentode is reflected in the augmented range available for this season. While the battery-heated type in the 2 -volt series do not show much advantage over the 240 -type of triode, the highvoltage pentode is a remarkably efficient valve when its sensitivity is measured in terms of A.C. milliwatts output per volt grid swing. Furthermore, if the correct load is used-unfortunately the pentode is much more sensitive to mismatching of speaker than the triode-a frequency

Valve Data Sheet Explained.
response can be obtained in which the highest and lowest notes are more faithfully reproduced than is possible with a triode. For a further discussion of this point reference should be made to an article by A. L. M. Sowerby, entitled " Pentode versus Triode," elsewhere in this issue. A moving-coil speaker with special speech coil and a cone of soft material gives with a power pentode a quality of reproduction which can hardly be challenged by the most critical, provided, of course, that the rest of the receiver does not introduce appreciable distortion. The pentode, which is of comparatively recent origin and until lately little understood, has been blamed for the shrill and tinny reproduction that a moving-iron speaker sometimes emits, when actually the fault lies in the design of the coupling device between valve and speaker. A compensating arrangement of condenser and resistance, to limit the impedance of the speaker, should be used, and in most cases a tapped output choke is required, since the majority of moving-iron speakers on the market are designed to follow output triodes of about 2,000 ohms A.C. resistance and are, therefore, of about 4,000 ohms impedance at middle C . To raise artificially the speaker impedance to the load figures given in column $G$ a step-down ratio is required, otherwise low notes will be lost.

The characteristics given omit the A.C. resistance and amplification factor of pentodes, as these vary so much under working conditions, and further, the nominal A.C. resistance given generally as 50,000 or 60,000 ohms has no useful meaning, in view of the fact that the valve behaves like a 4,000 - or 5,000-ohm triode. Columns C and F, giving average anode and screen current, assist in the choice of the correct value of voltage dropping and decoupling resistances. The maximum undistorted output figures (col. D) and the optimum loads (col. G.) are calculated according to the method described in a recent article. ${ }^{1}$ They refer to a maximum of 5 per cent. distortion, whether this be second or third harmonic, and although somewhat approximate they can be taken as a useful guide. Pentodes lend themselves better to tone control than triodes, and can be made to compensate for. high-note loss due to sideband cutting. That power pentode output is now favoured is evident from the data sheet, which shows that there are no fewer than eight of these valves, with A.C. outputs between one and three watts.

[^26]
## Rectifying Valves.

The classification here includes, besides the maximum R.M.S. volts which may be applied to the anodes of the rectifying valves, two columns devoted to D.C. output. The conditions under which the D.C. voltage figures are taken have been standardised by the makers as the average voltage, measured by a moving-coil meter, developed across a 4 mfd . condenser when the maximum load (shown in the column next to the price) is applied. The use of a smaller capacity directly across the output of the valve would result in poor rectification efficiency, whilst a much larger condenser is inadvisable. Some confusion arises as to whether the outputs as quoted can be termed "smoothed" or "unsmoothed." Actually they are smoothed with regard to the valve and most certainly unsmoothed as regards the receiver : accordingly, "unsmoothed" has been adopted on the data sheet. The general characteristics given are a sufficient guide to the purchase or construction of a mains transformer, as the filament and anode requirements and type of rectification of each valve are given. To obtain fuller details of outputs below the maximum, the makers' voltage regulation curve must be used. When choosing a suitable rectifying valve the total load of the receiver and the voltage required for the last valve must be known, also a knowledge of the D.C. resistance of the smoothing chokes is of importance. The load is the sum of the anode, screen, and potentiometer currents of the set, whilst the total voltage required is the sum of the automatic bias volts (if any), the volts dropped across the smoothing chokes and the H.T volts for the last valve.
Typical H.F., detector and power output valves: (a) Mazda AC/SG with low interelectrode capacity, medium A.C. resistance and comparatively large grid swing acceptance which minimises cross-modulation. (b) Marconi and Osram MH4 an excellent power-grid detector giving less than 2 per cent. A.C. power valve with 4.0 volt 1.0 amp. filament and an A.C. A:C. power valve with 4.0 volt 1.0 amp. filament and an A.C.


For further details of calculation the reader is referred to an article entitled "Mains Rectifiers," in the issue dated February 19, 1930. It is better to err on the side of generous D.C. voltage ontput, as the absorption of surplus pressure by resistances is a simple process and teinds to assist in decoupling the set. In no circumstances may the adjustment of rectified output be carried out by dimming the filament, as this ensures the early demise of the valve. Full-wave rectification is undoubtedly the most popular for voltages up to 500 , because it is more efficient, and less smoothing is required than when the half-wave method is employed. For higher voltages, insulation difficulties in the valve suggest the use of two large half-wave rectifiers arranged to give full-wave rectification. For those rectifiers with indirectly heated cathodes the claim of lengthened life and increased overload capacity is made.

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Unlike Brookmans Park station, Muhlacker does not generate its own power. All current is drawn from the local mains, a rotary converter changing the 50 cycle A.C. 15,000 volts supply to direct current for the anodes.

The transmitter is valve. contiolled by the masteroscillator system with a secondary coupling in the final power stage, which contains twelve water-cooled valves each capable of dissipating 20 kilowatts.
If Muhlacker should meet the expectations of the authorities, the proposed regional scheme will be completed before the end of 1933 by the construction of a station at Heilsburg, near Konigsburg, to cover the northern region, while the central districts will be served by Königswuster: hausen.

Uppermost is an aerial view of Muhlacker. The middle photograph shows the semi-circular control desk. while below are the oscillator couplings.


## Flux Meassurement and <br> Performance Criterion.

THE moving-coil loud speaker has occupied a prominent position in the pages of this journal for several years. Writers on the subject have been concerned mainly with the acoustical, electrical and mechanical properties of the coil and diaphragm. But the structure which supplies the steady magnetic field has been neglected. In view of the enhanced popularity of the moving-coil type of speaker and the interest it generally arouses about the time of the National Radio Exhibition, it seems appropriate to discuss a feature of the instrument concerning which little or nothing has been published.
The conventional design of electromagnet is illustrated diagrammatically in Fig. I. The so-called lines of magnetic force (or magnetic flux) are indicated by the arrows. In the language of our forefathers, the central pin is a south pole and the outer ring a north pole, or vice
versa. Part of the flux traverses the air gap and is disposed radially, as shown in Fig. I. This is the useful or working flux. The remainder of the flux "leaks" out of the gap and follows the dotted paths inside and outside the magnet. Fig. 2 is a photograph of leakage flux taken by placing a piece of sensitive paper in front of the magnet, sprinkling iron filings on it, and exposing to sunlight. In this case the field is very weak ${ }^{1}$ and the magnetic flux paths are clearly visible. Fig. 3 refers to full field and the flux paths have now disappeared since the attractive force was strong enough to overcome the friction between the filings and the paper over quite a wide area. Moreover, all the filings within this area were drawn to the magnet and can be seen adhering to the pole pieces.

Early in 1928 experiments were being conducted to measure the motional capacity and accession to inertia of a loud speaker identical


Fig. I.-Dimensional drawing of a typical electromagnet such as was used for the measure ment of flux density.
with that I designed for the Science Museum in 1926 ${ }^{2}$. This necessitates an accurate knowledge of the useful flux in the air gap. Moreover, a series of measurements were made on the magnet of this loud speakeí, also upon several other magnets having comparable dimensions. Details of these are given later in this article.

There are several methods of ascertaining the value of the magnetic flux in the air gap of an electromagnet. A special search coil can be con-

[^28]2 See The Wireless IVorld, March $3^{\circ \text { th, }} 1927$.

Magnets for Moving Coil Speakers.
nected to a flux-meter and the current in the field winding reversed. Due to reversal the meter reads double the total flux. Another method which applies to the elec-tro- and permanent magnets consists in pulling the search coil quickly out of the field and observing the flux-meter reading. The search coil consists of two sections, A and B (Fig. 4a), both having the same number of turns and connected up in opposition (hence the nomenclature differential search coil). Considering Fig. 4 a , if the complete coil is pulled out axially in the direction of the arrow, section $A$ cuts all the leakage flux outside the magnet, whereas section $B$ cuts the useful gap flux plus the external leakage flux. Since the gap flux only is required, it is imperative that sections A and $B$ should be connected in opposition. In constructing differential search coils several points are to be noted.

## Precautions in the Use of the Flux-meter.

(I) The radial depth and the length of the coil should be as small as possible.
(2) The resistance must not exceed about 15 ohms, but the smaller the better.
(3) All leads must be carefully flexed to avoid pickup.
(4) From 5 to $I_{5}$ turns per section will usually be found quite satisfactory.


Fig. 2.-Photograph showing the external leakage and flux distribution of the magnet given in Fig. 1. The gap is fin. and the field distribution obtained is that which results before applying excitation.
(5) Care should be exercised to ensure that the fluxmeter coil has no short-circuited turns. I had a meter which showed that some magnets under test were really marvellous. On checking the flux by weighing with a steady current in the moving coil, also by a ballistic
galvanometer, the readings were 32 per cent. highdue to short-circuited turns. ${ }^{3}$
(6) The torsional control on the meter should be really minute when on open circuit. It should have a very


Fig. 3.-External leakage flux distribution with full excitation.
low natural frequency and will take a very long time to settle.
To measure the external leakage flux coil A should be used alone and drawn out of the field. If other coils C and D (or a movable coil) are provided, as shown in Fig. 4a, they can be used to read the internal leakage flux at various positions. For example, by connecting B and C in opposition the whole leakage flux between them can be measured.

The following example may be useful:-
Turns on differential coil (same on $A$ and


This is a mean or average value, because the flux is not quite uniformly distributed throughout the gap. The flux at any particular section can be found by placing a narrow differential coil there ( A and B close together) and pulling it out, as before. Tests of this type gave the field distribution shown in Fig. 5. This diagram also indicates the internal is a little greater than the external leakage. The radial field is only uniform
${ }^{3}$ The fewer the furns on the neeter coil, the greater the reading.

## Magnets for Moving Coil-Ppeakers.-

over 70 per cent. of the gap width, and suddenly falls away outside the outer pole faces. This is concomitant with distortion under the conditions stated later on:

The leakage flux is quite large, being about 30 per

Fig. 4(a).-Diagrammatic sketch of differential search coil. The leads from the coils are flexed and brought out through the handle. They may be taken to terminals or to a switch which enables coils to be used separately or any pair connected in opposition. Greater accuracy accrues when the axial length of the
coils as small as possible. This is due to the fux density not being uniform.
cent. to 50 per cent. of the total flux, according to the length of the air gap and the material of the magnet. In the case of an electromagnet the leakage, however, is not always a criterion of the efficacy of the device. This will be seen more clearly from the data of Table I. Although the leakage is 30 per cent. or more with 2,000 ampere turns and an $\frac{1}{8}$ in. gap, 84 per cent. of these ampere turns are usefully employed (due to the leakage paths being in parallel with the air gap).

As the ampere turns, and therefore the flux, increases, the reluctance of the magnet and the leakage become of greater importance, i.e., the ampere

TABLE $I$.

| Total Ampere Turns on Magnet. | Per cent. of Total A.T. used on Gap. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Steel Magnet $\frac{1}{8}$ inch Gap. | Steel Magnet 3/32 in. Gap. | Cast Iron Magnet, 7/6 1 in. Gap. |
| 1,000 | 86 | 88 | 40 |
| 2,000 | 84 | 82 | 35 |
| 3,000 | 73 | 68 | \%. 29 |

Table 1 showing percentage of total excitation in ampere turns usefully employed in creating gap flux. The difference bewasted on per cent. and the tabuiar daxa gives the percentage and in creating leakage flux.
ally in Fig. 6. Here we have the total useful flux, the (partial) leakage and total flux plotted against the excitation in ampere turns.
The measurements on total flux were made with one search coil pulled out from position C. The flux exceeds this value farther down the pin, e.g., at $D$, but as there was very little clearance between the magnetising coil


Fig. 5.-Diagram showing actual distribution of flux in air gap of electromagnet of Fig. 1. Curve 1 is for a gap of tin. ( 0.32 cm .) and curve 2 for a gap of $\frac{3}{31} \mathrm{in}$. ( 0.24 cm :). It should be observed that the leakage with the smaller gap fails below
that for the larger gap at the points $X Y$.

[^29]Magnets for Moving Coil Speakers. and the pin, the search coil could not be placed there. It will be seen that the leakage exceeds 30 per cent. of the total flux as measured with the coil at C. Doubtless the leakage will be about 40 per cent. if the coil is situated farther down the pin.


Fig. 6.-Total useful flux compared with the total flux ploted
against excitation in ampere turns.
The curves of Fig. 7 show the great advantage of reducing the air gap from $\frac{1}{8} \mathrm{in}$. to ${ }_{32} \mathrm{in}$. (25 per cent.). At normal working excitation the effect is to increase the useful flux by 25 per cent., making it 10,000 lines per square centimetre. A further decrease in gap to $\frac{1}{16} \mathrm{in}$. would probably yield about 12,500 lines per sq. cm. The lowest curve shows the futility of using cast iron for magnet construction. The major part of the ampere turns are spent on leakage and cast-iron reluctance

Permanent Magnets and Electromagnets Compared.
Coming now to the case of permanent magnets, the method of measuring the useful and the leakage flux is identical with that given above. The design and theory of permanent magnets is a very special problem which is well beyond our present purview. We can, however, deal with several points associated with the permanent magnet problem from an elementary point of view. There are two main classes of magnet steel (a) with a percentage of tungsten; (b) with "a percentage of cobalt. Magnets having the latter ingredient are superior (bulk for bulk) to those with tungsten. The percentage of cobalt in the magnet steel varies up to 35. Since cobalt is an expensive metal, a 35 per cent. steel must be used in moderation where economy is
concerned. The object to be attained is to produce a magnet of suitable strength and dimensions at a reasonable price. With this end in view it is customary to employ magnet steel containing 9 to 15 per cent. of cobalt, although 35 per cent. is used in certain cases.

The leakage in a permanent magnet is somewhat higher ${ }^{5}$ than that for an electromagnet of good steel or wrought iron working under identical conditions-i.e., gap density, radial and axial length the same in both cases. Consequently the area, and therefore the weight, of the magnet have to be increased to supply, the requisite number of lines of force in the air gap.

What the reader now expects is a comparison between permanent and electromagnets. When flux densities of 10,000 to 12,000 lines per sq. cm . in a gap of 2 inches mean diameter, $\frac{1}{15} \mathrm{in}$. radial width, and $\frac{3}{8} \mathrm{in}$. long are required, the only economical arrangement is an electromagnet. If one is content with a reduction in output, a permanent magnet will give satisfaction. It is, however, quite impossible to make a comparison of magnets without an investigation into the meaning of flux density with relation to the sound output from a loud speaker.


Fig. $7_{3}$-The effective flux density obtained in the air gap
plotted against the excitation in ampere turns showing how plotted against the excitation in ampere turns showing how
the flux dedsity varies with reduction in the length of the gap. $y$ varies with reduction in the len
Remanence has been neglected.
A mathematical investigation of the problem is beyond the scope of the text but is given in an appendix. The results will be treated now. If we assume a fixed size of wire on the moving coil, and a definite length of air gap, the power output or performance criterion depends
${ }_{5}$ The leakage flux is about 60 per cent. of the total flux, but the exact amount depends upon the shape and general design of the magnet.

Magnets for Moving Coil Speakers.-
on the product $A_{g} B_{g}{ }^{2}$. A is the mean area of the gap, i.e., mean circumference times axial length, and $B_{g}$ is the effective flux density (lines per square centimetre) in the gap. Since $\mathrm{A}_{g} \mathrm{~B}_{g}{ }^{2}=\mathrm{A}_{q} \mathrm{~B}_{g} \times \mathrm{B}_{q}$ the sound output depends upon the product of total effective flux ( $\mathrm{A}_{0} \mathrm{~B}_{g}$ ) and flux density ( $\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{g}}$ ).

We are now in a position to make a direct comparison of the sound output from different magnets. In the magnet in Fig. I it is possible with a 0.16 cm . gap to obtain $\mathrm{B}_{y}=\mathrm{II}, 000$ with a normal excitation. The area of the gap is about 15.7 sq . cm ., so that the performance criterion $\mathrm{A}_{g} \mathrm{~B}_{g}{ }^{2}=1.9 \times 10^{9}$.

The following data illustrate a fairly large permanent magnet weighing 15 lb .:-

| Mean diameter of gap | $=4 \mathrm{~cm}$. |
| ---: | :--- |
| Radial length of gap | $=0.16 \mathrm{~cm}$. |
|  | $=0.6+\mathrm{cm}$. |
| Width of gap | $B_{g}$ in gap |
|  | $=9,000$ |

Mean area of gap $=\pi \times+\times 0.64$

$$
=8 . \hat{\mathrm{sq}} . \mathrm{cm} .
$$

Thus $\mathrm{A}_{g} \mathrm{~B}_{g}{ }^{2}=6.5 \times 10^{8}$, so that the sound output would be about $\frac{1}{3}$ that from the electromagnet.

Moreover, the flux density by itself is no criterion of the magnet performance, since by reducing the diameter of the central pin and the axial length of the gap it can be augmented appreciably without a proportionate increase in output.

The great advantage of a large value of $\mathrm{A}_{8} \mathrm{~B}_{0}{ }^{2}$ is immunity from overloading the power valve. With the electromagnet the grid swing of the power valve is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}=0.58$ that for the permanent magnet, the output being the same in each case. Hence, with the electro-
magnet there is an ample margin of grid swing to allow for a sudden increase in intensity of output.

Apart from the question of quality, experimental evidence indicates that if moving-coil loud speakers are to compete in loudness with the better types of reeddriven instruments, the value of $\mathrm{A}_{g} \mathrm{~B}_{g}{ }^{2}$ should not be less ${ }^{\circ}$ than $7 \times 10^{8}$. In making calculations of $\mathrm{A}_{g} \mathrm{~B}_{q}{ }^{2}$ it is assumed that the effective air gap flux $\mathrm{B}_{g}$ is measured, and that leakage is excluded, i.e., a differential search coil is used. By using a single coil and drawing it out of the magnet from some such position as C of Fig. I, amazingly good permanent magnets will result.

## Appendix showing Derivation of the Criterion Factor $\mathrm{AB}_{g}{ }^{2}$.

| Sound output from speaker | $\propto$ [Force on moving coill ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| i.e. ${ }^{\text {W }}$ | $\propto\left[\text { Current } \times \text { wire on coil } \times \mathrm{B}_{g}\right]^{2}$ |
| or . W | $\propto i^{2}(\pi d n)^{2} \mathrm{~B}_{v}{ }^{2} \ldots \ldots . . .{ }^{\text {a }}$ (I) | Where $d$ is the mean diameter of the coil and $n$ the number of turns.

For any given power valve the coil current $i \propto s$ where $s$ is the ratio of the turns of the output transformer (assumed perfect) and $s \circ[\rho / z] \frac{1}{5}$ where $\rho$ is A.C. valve resistance and $z$ is coil impedance.
Since $Z$ varies with the frequency we shall take its value at the electromechanical resonance frequency when the reactance is zero.

Thus $s \propto[\rho / r]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ where $r$ is the coil resistance.
Also $r \propto d n$ provided the size of wire is constant. $s \propto[\rho / d n]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and $i \propto[\rho / d n]^{\frac{1}{3}}$
Substituting in (r) for the current $i$ and dropping $\rho$ since it does not concern the magnet and merely affects numerical values:
$W \propto \pi^{2} d n \mathrm{~B}_{g}{ }^{2}$
For any particular gap the layers on the coil are fixed and therefore $n$ varies as the axial length (b), so that
$I V \propto \pi^{2} d b \mathbf{B}_{g}{ }^{2}$. But $\pi d b$ is the mean area of the gap, whence neglecting the multiplier $\pi$, we find that
$W \propto \mathrm{~A}_{j} \mathrm{~B}_{v}{ }^{2}$

THE UNLICENSED TRANSMITTER.
A scale of punishments with a maximum of two years' imprisonment has been drawn up by the sponsors of a Bill to prevent the use of unlicensed wireless trausmitter's in Italy.

## WHERE PORTABLES ARE FORBIDDEN.

A new police order forbids the use of loud speakers by picnickers in the parks and promenades of Paris and the Seine Department. Trippers to the Bois de Boulogne will have to leave their portables at home.

## 0008

35 PER CENT.
The British "Wireless for the Blind" Fund has received $£ 50$ from the Dundee Outdoor Mission as a thank-offering for 270 sets supplied to the local blind. The total amount received by the Fund to date is $£ 23,800$, which will allow for only 35 per cent: of the sets required.

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THE WIRELESS LEAGUE.
Member's of the Wireless League are cordially invited to attend the annual general meeting of members, which will be held at 12, Grosvenor Crescent, Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.1, on Friday, December 5th, at 3.15 p.m. Sir Arthur Stanley will be in the chair.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

NEW ITALIAN BROADCASTER.
The construction of the $9-\mathrm{kW}$ station at Trieste is progressing rapidly, and we understand that the Italian broadcasting authorities will inaugurate transmissions at the end of February:

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## BUYERS' GUIDE.

Messrs. Geo. Crossley and Son, Ltd., of 4, South Street, Manchester, draw our attention to the mis-spelling of their name in the Buyers' Guide on p. 577 of our last issue.

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IRISH RADIO TRADERS.
A meeting will probably be held in Dublin in the next few weeks to consider the proposal for an Irish Radio Trade Association.

## 0000

WIRELESS ON BRITISH TRAINS.
"Head Telephones: Hire Charge 1s. per Journey" runs the inscription on the sealed package handed to the first or third class passenger who pays his shilling to the attendant on the L.N.E.R. express train between London and Leeds, He tears open the package, "plugs in'
to an inconspicuous socket behind him and listens.
That such an escape from boredom is at last possible on a British train is due to the enterprise of the London and North-Eastern Railway. The wirelessequipped train is the dining car express which leaves King's Cross at 10.10 a.m. for Leeds and returns the same afternoon from Leeds at $5.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. The apparatus, installed under the direction of Mr. H. N. Gresley, the chief mechanical engineer, by Messrs. L. McMichael, Ltd., comprises a standard McMichael Mains Three fitted in the brake van and deriving energy from a rotary converter coupled to the train 24 -volt lighting set.

Once tuned in to the Daventry National transmitter, the receiver needs no skilled attention; the responsible attendant has merely to touch a switch controlling the rotary converter to put the set into operation.
Good reception was obtained during a test run between King's Cross and Hertford on Thursday last, though at high speeds a crackle developed, possibly attributable to varying earth potential caused by axle play. When-a remedy for this defect has been found, the only other adjustment which night be called for would be the addition of a means of volume control for the individual listener.

The King's Speech.
Reports from nearly all parts of the world show that the broadcasting of H.M. the King's speech at the opening of the Round-table Conference was successfully received in the Dominions and Colonies, though, unfortunately, atmospheric conditions somewhat interfered with the reception in India of some of the opening seritences.

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## Another Royal Broadcast.

The Prince of Wales, as announced in these columns last week, will be heard again on December 16th, when his speech at the annual banquet of the Incorporated Sales Managers' Associations will be relayed from the Guildhall to the National transmitters. The voice of His Royal Highness is now familiar to all listeners, and he has recently given two broadcast speeches within a week, one at Savoy Hill and the other at the Albert Hall. All who have heard his speeches must have been struck with the clearness of his utterance and the admirable punctuation. 0000

## Care and Method.

The care taken by the Firnce in the delivery of his broadeast speeches is shown in the preparation of his manuscript, which he always brings with him. This is arranged in lines of varying length, some snort and some long, each line representing the sentence to be spoken iin one breath.

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## No Unnece isary Ceremony

When the Prince goes to Savoy Hill scarcely any difference is made in the manner or method of his reception from that of any other eminent person. He is met at the entrance by one or two high officials and conducted to the diawing-room-yes, the B.B.C. offices boast a quite lavishly furnished drawing-room-where he sometimes partakes of light refreshment before the time arrives for him to step into the lift and be transported to the studio above. During his broadcasting the B.B.C. officials who have received him remain with him in the studio.

Political Broadcasting.
The B.B.C. has found some difficulty in finding a suitable speaker to reply to Lord Beaverbrook's talk this evening on "Trade Within the Empire." According to some accounts each of the three political parties felt shy of nonwinating official spokesmen to reply to him on later dates. I understand, however, that the Corporation has succeeded in enlisting the services of Sir William Beveridge, who will deliver his talk on December 4 th.

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## The Interval Signal.

It is often somewhat tantalising when tuning in a station to hear no sound and v to be left wondering whether one has happened upon a rather prolonged interval or whether the fault lies in the tuning. The B.B.C. has experimented with various types of preliminary tuning signal, starting with piano scales, going on to oscillating valves, and then to the tuning fork, but has hitherto turned a deaf ear to the


By Our Special Correspondent.
suggestion that the Continental practice should be adopted of marking the intervals between the items by the use of a metronome or other device which will assure listeners that the station is working and that their sets are in order.

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## A Good Example.

Hamburg, for example, intimates by strokes on a gong the number of mimites still to go before the next item on the programme, and other Continental stations take care that their listeners shall not be kept unduly in suspense.
The B.B.C. has now decided to adopt, a method of " keeping the ball rolling", during the intervals but, to begin with, it will be used somewhat sparingly. If, for example, the announcer states that there will be a short interval of three or four minntes before the next part of the programme begins, the interval signal will not be used, but if the length of time is uncertain a device will be brought into operation consisting of strokes on metal

"EIAR RADIO MILANO." - The picturesquely situated station which works in close association with Radio Turin and is like that station in having a lady England, working on a wavelength of 501 metres with an aerial output of 8 kW .
giving out a sound resembling a mufled cymbal at about half-second intervais Perhaps this tentative signal miay eventually develop into sumething more musical, such as the chimes of Cologne or the sleigh bells of the Polish stations.

## Is the Millenium Approaching?

 Seldom has the B.B.C. enconntered a more resolute opponent, in his professional capacity, than Mr. C. B. Cochran, and it is, therefore, especially gratifying to find that he is to take the chair on December 8th at a studio discussion between Mr. Hugh Walpole and Mr. Osbert Sitwell on "What's Wrong with the Theatre."The lion is indeed lying down with the lamb, though the lamb has always had a special regard for this particular lion in spite of his alleged hostility during the past eight years, while Mr. Cochran has not always roared against the B.B:C. aind, in fact, stated in a friendly mannel when asked by a newspaper to take part in a symposium of views on the B.B.C.'s failings that, in his opinion, they were performing a difficult task as welt as could be expected of them. The time may even arrive when a relay from the Adelphi Theatre will be a possibility.

## The New Opera Scheme.

Another lion has also become tame, and it seems as if Sir Thomas Beecham is to be permanently associated with the B.B.C. in connection with the amalgamation of the Imperial League of Opera, the Covent Garden Opera Syndicate, Ltd. and the Corporation under the title of the Govent Garden Opera Syndicate (1930), Ltd. This amalgamation has been so freely discussed in the daily Press of late that I should not have brought up the subject were it not for the fact that many listeners are still fearful lest the B.B.C.'s contribution towards the working expenses may come out of funds which would otherwise be expended on their programmes. I am assured that this is not the case, and that the income of $£ 30,000$ which has been guaranteed from various sources will not encroach upon the Corporation's proportion of the licence revenue, but that the B.B.C.'s share will come from that part of the -licence fees which would otherwise be retained by the Treasury.

## Licence Figares.

The number of wireless licences in Great Britain on September こOth had reached a total of $3,205,633$.

## Health Talks for Scottish Listeners

The B.B.C., in co-operation with its Scottish Advisory Committee on Fublic Health, has arranged a series of talks on health matters in Scotland, which it hopes will arouse widespread interest. Sir W. Leslie Mackenzie, in the first talk, gave a résumé of the state of affairs in public health as he sees them to-day; but in the next tailk, which is to be given on December Sth by the Under-Secretary of State for Scotland Mr. Thomas Johnston, M.P., Scottish listeners are to hear a specialist's riews on a special question"Health and Housing."

## pRACTICAL

 WOR]d
## PROTECTION FOR VALVE FILAMENTS.

Valves have become cheaper, but are still expensive enough to make it worth while to observe all reasonable precautions against accidents. Shortcircuits of the H.T. battery are generally blamed for the untimely burning-out of filaments, but in actual fact the risk of damage through this cause is comparatively slight, provided that H.T.-L.T. interirconnections and switches are arranged in the manner which has been consistently advocated in this journal: Damage to the battery or H.T. rectifier is, of course, another matter.

Although the possibility of doing serious harm is minimised by adopting the correct system of wiring, complete immunity cannot be ensured, and so, to avoid all risk, it is wise to disconnect the source of H.T. supply before carrying out any internal adjustments or alterations to the receiver. But it is not always convenient to do so, particularly when the need arises of making a quick


Fig. 1. - Connections of a thrce-point
switch: both H.T. and L.T. battery circuits may be interrupted.
change so that the effect of alterations may be accurately observed, and it may sometimes be desirable, particularly when dealing with a battery, to make provision for interrupting the high-tension supply as well as switching off the L.T. accumulator.

This may conveniently be done by using a three-point switch, as in the "Band. Pass Superheterodyne" zecently described in these pages. The switch should be connected as in Fig. I.

Incidentally, it may be pointed out that when an H.T. switch is not fitted, and when the anode battery is


Simplified Aids<br>to<br>Better Reception.

not disconnected, it is always safer to leave the L.T. switch "on" when carrying out adjustments. This is because the accumulator acts as a low-resistance shunt, and prevents any great rise of voltage across the filaments in the event of an accidental contact between an H.T. positive lead and the positive L.T. busbar.

## 0000

## GANGED CONDENSERS AND GRID BIAS.

So much attention is now being paid to the development of mainsdriven receivers that the amateur who must, in the absence of an electric supply, depend on batteries, may possibly feel himself to be neglected. Actually, he has had such a large share of attention up to date that he has little cause for complaint, and, being still in the majority, will certainly not be forgotten.

A case in point is that of ganged condenser assemblies, of which the rotors of individual units are almost invariably joined together electricälly. When these are used in the construction of a "mains" set no great difficulty is found in devising means whereby each valve may be given any desired value of negative bias, and to do so seldom introduces any extra complication, as by-pass condensers and decoupling resistances are generally required in any case. With regard to battery sets, the fact that each rotor is not isolated electrically from its neighbours is often a source of embarrassment, as consideration will show that the usual practice of taking a lead from
the low-potential end of each tuned circuit to the appropriate negative terminal of the grid bias battery would merely bring about a shortcircuit. Of course, this plan would work if it were desired that each grid circuit tuned by the ganged condenser should operate at the same potential, but such a condition rarely arises in practice. Even if it did there remains the need for insulating the condenser frame from the metallic screens, which are almost bound to be employed.

Fortunately, there is no need to abandon the use of up-to-date components and methods of tuning on this account, as there are various subterfuges by means of which the handicap of connecied rotors may be overcome.

The simplest and most obvious way of connecting the bias battery is to insert it at the high-potential end of the circuit, between the grid and the condenser stator, as shown in Fig. 2 (a). At first sight it seems rather brutal to suspend a mass of metal at a point of high oscillating potential, and, indeed, such a pro-


Fig. 2.-Methods of biasing an H.F. valve.
cedure is wrong unless care is taken. It must be remembered, however, that when dealing with an H.F. valve, a single dry cell only is needed, and that it may be supported by the wiring so that no dielectric losses need be introduced. The cells used in batteries for socalled "fountain-pen" flash-lamps are particularly small, and so are highly suitable for this method of biasing.

Another way out of the difficulty
is suggested in Fig. 2 (b); here the bias cell is inserted directly in the tuned oscillatory circuit, and is shunted by a fixed condenser to avoid the introduction of undesirable resistance. A non-inductive condenser of a good make should be used; its capacity may be about I mfd., although a much lower value is generally adequate. This plan is especially suitable for an anode bend detector, but, if the battery is unshielded, or if its connecting wires are long, decoupliñg resistances should be joined in each lead if there is any sign of instability.
It follows almost as a matter of course that, when band pass filters are used, the circuits will be tuned by ganged condensers. In designing battery sets of this kind it would seem wise to adopt the methods which have proved successful in mains-driven receivers. At the least, constructional difficulties will be minimised by doing so, and the extra cost of components will be negligible.
The skeleton diagram of Fig. 3 shows how the filter and coupling components of an H.F.-detector combination may be arranged when the rotors of all three tuning condensers $\left(C_{1}, C_{2}, C_{3}\right)$ are joined together and also connected to the earthed busbar. In this case bias is fed to the H.F. valve grid through a resistance $R$, which may have a value of ro,000 ohms or so ; $\mathrm{C}_{m}$ is, of course, the filter coupling condenser.
With regard to the detector, it will be seen that grid potential is determined by the connection of the lower end of the leak. From the point of view of D.C. voltages, the grid is completely isolated by the condenser in series with it ; for this reason it is immaterial whether the variable condenser rotors are interconnected or not. There is little reason why a grid isolating condenser, with a suitably connected leak, should not be used in conjunction with a second H.F. valve or with an anode bend detector; this plan affords an easy way out of our difficulties, and it may be regarded as additional to those shown in Fig. 2.

The reader may be reminded that the circuit arrangements discussed above are equally applicable when separately controlled tuning condensers are mounted with their
frames and rotors in metallic contact with screening boxes or any other earthed metal work. In this way the need for insulating the fixing bushes may be avoided.

## ELIMINATOR VOLTAGE

In designing an H.T. battery eliminator it is always as well, if it can be managed without incurring any appreciable extra expense, to aim at an output voltage considerably in excess of the maximum anticipated requirements. If there is a large surplus voltage it follows
existence of an excessively high capacity between the secondary which supplies low-tension current for the output valve filament and the high-tension winding which feeds the rectifier.
Although the greatest capacity that can possibly exist between these windings will act as an extremely high reactance to alternating current of commercial frequency, it must be remembered that any leakage that may be present will develop an A.C. voltage across the automatic bias resistance, and that this voltage will be transferred to the output valve


Fig. 3.-Arrongement of gifid circuit components which allows a triple-ganged condenser to be used in a battery-operated receiver.
automatically that the series resistances through which the earlier stages of the receiver are customarily fed will be of higher value than would otherwise be employed, and in consequence they will be all the more effective in preventing unwanted interstage couplings. At the same time, feed resistances of high value will contribute at least something towards smoothing.

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## POWER TRANSFORMER LEAKAGES.

When hum in an A.C. "allmains:" receiver is definitely traced to the output valve, the trouble may often be ascribed to a leakage between the power transformer secondary windings. This leakage is sometimes caused by faulty insulation, but more often it is due to the
grid; in consequence, it will be amplified.

It is not difficult to determine whether hum is due to this cause: if it disappears when the output valve filament is temporarily heated from an entirely separate step-down transformer it may be assumed that inadequate insulation or excessive capacity between windings is definitely responsible for the trouble.

## Is it a "W.W." Diary ?

" Make sure you purchase The Wireless World Diary," compiled by the staff of The Wireless World, is a piece of advice to winich we would add the mere hint that the demand for the 193I edition already suggests that readers would be well advised to obtain copies for themselves and their friends without delay.

## UNBIASED.

By FREE GRID.

IHAVE been looking through manufacturers' catalogues recently in search of the latest developments in a matter in which I am particularly interested, namely, remote control of wireless receivers, and am thoroughly disgusted to note that apparently no progress has béen made whatever. Although there may be some components which have escaped my notice - and I apologise willingly to the makers of them if this is so-so far as I can see there is not a single new component on the market, while those who made these devices in previous years have not improved upon them.

At the moment I have quite a simple arrangement so that Mrs. Free Grid can, as the spirit moves her, switch in any one of three stations at will by the simple manipulation of an ordinary bell-push. The set is mounted in a suitable position near to the aerial leadin, and in every room I have a loud speaker plug point and a bell-push. The first prod switches the receiver on -it is, of course, entirely mains-driven - and brings in the London National. Prodding the push again causes the London Regional to appear, while a third prod brings in the Miclland Regional station, the fourth switching all off, when the whole cycle is repeated again. The apparatus was home-made for a very small sum, and the cost of running is infinitesimal, as the relay takes power only momentarily when the button is depressed. The power taken is about five watts, it being operated from a five-shilling "bell" transformer. It is perfectly safe, as only low-voltage wires are taken about the house.

## Improved Remote Control.

This scheme possesses the merit that when it is desired to switch off there is no need to return for this purpose to the same room in which it was switched on. It is my invariable custom when retiring to indulge in the two thoroughly reprehensible habits of listening-using 'phones with volume control--and also smoking the pipe of peace and contentment in bed, and I do not have to bother about going downstairs again to switch off. It is impossible, however, so far as I tried, to buy any manufactured equipment which will reproduce the aforementioned operations. Only two wires are needed for this system in any case, and I have reduced it to one by using one lead of the ordinary electric bell wiring in the house as my "return."

I am now experimenting with a still more serviceable system of remote control, which consists of a small 4 -volt electric motor coupled through a suitable reduction gear (Meccano) to the shaft of the tuning condenser of a well-known commercial detector and L.F. set which, by reason of its smooth action, lends itself peculiarly to

"Good-night, everybody, good-night."
my experiments. Another motor works the reaction control, which is equally smooth. The motors are also of the Meccano type, with permanent magnet, so that they will reverse by merely changing the direction of the current through the armature windings. Needless to say, the motors are operated from a distance by suitable switches, and they operate the tuning and reaction controls. The first "snag " which I had to overcome was noise due to the commutator of the motor. This was eradicated by suitably disposing fixed condensers across the brushes and by completely enclosing the small motors in cocoa tins. The mechanical problem of mounting them on the outside of the panel was easily solved.

## "Time, Gentlemen!"

As far as I am able to judge, electric control clocks have more or less disappeared from the market this year-at least, I was unable to find any at Olympia, and I only know definitely of one survivor. One of last year's models, I remember, was capable of switching on or off in five-minute intervals, but possessed the disadvantage that it only had a thirty-hour movement. Yet another had an eight-day movement but could only be adjusted to control the programme at half-hourly intervals. A marriage between these two would have produced an ideal arrangement. It is hard to say why these devices never became really popular, but undoubtedly high price was one of the main causes. The makers of them had evidently never heard of the teaching of Rowland Hill. Had they halved their price, which in my opinion was easily possible, they could have quadrupled their sales. Some mechanism of this type is certainly desirable if only to put a check on the "indiscriminate listening" in which so many people indulge. I have been informed on quite reliable authority that in some households, more especially those in which all power is taken from the mains, the wireless set is switched on at the commencement of the morning programme and simply left to burble away till midnight. It is little wonder that people get surfeited with the aurally indigestible mass which they thus receive into their systems, and then blame the B.B.C.

## "Indiscriminate Listening."

Surely it is literally impossible for all the items in an average day's programme to have an appeal to each individual listener, and for those who are incapable of switching off when an unpalatable item comes along a control clock set for 24 hours in consultation with the day's programme should be of great use. It would be still better if some horological genius could arrange enough peg-holes on the clock so that programmes could be arranged for a week in advance. We would then have not even the slenderest cause for indulging in indiscriminate listening, and the net result would probably be a considerable lightening of the B.B.C.'s daily post bag which is at present, so I understand, largely made up of moans from musical dyspeptics.

# Choosing a Deisector Valve 

A Comparison of Anode and Gridzcircuit Rectification.

By W. T. COCKING.

1VHE detector stage is often one of the most critical parts of a receiver, and the one which most repays a careful selection of components. Its design is essentially a compromise between conflicting factors, and upon the attainment of the correct balance between these factors depends the success or failure of the whole receiver. Although the detector circuit must always be designed to suit the valve, good results cannot be obtained unless the valve itself is suitable for rectification.
Before choosing a valve, however, it is necessary to decide which of the two alternative methods of rectification is to be used, anode bend or grid-circuit detection. The latter, if of the power type, is the superior, since it is not only more sensitive but is inherently freer from distortion than anode rectification. It has the disadvantage, however, of requiring a high anode voltage, and the steady anode current is usually some 6 mA . or 7 mA . This is of little moment in a mains-operated set. but may easily prohibit its use in a receiver whose H.T. supply is taken from dry batteries.

## Anode Bend Rectification.

There are then the leaky-grid and anode bend detectors; the latter has the advantage of taking a steady anode current of only about 0.1 mA . to 0.25 mA . It is true that during rectification this current increases somewhat; but it is not usually greater than I mA. These figures apply to the case where a valve of moderate anode A.C. resistance is used with transformer coupling and with an H.F. input of some io volts peak. Where a fairly high resistance valve is used with resistance coupling the current may be considerably less, and this is obviously advantageous for portable sets.
In all cases the anode voltage should not be less than B 3 I

120 volts and preferably greater. Negative grid bias must be applied, and the best voltage for this should always be found by experiment, but a value equal to twice the voltage which would be used were the valve acting as an amplifier will usually give good results. This high negative bias increases the anode A.C. resistance of the valve, and the working resistance is higher than the maker's figure.

When a large input is applied to a medium resistance valve, the working resistance may be only some 25 to 40 per cent. higher than the makers' nominal rating. In this case transformer coupling is perfectly satisfactory, provided that the component has an actual primary inductance of not less than rooH. In cases where the input H.F. voltage is comparatively small, however, the working A.C. resistance of the valve may be three or four times the nominal figure, and there is then no alternative to resistance coupling. In order to secure high efficiency, the coupling resistance R, Fig. I, should have a value not less than three times the working valve resistance. This immediately lands us in difficulties, since this resistance is shunted by the valve capacities and the input impedance of the succeeding valve, and, in addition, a by-pass condenser must be connected between the anode and cathode. The total capacity across the resistance, therefore, may be quite large and cause a considerable loss of high notes.

It will be seen, therefore, that, even with resistance coupling, the valve cannot have a very high internal resistance, and a valve with a nominal resistance of some 20,000 ohms, or 35,000 ohms at the most, is the highest which can be recommended. The coupling resistance should have a value of about 100,000 ohms, and the by-pass condenser can have a capacity of not:

## Choosing a Detector Valve.-

more than 0.0005 mfd ; these values represent probably the best compromise between efficiency and quality.

The amplification factor, of course, should always be as high as possible, and it is desirable to choose a valve with a fairly low inter-electrode capacity, in order to reduce the damping imposed upon the tuned grid circuit by anti-phase feed-back. The degree of amplitude distortion introduced by anode rectification is considerable and is due to the curvature of the valve characteristics. With a 100 per cent. modulated H.F. input, the distortion may be as high as 25 per cent., and with only 50 per cent. modulation it is rarely less than io per cent. Distortion of this order is readily noticeable, and it can be seen, therefore, that anode detection is not very good where the best quality is desired.

## Power-Grid Detection.

It so happens that the grid characteristics of most valves are much more suited to rectification than the anode characteristics, since they have not only sharper bends close to the zero current axis, but also a much longer straight portion. The action of the grid detector is that of a diode rectifier followed by an L.F. amplifier, and a high anode voltage is necessary to avoid distortion in this amplifying action. When such distortion occurs the valve is really acting both as a grid detector and as an anode bend detector; rectification in the two cases is in opposite phase, and a reduced output results, together with distortion.

The first requirement for a suitable grid detector valve, therefore, is that it will give a sufficiently large undistorted output. In this connection the following rule is of considerable use: The maximum undistorted voltage output of a power grid detector with a 100 per cent. modulated H.F. input is approximately one-half of that


Fig. 1.-The anode detector has the merit of needing only a
small anode current, and there is also little risk of hum. It small anode current, and there is also little risk of hum. It
does not give the best quality, however.
given by the same valve with the same anode voltage when acting as an amplifier with suitable negative grid bias.

It has been found that the most suitable valve is one having a working anode A.C. resistance a little over ro,000 ohms, and with as high an amplification factor as possible. The high mutual conductance and the equi-
potential cathode of the indirectly heated A.C. valves make them superb rectifiers, and valves such as the Mazda AC/HL, the Mullard 354v., and the Marconi-


Fig. 2. - The correct grid potential is important with batterytype valves; this can be adjusted by the potentiometer $P$, which should have a resistance of some 400 ohms. If the grid be
insufficiently positive distortion will occur, but if it be too insufficiently positive distortion will occur, but if it be too positive the tuned circuit will be highly damped.

Osram M.H.4, which have a nominal resistance of between II, 000 ohms and $I 6,000$ ohms, are the most satisfactory. They can be used with potentials up to 200 volts actually on the anode, and a very large output can then be obtained. Usually, however, the output is ample with about 150 volts anode potential, and the anode current is then about 8.5 mA .

The battery-type valve does not make such a good power detector, due partly to the lower mutual conductance and partly to the voltage drop along the filament. In general, it is advisable to choose a valve with a somewhat lower anode resistance, and the best value usually lies between about 8,000 ohms and 12,000 ohms nominal rating. Valves which come into this class are the Mazda L.2IO, the Mullard P.M.DX type, and the MarconiOsram L type, and all of these should prove satisfactory. In general, however, the output, the efficiency, and the quality are all not quite so good as with the A.C. mains valves.
The selection of a suitable value for the coupling resistance R, Fig. 2, is of great importance ; it has been found experimentally that the best results are obtained when it has a value equal to twice the working valve resistance ; that is, some 20,000 ohms for the A.C. valves. A higher value than this results in greater efficiency, but in a reduced output unless the H.T. voltage can also be increased to compensate for the greater voltage drop in the resistance.
With indirectly heated cathode-type valves, the grid return lead should be taken directly to the cathode, but with battery valves it is necessary to connect it to a source of positive potential. With 2 -volt valves it is sufficient to take the grid return lead to positive L.T., but with higher voltage valves it is advisable to fit a potentiometer across the filament, as shown in Fig. 2. The grid condenser, of course, should have a capacity

## Choosing a Detector Valve. -

 of 0.0001 mfd , while the grid leak can have a value of from 0.15 meg. to 0.25 meg. according to the degree of high-note reproduction desired.
## Super Power-Grid Detection.

Power-grid detection, however, need not be used solely to give a voltage output for feeding an output stage ; it can itself be used to provide the power necessary for operating a loud speaker. All low-frequency amplification can then be eliminated, with a great simplification in the smoothing and decoupling circuits.

At the present time, however, the maximum undistorted power output is limited, and so the scheme is only useful where very large volume is not required. The maximum power output of a power-grid detector with a Ioo per cent. modulated H.F. input is approximately one-quarter of that obtainable from the same valve with the same anode voltage and loud speaker load impedance when acting as an ordinary power valve with suitable negative grid bias. A large output, therefore, cannot be obtained at present, since as a detector the valve is worked with a grid bias only slightly negative, and there is a grave risk of the maximum anode watts dissipation limit being exceeded.
coupling resistance a large capacity can be used without a high note loss. Too large a capacity, however, tends to introduce amplitude distortion by reducing the


Fig. 3.-The push-pull power-grid detector. The two valves Should be of the same type and preferably a matched pair of 0.25 megohm or 0.5 megohm is suitable.
straightening effect of the load resistance upon the valve characteristics. This is very undesirable, and must be avoided at all costs; the by-pass condenser, therefore, should not have a capacity greater than about 0.002 mfd . On the other hand, this capacity must not be less than o.oor mfd., unless reaction be used, or the load upon the tuned grid circuit will be excessive.

## Push-Pull Power-grid Detection.

In an effort to avoid this state of affairs, the push-pull method of detection has been evolved, and is used in the Science Museum receiver. The circuit is shown in Fig. 3, and it will be seen that no grid condenser is required, and that the H.F. currents should balance out in the anode circuits; feed-back should be absent, therefore, and the tuned circuit should be only lightly damped. The usual anode circuit filter is needed, because the higher harmonics of the H.F. input do not balance out.

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## A Review of Manufacturers' Recent Prodúcts.

"SINGALDROP" ACID TESTER.
A novel method of testing the strength of the acid, and consequently the state of charge, in an accumulator has been evolved by A. E. Bawtree, 20, Manor Park Road, Sutton, Surrey. Its function is based on the reaction of chemically prepared paper when a drop of acid is applied to its surface. Acid changes the colour of this paper, the tints varying according to the strength, or specific gravity, of the acid.
This tester is available in two forms; a "Singaldrop Battery Blotter" which indicates full charge, half charge, or total discharge of the battery, and a more comprehensive outfit, designated the "Singaldrop Acid Tester," by means of which the stiength of the solution can be gauged to less than one per cent. of acid.


Bawtree's " Singaldrop Acid Tester."
The first mentioned is suitable for ordimary use and the blotters cost $4!$ d. each. The comprehensive tester may be used as a substitute for the ubiquitous hydrometer and is quite simple to operate. A drop of acid is applied to the sensitive paper and after a minute or so the colour of the wetted portion can be compared with a chart of colours from which the strength of the solution is determined. Two books of sensitive paper are supplied, a rud book for use with strong solu-
tions and a green book for use with weak solutions.

A test was made using acid solutions of known specific gravity. The first had an Sp.G. of 1225 , this produced a tint on the red paper which, when compared with the chart, showed the acid strength to lie between 1200 and 1250, these being the two nearest to the actual solution employed. The second test with acid of 1200 Sp .G., also with the red paper, gave a tint which matched with the colour for acid of $1200 \mathrm{Sp} . \mathrm{G}$.

The third test was made with acid of 11.30 Sp.G., the colour was about midway hetween Nos. 5 and 6 on the chart No. 5 indicates acid strength of 1150 and No. 6 11c0. Fifteen different shacles are given on the chart so that the acid strength can be very closely judged.
The complete tester with two books of sensitive paper, a colour chart, and a special viewing holder costs 2 s .

## COMPONENTS FOR THE WIRELESS

 WORLD FOUR.Valve and coil screens exactly conforming to the specification given for The Wireless World Four have been produced by B. \& J. Wireless Company, 2 and 3 . Athelstane Mews, Stroud Green Road, London N.4.
Many points of detail are to be found in the screening compartments that will prove helpful to the constructor. The valve screens, for instance, are supplied with a drilled base so that a large and perhaps irregular hole can be made in the tin base plate, thus removing the one difficulty which might be met with by way of making clean holes in the tin

B. and J. valve and coil screens for Ine
plate. Sis rentilating holes have been made in the base of the tube, so that a free current of air can circulate round the valve and keep it cool. These holes, of course, in loo way mir the effectiveness of the screening. It is to be noted also that it small insulating ring is fitted at the top of the screen, this preventing accidental contact with the anode of the valve.
A good appearance is given to the cril screens by producing a slightly domed top. The screens are manufactured by spinning and the aluminium used is of adequate thickness. The price of the valie screen is 2 s . 9 d ., and the coil screen 3 s .

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## "ADEPT" MINIATURE LATHE.

This lathe has been introduced chiefly for the use of model makers and is quite a serviceable tool at a very reasonable

price. In every respect it follows orthodox practice, laving a compound slide rest fitted with "V" type slides and adjustable tool holder. The tail stock is justab with a sliding barrel held in position by a hexagonal-headed set screw.
The mandrel bearings are adjustable and the mandrel nose threaded to take a catch plate and a removable centre "is fitted. The mandrel is driven by a twospeed pulley with "V" grooves to accommodate a round-section driving belt.
The height from centre to the top of the bed is $1 \frac{5}{8}$ in., so that it will just take a piece of work 3in., in diameter. A gap is provirled which increases the height of the centre to $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. There are mmerous occasions when a small lathe of this kind would prove very useful to the set constructor. Such functions as cutting slots in ribbed formers, winding
coils, H.F. chokes, L.F. choke boblins of small size, winding H.F. decoupling resistances, etc., are within its scope, to mention a few only of the possible uses to which it can be put.
The price of the lathe, with slide rest as illustrated, is $£ 1$, and with a hand rest in place of the slide rest, the cost is only 12s. 6d. A wood stand with heavy fly wheel is available at $£ 1$. Other accessories such as a 3 -jaw chuck costs 4 s. 6d., a face plate 3 s ., and a set of three tools 1s. 6 d . Round driving belt costs 3 d . per foot.
The "Adept" lathe is British made and marketed by Fel-Ectric Radio, 56, Garden Street, Sheffield.

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FRANKLIN COMPONENTS
A small and compact variable condenser in which ebonite is used as the dielectric has been placed on the market by the Fianklin Electric Co. Ltd., 187-189, Ilford Lane, Ilford, Essex. The feature oi special interest is the method adopted for driving the moving ranes. They are not fixed to the spindle in the usual manner, the spindle passing through clearance holes to position them. The driving force is applied to the periphery by a crank attached to the back end of the spindle. The movement is smooth, entirely free from " lumpiness," and requires no more pressure than an average air-dielectric type. A single-hole fixing bush is filted, also a $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. spindle.

A sample 0.0005 mfd . size was measured, its maximum capacity being 0.000585 mfd ., while its minimum capacity was 3 micronitds. only and the price is 3 s .

Among other components handled by this firm is a range of fixed resistances of the composition type. These are retailed at 1s. each. The resistance rods are capped with copper contacts and the overall size is $1 \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter.


A silicium carbide preparation is used which is mechanically strong and wili withstand considerable heat. These are rated to dissipate one watt, under which conditions the temperature rises slightly above $100^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. in the smaller values. sample 10,000 -ohm resistor was measired, its actual value being 11,300 ohms. A current of 14 mA . was passed through the resistance, and after half an hour the resistance was again measured. Its value was found to be 10,600 olms while hot, but after cooling the resistance returned to its original value.

These rods should find a useful application in mains units where the current is within their capacity, for which purpose they would appear to be highly satisfactory

## WATES UNIVERSAL DOUBLE CONE

 CHASSIS.The object of the designers in using two cones of different diameters is to give equal facilities for the production of high and low frequencies. Further, the arrangement of two cones joined at the apex, as shown in the photograph, gïves better mechanical stability, and there is less likelihood of the equilibrium position shifting with changes in atmospheric conditions. This effect is still further re-

duced in the Wates chassis by the employment of special oiled parchnment in the 12 in . and 14 in . cones, and of chemically treated paper in the 20in. model. An interesting feature of all models is the spiral joint in the material forming the cone.
The Double Cone Chassis is now fitted with a miversal unit fixing bracket designed to accommodate all the leading makes of cone units at present on the market.

Tests witl the 20 in , morlel, fitted with a Wates "Star" unit, revealed that the double diaphragm is capable of reproducing all frequencies from 100 up to 5,500 cycles.
The prices of the three models available are as follow :-12in., 11s. 6d.; 14in., 12s. 6d. ; 20in., 17s. 6d. The unit is made by the Standard Battery Co., 184-8, Shaftesbury Avenue. W.C.2.

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## ELLISON FILAMENT TRANSFORMER.

Although this component is required to deliver some 20 watts output, it embodies a very generous iron core; the windings likewise following safety-first practice. This is all to the good, since one might reasonably expect good voltage regulation.


Ellison filament heating mains transformer for A.C. valves.

Some measurements were made of the output A.C. voltage on loads of from 1 to 5 amps., using a 250 -volt, 50 -cycle supply. These are recorded below :-

| Current <br> (R.M.S.). | A.C. vollage (R.M.S.). |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| 2 amps. |  |
| 3 " | 4.1 " |
| 4 - | 4.0 |
| 5 " | 3.9 " |

The low voltage winding is centretapped; the primary is tapped, also, to suit mains voltages of 200,230 , and 250 . The core laminations are clamped tightly together hy means of special cast end plates, projections on which serve as feet for fixing purposes. The transformer is perfectly silent in use, not a trace of hum or buzz being noticed during test. This model is priced at 19s. 6d.
The makers are the Ellison Manufacturing Co., Ltcl., Dragon Works, Harrogate, who make, also, a wide range of mains transformers for use in H.T. battery eliminators and L.T. trickle chargers

## Factory Electrification for Works

 Directors and Managers.A pamphlet by the well-known consulting engineer, Mr. W. J. Crampton, M.I.E.E., of 73, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, has come to hand, setting down briefly the points to be considered in the negotiations between the consumer and the supply authority when installing electrical power in factories, with a discussion on the comparative merits of the three tariff systems in general use.

# Letters to the Editor. 

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.
Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, "The Wireless World," Dorset Elouse, Tudor Street, E.C.4, and musi be accompanied by the writer's name anil address.

## POWER DETECTION.

Sir,-I note that Mr. P. K. Turner claims to be the pioneer in this country of power detection and to have had some infiuence over the designers of the new South Kensington receiver-
I am sure many readers would be very interested if more details were forthcoming regarding the detector stage of this most interesting receiver. As I understood the position, the diode was regarded as distortionless and impossible to overload, its drawbacks being its relative lack of sensitivity and the load thrown on the aerial-grid circuit. Has recent investigation led to a revision of the claims originally made for the diode detector? On the face of it it appears that a comparatively straightforward detector stage has been replaced by a complicated push-pall system, entailing elaborate decoupling precautions and the consumption of a fairish anode current. Had the intention of the builders of the new set been to design a highly selective long-range receiver I should not have been so puzzled; but the new quality receiver is still limited to the local stations, why then the break away from the diode which, in Mr. Turner's view, was "unnecessary"? In short, is the new push-pull detector stage an interesting laboratory "stunt"? 1 ask this question with diffidence, knowing only too well my own technical limitations. At the same time, I would add that I am interested in the best reception obtainable for home consumption, and that until recently my "local" consisted of a four-valve set incorporating one H.F. followed by a diode. Since the advent of Brookmans Park I have found it possible to dispense with the H.F. without loss of quality, and therefore it seems to me that for straightforwardness a local receiver, consisting of a diode followed by two L.F.-the output being as generous as one's purse will pernit-is difficult to beat. In my own locality I have no difficulty in separating the two transmissions by the use of ordinary home-made plng-in coils separately tuned and loose-coupled, the strength being all that is required

Whilst on the subject of detectors, is it not a matter for considerable surprise and regret that the old formula of a 0.0003 condenser and 2 -megohm leak is still the standard practice in so many receivers, both manufactured and clesigned for home construction? I presume that Mr. Turner is not preparel to claim that sucl arrangements-however sensitive they may beare superior from the point of view of quality to a well-designed anode-bend detector stage.
E. II. PALM.

Ilford.

## ANODE BEND AND LEAKY GRID.

Sir-In your description of the Berlin Radio Show (The IVireless W'orld, September 10th, 1930), you state on p. 224: "An interesting novelty was the set shown by the Mende Co. This set is fitted with a knob whereby one may employ either anode-bend or leaky grid detection.
The Megavox Three designed by the writer, published in The IFireless World, September 12th, 1928, and exhibited at the National Radio Exhibition, was the first receiver to be fitted with a change-over switch for this purpose. In this receiver the quality with leaky grid rectinication was definitely superior to anode bend. N. W. McLACHLAN. to anode bend.

London, S.W.I.
[We believe that the incorporation of this switcl in the Megavox Three was then a novelty. The ouly novelty in the use of the idea in the Mende Co's receiver appoars to be in the application to a commercial receiver.--Ed.]

## TELEVISION.

Sir,-In your issue dated November 5th Mr. J. Owen Harries lescribed the use of Graduated Definitions in Television. It should be pointed out that Baird standard "Televisor"; receivers employ this principle. Six of the lines at the erlge of the picture are one and a half times as broad as the lines
in the centre of the picture. By this means greater clarity of definition is obtained in the centre
This system of graduated exploration is covered by Baird Patents, Nos. 303771 and 329664. Short extracts from these are as follows :-
"It is a characteristic of human vision that it provides an area of acute vision surrounded by an area of more or less indistinct vision, and an object of this invention is to provide a simila effect in the reproduction of pictures, and particularly in reproductions effected by television. The benefit of this is that when reproducing the picture the centre of interest can be shown with greater emphasis and clanity than the remainder of the picture.

One of the claims is as follows :-
" $\Lambda$ system of transmission of pictures by telegraphy (for example, by phototelegraphy or by television) wherein the bands within which the picture is explored and the image of it is reproduced are narrower at some parts of the picture than at ot hers."
One of the claims in connection with the second Patent reads as follows:-

In or for television or like apparatus an exploring disc for a spirally arranged series of apertures characterised in that the width of the apertures radially of the disc is greatest at the ends of the spiral and least at the mid-point of the spiral.'
London, N.W.7.
H. J. BARTON CHAPPLE

## THE POST-OFFICE MONOPOLY

Sir,-The correspondence in your journal re the statutory powers the Postmaster-General may, or may not, have in preventing radioelectric interference with broadcasting recently attracted my attention.

It was stated that the P.M.G. enjoyed a monopoly enly in so far as communication was concerned, but Article Two of the General Regulations annexed to the International Radiotelegrapls Convention of Washington, 1927, contradicts this statement. To quote the first paragraph of the Article :-
" No Radioelectric Seuding Station shall be established or worked by an individual person or by a private enterprise without a special licence issued by the Government of the country to which the station in question is subject."

Note that Sending station is specified, not Telegraph station, which would constitute a station for communicating messages.
Article One of the regulations defines "station" as follows :"The term 'station' means any station whatever without regard to its purpose."

A receiver in an oscillating cordition which is capable of emitting wireless waves constitutes a radioelectric sending station within the meaning of the regulations, and since Great Britain was one of the signatories to them, it would seem that the P.M.G. would be perfectly within his rights in prosecuting the owner of such a set, in the event of him not possessing a transmitting licence.

GEORGE E. FRICKER.
London, S.E. 16.

## GRAMOPHONE BROADCASTS.

Sir,-Radio and gramophone alike give us canned music; bat when gramophone records are transmitted the result is re-canned-canned music, which is beneath contempt. The prestige of radio will suffer and the small advertisenient columns of The Wireless World will be flooded with announcements of used inductances, tuning condensers and H.F. valves for sale. For once in five years I heartily disagree with you.
Southport. "Since 1925."
[Our correspondent refers, we helieve, to the Editorial comment in our issue of November 12th. In our remarks, however, we did not sponsor gramophone broadcasts, but suggested that their apparent popularity was due to other causes, such as brevity of items, etc.-ED.]

ONE-VALVE GRAMO-AMPLIFIER.
Sir,-It las Necurred to me that some of your readers may be interesteu in the following description of a single-valve gramophone amplifier capable of good quality reproduction with a volume of sound at least equal to the average gramophone.

The use of a pentode as a single-valve loud speaker set for radio reception has recently been described in your excellent journal, and I am sure the subject is of interest to the economist because of the relatively large power output-voltage input ratio obtained when a reasonably strong signal is applied to the grid of the valve.
With the Regional-One receiver as the nucleus, the arl'angement of "a single-valve amplifier for the reproduction of gramophone records is shown in the accompanying circuit diagram.

While a volume control of high resistance may be connected directly across the pickup, the average output of the latter, particularly in the region of the higher frequencies, is greater when the load due to the volume control is absent

The concienser $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ tunes the pick-up transformer primary circuit to the lower frequencies, thus giving a useful degree of cont pensation where it is needed. The resonant frequency of this acceptor circuit is given by

$$
f=\frac{159}{\sqrt{\mathrm{~L} \times \mathrm{C}}}
$$

where $f=$ cycles per second, $\mathrm{L}=$ the open-circuit inductance of the transformer primary, in henrys, and $\mathrm{C}=$ the capacity of the condenser $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ in microfarads.
While this is not the most accurate formula for the calculation of the natural frequency of this circuit, it is sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes.
With a capacity of 0.05 mfd . for this condenser a considerable increase in the reproduction of the bass notes results, while the input transformer and the pentode accentuate the higher frequencies to a degree which makes the filter $\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{R}$ a necessity if serious overloating and high-voltage surges across the output choke are to be avoided. With the filter across the choke this is not likely to happen, and the reproduction from the loud speaker is both pleasing and powerful.
To track down distortion, which is generally of the third harmonic in pentodes, a plate milliammeter mist be inserted as in the diagram. If the needle flickers noticeably on strong passages in the record, the loud-speaker feed conde:iser should be connected to a tap on the choke, giving a lower step-down ratio. After this the connections to the A.F. 6 may be altered. Used as a normal double-wound transformer, it has a step-up ratio of $1: 7$, while a step-up of $1: 8$ may be obtained when it is auto-coupled, with the secondary assisting the primary.
In the circuit diagram the transformer $T_{1}$ is auto-coupled, with the secondary opposing the prinary, giving a step-up of $1: 6$, and this method further reduces distortion with the-type of loud speaker in use.

DAVID REES.
South Wales.

## RADIO SERVICING.

Sir,-I have read with great interest your leading article and also the correspondence on the subject of "Radio Servicing," and it may interest you to learn, in this connection, that the Uouncil of this Institute have been giving this, together with the technical status of wireless traders, their careful consideration.

As a result it has been decided to issue (iu addition to the revised general syliabus, to come into force very shortly) a special syllabus particularly applicable to owners of retail wire less establishments, managers of wireless departments in retail


One-valve gramophone amplifier circuit on the lines of the Regional-One receiver. $\mathrm{C}_{1}, \mathbf{0 . 0 5} \mathrm{mfd}$;
stores, and salesmen and maintenance engineers in wireless establishments.
Special attention has been given to the broad problems of servicing as outlined in the fifth paragraph of your leading article.
I may add that we have quite a number of nembers who are first-cliss engineers engaged in the retail wireless business, and it is my experience that there are a considerable number of very competent men among the members of the retail trade.
I should just like to mention that we have on our Examining Board men of wide knowledge in the field of wireless science and engineering who have had considerable experience in the various problems met with in setting examination papers, and who are therefore in a position to set up standards and act in a judicial capacity in connection with the drawing up of examinations and the application of practical and theoretical knowledge to this end.

It is an undoubted fact that the time has come when the wireless retailer must be in a position to indicate, in the same manner that opticians and pharmacists do, that he is a fully qualified practitioner, and it is to this end that the Council have been working.

Our new syllabus will be available within the next week or so, and those interested may obtain full information if they care to comnunicate with me.

HARRIE J. KING, Secretary
Iustitute of Wireless Technology, 71, Kingswáy, W.C.2:

## THE PITCH OF THE HUMAN Whistle.

Sir,-Mr. Coombs suggests a comparison with the organ piccolo stop, and mentions some results. Similar experiments with a flute showed that the lower limit of pitcl is undoubtedly "upper C."
Most books on the organ will confirm Mr. Coomb's opinion that the longer organ pipes produce almost pure tones. A note of 16 cycles is below the limit of audibility for some persons, and will sound weak to many others. Standing directly in front of a moving-coil speaker reproducing a pure tone of 25 cycles is not too pleasant-even for one of Mr. Munn's "lownote fans." The sound does not seem intense, but can be "felt" physically. My experience put me in mind of standing on the platiorm of a high-speed stationary engine
Penrith,
A. C. WILDSMITH.

## READERS' PROBLEMS.

"The Wireless World" Supplies a Free Service of Technical Information.
The Service is subject to the rules of the Department, which are printed below; these must be strictly enforced, in the interest of readers themselves. A selection of queries of general interest is dealt with below.

## Parallel-feed Choke.

In. the published description of the "Band-Pass Superheterodyne" in your issues of November 5th and 12th no mention is made of the inductance coil $L_{1}$ in the theoretical diagram. Is this an H:F. chale, and what is its function?
T. M.

As shown in the practical wiring plan, this component is a Burndept H.F. choke. It is comnected in the signal-frequency H.F. valve anode circuit, which is coupled to the first detector by the conventional parallel-feed method.

## Interdependent Eliminator Outputs

$I$ hace seen a statement to the effect that the voltage output across any one tapping of an A.C. eliminator is dependent to some extent on the current actually being taken from other tappings of the unit. It seems to me that when rariuble series resistances are used for controlling voltage, as is usual nowadays, each voltacfe output should be independent of the others. Will you please explain? N. B. M.
The statement which you quote is quite correct. If each output terminal were fed through i separate resistance, and if there were no other resistances in circuit, the voltage existing at any one terminal would be unaffected by the current drawn from other terminals. But in practice there is always some resistance-generally that of a smoothing choke, and inevitably that of the rectifier itself, which will be

## RULES.

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(1.) Every communication to the Information Denartment must bear the reader's egistration number.
(2.) Only one question (which must deal with a single specific point) can be answered. Letters mation Department."
(3.) Queries must be uritten on one side of the paper and diagrams drawn on a separate sheet. A self-addressed stamped envelope must be enclosed for postal reply.
(t.) Designs or circuil diagrams for complete receivers or eliminators cannot ordinarily be given, under present-day conditions justice cannot be done to questions of this kind in the course a
(5.) ) Prar
Prac
or considered.
(6.) Designs for components such as L.F. chokes, power transformers, complex coil assem. blies, etc., cannot be supplied.
(7.) Queries arising from the construction or operation of receivers must be confined to constructional sets described in "The Wireless World" " $\dot{\text { to }}$ to standard manufactured receivers: or their original form and not embodying modifications.
common to all circuits. Currents for the various outputs will produce an additive voltage drop across this common resistance.

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Step-up or Step-down.
A tapped choke is often used as a form of step-lown transformer, particularly in receivers where a pentode output valve is used; I beliece that it is also possible to employ a choke as a step-up transformer, as might be necessary when a hugh-impedance loud speaker is operated in conjunction with a lou-impedance value. Will you please give me a diagram of connections for the latter arranyement? S. W. P.

By making suitable connections to the tapping points, a choke can be used as either a step-down or as a step-up transformer. The first arrangement is shown


Fig. 1.-A tapped choke may be arranged as (a) a step-down or (b) a step-up coupling between the output valve and the loud speaker.
in Fig. 1(a), while the second condition is obtained by connecting the choke as in Fig. 1(b). Referring to this second diagram, the step-up ratio will obviously be increased by moving the anode connection towards the end of the choke which is joined to H.T. positive.

## Smaller Inductances.

7'uning condensers of 0.00035 mfd . are specified for the "Band Paso Three," as described in "The Wireless World" for September 17th. Tould it be possible to substitute components with a maximum capacity of 0.0005 mfd ?
A. R.

Larger condensers than those originally used in the receiver conld be substituted. provided they are of suitable design, but. to aveid. difliculties in ganging, it would
be desirable to reduce the inductance of the coils. We suggest that you should remove about eight turns from each of the medium-wave coils, and six turns from each section of the long-wave windings.

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Queries arising out of the construction of the Wireless World Four are to form the subject of a further article on the set to be included in an early tssue.

## Two Circuits Compared.

I am undecided whether to construct a 2-v-1 set with simple tuned circuits, or a 1-v-1 comlination with pilter input. In this locality interference from the local station is a serious problem, and I should be glad of your advice as to which of these two circulits is likely to be most satisfactory. Extreme long range is not desired, lut I should like to be able to re ceice some of the moie powerful Continental stations when conditions are good.
J. W. C.

It is none too easy to make a direct comparison between these two sets. With regard to the $2-v-1$ arrangement it will almost certainly be necessary to sacrifice a good deal of the available aerial input in order to get sufficient selectivity, as an inpat filter is not to be included Further, it is unlikely that anything approaching maximum stage gain will be obtainable from the H.F. stages, for the same reason. On the other hand, an H.F.-det.-L.F. set of good design could probably be operated with optimum coupling between its various circuits, but even so it is almost certain to give less overall magnification than the other. There will not be any great difference in cost, as both sets employ the same numbei of variable condensers and coils, but probably a $1-\mathrm{v}-1$ set would be slightly cheaper and easier to construct, and should be sensitive enough for your needs.

## FOREIGN BROADCAST GUIDE.

## LVOV <br> (Poland)

Geographical position: $49^{\circ} 50^{\circ}$ N., $24^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$.
Approximate air line from London : 1,055 miles.
Wavelength : 381 m . Frequency : 788 kc . Power : 2.2 kW . (temporarily).
Time: Central European (one hour in advance of G.M.T.).
Standard Daily Transmissions.
Relays: Warsaw, Wilno and Posen.
Man announcer. Opening call: Rhalo 1 Polsḳie radjo Loov (pron : L.voof).
Closes down with Polish National Anthem (Dombrovski mazurka).
Note: In pre-war maps Lvov is indicated as Lemberg.



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 $£ 10 / 10$, accept $£ 3 / 10 ; 2$ matched $1^{1} 625 \mathrm{As}, 16 /--$
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Supplement to "The Wireless World and Radio Review," November 26th, 1930.

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|  | 410 SG | 4.0 | 0.1 | 150 | 70 | 3.0 | 200 | 200,000 | 0.001 | 20- |
|  | 610 SG: | 6.0 | 0.1 | 150 | 70 | 3.0 | 200 | 200,000 | 0.001 | 20- |
|  | 41 MSG* | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 70 | 0.5 | 1,000 | 400,000 | 0.001 | 25/- |
| Dario | SG Bivolt | 1.8 | 0.15 | 200 | 80 | 2.0 | 250 | 250,000 | 0.005 | 126 |
|  | SG Forvolt | 3.5 | 0.075 | 200 | 80 | 2.0 | 250 | 250,000 | 0.005 | 15/6 |
|  | AC 1.4091* | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 80 | 1.5 | 1,000 | 1,000,000 | 0.0045 | 18/6 |
| Fotos . | BC 150 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 150 | 90 | 3.0 | 170 | 170,000 | - | 15/6 |
|  | C 150 | 4.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 90 | 3.0 | 170 | 170,000 | - | 15/t: |
|  | S 4150* . . . | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 80 | 3.0 | 400 | 125,000 | - | 22 |
|  | P 4150* . . | 4.0 |  | 200 | 80 | 3.5 | 250 | 125,000 | - | 22- |
| Lissen | SG 215 | 2.0 | 0.15 | 160 | 70 | 1.5 | 180 | 200,000 | 0.005 | $12 / 6$ |
|  | SG 410 | 4.0 | 0.1 | 160 | 70 | 1.0 | 180 | 200,000 | 0.005 | 126 |
| Marconi and | S 215 | 2.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 80 | 2.5 | 180. | 300,000 | 0.014 | 20- |
| Osram. | S 410 | 4.0 | 0.1 | 150 | 80 | 4.0 | 180 | 200,000 | 0.014 | 20 - |
|  | S 610 | 6.0 | 0.1 | 150 | 80 | 4.5 | 210 | 200,000 | 0.014 | 20 - |
|  | S 62. | 6.0 | 0.25 | 180 | 80 | 2.5 | 110 | 170,000 | 0.022 | 22/6 |
|  | MS 4* | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 60 | 2.4 | 550 | 500,000 | 0.0025 | $25-$ |
|  | S $8^{* *}$ | 0.8 | 0.8 | 150 | 80 | 3.0 | 160 | 200,000 | 0.013 | $251-$ |
| Marconi | S $2 / \mathrm{C}$ | 2.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 60 | 1.75 | 330 | 300,000 | 0.001 | 201- |
| Mazda. | 215 SG | 2.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 60 | 2.6 | 300 | 270,000 | 0.005 | $20 /-$ |
|  | $\mathrm{AC} / \mathrm{SG}^{*} \therefore$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 4.2 | 1,200 | 400,000 | 0.003 | 25- |
| Mullard | PM 12 | 2.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 75 | 2.0 | 200 | 212,000 | 0.005 | 20, |
|  | PM 14 | 4.0 | 0.075 | 150 | 75 | 2.0 | 200 | 230,000 | 0.005 | 20/- |
|  | PM 16 | 6.0 | 0.075 | 150 | 75 | 2.3 | 200 | 200,000 | 0.005 | 20 - |
|  | $\mathrm{S} 4 \mathrm{~V}^{*}$ | 4.1 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 0.85 | 1,000 | 909,000 | 0.005 | $25 /-$ |
|  | S 4 VA* | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 0.6 | 1,500 | 430,000 | 0.0015 | 25- |
|  | $\mathrm{S} 4 \mathrm{VB}^{*}$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 3.5 | 900 | 257,000 | 0.0015 | 25/- |
| Six-Sixty | SS 215 SG.. | 9.0 | 0.15 | 150 | 75 | 2.1 | 190 | 220,000 | - | $20 /-$ |
|  | SS 4075 SG | 4.0 | 0.075 | 150 | 75 | 2.4 | 190 | 220,000 | - | $201-$ |
|  | SS 6075 SC: | 5.0 | 0.075 | 150 | 75 | 2.3 | 190 | 210,000 | - | $201-$ |
|  | SS 4 SG $A^{(\% \%} \ldots$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 0.75 | 1,000 | 1,000,000 | - | 20 |
|  | SS $4 \times$ SG AC*. ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 1.0 | 1,600 | 485,000 | 0.0015 | $25 /-$ |
| Triotron | SCO ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 2.0 | 0.12 | 200 | 75 | 4.5 | 200 | 300,000 | 0.005 | 176 |
|  | SC $4 \ldots$ | 4.0 | 0.07 | 200 | 75 | 2.5 | 250 | 300,000 | 0.005 | 17/6 |
|  | SCG 4 (for DC). | 4.0 | 0.1 | 200 | 75 | 4.0 | 350 | 350,000 | 0.005 | 17/6 |
|  | SCN 4**. | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 2.2 | 500 | 400,000 | - | 186 |
|  | CWN * $^{*}$. | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 75 | 6.5 | 150 | 150,000 | - | 18,6 |
| Tungsram .. | S 910 | 2.0 | 0.12 | 200 | 100 | 1.5 | 300 | 430,000 | 0.01 | 13 - |
|  | S 407 | 4.0 | 0.07 | 200 | 100 | 1.75 | 350 | 400,000 | 0.01 | 13 - |
|  | AS $4100^{*}$. | 4.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 100 | 7.5 | 900 | 600,000 | 0.004 | 16-- |

* With indirectly heated cathodes. ** Directly heated A.C. Valve. $\dagger$ Assuming max. H.T. voltage,
optimum screen voltage and 0.9 volts bias for battery valves and 1.5 volts for A.C. sereened valves.
MISCELLANEOUS VALVES.
(A.C. resistances above 7,000 ohms.)

| Type. |  |  | Filament. |  | At Zero | Grid Volts andVolts H.T. |  | $\xrightarrow[\text { Max. }]{A}$ Vnode | $\begin{gathered} B \\ \text { Grid } \\ \text { Bias } \\ (\text { for } A) . \end{gathered}$ | Average Anode Current (jor <br> $A$ and $B$ ) (mA.) | Price. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Volts. | Amps. | A.C. Resistance (Ohms). | Amplification Factor. | Mutual Conductance (mA./volt) |  |  |  |  |
| Cossor. . | 210 RC |  | 2.0 | 0.1 | 50,000 | 36 | 0.72 | 150 | $1 \frac{1}{2}$ | 1.3 | 8/6 |
|  | 210 HF |  | 2.0 | 0.1 | 20.000 | 22 | 1.1 | 150 | - 3 | 2.3 | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 210 LF |  | 2.0 | 0.1 | 12,000 | 10 | 0.83 | 150 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 5.5 | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 2 l 0 Det. |  | 2.0 | 0.1 | 13,000 | 15 | 1.15 | 150 | - | - | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 410 RC |  | 4.0 | 0.1 | 60.000 | 40 | 0.66 | 150 | $1 \frac{1}{2}$ | 1.2 | $8^{\prime} 6$ |
|  | $410 \mathrm{HF}^{\circ}$ |  | 4.0 | 0.1 | 20,000 | 20 | 1.0 | 150 | 4 | 1.5 | 8,6 |
|  | 410 LF |  | 4.0 | 0.1 | 8,500 | 15 | 1.76 | 150 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 3.3 | 8/6 |
|  | 610 RS |  | 6.0 | 0.1 | 60,000 | 50 | 0.8 | 150 | $1 \frac{1}{2}$ | 1.0 | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 610 HF |  | 6.0 | 0.1 | 20,000 | 20 | 1.0 | 150 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 1.5 | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 610 LF |  | 6.0 | 0.1 | 7,500 | 15 | 2.0 | 150 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 3.6 | $8 / 6$ |
|  | 680 HF | . | 6.0 | 0.8 | 20,000 | 27 | 1.35 | 400 | 6 | 8.0 | 25/- |
| Dario .. | Unir. Biv. |  | 1.8 | 0.1 | 10,000 | 10 | 1.0 | 200 | $1{ }^{1}$ | 3.0 | 5/6 |
|  | RC Biv. |  | 1.8 | 0.1 | 60,000 | 30 | 0.5 | 160 | $1{ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 0.25 | $5 / 6$ |
|  | HF Biv. |  | 1.8 | 0.15 | 21,000 | 25 | 1.2 | 200 | 3 | 2.0 | 5/6 |
|  | S. Det. Bix. |  | 1.8 | 0.15 | 7,500 | 15 | 2.0 | 200 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 3.0 | 6/6 |
|  | Univ. Fors. |  | 3.5 | 0.075 | 10,000 | 10 | 1.0 | 200 | $1 \frac{1}{4}$ | 3.0 | 5/6 |
|  | RC Forv. |  | 3.5 | 0.075 | 60,000 | 30 | 0.5 | 160 | $1 \frac{1}{2}$ | 0.25 | $5 / 6$ |
|  | HF Forv. |  | 3.5 | 0.075 | 21,000 | 25 | 1.2 | 200 | 3 | 2.0 | $5 / 6$ |
|  | S. Det. Forr | . | 3.5 | 0.07 .5 | 7,500 | 15 | 2.0 | 200 | $4 \frac{1}{2}$ | 3.0 | 6.6 |





INDIRECTLY HEATED A.C. VALVES.


## RECOMMEND

 TROROM THE ACE of ValvesAdvt. of The General Electric Co., Lfd., Magnet House, Kingsteay, London, W.C. 2 .



INDIRECTLY HEATED A.C. VALVES.


DIRECTLY HEATED A.C. VALVES.

| Dario . | R 3880 .. |  | 4.0 | 0.3 | 2,200 | 8.5 | 3.8 | 200 | 19 | 20.0 | - | - | 10,- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Marconi and Osiam. | P8.. | . | 0.8 | 0.8 | 6,000 | 6.0 | 1.0 | 150 | 12 | 10.0 | 160 | 12,000 | 17/6 |
| Mullard | AC 104.. | . | $4: 0$ | 1.0 | 2,850 | 10.0 | 3.5 | 200 | 14 | 11.0 | 400 | 6,000 | 16/- |
|  | AC $064 .$. | $\cdots$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | 2,000 | 6.0 | 3.0 | 200 | 91 | 20.0 | 750 | 4,300 | 16 - |
|  | AC $044 \ldots$ | . | 4.0 | 0.7 | 1.150 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 200 | 32 | 30.0 | 1,020 | 2,500 | $22 / 6$ |

MADE IN ENGLAND
Sold by all Wireless Dealers


Cossue

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| Type. |  |  |  | Filament. |  | Type of Rectification. | Max. Anode Volts. R.M.S. | Max. D.C. Output * (Unsmoothed) |  | Price. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Volts. | Amps. |  |  | Volts. | mA. |  |
| Cossor | 44 SU |  |  | 4.0 | 0.4 | Half-wave | 200 | 230 | 20 | 15/- |
|  | 412 SU | $\cdots$ | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Half-wave | 250 | 190 | 70 | 15/- |
|  | 408 BU | . | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 270 | 30 | 12/6 |
|  | 506 BU | . | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 230 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | 412 BU |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 70 | 20/- |
|  | 612 BU | - | ** | 6.0 | 0.4 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 280 | 50 | 201- |
|  | 624 BU | $\cdots$ | - | 6.0 | 2.0 | Full-wave | 500-0-500 | 380 | 60 | 201- |
|  | 825 BU | . |  | 7.5 | 3.0 | Full-wave | 550-0-550 | 340 | 120 | 22/6 |
|  | 660 SU | . | $\ldots$ | 6.0 | 4.0 | Half-wave | 1,000 | 1,000 | 150 | 63- |
| Dario . | V 3880 | . |  | 4.0 | 1.3 | Full-wave | 350-0-350 | 300 | 75 | 10/6 |
|  | + | - | . | $\pm .0$ | 1.0 | Full-wave | $300-0-300$ | 250 | 40 | 14/6 |
| Lissen | U 650 | 15. | $\cdots$ | 6.0 | 0.5 | Half-wave | 300 | 300 | 40 | 12/6 |
|  | UU 41 | -. | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 300-0-300 | 300 | 75 | 17/6 |
| Marconi and Osram. | U5. | จ\% |  | 5.0 | 1.6 | Full-wave | 400-0-400 | 520 | 45 | 20/- |
|  | U 8 . |  |  | 7.5 | 2.4 | Full-wave | 500-0-500 | 500 | 120 | 22/6 |
|  | U9 |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 245 | 75 | 20/- |
|  | U 10 .. |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 260 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | GU I (ga | s-fill |  | 4.0 | 3.0 | Half-wave | 1,000 | 1,000 | 250 | 40/- |
| Mazda.. | UU 30/25 |  | $\cdots$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250--0-250 | 250 |  |  |
|  | UU $2 \dagger$ |  | -5. | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 230 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | UU 60/25 |  | . | 4.0 | 2.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | UU $120 / 2$ | $50 \dagger$ | $\cdots$ | 4.0 | 2.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 200 | 120 | 22/6 |
|  | U 60/500 $\dagger$ |  | . | 4.0 | 2.0 | Half-wave | 500 | 500 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | U 120/500 |  | . | 4.0 | 2.0 | Half-wave | 500 | 500 | 120 | $22 / 6$ |
|  | U 65/550 |  |  | 7.5 | 1.25 | Half-wave | 550 | 550 | 65 | 17/6 |
| Mullard | DU 1 | $\cdots$ | - | 4.0 | 0.6 | Half-wave |  |  |  |  |
|  | DU 10 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 4.0 | 1.0 | Half-wave | 250 | 250 | 75 | 15/- |
|  | DU 4 | . | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Half-wave | 500 | 500 | 60 | $17 / 6$ |
|  | DW 1. | $\because$ | . | 4.0 | 0.6 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 260 | 30 | 12/6 |
|  | DW 2 | . | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | DU 2 |  | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 75 | 20/- |
|  | DW 8 | . |  | 5.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 425-0-425 | 450 | 60 | 20/- |
|  | DU 15 | . | $\because$ | 7.5 | 0.6 | Half-wave | 500 | 520 | 60 | 15,- |
|  | DW 15 | . | . | 7.5 | 0.6 | Full-wave | 500-0-500 | 560 | 60 | 20/- |
|  | DW 30 | . | . | 7.5 | 2.4 | Full-wave | 500-0-500 | 500 | 120 | 22/6 |
| Philips | 1801 | . | - | 4.0 | 0.6 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 260 | 30 | 12/6 |
|  | 1.821 |  | . | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250--0-250 | 250 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | 506 K |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 300-0-300 | 300 | 75 | 20/- |
|  | 1561. |  |  | 4.0 | 2.0 | Full-wave | 500-0-500 | 500 | 120 | 22/6 |
|  | 1562 . |  |  | 7.5 | 1.25 | Half-wave | 750 | 730 | 110 | 30!- |
| Six-Sixty | SSW 432 |  |  | 4.0 | 0.6 | Full-wave | 250--0--250 | 250 | 30 | 12/6 |
|  | SSW 462 |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | SSU 465 |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Half-wave | 500 | 500 | 60 | 17/6 |
|  | SSU 765 | .. | . | 7.5 | 0.6 | Half-wave | 500 | 500 | 60 | 17/6 |
| Triotron |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | GN 24 | . | - | 4.0 | 0.25 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 30 | 10/6 |
|  | GA 24 | - | . | 4.0 | 0.9 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 250 | 60 | 12/6 |
| Tungsram | V 430.. |  |  | 4.0 | 0.3 | Half-wave | 250 | 240 | 25 | 10/- |
|  | V 495.. |  |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Half-wave | 400 | 375 | 70 | 10/- |
|  | PV 475 |  |  | 4.0 | 0.8 | Full-wave | 250-0-250 | 220 | 50 | 10/- |
|  | PV 495 | . |  | 4.0 | 1.0 | Full-wave | 3) $0-0-300$ | 280 | 50 | 10/- |
|  |  |  |  | ** Across a 4 mfd. condenser. $\dagger$ Indirectly heated. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## The first

 indirectly healed Pentode-The MAZDA AC/PEN PRICE 27/6
the Amazing

The Edison Swan Electric Co. Ltd.

There are 36 types in the Six-Sixty range to suit all Receivers. These valves embody the best qualities of all Radio Valves. Use them for maximum consistent results.
B.V.A.

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Six-Sixty Radio Go., Ltd., Six-Sixty House, 17/18, Rathbone Place, Oxford Street, W.1. Tel : Museum 6116/7.


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[^1]:    A COMPACT AMPLIFIER. Testing a Philips 500 -watt amplifier which gives an output of $1+\mathrm{kW}$. The engineer on the left is inserting a valve which takes a plate voltage of 4,000 . The microphone on the right is similar to those in use at Milversum and PCJ.

[^2]:    Mention. of "The Wireless World", When writing to advertisers, will ensure prompt attention.

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[^4]:    ${ }^{2}$ Proc. Inst. Radio Engineers, Sept. 1929, Vol. 17, No. 9, p. 1585.

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[^6]:    

[^7]:    Adertisents " Th ${ }^{[1981}$

[^8]:    Prices per 2 -volt cell: DTG, 20 amp. hrs. $4 / 6$ DFG, 45 amp. hrs. $8 / 6$ DMG, 70 amp. hrs. $11 /-\quad$ DHG, 100 amp. hrs. $14 / 6$ Obtainable from Exide Service Stations or any reputable dealer. Exide Service Stations give service on every make of battery Exide Bafteries, Clifton Junction, near Manchester. Branches at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol and Glasgow

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[^10]:    SYDNEY S. BIRD \& SONS LTD. CYLDON WORKS,

[^11]:    ${ }^{2}$ The Physikalische Zeitschrift of Ist Pebruary, 1930.

[^12]:    Photocells and their Application. by V. K. Zworykin, E.E., Ph.D., and E. D. Wilson, Ph.D., of the Westinghonse Research Laboratories, comprising the History, General Theory and Mechanical features; the Methods of Preparing Photocells, Vacuum and Gas-filled Cells; the General Uses in Sound-films, Facsimile transmission, Television, etc., and predictions as to future developments. Pp. 209, with 98 illustrations and diagrams. Published by John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, and Clapman and Hall, Itd., London, price 12s. 6d. net.

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[^18]:    Fig. 2,-A series proportional smoothing circuit, with high amplification $R_{1} G_{7}$ must be large to avoid feed-back, but if pusin-pull be used $R_{1}$ and $C_{3}$ can be omitted.

[^19]:    A typical 1930-31 receiver chassis showing the details of speclfication most favoured bv modern practice.

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[^24]:    At the time of writing, the Valse Data Sheet accompanying this issue is not available; recent minor changes have, therefore, necessarily been neglected.

[^25]:    ${ }^{2}$ The Wireless World, May 28th, 1930, p. 548.
    ${ }_{3}$ The Wireless World, Vols. 23 and 24

[^26]:    i" Pentode and Power Output" The Wireless World, July 23 rd. 1930.

[^27]:    A. C. Cossor Ltd., Highbury Grove, London, N. 5 .

    - is

[^28]:    1 This was done in May, 1928, and to the best of my recollection it represents the remanent magnetism; i.e., magnetising current zero.

[^29]:    ${ }^{4}$ If the coil is centred by three threads it comes right out of the magnet into the weaker part of the field.

[^30]:    For a more detailed treatment of the problems of rectification the reader is referred to the following Wireless World articles Anode Rectification.
    "The Valve as an Anode Bend Detector," by W. I. G. Page, B.Sc., March 13 and 27. 1929
    " Improving Detector Efficiency;" by W. B. Mellama B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E., May 22, 1929.

    Power Grid Detection.
    "Power Grid Detection," by W. T. Cocking, May 7, 1930
    "Detector Damping," by W. T. Cocking, July 30, 1930 Super Power Detection.
    "Single Valve Loud speaker Set," by W. I. G. Page; B.Sc., August 6, 1930 .
    "Pentode as Detector Amplifier," by E. Yeoman Robinson, September 10, 1930.
    Push-Pull Detection
    "Science Museum ${ }^{\text {R Receiver," by R. P. G. Denman, }}$ A.M.I.E.E. and A. S. Brereton, M.A. July 30 and August 6, 1930.

    ## and also:

    Grid or Anode Rectification ?" by P. K. Turner, M.I.E.E., Experimental Wireless, July, 19.30.

[^31]:    A々 Advcrisements for "The Wiveless World" are only accepted from firms re believe to be thoroughly reliable.

[^32]:    ALL MAINS－AC ONLY 25－60 cycles．

