Making electrostatic 'phones Pickup arm construction Tape recording survey November 1971

17<u>+</u>2

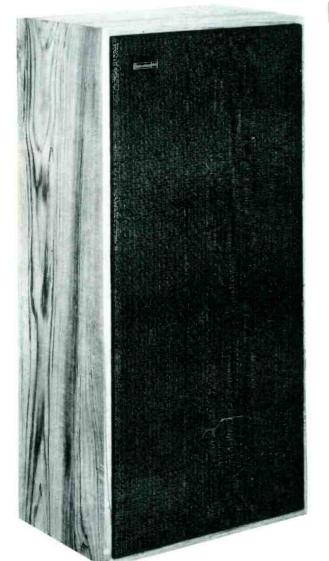
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Mire



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Dimensions: Max Input: Response: Impedance: Crossover: Treble : Mid : Bass: Finish: R.R.P.

 $30'' \ge 14\frac{1}{2}'' \ge 10''$ 44 Watts (D45.500) 30 Hz to 30 KHz 4 to 8 ohms 500 & 5,000 Hz HF2,000 (pressure) MF Super 5" LF Long drive 12" Natural Teak £54.00 each



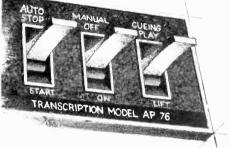
cast!

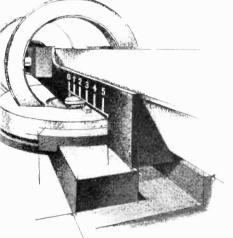
Left to Right : Ditton 10 Mark II, Ditton 120, Ditton 15, Ditton 44, Ditton 25.

ROLA CELESTION LIMITED, DITTON WORKS, FOXHALL ROAD, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

WW-001 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

### The Garrard AP76 transcription quality deck gives you a good deal to think about:



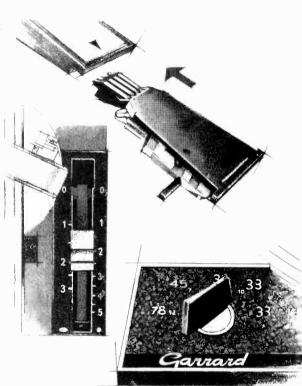


Forget the price for a moment, look at the features □ Offers automatic play (start, stop and return) of single records at 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>, 45 and 78 rpm. 
Tab controls for viscous damped cue and pause, start/stop, manual/auto. 🗆 Hexagonal, low resonance, aluminium pickup arm. D Resiliently mounted counterbalance weight. 
Stylus force adjustment, calibrated 0 to 5 grams. 
Bias compensation calibrated for spherical and elliptical styli. D Combined record speed and size selector. 
Slide-in cartridge carrier. 
11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch nonmagnetic turntable driven by 4-pole induction motor. □ Performance: wow and flutter better than 0.10% rms. Rumble (relative to 1.4 cm/sec at 100Hz) better than -49dB. This performance betters DIN 45-500 Hi-Fi standard. D Black and silver finish as standard. Wooden base and rigid plastic cover available

These are hard facts (and compare them with what the competition offers). Add in true quality engineering and the reliability based on 50 years' leadership in record players.

Now look at the price – recommended at £27.85. Fully £10 cheaper than the good competitive decks having the same features. Only Garrard can do it – by long experience and their comprehensive production programme across a whole range of quality players. At £27.85 the AP76 gives you transcription quality.

Return the coupon below for full details of this and other Garrard decks – or ask-your Hi-Fi dealer for a demonstration today.



Please send me free copies of Garrard literature

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Garrard, Newcastle Street, Swindon, Wiltshire.

W W 11

🖑 639 PLG

#### WW-003 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

## 4-Channel Stereo. He Doors Are Always Open.

Now, walk right in and step right up to a fabulous new experience in sound-Sansui 4-channel stereo. The door-both doors-are always open.

One door gives you access to new building-from-scratch 4-channel receivers, the other to supplementary components that will let you up-grade your 2-channel system to 4-channel status in seconds.

Either way, you can instantly convert your valuable two-channel tapes and records (as well as FM broadcasts) into the new format.

For those interested in a complete new 4-channel system, the 240 watt Sansui QR-4500 4-Channel Receiver is the ideal nucleus. This truly extraordinary unit, which incorporates the exclusive 4-channel synthesizer decoder, also gives you a supersensitive stereo tuner, plus a high performance control amplifier for all the power you'll probably ever need. But if that's still not enough, then more power to you, check out the 280 watt QR-6500.

Building on a two-channel system? Then choose the versatile new 120 watt QS-500 4-Channel Rear Amplifier. Added to your present system, along with a second pair of speaker systems, it elevates you to 4-channel status instantly. And the 50 watt QS-100 can do the same.

Still another means of making the 4-channel grade is the QS-1 4-Channel Synthesizer Decoder. With it, you need only add a second stereo amplifier and another pair of speaker systems.

You're on the threshold of this enthralling new 4-channel experience

now. Stop in soon at your nearest authorized Sansui dealer and walk right in. Either door. Sansui



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#### WW---004 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

PHILIPS



## Philips for the best 'PAL' you could have

Colour television can win or lose you your friends – and your profits. Fast, efficient and reliable installation and after sales service will make sure you're on the winning side. Philips PM 5508 PAL Colour Pattern Generator provides your engineers with all the facilities for on-the-spot colour TV (and monochrome) service – for many adjustments you dcn't even need an oscilloscope ; just use the receiver's picture tube insteac.

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If you want to make friends and influence people just contact Pye Unicam straight away. Ask for a leaflet



giving more information on the Philips PM 5508 PAL Colour TV Pattern Generator, the PM 3230 Oscilloscope and other radio and TV service equipment in the Philips range.

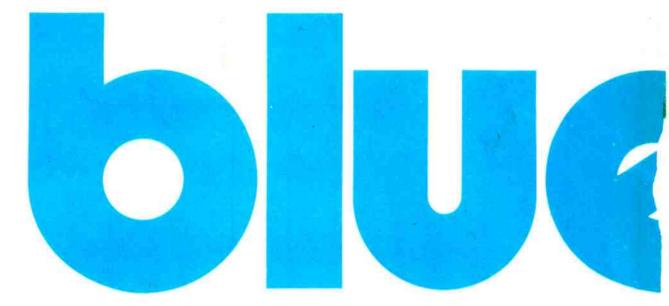
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IMPORT		

- Vacuum tubes, special lamps
- □ Semiconductor devices
- □ Integrated circuits



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WW-007 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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The SME Model 2000 Plinth System includes pre-cut pick-up mounting boards and motor boards which make this a simple matter.

Alternatively, existing items can usually be adapted.

Full details are given in information sheet No. 7, a copy of which we will send you on request.



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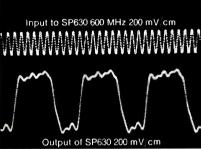
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THOREN

Here are some outstanding ICs from the wide Plessev standard range. As European leaders in MOS and Bipolar technology Plessey also offers you the most experienced custom/customer design service available proven by more than 400 successfully completed designs.



#### **Ultra-High-Speed ECL Dividers**



WW-250 for further details.

SP602 ÷2 SP620 ÷5 500MHz 400MHz SP630 - 10 600MHz These three circuits form part of an expanding range of dividers. Power consumption from only 60mW. Operating temperature from  $55^{\circ}$ C to  $+125^{\circ}$ C. They are the only dividers available with full temperature range at this speed.

Commercial and military applications are already nearing production.

#### **Unique LSI Computing Circuits**

These DTL/TTL compatible circuits were initially developed for process control applications in ICl. Now generally available, they feature the following:

#### SP520 5-Bit Reversible Gray Code Counter

A 5-bit up-down counter with non-overflow facility with both Gray and binary outputs. The Gray code o/p's can be inhibited—effectively open-circuiting. This makes them ideal for 'addressed parallel highway wired-OR applications'. Reset to zero facility is also provided.

#### SP521 5-Bit Binary Rate Multiplier

Basically an arithmetic unit capable of multiplying

together a frequency and a binary number. Has two-phase capability, is infinitely cascadable and eliminates the need for capacitors and other components, all as a result of internal Gray code operation.

#### SP522 Divider, Phase Lock and Comparator

Divides the master clock frequency (8F) by 8 giving two interlaced o/p's (1F). These can be used to clock the SP521. There is also an o/p at 2F. Locks the phase of any i/p signal to that of the master clock. Max. i/p frequency to phase lock circuit is 3.2F.

The comparator is a 5-bit up-down counter with reset facility to the central symmetrical state. WW-251 for further details.

Quad decade	Device Number	Single or Quad Decade	Single or Dual Power Supply	BCD or Decimal Output	Current (1) or Voltage (V) Output	Carry Facility	Package
	MP107B	S	S	BCD	V	V	10 lead TO.5
complements	MP108B	S	S	BCD	1	1	10 lead TO.5
MOS counter	MP120B	Q	D	BCD	1	1	16 lead D1L
range	MP123B	S	D	BCD	V		10 lead TO.5
i un Se	MP124B	S	D	Decimal	V		16 lead DIL
WW-252	MP125B	S	D	BCD	V	1	14 lead DIL
for further details.	MP126B	S	D	Decimal	1		16 lead DIL
	MP127B	S	D	BCD	I	V	14 lead DIL

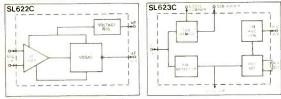


## MMM PLESSEY

**Plessey Semiconductors** Cheney Manor, Swindon, Wiltshire Telephone : Swindon (0793) 6251 Telex : 44375

#### Detectors, Demodulators & AGC Circuits

The SL622C, a microphone amplifier plus VOGAD and the SL623C, an SSB demodulator, low level AM detector and AM AGC generator are the latest additions to the successful range of SL600 communications circuits. This fully compatible series operates from a single power rail, has low power consumption, full AGC facilities and operates up to 140MHz.



#### WW-253 for further details. 1GHz Transistor Pair

The SL360 is a monolithic matched pair of transistors capable of being used at frequencies up to 1GHz. The particularly good low current betas make this device suitable for a wide range of applications.

Typical characte	ristics:	
BVCEO	15V	$(I_{C} = 10 \mu A)$
h <sub>FE</sub>		$(V_{CE} = 2V, I_{E} = 5mA)$
f <sub>T</sub>	2.5 GHz	$(V_{CE} = 5V, I_{E} = 5mA)$
fT	3.2 GHz	$(V_{CE} = 5V, I_{E} = 25mA)$
$V_{BE}(1) = V_{BE}(2)$	3mV	$(V_{CE} = 2V, I_E = 1mA)$
h <sub>FE</sub> <sup>(1)</sup> /hFE(2)	1.1	$(V_{CE} = 2V, I_E = 5mA)$
V <sub>CE</sub> (Sat)	0.25V	$(I_E = 10 \text{mA}, I_B = 1 \text{mA})$

These characteristics make the SL360 an ideal element for the design and manufacture of more complex UHF circuits. WW-254 for further details.

#### Low Noise GaAs Microwave FET'S

Featuring high transconductance, low capacitance and operating frequency up to 4.5GHz. GAT1 10dB gain at 1GHz 4dB noise figure GAT2 8dB gain at 3GHz 5dB noise figure Ideal for use in low noise front-end amplifiers. WW-255 for further details.

#### Television and Audio Circuits

#### **Colour TV on 2 Chips**

The SL435C and SL436B combined form the complete colour signal processing section of a colour television receiver (PAL system).

The following functions are incorporated:

Chroma amplification • PAL switch • Colour killer Gated burst amplifier with 45° switch Internal stabilisation • Reference amplifier Matrixing for red, green and blue outputs R-Y, B-Y balanced demodulator

#### **6W Audio Amplifier**

The SL403D is a 6W (3W rms) audio amplifier incorporating a.c. and d.c. short-circuit protection. The device is designed to operate from a 12V to 18V supply into loads from 3Ω to 15Ω. Total harmonic distortion at full output is typically less than 0.3%.

rms) audio c. and d.c. The device is a 12V to 18V

WW-256 for further details.

#### **OPTO Character Recognition**

The OPT6 is a linear array of 72 integrating elements designed for OCR, code recognition and position sensing applications where high data rates and high definition are required.

The 72 elements operate in current recharge mode and integrate for one line period. Two clock pulses and one data input pulse are required for scanning the shift register which will operate typically in the range 10K Hz to 7M Hz.

The  $0.2^{"} \times 0.08^{"}$  chip is mounted in a  $\frac{3}{4}^{"}$  glass windowed flat pack and dissipates about 300mW at maximum bit rate.

WW—257 for further details.

#### **Product Summary**

If you would like details of the full range of Plessey IC's please ask for our Product Summary. This includes details of nearly 300 standard bipolar and MOS IC's, package diagrams, MOS logic diagrams and bipolar logic diagrams.

WW-258 for further details.

## Semiconductors

UK Distributors: Farnell Electronic Components Limited Canal Road, Leeds LS12 2TU Tel: (0532) 636311

SDS-WEL Components Limited Hilsea Industrial Estate, Hilsea, Portsmouth Hampshire. Telephone: (0705) 65311 5 Loverock Road, Reading, Berkshire Telephone: (0734) 580616

Each of these bridges has ten decade ranges and can be used to measure any type of component or complex impedance. Transformer ratio-arms are used to cover a very wide range of measurement using a minimum number of standards which are set digitally. The three terminal facility provided by this type of bridge enables small values of capacitance or high values

### The world's most universal audio bridges Wayne Kerr's B224 and B642



#### The B224 is a manually operated bridge, the resistive and reactive terms being independently set to a null indicated on the meter. A rechargeable battery is fitted in order to make the instrument portable.



The B642 balances itself automatically. The meters read real and quadrature terms and highly stable analogue outputs are provided which are directly proportional to capacitance and conductance above  $10\Omega$  impedance and also to inductance and resistance below  $10\Omega$ . One or two decades can be set to provide the first significant figures of the measurement, thereby increasing the meter sensitivity by 10 or 100 times. If a chart recorder is connected to the output of either term, drifts in component values to at least four significant figures can be observed.

#### SPECIFICATION

ncy	B224 (Manu	ual balance)	B642 (Aut	obalance)
Frequency	1592Hz 200Hz 50k		1592Hz 200Hz – 20kH	(internal) Iz * (external)
Ra	nges for specifie	ed accuracy		
	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
C G L R	100fF – 10µF 1nʊ – 100mʊ 1mH – 10kH 10Ω – 1GΩ	10µF – 10mF 100mʊ – 1kʊ 100nH – 1mH 1mΩ – 10Ω	10n <b>ʊ</b> – 100mʊ	1µH — 1mH
	NOTE: 0.1% a	accuracy relate	s to parallel c	omponent

NOTE: 0.1% accuracy relates to parallel component measurements above 100 impedance. 0.3% accuracy relates to series component measurements below 100 impedance. \*Manual operation only.

For more information, either call David O'Grady on 01-399 6751 or write to him at the address below:

#### WAYNE KERR

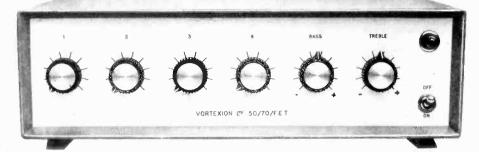
Tolworth Close, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey Telex: 262333. Cables: Waynkerr Surbiton A member of the Wilmot Breeden group

www\_one for further details



### WITH BUILT-IN 4-WAY MIXER USING F.E.T.s.

This is a high fidelity amplifier (0.3% intermodulation distortion) using the circuit of our 100% reliable 100 Watt Amplifier with its elaborate protection against short and overload, etc. To this is allied our latest development of F.E.T. Mixer Amplifier, again fully protected against overload and completely free from radio breakthrough.



The mixer is arranged for 2-30/602 balanced line microphones, 1-HiZ gram input and 1-auxiliary input followed by bass and treble controls. 100 volt balanced line output or  $5/15\Omega$  and 100 volt line.

50/70 WATT ALL SILICON AMPLIFIER WITH BUILT-IN 5-WAY MIXER USING F.E.T.S This is similar to the 4-way version but with 5 inputs and bass cut controls on each of the three low impedance balanced line microphone stages, and a high impedance (10 meg) gram stage with bass and treble controls plus the usual line or tape input. All the input stages are protected against overload by back to back low self capacity diodes and all use F.E.T's for low noise, low intermodulation distortion and freedom from radio breakthrough. A voltage stabilised supply is used for the pre-amplifiers making it independent of mains supply fluctuations and another stabilised supply for the driver stages is arranged to cut off when the output is overloaded or over temperature. The output is 75% efficient and 100V balanced line or  $8/16\Omega$  output are selected by means of a rear panel switch which has a locking plate indicating the output impedance selected.

100 WATT ALL SILICON AMPLIFIER. A high quality amplifier with 8 ohms-15 ohms or 100 volt line output for A.C. Mains. Protection is given for short and open circuit output over driving and over temperature. Input 0.4 V on 100K ohms.

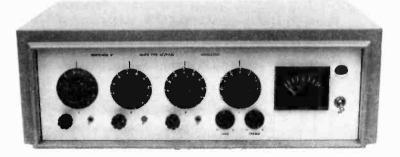
**THE 100 WATT MIXER AMPLIFIER** with specification as above is here combined with a 4 channel F.E.T. mixer, 2-30/60Ω balanced microphone inputs, 1-HiZ gram input and 1-auxiliary input with tone controls and mounted in a standard robust stove enamelled steel case. A stabilised voltage supply feeds the tone controls and pre amps, compensating for a mains voltage drop of over 25% and the output transistor biasing compensates for a wide range of voltage and temperature. Also available in rack panel form.

CP50 AMPLIFIER. An all silicon transistor 50 watt amplifier for mains and 12 volt battery operation, charging its own battery and automatically going to battery if mains fail. Protected inputs, and overload and short circuit protected outputs for 8 ohms-15 ohms and 100 volt line. Bass and treble controls fitted.

Models available with 1 gram and 2 low mic. inputs, 1 gram and 3 low mic. inputs or 4 low mic. inputs.

200 WATT AMPLIFIER. Can deliver its full audio power at any frequency in the range of 30 c/s-20 Kc/s  $\pm 1$  dB. Less than 0.2% distortion at 1 Kc/s. Can be used to drive mechanical devices for which power is over 120 watt on continuous sine wave. Input 1 mW 600 ohms. Output 100-120 V or 200-240 V. Additional matching transformers for other impedances are available.

F.E.T. MIXERS and PPM's



**VORTEXION LIMITED,** 

Telephone: 01-542 2814 and 01-542 6242/3/4

Since we have been supplying professional mixers for 25 years we have delayed the introduction of solid state units until they were at least as good as their valve counterparts. (Which will continue where required.)

The various sections of the FET mixers and BBC type PPM's have been performing successfully for several years in other equipments with complete reliability. The PPM also uses an FET in its time constant circuit so that polyester capacitors can be used. The response  $600\Omega$  output  $(25\Omega)$ from the source impedance) is level 20 Hz to over 30 kHz with very low intermodulation distortion to zero level +12dB. The input signal voltage range is over twice that of the valve unit and the noise at least halved.

257-263 The Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.19 Telegrams: "Vortexion, London S.W.19"

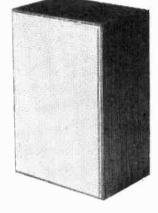
WW-011 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



These superb new speaker systems make available even higher standards of performance in sound reproduction and uphold the high reputation gained by Whiteley Stentorian speakers throughout the world.

Attractively designed and soundly constructed, they are available in either Teak or Rosewood finish.

#### LC93



A 19" x  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $8\frac{1}{2}$ " completely enclosed acoustically loaded cabinet housing a 9" graded melamine paper cone with siliconized cambric suspension giving a frequency response of 60Hz to 20KHz.

#### LC94

A  $29\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $23\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $6\frac{1}{8}$ " acoustic Labyrinth enclosure fitted with acoustic resistance in the pipe, using the same highly efficient 9" speaker unit used in the LC 93. Frequency response 45Hz to 20KHz.

#### LC95

The LC95 loudspeaker system is an acoustically loaded Bass Reflex cabinet, measuring  $31\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $20\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $13\frac{1}{2}$ ", fitted with two loudspeakers and a crossover network. The bass loudspeaker being used is a newly developed 12" unit having a Melamine treated paper cone with a cambric surround. The middle and high frequency unit is a new 8" loudspeaker having a Melamine treated paper ribbed cone and surround.





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#### WW-012 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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WW-013 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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#### For electronic valves (a really comprehensive range), neon indicator tubes, semi-conductors (a wide variety), integrated circuits.

Teonex offers more than 3,000 devices. They are the Teonex range are nearly always available for competitively priced and they are superlative in performance, because the company imposes strict quality control. Teorex concentrates entirely on export and now operates in more than sixty countries, on Government or private contract All popular types in

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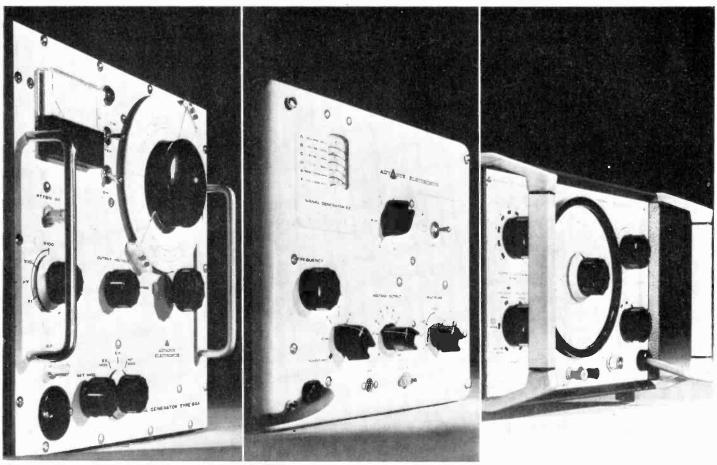
Wrize now for technical specifications and prices to Teonex Limited, 2a Westbourne Grove Mews, Lordor W11, England. Cables Tosuply London W11. Ta ex: 262256

Electronic valves, neon incicator tubes, semi-conductors and integrated circuits for export

sounds international

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## Advancesig gen source



B4A7 100kHz— 80MHz B4B7 30kHz— 30MHz Price **£135** 

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The range of RF SIGNAL GENERATORS from Advance Electronics covers frequencies from 30kHz to 220MHz.

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**RF SIGNAL GENERATORS** 

from the **ADVANCE** range.



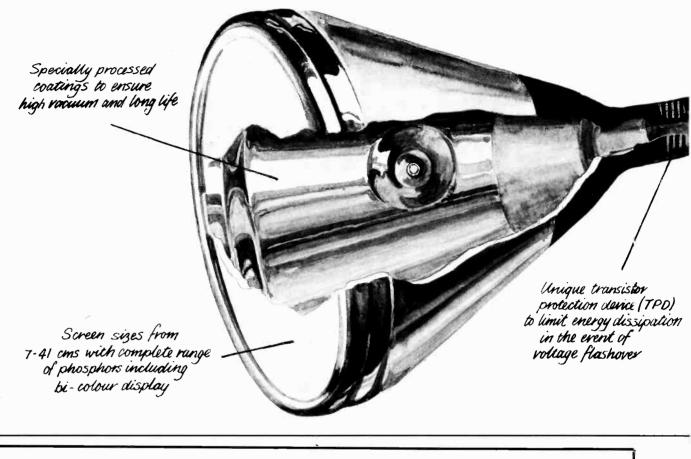
Raynham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. Telephone: Bishop's Stortford (0279) 55155 Telex: 81510

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INSTRUMENT DIVISION SALES OFFICE

Wireless World, November 1971

## M-O V means business...





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## Radar CRT business



Advanced gun designprecision alignment for crisp high brightness presentation

#### A BRIEF SELECTION FROM THE RADAR CRT RANGE

түре	SCREEN SIZE cm	FINAL ANODE Voltage kv	FOCUS	DEFLECTION Angle degrees	LENGTH
700H	7	30	Magnetic	35	259
1400E	14 rectangular	15	Electrostatic	50	268
F16-10	16	14	Electrostatic	37	370
7ABP	18	7	Electrostatic	50	342.5
F21-10	21	14	Electrostatic	41	460
2200P	22	12	Electrostatic	58	408
3000 M	31	15	Magnetic	50	520
3000Q/T957	31	12	Electrostatic	50	485
3000 R	31	16	Electrostatic	40	572
T989	31	15	Magnetic	50	520
4100A/T958	41	12	Electrostatic	50	610
Т983	41	15	Electrostatic	50	650
LD631*	41	10/15	Electrostatic	52	562

Round screens unless otherwise stated

\*Two-colour display tube

Business to M-OV means total commitment to guality. Our reputation for cathode ray tubes has been won purely and simply on specification and performance-advanced specification and unbeatable performance. Take our radar CRTs for example—who else can give you such a wide variety of specifications including commercial, BS 9000, CV and MIL? Who else can incorporate the unique transistor protection device? Who else but M-OV offers such a wide range of radar cathode ray tubes as standard. Write today for our cathode ray tube catalogue which lists the full range of radar tubes together with CRTs for instrument, data display and TV studio applications. Serving industry comes naturally to M-OV

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New 'Toa' P.A. systems Goldring now offer modern 'Toa' P.A. equipment for in-place installations —to go-in anywhere, and make sound go everywhere! And it's a high quality/top value equipment range that carries a crystal-clear message for you. It means business.

Solid state amplifiers. Dynamic microphones. Box, Column, Horn and Panel-cone speakers. Equipment to cover all sound requirements . . . For service in offices, schools, airports, rail terminals, sports arenas, concert halls. Wherever people gather—indoors and out of doors.



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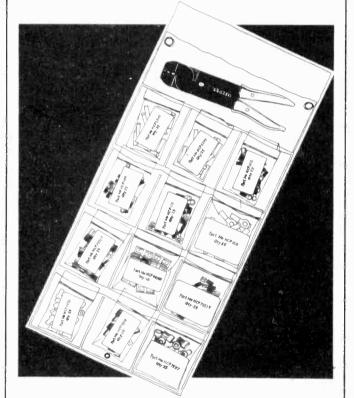
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Use Hellermann-GKN Compression Terminal Kits. They're ideal for general maintenance work on electrical and electronic equipment --- domestic or industrial - and one of the Kits is specially made for automobile electronics.

Take your pick from three different Kits, each one containing 12 of the most popular compression terminals. With or without a hand crimping tool. The terminal packets are re-sealable, and fit into the pockets of the plastic wallet that can either be hung on a wall or folded neatly into a tool bag.



UNIVERSAL with pre-insulated terminals for general electrical Maintenance and domestic appliances. Kit No. 1. — without tool:£6.15 Kit No. 1-CT — including tool: £8.30

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All prices are subject to quantity terms. Each of these Kits can be made up to customers' requirements, subject to quantity.

Write for descriptive leaflet to:





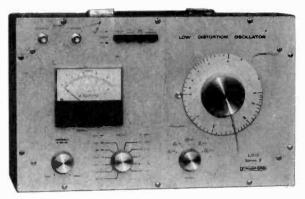
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#### AUDIO MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

Two instruments having a superior performance than any standard equipment by Broadcasting Authorities, recording studios, magazine equipment test laboratories, and audio research and development laboratories all over the world.

#### LOW DISTORTION OSCILLATOR



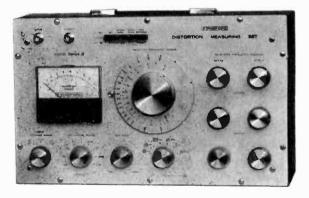
An instrument of high stability providing very pure sine waves, and square waves, in the range of 5 Hz to 500 kHz. Hybrid design using valves and semiconductors.

Specification Frequency Range: Output Impedance: Output Voltage: Output Attenuation: Sine Wave Distortion:

Square Wave Rise Time: Monitor Output Meter: Mains Input: Size: Weight: Price:

5 Hz-500 kHz (5 ranges) 600 Ohms. 10 Volts r.m.s. max. 0.005% from 200 Hz to 20 kHz increasing to 0.015% at 10 Hz and 100 kHz. Less than 0.1 microseconds. Scaled 0-3, 0-10, and dBm. 100 V.-250 V. 50/60 Hz. 174 × 11 × 8 in 25 lb. £150

#### DISTORTION MEASURING SET



A sensitive instrument for the measurement of total harmonic distortion, designed for speedy and accurate use. Capable of measuring distortion products as low as 0.002%. Direct reading from calibrated meter scale.

Specification Frequency Range: Distortion Range: Sensitivity: Meter: Input Besistance: High Pass Filter Frequency Response:

Power Requirements :

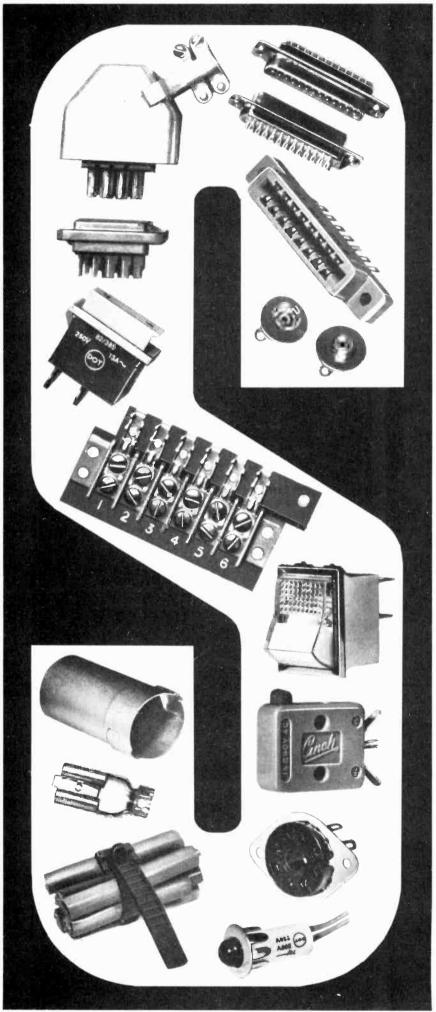
Size: Weight:

Price

20 Hz-20 kHz (6 ranges). 0.01%-100% f.s.d. (9 ranges) 100 mV.-100 V. (3 ranges). Square law r.m.s. reading Square law r.m.s. reading. 100 kOhms. 3 dB down at 350 Hz. 30 dB down at 45 Hz.  $\pm 1$  dB from second harmonic of rejection frequency to 250 kHz. Included battery. 17<u>+</u> × 11 × 8 in. 15 lb. £120. Descriptive technical leaflets are available on request.

RADFORD LABORATORY INSTRUMENTS LTD. **BRISTOL BS3 2HZ** Telephone: 0272, 662301

WW-020 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



#### WW-021 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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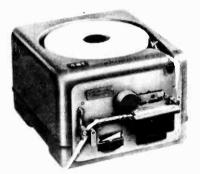
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### **MORSE TRANSMISSION AND TRAINING SIMPLIFIED**









#### **OTHER MODELS AVAILABLE:**

- 2206 Converter No. 2 code to morse.
- 2201 Converter morse to No. 2 code.
- 3072 Line commutator.
- 451 Morse code reperforator, operating from 40-200 w.p.m.
- 3082 Student box.
- 3065 AF tone generator.

GNT Keyboard Perforator

#### MODEL 51

For preparing morse code tape for use in a transmitter. Maximum speed 750 o.p.m.

#### **GNT** Transmitter MODEL 112

Morse transmitter capable of working direct to line with a speed range of 13-250 words per minute.



Specially designed for training. Prints dots and dashes on tape with variable paper speed drive. Speed range 0-40 words per minute

#### **GNT Transmitter** MODEL 115

Specially designed for morse transmitting schools permitting the insertion of pauses between transmitted letters and words.

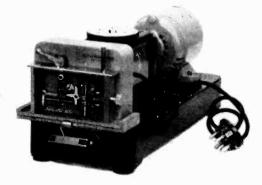


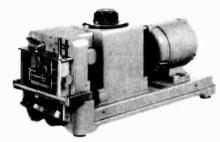
Speed range 5-35 w.p.m.

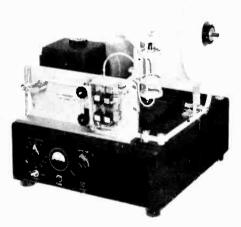
A heavy duty key in a strong bakelite housing. All parts free of electrical potential available with platinum/iridium or silver contacts which are visible for inspection.

#### **GNT Undulator** MODEL 311

Records WT signals up to 300 words per minute available in single or double pen versions with or without amplifiers with built-in tone filter for increased selectivity.







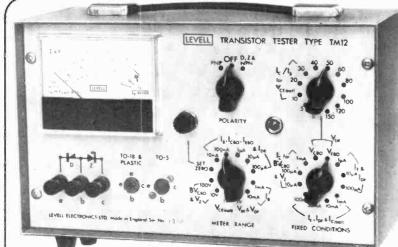
The GNT range of morse equipment for automatic transmission and morse code training schools is now manufactured in the U.K. by

### **Morse Equipment Limited**

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#### WW-022 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

## TEST TRANSISTORS, DIODES AND ZENER DIODES



#### **TRANSISTOR RANGES (PNP OR NPN)**

I <sub>СВО</sub> & I <sub>ЕВО</sub> :	$\begin{array}{l} 10nA,100nA,1\mu A,10\mu Aand100\mu Af.s.d.acc.\\ \pm2\%f.s.d.\pm1\%atvoltagesof2V,5V,10V,\\ 20V,30V,40V,50V,60V,80V,100V,120V,\\ and150Vacc.\pm3\%\pm100mVupto10\mu A\\ withfallat100\mu A<\!5\%\!+250mV.\\ Shortcircuitcurrentlimit1mA. \end{array}$
BV <sub>CBO</sub> :	$10V$ or $100V$ f.s.d. acc $\pm$ 2% f.s.d. $\pm 1$ % at currents of $10\mu A,$ $100\mu A$ and 1mA $\pm$ 20%. Open circuit voltage limit 150V.
I <sub>B</sub> :	$ \begin{array}{l} 10 nA, 100 nA, 1 \mu A \ldots 10 mA  f.s.d.  acc. \ \pm 2\% \\ f.s.d.  \pm 1\%  at  fixed  I_E  of  1 \mu A,  10 \mu A,  100 \mu A, \\ 1 mA,  10 mA,  30 mA,  and 100 mA  acc.  \pm 1\%. \\ V_{CE} {=}  2V  approx. \end{array} $
h <sub>FE</sub> :	3 inverse scales of 2000 to 100, 400 to 30 and 100 to 10 convert I <sub>B</sub> into h <sub>FE</sub> readings. Acc. is $\pm$ (2+200÷% of f.s.d.)% i.e. $\pm$ 4% at f.s.d.
V <sub>BE</sub> :	$1Vf.s.d.acc.\pm 20mV$ measured at conditions on $h_{FE}$ test.
V <sub>CE(sat)</sub> :	$1V$ f.s.d. acc. $\pm 20mV$ at collector currents of 1mA, 10mA, 30mA and 100mA with $I_C/I_B$ selected at 10, 20 or 30 acc. $\pm 20\%$ .

#### VOLTAGE UP TO 150V. LEAKAGE DOWN TO 0·5nA.

The latest addition to the well known range of Levell Portable Instruments measures the characteristics of bipolar transistors, diodes and zener diodes. Leakage currents down to 0.5 nA are measured at voltages from 2V to 150V. Current gains of transistors are checked at collector currents from 1µA to 100mA. Breakdown voltages up to 100V are measured at currents of 10 µA, 100 µA and 1mA. The collector to emitter saturation voltage of a transistor is measured at collector currents of 1mA, 10mA, 30mA and 100mA for  $I_C/I_B$  ratios of 10, 20 and 30. The instrument is powered by a 9V battery and incorporates a transistor D.C. to D.C. converter to produce 150V. Stabilisation circuits ensure that measurements are independent of the state of the battery which is indicated by a neon panel lamp.

#### **DIODE & ZENER DIODE RANGES**

DR	As I <sub>EBO</sub> transistor ranges.
V <sub>Z</sub> :	Breakdown ranges as BV <sub>CBO</sub> for transistors.
V <sub>DF</sub> :	1V f.s.d. acc. ±20mV at I <sub>DF</sub> of 1μA, 10μA, 100μA, 1mA, 10mA, 30mA and 100mA acc. ±1%.
POWER SUP	PLY
	One type PP9 battery, or A.C. mains when a LEVELL Power Unit is fitted.
SIZE & WEIG	HT

7" x 10¼" x 5½". 8 lbs

type TM12 £65



**TRANSISTOR TESTERS** 

Levell Electronics Ltd., Park Road, High Barnet, Herts. Tel: 01-449 5028 Send for literature covering our full range of portable instruments.

WW-023 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



## -a new a.c./d.c. millivoltmeter from Farnell

- \* 1mV 300V f.s.d.
- \* 10Hz 2MHz
- 10M 
   <u>o</u> typical input impedance/resistance
- \* Low zero drift
- Mains or battery operated

The TM 2 is a general purpose instrument offering a wide frequency range of operation, a high input impedance/resistance and very low drift. It is basically mean rectified reading, the meter being calibrated to provide r.m.s. values for sine wave inputs in a range sequence of 1-3-10. A decibel scale from -10dB to + 2dB is also provided. The TM 2 has an integral power supply permitting operation from a.c. mains and may also be run on two internal batteries. Its U.K. price is £68.00.

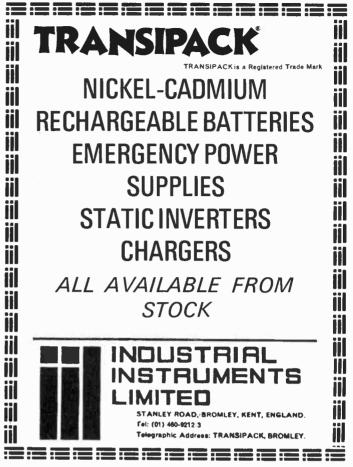
#### For further details contact:-



Farnell Instruments Limited, Sandbeck Way, Wetherby, LS22 4DH. Tel: 0937 3541/6.







WW-025 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



- Quick, clean holes (up to 14 gauge mild steel)
- Saves time and energy
- Burr-free holes no jagged edges
- Special heat treatment maintains keen cutting edge
- Anti-corrosive finish prevents rusting
- Used all over the world

Used by all government services—Atomic, Military, Naval, Air, G.P.O. and Ministry of Works; Radio, Motor and Industrial Manufacturers, Plumbing and Sheet Metal Trades, Garages, etc.

Patent Nos 619178 & 938098



**30 SIZES** 

ROUND: 3" to 3"

SQUARE: 11 and 1"

RECTANGULAR: 21'' x 15''

Full list on application

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## New EMI Colorline push-pull CATV The foremost multi-channel VHF system

Trunk/Bridger

Amplifier RE 988

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Distribution Amplifier RE 983

Trunk Amplifier RE 985

RE 989 Push-Pull ALSC Trunk/Bridger Amplifier

### Extended Bandwidth 40-270MHz Decreased Distortion Increased Cascadeability

The new EMI Colorline Mark II Push-Pull CATV equipment follows the highly successful Mark I system offering greater channel capacity, lower distortion and greater system reach.

The push-pull amplifiers and their associated passive units have a bandwidth of 40-270 MHz and are designed for systems distributing up to twenty channels, where single octave operation is not acceptable.

VHF bands, I, II and III and areas of the VHF spectrum outside the normal broadcast bands can be used.

Mark II Colorline permits the planning and installation of networks having extremely low crossmodulation, intermodulation and harmonic distortion. All amplifiers have full AC line power facilities. Amplifier/power units are readily interchangeable without disturbing cable connections and are also mechanically compatible with EMI Mark I amplifiers. For details of this new equipment and the Colorline system planning concept, contact EMI today.





Telecommunications Group, Television Equipment Division. EMI Electronics Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex, England. Telephone: 01-573 3888 · Telex 22417 · Cables: EMIDATA LONDON A member of the EMI Group of Companies. International leaders in Electronics, Records and Entertainment.

WW---027 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ELTEC

Would like to INTRODUCE you to our

new range of modular counting instruments

## TOGETHERNESS

#### comes with a

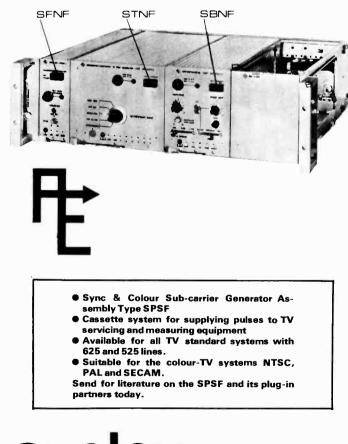
### **3 in 1** PLUG-IN CASSETTE ASSEMBLY

An entirely new cassette system the **Rohde & Schwarz Sync & Colour sub-carrier Generator Assembly Type SPSF** is made up of a rack adapter which complies with the 19" or DIN standard, and contains **three plug-in cassettes.** 

The Colour Sub-carrier Generator Type **SFNF** has a highly stable oscillator circuit together with input facilities for an external colour sub-carrier for parallel operation.

The TV Sync Generator Type **STNF** has a built-in coupler for the colour sub-carrier and supplies digital pulses which include PAL and burst-flag.

The Burst Generator Type **SBNF** with internal pulse generation, has a facility for synchronization by composite video signal. Each cassette is separately available in a small cabinet. The TV Sync Generator has its own cabinet whilst the Colour-Sub-Carrier Generator and Burst Generator use a common cabinet as they are frequently used together, each cassette can however be operated independently.





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WW---028 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



NGHT POWER SUPP

Bench Power Supply Output 0·50v.2A Superb finish 4″ meter 5½″x 8″ x 10″ high



Model TCU 250 Only £65 (in UK) Available from stock!

## POWERFUL-ATTRACTIVE-SMALL SIZE LOW PRICE-QUICK DELIVERY





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**WW-031 POR FURTHER DETAILS** 

THE NEW 'INVADER'

PRICE

£1.85

### ADCOLA L.646

for Factory Bench Line Assembly A precision instrument—supplied with standard 3/16" (4.75 mm) diameter, detachable copper chisel-face bit\*. Standard temp. 360°c at 23 watts. Special temps. from 250°c— 410°c.

#### \*Additional Stock Bits (illustrated) available

#### COPPER

COTTER
B 38 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> — 3.2 mm CHISEL FACE
B 14 32 - 2.4 mm CHISEL FACE
B 24 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>16</sub> - 4.75 mm SCREWDRIVER FACE
<b>B 12</b> $\frac{3}{16}$ - 4.75 mm EYELET BIT
8 58 4 - 6.34 mm CHISEL FACE
LONG LIFE
B 42 LL 3 + 4.75 mm CHISEL FACE
B 38 LL 1 - 3.2 mm CHISEL FACE
B 14 LL 32 - 2.4 mm CHISEL FACE
B 44 LL 3 - 4.75 mm SCREWDRIVER FACE

Don't take chances. We don't. All our ADCOLA Soldering Instruments are of impeccable quality. You can depend on ADCOLA day after day. That's why they're so popular. You get consistent good service... reliability... from our famous thermally controlled ADCOLA Element and the tough steel construction of this ideal production tool.



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WW-032 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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## Soft magnetic alloys

#### **TELCON OFFER THE WIDEST RANGE**



#### **Mumetal alloys**

This is the best known and widest used Telcon group of high permeability alloys. They possess low hysteresis and total losses and are available in strip, rod, bar, wire and core form. Typical applications include : many types of transformers, bridge ratio arms, inductors, h.f. chokes, blocking oscillators, filter circuits, magnetic amplifiers, saturable reactors, modulators, flux gate magnometers, storage circuits, shift registers, transformers, logic switching circuits and a variety of magnetic shielding applications.



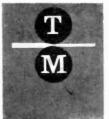
#### **Radiometal alloys**

Almost as well known as the Mumetal group, these high permeability alloys, with their high saturation induction and low electrical losses, are extensively used for transformers and chokes where the operating flux density is higher than is possible with Mumetal and where a higher permeability than that of silicon iron is required. The six grades have a variety of applications including : relay circuits, pulse and radar transformers, transductor and convertor cores, magnetic amplifiers and saturable reactors.



#### Permendur alloys

Permendur has the highest saturation ferric induction of all known alloys commercially available. It also has a correspondingly high incremental permeability at high inductions. It is extensively used for stator laminations, telephone diaphragms, magnetic circuits of loudspeakers and equipment operating at high temperatures. Its excellent magnetostrictive properties are frequently used in echo sounders and ultrasonic devices. A special grade of alloys, known as 'Rotelloys', which have superior mechanical properties have also been developed for use in high speed rotating equipment such as aircraft generators.





Telcon Metals Ltd., Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex. (Crawley 28800)

WW-033 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



## **COMPAK 8** can be tuned in seconds *—by anyone!*

## Labgear COMPAK 8 HF SSB PACKSET

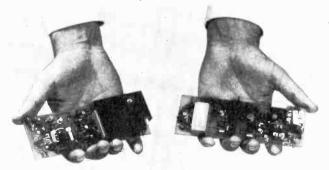
10W p.e.p. speech over entire range 2-9 MHz. Unprecedented serviceability

- \* Light, sturdy, inexpensive
- \* Externally-loaded Aerial for higher efficiency (Prov. Pat.)
- \* Plug-in Tx and Rx modules for instant replacement
- \* 8 crystal controlled channels
- \* Fully submersible

The forward looking COMPAK 8 Transceiver gives outstanding performance over the frequency range 2-9 MHz by making use of the very latest in integrated circuits, F.E.T. and wide band techniques.

Operating directly from a rechargeable battery it gives a power output of 10 watts p.e.p. on any of 8 channels in this H.F. band. The use of wide-band circuits eliminates the complexity of individual tuning and band switching with its time consuming channel alignment. The result is a completely self-contained back-pack SSB transceiver with a minimum of controls – lower in weight, smaller in size, and with greater flexibility of performance than any comparable equipment.

Labgear COMPAK 8 is designed for single side-band suppressed-carrier voice or key operation in A3J or A2J modes under the most severe environmental conditions. It meets the needs of military, security forces, police, emergency, surveying etc. and is designed for use by non-technical operators.



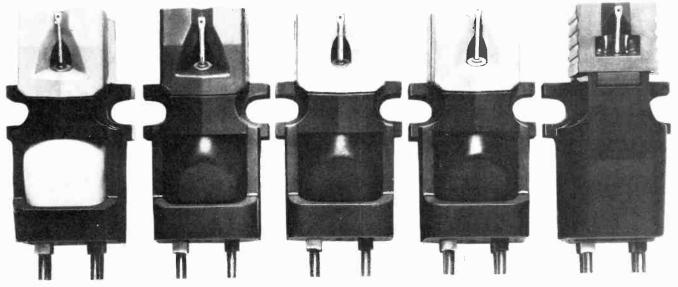
Transmitter and receiver use plug-in modules for ease of servicing. Low-noise high-gain receiver employs dual gate MOSFET RF devices in conjunction with fast attack, slow release AGC, to give exceptional immunity to blocking and cross modulation and performance approaching base station standards.



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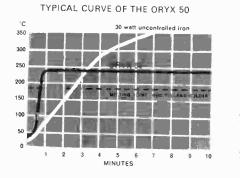
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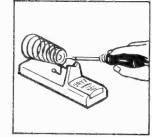
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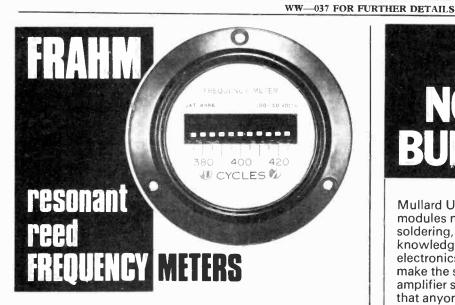
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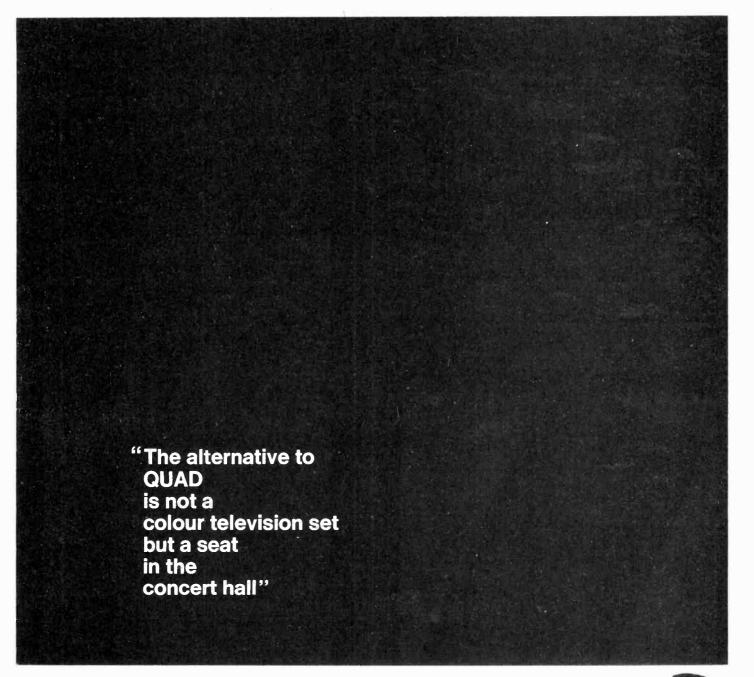
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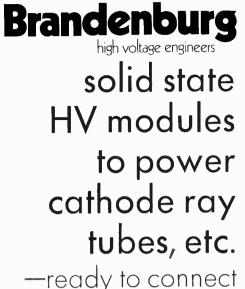
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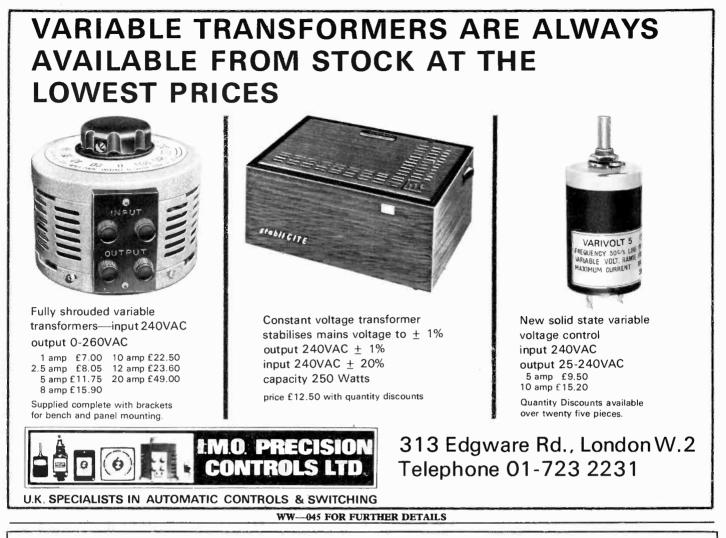
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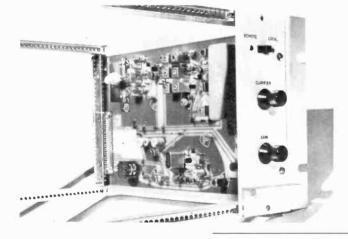
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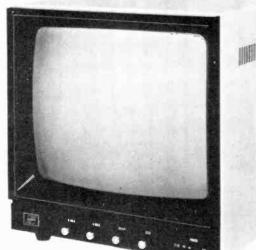
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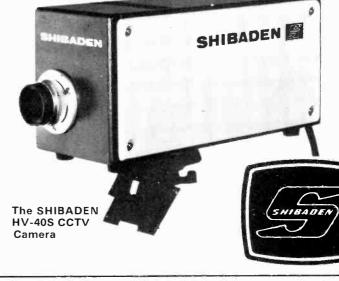
If you would like further details on either of these exciting additions to the SHIBADEN range of CCTV equipment, write or telephone today for your copy of the fully illustrated technical brochures to

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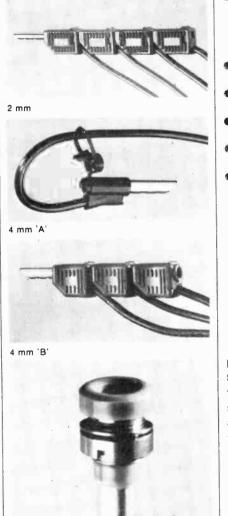
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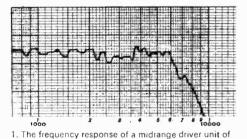
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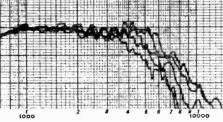
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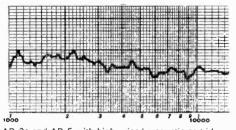


an AR-3a, on axis. This corresponds to what one would hear outdoors, listening directly in front of a speaker.

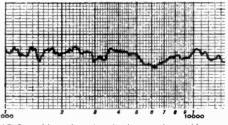


2. What happens when a listener moves over to one side of the speaker in  $15^\circ$  increments.

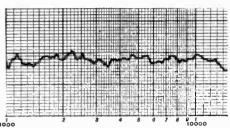
Integrated power output curves,



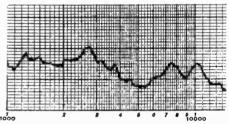
AR-3a and AR-5 with high-priced magnetic cartridge. It is interesting to see that the cartridge introduces somewhat more degradation of the signal than the speaker system, at least in the frequency range observed Nevertheless, a small adjustment of the amplifier treble control could restore uniformity of response.



AR-2ax with moderately-priced magnetic cartridge. Although not as accurate as the AR-5 or AR-3a the AR-2ax displays the same kind of performance, that is , its integrated power output curve is relatively level. Because its dispersion, especially in the lower midrange, is less uniform the AR-2ax is more dependent on optimum placement than the others.



3. The integrated power output of the AR-3a above 1000 Hz, measured in a special reverberant chamber. Reflection from the walls of the chamber mixes together all of the sound emitted by the speaker system in all directions, an effect much more like that of a listening room than the anechoic chamber used for 1 and 2. A speaker system which measured well in both types of chamber would be accurate under almost all listening conditions.



A 'multi-directional' system and a very expensive cartridge Such systems are designed to take advantage of room reflections to smooth response and create spatial effects.

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Accuracy distinguishes high-fidelity speaker systems from the speakers in simple radios and gramophones. It is therefore reasonable that evidence of accuracy should take precedence over descriptions of a speaker system's size, shape or theory of design. Acoustic Research offers exact measurement data for AR speaker systems to all who ask for it: music listeners, audio enthusiasts, science teachers, even competitors.

The accuracy of a speaker system can be evaluated by listening tests or by measurement. Both methods give the same information in different ways.

#### Testing for accuracy.

To perform a listening test, an extremely accurate recording must be made and played back alongside the original source of sound. Amplifier and speaker system controls are adjusted to obtain as close a match as possible; and the speaker system judged by the degree of similarity. Acoustic Research has presented public concerts at which the Fine Arts Quartet and other musicians could be compared with recordings played back through AR speaker systems; even seasoned critics were deceived. Obviously, listening tests cannot be made with commercial recordings of music since the listener has no way of knowing which adjustment is most accurately reproducing the recording.

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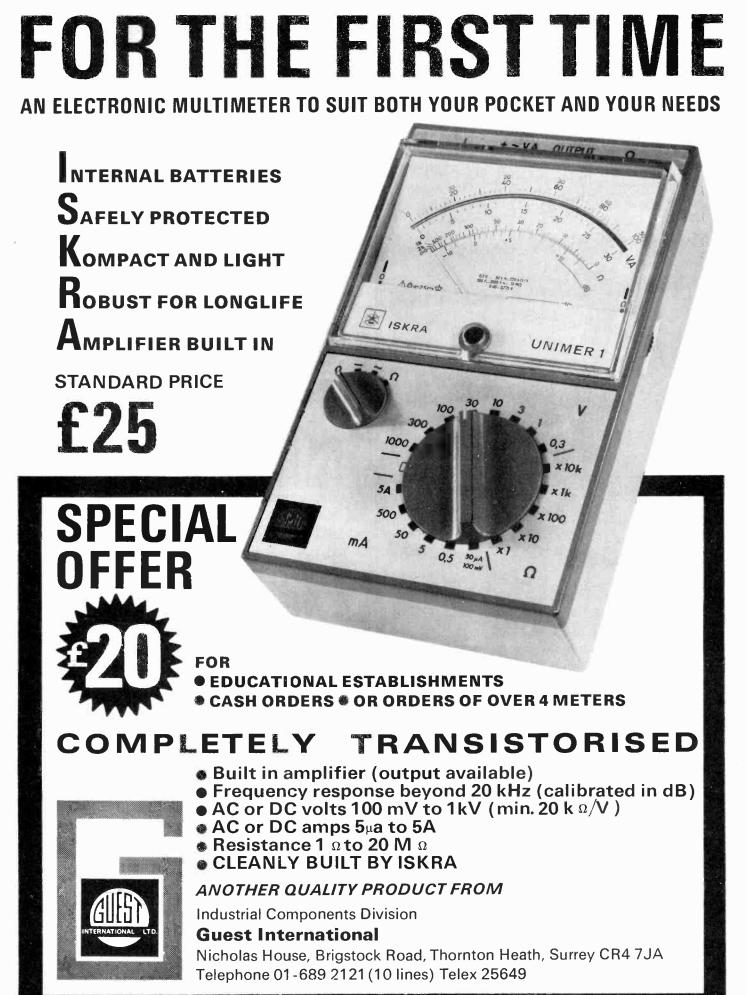
When you're looking for a lamp ask Vitality first – they're Europe's miniature lamp specialists.

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#### WW-057 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



WW-058 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



WW-059 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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# Brookdeal 471 Signal Source

Wide frequency range 0.001Hz to 1MHz

Continuously programmable over 4 decades

Sine wave distortion <0.05%

No bounce

Square wave rise time 30ns.

Quadrature outputs for two-phase lock-in systems

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Outputs duplicated on back panel

Calibrated output

# suddenly, all the other specs look shorter!

We took the design team that won a world reputation for advanced signal recovery instrumentation ... and set them to work on an oscillator. Result, Brookdeal 471 – a superb all-purpose instrument with a list of features longer than your arm. If you know Brookdeal, you'll know it's time to throw your old ideas on oscillator price/performance overboard. We're giving you more performance ...! How much more? Enter the W.W. No. below on the reader enquiry service card and we'll reveal all ...

**Brookdeal Electronics Limited,** Market Street, Bracknell, Berks, England. Telephone 0344 23931.

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Now, more than ever before, RADIO & TV SERVICING gives value for money. Every Servicing Engineer realises the value of readily available servicing data-it means speedy servicing, satisfied customers and more profit-and information on earlier models that come in for repair is almost impossible to come by. Radio and TV Servicing will give you just this-it's the most comprehensive library of servicing data available.

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Circuit Integration have used their experience in power supplies - and new enlarged production facilities - to bring you the CU600 SERIES Check this brief

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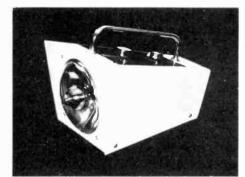
PRICES start at £12 per unit. subject to quantity and educational discounts

TYPE	OUTPUT	CURRENT
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CU600B	0-30v	0.25A
CU600C	0-60v	0.1A
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CU600F	0 & 2-12	v 0.5A

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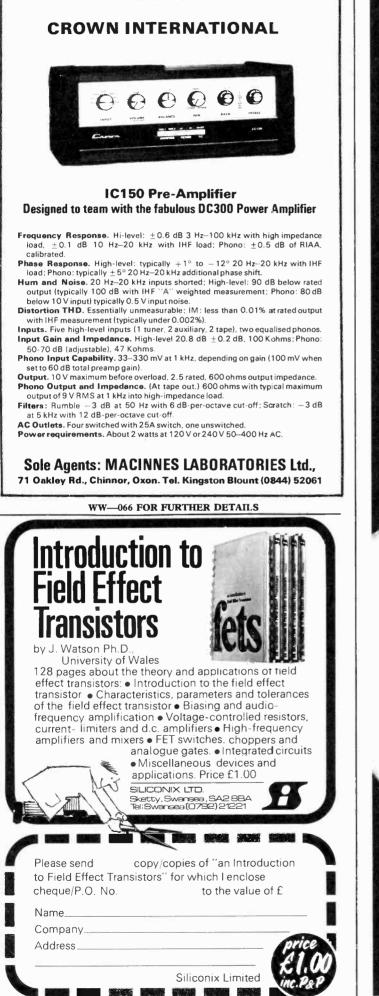
Flashing rate. Frequency accuracy. Triggering.

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WW-067 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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With some 400<sup>o</sup>C at the tip rapid recovery of heat and a soldering speed of one joint per second, productivity gains are spectacular. The complete iron comes with 6ft of 2-core flexible lead, secured against twist and strain by an insulated screw and tailpiece.

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WW11

Wireless World, November 1971



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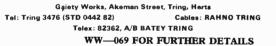
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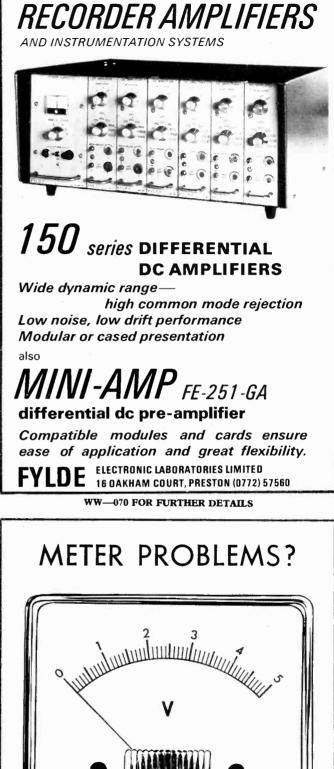




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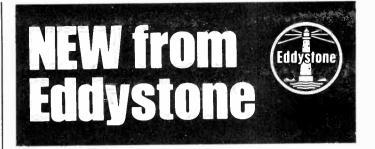
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WW-073 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



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10 Crystal controlled channels.

100kHz Calibrator.

Operation from standard AC supplies or powered directly from any 12V DC source.

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Wireless World, November 1971



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9p 11p

14p

KSO39A 17p

KSO43A 17p

15p 21p

ZS171

ZS172

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WW-082 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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Order any quantity, till sold (but we regret packs cannot be subdivided).



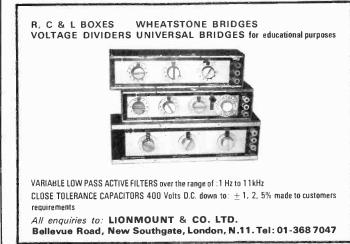
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WW-083 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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Illustrated the Si453 Audio Oscillator SPECIAL FEATURES:

- very low distortion content-less than .05%
- an output conforming to RIAA recording characteristic \*
- battery operation for no ripple or hum loop +
- square wave output of fast rise time

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Si451 Millivoltmeter 20 ranges also with variable control permitting easy reading of **relative** frequency response

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7 for 50p

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WW-084 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

# **CHART RECORDERS**

#### MOVING COIL

#### SINGLE PEN

ELLIOTT DC MILLIAMMETER RECORDER A reliable clockwork-driven recorder using an ink trough and syphon pen. Range: 0-1mA DC. Goil resistance: 1050 ohns. Chart width: 34 ins. Chart speed: 2 ins. per hour. Chart drive: Clockwork-14 days. Dimensions: Ht. 184; "width 124;", depth 8". Weight: 56 lbs.- 235 00

depth 74 . Weight of the second state of the s

# ELLIOTT MODEL 400 "EMREC" DC MILLIAM-METER RECORDER

METER RECORDER A portable free-standing single-pen recorder designed for field use where a robust and reliable recorder is required. Fitted with miniature fluorescent strip light. Range: 0-1mA. Chart with: 4 ins. Chart speed: 1 in. per min. Chart drive: 240V 50 Hz synchronous motor. Dimensions: Ht. 7 $^+_1$ , width 7 $^+_2$ , depth 9". Weight: 20 lbs... £75:00

**EVERSMED & VIGNOLES** PORTABLE DC MILLI-AMMETER RECORDER A neat and compact instrument using a typewriter ribbon chopper marker on to a continuous strip chart. Range: 05-0-0-banA. Coil resistance: 240 ohms. Chart width: 2 ins. Chart speed: 6 ins. per hour. Chart drive: 230V 50 Hz synchronous motor. Dimensions: Ht. 647, width 44°, depth 84°. Weight: 7½ lbs. **£25**:00

Also available with 2 and 4 pens-see below.

#### TWO PENS

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THREE PENS EVERSHED & VIGNOLES ADMIRALTY RE-CORDER Originally designed for services use for tested magslips but can be used as a normal 3-pen recorder. Range: 12-150V AC f.s.d. set by range selector switch. Chart width: 50 cm. per channel. Chart speed: 12 ims. per hour or 12 ins. per minute. Please state which is required. Chart drive: Synchronous motor. Power supply: 50/250V 50 Hz and 20/120V 400 and 1100 Hz. £42:50

#### FOUR PENS

#### POTENTIOMETRIC

#### SINGLE POINT

KENT INSTRUMENTS Mk. II CHART RECORDER A general purpose slow response recorder suitable for recording quantities which have a relatively slow rate of change such as tem-perature, smoke density, etc. 8ensitivity: 10m/. Response time: 33 sees for f.s.d. Chart width: 8 ins. Chart speed: 4, 3, 6 ins. per hour. Powers supply: 1104 50 dL (autotransformer to 230V 50 Hz available). Dimensions: Ht. 16<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, width 19<sup>e</sup>, depth 15<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

SIX POINTS

SIX POINTS RUSSION STRIP CHART RECORDER A very well-made recorder, fully tropicalised and ideally suited to use in an industrial environment, for recording temperature, humidity, etc. Range: 100-0-100m V. Itesponse time: 8 sect for f.s.d. Accuracy:  $\pm 0.5\%$ . Chart width: 6 $\frac{1}{9}$  ins. Chart speed: 20 to 720 mm. per hour in 10 steps. Dimensions: Ht. 114<sup>-</sup>, width 13<sup>-</sup>, depth 17<sup>-----</sup>. **279**:50

ELLIOTT STRIP CHART RECORDER Range: 0-10mV. Chart width: 10 ins. Dimensions: Ht. 21", width 20", depth 194". Further information available on request. £145:00

#### TWELVE POINTS

#### CIRCULAR CHART TYPES

CIRCULAR CHART TYPES FIELDEN Mk. II SERVOGRAPH TYPE RL41 Four Point. A very sensitive servo-operated circular chart recorder. The four point head enables four inputs to be recorded on the chart in four separate colours. Range: 0-50 microamps. Chart diameter: 11 ins. Chart speed: 1 rev per hour. Chart divice: Interchangeable synchronous motors. Power supply: 210/250V 50 Hz 35 Watts. Dimensions: Ht. 16", width 134", depth 7 18 ins. Weight: 22 lbs. £45:00

#### ULTRA VIOLET RECORDERS

HONEYWELL 1706 VISICORDER 6 channel. Chart width: 44 ins. Chart speed: 6, 12, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 mm./acc. Timer internai: J/10 sec. 1 sec. Provisions for external timer. Portable: 13"×11"×9". Mains supply.....£350.00

HONEYWELL 906S VISICORDER 14 channel complete with 6 galvo's. Chart width: 6 ins. Chart 4.2, N, 17, 21, N, 8.3 ins./sec. Dimensions: 15' × 9' × 10' - p £200 00

**NEW ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS** TYPE 1000 6 channel complete with 6 galvo's. Chart width: 6 his. Chart speed: 0.2, 0.6, 2, 6 ins./sec. Facilities for event marking and bright viewing. Footage counter. Overall dimensions: 14" × 16" × 101". Mains supply. £100:00

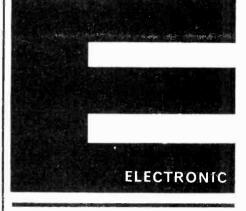
**NEW ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS** TYPE 1185 12 channel. Chart width: 12 ins. Chart speed: 0-5, 1, 1-5, 2, 4, 6, 10, 20, 30, 40, 80, 120 ins.psec. +10 or ×1. Event marker and inching facilities. Overall dimensions:  $21^{\circ} \times 21^{\circ} \times 19\frac{1}{2}^{\circ} \dots \dots \dots \pm 211000$ 

Note: Galvo's are available to various specifications and a price will be quoted when the specification of the galvo's required is made known.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

## EVERETT EDGCUMBE "INKWELL" RECORDING WATTMETER

MUIRHEAD "MUFAX" Type 901, 9" FACSIMILE RECORDER/TRANSMITTER Full specification and price available on request.



ELECTRONIC ASSOCIATES VARIPLOTTER 1100E X-Y plotter, suitable for recording analogue information. Table size 15 in. > 10 in.; slow speed 20 in./sec.; 1/P sensitivity for f.s.d. -05-20V in 9 ranges. Basic 1/P sensitivity. Arm 10mV/in. Pen IV/in. Fully overhauled, tested, guaranteed and in new condition. Price:  $\pm 2350-00$ condition. Price: £350.00

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### ELECTRONIC BROKERS 6-CHANNEL TIME & EVENT RECORDER

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All the above recorders have been fully refurbished by our own workshops and carry a 3 months' warranty.

As our stocks of recorders and other instruments is constantly chang-ing, please enquire if you have a specific requirement.

#### **RECORDER CHART ROLLS**

We have large stocks of pen recorder chart rolls for most makes of recorder including Elliott, Kent, Honeywell, Record, Teledeltos, Rustrak, etc. Please let us know your exact requirements so that we may quote—our prices are often up to 50% below list.

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Type CT446 TRANSISTOR ANALYSER for measuring pa on PNP, NPN, and Point Contact Transistors	£30.00
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4. SOLATRON AF ANALYSER. Frequency range: 2.5Hz-7.5kHz. Battery p	powered. £25.00
5. GENERAL RADIO Type 760 AF ANALYSER. Frequency range: 2.5Hz- Battery powered.	-7·5kHz.
6. FENLOW ELECTRONICS Type 8A2 I.F SPECTRUM ANALYSER. Frequency range IkHz.	
7. DAWE INSTRUMENTS Type 705B WAVE ANALYSER. Frequency range: 50Hz	-16kHz. £30.00
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 Delay 0-2 acc. to 0-2 μsec. Pulse width: 0-2 sec. to 0-2μ sec. O/P
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 20mV-50V.
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RF SIGNAL GENERATORS

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 200kHz and 20MHz.

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 70m 30kHz.

in 7 bands. 18. COSSOR Type CT202 BIGNAL GENERATOR. Frequency range: 7-70MHz. Band width Swept 1-10MHz. £89:00

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25. MARCONI Type TF801A SIGNAL GENEROTOR. Frequency range: 10MHz to 310MHz. O/P voltage: 0-100 db relative to 200 mV into 75 ohu; 1V CW O/P available. Internal modulation: 400Hz, 1kHz and 5kHz to 80% sine or square. £45 00

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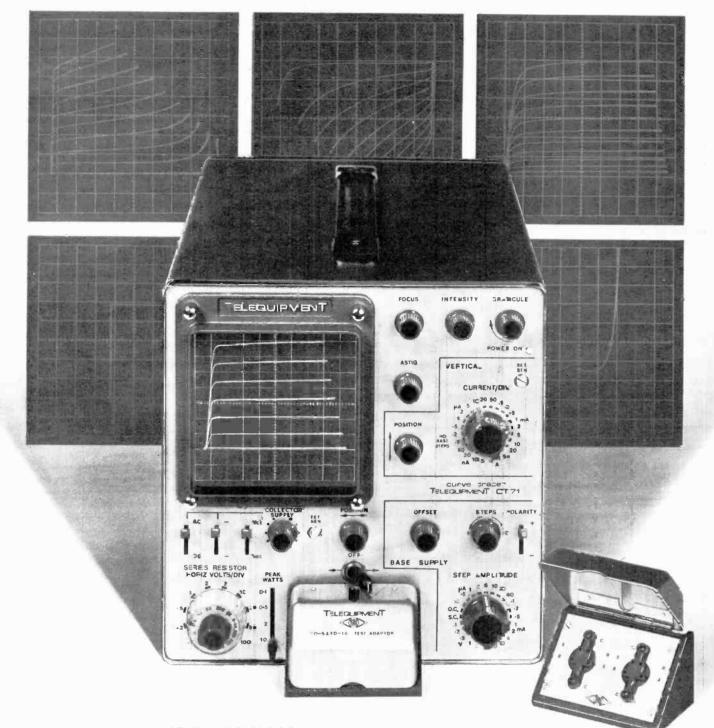
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# **Wireless World**

#### Electronics, Television, Radio, Audio

Sixty-first year of publication

November 1971

Volume 77 Number 1433



The cover picture of the ribbon of a Reslosound UD4 microphone typifies the audio bias of this issue. *Photographer—Paul Brierley*.

#### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

The Japanese Trinitron colour television tube, which has vertical striped phosphors and an aperture grille, is described and compared with the shadowmask tube with its triad dot structure.

A novel **wow and flutter meter** using a phase-locked loop is described by the designer of the pickup arm in this issue.



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Brief extracts or comments are allowed provided acknowledgement to the journal is given.

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# The Environment of Invention

It has been so often said that nowadays there is no place for the lone inventor that we are in danger of accepting it as an incontrovertible truth. First of all let it be known that there are plenty of electronics inventors around-whether they are experimenters working at home or professionals earning their living by electronics is not really important. Probably what is behind the cliché is the thought that an inventor cannot achieve much nowadays without being a member of a team with large resources at its command. What we should consider about this is whether a true inventor, a person with a divergent mind, can in fact achieve anything really original within such a team. How many inventions have been lost-still-born or not even conceived-because of the necessities and disciplines of the team's orderly march towards its pre-determined goal?

The inventor needs materials, tools and time-but above all time. He will get the first two by being an employee of an industrial organization, but time only up to a certain limit. In an efficiently run R & D department the time allowable for any given line of enquiry is strictly determined. Someone, such as a research director, has to make the decision at some point that enough time has been spent on the project; that further work is unlikely to bring worthwhile benefits. This is an extremely difficult decision to make. How can he be sure there is not something really important that a few more weeks will bring to light, perhaps even by accident? It would be interesting to know if any such administrative soul-searching went on at Bell Telephone Laboratories when Shockley, Bardeen and Brattain were working towards the 'three-electrode germanium crystal contact device' which was to revolutionize the electronics industry. We know the official story, but we do not know what was the pattern and interaction of the purely human factors-euphoria, pessimism, hopes, doubts and obsessions-that moved the whole project.

Time, above all, is needed by the individual inventor because what drives him forward is often a completely irrational confidence, a feeling 'in his bones', in spite of all the setbacks, that his idea is going to work. The classic case of this is, of course, the 19th century American, Charles Goodyear, a non-scientist with no chemical knowledge, who experimented for years, impoverishing himself in the process, even to the point of selling his son's schoolbooks, in his determination to discover how to harden rubber (or vulcanize it, as we now say). In the end, after several spells in prison for debt, he succeeded. Is there a need for such heroic sacrifice nowadays? Perhaps not; but people, being people, will continue to have brain children which they will nurture obsessively against all discouragement, and some of these ideas, given time, can become powerful realities.

It is all too easy to look back on the 'progress of technology' as some impersonal force which has caused inventors to pop up at just the right moment to put another brick on the wall at a place where it was obviously needed. If Shockley, Bardeen and Brattain had not invented the transistor when they did, somebody else would have done it sooner or later. Those who think this should try viewing the 'progress' as it rolls into the future and attempt to predict what will be the most important electronic inventions by, say, the year 2000 A.D. They will be shocked at the paucity of their ideas.

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# **Pickup Arm Design for Home Construction**

by R. Ockleshaw

516

The pickup arm described is designed to accompany the turntable detailed in our last issue. It includes an optional bias compensator and lift mechanism. Mechanical resonance is damped by a flexible coupling between counterweight and arm. A further article will describe how to check performance of the turntable using a test record and novel wow and flutter meter.

Design of pickup arms has been well described. The articles\* published in *Wireless World* May and June 1966 contain all the information required to design an arm for minimum distortion due to lateral tracking errors. In the present design, note has also been taken of the opinions of J. Walton on pickup-arm design.<sup>†</sup>

Briefly, one should try to avoid a system reproducing frequencies generally below the limits of audibility, because they may produce a disturbing Doppler effect on some loudspeaker systems whose acoustic impedance at these frequencies is low.

\*J. K. Stevenson, 'Pickup arm design', *Wireless World* vol. 72 1966 pp. 214-8 and 314-20. †J. Wahon, 'Turntable rumble and pickup arm design', *Wireless World* vol. 68 1962 pp. 435-7. Also, vibrations of the turntable and pickup-arm suspension should not cause excitation of the pickup arm, however damped.

A pickup arm has a natural period of oscillation of  $T = 2^{\pi}(MC)$  where M is the effective mass of the pickup arm and C is the compliance of the pickup cartridge. Mechanical impedance moves from a low to a high value around the resonant frequency peak-Fig. 1. Below the resonant frequency, because the mechanical impedance of the arm is low in comparison with the mechanical impedance of the pickup cartridge armature, the output from the pickup will be severely attenuated. Thus the arm acts like a high-pass filter, rejecting frequencies in the rumble range. The cut-off can be quite sharp but its value as an active part of a system is lost if different cartridges of varying compliance are fitted. Consequently my approach is that it is always better to ensure that rumble is reduced as much as possible at source and not rely entirely on the impedance characteristics of the arm. Damping the resonant peak is important too as the coincidence of some discrete vibration with the high-impedance resonant peak of an undamped arm may



In this photograph, the pickup arm has a different shell to that shown in the diagrams. A drawing showing how to make this version — heavier, though possibly aesthetically more acceptable — is available from the editorial offices.

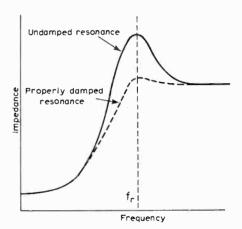


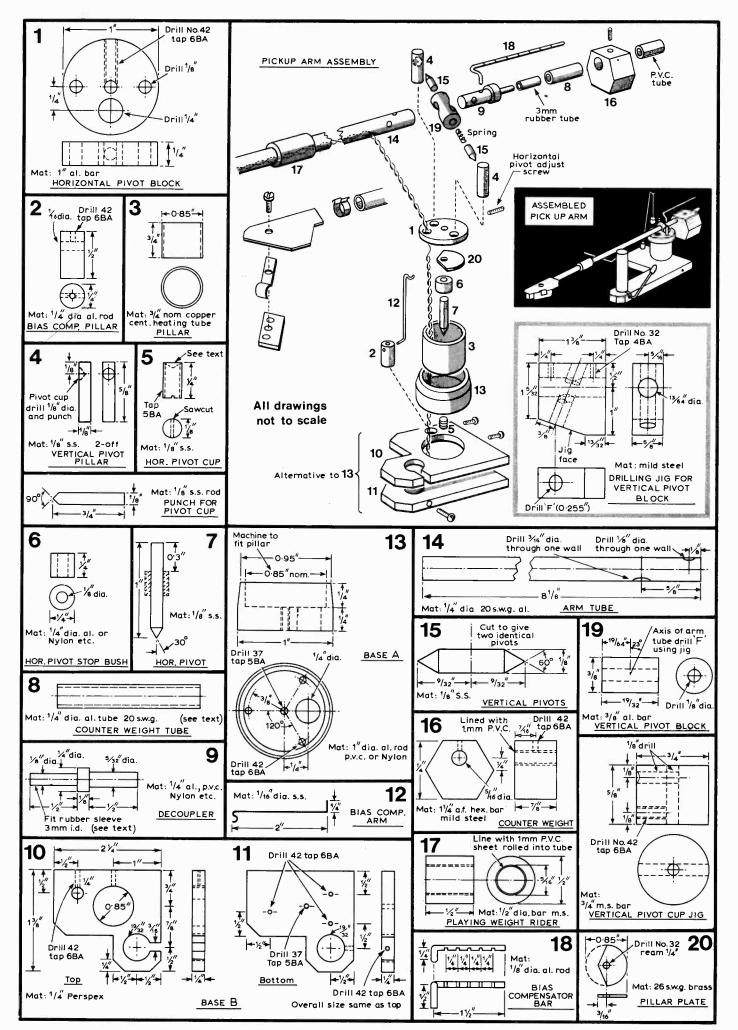
Fig. 1. Pickup arm resonance must be damped to allow for different cartridges. In this design damping is achieved with plastic 'decoupling' between balance weight and arm.

cause excitement which could damage the disc groove. This design is damped by ensuring that the counterweight is flexibly coupled to the arm. This effectively spoils any modes of mechanical resonance.

Record warp causes large vertical pickup-arm movements and it is important that the stylus remains normal to the record surface. Making the vertical pivot axis normal to the axial line of the cartridge, as in this design, gives a better approximation to correct movement than making the axis normal to the whole arm.

Construction is described in the drawings and in the supplementary notes which follow. The material for the counterweight is steel, but this can be replaced by any high-density material such as brass though the dimensions may have to be changed to maintain the correct weight. When making the decoupler, which fits into the counterweight tube, ensure the wide end is a comfortable push fit into the arm tube. Fit a 3-mm internal dia. rubber sleeve over the smaller end and push into the counterweight tube, checking that the tube does not touch the decoupler.

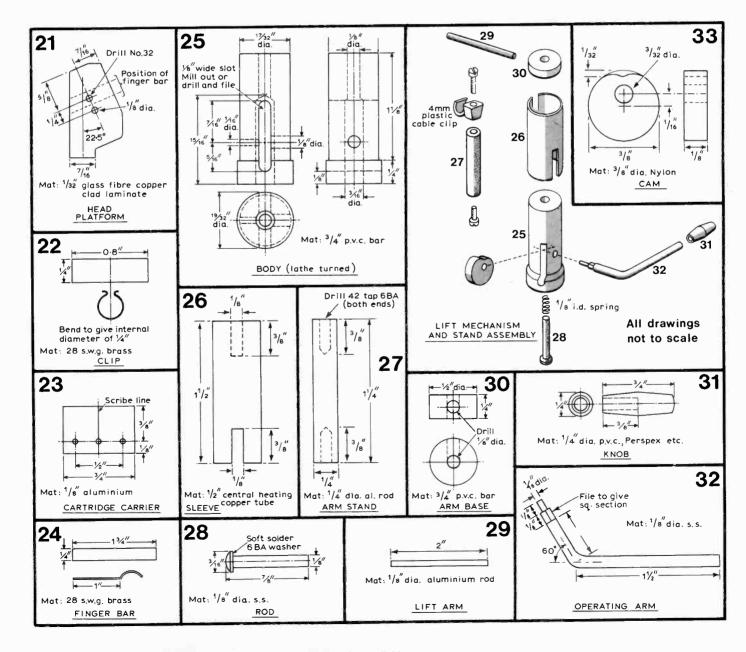
The vertical pivot block is drilled at an angle to accept the arm tube. This is a difficult operation in practice without the aid of a jig and so a suitable design is shown. The material required is a 1-in length of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in dia. aluminium bar which is inserted



#### Parts list

All turntable and pickup arm parts are available from Longdendale Technological Products. Hadfield, Hyde, Cheshire.

part	description/material
arm tube	$\frac{1}{4}$ -in dia. $\times$ 20 s.w.g. Al tube (12-in)
vertical block	≟-in dia. X 1∄-in Al bar
decoupler	$\frac{1}{4}$ -in dia. $\times$ 1-in Albar
bias compensator bar	≟-in dia.  × 3-in Al bar
horizontal pivot block & base A	Ĩ-in dia. Ál bar (2-in)
horizontal pivot stop	1/₄-in dia. Al bar
horizontal pivot and cup, vertical pivot & pillar	1/2-in dia. silver steel (13-in)
pillar plate, finger bar & clip	28 s.w.g. brass or copper
pillar	<sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -in dia. nom. copper central-heating tube (2-in)
head platform	in copper-clad laminate
base B	1 in Perspex sheet
counterweight	$1\frac{1}{4}$ -in a.f. mild steel hex. bar (1-in)
cartridge carrier	∲-in Al
playing weight rider	-in mild steel bar
vertical pivot loading spring	from Longdendale Technological Products
bias compensator pillar	∄-in dia. Al rod
bias compensator arm	1/4-in dia. s.s. (13-in)
socket-head grub screw	$6BA \times \frac{1}{4}$ -in (6 off)
pickup-arm wire nylon thread	about 18-in
bias compensator weights	appropriate lengths of 1-in dia. brass rod
lift mechanism	
body & arm base	2-in X ∄-in p.v.c. bar
lift and operating arm & rod	∄-in silver steel (7-in)
cam	≩-in nylon
sleeve	$\frac{1}{2}$ -in nom. copper central heating tube ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in)
spring	$\frac{1}{4}$ -in i.d. $\times \frac{1}{4}$ -in long from Longdendale Technological Products
knob	1-in dia. p.v.c., Perspex etc. (1-in)



into the jig. Lock it into position by two 4BA screws. Using an F(0.255in) drill, pierce the aluminium bar by inserting the drill into the hole in the jig face with the jig held in a vice. After piercing, shorten the pivot block to the dimensions given.

A jig is also used to make the vertical pivot pillars. Hold the pillar in the jig while preforming the cup with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in dia. drill. The pillar should not be removed from the jig, however, before the pivot cup is formed using the punch shown. Heat the punch to cherry red, quench and polish. After punching, likewise harden the pivot cups. Form the horizontal pivot cup in the same way, harden both pivot and cup, and finally polish the pivot.

Two versions of pillar base are shown. Use version A—best made on a lathe—if the lift mechanism is not required. Base B accepts both the lift mechanism and bias compensator pillar. Bond the two parts of base B after they have been made with Evostik and spray if desired.

#### Assembly

Once the vertical pivot block and decoupler are assembled on and in the arm tube

#### Wireless World, November 1971

respectively, use the vertical pivot block as a jig to complete the  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in dia. axial hole through the arm tube and decoupler. A small amount of Araldite or Evostik ensures a permanent assembly. Now insert the spring and two pivots into the axial hole of the pivot block as shown.

Bond the vertical pivot pillars into the pivot holder with Araldite with the cups accurately aligned inwards. After setting, insert the vertical pivot block between the pillars by squeezing the pivot loading spring in the pivot block over the pivots. This is a tricky operation requiring a little patience and, hopefully, only or 2 spring! The resulting pivot should be completely free from sticking and quite stable.

Bond the horizontal pivot-stop bush to the horizontal pivot after it has been hardened and polished. Insert the squarecut end through the  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in hole in the pillar plate. Assemble the base to the pillar.

Fix the vertical pivot pillar holder on to the horizontal pivot by the  $g_1$  ub screw. Screw the horizontal pivot cup to the pillar base until the bush tightens against the top of the pillar. Slacken off  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn and lock with cellulose paint. Adjust the vertical measured as the distance the stylus overhangs the centre of the turntable. Using the adjusting screw on the head, adjust offset angle to give zero tracking angle—i.e. angle of stylus to groove at a distance of 2.4in (2.375) from the turntable centre and then at a distance of 4.6in (4.606) from the turntable centre. There should be very little difference in tracking angle. If it is discernible check the positioning of the arm base, the effective length and overhang.

#### Calibration

The playing weight rider can be omitted, in which case the playing weight must be set up each time using a suitable balance. If the rider is used the arm can be calibrated against either a 'pressure' gauge or a set of weights. In either case stick a piece of plasticine to the cartridge platform. Its weight is not important but it should be roughly equal to the weight of a cartridge say 6 or 7g.

If you use a pressure gauge, adjust the counterweight to balance the arm with the rider as close to the pivots as possible. Moving the rider away from the pivots will

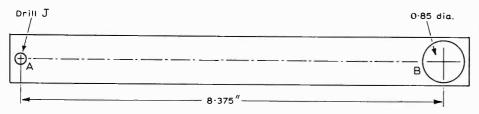


Fig. 2. When turntable and pickup arm are assembled place hole A over spindle and hole B over pickup arm pillar. Draw round the base to mark selected position.

pivot block to give a clearance of about 0.025in.

Wiring should present no problem if it is done before the arm is fitted to the pickup-arm board. Remember to mark one of the wires at both ends for identification. It may help if a piece of stiffer wire is threaded first so it can be used to pull both of the coaxial wires through at once. The two wires can be terminated on a small tagboard underneath the pickup-arm board or on to a plinth-mounted socket.

Performance of the arm is improved by using the bias compensator. Possibly the best way of setting up the compensator, for a spherically-tipped stylus at least, is with an unmodulated disc. But be prepared for some experimentation.

#### Setting up the arm

A jig for assembling the arm to the pickuparm board is shown in Fig. 2. It should be used with the turntable in place, the small hole being placed over the spindle. The other end should be slipped over the pickup-arm pillar. The arm's position should then be selected and marked.

Effective arm length should be nine inches — i.e. the distance from stylus tip to centre line of vertical pivots. To do this slide the head of the arm either forward or backward along the arm tube. The overhang is designed to be 0.625in and is unbalance the arm and increase the playing weight. Relate distance from the pivots to playing weight using the pressure gauge.

If you use weight, stick four 1-g weights to the plasticine (assuming a maximum playing weight of 4g). Adjust the counterweight to balance with the rider close to the pivots. Remove one of the weights and move rider away from pivots to rebalance. Mark the arm. Repeat this procedure removing one weight at a time until all have been removed. Half-gram markings can be inserted by interpolation as the scale will be linear.

A third article will describe a wow and flutter meter and how to check turntable performance.

#### Wide-stage stereo

Some readers of E. J. Jordan's article 'Loudspeaker Stereo Techniques' (*Wireless World* Feb. 1971) may like to know that the author has developed a practical design based on the 'reflector delay-line system', which can be adapted to suit individual requirements. Readers interested in having such a system built should write direct to E. J. Jordan, 22 Hyde Green, Marlow, Bucks.

www.americanradiohistory.com

# Announcements

An equipment contract worth over £10M for Europe's largest international telephone exchange, has been awarded by the British Post Office to Plessey Telecommunications. The equipment is for part of the first unit at Mondial House — the new international telephone exchange under construction on a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acre site adjacent to Cannon Street Station, London. Apart from the massive switching complex, Plessey will design, develop and install International Accounting and Traffic Analysis Equipment. The heart of the I.A.T.A.E. is an on-line computer which will provide information on a call duration /route/destination basis for the clearing of international charges.

Blueline Electronic Components, a new distributor company at Refuge House, River Front, Enfield, Middx, (Tel. 01-366 6371), has been set up by ITT Components. It is completely independent of ITT Electronic Services and has been formed, as a franchised distributor — 'not to sell ITT lines'. Blueline has six franchises: Texas Instruments; Bourns: Plessey capacitors; Union Carbide solid tantalum capacitors; International Rectifiers; and Keyswitch Relays.

The BBC has placed an order with Pye TVT for 'sound-in-sync' equipment comprising 40 encoder and 61 decoder units. The system enables both sound and vision signals to be transmitted over a single land line in place of the current two-line system.

British Communications Corporation Ltd. of Wembley, have been awarded a contract by the Ministry of Defence covering the pre-production aspects leading to the supply of v.h.f. /f.m. manpacks for the 'Clansman' military communication project.

Computer Automation Inc., of California, designers and manufacturers of minicomputers and associated equipment, have formed a U.K. subsidiary company called CAI Ltd, at 95a High Street, Rickmansworth. Herts.

Guest International Ltd, Nicholas House, Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 7JA, have signed an agreement to market in the United Kingdom the semiconductor and thin film products manufactured by A.S. Akers Electronics, of Norway.

Granger Associates Ltd, of Weybridge, has been appointed exclusive sales representative for Jampro Antenna Company, of California, manufacturers of **broadcast aerials** for v.h.f. and u.h.f. applications and associated equipment.

The McMurdo Instrument Co., Rodney Road, Portsmouth PO4 8SG, in conjunction with Alliance Technique Industrielle, of France, are marketing a range of miniature connectors built to the French CCTU 0811 specification.

Data Devices Ltd, Abbey House. Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hants, has been appointed exclusive U.K. agent for the range of data terminals, modems and input/output devices manufactured by **Terminal Equipment Corporation**, of New Jersey, U.S.A.

Euro Electronic Instruments, Shirley House, 27 Camden Road, London N.W.1, has been appointed sole agent in the U.K. for Electro Optical Industries Inc., of Santa Barbara, California, makers of wave analysers, digital voltmeters, amplifiers and noise measuring equipment.

# **News of the Month**

transmits a return signal from the dispatcher that lights an 'acknowledge' lamp on the cab's dashboard to indicate the driver's message was received. The entire transaction takes a little more than a second. The digital system is expected to find other applications in the trucking and related industries.

#### A step in the right direction

Farnell Electronic Components Ltd, component distributors, are to be congratulated for their latest policy on prices. They have just published a new catalogue and they have given an undertaking not to increase any of their published prices before 31st March 1972. Any manufacturers' price increases will be absorbed by Farnell and will not be passed on to customers.

#### Conferences by television

Groups of people in five large cities can now converse and see each other by means of Confravision, the conferencesby-television service just introduced by the British Post Office. Special studios have been built in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and Bristol, and are designed so that they can be operated by the users themselves. Each studio has a vidicon camera, with a remotely controlled two-turret lens which will take in either five people or the central three of them in close-up; two 24-inch monitor screens, allowing each group to see themselves as well as the other group; an overhead vertically mounted camera for transmitting documents; and microphones and a tape-recorder. There are two sets of duplicate push-button controls, one for use by the chairman of the group and the other, at a side desk out of view, for use by a secretary. Small pairs of monitors are provided for both the secretary and the document display operator.

Video signals, which are on the normal 625-line monochrome 5MHz bandwidth standard, are sent from the studio's equipment room by coaxial cable to the nearest network switching centre (e.g. in London the Post Office Tower), and thence over the Post Office's microwave radio network on a standard television channel as used by the broadcasting organizations. (It is understood that these channels are in fact television standby channels originally provided for broad-

casting signal distribution but seldom if ever used as such.) Sound is carried over music quality lines, but there is a possibility that sometime in the future it could be sent with the video signal by the 'sound-in-sync' technique. Wireless World's reporter, in London, took part in a discussion with a group in Bristol and found the system easy to get used to. The only minor drawback is that with five people displayed on the monitor it is difficult to see immediately which person is speaking. Some method of visual indication would be helpful. The pictures as seen at the demonstration did not appear to be up to the normal broadcast standard of clarity, and the sound, considering that it came over a music line, was somewhat distorted and muffled.

The cost of using the service?  $\pounds 120$  per hour for up to 125 miles (e.g. London-Birmingham) and  $\pounds 180$  per hour over 125 miles (e.g. Glasgow-Bristol).

#### Taxi 'mayday'

Members of an independent taxi association in New York are to use an RCA radio system to alert their headquarters in case of a robbery or other emergency. By operating a concealed switch, a driver will be able to signal, without a passenger's knowledge, that an emergency exists. A controller, after consulting a log of the cab's earlier movements to determine its general location, can summon help by calling the police or contacting other cabs near the one in distress.

The alarm is part of a two-way radio system which relays messages in number code as well as by voice. Automatic equipment in dispatch headquarters prints out a log showing the taxicab's identifying number, the time the message was received, and sounds a bell. Aside from emergencies, the RCA mobile radio will be used to advise the dispatcher via a coded message that a cab is available to pick up a passenger. The system automatically

#### Data for the individual

A. Marshall & Son (London) Ltd, 28 Cricklewood Broadway, London N.W.2, are offering a mailing service to the general public which gives information and prices on the range of components stocked and will enable them to publicize small quantities of parts. Subscribers will be provided with a loose-leaf binder in which to collate all the information. A charge will be made of £1 per annum for the service and subscribers will be entitled to certain preferential discounts.

#### Radio controlled clocks

The 170 town clocks of Vienna have been modified so that they are now controlled by means of radio impulses. Until recently the clocks were controlled over telephone lines, and they often showed incorrect time because the same lines were used for fire alarm purposes. An alarm could result in one or several impulses being lost, which in turn caused the town clocks scattered over the city to show different times. The radio-controlled system, which was designed by the municipal engineers of Vienna in collaboration with Storno engineers, employs two crystal-controlled main clocks which in turn are controlled by the observatory of Vienna. The maximum error that can occur is now 20ms.

#### **Complex hybrids**

A small West German company called Microelectronic has introduced a high packing density system for thick-film hybrid circuits. Lewicki, the designer, claims to be able to achieve four times the packing density of conventional hybrids at only twice the cost.

The new hybrid consists of two ceramic substrates held slightly apart by small

#### Wireless World, November 1971

soldered risers. The space between them is sufficient to allow chips to be attached to all four substrate-surfaces thus providing the equivalent of four hybrid circuits in each device. In this way, using  $25 \times$ 12mm substrates, up to 80 components can be attached. Interconnections between opposite sides of each substrate are made around the substrate edges. This eliminates the need for punching holes and reduces cost. In addition to holding the substrates apart, the risers provide interconnections between each substrate and form the external leads for the dual-in-line package,

#### Churches television centre

Just outside Watford, there is a country house which has just had a large, six-camera, television studio added. The building is the headquarters of the Churches Television Centre whose object is to spread the Christian message using television. The centre has an outside broadcast unit and gives training in television and sound broadcasting techniques in an effort to make maximum use of modern ways of spreading information. Television programmes made at the centre, and recorded on video tape, are copied on to 16mm film for distribution throughout the country.

#### Marine simulator

A digital marine radar simulator is to be designed and produced by Marconi Space and Defence Systems for a nautical college currently being built at Hull. The simulator will help to train students to tackle the hazardous and crowded shipping situations which will become an accepted part of their daily lives. The simulator mimics a ship's bridge, including radar display, helm controls, echo sounder, radio direction finder, and other instruments. A student can navigate his 'ship' through any exercise conditions which the instructor sets. The situations to which he has to respond might range from collision avoidance action in busy seaways to navigating along fog-bound shores. The 'ship's' manoeuvring reactions are preset in the simulator's computer, and can be varied to represent any size of ship, from supertankers to small trawlers. Provision is made in the trainer for the special fishery training requirements of the Hull and Grimsby trawler fleets, and for research into ship and port control situations.

#### The trouble with ATS-3 and receiving it in the U.K.

A jammed aerial control system in the satellite ATS-3 recently caused the almost four-year-old experimental satellite to stop transmitting weather pictures as well as other data.

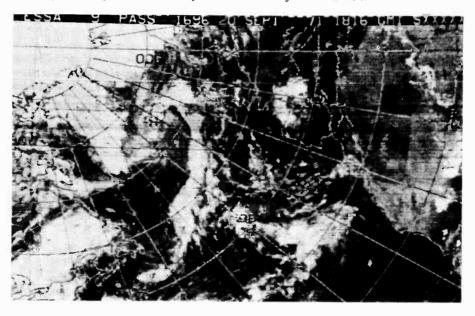
N.A.S.A. officials believe the spacecraft gets heated up when the sun is north of the equator in the summer—and, as the aerial is located on the top and north side of the spacecraft, it probably overheats the drive system causing it to stop spinning.

The spacecraft spins at 100 revolutions per minute and the aerial spins in the opposite direction at almost the same speed which, when coupled with the motion of the satellite in its orbit, keeps the aerial pointed toward Earth.

About mid-July officials at N.A.S.A's Goddard Space Flight Center, had trouble making the aerial drive at the necessary speed. A few days later it cleared up and worked well. Then in early August the problem began again only this time the aerial spin rate went to zero.

The sun has now moved farther south and, as in previous years, ATS-3 is on the air again and is being used in an automatic weather picture experiment. The object is to prove that a geo-stationary satellite can transmit weather data to a wide area as indeed it can as shown by the photograph received by Westminster school, using the equipment described in this and last month's issues of *Wireless World*, direct from ATS-3.

The picture was taken by the satellite ESSA-9 (which does not use the normal automatic picture transmission system) and was transmitted on command to an American ground station. The picture was then sent to Mojave in California where the grid and coastline were added. The modified picture was then transmitted in normal a.p.t. form to ATS-3 whose internal transponder re-transmitted it at 135.6MHz. ATS-3 is stationed at longitude 70°W over Colombia which means that the Westminster school aerial had to be positioned with a bearing of 255° and an elevation of only 3°. The range was about 22,000 miles - quite an achievement for home-made equipment. Incidentally, readers who wish to receive ATS-3 are warned that interference can be expected from aircraft transmitters which use adjacent channels.



#### Applying 'Bosworth' in radio and radar instruction

As a result of the university/industry liaison recommended by the Bosworth<sup>\*</sup> report to start courses in product technology, a compromise has been worked out between industry's need for staff-release periods which are not too long and universities' pleas for adequate lecturing time.

The Electronic Engineering Association and the University of Birmingham have organized a Bosworth M.Sc. course in radio-communications and radar technology consisting of nine sessions. Each session lasts from one to three weeks and is a course in itself in a particular subject. The sessions are designed to allow

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engineers to attend only those lectures which are of interest to them. Experience gained during 1970/71 showed that it was desirable to arrange all the lectures for three days of any one week allowing short-course students to return to their firms for the remaining two working days.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. G. S. Bosworth a working group set up to examine the education and training requirements of industry issued two reports: an introductory one. 'A review of the scope and problems of scientific and technological manpower policy', H.M.S.O. Oct. 1965, and 'Education and training requirements for the electrical and mechanical manufacturing industries'. H.M.S.O. 1966.

# **Progress in Acoustics** Seventh International Congress on Acoustics, Budapest

by N. F. Spring,\* B.Sc., A.R.C.S., M.Inst.P.

It is now well past the time that acoustics could be referred to as the 'Cinderella of the sciences'. More than 700 papers were presented at this year's international acoustics congress, so this report is more than usually selective. The selection problem is eased by my total ignorance of large sections of acoustics. For example, I feel singularly unqualified to comment on voiced/voiceless probabilities of Serbo-Croatian speech sounds, and *Wireless World* readers hoping for a discussion of the acoustical features and perceptual cues of the four tones of standard colloquial Chinese will be disappointed.

#### Electro-acoustics

One of the most widely used devices for the production of artificial reverberation in broadcasting and recording is the reverberation plate. The decay of flexural vibrations in a carefully made steel sheet,  $2m^2$  in area and 0.5mm thick, simulates the reverberation of a room remarkably well. For some time now the inventor of the reverberation plate, W.Kuhl (I.R.T., Hamburg) has been developing a smaller version, hoping to make it small enough to fit into the boot of a car and also to

\* B.B.C. Research Department

eliminate the slight residual metallic colouration of the existing plate. Dr. Kuhl's written work on the new plate has been tantalizingly sparse so far and it was not surprising that his Budapest paper "Eine Kleine Nachhallplatte" was extremely well attended.

Fig. 1 shows the reverberation time / frequency characteristics of the existing large plate and of an experimental plate having an area of 0.1m<sup>2</sup> and a thickness of 0.02mm. To maintain the eigentone density, a reduction of surface area of the plate must be accompanied by a proportional reduction in thickness; the difficulties in making a successful mini-plate arise from this fact. The lower surface density of the new plate (more properly described as a foil) means that the various sources of unwanted damping are much more effective and it is difficult to maintain the required reverberation time at high frequencies. There are also difficulties with the transducers, whose mass cannot be permitted to be more than a few milligrams if attached to the foil. Kuhl's paper gave a very clear summary of the problems but was less informative about solutions. One hopes that it will not be too long before a commercial version of the mini-plate is available.

Barát and Viczián (Hungary) produced

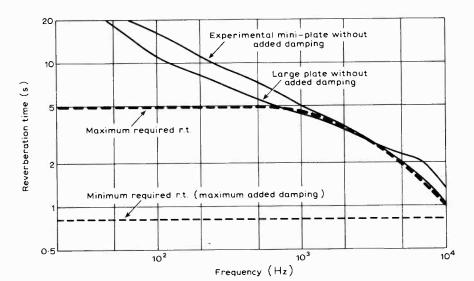


Fig. 1. Reverberation time / frequency characteristic of experimental reverberation plate only  $0.1m^2$  in area, compared with a standardized plate.

some fascinating colour pictures illustrating their technique for displaying sound field contours. Five differently coloured lamps are fixed onto a microphone and each lamp is arranged to switch on when the sound pressure level at the microphone falls within one of five different narrow ranges. To trace out a contour of constant sound pressure level, one merely moves the microphone so that one lamp stays switched on. An open-shutter camera in front of the sound source will then record a set of isobars of different colours. A set of colour slides showing the patterns in front of a bass-reflex loudspeaker at different frequencies was very instructive, and a 'picture' of sound leaking through a door indicated that the technique might be useful for investigations in the field as well as in the laboratory.

Open-loop high-frequency cut-off in audio power amplifiers can result in momentary 100% intermodulation distortion according to M. Otala (University of Oula, Finland). Transient clipping occurs when a rapidly rising voltage is applied to the input terminals. If the open-loop cut-off frequency is not very high, then the negative feedback does not act quickly enough to reduce the amplified input signal and overload occurs. Otala's contribution has been to present a theory of this type of distortion which enables the duration of the distortion to be calculated. In practical terms the results indicate that an amplifier can be blocked off for 1ms by quite small transients. Measurements on three popular commercial amplifiers were presented. One, a Danish amplifier, employed judicious local feedback and gave no sign of distortion. The worst of the other two, a nominally 20-watt amplifier, had a distortionless output power of only 0.15W, which went below 10mW when the tone control was set for maximum treble boost. The next step required is the acquisition of data on the subjective importance of this type of distortion.

The pioneers of the electret microphone, G. M. Sessler and J. E. West (Bell Telephone, U.S.A.), gave some examples of the latest work on electret transducers. The dielectric polarization in an electret is almost completely attributable to charge displacement and very little to dipole



This 1/8-scale model of a studio has been used by the B.B.C. in listening tests to determine how the acoustics of the real studio might be improved.

alignment. Work over the past two or three years has shown that the most rapid and consistent method of producing a uniform charge distribution at the surface of the electret is simply to fire an electron beam at it. The high capacitance per unit area of the foil-electret microphone and the fact that there is virtually no physical limitation on size means that large units having a high capacitance can be made. One such unit, when fed into a high input resistance amplifier, had a frequency response ranging from 1mHz to 10kHz and was used to record infrasonic radiation from Apollo 10. A more down-to-earth application is for a touch-dial for telephones (Fig. 2). Touching the metallized-foil electret through one of the holes displaces it and generates a voltage pulse across a resistor wired between the metallizing and the underlying backplate.

A. Boleslav (Czechoslovakia) described a method of measuring the frequency response of a woofer without the use of a free-field room. A pressure gradient microphone is placed in the centre of the mouth of the loudspeaker, close to the diaphragm. Provided certain conditions are met, the results are close to those obtained in a free-field room.

#### **Room** acoustics

There were several papers on acoustic modelling of one sort or another. Of the theoretical models, Strøm (Norway) described an investigation on room shapes by use of a computer model, using ray-tracing techniques. Although the method involved gross oversimplifications, some interesting tentative results have been obtained. Rectangular halls typical of the 19th century, possessing a high rating according to Beranek's scale, showed a relatively even spatial distribution of the impinging energy and there seemed to be a certain concentration of reflected energy in the time interval 50 to 100ms. Highly rated modern halls also gave similar results, except that the concentration of energy was found to be in the 20 to 50ms time interval. In contrast, modern halls having a low rating showed an uneven distribution of impinging energy both in space and time; also the directional distribution of reflections did not seem to be so uniform.

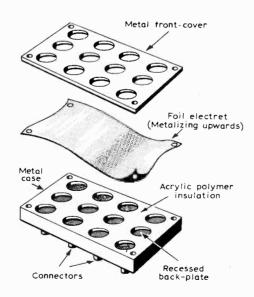


Fig. 2. Touching the metallized foil electret through one of the holes displaces it, producing a voltage pulse across a resistor connected between electret and backplate.

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A. N. Burd described the continuing work on the BBC's  $\frac{1}{8}$ -scale model of a large orchestral studio. In spite of formidable engineering difficulties, recordings can now be made in the model having a weighted signal-to-noise ratio better than 52dB and with colourations from the transducers at a level sufficiently low so as not to mask the acoustical characteristics of the model. Demonstration recordings were played to show the similarity between music reproduced in the model and that reproduced in the real studio. Listening tests on a number of simple modifications to the model have suggested ways in which the acoustics of the real studio might be improved.

Gilford and Gibbs (University of Aston), are concerned with the use of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -scale models to investigate the characteristics of sound transmission in building structures. Whether such models are valid or not depends partly on the way in which the internal losses of the modelled materials vary with frequency and amplitude. The authors' measurements show that internal losses are not a large factor in transmission loss along structural elements of a building for the common building materials in use today. The losses could, however, affect the airborne transmission of sound through panels and walls to a significant extent. These losses are therefore a potential source of error in models attempting to scale airborne transmission.

The assisted-resonance system installed in the Royal Festival Hall has been very successful, notwithstanding the fact that no satisfactory theory of its detailed behaviour has yet been devised. G. Dodd (Southampton) has been studying the characteristics of peaks in the transmission response of rooms, and in his paper he concludes that the room behaves like a simple damped oscillator in the vicinity of well-defined peaks. The well-defined peaks are those which are chosen for assisted-resonance channels. Dodd's results suggest that a theory of assisted resonance simpler than those proposed hitherto might be possible.

Anyone contemplating planning the expensive facility of a free-field room or anechoic chamber, would do well to read the paper by Delany and Bazley (N.P.L.). They have produced a satisfactory method of predicting the performance of such rooms having an absorbent lining of plane sheets. They also reported progress towards predicting the performance of wedge-lined rooms at middle and high frequencies. Already the authors have produced some interesting results. The usual figure of merit of a free-field room is obtained by measuring the variation in sound pressure as a microphone is moved away from a point source of sound. In free space the pressure would vary inversely as the distance, so the figure of merit in a free-field room is obtained by considering departures from this inverse pressuredistance law. What Delany and Bazley found was that the mean deviation of the field from the true law varies only slowly as the frequency is increased in wedge-lined rooms; this behaviour is rather different from that observed with plane absorbent treatment where the performance improves significantly towards higher frequencies. They also found that for a given frequency in a wedge-lined room the r.m.s. deviation increases with increasing separation between the source and the microphone, and their final conclusion was that the presence of even small reflecting objects within the enclosure has a profoundly deleterious effect on the overall performance of a wedge-lined room.

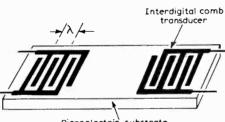
A round-table discussion on subjective evaluation in room acoustics was opened by F. Kolmer (Czechoslovakia). Kolmer reminded us that in spite of its wellknown shortcomings, the reverberation criterion is still the only generally accepted objective criterion which corresponds with subjective evaluation of the acoustics of a room. After reviewing the recent work on improvements to objective measurements and attempts to establish subjective evaluations, Kolmer concluded that the connection between the subjective perception and the objective description of the acoustic field is the missing link in room acoustics. The discussion from the floor was conducted very energetically. The fact that it was held almost entirely in German emphasized the difficulties of the concepts involved, especially if they are to be discussed internationally. British workers in this field have encountered considerable difficulties in applying names to the subjective qualities being evaluated. Terms like bloom, sheen, brilliance, and so on are bad enough, but what are we to make of Räumlichkeit, Halligkeit, Raumeindruck and Durchsichtigkeit? (Incidentally it seems that the recent British work in this field-e.g. Hawke's work at University College, London-was not widely known.)

New objective measurements in room acoustics are still being vigorously pursued, especially those concerned with the impulse response of rooms. R. Kürer, in his introduction to a round-table discussion on the subject, focused attention on recently proposed parameters such as early decay time and early reverberation, including Kürer's own parameter Schwerpunktzeit (a sort of centre of gravity of the envelope of the decay curve).

#### Acoustic surface-wave devices

Developments in acoustic surface-wave (a.s.w.) devices were the subject of an invited paper by E. G. S. Paige (R.R.E., Malvern). Progress in the past five years has been impressive and it is now possible to make the front-end of a television receiver including r.f. amplifier, local oscillator, mixer, channel selector, i.f. filter and i.f. amplifier using these devices. The planar structure means that their fabrication is compatible with that of microelectronic circuits.

The basically simple structure of a surface-wave delay line having interdigital transducers is shown in Fig. 3. The system resonates when the wavelength equals the spacing between the fingers, and the bandwidth is given simply by the resonant angular frequency divided by the number of finger pairs.



Piezoelectric substrate

Fig. 3. In acoustic surface-wave devices the system resonates when the wavelength equals the finger spacing. Bandwidth is inversely proportional to the number of finger pairs.

Many other a.s.w. substitutes for electronic devices are possible, such as matched filters for pulse-compression systems, directional couplers, tapped delay lines and decoding filters. Even the non-linearities have been exploited recently in an a.s.w. convolver.

An interesting feature of an a.s.w. filter is that the arrangement of the fingers in the transducer looks like the impulse response of the filter, with the weighting corresponding to the degree of finger overlap. Dr Paige foresees the possibility that, with the development of many combinations of a.s.w. components in the future, large sections of electronics will be done without electrons.

#### **Computers and acoustics**

At the exhibition held at the time of the congress it was notable that all the major acoustical instrument manufacturers were offering measurement systems incorporating real-time frequency analysers and small laboratory computers to reduce the data from the analysers to a more digestible form. This development was also reflected in a number of the papers which discussed the use of such systems in, for example, sound power measurement, perceived noise level determinations and computer-controlled transmission loss measurement.

Other applications of computers were also evident and a round-table conference on the use of computers in acoustics was introduced by M. R. Schroeder (Göttingen University, formerly at Bell Telephone) with later support by Denes, Mathews and Risset (Bell Telephone). This might well have been called the Bell Labs Show. Professor Schroeder gave us a breathless and breathtaking account of the applications of computers to acoustical problems. Among the remarkable demonstrations was one on noise stripping. A recording of speech in the presence of noise so intense that the speech was unintelligible was processed so as to be virtually noiseless. The technique relied on computed estimates of the noise spectrum still remaining good estimates during the periods of speech, so that an accurate subtraction of the noise could be made.

The effectiveness of the predictive coding of speech was also demonstrated. The inherent redundancies in speech are utilized to predict the current sample of a speech signal from its past values. The difference between the true and predicted values is then coded. Even with only one-bit coding, the quality was remarkably good.

The next international acoustic congress is to be held for the first time in London, in July 1974.

#### Further reading

Proceedings of the seventh international acoustics congress are published in four volumes (2750 pages: abstracts only, 255 pages) by Akademiai Kiado. Budapest.

Otala. M. 'Transient distortion in transistorized audio power amplifiers' *I.E.E.E. Trans.* vol. AU-18, 1970, pp.234-9.

Sessler, G. M. & West, J. E. I.E.E.E. Trans. vol. AU-19, 1971, p.19 et seq.

Harwood, H. D. & Burd, A. N. 'Acoustic modelling of studios and concert halls'. International Broadcasting Convention 1970 (I.E.E. conference publication 69). See also *Wireless World* October 1970 p.484.

Marshall, F. G. & Paige, E. G. S. 'Novel acoustic surface-wave directional coupler with diverse applications'. *Electronics Letters* vol. 7, 1971, pp.460-2.

Mathews, M. V. 'The technology of computer music'. MIT Press, 1969.

# Letters to the Editor

The Editor does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by his correspondents

#### Helical v.h.f. aerials

Mr. Monser's article on helical v.h.f. aerials in the September issue leads us to repeat our warning given in a letter in *Wireless World*, January 1969, which referred to the use of helical aerials for u.h.f. reception.

The argument still holds for Bands I and III where the planning of television v.h.f. stations in this country has been based on the use of mixed polarization to reduce interference between co-channel stations. It has been established by experiment, and is recognized internationally, that v.h.f. signal polarization is sufficiently well preserved even over long interference paths for an additional 10dB protection at 90% of locations against interference transmissions to be readily achievable with vertical and horizontal transmissions and the corresponding types of receiving aerial.

In Band II (f.m. sound) the use of mixed polarized transmission was not adopted because sufficient channels were available to obtain a good coverage without having to resort to this stratagem. The use of a helical aerial in Band II may have some advantage but the claimed advantage in respect of multipath propagation is not in general valid. Since it is agreed that reflections would have a greater tendency to change polarization than the direct signal, it would always be of some advantage, other things being equal, to match the receiving aerial polarization to that of the wanted transmission.

J. L. EATON & L. F. TAGHOLM, BBC Research Department, Kingswood Warren, Surrey.

#### **Television sound quality**

I hope Mr. Sear's recent experience ('Letters', October issue) has not discouraged him. There are two ways of improving television sound, which is of very good quality when transmitted.

At the risk of nullifying the maker's guarantee, the first thing to do is to find

out if there is, in the set, any sound signal worth using. To do this, a 200W mains isolating transformer (NOT a Variac) should be connected between mains and the set. Next the detector output should be found and connected to a good amplifier (radio input). The TV set should be earthed at the amplifier input, and the connection on the chassis should be as near as possible to the detector diode load. If the sound thus obtained is satisfactory, the isolating transformer should be connected to the set using a 2-pin connector which is not compatible with the mains connectors. This will prevent accidents! If, with this (easy) modification, the quality is still not satisfactory, then a separate tuner will be necessary.

The cheapest way to provide one is to obtain an old valve television set which has a turret tuner. (Many dealers will gladly give them away.) This set should have everything unnecessary removed from it ---the e.h.t. supply, vision circuits and c.r.t. Apart from enabling a smaller box to be used, this will reduce the h.t. load and hence improve the smoothing, and will eliminate those circuits as local sources of interference. The valve heaters which have been removed should be replaced by a suitable dropper resistor to enable the chain to operate from 240V. Next the sound i.f. strip should be tuned up to give maximum sound, consistent with acceptable vision buzz from the adjacent signal, and the output taken from the detector to the high-quality amplifier. For a transistor amplifier, it will probably be necessary to use a cathode follower between the detector and the output. The audio amplifier valve can most easily be utilized for this. To keep hum down, the common on the set from a point as near as possible to the detector should be earthed at the amplifier input, and nowhere else.

PETER SMALL, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

The following are extracts from a few of the many letters on this subject.

I chanced to come across an advertisement referring to an "Audio adaptor unit" which was exactly what I (and obviously Mr. Sear) was looking for.

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It comprises a small compact unit, with a built-in isolating transformer, and comes complete in a teak box of only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in cubic dimensions.

This unit, which feeds the audio output of the TV set to an external loudspeaker or amplifier, is obtainable from M.A.C. Electronic Co., Ripley, Surrey, under the reference AAU-TV, and costs about £8.

Finally, regarding TV (u.h.f.) tuners, there are to my knowledge two on the market, one made by Lowther Manufacturing Co., of Bromley, Kent, and the other by Motion Electronics of Addlestead Farm, Tonbridge Road, East Peckham, Kent. The latter firm also make v.h.f. television tuners. M. TOOGOOD,

North Baddesley,

Southampton.

Upon purchasing a new portable television set, a Teleton TH14, I noticed that an earphone socket was provided. I have been in contact with the set manufacturers who have no criticism whatsoever with the piping of sound from this socket through an amplifier to loudspeakers, providing a far higher standard of reproduction. C. E. HAYHURST, Putnev,

London S.W.15.

There must be a niche, somewhere along the spectrum between £60 rubbish and £300 luxury, for a set or range of television sets which will give improved performance and be reliable. Perhaps, like some tape recorders, we could have TV units with no sound amplifiers or speakers of their own but, having fully isolated chassis, are to be linked to the domestic hi-fi equipment. But manufacturers will not provide them if there is no demand; and there will be no demand if they do not make them. T. R. MAHONEY,

London W6 8HE.

I have for some time been using a converter fitted to my Eddystone EB35 Mk 11/S which provides me with BBC-2 sound. This I feed into my high-quality amplifier and with the loudspeakers set around the television receiver, the improvement in sound quality is truly remarkable. Of course one could suggest that the programme planners get together so that we could enjoy in stereophony on the Radio 3 transmitters some of the excellent musical programmes of BBC-2. The Corporation could also, possibly, save some programme costs as the BBC-2 concerts are very acceptable in sound only.

R. M. CARROLL, Stratford upon Avon

For the past year I have been using a Bang and Olufsen 24-inch monochrome receiver. While the sound quality from this is not exactly high fidelity it does deliver about  $2\frac{1}{2}W$  at fairly low distortion into a 9in  $\times$  5in speaker.

If true high-fidelity sound is required an outlet is provided direct from the demodulator which can be fed to an external amplifier.

Most people who buy black and white television sets do so, I believe, because they can't afford colour; if they have any money available above the cost of a monochrome receiver they would rather spend it on colour than on improving the sound quality.

B. DARLING, Winchmore Hill, London N.21.

People who complain about television sound are probably also those who are quite happy to pay  $\pounds 500$  for a highfidelity audio set up, and therefore would not object to paying  $\pounds 50$  for the one-off modifications to the receiver.

One method is to construct a special receiver which is fed from the intercarrier output of the i.f. amplifier. Interconnection is made on the hot side of the ratio discriminator coil or, in the case of an i.e. discriminator and amplifier combined, on some pin found by experiment to contain some signal voltage. (For example, the quadrature coil.) A design for such a receiver, not too difficult to construct, has been published.

A somewhat cheaper alternative might be open to the enthusiast daring enough to cut into his f.m. tuner to provide a 10.7MHz signal i.f. input to the existing strip. A frequency changer could then be constructed to convert the 6MHz to 10.7MHz and feed it to the tuner.

JOHN DE RIVAZ, Barnet, Herts.

#### 'These tell-tale women . . .'

Tsk! Tsk! What is 'Vector' saying? (October issue). Does he think no further than the end of his quill pen? While agreeing with him regarding the proliferation of obscure acronyms for the various exhibitions, seminars, etc., etc., I must point out the danger with which one of his alternatives is fraught. Can you imagine the reaction of our ever-loving wives when they accidentally turn over the pages of our diaries, and for sometime in May find the following entry:---'London-Frieda' (or Janice, or Laureen)? D. JONES, Newbury,

Berks.

# Breakthrough in Integrated Circuits Ferranti plump for collector diffusion isolation

A simple bipolar integrated circuit process which allows low-cost production with most of the advantages of m.o.s. i.cs is announced by Ferranti. Devices are made by the collector diffusion isolation technique first investigated\* at Bell Telephone Labs about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years ago. The technique did not make much impact when announced, no doubt because of the low 3-V breakdown voltage of devices. But after looking at various production processes for i.cs, like the tri-mask, base diffusion isolation and silicon gate techniques, Ferranti recognized the potential of c.d.i. and spent two years developing the process to increase the breakdown potential to allow circuits to be used with 5-volt supplies --- directly compatible with conventional bipolar digital i.cs. Not that c.d.i. devices are confined to digital electronics - in fact both linear and digital circuits can be combined on the same chip. Ferranti have designed a series of c.d.i. functional building blocks and are developing circuits for application to automotive systems, battery desk calculators, consumer durables, telecommunications and custom logic arrays. Among devices already in production are a high-speed random access memory and a 1024-bit shift register. They expect most of their custom designed i.cs to c.d.i. in two to three years.

Conventional bipolar devices suffer from high-power dissipation, large chip area and the production process involves nine steps. Unipolar (m.o.s.) devices in contrast have low power dissipation, small area per function and only five masking steps. But they are severely limited in speed, they pose handling problems unless protective circuitry is included, and have a higher packaging cost. The c.d.i. bipolar technique allows circuits to be produced in only five steps instead of nine, with high complexity, high speed, low propagation delay-dissipation product, and low chip size (see Table 1).

Characteristics of a typical device are shown in Table 2. High  $f_T$  and low series resistance give the high-speed capability of the devices. Current gain is maintained at a higher level than in ordinary bipolars at both high and low collector currents.

Because the devices do not rely on surface properties of semiconductors-as in m.o.s.-they are less susceptible to ionic contamination and have the high stability and ruggedness of conventional bipolar devices. The masking steps in the production process follow a five-step sequence of: buried n<sup>+</sup> diffusion, isolation diffusion, emitter diffusion, contact holes and

#### Table 1. Comparison between conventional bipolar, m.o.s. and c.d.i. bipolar gates

	c.d.i. bipolar	m.o.s.	bipolar
chip area	20	30	100 (10 <sup>-3</sup> in <sup>2</sup> )
(static gate)	20	1	10mW
dissipation propagation delay (for above diss.)	5	100	10ms
delay-dissipation	5	100	101113
product	10	100	100pJ

# Table 2. Typical c.d.i. devicecharacteristics

7.5∨	V <sub>offset</sub>	5mV
60 typ	I <sub>CBO</sub>	1pA
1GHz	h <sub>fe</sub> inverse	20
10 <i>Ω</i>	C <sub>ob</sub>	0.3pF
	60 typ 1GHz	60 typ 1GHz he inverse

interconnections. The low thickness of the player  $(1.5\mu m)$  as opposed to  $5\mu m$  for t.t.l. and  $10\mu$ for m.o.s. - normally n-type in conventional devices) and the passivation technique used results in only shallow oxide steps on the surface make metallizing easier. Ferranti are not disclosing precise process details at present but they say the increase in collector-base breakdown voltage is a result of changing the sheet resistivity of the non-selective p+ layer and changing the epitaxial layer thickness and resistivity. The problem of storage delay usually circumvented by gold doping or with Schottky diodes - caused by hole storage in the collector does not arise. (The n-type layer in a conventional device is now an p-type layer, see diagram) and storage that occurs in the base is reduced by wiring an additional emitter to the base. This dual emitter facility means that devices can be produced with or without delays, as dictated by the circuit, with virtually no difference in cost.

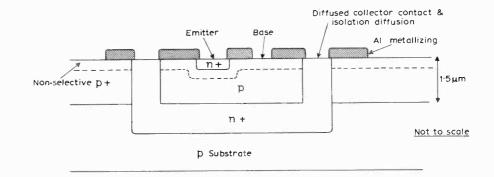
A potentially competitive process is Fairchild Isoplanar<sup>+</sup> using isolation by oxidation and etching, but Ferranti say c.d.i. is better because it involves less etching, and less time (by an order of magnitude) in the furnace for oxidation (isolation by diffusion is much quicker), greatly reducing the possibility of building up stresses in the silicon.

\*Murphy, B.T., et al, 'Collector diffusion isolation' Proc. I.E.E.E. vol. 57 1969 pp. 1523-7.

<sup>†</sup>Deltzer, D & Herndon, W, <sup>4</sup>Isolation method shrinks bipolar cells . . . ? *Electronics* vol. 44 1971 pp. 52-5.



**\*Incremental indicator':** The Comark instrument described in 'New Products' in September (p.461) has a resolution better than  $10\mu$ V and provides 30 ranges of 1mV f.s.d.



# **Electrostatic Headphone Design**

# Instructions for making a simple and inexpensive high-quality unit

by Philip D. Harvey, B.Sc.

The design described below, like that published in  $1968^1$ , is based on the constant charge push-pull principle schematically illustrated in Fig. 1. The constant charge is derived by feeding the diaphragm from a high resistance R, and relying on the capacitance of the earphone to store the charge.

Basic requirements in construction are that:

1. the fixed plates be rigid, acoustically transparent, and both flat and conducting on the inner surface;

2. the spacers be flat, of uniform thickness and, above all, insulating; and that

3. the diaphragm be flexible and light.

In all, three models were constructed. In producing fixed plates for the final model the electro-mechanical analogy described in Appendix B was used.

Stroboscopic examination of an earphone had shown that the diaphragm behaves as an elliptical vibrating piston with major and minor axes set by the spacers. These dimensions were set at  $75 \times 45$  mm to cover the ear. A short transmission "tunnel" is employed to improve low-frequency coupling with the ear. This extension is lined to reduce resonances.

The fixed plates are of single-sided copperplated fibre-glass. Hole area is 30% sufficient to ensure acoustical transparency without sacrificing rigidity. The holes must be deburred after drilling.

To remove the risk of charge leakage at the edges of the board and at the connecting bolt holes (due perhaps to tearing of the diaphragm and consequent shorting) about 2 mm of copper is removed from the edges of the board round the connecting bolt holes (see Figs 2 and 3) to prevent charge leakage should the diaphragm tear at the edges.

The spacers, made of polyvinyl acetate, are cut in one piece from a sheet to avoid poorly insulating joints. These are drilled, using the fixed plates as templates, and deburred.

To make a safe connection of high voltage leads, two methods can be employed for the outer plates:

(a) Alternate unrounded corners of each fixed plate are removed to allow a connection to be made to the other fixed plate.

Plasticine can be used for insulating the connection. The principle is illustrated in Figs 4 and 5.

(b) A small hole may be drilled in one corner of the fixed plate, and the copper side of the board slightly countersunk. The insulation of the signal wire is then stripped off, the inner being tinned and fed through the hole, as shown in Fig. 6. The well, created by countersinking, is now filled with solder which makes good contact with both the wire and copper plating. By grinding this surface flat we have a good safe connection.

To insulate the diaphragm connection it was decided to utilize the insulating properties of both the fixed plates and the transmission tunnel. The connection was brought to the surface of one fixed plate by a brass bush as shown in Fig. 7. The connection was then made harmlessly between the tunnel and board.

The film for the diaphragm is prepared by taping it crease free over a wooden frame of inside dimensions  $200 \times 250$  mm. The frame, with the film now flat and under tension on its upper surface, was placed over a sheet of glass  $240 \times 190$  mm of slightly greater thickness than the frame. Under these conditions it was easier to rub Aquadag on and off the film. This should be continuous until surface resistivity is  $10^8 \Omega$ . The prepared film is next mounted on one spacer using double-sided Sellotape with the resistive side exposed, and laid on to the other spacer and a fixed plate with the brass bush inserted. The brass bush

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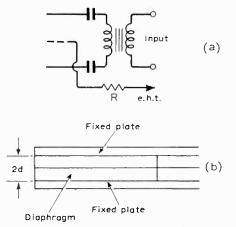
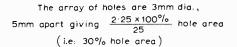
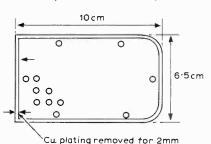
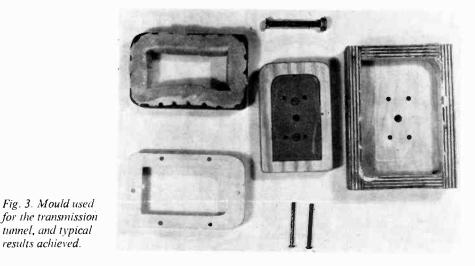


Fig. 1. Push-pull electrostatic sound generator.





4BA clearance hole countersunk by 2mm Fig. 2. Plan view of fixed plate.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 'High-quality Electrostatic Headphones' by J. P. Wilson, Wireless World, Dec. 1968.

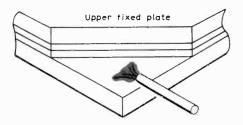


Fig. 4. One corner of final model.

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now contacts the resistive coating, although it might be necessary to use some Aquadag on the contacting surfaces. The other fixed plate is laid on the assembly, followed by the transmission tunnel ready drilled, enabling the parts to be fastened together with nylon nuts and bolts. The components are shown in Fig. 5.

Before testing, the earphone is heated by warm air to tighten the diaphragm and remove any slight creases in it.

#### Transmission tunnel details

The transmission tunnel must be light and strong, and transmit the sound produced by the earphone to the ear. The simplest shape to do this is shown in Fig. 9. The only readily available group of materials to fulfil the above conditions is the plastics. These also have an advantage of damping incident sound, whereas metals tend to 'ring'.

The idea of casting the tunnel from polystyrene was investigated. Experiments led to the use of a wooden mould. It was found that if the mould was left overwaxed. then the excess wax was melted during the ensuing catalytic process, and this enabled the polystyrene to be removed from the mould whilst it was still pliable. Provided it was well supported whilst setting fully, the result was quite acceptable. Both the mould used (made of two parts for easier positive removal) and a typical positive are shown in Fig. 3.

Tunnels of both clear and coloured polystyrene were made, and it seems that the colouring material used gave the tunnel added strength.

It was found that latex foam rubber, used for lining the tunnel because of its excellent sound absorbing properties, was best cut on the bandsaw.

#### Variation of the other component elements

Under given conditions of signal and bias voltages, the two components affecting the earphone's performance are:

(a) The spacers—the thickness of which determine E and hence sound output. Spacer thicknesses of 0.18, 0.25, 0.37, 0.62 and 1 mm were tried. Decreasing the spacer thickness did not alter the frequency response but raised the sound level. Construction difficulties increased as spacer thickness decreased due to the slight and unavoidable warping of the fixed plates. This did not become too bad until ionization of the air was also a problem (see below).

Silicon resin bonded paper, paxolin, and dry paper were also tried as spacer materials. No difference was observed in the performance and it is concluded that any material having a resistivity greater than  $10^{10} \Omega$  cm would be satisfactory.

(b) The diaphragm-through which no appreciable current should flow in less than half the time period of the lowest frequency to be reproduced. This ensures constant charge conditions. If one assumes the diaphragm to be perfectly conducting and the earphones to have capacitance C farads, and further that the lower limit of audibility is 27 Hz, then the diaphragm must be fed via a resistance R ohms, such that;

$$RC > \frac{1}{2 \times 27}$$
 (approx.).

C is calculated as 330 pF from  $C = \frac{\epsilon A}{\epsilon}$ 

whence 
$$R > \frac{1 \times 10^{12}}{54 \times 330}$$
 i.e.  $R > 6 \times 10^7 \Omega$ .

Due to the high value of this resistance it is easier to make the diaphragm resistive than feed it through an external resistance. Experiments were made with sheets of  $10^7 \Omega$  surface resistivity and greater. As expected the bass response improves as the resistance increases. The high-frequency

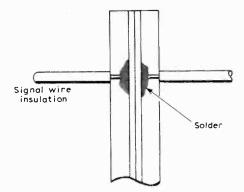


Fig. 6. Cross-section of alternative final model.

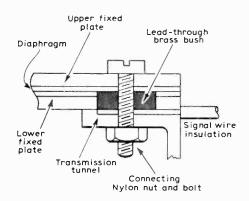


Fig. 7. Cross-section through connection to diaphragm.

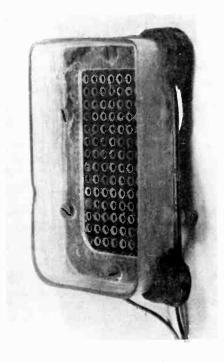
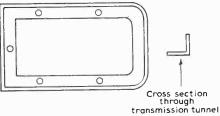


Fig. 8. The completed final earphone.





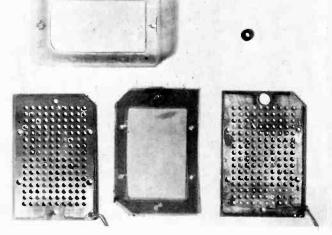


Fig. 5. Component parts of the final model.

#### Wireless World, November 1971

response also improves, due presumably to the lower mass resulting from less graphite on the film. As some charging current must flow on to the diaphragm there is some limit to how high the resistance can be. Best results were obtained at the limit of measurability, i.e. a surface resistivity of approximately  $10^9 \Omega$ .

Hospital anti-static polythene was tried and though it worked, the type available was thick and heavy, with a surface resistivity of only  $10^5 \Omega$ . Hence both high and low frequencies suffered.

Various materials of the same type (Vitafilm) were obtained from local supermarkets. These were analysed spectroscopically and found to be the same material with the exception of that supplied by Sainsbury's. Microscopic analysis then showed that Vitafilm because of its porosity was not very suitable. The film made by The Borden Chemical Company was judged to be best closely followed by that made by Filmco in Durham.

Further tests to discover how best to apply homogenous resistive coating to the film were made on Borden's film. The use of evaporation techniques were first studied, but these posed three problems. In the conventional evaporator the film surface exposed was not large enough for an even film to be deposited over a sufficiently large area. Also at the low temperature required (not to destroy the film) oxidation of the depositing metal occurred. Finally when a film was deposited the metal permeated the plastic, altering its properties such that it became brittle and unusable.

Dry graphite powder rubbed into the surface did not alter its resistivity, presumably because the particles did not interlink and form molecule chains.

Finally a method was considered whereby a conducting medium could be sprayed as a solution in a liquid that would attack the film and hence give a permanently resistive surface. Graphite does not readily dissolve in any p.v.c. solvent, and so could not be used. A solution of silver in methyl acetate (Silver Dag) was sprayed on to a film, soaped to lower surface tension. The results were encouraging but a less active solvent would have to be used. Before pursuing this method, diluted Aquadag was substituted for Silver Dag and found to leave a completely uniform layer of graphite on the film when dry. Although this coating could be made fairly thick its resistivity remained immeasurably high until it was rubbed. Experience soon showed the amount that had to be sprayed for the required resistivity.

#### Drive circuits Provisional model

The circuit shown in Fig. 10 employs the output stage of a commercial valve amplifier. The surface resistivity of the diaphragm must be greater than  $10^8 \Omega$  and hence the  $10^7 \Omega$  resistor in the feed line to the diaphragm is not necessary, but an added safety precaution.

It was found that the 0.01  $\mu$ F isolating capacitors were sufficiently leaky to allow the outer plates to attain a high voltage, and the diaphragm could be earthed as an

alternative form of bias. This makes the diaphragm an effective negative charge. This is not desirable because a steady high voltage on the outer conducting plates could be dangerous.

With the earphones in the circuit as shown, distortion was apparent, even at low acoustic levels. This was thought to be due to the output transformer. This amplifier was not designed to operate at maximum output continuously, and under these conditions inter-modulation distortion sets in. The earphones require a high voltage signal, but very little current. With this in mind an amplifier to deliver a distortion free signal was designed.

#### **Designed valve amplifier**

With a spacing of 0.37 mm (which changed by only 10% at full bass output) the maximum permissible voltage between the diaphragm and either fixed plate, to avoid ionization of the air between them, is

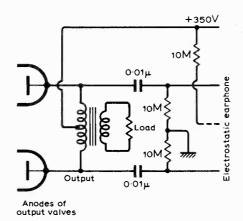


Fig. 10. Modified output of a commercial valve amplifier.

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1000 V. With 300 V on the diaphragm this means that the maximum peak-to-peak voltage level on one plate can be 500 V. This leaves a large margin of safety for humid days or signal surges. The circuit of Fig. 11 was used giving only 400 V peak signal, as the valves and components were readily available. It gave no distortion observable on an oscilloscope, even without negative feedback, due presumably to the light loading on the amplifier.

Its use gave immediately discernible improvement in output level and fidelity.

#### **Designed transistor amplifier**

40 V rails are commonly available on transistor amplifiers and the circuit of Fig. 12 was built giving 32 V peak signal. Using 300 V rectified mains on the diaphragm gave a barely audible output.

The circuit of Fig. 13 was designed to give 300 V peak output. Any n-p-n silicon transistor with a  $h_{fe} > 50$  at 1 mA and a

3.9

331

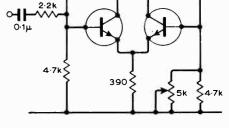
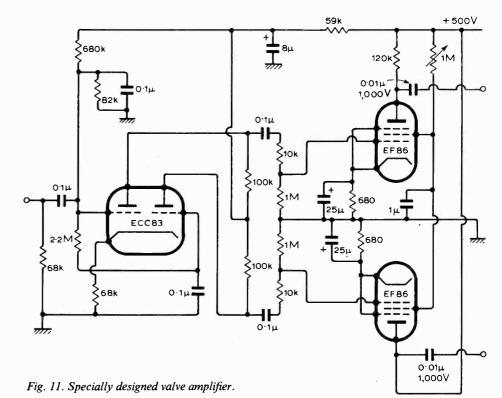


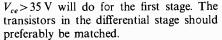
Fig. 12. Differential amplifier providing 32 V output.



+40V

33k

3·9k



Three potentiometers are included to set up the amplifier to its optimum performance. First use  $R_1$  to match the base voltages of  $Tr_1$  and  $Tr_2$ ; then adjust  $R_3$  to make the average collector voltage of  $Tr_3$ and  $Tr_4$  115 V. Finally, using  $R_2$ , balance these collector voltages; repeat this procedure until both  $Tr_3$  and  $Tr_4$  collectors are at 155 V.

#### Measurement and analysis

From the section below and Appendix A the optimum of all the variables may be found. Although the thinner the spacers used the more the acoustic output obtained, it was found with the thinner ones (0.18 and 0.25 mm) that the air ionized on more humid days. This was apparent as a clicking noise, varying in repetition rate from one to ten hertz. It arose because constructionally the fixed plates are never equidistant from the diaphragm, and the air between the diaphragm and closest plate ionizes first. This allows attraction to the other plate increasing E, so that air here ionizes while the other reconstitutes itself. This effect is eliminated by reducing the voltage on the centre plate, but this necessarily reduces sensitivity.

The 0.37 mm spacers were therefore chosen and a plot of output versus central electrode potential revealed a levelling off at about 600 V. This is unexplained, but below this value the measured output is very near to the calculated value.

Many listeners were satisfied with volume and fidelity using 350 V on the diaphragm and the designed valve amplifier. There were many comments on the "depth" of the sound, which is due to the fact that plane waves are arriving at the ear, and these are normally associated with a distant source by the hearing mechanisms. When in use on a stereo system this effect makes it easier to identify the direction from which the sound appears to come.

#### **Results** achieved

Traces of the frequency responses are given with markings of 10 dB intervals and at the frequencies 20 Hz, 100 Hz, 200 Hz, 1 kHz, 2 kHz, 10 kHz and 20 kHz.

Fig. 14 gives the responses with different input signal voltages. The effect of increasing this voltage should be the same as decreasing spacer thickness. The relative graphs show this to be true, though the relative amplitudes differ.

Fig. 15 displays the difference made by altering the potential on the centre electrode.

Fig. 16 displays the difference in characteristic responses when plotted in the open air, and when plotted in the artificial ear.

Fig. 17 shows the best response achieved and corresponds to all the variables being optimised. The component specification for this is:

-polyvinyl acetate 0.37 mm spacersthick:

diaphragm-Borden Chemical's plasti-

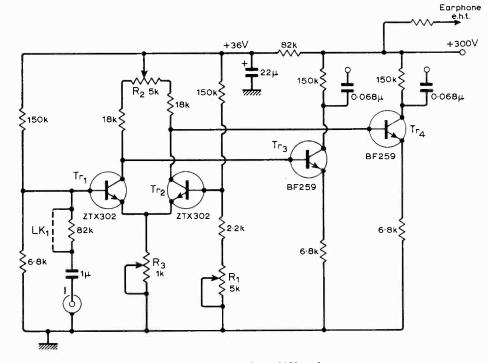
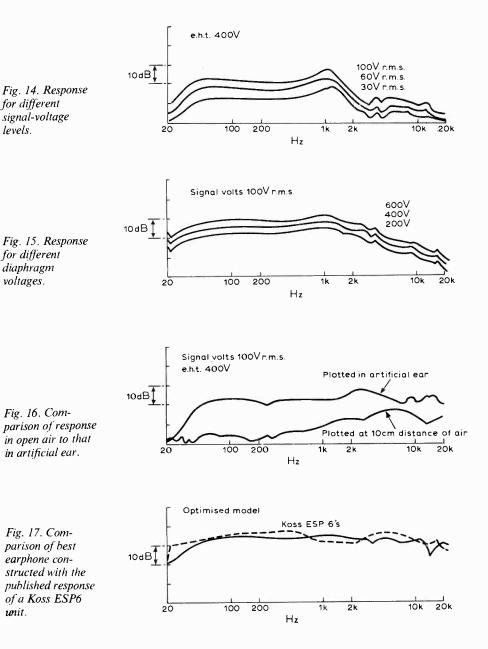


Fig. 13. Suitable transistor drive amplifier providing 300V peak output.



unit.

cized p.v.c. sheeting  $15 \mu$  in thick, sheet resistivity  $10^9 \Omega$ .

#### Safety

There are no uninsulated connections carrying high voltage near to the ear. Provided the connections at the signal generator are also well insulated, there is no danger of a fatal shock. There is always the danger of the diaphragm splitting, but even if it were to lacerate and protrude from a fixed plate, it would come up against the polyurethane foam the earphone is lined with. (This avoids cavity resonances in the sound conveyed to the ear, as well as insulating the ear.) If the diaphragm managed to touch the ear, then in the worst case at least  $10^8 \Omega$  on the film would allow only 3.5  $\mu$ A to flow through the body, even assuming the body to be a dead short!

#### Suggested improvements

In order to achieve a broad frequency response it is essential to have slack suspension, and a low mass radiator. The first has been achieved by the use of a diaphragm which can be under quite high stress on its own plane, whilst a relatively low force can cause deflection in a transverse direction. In this design the mass of the radiator is no more than that of a layer of adjacent air a few millimetres in thickness. This could further be reduced by using a film resistive by manufacture.

The effect of resonances in this particular shape of diaphragm has not been investigated as the response curve does not indicate trouble of this kind. Three final points are worth making:

(a) The behaviour of the charge on the film is still largely unexplained as is the levelling off of the response with greater than 600 V on the diaphragm;

(b) Double-sided /boards which prevent warping, along with more sophisticated construction techniques, should yield a system of adequate acoustic output using much smaller signal and bias voltages; and (c) The quantities of different types of distortion present could be measured. Results obtained and listening tests indicate their virtual absence at low sound levels.

#### APPENDIX A

## Measuring the response of the earphone on the ear

Without elaborate equipment, such as a probe microphone, this is difficult to do. Furthermore the earphones under test were not always safe to wear. For these reasons the ear was simulated for the tests. Artificial ears are readily available, and commonly have a volume of 6 cubic centimetres. The volume enclosed by the transmission tunnel is nearly twenty times this, and the addition of the ear's volume makes little difference to its response. The B & K microphone used for the tests was one inch in diameter, about the same as the opening to the ear. The flat wooden plate used for holding the microphone was lined with polyurethane foam, to simulate the coefficient of reflection of the skin.

The conventional B & K frequency plotting apparatus was then set up, and a constant peak-voltage sine-wave output fed to one plate with the other earthed. The inner electrode is maintained at, say 400 V by an h.t. supply. The frequency is swept continuously throughout the audio range 20–20,000 Hz, synchronized to a chart recorder into which the output of the microphone amplifier is fed.

## Measuring diaphragm surface resistivity

Apply 250 V d.c. across two electrodes one inch long and one inch apart. The current flow is measured. Sufficient accuracy was obtained by quoting the result as  $P \times 10^{N} \Omega$ , where both P and N are integers.

#### APPENDIX B

#### The electro-mechanical analogy

This is employed to determine the output expected from the earphones, and the frequency response expected. The calculations performed assume values either already determined for the final model or values of the materials readily available.

Fig. 18 gives the equivalent mechanical circuits of the earphones, where the mass m is the mass per unit area of the diaphragm. The spring S is the suspension of the diaphragm in the transverse direction. The damping,  $2R_m$  in the centre frequency band, is due to the impedance of the air.  $F_o$  is the peak force per unit area on the diaphragm.

Employing the electrical analogy of this circuit gives us Fig. 19. The mass per unit area becomes an inductance of M henries. The suspension becomes a capacitance of  $S^{-1}$  farads. The damping becomes a resistance of 2  $R_m \Omega$ , and the force a voltage of  $F_o \sin \omega t V$ .

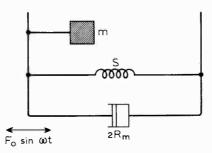


Fig. 18. Equivalent mechanical circuit of earphone.

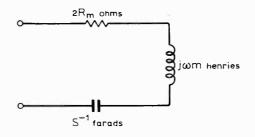


Fig. 19. Circuit given by the electro-mechanical analogy.

We know that:

 $M = 2.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg } m^{-2} \text{ (Vitafilm)}$  $2R_m = 2 \rho c$ 

= 820 Rayl in the mid-frequency band.

S cannot be easily measured *in situ*, but a comparison with a conventional 4 inch loudspeaker indicated the same order of magnitude. It is calculated accurately knowing the free resonance to be at 55 Hz. From Fig. 19 we know:

 $I = \frac{F_o \cos \omega t}{\left(2.4 \times 10^{-2} j\omega + \frac{S}{j\omega} + 820\right)} \text{ amps,}$ 

and that at resonance I is real.

Hence 
$$2 \cdot 4 \times 10^{-2} j\omega = \frac{S}{j\omega}$$

giving  $S = 2.4 \times 10^3$  newtons per metre. Because power  $\propto$  current<sup>2</sup>, the -6 dB points are given by

$$\frac{s}{\omega_L} = 820 \qquad \therefore \omega_L = 3$$
$$\omega_h m = 820 \qquad \therefore \omega_h = 35,000.$$

Therefore the  $-6 \, dB$  points are expected to be at  $\cdot 5 \, Hz$  and  $6000 \, Hz$ . In the region between these two points the movement of the plate is opposed only by the resistance of the air, so that the device is almost 100%efficient.

A light, thin material, such as that from the Borden Chemical Company considerably extends the flat response.

In order to determine the expected output, the equation  $F_o = qE_o$  is utilised. The charge per unit area, q, is determined from the expression :

$$q = \frac{C \times V_{dc}}{\text{area}} = \frac{2\epsilon_o V_{dc}}{d},$$

where  $V_{dc}$  is the voltage applied to the diaphragm, and d is the thickness of the spacers: Hence

$$F_o = \frac{2\epsilon_o V_{dc}}{\text{area}} \times \frac{v_o}{2d}$$
$$= 1.95 \times 10^{-2} v_o \text{ newtons per metre}^2$$

A loudness of 100 dBm is considered adequate, whence  $F_o = 2$  newtons per metre<sup>2</sup>.

This is achieved by signal voltages  $V_o$  of the order of 100 V in the region 6 kHz to 10 kHz. This is not a signal voltage sufficient to cause ionization of the air with 350 V on the diaphragm.

A suitable amount of the recommended plastic film, made by the Borden Chemical Company, will be sent from the *Wireless World* editorial department to any reader on receipt of  $two 2\frac{1}{2}p$  postage stamps.

Aquadag can be obtained in 75g jars, from stockists of the Acheson Colloids Co. products. It costs 22p (+10p packing and postage) from Ferguson and Timpson Ltd, 7-9 Sebert Road, Forest Gate, London E.7.

# **Circuit Ideas**

#### Zero hysteresis trigger circuit

Where it is necessary to generate a fast rise-time square wave from a slowly varying input, the Schmitt trigger type of circuit is normally employed. However, the regenerative switching action usually results in considerable hysteresis. This means that the mark-to-space ratio will vary with the input signal amplitude. Further, the fundamental component of the square wave output will be phase delayed with respect to the input.

The circuit shown can give both zero hysteresis and an equal mark-space ratio provided the input frequency is known approximately. Multiple triggering due to high-frequency noise is also effectively eliminated.  $Tr_1$  serves as a constant current source to the differential pair  $Tr_2$ ,  $Tr_3$ . Regenerative feedback between the collector of  $Tr_2$  and the base of  $Tr_3$  is provided by  $R_1$  and  $\bar{C}_2$ . Switching occurs when the base voltages of these two transistors become approximately equal. During switching, the base voltage of  $Tr_3$  changes by  $\pm 5V$ . This inhibits further operation of the stage until the capacitor  $C_2$  has discharged according to the approximate time constant  $C_2R_3$ . Provided this discharge is nearly

completed during a half cycle of the input waveform the remaining hysteresis may be reduced to zero by adjusting  $R_1$ . Subsequent adjustment of  $R_2$  then ensures an equal mark-space ratio at the output. C. J. PAULL,

University College of Swansea.

#### Digital method of obtaining frequency difference

In developing the readout for an exclusively t.t.l. digital system it became necessary to extract, aperiodically with reasonable precision, the difference frequency between two square waves. The D-type flip-flop used (the SN7474) has the feature that, as the clock pulse goes to one (the positive clock edge) the D signal is transferred to the Q output, the transfer occurring in the 20-or-so nanoseconds characteristic of t.t.l.

Typically, a fixed clock frequency  $(f_c)$ of 50kHz was used and an equal mark-

space ratio, variable frequency  $(f_d)$  applied to the D input. The Q output will reverse as the signals go in and out of synchronism, one cycle of output will occur every n cycles of the clock when n is the cycles between synchronism.

Thus  $nf_c = (n+1) f_d$ hence  $f_c - f_d = f_d/n$ 

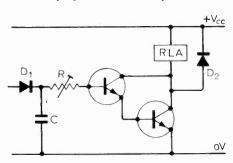
The output pulse durations must be integers of the clock period. Thus there will be variations in individual durations of  $\pm$  one clock period. The error is not cumulative, and typically if the sampling time is one second the frequency recorded will be the true difference frequency with the usual + one digit uncertainty.

This method has been found to be a convenient and very advantageous way of obtaining a readout of difference frequency, being completely aperiodic, exclusively t.t.l., applicable over a wide frequency range and avoiding, the expensive incorporation of a reversible counter.

The case where the frequency difference is large is of practical interest. If  $f_d = mf_c$ where m is an integer, the output will be unchanged (zero frequency) as the D signal is effective only at the instant of the clock edge. Similarly if  $f_d = (m + \frac{1}{2})f_c$  the output will be  $f_c$ . Consideration will show that as  $f_d$  increases the output frequency will move linearity between the limits of zero and  $f_c$  to the ultimate performance of the device. Direct measurement has established that the performance expected from the analysis given is achieved in practice. J. F. W. BELL & J. M. PELMORE, University of Aston.

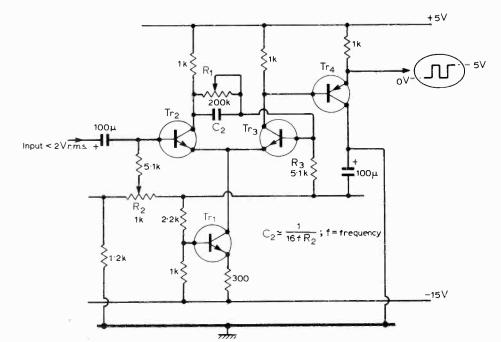
#### Simple relay monostable

This circuit was evolved to enable a signal to switch a relay on very quickly and to have a variable drop-out time. Another important requirement was that of 'signal storage' so that the delay would be effective as from the last signal which for my purposes were pulses of constant height but varying widths. Fairly consistent



delay times can be achieved dependent upon the voltage fed to C, and to the high impedance of the switching pair. In my application C was  $330\mu$ F tantalum, R 22k $\Omega$ , and  $D_1$  a silicon diode with a fairly large  $I_R$  characteristic. The pulses were about 4V in amplitude. J. VICKERS,

London S.W.10.



# **Dual-trace Oscilloscope Unit**

## 4. Attenuators and switching circuits

by W. T. Cocking\*, F.I.E.E.

In Part 3 we dealt in considerable detail with the design of an amplifier using bipolar transistors. The effect of component tolerances was treated in detail as well as the precautions needed to prevent the accidental application of a high voltage to the input from damaging the amplifier. Two amplifiers are needed, of course, one for each signal channel. These are identical except that only one carries the common collector resistance for the two output stages.

The circuit of the amplifier given in Part 3 is, of course, only the bare bones of it. It was found experimentally that the emitter followers tended to generate high-frequency oscillations and that collector resistors, with a by-pass capacitor across  $V_{cc}$  were needed to prevent this. A capacitor to earth from the base of  $Tr_6$  was also required, and various other by-pass capacitors. These are matters which depend very much on layout and cannot be predicted.

The amplifiers have individual, continuous-gain controls with a minimum range of 3.33:1. Further control of signal level is by switched attenuators preceding the amplifiers, and attenuating probes at the input ends of the cables. As explained in Part 1 a probe is necessary primarily to reduce the effective input capacitance, which is provided mainly by the cable.

#### Attenuators

In Part 1 we envisaged the use of a dualrange probe which, with an internal switch, would provide two basic signal ranges of 1 V and 3 V input for 1 V output from the amplifier. This would require merely the addition of a 10:1 attenuator section to give 10 V and 30 V ranges. The advantage of this scheme was that it permitted the use of an amplifier gain of only 3.33, and at the start of the development we did not know if we could obtain a gain of 10 times reasonably easily.

The main disadvantage of the scheme was the practical difficulty of constructing the probe to be reasonably small yet employ standard components. It was also a disadvantage to have two switches widely separated in space to control the gain. Further, it was undesirable that there should be a change of input impedance on operating the probe switch.

Editor-in-chief, Wireless World

However, it turned out, as explained in Part 3, that a gain of 10 times was readily obtained. The probe, therefore, now contains merely a 900-k $\Omega$  resistor shunted by a trimmer capacitor to give, with the amplifier input resistance of 100 k $\Omega$ , an attenuation of 10:1. The amplifier gain of 10 times makes up for this and the overall gain is unity. A 3-ft length of coaxial cable has a capacitance of about 60 pF. The amplifier will probably add at least 10 pF and the safety diodes (Part 3) account for the bulk of this. The input impedance of the probe will be 1 M $\Omega$  by about 7 to 10 pF.

For input voltages greater than 1 V attenuators are needed, to enable ranges of 3 V, 10 V and 30 V to be obtained. For the 3-V range, attenuation of 3:1 is needed; for the 10-V range it must be 10:1; and for the 30-V range, the two can be used in cascade. For this to work, each attenuator section must have an input impedance equal to that of the amplifier, when it is terminated by that same impedance.

The simplest attenuator section is shown in Fig. 1 with the termination  $R_0C_0$ . Let  $\alpha$ be the reciprocal of the attenuation (i.e., 3 for a 3:1 section; 10 for a 10:1 section) then

$$R_1 = R_0 \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha}$$
 and  $R_2 = \frac{R_0}{\alpha - 1}$ 

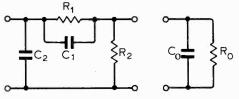


Fig. 1: Basic attenuator section.

Thus for 3:1, and  $R_0 = 100 \text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $R_1 = 66.6 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $R_2 = 50 \text{ k}\Omega$ , while for a 10:1 section  $R_1 = 90 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $R_2 = 11.1 \text{ k}\Omega$ .

For correct frequency compensation, we must have  $C_1R_1 = C_0(R_0 || R_2)$ , which means  $C_1 = C_0/(\alpha - 1)$  when the foregoing resistance requirements are met. Since the cable precedes these attenuators, the value of  $C_0$  is not about 70 pF as it is for the probe, but nearer 10 pF. Thus, in the two cases,  $C_1$  will be about 5 pF and 1.1 pF respectively. The input capacitance excluding  $C_2$ 

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will be  $C_0/\alpha$ , or 3.3 pF and 1 pF, and so  $C_2$  must be  $C_0$  less this figure.

In practice, one cannot have  $C_1$  less than about 3 pF because of the minimum capacitance of the trimmer and other strays. This means that it may be necessary to increase  $C_0$  by adding capacitance to it. If  $C_0$  itself is increased, the probe capacitance will have to be increased also and so the input capacitance will also increase which is undesirable. An alternative is to shunt  $R_2$ by a fixed capacitor.

If  $C_0$  is 10 pF, and we connect 22 pF across  $R_2$  of a 10:1 section, the effective  $C_0$ is 32 pF and so  $C_1$  must be 32/9 = 3.55 pF, which is more reasonable. The input capacitance is then 3.2 pF, so  $C_2$  must be 10-3.2 = 6.8 pF for the normal 10 pF input capacitance.

For a 3:1 section,  $C_1$  is 5 pF without added capacitance and  $C_2$  will be 6.7 pF.

Exact calculation is impracticable, because no capacitance is known accurately enough. What we do in practice is to set up the amplifier with the probe only and feed the probe with a square wave. We adjust the probe trimmer for the optimum waveform. If the minimum capacitance of the trimmer is too large, we add capacitance to  $C_0$ . This is unlikely because of the cable. If the maximum is too small, we add, perhaps, 10 pF, across the probe trimmer.

We now insert an attenuator and apply the square wave directly to its input, not via the probe. Now  $C_1$  of the attenuator is adjusted; if its minimum is too large we add a fixed capacitor across  $R_2$ , trying various values until we find one which will enable a definite optimum setting for  $C_1$  to be obtained. Having done this we apply the square wave to the attenuator through the probe and we now adjust  $C_2$  only. Again if the maximum capacitance of this trimmer is too small, we try various fixed capacitors in shunt, until we find one which enables a definite optimum setting for  $C_2$  to be obtained. This brings the input capacitance to the proper value to suit the probe and as this was previously adjusted to suit  $C_0$ , it brings the input capacitance to  $C_0$ .

The same procedure is adopted for the second attenuator. There are no further adjustments when the two sections are used in cascade. The correct response should automatically be obtained. In practice, it may not be. The main cause of any such trouble is stray coupling between input and output. Stray capacitance between the input of one section and the output of the other has a serious effect and it need be only a fraction of 1 pF. Careful screening is essential.

It is possible to use a 3-pole 4-way rotary switch to give the ranges of 0, 3:1, 10:1, and 30:1. With a single wafer this is unsatisfactory because stray capacitance causes violent overshoots when both sections are in cascade. Separate wafers must be used with screening. It is considered preferable, however, to use separate d.p.d.t. switches and the arrangement is shown in Fig. 2. Two coupling capacitors  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are included; the first is desirable to prevent any d.c. loading of the circuit under test, the second is needed to prevent operation of the switches from affecting the bias on the input stage of the amplifier. For a reasonable low-frequency response  $C_1$  can be  $0.22 \,\mu\text{F}$  because it is in a 1 M $\Omega$  circuit, but  $C_2$  must be  $2 \mu F$  since the resistance level is about 100 k $\Omega$ . C<sub>1</sub> must be 350 V rating to be safe for overloads, but  $C_2$  can be of quite a low-voltage rating. It is essential that these capacitors be completely screened to prevent hum pick-up.

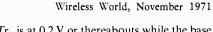
The resistors needed have values of 90, 66.6, 50 and 11.1 k $\Omega$ . None is a preferred value. High-stability types of  $\pm 1\%$  tolerance should be used to give a  $\pm 2\%$ tolerance on the attenuation ratio. The required values can be obtained from combinations of preferred values; thus two 180 k $\Omega$  resistors in parallel give 90 k $\Omega$  (and in the probe two 1.8 M $\Omega$  give 900 k $\Omega$ ), two  $100 \text{ k}\Omega$  give  $50 \text{ k}\Omega$ , and two  $22 \text{ k}\Omega$  give 11 k $\Omega$ . The value of 66.6 k $\Omega$  can be achieved by  $120 \text{ k}\Omega$  in parallel with  $150 \text{ k}\Omega$ . Alternatively, the required values can often be picked out from a largish selection of resistors, but an accurate bridge is needed to do this.

#### Switching circuits

To effect the switching between one channel and the other, the transistors  $Tr_9$  in the two amplifiers require to be driven by square waves in opposite phase. These are best produced by a bistable driven by some form of pulse generator. The conventional bistable of Fig. 3 produces square waves of opposite phase at its two collectors, so these can be connected through limiting resistors to the bases of the two  $Tr_9$  transistors.

When one transistor in Fig. 3 is ON it is saturated and its collector is at about 0.2 V: the other is then OFF and passes no

Fig. 2. Circuit of probe and attenuator sections.



 $Tr_1$  is at 0.2 V or thereabouts while the base is around 0.7 V;  $Tr_1$  is saturated. (Incidentally, all figures quoted here are very rough ones; we say this to avoid having to say "about" everytime!). The diode  $D_1$  then has 0.5 V forward voltage across it and is near, if not actually in, conduction. The potential of the right-hand plate of  $C_1$  (on the diagram) is 0.2 V.

As its base is at earth and its collector at 10 V  $Tr_2$  is non-conducting and  $D_2$ has 10 V reverse bias, and the right-hand plate of  $C_2$  is at 10 V. A negative trigger pulse of, say, 4V amplitude is applied to the left-hand plates of both capacitors, and appears also on the right-hand plates. This drops the voltage across  $D_2$  from 10 V to 6 V, but the diode is still cut off and the voltage is not applied to the base of  $Tr_2$ . If the source of pulses is of low impedance,  $D_1$  conducts and pulls the base of  $Tr_1$  negative by the pulse amplitude and so cuts off  $Tr_1$ . If the source is not of low impedance the pulse amplitude is reduced by the low input resistance of  $Tr_1$  while it is conducting.

Assuming that  $Tr_1$  is cut-off, its collector voltage rises and drives  $Tr_2$  into conduction. The action is cumulative around a closed positive feedback loop. The speed of transition is governed by the circuit resistances and stray capacitances. At the end, the initial conditions are reversed with  $Tr_1$  OFF and  $Tr_2$  ON. The charges on  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are unaltered, however;  $C_1$  is still at 0.2 V with the collector of  $Tr_1$  at 10 V and  $C_2$  is at 10 V with the collector of  $Tr_2$  at 0.2 V.

The capacitors now charge and discharge through  $R_{D1}$  and  $R_{D2}$  until  $C_1$  is at 10 V and  $C_2$  is at 0.2 V. In each case there is 9.8 V acting and the time required for this change to occur is approximately  $3CR_D$ . Common values are  $C = 0.001 \ \mu\text{F}$  and  $R_D = 22 \ \text{k}\Omega$ , so the time is 66  $\mu$ s.

If three signal cycles are to be displayed on each oscilloscope trace, the signal period for this condition is 22  $\mu$ s, so its frequency is 45 kHz.

It is not necessary that the interval between successive trigger pulses should be as long as  $3CR_p$ . If it is shorter, the charging and discharging will be less complete and the difference between the voltages on the two capacitors will be smaller. Eventually the difference will be too small for the steering diodes to function properly and the bistable will refuse to change state. It is usually reasonable to work with a trigger pulse interval equal to the time constant, which is 22  $\mu$ s for the foregoing values. This will enable three cycles of signals up to 135 kHz to be displayed.

In practice, it has proved difficult to generate a square wave having a shorter half-cycle period than  $25 \,\mu$ s, even with changes to the steering circuit time constant. This corresponds to a trigger pulse repetition frequency of 40 kHz and, if the circuit is triggered by the oscilloscope timebase, to the timebase frequency. At lower frequencies, triggering remains good without change of time constant. Thus, for a three-cycle display, oscilloscope triggering can be used only for signal frequencies up to 120 kHz. For higher signal frequencies, either more cycles must be displayed or unsynchronized triggering employed, as

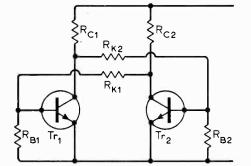
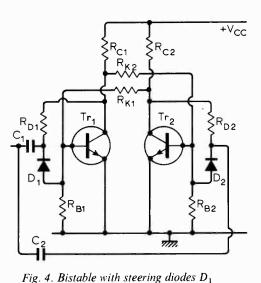


Fig. 3. Basic bistable circuit.

and  $D_2$  added.

 $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .



collector current, so that its collector is at

 $V_{CC} \frac{R_B + R_K}{R_B + R_K + R_C}$ 

For a 12-V supply a square-wave amplitude

of about 10 V peak-to-peak is obtainable.

negative trigger pulse is needed on the ON

transistor. This is where most of the

problems arise. It is necessary to incorporate

steering diodes to ensure that a succession

of trigger pulses are routed alternately to

the two transistors, since each pulse must be

fed only to an ON transistor. The arrange-

ment is shown in Fig. 4 and the steering

action depends largely upon the capacitors

Consider a stable state with  $Tr_1$  ON and

 $Tr_2$  OFF. If this has persisted for long

enough, analysis is easy. The collector of

To change the state of the bistable a

Circuit values are far from critical.

described in Part 1. The pulse generator for this is still limited to 40 kHz maximum.

To display three cycles of a 50 Hz signal, the timebase frequency must be 16.66 Hz. Flicker will inevitably occur. It will be prohibitive with dual traces because the repetition frequency of each will be only 8.33 Hz. This is covered by using an unsynchronized condition with a switching frequency much higher than the signal frequency. A good display will result with a ratio of about 100:1, which makes the lowest pulse generator frequency about 500 Hz. However, it is advisable to extend the range down to about 100 Hz for cases where it is impracticable to trigger the switch from the c.r.o. timebase.

The range of frequencies needed is thus 400:1, which can easily be achieved in three ranges.

Before we consider the pulse generator, however, there is one other matter to be dealt with. It is necessary to have a squarewave generator to adjust the trimmer capacitors of the probes and attenuators. It cannot easily be done without it. Rather a good waveform is needed. As the equipment needs a square-wave generator for switching, the obvious thing to do is to arrange for it to be usable also for the attenuator adjustments. This means that the square wave must be freer from minor blemishes than is necessary for switching and there must be outputs at the proper voltage levels.

The positive half-cycles are usually somewhat marred by the charging currents of the steering capacitors. The simplest remedy is to add a pair of clamping diodes, as shown by  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  in Fig. 5. These are returned to a voltage lower than  $V_{cc}$  which is stabilized by the zener diode  $D_5$ . As long as a collector voltage is below  $V_z$  the associated diode plays no part, but when it rises to about  $V_z$ , the diode conducts and clamps the collector voltage to  $V_z$ . There is then a low impedance path for charging currents. In addition, the square-wave amplitude is now closely defined by  $V_z$  and is independent of  $V_{cc}$ . This makes it easier to prevent any dangerous condition occurring on  $Tr_9$ .

The second requirement of various output levels is easily met by dividing  $R_c$  of one transistor into several resistors in series, at the junction of which the various outputs will appear. With a 4.7 V zener diode, the square-wave amplitude will be nominally 4.5 V, plus the clamping diode drop, which is around 0.6 V, or 5.1 V total.

With only the probe in use an amplitude of around 0.45 V is about right. With the input to the amplifier itself and the 10:1attenuator in use, the same amplitude is needed. With the 3:1 attenuator only 0.135 V is required. Using the probe and the 3:1 attenuator, we want 1.35 V, and with the 10:1 attenuator, 4.5 V. When the probe and both attenuators are in circuit, and we apply 4.5 V we shall get only 0.15 V on the oscilloscope. There are no adjustments on this range, and although the amplitude is rather small, it is sufficient to check that nothing serious is wrong.

The voltage ratios required are 1:1, 3.33:1, 10:1 and 33.3:1, so the resistance

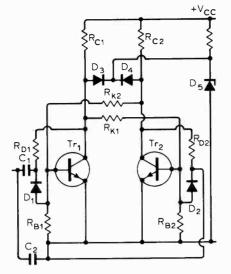


Fig. 5. Bistable elaborated to include clamping diodes  $D_3$  and  $D_4$ .

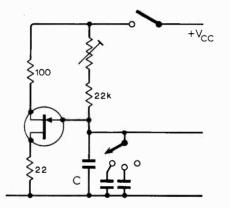


Fig. 6. Sawtooth generator with unijunction transistor.

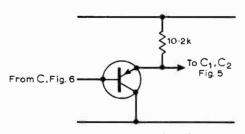


Fig. 7. Emitter follower to isolate the sawtooth generator from the bistable.

ratios needed are 0, 2.33:1, 9:1 and 32.3:1. We cannot hope to get these exactly and it is not necessary, for any voltage will do as long as it is roughly right. A string of resistors  $68 \Omega$ ,  $180 \Omega$ ,  $680 \Omega$  and  $1.2 k\Omega$ totals 2.128 k $\Omega$  and is reasonably matched by 2.2 k $\Omega$  for the other transistor. This gives 5.1 V, 2.12 V, 0.569 V and 0.155 V with a tolerance of  $\pm 10\%$  using 5% resistors and an extra  $\pm 5\%$  for the zener tolerance. Experimentally, we obtained 5.2 V, 2.5 V, 0.66 V and 0.18 V in a particular case. Experimentally, with a basic capacitance of 150 pF plus strays, and a total resistance of 22 to 250 k $\Omega$  the square-wave frequency (to one-half of the sawtooth frequency) was 7.95-71.5 kHz. Adding 0.001 µF gave 920 Hz to 9 kHz, and adding 0.01  $\mu$ F gave 120-1430 Hz.

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Turning now to the pulse generator, the simplest is a unijunction and the circuit is shown in Fig. 6. Three capacitors and a selector switch provide the three frequency ranges and the variable resistor enables the frequency to be set at any required value. A switch in the supply line enables the generator to be disabled when triggering by the oscilloscope timebase is required.

A positive-going sawtooth appears across the capitance, a positive pulse across the  $22\,\Omega$  resistor and a negative pulse across the  $100 \Omega$ . Neither pulse unfortunately is suitable for triggering the bistable. It triggers best from the negative-going flyback of the sawtooth. If an attempt is made to trigger directly, by connecting  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  of Fig. 5 to the capacitor of Fig. 6, trouble can arise. The charging currents of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  affect the charging current in Fig. 6 and differently on successive cycles. Successive sawteeth have different amplitudes and durations, and the final square wave no longer has a 1:1 mark-space ratio. A buffer stage is, therefore, needed to separate the two. This must have a high input impedance (> 1 M $\Omega$ ) and a low output impedance.

For operation from the oscilloscope timebase a sawtooth output is needed and this can be either positive or negative going. With the Marconi Instruments model which we used it is about 8 V negativegoing. Thus, phase reversal is needed.

We found experimentally that a TIS 43 p-n unijunction produced a sawtooth of 6.2 V amplitude, the peak being 7.5 V above earth. Thus the capacitance is discharged to 0.7 V. An emitter follower with a load of  $10 k\Omega$  should give an input resistance of over 1 M $\Omega$ . A p-n-p transistor is better than an n-p-n here because it is the negativegoing edge of the sawtooth which we want for triggering. The p-n-p transistor can turn on plenty of current to supply a capacitive load, or more likely, the low impedance of the ON transistor being triggered. An n-p-n transistor on a negative-going edge is likely to cut-off in this condition. All that we need as a buffer between the circuits of Figs 5 and 6 is the simple arrangement of Fig. 7. This takes a mean current of 0.35 mA.

The requirements for triggering the bistable from the timebase of the oscilloscope are rather different and will depend upon the particular instrument used. If a positivegoing sawtooth is available or can be readily obtained, it can be reduced to 6 V amplitude by a potential divider. In most cases it can then be fed directly to  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  of Fig. 5.

If the only sawtooth available is negativegoing, as in the case of the Marconi Instruments oscilloscope which we used, a phase reversal is needed. The sawtooth is of 8 V amplitude and comes at low impedance from a cathode follower.

It is tempting to use the circuit of Fig. 7 with a collector resistor, both inputs and outputs being switched. This will not work, however, for the stage would then have to give a total output of 12 V and would require a supply of at least 14 V, whereas we may have only 10.5 V, and less if decoupling is needed. Further, the bias condition would have to be changed. The switching would get involved and it is

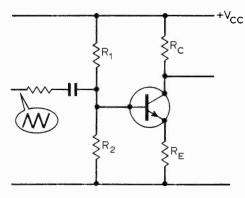


Fig. 8. Phase reverser for use with negative-going sawtooth.

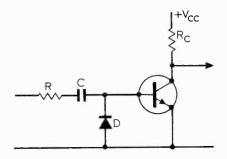


Fig. 9. Practical phase reverser.

simpler and cheaper to use a separate transistor.

The sawtooth, since it is taken from the oscilloscope, is likely to be a good one and so its mean value will be nearly one-half of its peak-to-peak amplitude. Mid-point biasing of the transistor will be needed with a capacitance input coupling.

For phase-reversal an earthed-emitter stage is needed and the obvious thing to do is to use the simple arrangement of Fig. 8. However, it does not work! The d.c. conditions in the presence of a signal are very different from the truly static ones. There is a d.c. restoration effect at the base which causes this.

As will be seen next month, a protective diode is needed across  $R_2$  with its anode earthed and it turns out that the simplest arrangement is the one shown in Fig. 9. Here C is the coupling capacitor and R is chosen to suit the particular oscilloscope used; D is the protective diode to guard against excessive negative inputs. This diode and the base-emitter path of the transistor form two diodes back-to-back. Unless the input is very small, they conduct alternately and their d.c. restoring tendencies act in opposition and tend to cancel. The circuit acts as a crude slicer and an output from the transistor is obtained whenever it conducts. In spite of its simplicity, the circuit works admirably.

The unijunction sawtooth generator with its emitter follower, and this phase reverser for c.r.o. triggering, are shown together in Fig. 10 with the necessary switching.

#### Correction

In Part 2, September p. 423, middle column, the numerator of the fraction in the expression for  $R_{in}$  should be  $R_L + R_C/(1+y)$ .

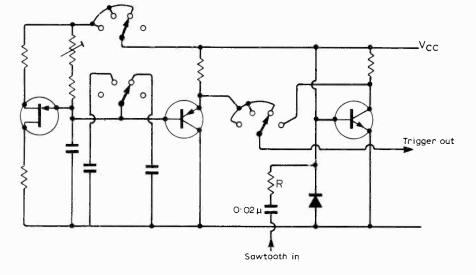
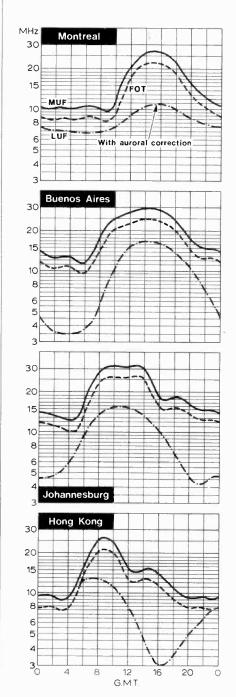


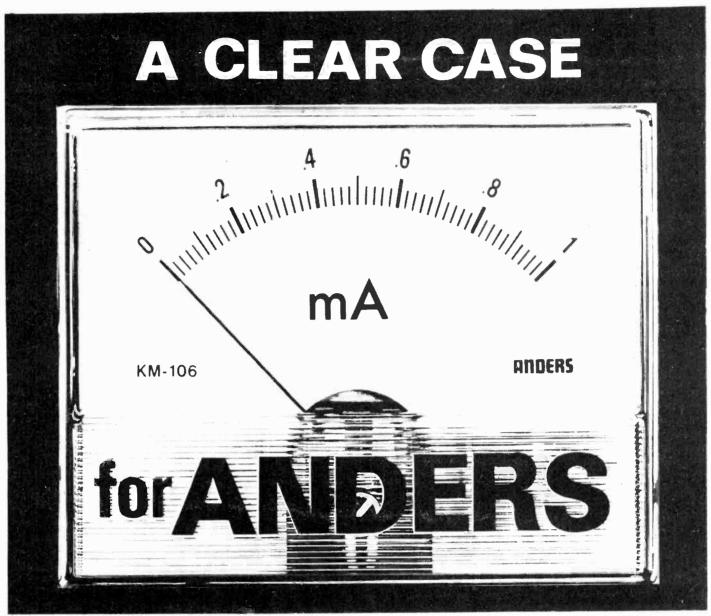
Fig. 10. Sawtooth generator, emitter follower and phase-reverser for c.r.o. sync showing switching.

## H.F. Predictions-November

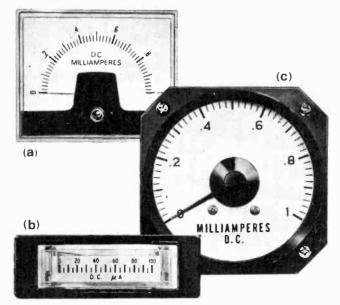
Despite decreasing solar activity the MUF for South America exceeds 30MHz for several hours so the 26MHz broadcast and 28MHz amateur bands should be open between 08.00 and 14.00 G.M.T. throughout the month. These two frequency bands will also be available to South America but not quite so consistently and to North America for very short periods only, if at all.

Prospects for the Far East are not good. The high rate of MUF change during 06.00 to 18.00 G.M.T. indicates that several working frequencies are required for a continuous commercial service. A steady MUF for the remaining period is offset by LUF exceeding FOT which means poor signal-to-noise or fade out.





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# **Receiving Weather Satellite Pictures**

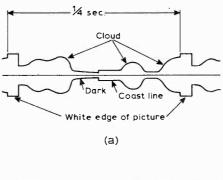
### 2: A more complex station which provides better quality pictures

by J. M. Osborne\*

Last month I described a very simple system for receiving weather satellite pictures and now I would like to describe the more complex arrangement which we use at Westminster School. I am not suggesting that readers should try to copy this because it would probably prove impossible to obtain many of the surplus components we employed in the construction. However my object is to provide a little food for thought and show the sort of steps which are necessary if last month's simple system is to be improved.

As mentioned last month a picture taken by a satellite is broadcast at four lines per second in the 137MHz band; each picture taking around three minutes to send. Successive pictures overlap geographically and one can receive, in U.K., three pictures covering North Africa to Iceland in a single satellite transit. The carrier from the satellite's transmitter is frequency modulated with a 2.4kHz sub-carrier which is in turn amplitude modulated with the picture information as shown in Fig. 15 (a). There is no line synchronizing signal so that the user has to provide his own sync pulses at 4Hz. Each picture is preceded by a train of pulses (see Fig. 15 (b)). The gaps in the sub-carrier correspond to the start of a

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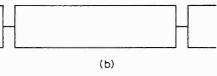


Fig. 15. (a) Sub-carrier envelope for one line of picture information. (b) Sync pulse train preceding the picture. The gaps are at 4Hz.

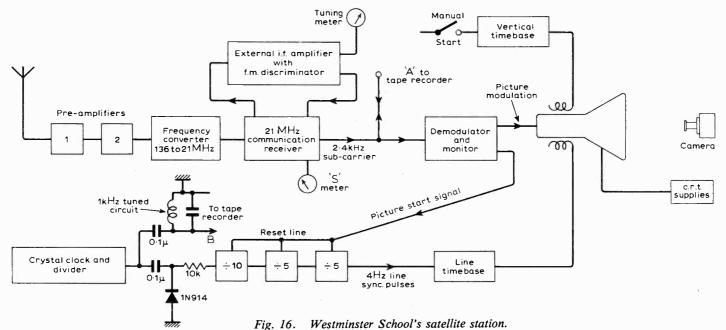
line of picture information and are used to initiate pulses at 4Hz generated by the circuit given in Fig.11 last month.

A block diagram of the complete ground station we use is shown in Fig. 16. The 2.4kHz audio sub-carrier emerges from the receiver and, after demodulation, is used to control the spot brightness of a c.r.t. The spot is made to scan in a normal TV type raster by two timebases; the line running at 4Hz and the frame sweeping once in 200 seconds for an 800 line picture. The raster is photographed by setting up a camera in front of the c.r.t. as described last month.

A stereo tape recorder can record from points A and B and subsequently play back into the circuit at the same points. This enables the picture making process to be separated from the reception of the satellite's signal and is a great help in the building and testing stages.

#### Signal chain

The aerial is a crossed Yagi made by J-Beam Ltd, of Northampton. It is type 2/10XYcut for 137MHz. The mounting is very crude but has operated without trouble for over two years. A short mast was fixed to railings on the roof but the clamps left a little slack. A short rod was clamped to the mast horizontally, acting as a handle to rotate the mast about a vertical axis. Another short rod was clamped but not tightened horizontally near the top of the mast about ten feet above the ground. The Yagi was tightly clamped to one end of this rod at right



angles to it. Another short rod was tightly clamped to the other end, also at right angles parallel to the Yagi boom. This rod is the handle for setting the elevation of the aerial. Greasing proved a mistake as the wind tended to take over the steering. All the parts are standard TV aerial components supplied by J-Beam.

The aerial feed goes via two f.e.t. v.h.f. pre-amplifiers to the frequency converter. The pre-amplifiers are useful but are by no means essential because of the high signal strength of present satellites. The frequency converter is a standard 2m amateur band type made by Solid State Modules of Huddersfield and aligned by them for 137MHz. This gives, with an internal crystal oscillator, a first i.f. of 21MHz which is connected by a coaxial cable to the aerial terminal of an Eddystone EC10 communication receiver tuned to the 21MHz band. For example a satellite on 137.5MHz appears at 21.5MHz on the receiver's dial and satellites transmitting at 137.62MHz appear at 21.62MHz on the dial. The EC10 is an a.m. receiver so the 465kHz i.f. output from the frequency changer is connected via a screened lead and a small capacitor to an external i.f. amplifier with a frequency discriminator. The i.f. amplifier we used came from a Pye Cambridge mobile receiver. Its bandwidth was rather below the required 50kHz but in practice it gave adequate results. The audio output of the external i.f. amplifier's discriminator was fed back to the a.f. stages of the EC10. A 50-0-50  $\mu$ A meter in series with a  $30k\Omega$  resistor was connected to the discriminator to serve as an f.m.

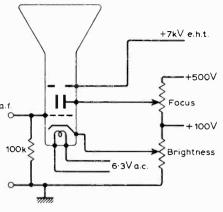


Fig. 17. Circuitry around the c.r.t.

tuning meter. The internal i.f. of the EC10 remains live but the diode detector is disconnected from the a.f. amplifier and drives a signal strength meter instead. This is a large scale 100  $\mu$ A meter in series with a 20k $\Omega$  resistor on a long extension lead so that it can be placed in sight of the enerial operator as a tracking aid. The audio output of the f.m. discriminator does not indicate signal strength and it is, of course, just this property which makes it possible to obtain consistent pictures over a wide range of signal strengths.

#### Tape recording pictures

If one wishes to record the pictures a highquality stereo tape recorder is worthwhile. The Brenell STB2 we employ gives good results. Tape deteriorates noticeably after several runs and only new high grade tape

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can be relied on for perfect results. However, any tape in any tape recorder will give results adequate for testing the rest of the apparatus, provided imperfections of the tape and recorder are recognized for what they are. The 1kHz timing signal from point B Fig. 16 is recorded on one track while at the same time the picture is recorded on the other track from point A. Thus synchronizing is affected by tape speed changes, wow or flutter. It is possible to add an extra record/playback head to some mono tape recorders (four track recorders may have the wiring to one head available for external use). The 1kHz can be recorded without bias and retrieved without other modification to the recorder.

The circuit of the crystal sync pulse divider unit was given last month. The only modification required for using a tape recorder is shown in Fig. 16.

The 1kHz square wave now goes through an LC filter tuned to 1kHz to provide a sine wave for the recorder. The filter is not essential but cleans up the input to the tape by removing harmonics from the square wave. On play-back the same filter provides a good clean signal with no noise to produce false triggering. The filter 'rings' at its 1kHz resonant frequency, attenuating all other frequencies. Tape recordings are made, and played back into points A and B.

#### Cathode-ray tube

In order to resolve an 800 line picture, the c.r.t. spot size must not be more than one thousandth of the tube diameter. Suitable

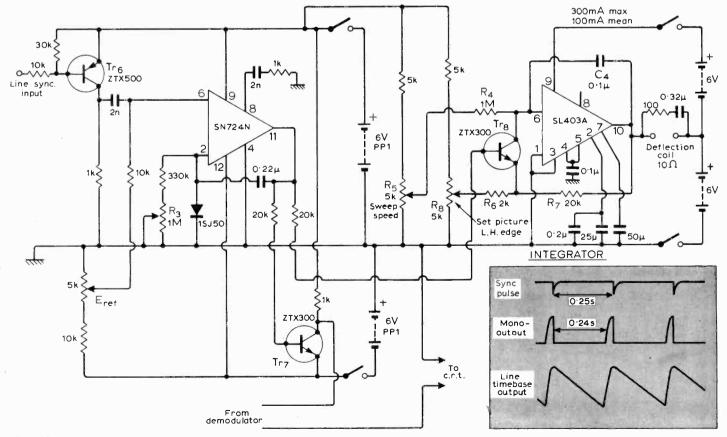
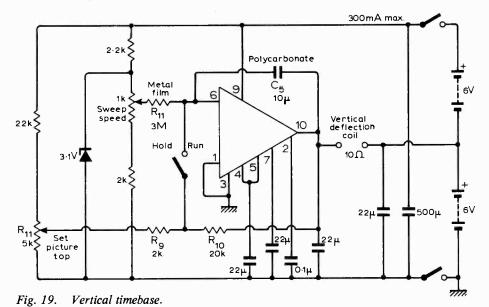
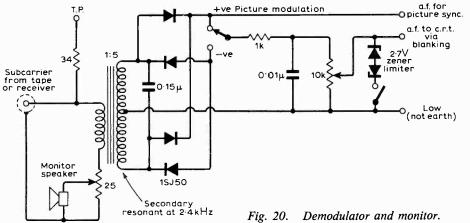


Fig. 18. Line timebase and waveforms.





tubes with electrostatic deflection do not appear to be available but TV type tubes obviously meet the required specification. We obtained an obsolete Pye monitor type 2780 which contained an excellent tube. The monitor cabinet was a convenient housing for the tube but none of the original electronics except the scan coils proved of any value. Fig. 17 gives the circuitry associated with the c.r.t.

#### Line timebase

The scan coils in the monitor had a resistance of about  $10\Omega$  and it was found that i.c. audio amplifiers, capable of driving a loudspeaker direct, were ideal for driving the scan coils. The final version of the line timebase is shown in Fig. 18. The SN724N is wired as a monostable with a period of about 0.24s as determined by  $R_3$ . The diode connected across  $R_3$ greatly speeds the recovery time, enabling the monostable to operate every 0.25s. A negative going edge, from the 4Hz sync generator circuit described last month, applied to the base of  $Tr_6$  drives the monostable to negative saturation. Transistors  $Tr_7$  and  $Tr_8$  are switched off:  $Tr_{\gamma}$  allows the picture signal to reach the tube and  $Tr_8$  starts the integrator formed by the SL403A. At the end of the

integrator's timing period the monostable goes back to positive saturation, switching on  $Tr_7$  thereby blanking the c.r.t. spot and resetting the integrator by switching on  $Tr_8$ .

It is now fairly obvious how the sweep operates. The current through the deflector coil is determined by the voltage between the output of the SL403A and the midpoint of the batteries. The output voltage, when  $Tr_8$  is on, is set by the potentiometer  $R_8$ . When a sync pulse arrives  $Tr_8$ switches off and  $C_4$  starts to charge through  $R_4$  at a rate determined by potentiometer  $R_5$ . As the input remains at 'virtual earth' the output voltage goes down causing the spot to sweep the tube. Assuming that the sweep speed has been set correctly the spot reaches the end of the sweep just as the monostable period ends and flyback occurs.

#### Vertical time base

The vertical timebase uses the same integrator circuit (Fig. 19) as the horizontal timebase, except that  $Tr_8$  is replaced by a switch as only one sweep per picture is needed. The sweep speed is variable over a wide range and can easily be set to 200s but high quality components are needed to give reliable and consistent performance. This applies

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particularly to  $C_5$ .  $R_{12}$  and the switch.

In the simple vertical timebase circuit described last month the capacitor was shown in Fig.5 as being  $1\mu$ F and in Fig.12 as 1mF. Fig.12 is correct, e.g. one millifarad or  $1,000\mu$ F.

#### Demodulator and monitor

The 2.4 kHz signal from either the receiver or tape recorder drives the monitor speaker and the primary of a step-up transformer (Fig. 20). The ratio is about 1:5 and the secondary is tuned by a capacitor to resonate at 2.4kHz giving a useful improvement in the signal-to-noise ratio. The secondary is centre tapped to allow full wave rectification of the sub-carrier. The polarity of the modulation can be switched so that either a positive or negative picture can be taken. Thus the film in the camera can give either a negative for normal printing or a positive for a slide projector. The demodulated a.f. picture signal is fed to a potentiometer which adjusts the contrast. The zener diodes act as limiters and stop interference spikes from reaching the c.r.t. The full demodulated output is taken to a separate terminal for the picture sync.

#### **Power supplies**

The supplies for all units except the c.r.t. come from batteries which means that each unit is self contained and is free from mains earth with the batteries inside the box. This eliminates problems due to hum and coupling of units through common supplies is avoided. In view of the light intermittent load, the cost is probably less than mains power supplies even over a period of years. Nife cells for the time bases can be left on trickle charge though even these can be replaced with Ever Ready Lattern Cells type 996.

## 60 Years Ago

November 1911. Perhaps the most exciting story in this issue of the Marconigraph came under the heading 'Experiences of the first Marconi airship officer'. Jack Irwin was the wireless operator in question and he described the part wireless played in the unsuccessful attempt of the airship America to reach Europe. It appears that after being blown far off course and after sustaining damage a ship was sighted. Irwin says "I immediately called C.Q.D. and S.O.S., but received no response. So, seizing an electric torch, I commenced calling in Morse fashion. After some little delay I was answered by the steamer. I conveyed to them by lamp the fact that we were equipped with wireless, and in a few minutes the most welcome signals I ever heard came hammering in my 'phones".

The America was brought down in the sea and the crew were taken off by the steamer, which was the Royal Mail S.S. Trent.

# **Electronic Building Bricks**

### 17. Alternating current and voltage

by James Franklin

Most people are familiar with the term 'a.c.' in reference to the electricity mains, but even those who know that it means 'alternating current' may not be quite sure of *what* is alternating. It is, in fact, the direction of the electron flow (current) in a circuit. The electrons flow first in one direction round the circuit, then in the opposite direction, then in the first direction again . . . and so on, rather like the balance-wheel of a clock.

Figs. 1 and 2 use the electronic circuit ideas introduced in Part 5 to demonstrate the nature of alternating current. In Fig. 1 (a) the e.m.f. source drives electrons round the circuit in the direction shown by the arrow. The value of the current is determined by the resistor R (see Part 7). A time-graph of this uni-directional current (switched) is shown at (b).

In Fig. 2 (a) we have the same circuit, but the e.m.f. source has been taken out and put back with the + and - terminals in the reverse positions. When the switch is closed the current direction is now reversed. The value of the unidirectional current, however, is still determined by R and is the same as in Fig. 1.

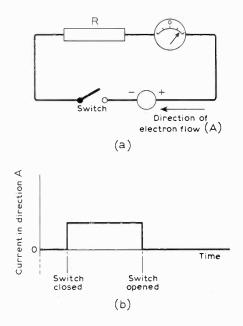
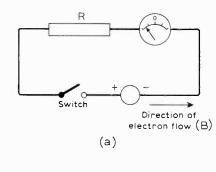


Fig. 1. Uni-directional current in circuit (a) when the switch is closed and opened is plotted in (b). The meter is a centre-zero type.



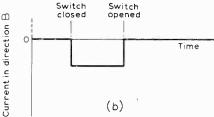


Fig. 2. Same circuit as in Fig. 1 but with the e.m.f.-source connections reversed so electron flow direction is reversed.

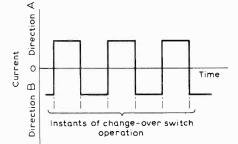


Fig. 3. Use of a change-over switch in circuit enables us to combine two uni-directional currents into an alternating current.

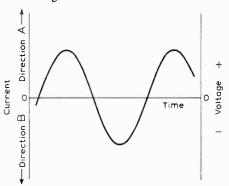


Fig. 4. Graph of alternating current of voltage having a sinusoidal waveform.

In the graphs we use in electronics there is a convention that electrical variables of opposite direction are plotted on opposite sides of a central zero on the vertical axis — analogous to degrees of latitude north or south of the equator. Which current direction we show as 'going up' from zero and which 'going down' doesn't really matter as long as we make the situation clear by labelling the vertical axis of the graph. So, since the current direction in Fig. 2 (a) is opposite to that in Fig. 1 (a) we plot the current in the Fig. 2 (a) circuit as in Fig. 2 (b).

If now we repeatedly reverse the  $\pm$  position of the e.m.f. source—which we could do conveniently by removing the ordinary switch and putting in a changeover switch— we would repeatedly reverse the direction of the current in the circuit. Following the convention, the resulting graph of current would be as in Fig. 3. Note that at each change-over of the switch the current flowing in one direction falls to zero (switch going 'off') and immediately rises to the maximum value in the opposite direction (switch going 'on'). The resulting time graph, or waveform, is a representation of an alternating current.

The waveform of the alternating current graph is obviously determined by the instants we choose to operate the change-over switch, and in Fig. 3 it can be seen that we have chosen to operate the switch not randomly but in a strictly regular fashion. As a result this waveform is a constant repetition of a fixed cycle of current values and directions. It is, in fact, an oscillation (see Part 10). As such it could be generated by an electronic square-wave generator instead of the manually operated switch used for Fig. 3.

Thus a periodic alternating current is an oscillation. It can have any waveform (e.g. square, triangular) but the most widely used shape is the sine wave, described in Part 10. This is the waveform that is produced by power-station generators for the electricity mains and by electronic oscillators for the various uses described in Part 13. As a reminder, the sine-wave oscillation shown in Part 10 is repeated here in Fig. 4 as an alternating current.

What about the e.m.f., or voltage, that causes the current to flow? An alternating current in a circuit is created by an e.m.f. varying in a corresponding way and alternating on the principle of the  $\pm \mp$ change-over switching used for Fig. 3. In the generator or oscillator, this repetitive change of *polarity*, as it is called, occurs automatically. When plotting a graph of sinusoidal (or other waveform) alternating voltage we adopt the convention shown on the right hand vertical axis of Fig. 4. The upward direction is for values of positive (+) electrical potential (as given by the + terminal of a battery if the - terminal is considered as zero potential); and the downward direction is for values of negative (-) potential (as given by the terminal of the battery if the + terminal is considered as zero potential).

## Wien Oscillators

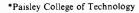
## **Properties of RC oscillators using Wien and related networks**

by P. Williams\*

This article discusses the properties required of both active and passive sections of a range of RC oscillators. The passive networks include that due to Wien and other networks using the same CR values to give the same frequency for which the phase-shift is zero. Minimum realizations of suitable controlled sources are indicated and a series of practical circuits described. These include well-known circuits together with some new variants. Some have the advantage of low component count and the possibility of  $\overline{o}$  peration at low voltages and currents. Two other approaches to the design of RC oscillators—negative-impedance convertors and balanced-bridged circuits — are shown to be alternative descriptions for many known circuits, and a series of variants is described, together with their practical advantages. The nullor representation is, as with active circuit theory, a useful concept in helping to unify the three approaches.

Oscillators based on RC networks have been variously designed in terms of controlled sources,<sup>1</sup> impedance convertors<sup>2</sup> and balanced bridge circuits.<sup>3,4</sup> Of these RC networks, that due to Wien<sup>5</sup> is the most usual at low frequencies, and it is considered together with related networks using identical components and giving the same frequency of zero phase shift. The properties required of the associated controlled sources are discussed and transistor realizations outlined.

The basic forms of the Wien-bridge oscillator are considered and related to controlled source oscillators having external negative feedback networks. Oscillators can also be realized by the application of a negative impedance converter (n.i.c.) to the arms of the Wien network. Such a use of some known n.i.cs is described, and the resulting oscillators are also shown in bridge form. The discussion is limited for simplicity to the case of two equal capacitors and two equal resistors (with one noted exception).



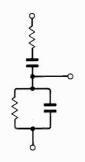


Fig. 1. In the Wien network there is a single frequency for which phase shift is zero, at which voltage transfer function attains its maximum value of 1/3. (Equal resistances and equal capacitances are assumed throughout this article unless shown otherwise.)

#### Wien's network

The basis of most sinusoidal oscillators designed for the l Hz to l MHz frequency range is Wien's network—Fig. 1. In its simplest form it uses pairs of identical resistors and capacitors as this allows continuous tuning over wide frequency ranges. There is a single frequency for which the phase shift between input and output is zero, and at that frequency the voltage transfer function  $(T_v)$  attains its maximum magnitude of one third.

The network input and output can be interchanged, when the new current transfer function  $(T_i)$  is identical with the previous value of  $T_v$ 

forward 
$$T_v^{-1} = \frac{v_i}{v_o} = 1 + Z_1 Y_2$$
  
reverse  $T_i^{-1} = \frac{i_i}{i_o} = 1 + Z_1 Y_2$ 

 $1 + Z_1 Y_2 = 3 + j [\omega CR - (\omega CR)^{-1}]$ 

The circuit configurations for these wellknown oscillators are indicated in Fig. 2.

There are several related networks of the same resistors and capacitors with transfer functions which peak at the identical frequency of zero phase shift if properly terminated. These are shown in Fig. 3 and the defined transfer functions are indicated for the two directions and identified separately. Thus the first network will be given as I or II according to the direction of signal flow. The basic properties of the networks are summarized in Fig. 3.

#### **Controlled-source oscillators**

A series of oscillators can be constructed by combining each network with the appropriate controlled source. Networks I, III and V require an ideal voltage amplifier, or, adopting the nomenclature of Mitra,<sup>7</sup> a voltage-to-voltage transducer (v.v.t). The required voltage gain is then +3. Similarly

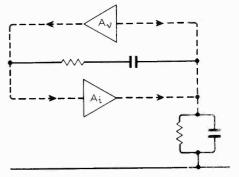


Fig. 2. Oscillators can use either a voltage amplifier with high input and low output resistances or a current amplifier with low input and high output resistances.

Network		Optimum source resistance	Optimum load resistance	Transfer function at frequency of zero shift
	I	0	$\infty$	$T_{V^{\pm}} \frac{1}{3}$
	Π	8	0	$T_{L} = \frac{1}{3}$
	Ш	0	8	$T_{V} = \frac{1}{3}$
	V	8	0	$T_{1} = \frac{1}{3}$
	T	0	∞	$T_{V} = \frac{1}{3}$
	M	∞	0	$T_i = \frac{1}{3}$
	ΔI	∞	∞	$T_z = \frac{R}{3}\Omega$
	ΣЩ	∞	∞	$T_{z} = \frac{R}{3} \Omega$
	x	0	0	$T_y = \frac{1}{3R}S$
	x	0	0	$T_y = \frac{1}{3R}S$

Fig. 3. Networks related to Wien's network and having the same frequency of zero phase-shift for equal component values.

networks II, IV and VI require a current-tocurrent transducer (c.c.t.) of current gain +3. The basic oscillator circuits for III and IV are shown in Fig. 4. Similar circuits can be drawn for each of the other networks.

Realizations of the amplifiers used in the above network should ideally meet the constraints (a) that the output is in phase with the input, (b) that the transfer function is the inverse of that of the network at the frequency of zero phase shift, and (c) that the input and output impedances should be separately zero or infinite as required by the network. This last condition is equivalent to the requirement that for a defined value of  $T_v$ ,  $T_i$ ,  $T_z$  or  $T_y$  that the value of the corresponding  $T_i$ ,  $T_v$ ,  $T_y$  or  $T_z$  should be infinite. None of the available active devices can meet the last condition, but used in the inverting mode (common cathode, emitter or source) the errors due to finite transfer functions can be small.

In the other modes though the phase relationship is correct, either the current gain or the voltage gain is less than, or equal to, unity. Thus a minimum of two active devices must be used and Fig. 5 shows the five combinations of two identical transistors that meet the first constraint. Only the first three of these can approximate to satisfying the third constraint. Combining each of these three with each of the ten CR networks above would generate 30 oscillator circuits, but there is considerable mismatch with some combinations. For example network VII requiring current drive and open-circuit load would match ill with amplifier C the input and output impedances of which are both low. The resulting oscillator, which for brevity will be referred to as VIIC, would have a frequency of oscillation markedly different from the natural frequency of the properly terminated network.

When an optimum combination of network and amplifier has been chosen it is likely that the available gain will be greatly in excess of that needed just to sustain oscillation. The loop gain can be reduced simply by attenuation of the signal at some point in the loop, or a resistive network can be introduced which simultaneously modifies the effective impedances presented by the amplifier to the network. This minimizes loading errors and leads in some cases to

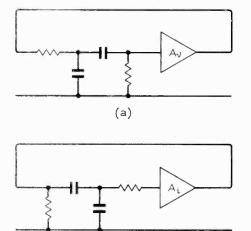


Fig. 4. Series of oscillators can be made using each of the networks of Fig. 3 with the appropriate controlled source. Basic circuits for types III and IV are shown. See Fig. 5 for amplifier configurations.

(b)

oscillators which are more usually considered as bridge oscillators. The following series of circuits indicate some of the combinations that can be used.

In each case an attempt has been made to minimize component count to expose the essential elements of the oscillator. To this end advantage has been taken of the ability of bipolar transistor to operate with collector forward-biased with respect to base by a few hundred millivolts on the peaks of the output waveforms. Naturally these circuits would benefit from additional bias networks for larger outputs at lower distortion, but some of the suggested circuits have the advantage of very low power consumption. Simpler circuits may result if the power supply is a constant-current rather than a constant-voltage type.

The circuits shown in Figs 6(a) and 7(a)

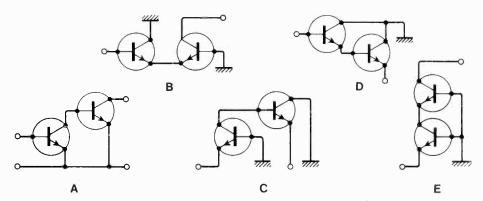


Fig. 5. Of the five combinations of two identical transistors that produce non-inverting amplifiers, only the first three have appropriate input and output impedances. Combining these with the CR networks would provide 30 oscillator circuits-though there would be mismatches in some, affecting frequency of oscillation.

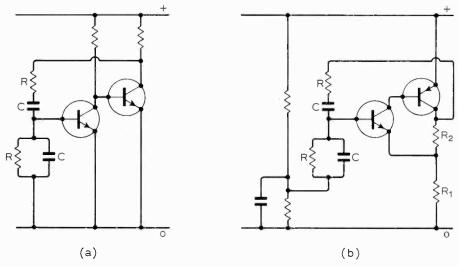


Fig. 6. To get loop gain just in excess of that needed to sustain oscillation, a resistive attenuator is included—a type IA circuit is shown (a),—which at the same time reduces loading errors (b). Network I can be replaced with III or IV of Fig. 3.

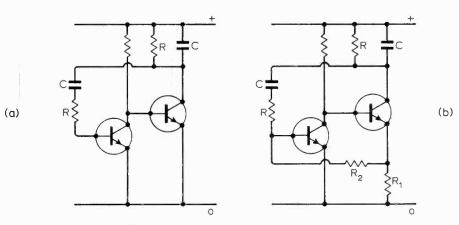


Fig. 7. Type IIA circuit (a), with practical version (b) including resistive attenuator to reduce loading errors. Network II can be replaced with IV or VI of Fig. 3. These simple circuits may need more elaborate bias networks for large outputs but have very low power consumption.

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are the usual forms of voltage-8 and current-fed<sup>9</sup> Wien networks and can be classified as types IA and IIA respectively. Biasing methods are indicated in Figs 6(b) and 7(b). In each case  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  define the transfer function of the amplifier while minimizing the loading effects on the network. Network I may be replaced by III or V, and network II by IV or VI. The input and output impedances differ but, provided loading effects have been minimized, the behaviour is comparable. The Wien network together with these resistors also constitute an almost-balanced bridge at the frequency of oscillation and such circuits have been regularly described in the literature.4,10 Other variants on the bridge oscillator are given in the following section.

#### Variants of normal Wien oscillators

Amplifier B of Fig. 5 has high input and output impedances and of the three it is the nearest approximation to a voltage-tocurrent transducer (v.c.t.). As such it matches best to networks VII and VIII. For simplicity only network VIII is shown in the following circuits. That of Fig. 8 uses a longtailed pair with  $Tr_2$  tapped onto the resistor of the *CR* network. This is the simplest way of limiting the amplitude of oscillation, but the finite input impedance of  $Tr_2$  does load the network. If the loop gain is high enough, the base is loading only a small part of *R*, with reduced effect on the frequency of oscillation.

Clearly a better method is to use negative feedback in the emitters of  $Tr_1$  and  $Tr_2$ raising the input and output impedances of the amplifier and allowing it to approach more closely to the ideal v.c.t. A complementary form of the circuit is shown in Fig. 9(a). Direct coupling of the emitters of a pair of complementary bipolar transistors makes for a simple circuit requiring only a single-ended power supply. The effective source impedance of the supply should approach zero at the frequency of oscillation, but biasing would be both critical and strongly temperature-sensitive if a direct voltage source were used. A direct-current source adequately bypassed solves this problem as indicated in Fig. 9(b), though such a source can be provided by a limiting resistor to a direct voltage source.

Other forms of type  $\vec{B}$  oscillators can be designed to take advantage of the characteristics of f.e.ts. The loading effects of the gate circuits will be negligible, and direct voltage supplies are suitable. Two complementary circuits are shown in Figs 10(a) and 10(b). The required supply voltage clearly depends on the pinch-off voltages of the transistors.

These f.e.t. circuits share a problem not encountered with the bipolar versions. The transconductance  $(g_m)$  is much lower than for bipolar transistors operated at comparable currents, e.g. ~ 1 mA/V as compared with ~ 40 mA/V at currents in the region of 1 mA. Thus unless the effective load presented by the network is high enough, the circuit will not oscillate. As indicated in the Appendix, the solution is to operate the f.e.ts close to pinch-off. To a first-order approximation the maximum possible p.d. across the drain resistor of  $Tr_1$  is constant, but as the device approaches pinch-off  $g_m$ falls more slowly than does the drain current  $I_d$ . As the loop gain depends on the product  $g_m R$  and R may vary inversely with  $I_d$  the loop gain continues to rise as the current falls. The value of R may become

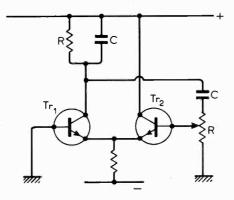
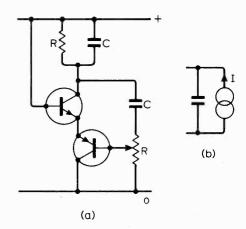
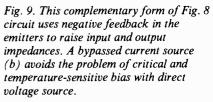


Fig. 8. Amplifier B of Fig. 5 approximates a voltage-to-current transducer because of its high input and output impedances and best matches networks VII and VIII. This circuit using VIII—uses a long-tailed pair with one R tapped to give amplitude limiting while reducing the loading effect of  $Tr_2$  base.

impractically high with some f.e.ts but the limitation can be removed by the addition of separate bias networks. Mixed circuits using one bipolar transistor and one f.e.t. can also be used as in Fig. 10(c).

The networks most suited to amplifier C are IX and X. These ideally require zero





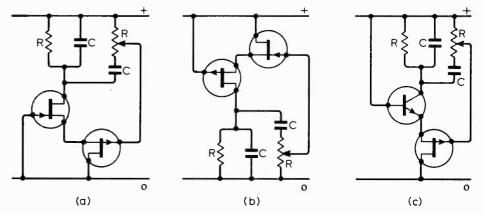


Fig. 10. The two complementary f.e.t. circuits (a) and (b) feature negligible loading by the gate circuit and allow direct voltage supplies. Low  $g_m$  of the f.e.ts—which may prevent oscillation—is avoided by using one bipolar transistor (c).

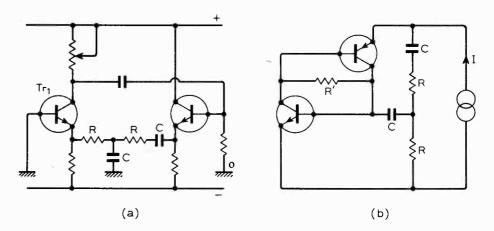


Fig. 11. Amplifier C of Fig. 5 best approximates to a voltage-to-current transducer with zero source and load impedances and is best suited to networks IX and X. Circuit (a)—showing network X—has variable loop gain and needs a dual supply. Complementary version (b) uses a single-ended constant-current supply, unbypassed. (With transistors replaced by nullors the oscillatory condition is R' = 3R.)

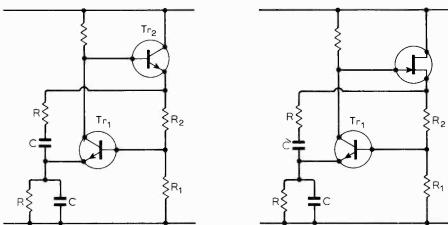
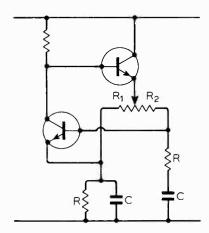
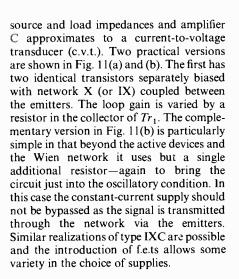


Fig. 12. Oscillator (a)—a modified version of Fig. 6(b)—is produced with network I and amplifier C but feedback increases input impedance and makes it similar to type IA. Loading of the network is reduced by reducing current in  $Tr_2$ , requiring an f.e.t. for the second stage.



(a)

Fig. 13. This version of the Fig. 12(a)circuit—produced from Fig. 12(a) by transposing bridge elements—indicates that bridge drive and output points can be interchanged. In this version either the two capacitors or the two resistors in the bridge have a common point.



#### **Bridge oscillators**

Some self-biasing bridge oscillators can be produced by a simple modification to the circuit of Fig. 6(b). The combination of

 $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{1}$   $R_{2}$   $R_{2$ 

(b)

Fig. 14. Wien-bridge oscillators using nullor representations—the combination of nullator and norator and equivalent to any controlled source of infinite gain. Circuits (a) and (b) have nullator and norator transposed, with (a) equivalent to Figs 6 and 12 and (b) equivalent to Figs 7 and 13.

network I with amplifier C seems less than ideal as the amplifier approximates to a c.v.t., i.e. with low input impedance. The loading effect of this input impedance on the network can be mitigated by the series application of negative feedback. The resulting circuit is shown in Fig. 12(a) and is unusual in that the feedback is to the base of  $Tr_1$ . Ideally the emitter current of  $Tr_1$ should be vanishingly small, which places a similar constraint on the base current of  $Tr_2$ . If both are silicon transistors and  $Tr_2$ has a high current gain the ratio  $R_2: R_1$ approaches that for a balanced Wien bridge. The mean output voltage is then a reasonably defined multiple of the base-emitter p.d. of  $Tr_1$  and no other bias elements are required. The method may be extended by replacing  $Tr_2$  by a junction field-effect transistor of low pinch-off voltage. The gate current is negligible, the collector load of  $Tr_1$  may be very high and the loading effect of  $Tr_1$  emitter current on the Wien network is minimal.

The oscillators of Fig. 12 are basically

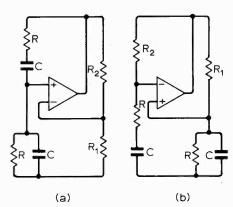
type IC but the feedback makes the behaviour similar to type IA. Isolating the section of the circuit consisting of network I with the feedback resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , leads to the alternative interpretation of the oscillator. It is a bridge, almost at balance at the critical frequency with the amplified unbalance being just sufficient to provide the appropriate drive voltage. Such an approach further indicates that bridge drive and output points can be interchanged as shown in Fig. 13. This version of the circuit has the advantage that either the two resistors or the two capacitors of the Wien network have a common point to one side of the supply. Remote control of frequency is thereby facilitated.

#### Nullor representation

Two one-port networks-the nullator (characterized by V = I = 0) and the norator<sup>11</sup> (in which voltage and current are independent)-have been used very successfully in the analysis and synthesis of such active networks as the negative-impedance convertor<sup>12</sup> and the gyrator.<sup>13</sup> Combined as the nullor<sup>14</sup> these one-port networks have been shown to be equivalent to any controlled source of infinite gain, e.g. the ideal operational amplifier.<sup>15</sup> If the bridge network is isolated then the active devices together with any bias components may be replaced by one or more nullors. In the circuit of Fig. 14(a) a single nullator/norator pair is sufficient to determine the conditions of oscillation. The nullator imposes the constraint of zero p.d. between one opposite pair of bridge points without drawing current, while the norator establishes an arbitrary p.d. between the other pair. This is possible only if the bridge is precisely balanced.

The nullor concept gives no information on the operations of the circuit with finite controlled sources but allows other forms of oscillator to be generated. The circuit of Fig. 14(a) is equivalent to those of Figs 6 and 12. If nullator and norator are Interchanged as in Fig. 14(b) the same constraints apply and the circuit is equivalent to those of Figs 7 and 13. The equivalence can be established by replacing each individual transistor by a nullor in which nullator and norator have a common point. If in the circuit any nullator/norator pair appears directly in series it places no constraint on the p.d. between the output points of the pair and draws no current. In each of the circuits of Figs 6, 7, 12 and 13 there remains one effective nullor in which the nullator and norator are floating.

A better approximation to the nullor is to be found in the many operational amplifiers obtainable in both discrete and monolithic forms. The gains, though finite, are sufficiently high that the departure from the behaviour predicted on the basis of the nullor is small. It seems then that two distinct forms of Wien-bridge oscillator are possible with such amplifiers. A further practical sub-division arises because, though the input floats with respect to output, one side of the output is common to a supply line for most commercially available circuits. Four realizations then result as in Fig. 15, depending on which bridge vertex is



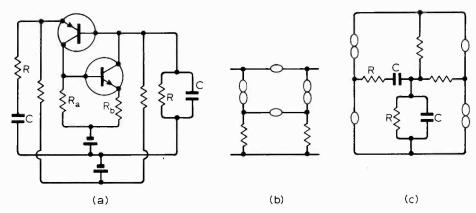


Fig. 17. Oscillator proposed by Pasupathy (a) corresponding to Braun type IIIB n.i.c. (b) and bridge at (c).

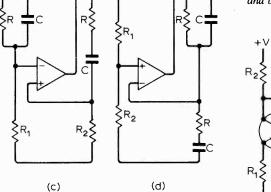


Fig. 15. Using operational amplifiers as an approximation to the nullor, four different forms of the Wien-bridge oscillator are possible.

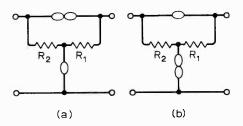


Fig. 16. Comparing the oscillators of Fig. 14 with negative impedance converter acting on the frequency-dependent section, they can be redrawn, (a) corresponding to Braun type IVA and (b) corresponding to IVB.

connected to that output point which is common with a supply line—generally the the common point of a dual-polarity supply.<sup>16</sup>

From a nullor standpoint versions (a) and (c) are identical as are (b) and (d). The differences arise where the oscillator is coupled into other active circuits sharing the same supply. Circuit (c) has the disadvantage that the amplifier inputs are subjected to a higher common-mode signal as compared to that of circuit (a), assuming equal C, R values in the network and equal signal amplitude at the amplifier output. Where voltage-controlled tuning is required it is an advantage if the elements controlling the frequency have a common point at the common potential of the system. This property is present in circuits (b) and (d) as it is in Fig. 13.

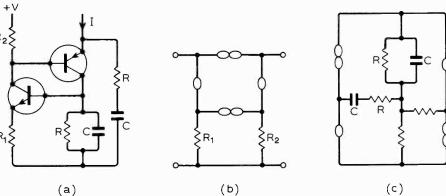


Fig. 18. Practical circuit (a) will oscillate with supplies of IV and 70  $\mu A$ . It is produced by nullator/norator interchange on Fig. 17. Corresponding n.i.c. Braun IIA is at (b) and bridge representation is at (c).

Another feature of these last circuits is that an output is available from either side of the nullator to the common supply point which differs in phase from that at the usual output point. The impedance at these points is high and any loading must be light but the phase may be adjusted by varying  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  while maintaining their ratio. If instead the value of the capacitors is changed together, the frequency is varied while the relative phase between the two outputs is retained.

It may sometimes be advantageous to operate such circuits with high values of  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  so that high output voltages are possible with small common-mode signals at the inputs. This would also allow the use of capacitors of low voltage rating where maximum capacitance in a given volume is important. Two-transistor circuits corresponding to those of Fig. 15(c) and (d) are equally feasible and the discussion of the circuits of Figs 12 and 13 is applicable.

#### **N.I.C.** oscillators

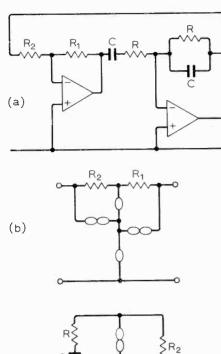
Many oscillators have been classified as negative-resistance oscillators including the transitron and tunnel-diode types. In others an amplifier port may present an equivalent negative resistance to a tuned circuit because of some feedback path to that port. Similarly Wien-bridge oscillators can be interpreted in terms of negative-impedance convertors. Pasupathy<sup>2</sup> has argued that the Wien-bridge oscillator should be considered

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as a special case of the negative-impedance oscillator and proposed the circuit shown in Fig. 17(a). Resistors  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  define the conversion factor for the circuit just as resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  define the transfer function of the controlled source in the circuit of Fig. 6(b), or as the corresponding resistors define the bridge balance conditions in Figs 12 to 15.

However, the simplicity of Pasupathy's oscillator stems from the choice of active circuit and not as suggested from the advantages of an n.i.c. approach. Thus in each of the circuits of Figs 12 to 15, the amplifier, together with the resistive arms, can be interpreted as performing impedance conversion on one frequency-dependent arm in presenting to the other. Comparing these circuits with the n.i.cs as classified by Braun,<sup>12</sup> Fig. 14(a) and (b) can be redrawn as in Fig. 16. They correspond to Braun IVA and IVB respectively. Similarly Pasupathy's oscillator corresponds to Braun IIIB—Fig. 17(b).

Another n.i.c. listed by Braun as IIA is shown in Fig. 18(b), while Fig. 18(a) gives one realization of an oscillator using it. The oscillator requires separate voltage and current supplies but the operating voltages can be very low. For example, it will oscillate with  $V = 1V \pm 10\%$  and  $I = 70 \mu$ A. Under these conditions and with  $R_2$  adjusted to produce a 50 mV r.m.s. output at the emitter of  $Tr_2$ , the peak p.d. between this point and ground is ~ 1.2 V.



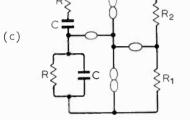


Fig. 19. Baxandall's oscillator with two antiphase low-impedance outputs (a) corresponds to Braun IIA (b) and to the bridge oscillator (c) activated by two nullors with a common point to both nullators and both norators.

An oscillator due to Baxandall requires two inverting amplifiers and has two antiphase low-impedance outputs-Fig. 19(a). The equivalent circuit-Fig. 19(b)-shows that it corresponds to Braun IIIA. Equally it may be seen as a bridge oscillator activated by two nullors with a common point to both nullators and both norators. This is convenient as this common point can be the common supply line and the circuit is well-suited to realization with operational amplifiers. Just as two distinct forms of bridge oscillator were obtained by interchanging nullator and norator in Fig. 14, so too Fig. 20 shows a new oscillator related to that of Baxandall and corresponding to Braun IIB. The two low-impedance outputs can be adjusted in phase by choice of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  while the appropriate ratio is maintained. The frequency can be varied by changing both capacitors without upsetting this phase relationship.

Other n.i.cs can be used with Wien's network to produce oscillators. A particularly interesting oscillator is possible using Braun I. The conversion factor is identically unity with ideal transistors and the circuit and its realization are shown in Fig. 21(a) and (b). The restriction imposed on the Wien network is that the elements of the series arm may no longer be identical with those of the parallel arm. In practice the finite gains of the transistors means that the impedance of the series arm must be

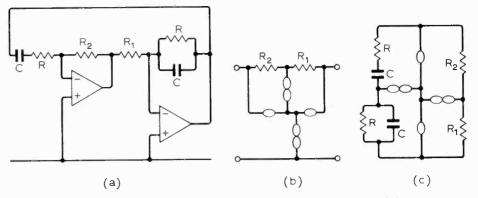


Fig. 20. Interchanging nullator and norator in Fig. 19 provides a new circuit (a) corresponding to Braun IIB (b). Bridge equivalent is at (c).

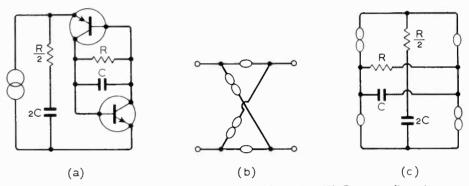


Fig. 21. Circuit at (a) works from a current source of 10  $\mu$ A at 1V. Corresponding n.i.c., Braun I, is at (b) and bridge is at (c).

further reduced. The power supply required is an unbypassed current source of as little as  $10 \ \mu$ A with a circuit p.d. of less than 1 V. This oscillator is of interest for micropower operation and where minimum component count is important.

#### Appendix

In the circuit of Fig. 10(a) a condition can be derived for the minimum transconductance of the f.e.ts to sustain oscillation. For simplicity the f.e.ts are assumed to be separately described by the equation

$$I_D = I_{DSS} \left( 1 - \frac{V_{gs}}{V_P} \right)^2 \tag{1}$$

with equal values of  $|I_{DSS}|$  and  $|V_P|$ . ( $I_{DSS}$  is that value of  $I_D$  the drain current for  $V_{qs} = 0$ .  $V_P$  is that value of  $V_{qs}$  for which  $I_D$  is zero.) For the oscillatory condition, the loop gain has to be unity and

loop gain 
$$= \frac{g_m}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot R$$
 i.e.  $(g_m R)_{osc} = 6$ 

If both devices are operating in the pinch-off region, the value of gate-source voltage for the n-channel f.e.t. is as shown.

$$V_{gs} = -\frac{V_s}{2}$$

Maximum loop gain at any operating cur-

rent is obtained for R such that the n-channel f.e.t. is just pinched-off i.e.

$$V_{gd} = V_P$$

$$I_D R = V_S - V_{dg} = V_S + V_P \qquad (2)$$

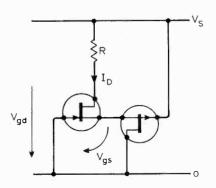
From equations 1 and 2

K

$$R = \frac{V_{P} - 2V_{gs}}{I_{D}} = \frac{V_{P} \left[1 - 2 + 2\left(\frac{I_{D}}{I_{DSS}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right]}{I_{D}}$$
(3)

Differentiating  $I_D$  with respect to  $V_{gs}$  in equation 1

$$g_m = -\frac{2I_{DSS}}{V_P} \left(\frac{I_D}{I_{DSS}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(4)



Multiplying equations 3 and 4

$$g_m R = -\frac{2I_{DSS}}{V_P} \left(\frac{I_D}{I_{DSS}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \frac{V_P}{I_D} \left[ 2\left(\frac{I_D}{I_{DSS}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right]$$
$$= 2 \left[ \left(\frac{I_{DSS}}{I_D}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 2 \right]$$

For oscillatory condition

$$6 = 2 \left[ \left( \frac{I_{DSS}}{I_D} \right)^{\ddagger} - I_D = \frac{I_{DSS}}{25} \right]$$

2

Thus for a pair of complementary f.e.ts having equal magnitudes of  $I_{DSS}$  and  $V_P$  and operating in the pinch-off region oscillation can only commence if the drain current is reduced to 4% of the zero-bias on-current.

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## **'United States of Earth'**

Fifty-four nations recently signed an agreement in which they pledged to co-operate in developing communications satellites. Arthur C. Clarke, who was the first to describe the feasibility of geo-stationary communications satellites in his 1945 Wireless World article 'Extraterrestrial Relays', was a guest of honour at the proceedings.

Arthur Clarke said at the signing "Whenever I peer into my cloudy crystal ball and try to visualize the future of communications satellites, I remember an incident that occurred in England almost a hundred years ago.

"The very alarming news had just been received from the United States that a certain Mr. Edison had invented an electric light. This, of course, was very disturbing to the manufacturers of gas, oil and candles. So as we British do in an emergency, we called a Parliamentary Commission. It listened to the evidence of expert witnesses, who gave the reassuring news that nothing further would be heard of this impractical Yankee invention . . .

"Among the witnesses called was the chief engineer of the British Post Office. Someone on the Commission said to him: We understand that the Americans have invented a machine that can transmit human speech. Do you think that this telephone — will be of any use in Great Britain?' The chief engineer of the Post Office thereupon replied: 'No, Sir. The Americans have need of the telephone but we do not. We have plenty of messenger boys.'

"This very able man totally failed to see the possibilities of the telephone --- and who can blame him? Could anyone, back in 1880 have imagined that the time would come when every home would have a telephone, and business and social life would depend upon it almost completely?

"I submit, ladies and gentlemen, that the eventual impact of the communications satellite upon the whole human race will be at least as great as that of the telephone upon the so called developed societies.

"In fact, as far as real communications are concerned, there are yet no developed societies; we are all in the semaphore and smoke signal stage. And we are now about to witness an interesting situation in which many countries - particularly in Asia and Africa — are going to leapfrog a whole era of communications technology and go straight into the space age. They may never know the vast networks of cables and microwave links that this continent has built at such enormous cost, both in money and natural resources. Satellites can do far more, at far less expense to the environment.

"Intelsat, of course, is concerned primarily with point-to-point communica-

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tions involving large ground stations. It provides the first reliable, high quality, wide bandwidth links between all the nations that wish to join, and the importance of this cannot be underestimated. Yet it is only a beginning, and I would like to look a little further into the future.

"Two years from now, N.A.S.A. will launch the first satellite - ATS-F which will have sufficient power for its signals to be picked up by an ordinary domestic television set, plus about two hundred dollars worth of additional equipment. In 1974 this satellite will be stationed over India and, if all goes well, the first experiment in the use of space communications for mass education will begin. I have just come from India, where I have been making a TV film on the promise of space. We erected, in a village outside Delhi, the prototype antenna --- a simple umbrella shaped wire mesh affair, three meters across. Anyone can put it together in a few hours; it needs only one per village to start a social and economic revolution.

"The engineering problems of bringing education, literacy, improved hygiene and agricultural techniques to every human being on this planet have now been solved. The cost would be of the order of a dollar per person per year. The benefits in health, happiness and wealth would be immeasurable.

"But, of course, the technical problem is an easy one. Do we have the imagination the statesmanship — to use this new tool for the benefit of all mankind? Or will it be used merely to peddle detergents and propaganda?

"I am an optimist; anyone interested in the future has to be. I believe that communications satellites can unite mankind. Let me remind you that whatever the history books say, this great country was created little more than a hundred years ago by two inventions. Without them the United States was impossible; with them, it was inevitable. Those inventions of course were the railroad and the electric telegraph.

"Today we are seeing, on a global scale, an almost exact parallel to that situation. What the railroads and the telegraph did here a century ago, the jets and the communications satellites are doing now to all the world.

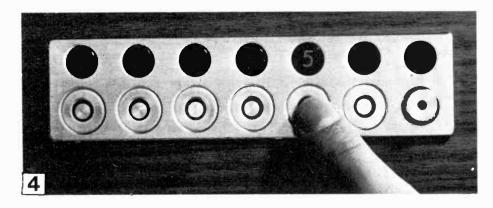
"I hope you will remember this analogy in the years ahead. For today, my friends, whether you intend to or not, whether you wish to or not --- you have signed far more than yet another intergovernmental agreement.

"You have just signed the first draft of the articles of federation of the United States of Earth."



# **Focal Points at Berlin**

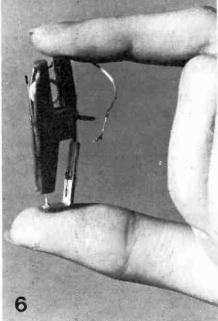
Pressure on space prevented us from including these photographs in our report of the Berlin international radio and television exhibition (pages 486-8, October issue). **1**. Concurrent with CBS announcing their SQ (stereo /quadraphonic) disc and matrix technique, Sony — the first CBS licensee — showed their SQ1000 decoder, which will be available in Europe, early next year (see last issue). **2**. Goodmans Dimension 8 loudspeaker unit which, by virtue of the smaller angle one set of loudspeaker axes make with the wall behind, claims to give a larger area of stereo effect, as well as a "Raumeffekt" due to reflections from the other set of loudspeakers. **3**. Blaupunkt ARI (information by radio for car travellers) decoder which switches off the normal car radio programme for 3min when a 2.35-kHz signal, frequency modulated with a 12-Hz tone, is received to allow reception of traffic information. **4**. Typical touch type of television tuner (Graetz). **5**. Philips VCR video cassette recorder with built-in u.h.f. receiver. **6**, Pickup (stylus to the left) of the Teldec (Telefunken-Decca) colour video disc system (see last issue).







2



# Thank you gentlemen.

Department of Trade & Industry, British Rail, Port of London Authority, United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, Carphones Ltd., Caledonian//British United Airways, Central Electricity Generating Board,

AutomobileAssociation. C.W.S. Limited, Chubb

Alarms Ltd. City of London Police, Turriff Construction Corp., Marks &

Spencers Ltd., Prestcold (Southern) Ltd., Wasco Electronics Ltd., Appledore

Shipbuilders Ltd., Boots Pure DrugCo. Ltd. British Steel Corporation-Tubes Division, Calor Gas (Ireland) Ltd., Helsinki Transport Board (HKL);

Esso Petroleum Co. Ltd., Ford Motor Co. Ltd., Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., Kellogg & Co. Ltd., Kodak Ltd., Mobil Oil Co. Ltd.,

Pilkington Bros. Ltd., Spanish Police, St. Etienne Taxi Union, Reed Group Ltd., Shell-Mex & B.P. Ltd., Royal Airlines, Pan American Malaysian Police,

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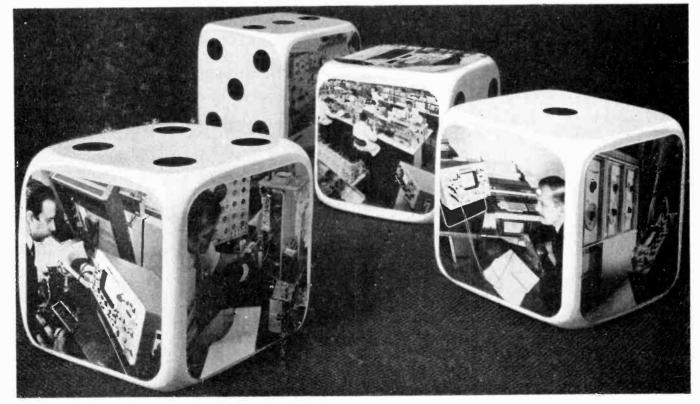
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WW---090 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

# The Drum Major

## A hand-operated frequency response measuring instrument

by H. J. N. Riddle

The instrument described here is a hand-operated device for rapid plotting of response/frequency characteristics of audio equipment. It does the same sort of job as a swept-frequency a.f. oscillator and chart recorder, but the test frequency is varied and the chart is moved by hand-simultaneously at whatever speed one likes-and at the same time the response is traced on the chart by hand, using a fine felt-tipped pen. The response of the equipment being tested is measured by an a.c. voltmeter; this consists of an amplifier driving a reflecting voltmeter movement, the light spot from which falls on the chart. Thus as the frequency is varied the light spot makes a path on the moving chart, and if the pen tip is held on to it, always following the spot, this path is traced as a visible line-the frequency response. Fig. 1 shows the general principle of operation.

The name "Drum Major" derives from the fact that the chart on which the frequency response is traced is wrapped round a drum, as can be seen in Fig. 2 and the photographs. This drum is manually rotated, using the left hand, by means of a wheel. On the wheel is marked a logarithmic frequency scale (0 to 20kHz), which moves past a stationary 'cursor' as the wheel is rotated. This scale is in alignment with a corresponding logarithmic frequency scale marked on the chart. The charts are home-made---photocopies taken from a pen-and-ink master-and are of a length which almost encircles the  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch diameter drum (about 30cm). A fresh chart is attached to the drum at one end by a folded tongue in the paper strip, which fits into a slot cut in the drum, and at the other end by adhesive tape. In addition to the frequency scale the charts carry a response scale in decibels (voltage or current ratios), with lines at 0, 1, 5, 15, 20 and 25dB; these, of course, are seen as circumferential lines when the charts are attached to the drum.

Mechanically coupled to the drum and hand-wheel is a variable capacitor, which is part of a variable oscillator in a heterodyne circuit generating the test frequency. It is this capacitor which varies the test frequency as the wheel and drum are rotated by hand. A heterodyne oscillator, as distinct from some other type of oscillator using range switching, is, of

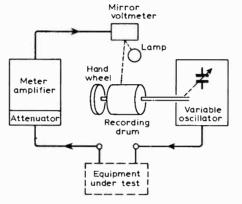
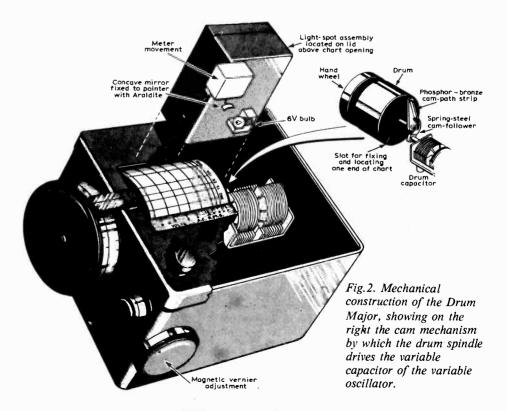


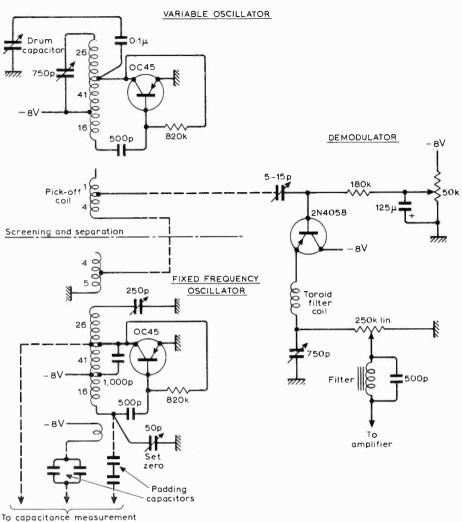
Fig.1. Schematic showing the principle of operation of the instrument.

course, necessary, because an essential of the whole instrument is to provide a frequency sweep of 0 to 20kHz with a single turn (actually 350°) of the drum. In this heterodyne oscillator the fixed frequency part works at 280kHz while the variable oscillator can be varied from 280kHz to 260kHz by the capacitor, and it is the difference frequency resulting from heterodyning these two outputs which provides the 0-20kHz sweep.

To obtain a chart with suitable scales-logarithmic frequency scale and decibel response scale-two non-linear relationships have to be introduced into the system in Fig. 1. First, in the variable oscillator, there has to be a non-linear relationship between the rotation (angular displacement) of the drum and the capacitance of the variable capactor. This is provided partly by the law of the variable capacitor itself and partly by a cam through which the drum spindle drives the capacitor spindle (see Fig. 2). Secondly, in the a.c. voltmeter, the normally linear response of the amplifier and meter movement has to be modified to give a decibel response scale. This is given

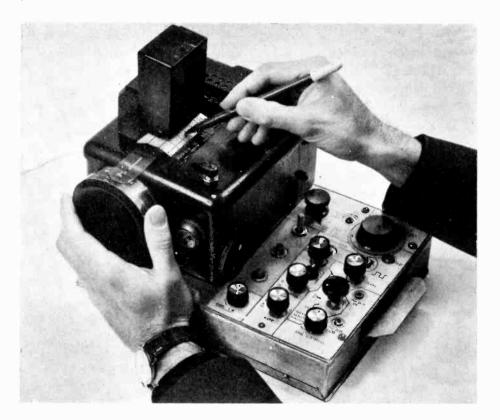
Editor's note. This article is not presented as a repeatable constructional project, as we think many readers may be deterred by the mechanical construction work involved, but we hope sufficient information is given to help and guide experimenters who may wish to try building something similar.





range-switch

Fig.3. Circuits of the three sections of the heterodyne oscillator: variable oscillator, fixed oscillator and demodulator. Pick-off coil tappings are found by experiment.



The Drum Major in use. While rotating the drum by the hand wheel (left) the operator follows the movements of the light spot across the drum chart with a fine felt-tipped pen.

by the mechanical characteristics of the reflecting voltmeter movement.

In addition to response/frequency measurements by the method described, several other facilities are provided by the instrument. It can be used as a signal generator (0-20kHz), as an a.c. voltmeter (ranges: 0-35mV, 0-350mV, 0-3.5V, 0-35V) and as a capacitance meter (1pF to  $1\mu$ F). There is a square-wave test signal output, derived from the sinewave oscillation; and a chopper, consisting of a multivibrator and an electromechanical relay, by which both the square-wave and sinewave outputs may be interrupted at various rates.

#### Heterodyne oscillator

The circuit of the heterodyne oscillator is shown Fig. 3. It consists of two Hartley type transistor oscillators, one fixed and the other variable, two pick-off coils to enable the oscillations to be heterodyned, and a demodulator circuit which extracts the difference frequency and filters out the unwanted high-frequency components. The output of the demodulator passes into an amplifier (Fig. 4) which provides the final test signal; this has an amplitude variable from 0 to 2.0 volts r.m.s.

In each of the 280-kHz oscillators the transistor collector circuit feeds power into a tapping on a tank circuit, consisting of a 67-turn ferrite-coil coil tuned by a capacitor; and feedback is provided by a 16-turn coil, coupled to the tank circuit, which is connected via a 500pF d.c. isolating capacitor to the base of the transistor. The base is d.c. biased through an  $820k\Omega$ resistor connected to the collector of the transistor. The frequency of the variable oscillator in Fig. 3 is determined by the 365pF square-law variable capacitor (one section of Henrys Radio type 0) which is driven through the cam system by the drum.

If there is any magnetic or electrical coupling between two oscillators there is a tendency for them to "pull" into the same frequency of oscillation. This tendency increases as the oscillation frequency of one approaches that of the other. Even with the oscillator coils wound in pot-cores a considerable external field exists, and to reduce magnetic coupling the two oscillator units are mounted as far apart as possible and at right angles. Even so, electrostatic coupling between the wiring and components of each oscillator is sufficient to cause "pulling" unless care is taken in the layout of the wiring.

The very fact that some of the highfrequency output of each oscillator is to be mixed in a common circuit is itself a source of coupling. For this reason the pick-off windings are designed with as few turns as possible and with very thin wire (to reduce capacitive coupling). Further, the load imposed by the demodulator on the output impedance of these windings is kept as low as possible. Even if the oscillators do not "pull" together completely, the output waveform of the whole heterodyne oscillator will be considerably distorted.

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Several factors in the circuit design of each oscillator influenced the extent to which the oscillator is affected by "pulling" in the presence of unwanted coupling: ratio of inductance to capacitance of the tuning components, ratio of turns between tapping on the windings, phase of feedback current, characteristics of the transistor, and degree of decoupling of d.c. supplies. The component values in Fig. 3 take account of these factors and were found by experiment.

In general the frequency at which "pulling" becomes serious is related to the frequency of the fixed oscillator. For example, other things being equal, oscillators operating at 200kHz may pull seriously when the difference is reduced to 20Hz, while oscillators designed for 2MHz could be expected to be similarly affected when the difference frequency is as high as 200Hz. As the aim is to produce audio frequencies to below 50Hz, the lower the frequencies of the individual oscillators the better. However, as the frequency at the upper end of the audio range is to be 20kHz, difficulties in eliminating the highfrequency components from the demodulator output increase as the individual oscillator frequencies are reduced. The matter inevitably has an element of compromise about it, and other considerations enter in too: (a) interference with, or by, broadcasting or other radio channels-in particular, any strong local transmitters; (b) the desirability that the modulated product of the two oscillations should have a constant amplitude over the range of the instrument; and (c) the necessity for a good sinusoidal waveform in each oscillator. Various frequencies were in fact tried before the final choice of 280kHz for the fixed oscillator was made.

As can be seen, the two pick-off coils are connected in series and their combined output is fed to the demodulator circuit. Difficulties were feared with the elimination of 280kHz energy from the final output (the 260kHz as well, when generating 20kHz) and experiments proved the fears to be well founded. Attempts to overcome the trouble by providing by-pass capacitors in the demodulator, or at one or more stages in the following amplifier, inevitably resulted in a fall-off of output amplitude (voltage) as the output frequency increased.

Finally, the filtering arrangement shown was adopted to remove the bulk of the unwanted components, but further cleaning-up was achieved with by-pass capacitors in the amplifier (Fig. 4). One of the two filters is a series acceptor circuit, tuned to remove frequencies of  $270 \text{kHz} \pm 10 \text{kHz}$  connected between the emitter of the 2N4058 and earth; the other is a rejector circuit, similarly tuned, connected between the demodulator output and the amplifier. Fixed capacitors of 200pF and 500pF in the amplifier deal with any small amounts of h.f. components which do get through.

One advantage of the heterodyne method over other methods of signal generation is that, in general, any change

in the frequency of one oscillator, due to temperature changes or mains voltage variations, is likely to take place also in the other oscillator, thus cancelling errors from these causes in the audio frequency output.

In practice the Drum Major operates in ambient temperatures of below  $5^{\circ}$ C to  $30^{\circ}$ C and requires only a few minutes to stabilize after first switching-on before it is ready for use. The 50pF zero-set variable capacitor in the fixed oscillator is used to ensure accurate accordance of the output audio frequency with chart position. With the chart on the drum set to zero frequency, this capacitor is adjusted until the light spot plunges down and remains stationary on the 0dB line of the chart. A further, vernier, adjustment of zero setting is provided by a circular rotatable magnet mounted on a spindle passing through the case, as shown in the drawing and photographs. This is a convenient, if crude, way of making minute alterations to oscillator frequency, utilizing the fact that the oscillator coils have ferrite pot cores.

#### The a.c. voltmeter

Fig. 5 shows the circuit of the a.c. voltmeter which is basically a transistor amplifier with an input attenuator and with a rectifier circuit at the output to feed the d.c. meter. The first stage is an emitter follower (to secure high input

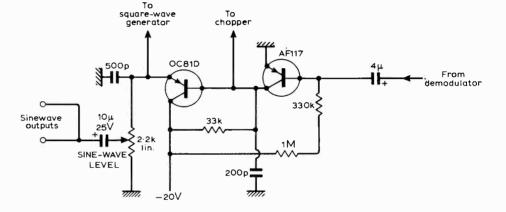


Fig.4. Amplifier for output from demodulator of heterodyne oscillator (Fig.3).

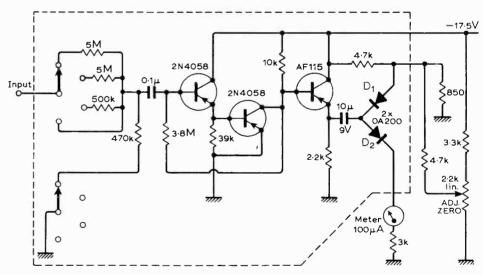


Fig.5. Circuit of the a.c. voltmeter, showing the  $100\mu A$  reflecting meter movement at the bottom right.

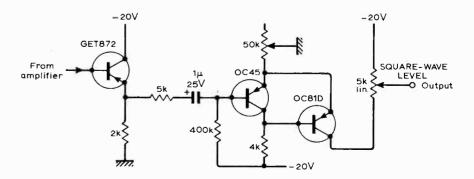
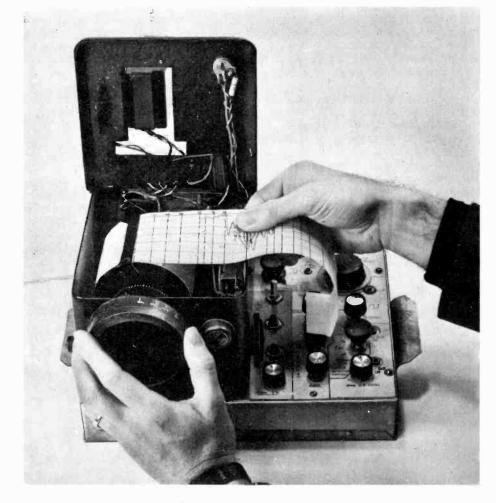


Fig.6. Square-wave generator, driven by sinewave from oscillator amplifier (Fig.4).



Showing how the chart is attached, by a folded tongue in the paper fitted into a slot in the drum.

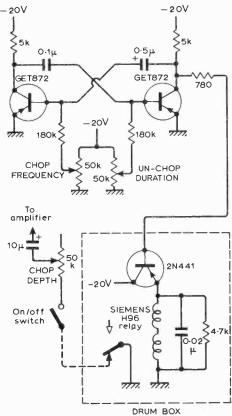


Fig.7. Circuit of chopper for periodic interruption of sinewave and square-wave test signals.

impedance), the second a grounded emitter voltage amplifying stage, and the third an emitter follower. This arrangement allows the collector of the second transistor to remain almost unaffected by the cycle of changes which occurs as the rectifying circuit goes through its phases of operations, thereby keeping the feedback power to the input constant. The rectifying circuit, consisting of a 10µF capacitor and silicon diodes  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ , operates as follows: During each negative-going half-cycle of the emitter of the AF115 emitter-follower the capacitor becomes charged, its right-hand plate going positive as current flows through  $D_1$ . During each positive-going half-cycle of the emitter the capacitor discharges through  $D_2$  and the meter moving-coil. To overcome the relatively high pedestal voltage of the silicon diodes a "priming" circuit is provided in the shape of the potentiometer and associated  $2.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ 3.3k  $\Omega$  and 4.7k  $\Omega$  resistors. This circuit largely, but not entirely, overcomes the cramping of the low-reading end of the scale, and also provides a convenient "zero set" control which overcomes the effects from the temperature sensitivity of the diodes.

The combination of linear amplifier, rectifiers and moving-coil meter would normally produce a linear scale on the meter and recording chart. What is required of this combination is a

logarithmic amplitude response, in order to produce a linear decibel scale on the meter and chart. The necessary correction is obtained by two mechanical expedients: (1) the moving-coil meter chosen for the job, a tuning indicator MH25B, 100µA, (Henrys Radio), has an in-built tendency to non-linearity - equal increments of current producing greater deflection at the lower end of the scale than at the top; (2) this tendency is augmented by an added gravitational effect which, acting vertically, has little or no effect in the zero position of the moving mirror, but offers an increasing return force as the mirror is deflected. It is purposely not counterbalanced.

The amplifier, diodes and variable attenuator are completely screened, being housed in a cylindrical canister within the chassis. This prevents leakage into the voltmeter of h.f. fields from the high and audio frequency generating sections of the instruments.

The multi-position rotary switch of the attenuator, of course, forms the range switch of the a.c. voltmeter and the four positions are marked  $\div 1 (-0dB), \div 10 (-20dB), \div 100 (-40dB)$  and  $\div 1000 (-60dB)$ .

#### **Reflecting voltmeter**

The reflecting voltmeter is a tuning indicator meter movement (see above) with the pointer cut down to a short stub, to which a small concave mirror is cemented. The concave mirror was made by smashing one of the thin glass globes used for decorating Christmas trees and then selecting by experiment a piece of glass of suitable size and concavity. This was simply a matter of finding a piece of mirror glass which gave a sufficiently sharp spot of light on the chart. The reflecting voltmeter thus made is mounted, together with a spot-filament lamp, in a separate housing fixed immediately above the drum (see photos), so that the light spot movement is parallel with the drum axis and dB scale on the chart.

The sensitivity, resistance and other characteristics of the meter movement affect the whole design of the meter amplifier. Much depends on the importance one attaches to the accuracy of the logarithmic form of the light-spot scale.

#### **Other facilities**

**Square-wave output.** Although of little use with the drum charts, a square-wave generator is included for general test purposes. Shown in Fig 6, this is a circuit which receives a sinewave output from the amplifier of the heterodyne oscillator (Fig 4) and converts it into a square wave of the same frequency.

**Chopper.** Both the sinewave and square-wave outputs may be interrupted at rates up to 100 per minute and to different degrees, by a chopper circuit. This, shown in Fig. 7, is a multivibrator, of variable frequency, driving an electromechanical relay. Contacts of this relay,

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by earthing an inter-stage coupling in the heterodyne oscillator amplifier (Fig. 4), interrupt the sinewave and square-wave outputs. A "Depth" control, provided by inserting an adjustable amount of resistance into this short-circuiting, enables a partially chopped output to be obtained from the sinewave outlet. The on/off ratio of the chopper may be adjusted as required.

#### Capacitance measurement.

Capacitance from 1pF to  $1\mu$ F can be measured on the principle of using the unknown capacitance to alter the frequency of the fixed oscillator in the heterodyne pair, then measuring the change by means of the variable oscillator. First, the variable oscillator is adjusted to the same frequency as the fixed oscillator to give zero beat frequency — indicated either by the light spot falling to zero on the drum or by an earphone connected to the sinewave or square-wave output. Then the unknown capacitance is connected through a range switch to the

tuned circuit of the fixed oscillator at the points shown in Fig. 3. This changes the oscillator's frequency and results in a beat frequency. The hand-wheel is then rotated until the frequency of the variable oscillator equals that of the fixed oscillator and there is zero beat frequency once more. The amount of rotation is proportional to the unknown capacitance and this value is indicated by a calibrated capacitance scale on the rim of the hand-wheel. The large range of the capacitance measurement (a million to one) is made possible by connecting the unknown capacitance to different tappings on the fixed oscillator's coil through a range switch. There are in fact three ranges: 1.0 to 200pF; 10pF to  $0.1\mu$ F; and  $0.002\mu$ F to  $1.0\mu$ F.

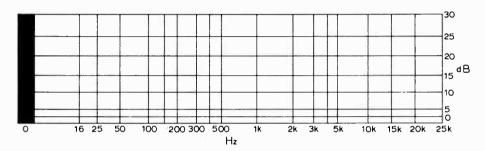
The "padding capacitors" shown in Fig. 3 are necessary for bringing the capacitance scales on the hand-wheel to convenient positions and providing overlap between scales.

Voltage checking. The a.c. voltmeter in the

Drum Major can, of course, be used for measuring voltages at various points in a test setup; for example, the output of the demodulator, the output of the amplifier which follows it, or the voltage from the equipment under test. For this purpose a "meter' select" switch is provided (though not shown in the diagrams).

#### Construction

As far as possible separate functional units have been assembled on separate, small Veroboards, although the demodulator circuitry was mounted in situ, partly in the wiring and partly on the control potentiometers. The filter coils were fixed with cement to the underside of the chassis. The chassis is, of course, a common positive conductor. For the power supplies (Fig. 8) transformers and rectifiers are housed in the drum box. Where the d.c. supplies are to be used by voltage-sensitive circuits (e.g. the oscillators) separate decoupling and stabilization by zener diodes is provided, with the components mounted under the chassis.



240V

mains supply

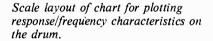
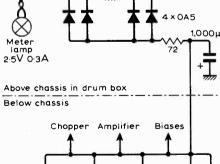
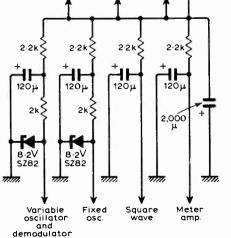


Fig.8. Power supplies for the instrument.



22222



Details of the reflecting meter movement and spot-filament lamp below it in their housing (cover removed).



### Conferences and Exhibitions

GATESHEAD
Nov. 23-25 Five Bridges Hotel
Electronic Instruments Exhibition
(Industrial Exhibitions Ltd., 9 Argyll St, London
WIV 2HA)
MANCHESTER
Nov. 15-19 Belle Vue
Low Cost Automation Exhibition
(Exhibitions for Industry Ltd, 157 Station Rd
East, Oxted, Surrey)
OVERSEAS
Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Las Vegas
Engineering in Medicine and Biology Conference
(I.E.E.E., 345 East 47th St, New York, N.Y.10017)
Nov. 2 & 3 Boston
Electronics Packaging Conference
(I.E.E.E., 345 East 47th St, New York, N.Y.10017)
Nov. 24-27 Karaikudi
Electrochemistry Seminar
(Dr C. V. Suryanarayana, Central Electro-
chemical Research Institute, Karaikudi-3,
(Tamil Nadu), India)
Nov. 29-Dec. 3 Pretoria
Biotelemetry Symposium
(South African Council for Scientific and
Industrial Research, P.O. Box 395, Pretoria)
interest in the box 575, Theorem

## Personalities

J. A. Powell, M.A., D.Phil., has joined EMI Ltd as group technical director. Dr. Powell, who is 47, has been managing director of Texas Instruments Ltd since 1963 and assistant vice-president of its American parent company for the past three years. In 1940 he undertook a two-year instrumentation apprenticeship with the R.A.F. In 1943 he was invalided out of the Service and went to Oxford University. He was awarded a post-doctorate research fellowship by the National Research Council in Ottawa in 1952 and returned to. Britain in 1954 to become leader of a research team at Marconi's Great Baddow Laboratories in Essex. Dr. Powell, who joined Texas Instruments in 1957 as a product engineer, is chairman of the Electronic Valve and Semiconductor Manufacturers' Association (VASCA), and a member of the Electronic Components Board.

Frank Caplin, B.Sc. (Eng), F.I.E.E., who joined British Communications Corporation Ltd in 1956 as technical director, has retired but will continue to act as technical advisor to the company. In the late 1940s and early 1950s Mr. Caplin was in the Signals Research and Development Establishment (S.R.D.E.) where he was in charge of the development of the Larkspur Range of Army combat radio equipment.

T. G. Clark, F.I.E.R.E., has joined Mullard Ltd as technical manager of the Communications Division following an academic year with the School of Management Studies at Portsmouth Polytechnic. Mr. Clark was previously with Decca Radar, Astaron-Bird and The Plessey Co. Ltd.

L. Calvert has been appointed sales manager of the Marine Division of Redifon Ltd. He was previously the Marine Division's Northern Area Manager. After war service with the R.A.F. as a radio observer, Mr. Calvert qualified as a marine radio officer joining Redifon in 1953, as a marine service engineer at Hull. He subsequently took charge of the company's worldwide marine service network, operated from London.

Elizabeth Laverick, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.E.E., who was the fifth woman to achieve full membership of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (that was in 1964), has been appointed deputy secretary of the institution in succession to F. Jervis-Smith who has retired. Dr. Laverick studied physics and radio at the University of Durham where she received her doctorate in 1950. She joined Elliott Bros. in 1953 and in 1959 became head of the company's Radar and Communications Research Laboratory. Latterly she has been technical director Elliott-Automation Radar Systems now part of GEC-Marconi Electronics.

Harry Sellers, managing director of Tektronix U.K. Ltd since its formation in 1963, has retired. Mr. Sellers was commercial director of Livingston Laboratories, who handled the U.K. marketing of Tektronix prior to the setting up of the U.K. company in Harpenden.

John Elliott, B.Sc., has joined The McMurdo Instrument Co., at Portsmouth, as manufacturing director. Mr. Elliott, who is 41 and graduated in engineering from London University, has been with Dubilier for the past 17 years, latterly as general manager.

The appointment of three senior sales engineers was recently announced by Siemens (U.K.) Ltd, of Brentford, Middx. They are A. Jovce (semiconductors). M. Bennett (ferrite and passive components) and J. M. Silvester (electro-mechanical components). Mr. Joyce, who began his career with the Post Office Research Laboratories at Dollis Hill, has worked for the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, and several companies, latterly Microwave Ltd. Mr. Bennett has been with M.E.L. and Mullard Ltd, and

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Mr. Silvester, who was originally employed on valve and microwave device development with Mullard, was latterly with I.T.T. Also announced by Siemens is the appointment of **R. K. D. Fowler** as their specialist on radio interference suppression. He joins the company from Timeon Electronics Ltd where he was marketing manager. He previously spent five years with the Solartron Electronic Group.

"Jock" Henderson, B. Т commercial director of British Radio Corporation, has retired on medical advice. He served in the Radar Branch of the R.A.F. and in 1957 was appointed sales promotion manager for HMV and Marconiphone brands, and two years later became sales director of Philco (Great Britain) Ltd. When in 1965. British Radio Corporation Ltd was organized to bring together the Ferguson, HMV, Marconiphone and Ultra activities of the company into one operating division of Thorn, Mr. Henderson was appointed commercial director. He is to reside in Cyprus but will retain his connections with B.R.C. as a consultant.

Francis Oakes, F.I.E.E. F.I.E.R.E., until recently executive director of research and engineering of Thorn Bendix Ltd, is setting up as an engineering and management consultant. His connection with Thorn Electrical Industries, with which he has been associated for 18 years, will, however, not be severed as he will act as a consultant to the company. Born in Austria in 1919 he came to England in 1939 and became a British subject in 1947. After a period of free-lance technical writing and consulting he joined Thorn Electrical Industries in 1953. In 1961 he became chief engineer of the Ferguson Electronics Division and, successively, chief engineer, director and general manager of Thorn Electronics (Laboratories) Ltd., and since 1967, executive director of research and engineering, Thorn Bendix Ltd.

Ronald F. Russ, F.I.E.E., has been appointed managing director of Electro Mechanisms Ltd, of Slough. Mr. Russ, who is 45, was formerly founder managing director of Consolidated Electrodynamics Division of Bell & Howell Ltd. and more recently international vice-president of the Electronics & Instruments Group, Bell & Howell, California, U.S.A.

Keith G. Johnson has been appointed video projects manager for Ampex International, of Reading, Berks, where he will be responsible for broadcast video systems business throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Mr. Johnson was previously with the B.B.C. He worked on the first transatlantic transmissions made by Telstar and Early Bird satellites and later joined the studio planning department where he co-ordinated the outside broadcast engineering for the 1966 World Cup programmes. He was latterly manager for video outside broadcast planning and design.

R. W. Garrett, B.Sc., F.I.E.E., has joined Dynamco as general manager of their factory at Broxburn, near Edinburgh. Mr. Garrett, who is 41, had been director of production with Crosfield Electronics, London, for the past four years. Prior to that he had spent over four years with Elliott's, latterly as manager of the manufacturing division of Elliott Electronic Tubes Ltd. Dynamco have also announced the appointment of W. J. Trevelyan as marketing manager, analogue products. Mr. Trevelyan, who is 33, has been with Dynamco since November 1968 when he joined as an area sales engineer. He served his apprenticeship in the electronics laboratory of Venner Ltd.

Three new directors have been appointed to the board of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. They are William F. Hawes, Patrick B. Holden and Edward J. Scotcher. Mr. Hawes, aged 50, is the general manager for marketing and has been with the company for 23 years. Mr. Holden (34) joined Pye Telecoms two years ago as central services manager and is now overseas marketing manager. Mr. Scotcher (45), who joined the company two years ago from G.E.C., is manufacturing manager.

#### OBITUARY

Sir Alan Dudley, K.B.E., C.M.G., director of the Electronic Components Board since 1968, died at the age of 64 on September 13th. Sir Alan had a distinguished career in the Civil Service from 1930, latterly as deputy secretary at the Ministry of Overseas Development (1964-68), before joining the Electronic Components Board. Under his wise guidance the three associations B.V.A., VASCA, and R.E.C.M.F. joined together to form the E.C.B.

Hubert Barker, C.B.E., director of network planning at the Post Office, died on September 19th while on holiday in Syracuse. He was 61. He joined the Post Office in 1928 and was seconded to the Air Ministry in 1938 to help plan the communications system for operations control of the R.A.F. He was later commissioned in the R.A.F. and became deputy chief signals officer in the 2nd Tactical Air Force. He returned to the Post Office after the war but in 1951 was again temporarilly seconded to the Air Ministry on special duties.

# **Experience** with the Karnaugh Map Display

### The writer discusses the problems he met when constructing the display and describes its value in teaching

#### by G. T. Lawrence\*

The Training Centre of Automatic Control Engineering Limited sets out to give students, who vary from instrument mechanics to qualified engineers, an insight into the principles of electronics in a short period of time. To facilitate this end a system of experiment boards was evolved, each board being related to an experiment guide sheet. On the digital side it is possible to cover from simple pulse forming, multivibrator switching through to counting circuits. It is not easy for a student to quickly analyse basic logic devices. Therefore, when the article on the Karnaugh map display unit appeared in the April 1971 Wireless World we quickly saw the possibilities it offered, both to the student, using the above mentioned system, and for demonstration purposes on the shorter, higher pressure, appreciation courses.

Having decided to build the unit we presented it to a student engineer as a project and work was started on this basis. I do feel that, while it was not intended to be within the scope of the article, we would have been helped by some constructional guidance, to avoid the pitfalls that are irresistible to the student. It was decided to use modular construction and to employ a mains power supply unit. Due to delay in the provisioning of certain components the p.s.u. and oscillators were ready for testing before the logic module was complete. When testing the oscillators the clock generator performed exactly as predicted in the article. However, the phase shift oscillator then performed as expected, but inspection of voltages and a look at the diagram revealed the reason. The transistor collector was saturating at the level of bias chosen. The easy way out was taken and a  $3.3 \text{k} \Omega$  resistor was fitted in the collector instead of 6.8k  $\Omega$  ( $R_{\gamma}$ ). The oscillator then performed as expected, but without reasonable control of the gain with the trimmer resistance, and thus with a sine wave something less than perfect. This was still being thought about but was not considered desperate.

The next stage was to test the complete device before putting it into its box. Once the logic was connected it was found necessary to replace the original collector

\*Automatic Control Engineering Ltd.

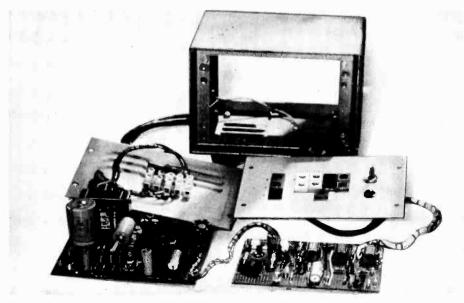
load in the oscillator and to change the bias level, as there was insufficient gain to make it 'go' under load. The 56k  $\Omega$  bias resistor ( $R_6$ ) was replaced by a 100k  $\Omega$  and the 470 $\Omega$  fixed emitter resistor ( $R_5$ ) replaced by a 470 $\Omega$  trimmer. This produced a satisfactory result.

The ladder networks performed well (once a dry joint on one of the pins had been found), but the O's were all leaning drunkenly backwards. A check of the oscillator showed that the 90° signal was one lag displaced. Correcting this cured the problem, and it was a simple matter on the Telequipment oscilloscope to get all 1s or all 0s. However, the output from the X amplifier was too high for the oscilloscope gain control to cope with, and to get the matrix nicely in the screen area it was necessary to put variable gain in the unit's X amplifier feedback path. The  $10k\Omega$ resistor  $(R_{37})$  was replaced by a 4.7k  $\Omega$ fixed and  $4.7k\Omega$  variable resistor in series. Having been successfully tested this far, the unit was put into its box, and made a very pleasing instrument.

An i.c. NAND gate was linked to the unit and the display examined. From the display it was clear that D and  $\overline{D}$  were out of place and either the student had failed to make the amendment called for in the May Wireless World or else the amendment was unnecessary. Reversal of the connections gave a true display. Apart from this the whole was quite satisfactory.

The real test came when the unit was linked to the 14in display oscilloscope, (dubiously, because of the lower input impedance and longer persistence screen of the big oscilloscope). However, all went well except that the 0s had mysteriously become narrower than on the small oscilloscope without changing the aspect ratio of the matrix and fly-back was accentuated due to the large screen and its persistence but this was not disconcerting.

Fortunately at this point there was a ready-made set of 'guinea pigs', in the form of a senior appreciation electronics course. Having dealt with the principles of analogue electronics, digital circuits and a little logic theory, the action of plugging in an 'instant truth table' produced quite a marked response. The ability to reverse the logic was the thing that completed the picture and tied a number of loose ends nicely together. The class felt that it really was happening, even though two days previously an electron was something to be feared. All things considered the task was well worth while and will serve the purpose for which it was designed, together with one or two side benefits not originally apparent.



The unit before final assembly.

# World of Amateur Radio

#### **Truth and fiction**

Seldom can amateur radio have received so many front-page headlines as in connection with the now-famous Baker Street bank raid of September 11th-12th. At the time, one gained the impression in amateur circles that there was considerable relief when it finally emerged that the 27.15 MHz 'citizen's band' transmissions stemmed from a genuine raid and were not part of some elaborate hoax which might have provoked public criticism or derision of the hobby. It was fascinating to hear on Independent Television News the tapes made by the short-wave-listener, Mr Robert Rowlands. He was using an AR88 receiver.

But for those who may be contemplating using the incident as the basis of the script for a TV play or film-a word of warning. They will find that they have been largely pre-empted by a recent Columbia Pictures film called 'The Anderson Tapes'. It is expected that this film, already shown in the United States, will be released in the U.K. early next year. With Sean Connery and Dean Martin in the leading roles, the film tells how a master robbery is foiled at the last moment by a young invalid amateur radio operator. Amateurs who have seen the film claim that, unlike so many earlier films touching on amateur radio, this one does not violate technical feasibility. It also provides glimpses of Canal Street, New York, a well-known centre of electronic surplus and surveillance equipment of which perhaps our nearest equivalent in London is Lisle Street.

A factual film on amateur radio called 'The Ham's Wide World', produced for A.R.R.L. by Dave Bell, W6BVN, has been shown more than 225 times by American television stations to an estimated audience of over 9 million.

#### **Top-band super-DX**

Some extremely significant results achieved during the past few years in the reception of low-power British and European 1.8 MHz amateur signals in Western Australia have been reported in *Radio Communication*. The listener, Mr G. Allen, shows convincingly that the optimum period for such remarkable propagation conditions which have led not only to reception but

also to quite large numbers of two-way contacts — is around the December solstice, almost invariably occurring for only short periods around the time of local dawn (roughly 21.00 to 21.15 G.M.T.). Curiously enough no comparable results appear possible — at least to anything like the same extent - in other parts of Australia, or around the June solstice. Although Allen notes that the fading Mr characteristics of the European signals are far more akin to F-layer than E-layer propagation, he does not himself offer the suggestion, which one might deduce from his results, that the transmissions may be reaching Western Australia by means of some form of chordal hop or layer entrapment mode; such modes have previously been felt to account for some of the quite common 3.5 MHz contacts between European and Australian amateurs.

The possibility of further investigation into this super-DX working is offered by the activity on this band of VK9GN and the prospect that VR1AA will soon be using 1.8 MHz.

Another series of 1.8 MHz transatlantic tests has been organized by Stewart Perry, W1BB, for November 28th, December 26th, January 9th and 23rd and February 13th (05.00 to 07.30 G.M.T.). The North American stations will use 1800-1810 kHz, European 1823-1830 kHz with alternate five-minute periods (U.S. and Canadian stations to lead off each hour). These tests thus span the 50th anniversary of the famous transatlantic tests of December 1921 organized in Britain by *Wireless World*. These were the tests which led to the first reception in Britain of numbers of North American amateur stations.

#### **Proud of "home-built"?**

The criticism is sometimes made by outsiders that amateur operation in these days of compact s.s.b. factory-built transceivers is all rather haphazard and as though the Post Office offered facilities for making random telephone calls to unknown subscribers (the cynics will say they already do this unintentionally). What is forgotten is that, in practice, a quite substantial proportion of amateur communication is with specific stations — members of local nets, regular "skeds" (scheduled times) with old friends or as part of long-term propagation studies and the like. There is also evidence that home-construction often continues alongside the use of factorybuilt s.s.b. equipments. A recent letter from Dr Michael Eccles, G3PPE/W6, how resident in California, mentions that many amateurs in the United States are now using commercial s.s.b. transceivers for home or mobile use almost as a form of telephone to keep in touch with other amateurs while continuing their home-building interests on v.h.f. equipment.

#### A man of many interests

It is sad to report the death of yet another well-known amateur. Within a few hours of taking part in the V.H.F. Field Day in September, Ernie Dedman, G2NH, died. Although perhaps best known as the cofounder, with N. H. R. Munday, G5MA, in the late 1920s, of the Quartz Crystal Company, he was for over forty years an enthusiast in developing and popularizing amateur techniques, including much early work in v.h.f. and s.s.b. (and even home-built computers), yet turning up from time to time on c.w. during h.f. contests.

#### In brief

At the I.A.R.U. Region III meeting in Tokyo, mainland China and Albania were named as countries permitting major 'intrusion' into the exclusive amateur frequency allocations in the 7 MHz band (Albania but not China is a member of the International Telecommunications Union). The Japanese society has produced detailed spectrum photographs underlining the current prolific interference in this band .... In the twelve months to July 31st, 1971 there was an increase of 311 in the British Class A amateur licences, 548 in Class B (both these figures are marginally down on the corresponding figures for July 1970). The total number of licensed amateurs in Britain now exceeds 16,500.... New prefix for Swaziland is 3D6 with 3D6AX reported active on 7 MHz at weekends . . . . The prefix OM instead of OK is again available to Czech amateurs until December 31st .... The next Radio Amateurs' Examination is on Monday, December 6th — the R.S.G.B. is organizing an examination centre at the University of London (applications, before October 31st, to R.S.G.B., 35 Doughty Street, London W.C.1) . . . The 1972 president of R.S.G.B. will be R.G. Hughes, G3GVV . . . 144 MHz enthusiasts are being urged to use more c.w. on the band. With modern equipment this mode can provide reliable long-haul contacts at times when the range of a.m. and f.m. 'phone is limited . . . . Philip West, junior, whose father holds the call G3JPN, has passed the Post Office morse test at the age of nine believed the youngest candidate ever in Britain. His eight-year-old sister, Pauline, can also copy morse.

PAT HAWKER, G3VA

# **New Products**

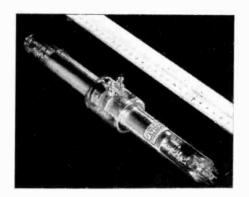
## M.O.S. high speed shift register

A silicon nitride m.o.s. static shift register fabricated using the SGS-patented Planox process can be clocked up to 2MHz. The M134 is a register of 16 + 16 + 32 bits. Clock and data inputs and outputs are compatible with t.t.l. integrated circuits. Supply voltages are +5V, -5V and -12V. Encapsulation is TO-100 metal can. Operating temperature range is 0 to 70°C. SGS (United Kingdom) Ltd, Planar House, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks.

WW301 for further details

#### Signal storage tube

A range of image storage tubes, the C996 family from Cathodeon, will record a single short exposure and then display the image for up to 30 minutes. Where only a weak signal is available, the desired image may be integrated over a period of time. The range can be used for radar scan conversion to television display, with storage for up to 100 hours and prolonged read-out of up to 30 minutes, and for the integration of weak signals. The tubes incorporate a dielectric storage target scanned by two opposing electron beams. The input beam can be amplitude modulated with any desired signal information, and this information is statically stored on the target. The reading beam can then be used to extract the stored information for long periods of time. Either beam can be used finally to erase the stored information. Writing, reading and erasure can be area selective and also adjustable in time for a particular type of tube. The full range of storage characteristics is obtained by making available a number of types with different targets. The tubes have a circular target and are magnetically focused and



scanned. Length approximately 300mm, diameter 40mm. Weight 130g without coils. Cathodeon Ltd, Trinity Hall Farm Estate, Nuffield Road, Cambridge. WW332 for further details

#### Gyrotropic ferrite circulator

Microwave and Electronic Systems has developed the Gyrocore—a non-reciprocal junction device. It consists of three lumped inductors placed between two ferrite discs.



An integral permanent magnet provides a magnetic field to couple the inductors by the gyrotropic action of the ferrite material. It is, in effect, a conventional circulator

www.americanradiohistory.com

giving low-loss transmission between two adjacent ports when the third port is decoupled. Line impedance can be matched by including suitable capacitance networks at each port. Four models are available to cover a frequency range of 50 to 1000MHz with a power rating of 10W mean and 1kW peak. Isolation is better than 20dB and insertion loss is about 1 or 2dB. An isolatoronly version, known as the Isocore, is also available. This is a Gyrocore with one port terminated with a matched load. External tuning circuits can be included at the other two ports and adjusted for minimum forward loss and maximum isolation at the operating frequency. Microwave and Electronic Systems Ltd, Lochend Industrial Estate, Newbridge, Midlothian. WW302 for further details

Calculator i.c.

All the electronic logic required for a digital calculator, performing addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, is contained in a 28-pin, single-chip m.o.s. integrated circuit, the TMS 1802NC, just introduced by Texas Instruments. The only additional components required to construct a complete calculator are a keyboard, a numerical display (e.g. lightemitting diode array) and display driver circuits. Texas say that it should enable a calculator to be manufactured at a cost of £20 ex works, the i.c. itself costing less than £10 (in quantity). A laboratorymade specimen calculator was demonstrated to Wireless World.

The i.c. contains an eight-digit b.c.d. arithmetic logic unit; a three-register 182bit random access store; a 3520-bit read-only memory for holding the programme; and timing, output, and control decoders. Floating-point or fixedpoint operation calculations can be performed and there is automatic round-off of numbers and leading-zero suppression. Arithmetic and control operations are based on a  $4\mu s$  single-phase clock system.

Electrically the i.c. requires a substrate supply,  $V_{SS}$ , of 7.2V nominal and a gate supply,  $V_{GG}$ , of -7.2V. The substrate current,  $I_{SS}$ , is typically 25mA while the power dissipation of the whole chip is 250mW.

The manufacturers state that they can supply integrated circuit display drivers and light-emitting diode displays suitable for working with the TMS 1802NC. Texas Instruments Ltd, Manton Lane, Bedford. WW314 for further details

#### Specification of storage tube

writing speed 150µs to 2ms (depending on target diameter)
resolution 500 points per target diameter (50% amplitude)
Integration time 2s to 20 min
passive storage time. (signal retention without read-out) up to 100 hours
active storage time . (signal retention with read-out) 1 second to 30 minutes
erasure time 50ms to 2s

#### Wideband high-power oscillator

Using eight plug-in heads, model 445 power oscillator from Microdot available from Texscan Instruments covers the range 10kHz to 2500MHz. Six plug-in units cover the range 10kHz to 1000 MHz providing output up to 50W. The two ranges 1000–2000MHz and 2000-



2500MHz have outputs variable up to 25 and 15W respectively. Each plug-in unit can be amplitude or frequency modulated. Modulation can be applied externally or from an internal 1kHz square-wave generator. After stabilization, frequency stability is given as  $\pm 0.002\%$  for a ten minute period and power output constant to within  $\pm 0.2$ dB/h. The unit is protected from mismatch and loss of load. The frontpanel meter indicates forward or reflected power. Texscan Instruments Ltd, Lord Alexander House, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

WW322 for further details

## Plastic power transistors for audio

Four transistors for use in medium-power audio equipment, announced by the Philips group at the Paris Components Show (page 229, May issue), are now available from Mullard. Designated BD201-4 they are inexpensive plasticencapsulated devices that can give an output of 20W into loads of four or eight ohms. The BD201 and BD202 form a complementary pair, as do the BD203 and BD204, the odd numbers being n-p-n transistors. Brief details are:

	BD 201	BD 202	BD 203	BD 204
V <sub>CBO</sub> max (V)	60	- 60	60	-60
$V_{CEO}$ max (V)	45	-45	60	- 60
$I_C \max(A)$	8	-8	8	
$P_{tot} \max(W)$				
$T_{amb} \leq 25^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$	55	55	55	55
$T_j \max(^{\circ}C)$	150	150	150	150
$h_{FE} \min (I_C = 3A, V_{CE} = 2V)$	30	30	_	
$h_{FE} \min (I_C = 2A, V_{CE} = 2V)$ $f_{h/e} \min (kHz)$		_	<b>3</b> Ò	30
$(I_C = 0.3 \text{\AA}, V_{CE} = 3 \text{V})$	25	25	25	25

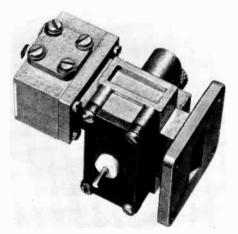
High-voltage versions of the 2N3055 that have high-power handling capability are also announced. They are 2N3442 and 2N4347 and are particularly suitable for

use in a.f. amplifiers, converters, voltage regulators and power supply units. Type 2N3442 has a current rating of 15A and a power rating of 117W. With a  $V_{CE}$  of 80V it will pass 1.4A d.c. The 2N4347 has a current rating of 10A and a power rating of 100W. It will pass 1.4A at  $V_{CE}$  = 70V. Case is TO-3 style. Mullard Ltd, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HD.

WW 323 for further details (BD types) WW324 for further details (2N types)

## Single-cast mixer/local oscillator

A combined high quality waveguide balanced mixer and local oscillator source have been designed as a one-piece cast by Micro Metalsmiths. Designated the type MM16B 3G1 the unit operates from 9.3 to 9.5GHz in WG 16 size, and uses Mullard



crystals and Gunn diode. This bias voltage can be varied  $\pm 0.3V$  to give a tuning range of  $\pm 10$ MHz. Signal v.s.w.r. is 1.7. The units can be produced in brass or aluminium and bandwidths altered to meet requirements. Micro Metalsmiths Ltd, Kirby Moorside, York. WW327 for further details

#### Static inverter

An inverter designed to provide a 50Hz supply at 240V from a nominal 24V d.c. supply is available from R. Gilfillan & Co. The main application of the unit, type 24/360/50R, is as an emergency supply for mains operated equipment. The output voltage is maintained within +6% for battery supply voltages of 22 to 28V and for loadings from below 0.5A to the full nominal 1.5A. The inverter is protected against reversal of input polarity and against overload. Frequency stability is  $\pm$  1%, but a crystal-controlled master oscillator can be provided or provision can be made for locking to an external 100Hz source. Distortion over the practical working range is below 10%, and is very much less at 24V input and 1A load current. If a lower distortion figure is required because



of the special nature of the application an additional network element-pair may be incorporated. It is not needed for most applications. Meters are provided for both input and output voltages. Connections in the standard version are terminals for the battery and a 3-pin socket for the 240V output. Alternative types of connectors may be fitted if required. The efficiency under nominal working conditions (24V supply, 360VA resistive load) is 75%. Variants for 60Hz or 40Hz working are available. R. Gilfillan & Co. Ltd. Southdownview Road, Broadwater Trading Estate, Worthing, Sussex. WW320 for further details

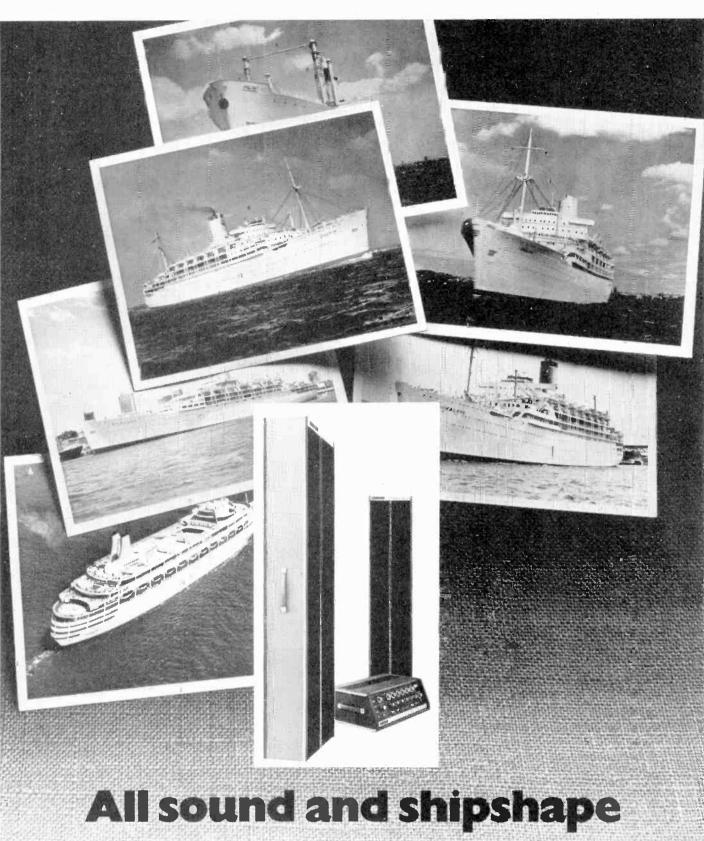
#### Slide sync recorder

A mono two-track  $1\frac{7}{8}$  in/sec cassette recorder and player with built-in speaker combined with a pulsing and synchronizing facility is available from Sigmatron. Amplifier output is 5W (an extension speaker can be used). An audio input socket with separate control and level indicator are fitted. Playback frequency response is 100Hz-8kHz. The deck is fitted with a pause control. Other facilities provide for pulsing on one track while the audio signal is being monitored from the other track, and for a control signal to be introduced to stop the programme at, predetermined points, the programme then being re-started by push button. When the tape finally ends, the tape unit ejects the cassette and stops. The unit is called the Magister and costs £99. Sigmatron Ltd, Woodman Works, Durnsford Road, Wimbledon, London S.W.19. WW310 for further details

#### **Board-mounting DIN sockets**

Rigid mounting direct to printed circuit boards, with overlap support for adjacent pairs or multiples, is possible with new DIN





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Shure Electronics Limited, 84 Blackfriars Road, London, SEI 8HA Telephone 01-928 3424 Telex 22443

WW-091 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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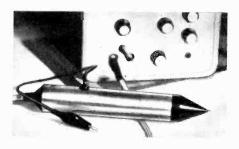
ENGLISH ELECTRIC VALVE CO LTD, Chelmsford, Essex, England, CM1 2QU. Tel: 0245 61777. Telex: 99103. Grams: Enelectico Chelmsford. A member of THE GEC ELECTRONIC TUBE CO LTD, a management company which unites the activities of English Electric Valve Co Ltd and The M-O Valve Co Ltd



in a polypropylene case 20cm long. The transmitter power of the PL201 is 1W. The battery lasts for a day and can be replaced quickly and recharged. Chargers are available. Rank Precision Industries Ltd, Watton Road, Ware, Herts. WW328 for further details

## High impedance oscilloscope probe

Active probe type POA 155 from Meteronic presents an input impedance of 10MHz on all ranges. Bandwidth is 2Hz-12MHz and switchable for  $\times$  10 and

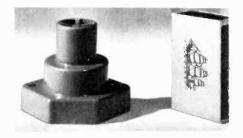


 $\div$  10. The probe draws 11mA from a 24V supply. The output connector is miniature coax or B.N.C. Price £12. Meteronic, 114/116 Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, Kent.

WW326 for further details

## Transistor alarm-signal generator

A transistor operated 'buzzer', encapsulated for protection against humidity, and compensated for changes in air pressure, is



available from UMED. The output frequency is 3000Hz modulated by 300Hz, and peak sound pressure level 84dB at just over 1 metre. It is available for 12 or 24V d.c. operation, but will work directly from a.c. when the sound will be modulated by the supply frequency. Current consumption is about 30mA at 12V. Price £1.75. U.M. Electrical Distributors Ltd, Beaumont Road, Banbury, Oxon.

WW315 for further details

#### **Resin-coated capacitors**

The Sky Cap range of capacitors made by Aerovox and now available from G. E. Electronics (London) extends from 2.2pF to  $4.7\mu$ F (tolerances  $\pm 5\%$ ,  $\pm 10\%$ ,  $\pm 20\%$ or +80, -20%). Three working voltages are provided for—50, 100 and 200V d.c., with a dissipation factor from 0.1 to 2.5%. Case sizes extend from 0.1 to 0.5 sq.in with thicknesses of only 0.1 to 0.2in max. The leads are solder-coated copper. G. E. Electronics (London) Ltd, Eardley House, 182/184 Campden Hill Road, Kensington, London W8 7AS.

WW311 for further details

#### Precision wirewound resistor

Supplied in standard resistance values from  $10\Omega$  to  $1M\Omega$ . Econistors from Guest International have resistance tolerances of 0.005%, 0.01%, 0.025% or 0.1%. The temperature coefficient is  $\pm 3$  p.p.m./ deg C max. from -55 to  $125^{\circ}$ C. Long-term stability is  $\pm 25$  p.p.m. per year and less than 50 p.p.m. per year after three years operation under normal conditions. Windings are multiple pi and balanced to minimize the effect of capacitive reactance. Encapsulation is epoxy resin. The body size is  $13 \times 7$ mm with tinned copper axial leads. The resistors are also available in non-standard values up to  $1.1M\Omega$ . Industrial Components Division, Guest International Ltd, Nicholas House, Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey. WW309 for further details

#### **Electrochemical capacitors**

The Gould Ionics Energy Storage Device (ESD) is an electrochemical capacitor with exceptionally high capacitance density and charge retention. It provides capacitance of 160F/cu.in, with leakage resistance greater than 10,000 M $\Omega$ . A 50F capacitor occupies less than 1/3 cu.in. and can store up to 25 coulombs at 0.5V, with greater than 97% charge retention after 16 months storage. Using the electrochemical properties of rubidium silver iodide, the ESD can provide values from 50F down to 0.01F  $(10,000\mu$ F) as individual units, and down to 500µF formed on an i.c. substrate. Applications include long-time ramp generators and timing circuits (up to about a month with reasonable charging currents), standby

power for computer memories, and production of pulse power even months after charge. Prototype ESDs with values from 0.01F to 50F are priced at £19.20 each (minimum order is three of any one value). Large production quantity prices are expected to be in the  $\pounds 0.60$ - $\pounds 1.80$  range. Lyons Instruments Ltd, Hoddesdon, Herts. WW331 for further details

#### Sound-level meter calibrator

The Rohde & Schwarz ELEB sound-level meter calibrator, available from Aveley Electric, provides a coupler opening into which a meter's microphone is inserted. The calibrator can then be switched on to provide a standard level at 1000Hz. At this frequency the calibration level is independent of the weighting filters used. Calibration error is kept within  $\pm 0.25$ dB at 25°C (within  $\pm 0.5$ dB between 0 and 50°C) by internal compensation. Aveley Electric Ltd, Arisdale Avenue, South Ockendon, Essex.

WW317 for further details

#### Mobile radiotelephone

A medium-power solid-state v.h.f. f.m. radiotelephone, type BE385 from Burndept, is available with up to ten channels. Operation is from the 12V vehicle



accumulator using either positive or negative earth. Operation is at 160MHz or 80MHz with 12.5kHz channel spacing. Burndept Electronics (E.R.) Ltd, St. Fidelis Road, Erith, Kent.

WW330 for further details

#### **Panel meter**

A panel mounting meter with a scale length of 57mm is available from Taylor Electrical Instruments. This meter, model 330, uses the Taylor centre-pole move-



ment. It can be mounted vertically or horizontally. Taylor Electrical Instruments Ltd, Archcliffe Road, Dover. WW318 for further details

### November meetings

#### LONDON

3rd. IERE — "The effectiveness of modern visual communications systems" by B. Stapley at 18.00 at Engineering Lecture Theatre, University College, Gower St., W.C.I.

4th. IEE — "The pulsars", seventh Appleton lecture by Prof. F. G. Smith at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 4th. RTS — "Satellite broadcasting" Pt.3:

Space broadcasting by Dr. G. Phillips at 19.00

at I.T.A., 70 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 5th. IEE — "Computer controlled frequency response measurement" by A. J. Ley and A. J. Martin at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 9th. IEE — "Trinitron: its history and

future" by S. Miyaoka at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

"Thyristors and SERT — 9th. semiconductor devices in domestic appliances and television" by J. B. Ruming at 19.00 at Mullard House, Torrington Pl., W.C.1. 9th. AES — "A variety of approaches to

audio power amplifier design" by David Rees at 19.15 at the Mechanical Engineering Dept., Imperial College, Exhibition Rd., S.W.7.

10th. IEE - "Piezo-electric devices" by P. Ellis at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

10th. IEE — "Cable television and the wired city" by R. P. Gabriel at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

11th. IEE/I.Phys. — Colloquium on "Semiconductor memories" at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

11th. RTS — "Satellite broadcasting" Pt. 4: Applications and implications of satellites by T. Singleton and Economics of satellite broadcasting by A. L. Witham at 19.00 at I.T.A., 70 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 15th. IEETE — "World electronics scene"

by Dr. Frank Jones at 18.00 at the IEE, Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

16th. IEE/IERE -- Colloquium on "Computer applications to design, simulation and testing of logic circuits and systems" at 10.00 at Savoy Pl., WC2.

"Onboard systems 17th. I.Navigation for monitoring marine traffic" by M. O'Hagan at 17.00 at the Royal Institution for Naval Architects, 10 Upper Belgrave St, S.W.I. 17th. IERE — "Solid state microwave

sources for radar application" by Dr. B. Taylor and J. M. Skinner at 18.00 at Engineering Lecture Theatre, University College, Gower St., W.C.1.

18th. RTS — Discussion: "The poor relation --- television sound" at 19.00 at I.T.A., 70 Brompton Rd., S.W.3.

19th. IEE/I.Measurement Control "Measurement and control in oceanography"

discussion at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 22nd. IEE — Colloquium on "British activities in satellite technology" at 10.30 at

Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 23rd. IEE — "Electronics in the '70s — training for management opportunities" by Dr. F. E. Jones at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

24th. IERE -- "Recognition and encouragement of innovation" by K. Benjamin at 18.00 at Engineering Lecture Theatre, University College, Gower St., W.1.

25th. IERE --- Symposium on "Correlation" at 10.30 at Mullard House, Torrington Pl., W.C. I.

#### ABERDEEN

9th. IERE - "Recent development in oscilloscope design" by W. N. A. Tatton at 19.30 at Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology, Physics Dept., St. Andrews St.

#### AYLESBURY

22nd. IEE -- "Long distance millimetric waveguide systems" by R. W. White at 19.30 at the College of Further Education.

#### BIRMINGHAM

17th. RTS — "The technical future of television" by Stuart Sansom at 19.00 at A.T.V. Centre, Broad Street.

#### BOURNEMOUTH

2nd. IERE — "Electronic performance testing of motor vehicles" by C. D. Freeman at 19.00 at the Technical College.

#### BRIGHTON

23rd. IERE --- "Closed circuit television on cable - two standard video schemes" by J. A. Sharp and R. W. Wooten at 18.30 at the Technical College.

#### BRISTOL

9th. IEETE — "ITV colour — challenge and achievement" by A. James at 19.30 at Cabot Room, Royal Hotel, College Green.

18th. SERT --- "Satellite communications" by Group Capt. F. C. Padfield and Sq. Ldr. Holtby at 19.30 at Room C1.1, Cabot House,

Bristol Polytechnic, Ashley Down Rd. 24th. IERE — "Hi-fidelity sound reproduction" by R. L. West at 18.00 at Queens Building, The University.

#### CAMBRIDGE

25th. IERE/IEE --- "Thoughts on world communication" by Prof. C. Cherry at 18.30 at University of Cambridge Engineering Laboratories, Trumpington St.

#### CARDIFF

10th. IERE — "Trends in integrated circuits" by R. G. Hibberd at 18.30 at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology.

#### CHATHAM

25th. IERE --- "Operational research" by W. H. Simmonds at 19.00 at the Medway College of Technology.

#### CHELTENHAM

11th. IERE --- "V. L. F. communications" by Dr. I. E. E. Bain at 19.00 at Government Communications Headquarters.

#### COLCHESTER

3rd. IEE — "The ionosphere and radio engineering" by G. Millington at 19.00 at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park.

9th. IERE - "Printed circuit boards for microelectronics" by J. A. Scarlett at 18.30 at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park.

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11th. SERT - "Decoders and c.d. as in

Pye television receivers" by L. Briggs at 19.30 at the North East Essex Technical College, Sheepen Road.

#### EDINBURGH

10th. IERE — "Recent development in oscilloscope design" by W. N. A. Tatton at 19.00 at Napier College of Science and Technology, Colinton Rd.

#### FARNBOROUGH

25th. IERE — "Concorde flight control and landing systems" by R. George at 19.00 at the Technical College.

#### GLASGOW

11th. IERE - "Recent development in oscilloscope design" by W. N. A. Tatton at 18.00 at The Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, Rankine House, 183 Bath St. 19th. SERT — "Holography and its applications" by Dr. Sayce at 19.30 at Birniehill Lecture Theatre, N.E.L., East Kilbride.

HUDDERSFIELD 8th SERT — "Video tape recorders" by R. Maude at 19.30 at Room E43. Engineering Tower, The Polytechnic, Queensgate.

#### LEICESTER.

9th. RTS --- "The Philips cassette video recorder" by C. Mitchell and C. I. Reid at 19.30 at the Bennitt Building, lecture room 4, University Rd.

"The application of 16th IERE phase-locked loop to stereo decoders" by A. J. Haywood and M. J. Portus at 19.00 at the Physics Department, The University.

#### LIVERPOOL

10th. IERE — "The bipolar coagulator" by N. J. Davies at 19.00 at Dept. of Electrical Engineering and Electronics, University.

#### MANCHESTER

11th. IERE -- "Modern oscilloscopes" by M. Thistlethwaite at 18.15 at University Institute of Science and Technology, Renold Building.

#### MIDDLESBROUGH

30th. SERT - "R.F. measurement techniques" at 19.30 at the Cleveland Scientific Institution

#### NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

10th. IERE — "Digital instrumentation" by A. R. Owens at 18.00 at the Main Lecture Theatre, Ellison Building, The Polytechnic.

#### PLYMOUTH

18th. IERE — "Optical communication systems" by M. M. Ramsey at 19.00 at The Polytechnic.

#### PORTSMOUTH

17th. IERE — "Micro-wave integrated circuits" by S. V. Judd at 18.30 at the Polytechnic.

#### SOUTHAMPTON

16th. IEETE — "Police communications" by Chief Inspector G. W. Baker and G. H. T. Evans at 19.30 at Polygon Hotel. STONE

#### 1st. IERE --- "Radio astronomy" by R. S. Booth at 19.00 at Post Office Technical Training College, Duncan Hall.

#### SWINDON

2nd. IERE - "Thyristor applications" by Dr. M. James at 18.15 at The College.

#### WAKEFIELD

11th. IERE --- "Electronics in policework" by A. Thompson at 19.00 at Technical and Art College, Margaret Street.

YORK

3rd. SERT - "Electronic applications in hospitals" by D. Barnard at 19.30 at the College of Further Education, Dringhouses.

## **Literature Received**

For further information on any item include the appropriate WW number on the reader reply card

#### **ACTIVE DEVICES**

Integrated Photomatrix Ltd, The Grove Trading Estate, Dorchester, Dorset, have produced a shortform catalogue — which doubles as a wall chart on their optoelectronic components . . . WW401

A catalogue which lists rectifier, zener and microwave diodes, diode assemblies, thyristors and transistors manufactured in America by a company called Unitrode can be obtained from G. E. Electronics (London) Ltd; Eardley House, 182/4 Campden Hill Rd, Kensington, London W.8

#### PASSIVE COMPONENTS

We have received the following literature from the components division of Pye TMC Ltd, Roper Rd, Canterbury, Kent:

unter our y, recht.
Subminiature relay (contacts 2 c.o., 15W or 0.5A; sensitivity 35mW)
Sensitive reed relays (n.o., n.c., or latching) WW406
Latching relay type 21 (contact s.p.c.o., 3A, 28Vd.c; sensitivity 176mW) WW407
Small power relays type PHP (various coils; 4 p.c.o.
contacts rated at 3A at 30V d.c.) WW408
'Moduprint' panel mounted paper tape printers available in a variety of configurations WW409
'Proximity initiators and proximity switches
WW410
Snap-action switch, d.p.d.t
'Diode-lites'. GaAs light emitters WW412
GaAs numerical readout assembly WW413
Single GaAs numerical readouts WW414

The 'Hugger' adjustable clamp is an adjustable cable and harness clamp of a new design which is available in screw mounting and self-adhesive forms. It is described in a leaflet. Thomas & Betts International Inc., Greenhill House, 90-93 Cowcross St, London EC1M 6JR .... WW415

Fast response 'patch thermocouples' (types P1 and P2) which can be stuck to any suitable surface to provide a permanent temperature monitor point are described in a leaflet. Comark Electronics Ltd, Brookside Ave, Rustington, Littlehampton, Sussex . WW417

Rank Bush Murphy, Drayton Rd, Boreham Wood, Herts., have produced a second edition of their electronic components catalogue . . . . . . WW420 

#### **APPLICATION NOTES**

We have received the following literature from Integrated Photomatrix Ltd, The Grove Trading Estate, Dorchester, Dorset:

Information sheet PX129. Analogue Photodetector	
family'	
201. 'The facts of light' WW423	
202. 'An optical speech link' WW424	
203. 'Image scanning with IPL 7000 series photo	
arrays'	

Application note 935 from Hewlett Packard Ltd, Components Group, 224 Bath Rd, Slough, Bucks. SL1 4DS, is called 'Microwave power generation and amplification using Impatt diodes' . . . . WW426

#### EQUIPMENT

A tape recorder designed for educational purposes (VR47) is described in a leaflet. Van der Molen Ltd, 1 Mildmay Rd, Romford, Essex RM7 7DA WW427

We have received the following literature from Aveley Electric Ltd, Arisdale Ave, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 5SR.

Dumont Oscilloscope model 1062 . . WW428 Pacific Measurements Inc. (U.S.A.) log./lin. r.f. power meter model 1009 (10MHz-12.4GHz,  $1\mu$ W-10mW) WW429 Rhode & Schwarz Literature

Supplement to communication equipment catalogue WW430 Supplement to measuring instruments catalogue WW431 HFV. Field-strength meter, v.h.f. (130dB range) WW43? USU1. Selective microvoltmeter, 30-1000MHz WW433 USU2. Test receiver, u.h.f., 30-1000MHz WW434 PBO. Octave filter, 45 to 22, 400 Hz WW435

Motorized selector switches for switching low-level devices such as thermocouples, resistance thermometers, etc are described in a leaflet from the Croydon Precision Instrument Co, Hampton Rd, Croydon WW437

The type 330 medium power (15W peak) X-band pulsed signal source is the subject of a leaflet from Microtest Ltd, 28 Walker Lines, Industrial Estate, Bodmin, Cornwall

Various size transparent grids, a numerically controlled X-Y photo-construction equipment and a 20inch measuring microscope, all for printed circuit master board fabrication, are mentioned in a leaflet from P. T. Barclay & Partners Ltd, Ullswater Industrial Estate, Coulsdon, Surrey . . . WW441

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We have received the following literature from Data Laboratories Ltd, 28 Wates Way, Mitcham, Surrey Mullard mosaic printer. (Prints a variety of characters based on a 5 x 7 matrix on paper) WW442

700 series analogue to digital conversion systems WW443 Biomotion (U.S.A.) transient recorder model

D/Tem. Thermocouple input chart recorders with ranges from -60-1.600°C . . . WW446 D & Z series: Miniature chart recorders with f.s.ds of 6mV or 10./A upwards . . . WW447

Scientific Audio Electronics, P.O. Box 2361, Santa Ana, California 92707, U.S.A., have supplied us with the data on the following items:

Programme equalizer					5				WW451
Stereo octave equalizer									WW452
Power amplifiers					÷.		. 1		WW453
F.M. stereo tuner (M	k (	6)	w	ith	10	lig	ita	1 1	frequency
readout and a 3 ir									
display (\$950 in U.S	5.)								WW454

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The following information sheets may be obtained from the Engineering Information Department, B.B.C., Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA.

- 1936(2). B.B.C. radio Manchester v.h.f. service details
- 1926(5). B.B.C. radio Merseyside v.h.f. service details
- 1034(17). Radio transmitting stations (v.h.f.)
- 1607(1). Stereophony, questions and answers
- 1924(7). Stereophonic transmissions radio 3
- 4937(2). Angus 625-line colour television services

The services offered by Siraid, South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5EH, in adhesive bonding, instrumentation and control and automation equipment, is described in a leaflet called 'of course'

The following BS publications may be obtained from the Sales Branch, British Standards Institution, 101 Pentonville Rd, London N1 9ND.

Glossary of electrotechnical, power, telecommunications, electronics, lighting and colour terms. Part 3. Terms particular to telecommunications and electronics.

- Group 01: General telecommunications and electronics terminology . . . . price £1.40 Group 02: Telephony terminology price £1.20
- Group 03: Telegraphy, including facsimile terminology .... price £1 Group 04: Broadcasting radio and television
- terminology . . . . . . . . price 80p Group 05: Propagation and media terminology
- Group 06: Radio location and navigation terminology . . . . . . . . . . . . price £1
- Group 07: Radiocommunication terminology
- BS3939: Supplement No.3 (1971) Graphical symbols. Additions and alterations to sections
- 1-22 . . . . . . . . . . . . . price £1 BS9000: Part 1. General description and basic rules . . . . . . . . . . . . . . price £1.20

Industry Services International Ltd, Griffin House, High St, Bracknell RG12 1LF have prepared a brochure which describes the services it can offer in product support, maintenance improvement, quality control and technical communication . . WW455

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## **Progress in Tape Recording**

#### by Basil Lane

Since its origin in 1898, the progress of magnetic recording has been marked by fits and starts of inventiveness, and a slow acceleration of interest by the general public. Modern plastic tapes first appeared in 1944, but it took until the early 1950s for domestic tape machines to become popular in the home.

Even at that stage quality was still far from being high and the initial enthusiasm gave way to euphoria in which many well known manufacturing names went to the wall. In the long run it was almost certainly the continuing professional interest which restored the commercial popularity of the tape recorder, until in this past year the general sales figures have shown a satisfying upward trend that has encouraged the formation of many a new company.

In this review we take a brief look at developments which over the past year or so have represented a serious contribution to the state of the art of tape recording. Many of the limitations of modern techniques rest with the tape itself and so it is logical that the first section of this article should be devoted to this subject.

#### Tape technology

Essentially, magnetic recording tape consists of a plastic base material coated with a magnetically retentive surface. As the most readily available and tractable material for this active element is iron, most development effort up until around 1965 concentrated on producing compounds of this substance for use in coatings.

Certain oxides of iron show good magnetic properties, but one in particular is ideal for the purpose, having high retentivity, low coercivity and being cheap to manufacture. This is gamma ferric oxide which does not occur in nature and has to be derived by a fairly exhaustive process from the non-magnetic alpha ferric oxide. The final physical form of the oxide is a fine needle shaped particle the dimensions of which are required to be held within fairly tight tolerances, since this has a bearing on the final characteristics of the tape.

Since a carefully controlled layer of these particles needs to be applied to the plastic base material some adhesive and

dispersive properties are required and these are added to the oxide in the form of a binder, solvent and lubricant. This mixture or 'dope' is then carefully applied to the base material in thicknesses and dispersion to suit the properties required of the final product.

The factors in the coating and its associated process which affect the magnetic properties can be stated in a simplified form as follows. The proportions of oxide, binder and solvent are determined by the necessity to keep oxide shedding to a minimum. Many of the so called 'white box tapes' suffer terribly from this problem, thus clogging up the recorders on which they are used.

Oxide thickness determines the maximum output possible from the tape the thicker the magnetic material the greater is the recording current required for saturation. Greater thickness also reduces the distortion at normal recording levels but requires increased levels of bias. The absolute noise level of the tape is affected by oxide thickness since this is related to the bulk of active material in the replay head gap field at any one time. Modulation, or d.c., noise is related to the density, evenness of dispersion and thickness, and regularity of particle size the latter also affecting sesitivity and print through. Particle size and dispersion also have an important bearing on the short wavelength performance and the noise spectrum.

Surprisingly, the base material also plays a major part in some of the final properties of the tape. Most modern products have a p.v.c. or polyester base material with a later trend towards polyester. This is immensely strong even when thin and resists stretch, shrinkage and reasonable punishment from water and heat. The thickness chosen is a complex function dependent on the acceptable limits of print through (though oxide properties have some bearing on this) and the mechanical details of fitting a specific length of tape onto a certain reel size or the degree of wrap round on record and replay heads required by different types of recorder. Naturally the geometry of the heads plays no mean part in this and this does help to explain one of the many reasons for the diversity of base thicknesses available. Another consider-

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ation which comes to mind is the final use to which the tape is put — for example, educational recorded material tends to undergo extensive and often rough treatment and for this, a heavy grade of base material could prove to be most suitable. The poor degree of wrap round oh the tape heads would be of minor consequence since the degree of fidelity does not often have to be high.

In cassettes the base thickness is more usually dictated by the need to squeeze a specific amount of tape into fixed dimensions. For this reason, triple play would be used for C60 cassettes and quad play for the longer C90 versions. Thus it is usual where a manufacturer produces a complete range of tapes, for up to five thicknesses of base material to be utilized. Some tapes are put to work in car-tridges and other endless loop devices, where long lengths have to slide over each other and to assist this graphite is added to the base material to provide lubrication. Polyester, in common with most other plastics can build up static, which affects the way in which tape winds on or off a reel. This can be partly overcome in some base materials by making the reverse a matt finish to help prevent the tape from slipping sideways as it beds on to the reel. However, as will be seen, some manufacturers have gone to the root of the problem and produced a solution which could prove to be more satisfactory.

All these points add up to a large number of independent variables which can be permutated and combined to produce a range of tapes from which selection has to be made to suit circumstances.

For convenience, tapes can be grouped under generic headings dependent upon their magnetic properties — low noise, low noise and high output, high output, and low print. Bearing in mind that there are only a limited number of physical factors involved, it can be seen that trading of one advantage for another is inevitable, so now we go on to look at the way in which the modern generation of tapes has evolved.

#### Modern developments in tape

The latest range of magnetic tapes based upon the use of ferric oxide as the recording medium has probably reached 564

the ultimate in development. Much of the progress has been led by BASF who were the first to produce a viable magnetic tape. The latest achievement in the domestic range of tapes can be said to be a spin off from the demanding requirements made of the professional range where most manufacturers have made efforts to produce the difficult combination of low noise with high output. For example, where quality reproduction is required in domestic machines with 4-track heads or 14-track stereo heads BASF's LP35LH probably represents a good example of the latest generation. However, such a tape would be suitable for use only with the more modern machines where the bias - an important factor many fail to appreciate - has been optimized for that particular product. In the case of earlier machines BASF DP26 would be preferred, since the machine biasing would produce a more acceptable high-frequency performance and a more satisfactory subjective signal-to-noise ratio.

Generally speaking, professional machines working at 38cm/sec are better off with single-play tapes where the additional base thickness assures the best signal-to-print ratio and a good measure of mechanical stability. Here two new developments by BASF have been announced recently. Advantage has been taken, in one instance, of the professional Dolby 'A' system (of which more later) to introduce a tape with an incredibly good low noise performance coupled with excellent short wavelength characteristics. However, considering the base thickness  $(50 \mu m)$  the print through is slightly inferior to the standard LGS52. Fortunately, since the Dolby system deals with this problem rather well this is of minor consequence. The tape type is known as SP50M and represents a step which should assist studios to improve the quality of new masters and duplicating copies quite considerably.

The second and most recent addition to the professional range of tapes is one which carries the same oxide as LP35LH but has a matt backing to assist in even spooling. This can be a most important requirement for several reasons. Any tape edges protruding from the bulk of the reel of tape are easily damaged; this has a significant effect upon the signal level produced by the replay head. Also, unequal stresses are held in the tape causing distortion of the base material. This line of thinking is also evident in the new types produced by Zonal Tapes. Known as the Spectrum range not only are they available with matt back finish (in the low noise version) but also the base material has been given anti-static treatment which helps to prevent uneven spooling, and reduces the possibility of small dust particles adhering to the tape. In both versions a high output performance has been achieved, but some evidence of the trade off principle is shown in that one tape provides low noise with high output, and another low print-through with high output. Although

the Spectrum range was designed principally with the professional in mind, the extended-play versions would probably work very well on modern high quailty domestic machines.

EMI have chosen to produce an interesting group of tapes under the name of AFONIC.<sup>-</sup> These consist of different base thicknesses with identical oxides and oxide thicknesses. The result is that apart from a deteriorating signal-to-print ratio with the reduction of base thickness, all tapes have identical magnetic properties and no change of biasing is necessary when moving from one tape to another.

Over the past year, cassettes have proved to be the area of greatest growth and signs of this are reflected in the number of developments and innovations that have taken place. Since the cassette machine is a sensitive animal, the cassette design is of considerable importance in ensuring a low wow and flutter performance. In all cases the degree of tape/head contact depends upon a constant and steady back tension from the feed spool and most cassettes have failed to provide this. The main reason for this is irregularities in rewind tension causing the tape to scatter or throw sideways and come into contact with the inner cheeks of the cassettes; in addition, sufficient tension builds up in the tape itself to cause temporary tape stretch. Unfortunately this is not relaxed during the normal passage of the tape across the head, and tape weave occurs reducing channel separation and aggravating the wow and flutter problem. Other problems relate to a small bulk of oxide present in the record and replay head gap field creating low levels of tape saturation with accompanying poor low-frequency distortion characteristics.

These difficulties caused a considerable flurry of development activity involving about three years hard research. There has also been a spin-off from the computer and video recording fields where the demands for low dropout coupled with excellent short wavelength characteristics have engendered research into the use of other magnetic materials beyond ferric oxide.

A considerable amount of this work has centered on the use of oxides of nickel, cobalt and chromium - all of which have magnetic properties of the right type. Du Pont de Nemours, of America, were the first to make the break, by marketing a cassette tape carrying chromium dioxide as the magnetic medium. The advantages said to be gained from this were improved signal-to-noise ratio coupled with a superior ability to accept a higher level of signal at high frequencies. However, this was not strictly true, for the absolute noise level was higher, and although a higher level of flux could be recorded on to the tape, if advantage of the better high-frequency record characteristics of the tape were taken by adjustment of equalization and pre-emphasis the resultant subjective noise level deteriorated taking the situation almost back to square one. Although Du Pont holds the patents on this type of tape, three other firms have now produced their own versions of this

type of oxide. The first of these to appear in Europe was from Agfa who produced review samples in the UK earlier this year. From tests conducted on this tape, two things became immediately obvious, first that the oxide had a higher coercivity requiring a greater level of bias current, and a higher retentivity making it almost impossible to erase using the average cassette recorder. Other factors, such as an inferior modulation noise, became evident and a rather abrasive surface which wore the soft record/replay heads on cassette machinery at a rather alarming rate. Clearly, these two new tapes did not represent the advance first imagined, but they did bring a marginal improvement. Finally, BASF had been seeking a way of producing a chromium dioxide tape without falling foul of the Du Pont patent and came up with a series of pre-production samples first appearing from the beginning of this year, and showing a steady improvement with each appearance. September saw the launch of the product and testing shows that many of the earlier deficiencies of the oxide have been overcome.

Biasing for BASF chrome cassettes needs up to twice as much head current as conventional oxides, and a high-frequency  $(70\mu sec)$  replay equalization. Unfortunately the DIN Committee has settled to retain the low frequency 1590µsec characteristic used with ferric oxide tapes which reduces the overload margin at low frequencies quite considerably. This is currently causing one of the biggest headaches for cassette enthusiasts. However, signal-to-noise ratio and high-frequency performance has been improved and a better surface structure has eliminated the original head wear objections. This cassette will be appearing on the market from the end of October at a rather higher price than its ferric oxide counterparts. The need for a change of bias and equalization implies the necessity for some additional circuitry in cassette machines and this is now appearing on some models. It is interesting to note that all versions of the cassette have the same thickness base material making the C120 a much more reliable product than its forebears. I understand, although I have not received any literature on the subject, that the Japanese firm of TDK are also marketing a chromium dioxide tape around this time, extending the choice to a C30 length.

The principal disadvantage of such an oxide is the need to alter the bias and equalization, and this has occasioned some research into oxide materials having superior qualities to ferric oxide but requiring little or no change in any of the machine parameters. The 3M Company Magnetic Division have come up with a tape making use of a cobalt oxide which is said to bring improvements in signal-to-noise ratio by permitting greater levels of signal to be impressed upon the tape. Ampex have also been working along these lines but with the addition of mixing the coating in two layers with ferric oxide. This brings several advantages. Since cobalt oxides have a lower

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retentivity and coercivity the danger of print through is increased (the 3M's product suffers rather badly in this respect), and so mixing ferric oxide with the cobalt oxide can give the superior print characteristics of ferric oxide whilst adding the sensitivity of the cobalt. Whether this will work out in practice, remains to be seen, but it is rumoured that something will soon appear from Ampex.

As mentioned earlier, the cassette itself is a major influence in determining the performance of the machine and to this end efforts have been made by all manufacturers to improve the tape wind and eliminate jamming or increased friction. Some interesting research by the 3M company shows that wow and flutter on conventional tapes increases sharply after about 50 passes through the machine. This is a result of an accumulation of winding errors and internal stresses building up in the base material to permit the tape to touch the cassette cheeks thus creating an irregular back tension. They have overcome the problem by making the base material highly conductive to eliminate static.

Ampex and Philips are attacking the problem from a mechanical standpoint by improving the bearings of the spool centres, which contribute a considerable amount of friction. The first version produced by Philips was intended for computer purposes in data logging. The most fascinating feature of this data cassette is that it is made of metal, thus improving accuracy and reliability.

The new chrome cassette produced by BASF also displays some unique features to improve the mechanical performance. Pivoted, hard plastic guides give an even wind, help to remove dust particles, and also peel the tape layers apart in the event of static causing one layer to stick to the next. Developments are occurring so fast in this sector of the tape world that much might have happened between the writing of this article and its appearance on the bookstall.

So far, little has been said about cartridges, these employing an endless loop of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in tape. Some developments have occurred here with improvements in tape oxides similar to that enjoyed by the reel-to-reel recorder, but in particular the peculiar requirements for low friction where tape layers move one against the other have created the need for newer improved lubricants and heavier gauges of base material. Molybdenum disulphide has come to the rescue and the BASF cartridge tape base material is now impregnated with this chemical.

#### **Progress in tape recorders**

From the foregoing, one might be forgiven for assuming that all the major developments of the past two years have been with the tape manufacturers, but this is not really so, although in most instances the new machines have been the result of a steady improvement, rather than startling innovation. On the mechanical

 Wisalignment of the pole pieces in a cassette record / replay head.

side considerable effort has gone into improving the reliability and mechanical performance so that wow and flutter figures of well below 0.15% have become quite common. At the high-priced end of the scale it is getting difficult to differentiate between domestic and professional — a fact that many over-enthusiastic advertising departments take unfair advantage of when labelling their machines as professional or semi-professional (whatever it is!) when they meet few of the criteria demanded by the professional recordist.

H.M. Government does have some say in the definition of a professional recorder (for tax purposes) but the requirements of the studios and broadcast organizations tend to be more basic and down to earth. Obviously the highest possible mechanical and electrical performance is required. The demands made of a machine that is to produce master or duplicating material are very high indeed, but in addition to this there are other features which are not only desirable but have become obligatory. Such features as being able to accept NAB or cine centred  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in spools; being fitted with either XLR connectors; P.O. jack plugs or locking DIN plugs; being capable of operation at tape speeds of 19.5cm/s and 38cm/s; having accessible bias, preemphasis and equalization controls -– all these have become regular features that delineate the professional area. In addition there are a number of important electrical requirements that have to be met, such as balanced line input and outputs (usually 600 ohms, although one studio at least has adopted a lower impedance) variable speed spooling and interchangeable head blocks.

#### Tape heads

Record and replay heads naturally present themselves next for discussion. Essentially, all that a recorder head consists of, is a

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ring-shaped electromagnet with a very fine gap between the pole pieces. Three types of material are now used for the poles in this area.

The earliest and still most popular structure is laminated magnetically soft iron. The very thin pieces of metal are stamped out, clamped together, wound with fine enamelled copper wire, and finally either moulded into a plastic block or fixed firmly inside a metal extrusion. The manufacturing tolerances involved are very close and this is why it is only in the very top-quality machines that consistency of performance is found from head to head. The principal factors involved are the gap dimensions which affect the wavelength performance of the head, alignment of the gap vertically since azimuth errors can cause serious reductions in level across the tape by phase cancellation at high frequencies, and vertical alignment of the pole pieces which can affect inter-track crosstalk and signal output.

As an example of the sort of errors which can occur, we reproduce a highly-magnified picture of a cassette record/replay head that suffers from several inaccuracies in this respect. The gap between the pole pieces is extremely small (about 1 micron) and severely limits the usable flux output. For this reason on multi-head machines it is usual to obtain a good flux at the record head by keeping a fairly wide gap, anything up to  $12\mu$ m for reel-to-reel heads, and a very narrow gap at the replay head for good high-frequency performance.

The shape of the pole piece in contact with the tape is of some considerable importance. At low frequencies, where the recorded wavelength approaches the dimensions of the core width, comparatively large fluctuations of output level can occur. Normally these would be

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# The Dolby System: A Progress Report

Following world-wide acceptance of the professional A-System, more than thirty manufacturers will soon offer advanced new consumer products incorporating the Dolby B-System.

The Dolby A-System is the professional noise reduction system. Nearly 5,000 processors are now being used by record companies, motion picture studios, broadcasting stations and communication authorities throughout the world. The A-System has achieved virtually universal acceptance among professionals because it is precise and consistent in operation, simple to use, and has no effect upon the music or other signals being recorded or transmitted.

The Dolby System is a complementary noise reduction system. Unlike playback-only devices, which even in their most sophisticated form must alter the characteristics of the material, the Dolby System is used before and after the recording or transmission channel. The process selects the quietest signals during recording, where noise might be heard by a listener, and subtly increases their level automatically. Loud signals are not processed in any way. During playback, the low-level components are reduced by an exactly complementary amount, thus re-establishing exactly the original signal dynamics, and at the same time eliminating most of the noise introduced during the recording process.

The Dolby A-System provides wide-band noise reduction. With the Dolby A-System, this low-level compression-expansion technique is applied in four separate frequency bands covering the entire audio spectrum. Consequently cross-talk, modulation noise, print-through, and hum are all reduced, in addition to tape hiss. In communications applications, cross-talk, dialling pulses, and other mid-range noises such as monkey chatter are all effectively attenuated.

The Dolby B-System is the compatible high fidelity noise reduction system for consumer applications. Using the same basic compression-expansion technique as the A-System, but employing a single high-frequency band, the B-System is intended for consumer applications where hiss is the predominantly encountered noise. The single band operation is much simpler and lower in cost than its professional counterpart. Dolby Laboratories makes only protessional products, but licenses the B-System to manufacturers of consumer tape recorders, receivers and Dolby adapters. More than 30 companies will soon be making products incorporating the B-System, and others are joining the list each week.

ADVENT A.G.S. ALLIED RADIO SHACK AMPEX BELL & HOWELL BENJAMIN BIGSTON CONCORD CONCORD CROWN RADIO EMERSON FERROGRAPH	HARMAN-KARDON HIGHGATE (ALPHA) HITACHI JANSZEN KELLAR KENWOOD (TRIO) K.L.H. LAFAYETTE LENCO MITSUBISHI NAKAMICHI	RANK WHARFEDALE REVOX SANSUI SILVER SINGER SONAB STANDARD RADIO TEAC TELETON TELEX/VIKING 3M/WOLLENSAK
FERROGRAPH	NAKAMICHI PLANET	3M/WOLLENSAK

The Dolby B-System has been used in FM broadcasting with excellent results. FCC rules permit broadcasting of Dolby-encoded signals in the U.S.; experiments of this kind are taking place in other countries as well. The reduction in noise given by the system can more than double the area in which high-fidelity listening is possible, with no increase needed in transmitter power. Later this year Fisher and Harman-Kardon will be the first to offer receivers with the Dolby System built in.

Hundreds of different commercially recorded Dolby cassettes will be available by the end of the year. Many are already being released regularly by Columbia, Ampex, London/ Decca, Vox, Musical Heritage Society, RCA (U.K.), and Pye/ Precision (U.K.). Twenty other companies have obtained the professional B-Type encoders needed for duplicating such cassettes. There is no royalty payment to Dolby for these recordings. Listeners and dealers everywhere agree that Dolby cassettes are perfectly playable on any cassette recorder, and usually sound better even on non-Dolby equipment.

The Dolby B-System and new tape formulations (such as chromium dioxide) work very well together. Although their noise reduction effect is much less than that of the Dolby System, some of the new tapes provide a useful extension of high-frequency response. Used with the Dolby System, they provide striking evidence of the cassette's real capability. Although chromium dioxide tape is not compatible with the vast majority of cassette recorders in the field and on dealers' shelves, more and more manufacturers are providing new machines with the necessary circuitry, along with the Dolby System.

Integrated-circuit versions of the Dolby B-System will be available next year. An IC is being developed jointly by Signetics and Dolby Laboratories; the technology will be made available to IC manufacturers everywhere, to insure industry standardization and lowest cost to consumers, as well as reliable supply to manufacturers. Ultimately, the increased retail cost incurred by adding the Dolby System to a tape recorder should be \$10 to \$20.

The cost of licensing the Dolby System has been reduced considerably because of rapid industry acceptance of the system. Manufacturers now pay on a simple per-unit basis, with royalties as low as ten cents per channel. The licensing agreement also entitles a manufacturer to sustained technical support from Dolby Laboratories in noise reduction applications. Dolby employs a staff of more than 100 at its London facility, and maintains offices in New York and Tokyo, all devoted exclusively to noise reduction system development, manufacture, sale and licensing. To date, 80 patent applications have been filed in 17 countries to cover the Dolby System; 19 patents have already been issued in 10 countries, including the United States.

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### Tape Recording Survey

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with a low revolution rate, the inertia of the flywheel is also reduced thus permitting variations in spooling or back tensions to adversely affect wow and flutter performance. Speed control on most modern mains driven machines is either governed by taking advantage of synchronous motors or using an electronic servo system such as is to be found on the Revox. An additional advantage of the servo system is to permit a direct drive capstan from the motor spindle, where the accuracy of the servo system overcomes the disadvantages of the low angular speed of the motor.

Battery-powered machines can suffer from supply voltage variations due to battery exhaustion and it is normal in these to stabilize the supply in some way.

An example of the success of combining these two features is to be found in the fascinating new addition to the Nagra range — the SN miniature tape recorder. Here the supply for transport and electronics is derived from two dry cells giving a total of 3V, this is then converted to 5V and stabilized for use by the motor and circuitry. In addition a servo system holds speed constant and because the capstan and motor spindle are in one, wow can be held to a minimum by the same system.

Flutter can occur as a direct result of small variations in the intimacy of tape contact with the head. In most early machines this was kept under control by the use of pressure pads, still a feature of the Ferrograph Series 7 machines. Part of the reason for employing such a system was because of the difficulties in maintaining a steady back tension from the feed spool which was mechanically braked to avoid overrun. Over the past few years an increasing tendency has been to use three motors one to drive the capstan and the others to rewind and control the 'play' mode tape tension. This has eliminated the necessity for pressure pads, but still leaves tape/head contact at the mercy of small vibrations caused by tape sticking as it leaves the feed spool or slow variations in reel motor torque as the diameter of the tape spool changes. Various systems have been evolved to combat the problem, many having been passed on to domestic machines from the professional range. Typical of such an evolution is the use of flutter rollers between the feed spool and head block in the Akai GX365. The Tandberg 6000X shows a vestige of the old pressure pad system with the use of a pressure pad pressing the tape against a metal plate to the left of the erase head thus providing good control of the tape as it passes across the head assembly.

Philips have introduced an interesting feature in their machine to be released in November. The capstan drive motor is a d.c. brushless type where a Hall effect device is used to sense the armature position and appropriately switch a transistor circuit controlling the polarity of the motor supply. It seems a pity that having gone to all this trouble the Philips N4450 is incapable of turning out a better

wow-and-flutter figure than 0.15% at 19cm/s (the best speed) and a speed constancy of  $\pm 1\%$ . As an example of the sort of figures claimed for a professional portable, the Tandberg Model 11P used with their unique Farnell Tandberg film sync system has a wow and flutter of 0.14% at 19cm/s and speed constancy of 0.5%. Better results are, of course, obtained by the Nagra IVD (at three times the price); typical figures at 19cm/s being 0.05% wow and flutter and 0.1% speed stability. The need for additional gimmicks on domestic machines has brought a rash of very high priced machines, mostly from Japan, which include the facility of playing  $\frac{1}{4}$ -track tapes in the reverse direction and either adjusting the position of the playback head (Akai GX365) or using additional replay heads (Pioneer) switched to the alternative track positions. In conjunction with such facilities these machines and others with similar systems, such as the Philips N4550, have automatic timing devices which will permit a continuous cycling between any preselected two points on the tape.

In cassette machines, the problems associated with tape transport are those of a reel-to-reel machine, but amplified considerably by the need for miniaturization and the slow tape speed. Since the cassette principle started as a low-cost low-quality replay system, the urgency for improving the quality of the transport has not been great-until the last two years which saw the introduction of the Dolby 'B' system to be described later in this article. Again the impetus came from Japan where Nakamichi Inc. produced prototype machines capable of a performance limited only by the cassettes available at that time. These improvements were built into the current generation of high-quality decks where experience has shown that poor cassette mechanics can even reduce the standards of this type of machine to unacceptable limits.

Further improvements are being made all the time which represent a movement towards high-fidelity reproduction. So far the best wow and flutter available from such machines is around 0.15% found in the unique double capstan Sony TC160. Here tape tension is held constant across the head by placing a capstan each side, the one nearest the feed spool rotating at a slightly lower speed than the main drive capstan. An alternative, used by National in the U.K. marketed RS-275US, is to direct drive the capstan which also forms the motor spindle. With such a small capstan and a low tape speed, the rotational velocity of the motor armature is extremely low and controlled by a servo system to achieve a claimed wow and flutter performance of 0.1%; which incidentally is also the claimed figure for the Sony TC160. Extensive use has been made of solenoid operated controls in the National deck which make it a delight to operate but incredibly complex looking inside.

Generally speaking cassette mechanisms can be divided into two broad groups those where the cassette moves up to the

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head and pinch wheel assembly, and those where the cassette is held in a fixed position and the head assembly moves. The latter is based upon the original Philips system and derivatives representing developments of one sort or another are the Nakamichi, Sony, Wollensak and others. The first system, known as the Staar mechanism, has a brand new derivative in the Goldring Lenco deck, having two capstans (one used for playing in reverse), a four-track record/replay head, and two erase heads. Automation plays an important part in this mechanism since it will play through the cassette in one direction, sense the end and commence playing back in the opposite direction, finally ejecting the cassette at the end of the cycle.

There is no doubt that the cassette mechanism is going to get better. Already very high performance is possible under laboratory conditions, equalling the best domestic reel-to-reel machines and so it should not be too long before production techniques permit the realization of such high standards in domestic machines. The best in this respect can be confidently said to be the Wollensak, a traditionally designed machine, manufactured in America, and capable of consistently high standards. Advent have incorporated this mechanism into the latest generation of their Dolby cassette machines, the result being a virtual 'Rolls-Royce' of cassette decks. Regrettably these machines are not as yet available in the U.K.

The advances in electronics have perhaps not been quite so obvious as those previously discussed, but are nonetheless of great value.

The earliest Grundig recorders employing transistors, in common with other good domestic machines of the period, were very elemental and contained hardly any more transistors than the last of the valve models. Five or six transistors fulfilled all electronic functions at that time. Now with a reduction in the cost of transistors, advantage can be taken of using more devices to improve performance such that the latest comparable machine uses around 14 transistors. In addition functions such as automatic record level control are to be found on these and other machines such as the Tandberg and Sony range.

Low-noise devices have helped to improve the performance of reel-to-reel machines and to a lesser extent that of cassette machines where the noise limitations are more with tape than the electronics.

Miniaturization of components helps in the production of the small portable and cassette machines where electronic circuits are not only used to deal with the audio signals but also to serve many of the control functions.

Amplifier design has been simplified in some machines by the introduction of integrated circuits, a trend that will be becoming increasingly popular, if only to hold down production costs.

Several manufacturers have produced new machines which either represent a

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step into an area they had not served before, or have completely modernized well established designs. Good examples of the latter are the new series of machines from Brenell, the top of the range being the industrial Type 19 tape deck which employs many of the features described previously in this article. With a wow and flutter performance of 0.05% at 38cm/s, rack mount facility and solenoid operation, it is worthy of the title professional.

Sony have entered the world of professional machines with their new TC-850-2 with all the usual facilities expected of such a machine, plus a few such as sound-on-sound and echo.

Telefunken have introduced a range of professional portables under the generic coding of M28. It is interesting to note that these machines are available with the head block arranged in the fashion popular in studios on the Continent, where the tape oxide faces outwards from the reel and cannot come into contact with guides until its arrival at the head. This helps to reduce oxide wear and the accompanying scatter of oxide particles over the working surfaces.

Both Ferrograph and Revox have revamped their current range of recorders to include a new one containing the Dolby 'B' noise reduction system.

In a similar range to the Akai GX365

comes the Sansui SD7000, which is a high-priced domestic machine having a great variety of automatic facilities including an automatic rewind which is triggered by the presence of a 20Hz signal on the tape. At a retail price of over £400, including purchase tax, one cannot help wondering if they are not being a little more than optimistic.

The interests of the amateur movie maker are more than adequately looked after by the Tandberg Model 11-2 with its associated oscillator and indicator unit. Here a similar system to that employed by the professional Leevers Rich equipment has been produced to enable the production - with amateur cine equipment — of perfectly synchronized sound, and even to transfer this sound on to a stripe on the film after editing has been effected.

Most recently BASF added a surprising feature to their range of products by marketing two cassette recorders in the medium price range. One of them is very representative of current thought by Japanese manufacturers in that it incorporates an f.m./a.m. tuner.

#### Noise reduction

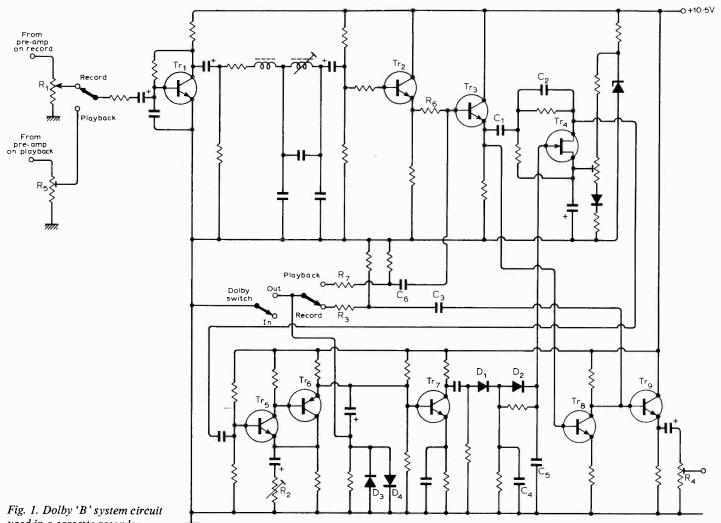
A principal problem in tape recording is the limitation set on dynamic range by the level of noise and the overload margin of

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the tape. Even with the new sophisticated ranges of tape available the demands of high-quality mastering require even lower levels of noise, thus giving room to accommodate a better dynamic range. Tape duplicating adds its own set of problems with the increase of noise which accompanies each stage of the copying process. For many years experiments were conducted with a view to producing an effective noise reducer which would not be noticeable in operation.

One such system has met with considerable success in this area, to the extent that it has become available in a domestic form in several cassette recorders, where the need for noise reduction is at its greatest, as well as in some reel-to-reel machines. The system is known as the Dolby 'A' noise reducing process for professional applications and the Dolby 'B' for domestic applications.

The professional processor was developed before the domestic version, but it is interesting to begin by examining the elements of the system by first taking a look at one of the earlier 'B' processor circuits, examining the circuit operation and then describing its philosophy. In this way we take an easy step to examining the principles of the more complex 'A' system. Fig. 1 shows one of the 'B' system circuits used as an integral part of a cassette recorder.



used in a cassette recorder.

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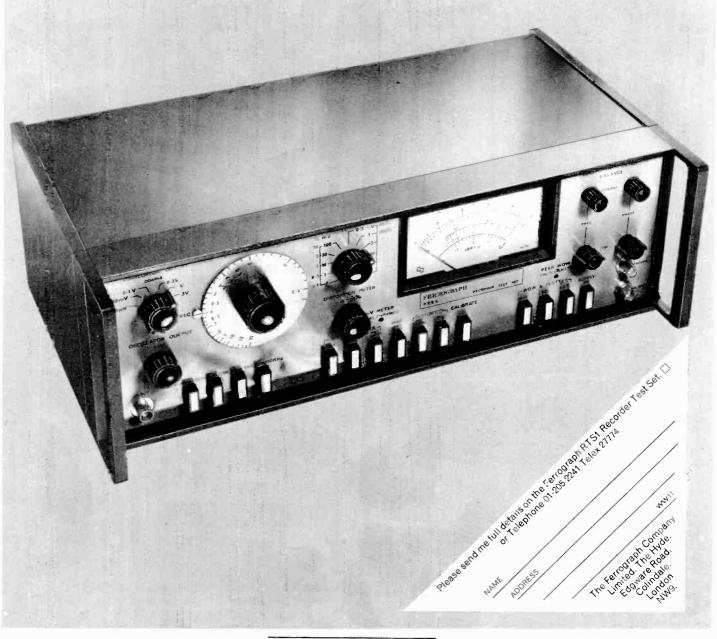
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On record, the input signal passes via the recorder input level control  $R_1$  and the bias/multiplex filter to emitter follower  $Tr_{2}$ The filter is required to remove supersonic noise, including the f.m. stereo pilot tone, which would otherwise upset the operation of the noise reduction circuit. Transistor  $Tr_3$  provides a high-impedance point on its base for summing on replay and a low impedance drive for a filter from which the noise reduction signal is derived. The filter consists of two elements - a fixed high-pass network consisting of capacitor  $C_1$  and a resistor and a variable high-pass network formed by capacitor  $C_2$  and the drain-to-source resistance of the  $Tr_{i}$ . The resistance of the f.e.t. is dependent on its gate-to-source voltage, which is derived from the non-linear rectifier stage driven by the transistor  $Tr_{j}$ . The impedance of the f.e.t. channel falls with a rise in its gate voltage. The output of the filter is amplified by the inverting stage,  $Tr_{\overline{3}}$  and  $Tr_{6}$ , the gain of which is adjusted by  $R_{2}$  during manufacture and determines the maximum amount of noise reduction signal available from the circuit. The noise-reduced signal appears at the emitter of  $Tr_6$ . The main signal is taken from the emitter of  $Tr_{i}$  into the inverting unity-gain amplifier  $Tr_8$  to the collector of which is fed the noise reduction signal via  $C_3$ . The two signals are in phase and so they add, the resulting boosted record signal being fed via emitter follower  $Tr_9$  and the record preset calibration control  $R_4$  to the head driver amplifer. The noise reduction signal is also used to derive the control signal for the variable section of the filter. The signal is amplified by  $Tr_i$ , rectified by  $D_1$  and initially integrated by capacitor  $C_4$ . The CR network in the emitter of  $Tr_7$  increases the gain of the stage at high frequencies, which in turn gives the characteristic turn down in the record response at medium levels (about -30 dB) thus avoiding the possibility of overloading the tape. The second part of the integrator, capacitor  $C_5$ , is charged during slow increases of side-chain signal level, but if the voltage drop across the series resistor becomes sufficient to forward-bias D<sub>2</sub>, charging of the capacitor takes place much quicker. It is this non-linear nature of the rectifier stage and the resulting control voltage which enables the noise reduction circuit to remain inconspicuous in action. For small changes in signal level, the control signal changes slowly and its action remains undetectable, for large transients, the control signal changes quickly, enabling the circuit to cope with the new signal conditions almost instantly, the effect of the transient in the control signal being masked, as far as the ear is concerned, by the transient in the signal. By the time that the ear has recovered from the effect of the signal transient, the control transient has passed. The maximum level of the noise reduction signal voltage under transient conditions is limited by diodes  $D_3$  and  $D_4$ . If actually clipping, the noise reduction signal may seem rather alarming, but it does not sound so because the condition lasts for



Farnell-Tandberg sound sync system provides a high quality sound recording facility for 8mm movie film.

less time than the ear takes to recover from the transient.

The switchable Dolby circuitry being described uses the same elements, rearranged somewhat, to produce the inverse characteristics of the system in its record mode to restore the signal to its original condition. The signal from the replay preamplifier comes via the replay preset calibration control  $R_{\overline{5}}$  and the bias/multiplex filter to the emitter of  $Tr_2$ . Here it is fed via  $R_6$  to the base of  $Tr_3$ where it is mixed with the noise-reduction signal coming from the emitter of  $Tr_6$  yia  $C_6$  and  $R_7$ . The mixed signal feeds the filter stage  $(C_1 \text{ etc.})$  and the inverting amplifier Tr<sub>8</sub>. The action of the filter, noise-reduction signal amplifier, rectifier driver and rectifier stages is identical to that in record. It should be noted that the phase of the noise-reduction signal is the inverse of that of the input signal at the emitter of  $Tr_2$  resulting in a subtraction of the noise-reduction signal from the input signal, thus giving the noisereduction action.

When the block diagram of the Dolby system is discussed later, it will become apparent that the signal appearing at the emitter of  $Tr_3$  will be identical with that fed into the input of the record processor. It will also become obvious why the filter stage is fed with this signal and not the replay input signal (i.e. that on the emitter of  $Tr_2$ ). The signal is then fed to the replay output amplifier.

#### Noise and dynamic range

Having discussed how the circuitry of one version of the basic Dolby idea works. it would now be worth while to consider why it should follow the dictated characteristics. All information, transmission and storage systems introduce extra information to that fed into the input. The unwanted information is generally called 'noise'. In a tape system, there are two basic sources of noise. These are the electronics involved in the transfer of the signal on and off the tape and the tape itself. Both these sources of noise have theoretical minimum values below which, at normal 'people com-

patible, temperatures at least, it is not possible to go. The effect of noise is that it manifests itself as being similar to the wanted signal but at a level somewhat below it. Noise gives rise to practical difficulties when the information to be recorded has a wide dynamic range, as has music. The magnetic properties of the tape limit the maximum signal that may be recorded on the tape without excessive distortion, and this means that if the dynamic range of the music is greater than the difference between the maximum signal allowable on the tape and the noise on the tape, then the quieter passages of the music will be lost amongst the noise. In order to reduce the effects of noise it is necessary to decrease the noise, increase the maximum allowable signal or to devise a way of modifying the signal on record so that the full dynamic range of the music is squashed to fit in the range allowed by the tape, and then to expand the range back to normal on replay.

You have already seen how the efforts of the tape manufacturers have improved the capability of their products, but this alone is not enough, especially if one bears in mind the trend, which is happening in parallel with the improvement in tapes, to narrower track widths and slower tape speeds. There have been therefore quite a large number of different approaches to the idea of dynamic range squashing. As not many of these systems are in use today, it is likely that they suffered from one or more of the general 'squasher' deficiencies, among which are poor tracking between record and replay, susceptibility to gain and law errors, poor dynamic range, poor dynamic capability, giving rise to overshoots on transients, audible 'breathing' effects and controlsignal-produced distortion effects.

It was not until some considerations of the physiological properties of the mechanism of hearing were brought to bear on the problem by Dr. Ray Dolby. that a satisfactory solution was devised. As we have seen his concept does away with any processing of high-level signals, these being applied to the tape in a completely unaltered form. No noise570

reduction action occurs for these signals, nor is any necessary because as far as ear is concerned the signal masks the noise. provided that the signal and the noise are fairly close to one another in frequency. This proviso gives rise to the necessity for the four-frequency band technique used in the A system and the sliding single high-frequency band (with the disadvantage that it is effective only against high-frequency noise) in the B system.

The noise-reduction action is applied only to low-level signals. A small correction signal, which we have been calling the noise-reduction signal is subtracted from the main signal on replay. On record the noise-reduction signal is added to the main signal to raise the low-level signal above the tape noise. Thus on record the wanted signal has its low-level components at a higher point than normal so that on replay these are depressed back to their normal position. The mathematics of the idea are quite simple. The record output y is related to the input x by:

#### $y = (1 + G_1(x))x$

where G, is the record amplifier gain. The replay output z is related to the replay input, which is equal to the record output v by:

$$z = y - G_2(z)$$

where  $G_{2}$  is the replay amplifier gain. Combining these two relations, we get:  $z = ((1+G_{1}(x))/(1+G_{2}(z)))x$ 

Now if 
$$G_1 = G_2$$
,  $z = 2$ 

Thus if the two noise-reduction signal producing blocks are identical, and the tape record /replay system between the two processors has unity gain, the replay signal is identical with the record. How these requirements have been realized in practice has already been described.

The second of the two conditions is catered for by the record and replay calibration preset controls whose existence was mentioned without explanation. Because a piece of electronic circuitry does not know what is a high level and what is a low level signal, an operating voltage in the circuit has to be related to a specific level of flux on the tape. The circuit then regards this voltage as its zero operating level. The replay calibration control is adjusted so that when a standard level set tape is played, the correct reference voltage appears at the input to the filter circuit of the processor. Because the tape recorder system needs to have unity gain, the record calibration is then adjusted so that with a voltage at the reference level appearing at the input to the filter circuit, a flux level equal to that on the level set tape is recorded on the tape, and this criterion tested by checking that the recorded tape replays at the same level as the level set tape. This requirement is perhaps a little inconvenient since the record calibration needs to be checked and possibly changed if the type of tape used for recording is changed, due to the different sensitivities of different tapes. However, the system is not too critical of gain differences, up to 2dB being tolerable in the domestic system.

Since the wider tracks and higher

speeds of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in tapes result in lower noise the so called 'Dolby reference level' is 180nWb/m and for cassettes 200nWb/m. To ensure compatibility it is necessary to have the highest quality test tapes, and in general tracked test tapes are undesirable unless there is some guarantee of the accuracy of vertical alignment in the head of the machine under test.

Brief mention has been made of the professional Dolby 'A' system which was the predecessor of the domestic 'B' system. Since the physiological 'raison d'etre' for the Dolby system has been explained, it will suffice to provide the reminder that noise masking by high-level signals occurs only for that section of the spectrum appearing in the proximity of the high-level signal. This suggests that to produce optimum noise reduction in high-speed recordings over the entire audio range, the processor needs to work several discrete bands. The 'A' in processor does precisely this, dividing the range into four separate bands, the amount of effect produced in each band being dependent upon the signals present within its own pass band. In practice the filters are not so sharp as to prevent some 'spill-over action' from one channel to another, which can only serve to provide a continuity over the pass-band. The frequency divisions are made as follows: 80Hz low pass; 80Hz-3kHz band pass; 3kHz-9kHz band pass; and 9kHz high pass.

The need for a division between the two systems becomes obvious when considering that at low tape speeds the most obtrusive noise is hiss — hum and low frequency noises being largely unnoticed at the listening levels employed domestically. Thus the Dolby 'B' system represents an economic solution to a vexing problem. Wherever the highest quality is required of the system and the economics are less of a governing factor, the Dolby 'A' system proves more satisfactory.

Hum and other low-frequency noise is suppressed in band 1, cross talk and print though mostly occur in band 2 where they are suppressed, bands 3 and 4 dealing with higher frequency noises. The Dolby 'A' processors are made exclusively by Dolby Laboratories.

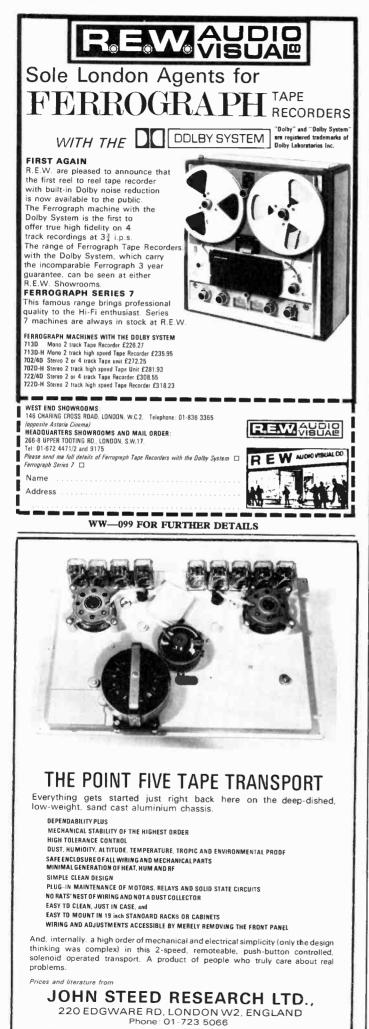
With the increasing interest in recorded cassettes the Dolby 'B' process has come into its own. Already most of the major producers of this 'packaged music' are marketing Dolby 'B' processed tapes where the high speed duplicating copies have been prepared using the new model 320 processor designed specifically for this purpose.

On the domestic front the 'B' processor units are manufactured by licencees for inclusion either directly into recording machines or into separate 'black box' processors for use with any tape hi-fi system. Examples of the former type of unit have already appeared in such machines as the Bell & Howell Des 1700, Rank Wharfedale DC9, Harmon Kardon, Ferrograph Series 7 and Revox. Examples of the latter 'black box' units are just beginning to appear from Kellar and from Alpha (Highgate Acoustics), both manufactured in the U.K.

From the amount of interest aroused by this system, one might be forgiven for imagining that it is the only noise suppression device available. It is probably true to say that the only other domestic systems are used solely by the designer in his own machines. Sony and National Panasonic have both marketed domestic noise reduction circuits in their own machines which operate on the 'threshold switch' principle. Here, the replay signal is constantly monitored and once it falls below a pre-determined level the gain of the replay amplifiers is reduced to suppress noise. Such a system inevitably produces an effect on the signal inasmuch as a low-level signal mixed with the noise can also be suppressed. The advantages of a non-complementary system capable of dealing with conventionally recorded material is fairly obvious and is exploited in a system announced by Philips. Known as the dynamic noise limiter it is said to operate on the replayed signal to reduce high-frequency noise according to the signal level existing at the time. Insomuch as it operates in a continuous fashion there appears to be some vague resemblance to aspects of the Dolby 'B' system. However, there is no evidence that the operation and recovery times of the processor take into account the recovery time of the ear as does the 'B' system. As a result it would seem almost certain that the action of the Philips d.n.l. would be noticeable and intitial reports of demonstrations at CES in America suggest that the 'pumping' and 'breathing' typical of many early systems was noticeable on certain types of recording. What does seem a little odd is that Philips appear very reluctant to release any further information or even give a U.K. demonstration.

#### Future trends

Cassettes show themselves as a growth industry and it is probably time to say that domestic purchases will be almost totally in this area in the years to come. Already some clear divisions are appearing, with cartridges serving the background music and car reproducer field, cassettes eating into the disc industry and reel-to-reel machines reserved for those who make their own recordings. I feel sure that such a polarization will continue, although experiments are proceeding with even higher quality cassette machines which may well equal the performance of the best domestic reel-to-reel machines.





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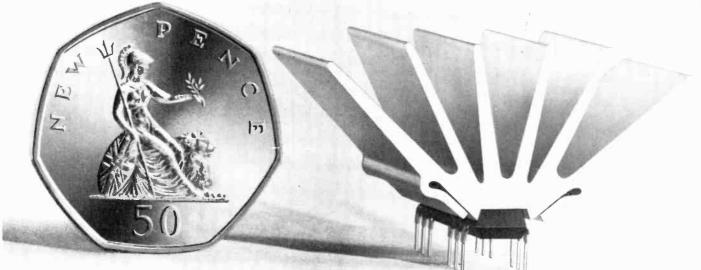
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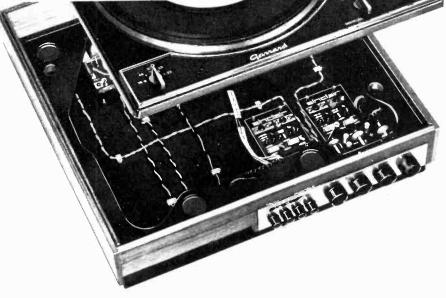
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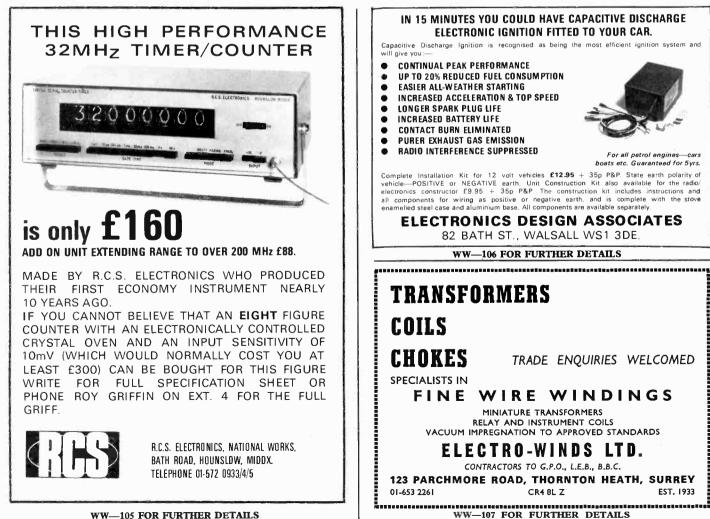
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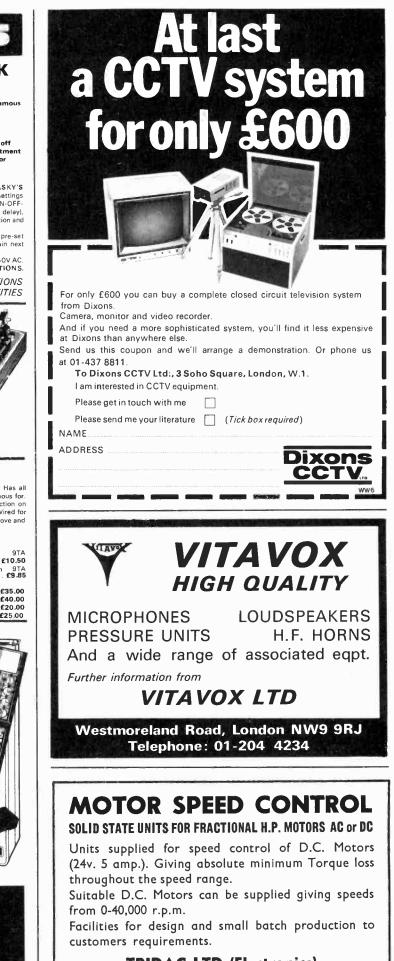
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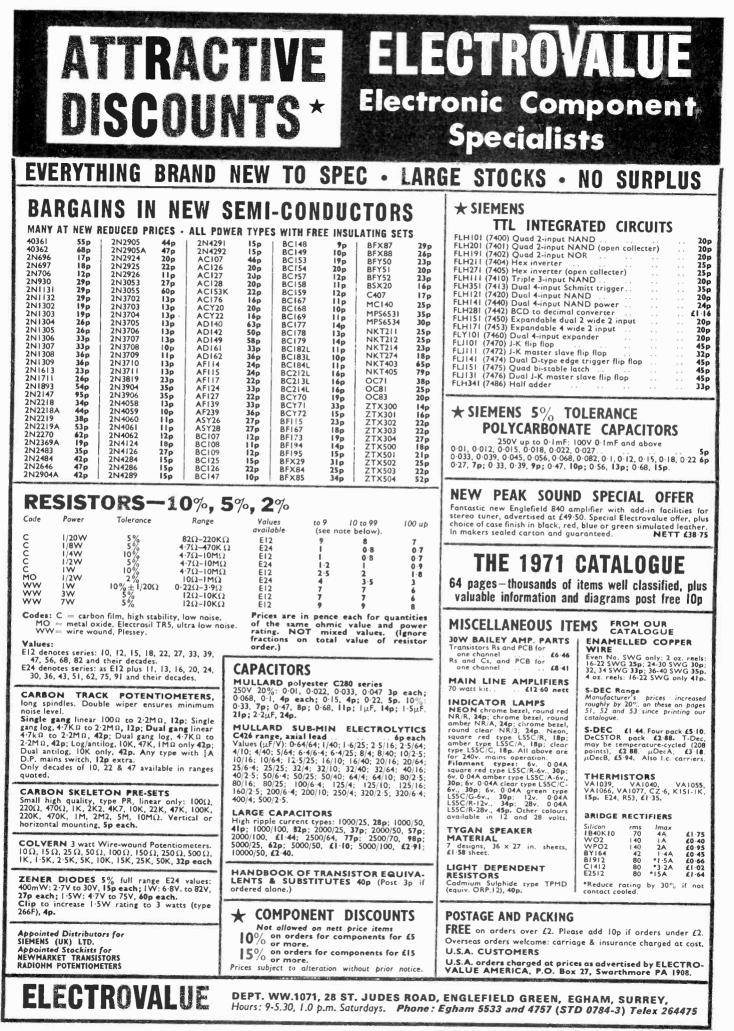
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Туре В We welcome orders from established companies, ducational depts., etc., a surcharge of 50p to cover cost of invoicing must be made on any order amounting to less than £2.50 unless remittance with order.



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"HONEYWELL" V3 Series. Flush micro-switch 10 amp. c/o. The side panel is insulated. End plate size: 2" x 8", £150-per doz. Carriage Paid. "FIBRE GLASS" COPPER CLAD. Top grade. One size only,  $7\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $4\frac{2}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". 3 panels £1.00. 12 panels £3.50. P. & P. 15p. "SRBP" COPPER CLAD. Sizes:  $7\frac{2}{4}$ " x  $4\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". 16 for £1.00,  $13\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". 3 for £1.00.  $14\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{4}$ ". x  $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep. 1 amp. type D.P.D.T. 1" x  $\frac{1}{4}$ x  $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep. 1 amp. type J.P.D.T.  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep. £1.25 per doz. Either type or mixed as required. Carriage Paid. PLUNGER SWITCHES. Spring return. 3P.D.T. 1 amp.

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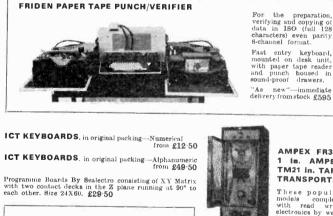


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 1.0
 0.5

 2
 1

 4
 2

 6
 3

 10
 5

 16
 8

 20
 10

 30
 15

 60
 30
 Weight Ib oz Ref. No. 111 213 71 18 70 72 17 115 187 226 Size cm, Secondary Windings *b* oz 12 1 0 1 0 2 4 3 12 6 3 7 8 11 13 16 12 34 0  $\begin{array}{c} 7\cdot6\times 5\cdot7\times 4\cdot4\\ 8\cdot3\times 5\cdot1\times 5\cdot1\\ 7\cdot0\times 6\cdot4\times 5\cdot7\\ 8\cdot3\times 7\cdot0\times 7\cdot0\times 7\cdot0\\ 10\cdot2\times 7\cdot6\times 8\cdot6\\ 7\cdot9\times 10\cdot8\times 10\cdot2\\ 12\cdot1\times 9\cdot5\times 10\cdot2\\ 12\cdot1\times 11\cdot 4\times 10\cdot2\\ 13\cdot3\times 12\cdot1\times 12\cdot1\\ 17\cdot0\times 14\cdot5\times 12\cdot5\end{array}$ 0-12V ot 0-25A × 2 0-12V at 0-5A × 2 0-12V at 0-5A × 2 0-12V at 1A × 2 0-12V at 2A × 2 0-12V at 3A × 2 0-12V at 3A × 2 0-12V at 8A × 2 0-12V at 10A × 2 0-12V at 15A × 2 0-12V at 15A × 2 0-12V at 30A × 2 £ 0 74 0 88 1 16 1 62 1 95 2 56 3 95 5 03 9 28 17 05 30 VOLT RANGE Secondary Taps P & P Np 22 36 42 52 52 67 Weight 1b oz. 1 4 2 0 3 2 4 6 6 0 6 8 7 8 12 2 Ref. No. 112 79 Amps. Size cm. £ 0.88 1.18 1.75 2.16 2.56 3.18 3.79 6.21 8·3 × 3·7 × 4·9 7·0 × 6·4 × 6·0 8·9 × 7·0 × 7·6 10·2 × 8·9 × 8·6 10·2 × 10·0 × 8·6 12·1 × 10·0 × 8·6 12·1 × 10·0 × 10·2 14·0 × 10·2 × 11·4 0.5 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 10.0 0-12-15-20-24-30 3 20 21 51 117 89 ..... Weight 1b oz 1 11 2 10 5 0 6 0 9 4 12 4 18 9 19 12 50 VOLT RANGE Secondary Taps Amps. P & P Np 30 36 42 52 52 67 97 Ref. Size cm. £ 1.16 1.69 2.34 3.18 4.20 6.21 8.10 10.15 No. 102 103 104 105 106 107 118 119 7.0 × 7.0 × 5.7 8.3 × 7.3 × 7.0 10.2 × 8.9 × 8.6 10.2 × 10.2 × 8.3 12.1 × 11.4 × 10.2 12.1 × 11.4 × 13.3 0-5 1-0 2-0 3-0 4-0 6-0 8-0 10-0 0-19-25-33-40-50∨ 22 22 23 11 11 11 11 11 13 3 × 13 3 × 12 1 16 5 × 11 4 × 15 9 ... Weight Size cm. P & P Np 36 36 42 52 67 82 60 VOLT RANGE 0240686122  $\begin{array}{c} 8\cdot3\times 9\cdot5\times 6\cdot7\\ 8\cdot9\times 7\cdot6\times 7\cdot6\\ 10\cdot2\times 8\cdot9\times 8\cdot6\\ 11\cdot9\times 9\cdot5\times 10\cdot0\\ 11\cdot4\times 9\cdot5\times 11\cdot4\\ 13\cdot3\times 12\cdot1\times 12\cdot1\\ 16\cdot5\times 12\cdot7\times 16\cdot5\end{array}$ £ 1.64 2.56 3.90 5.03 7.28 12.05 0-24-30-40-48-60V 46. 5-03 7-28 12-05 \*\* Carriage via B.R.S. \*\* BATTERIE: P& \*\* LEAD ACID PRIMARY 200-250 VOLT BATTERY CHARGER TYPES FOR CHARGING 6 OR 12 VOLT BATTERIES Weight Ib oz 1 9 3 11 5 12 6 4 11 14 Size cm. P & P Np 30 42 52 52 67 £ 1-17 1-77 2-67 7.0 x 6.0 x 6.0 10.2 x 7.0 x 8.3 10.2 x 8.9 x 8.3 9.9 x 10.2 x 1.77 2.67 3.04 4.52 All ratings are continuous. Standard construction: open with solder tags and wax impregnation. Enclosed styles to order. MAINS KEYNECTOR For fast mains input to one or more electrical appliances up to 13 amps without wiring a plug. Ideal for production testing, servicing and display, etc. Send for descriptive leaflet. £2.75. P & P 25np ★ Custom production winding service ★Ex stock items same day service \* Quantity prices on application Also stocked: SEMICONDUCTORS · VALVES

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11

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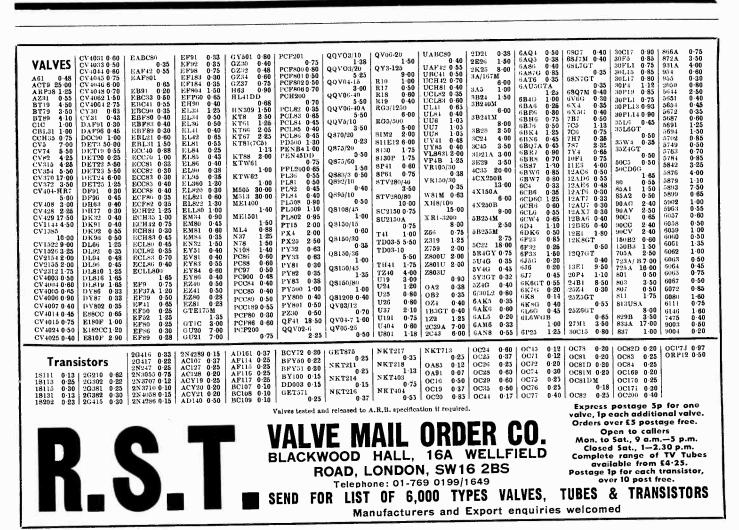
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#### Wireless World, November 1971

	T C ELSI 0.50 N108 1.40 PM84 0.351 URIC 0.53 [1N1124A.53 [AF139 0.65] FSY41A 23 [0C22 0.38 [ELS3 0.38 N308 0.95] PX4 1.16 [UU5 0.38 [1N4952 0.50 [AF178 0.68 ] GD4 0.33 [0C23 0.38
BENTLEY ACOUST	EL53 030 1030 035 144 122 118 UU9 040 28404 018 AF180 048 GD5 028 0C24 038
CORPORATION LT	LU EL86 0.33 P61 0.48 PY80 0.33 UY1N 0.50 2N1756 0.50 AF186 0.55 GD8 0.20 0C26 0.24 EL91 0.23 PABC80 PY81 0.24 UY41 0.38 2N2147 0.85 AF239 0.38 GD9 0.20 0C28 0.60
	EL95 0.33 0.33 PY82 0.24 UY85 0.25 2N2297 0.23 ASY27 0.43 GD11 0.20 OC29 0.63
38 CHALCOT ROAD, CHALK FARM, LONDON, THE VALVE SPECIALISTS Telephone 01-72	
GLOUCESTER ROAD, LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX. Littlehampt	EM83 0.75 PC93 0.53 PY301 0.58 U16 0.75 2N2613 0.39 BA102 0.45 GD15 0.40 0C38 0.43
Please forward all mail orders to Littlehampton	200 0745 EM84 0.31 PC97 0.38 PY500 0.95 U17 0.35 2N3053 0.33 BA115 0.14 GD16 0.20 OC41 0.50 EM87 0.35 PC900 0.32 PY809 0.33 U18/20 0.75 2N3121 2.50 BA116 0.25 GET111 78 OC42 0.63
Flease forward all mail orders to Electenampton	EY51 0-33 PCC84 0-29 PY801 0-33 U19 1-73 2N3703 0-19 BA129 0-13 GET113 20 OC43 1-18
	EC32 0.85 EY81 0.85 PC085 0.28 PZ30 0.48 U22 0.39 2N3709 0.20 BA130 0.10 GET116 40 OC44 0.10 EC32 1.50 EY83 0.55 PC088 0.43 QP21 0.50 U25 0.84 2N3866 1.00 BA153 0.15 GET118 20 OC45 0.11
OB2         0.30         6BE6         0.21         6K8G         0.18         12BA6         0.30         30PL13         0.75         AZ41         0.53         0           OZ4         0.23         6BH6         0.43         6L1         0.98         12BE6         0.30         30PL14         0.65         B319         0.29         30PL14         0.65         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66         0.66	ECC33 1-50 EY84 0-50 PCC89 0-45 QQV03/10 U26 0-56 2N3988 0-50 BCY10 0-45 GET119 -20 OC46 0-15
1A3 0.23 6BJ6 0.39 6L6GT 0.39 12BH7 0.27 30PL15 0.87 CL33 0.90	ECC40 0.60 EY87/6 0.30 PCC189 0.48 1.20 U31 0.30 28323 0.50 BCY12 0.60 CET573 38 OC65 1.13
	ECC82 0 19 EY91 0 53 PCF82 0 30 0 63 U35 0 83 AA120 0 15 BCY34 0 23 GET872 95 OC71 0 11
1D5 0-38 6BQ7A 0-38 6L19 1-38 12J7GT 0-33 35D5 0-70 CY1C 0-53	ECC83 0-22 EZ35 0-25 PCF84 0-40 Q895/10 -49 U37 1-75 AA129 0-15 BCY38 0-23 GET873 15 OC72 0-11
1D6 0-48 6BR7 0-79 6LD20 0-48 12K5 0-50 35L6GT 42 CY31 0-31 3FD1 0-33 6BR8 0-63 6N7GT 0-40 12K7GT 34 35W4 0-23 D63 0-25	
1FD9 0.20 6B87 1.25 6P28 0.59 12Q7GT0.28 35Z3 0.50 DAF96 0.33	ECC86 0.40 EZ80 0.21 PCF800 0.60 QV04/7 0.63 U49 0.56 AC113 0.25 BC108 0.13 GET889 23 OC76 0.15
	BCC68 0 30 Bart 0 200 CT 0 00 CT 0 CT 0 CT 0 CT 0 CT 0
1L4 0-13 6BZ6 0-31 6R7G 0-35 128G7 0-23 50B5 0-35 DF91 0-14	ECC8010 55 FW4/500 PCF8050 60 R16 1 75 U78 0 20 AC128 0 20 BC116 0 25 GET897 23 OC78D 0 15
1N5GT 0.37 6C9 0.73 68A7M 0.35 128K7 0.24 2.17 DH76 0.28	ECF82 0.26 0.75 PCH200 62 R19 0.30 U191 0.58 AC157 0.25 BF154 0.25 GEX 35 0.23 OC81D 0.11
1R5 0.26 6CB6A 0.26 68C7GT0.33 128Q7GT 50EH5 0.55 DH77 0.18	
184 0.22 6C12 0.27 68G7GT0.33 0.50 50L6GT 45 DH81 0.58 185 0.20 6C17 0.63 68H7 0.53 13D3 0.45 72 0.33 DH101 1.25	2·10 GZ33 0·70 PCL84 0·34 RK34 0·38 U251 0·65 ACI67 0·60 BF163 0·20 GEX55 0·75 OC83 0·20
1U4 0 29 6CD6G 1 08 68J7GT 35 14H7 0 48 77 0 53 DK32 0 33	ECH21 0 63 GZ34 0 48 PCL86 0 38 SP13C 0 63 U281 0 40 AC168 0 38 BF173 0 38 GT3 0 25 OC84 0 24
1U5 0.48 6CG8A 0.50 68K7GT 23 1487 0.75 85A2 0.43 DK40 0.55 2D21 0.35 6CH6 0.38 6S97GT 33 18 0.63 85A3 0.40 DK92 0.38	ECH81 0.27 HABC80 PCL801 0.59 SP61 0.33 U291 0.50 AC176 0.55 BF181 0.40 M3 0.15 OC139 0.23
2GK5 0.50 6CL6 0.43 6U4GT 0.60 19AQ5 0.24 90AG 3.38 DK96 0.35	ECH83 0.39 0.45 PCL805/ TH4B 0.50 U301 0.40 AC177 0.28 BF185 0.40 MAT100 39 OC140 0.95
3A4 0.25 6CL8A 0.50 6U7G 0.53 19BG6G 85 90AV 3.38 DL92 0.26 3B4 0.25 6CM7 0.50 6V6G 0.17 19G6 0.50 90CG 1.70 DL96 0.35	ECL80 0.30 HL23DD PD500 1.44 TP2620 0.98 U381 0.25 ACY18 0.20 BFY50 0.23 MAT120 39 OC172 0.35
3B7 0.25 6CU5 0.30 6V6GT 0.30 19H1 2.00 90CV 1.68 DM70 0.30	ECL82 0.30 040 PEN4DD UABC80 30 U403 033 ACY19 019 BFY51 019 MAT121 43 OC200 022
	ECL84 0-55 0-98 PEN45 0.35 UBC41 0-45 U801 0-93 ACY21 0-19 BTX34/400 OA9 0-13 OC202 0-43
3Q5GT 0-35 6D6 0-15 6Y6G 0-55 20F2 0-65 150C2 0-30 0-38	ECL85 0.55 HL42DD PEN45DD UBC81 0.40 U4020 0.38 ACY22 0.15 2.00 OA10 0.43 OC203 0.30
	EF22 0.63 HN309 140 PEN46 0.20 UBF89 0.30 VP13C 0.35 AD140 0.36 BY101 0.15 OA70 0.15 OC205 0.43
4CB6 0.50 6E5 0.35 7B6 0.58 20P3 0.82 303 0.75 E80F 1.20	EF36 0 33 HVR2 0 53 PEN453DD UBL21 0 55 VP23 0 40 AD149 0 50 BY105 0 18 0 A73 0 15 0 206 0 50
5V4C 0.35 6F6 0.63 7F8 0.88 25A6G 0.29 807 0.59 E92CC 0.40	EF40 0.50 (W3 0.33 PENDD 10C85 0.34 VT501 0.15 ADT1400.63 BY127 0.18 0A85 0.08 [ORP12 0.53
	EF42 0.33 0.38 PFL2000.52 UCH21 0.60 VU120 0.60 AF106 0.50 BYZ10 0.25 0A90 0.13 8M1036 0.50
5Z4G 035 6F13 033 7V7 025 25Y5G 043 5702 080 113	EF54 0.98 1W4/500 PL33 0.38 UCH42 0.60 VU120A 60 AF114 0.25 BYZ11 0.25 0A91 0.09 ST1276 0.50
6/30L2 0.55 6F14 0.43 7Z4 0.50 25Z4G 0.30 5763 0.50 E1148 0.53 6A8G 0.33 6F15 0.65 9BW6 0.50 25Z5 0.40 6060 0.30 EA50 0.18	
6AC7 0.15 6F18 0.45 9D7 0.78 25Z6G 0.48 7193 0.53 EA76 0.88	EF83 0 48 KT8 1.75 PL81A 0.50 UCL83 0 48 W81M 0 68 AF119 0 23 BYZ15 1.75 0A202 0 19 XZ30 0 25
	EF86 0.29 KT44 1.00 PL83 0.32 UF42 0.60 W729 0.60 AF124 0.25 CG64H 0.20 0A211 0.68 Y728 0.18
6AK5 0.25 6F25 0.54 10DE7 0.50 30C17 0.77 A2134 0.98 EAC91 0.38	EF89 0.23 KT63 0.25 PL81 0.30 UF80 0.35 XE3 5.00 AF126 0.18 FSY11A 23 OC19 1.25 ZE12V7 09
	INDO. A OF KT71 0.69 DI SOLU INDER 0.69 VIT1.5 0.49 MATURED TRANSISTOR SEIS.
6AM4 0.83 6F32 0.15 10LD110.53 30FL1 0.60 AC2PEN EB91 0.11	EF97 0.55 KT76 0.68 PL500 0.62 UF89 0.27 X41 0.50 LP 15 (AC113, AC154, AC154, AA120), 53p.
	TEP98 0.05 KTW61 200 F1.305 1.30 UL41 0.09 X10 0.08 1-OC44 and 2-OC45. 43p.
6AQ5 0.22 6GK5 0.50 12A6 0.63 30FL14 0.68 0.98 EBC90 0-18	EF184 0.29 KTW62 63 PL509 1.30 UL84 0.31 Z749 0.68 1-0C82D and 2-0C82 48p. Set of 3-0C83 65p.
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6AW8A0.54 6J7G 0.24 12AU6 0.21 30P12 0.69 AL60 0.78 EC53 0.63	EL35 1.00 MKT4 0.98 The man of husiness Cash or chaque with order Post/nacking 30 per item, subject to a minimum
	EL42 0.53 N78 2.03 data post paid. No enquiries answered unless S.A.E. is enclosed for reply.

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GARDNERS TRANSFORMERS PRI T. 200, 220, 240v. Sec. 1, 63v., 1-6a. Sec. 2, tapped 20, 22, 24v., 0-8a. Sec. 3, 6-3v., 1a. All winding conservatively rated. Open frame type table top connections.	All Primaries tapped 200-220-240v, Table top connections. Sec.130v., 450 m/a. Three times. <b>64-25</b> . P. & P. 40p.  1-0-11v., 176 m/a. <b>75p.</b> P. & P. 20p. 22v., 0.9a. and 21v., 60 m/a. <b>75p.</b> P. & P. 25p. 370-390-410v., 6 m/a. <b>50p.</b> P. & P. 20p. 28-80-28 8v., 150 m/a. <b>90p.</b> P. & P. 25p. 128-0-128v. 20 m/a.	AUTO TRANSFORMERS 240v110v. or 100v. Completely Shrouded fitted with Two-pin American Sockets or terminal blocks. Please state which type required.
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37‡p. P.P. 7‡p.         ELECTRO METHODS 2:3v. A.C. CONTACTORS         1 Heavy Duty Change-over Contact. Size 2½ × 1½ × 1         50p. P.P. 10p.	GARDNERS CHOKES 100H. 20 m/a., 50p. P.P. 20p. 20H. 80 m/a., 50p. P.P. 20p.	3D         25-30-35          5         £4·15         45p         3E         25-30-35          2         £3·15         45p         45p         44·4         12-20-24          2         £3·25         45p         45p
1 × 1 × 1 in. New and boxed with mounting screws. 45p. P.P. 5p. MAGNETIC DEVICES SEALED RELAYS 5,000 Ω, 3 C.O. contacts. Overall size 2 × 2 × 1 ½ in. New boxed.	GRESHAM HEAVY DUTY HT CHOKES 10H 300m/a DC. Conservatively rated. DC Res 500. Size H 74 x 54 x 54 ins. Weight 184 10s. Open type. Table top connections, <b>£3</b> :50. Carr. 75p. 15H 180 m/a. 2000, <b>£2</b> :25. 300 m/a. 600, <b>£3</b> :75. Carr. 75p. 15H 180 m/a. 2000, <b>£2</b> :25. P. & P. 50p. 10H 180 m/a. 1300; <b>£1</b> :50, P. & P. 40p. 10H m/a.	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
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S.T.C. SELENIUM FW BRIDGE RECTIFIERS Max. A.C. input 36v. D.C. output 24v., 5a. £1-50. P.P. 25p. DIAMOND H RELAYS	SPECIAL OFFER RADIO SPARES MULTI-TAPPED L.T. TRANSFORMERS Pri. 200, 220, 240v. Sec. provides all voltages from i-40v., 90	CURRENT RANGE OF BRAND NEW L.T. TRANS- FORMERS, FULLY SHROUDED (*excepted) TERMINAL BLOCK CONNECTIONS, ALL PRIMARIES 220/240v No. Sec. Taps Amps Price Carr.
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121 Dual 4-input NAND gate 7420 20p 16p 14p	decoder TTL output	7442 £1-16 94p 81p	17  Divide-by-12 counter 7492 85p 71p 61p 181 4-bit binary counter 7493 80p 67p 57p 191 4-bit shift register 7495 87p 72p 62p
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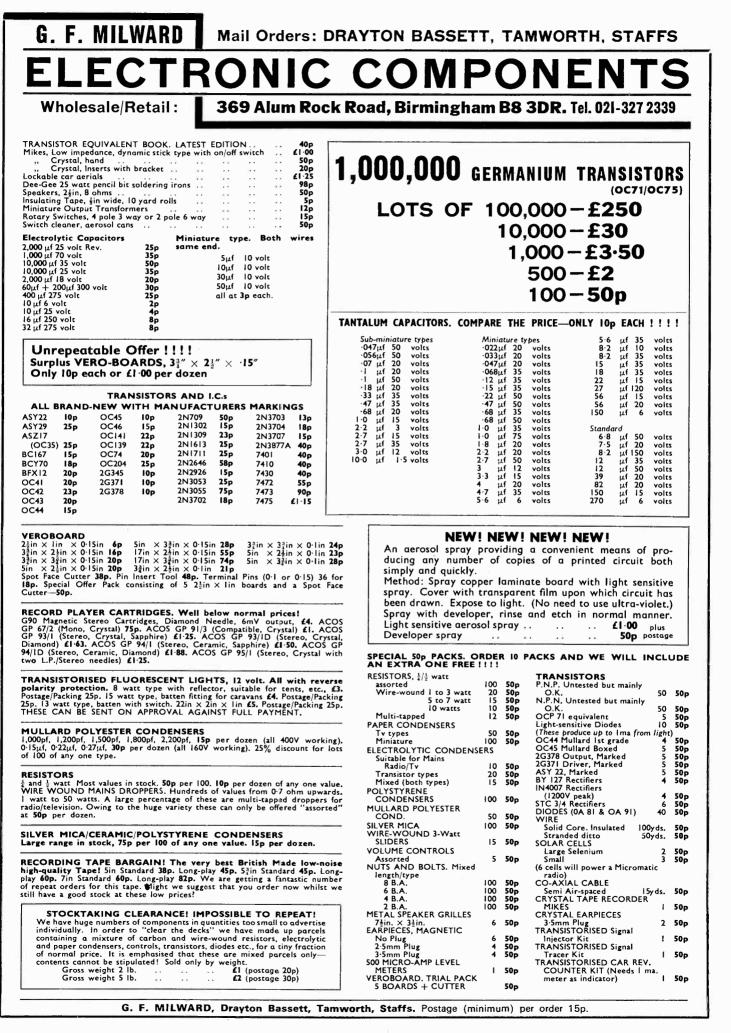
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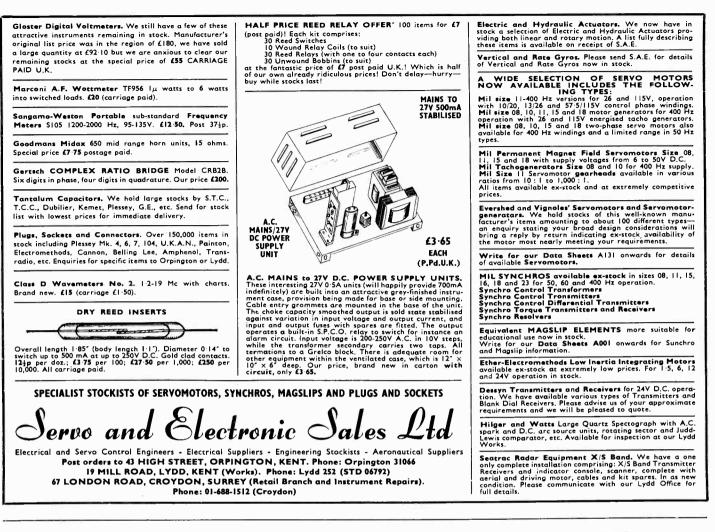
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CA3020	1.26 1.13	MC1013 1.70 MC30		1.63	8N7460	0.20 0.18	8N74170	4.38 4.18	FCJ101 1.62	PA234 0.92
CA3020A	1.60 1.43	MC1034 5-95 MFC4		3.10	8N7470	0.40 0.38	8N74174	2.40 2.30		PA237 2.10
CA3021 CA3022	1·56 1·39 1·30 1·16	MC1302 2.70 MFC4		3.10	SN7472	0.32 0.30	SN74175	1.68 1.60	FCJ111 1.55	PA239 2-10
CA3023	1.26 1.13	MC1303 2.70 MFC6	00 0.68 01.0010	1.30	8N7473	0.43 0.41	<b>SN74176</b>	2.64 2.55	FCJ201 1.80	PA246 1.60 PA264 1.90
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CA3030	1-37 1-23 2-53 2-25	L914 0-40 0-3 1-5 6-1		1-5 6-11	8N7483	0.87 0.82	SN74190	1.80 1.70	SGS	Sheets 5p per type.
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CA3035	1.23 1.10	UA702C TO5 0.77 0.7		90 0.88	SN7486	0.33 0.30	8N74193	1.75 1.65 2.67 2.55	TAA700A 3.75	TOSHIBA £
CA3036	0.73 0.65	UA703C TO5 0.62 0.6		87 1.75	8N7490 8N7491AN	0.87 0.84	8N74194 8N74195	2.67 2.55 2.25 2.10		TH9013P 4-57
CA3037	1.65 1.47	UA709A TO5 1-25 1-2	2 UA741C TO5 (	80 0.78	SN7491AN	0.87 0.84	8N74195	2.64 2.55	TAA611B 1.69	20 watt amp. TH9014P 1.50
CA3037A	2.53 2.25	UA709C DIL 0.45 0.4	3 TRATIC DIL	70 0.68	8N7493	0.87 0.84	SN74198	5.95 5.65	TAA611C 2.03	Pre-amp
CA3038 CA3038A	2·53 2·25 3·40 3·03	UA709C TO5 0.47 0.4 8N72769PDIL 0.45 0.4		.70 0.68	8N7494	0.87 0.84	SN74199	5-95 5-65	TBA651 1.69	Data sheets 0.121
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CA3048	2.04 1.81	SN7407 0.20 0.18		84 0.78		l-in-Line I.C. H		l	Sheet. 20.65 6 4	00 1·12
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**MODERN TELEPHONES** type 706. Two tone grey **£3:50** ea. The same but black **£3** ea. P. & P. 25p ea. BRAND NEW, two tone grey £6 ea. P. & P. 25p ea. STANDARD GPO DIAL TELEPHONES (black) with internal bell. 87p. P. & P. 25p. Two for £1.50. P. & P. 37p. PHOTOMULTIPLIERS. EMI 6097X at £8.50 ea. 6097B-£5 ea. Type 931A-£2.25 ea. SPECIAL OFFER 5 in. Photomultiplier type, PDP84G by 20th Century, **£3** ea. P. & P. 30p. **TRANSISTOR OSCILLATOR.** Variable frequency 40 c/s to 5 kc/s. 5 volt square wave o/p, for 6 to 12v DC input. Size  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  in. Not encapsulated. Brand new. Boxed. 57p ea.

**RELAYS** G.E.C. Sealed Relays High Speed 24V. 2m 2b-23p ea. **S.T.C.** Sealed 2 pole c/o 700 ohms (24V). **I5p** ea. 12v **35p** ea.

127 359 ca. CARPENTERS polarised Single pole c/o 20 and 65 ohm coil as new, complete with base 37p ca. Single pole c/o 14 ohm coil 33p ca; Single pole c/o 45 ohm coil 33p ca. Single pole c/o 4000 ohm coil 33p ca. Varley VP4 Plastic covers 4 pole c/o 5K—30p ca. 15K—

**POTENTIOMETERS COLVERN** 3 watt. Brand new. 5; 10; 25; 50; 100; 250; 500 ohms; 1; 25; 5; 10; 25; 50k all at 13p ea. 250; 500 onms; 1; 2:5; 5; 10; 25; 50k all at 13p ea. MORGANITE Special Brand new. 2:5; 10; 100; 250; 500K; 2:5 meg. 1 in. seaked. 17p ea. BERCO SQ. Brand new. 5; 10; 50; 250; 500 ohms; 1; 2:5; 5: 10; 25; 50K at 25p ea.

STANDARD 2 meg. log pots. Current type 15p ea.

INSTRUMENT 3 in. Colvern 5 ohm 35p ea; 50k and 100K 50p ea.

**BOURNE TRIM POTS.** 10; 20; 50; 100; 200; 250; 500 ohms; 1; 2.5; 5; 25K at **35p** ea.

ALMA precision resistors 100K; 400K; 497K; 998K; 1 meg-0.1% 27p ea.; 3.25k, 13K-0.1% 20p ea.

ERIE feed through ceramicons 2200 pf--4p ea. Sub-min. TRIMMER i square. 8, 5pf. Brand new 13p ea. Concentric TRIMMER 3/30 pf. Brand new 7p ea. E.II.T. 2mfd 5KV. Brand new. **£1**:50 ea.

#### VISCONOL EHT CAPACITORS

Size $1 \times 21$ ins.	Size $1 + \times 5 + ins$ .							
0.05mfd 2.5kV 50p ea.	0.01mfd	10kV	50p ea.					
0.001mfd 5kV 40p ea.	0-002mfd	18kV	65p ea.					
0.001mfd 10kV 50p ca.	0-05mfd	15kV	80p ea.					
	0-01mfd	15kV	80p ea.					
	0.0005mfd	20kV	60p ea.					
Size $21 \times 61$ ins.	0.1mfd	7kV	40p ea.					
0.05mfd 8kV 50p ea.	0.1mfd	5kV	35p ea.					
Brand new 0.25mfd 5 KV. I		ea. P. &	P. 15p.					
Rapid discharge 1mfd 5.6KV £l ea. P. & P. 15p.								
MULLARD 47000mfd, 25V, 28A. Brand new at 60p								
plus 10p carriage.								

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As above but 25 way 50p ea. plug; 35p ea. socket; 75p per pair; 9 way 33p ea. plug and socket, 50p per pair.

TRANSFORMERS. All standard inputs. **TRANSFORMERS.** All standard inputs. **STEP DOWN I SOLATING** trans. Standard 240v AC to 120V tapped 60.0-60 700W. Brand new. **45** ea. As above 55-0-55V 300W. **42** ea. P. & P. 35p. Neptune series **460**-455-0 etc. 230 MA and 600-570-540-0 etc. 250 MA. **43 50** incl. post. Multi 6:3 Volta to give 48V 3:5 Amps etc. **43 50** incl. post. 3:5V 40 Amps (180VA) **41 75** ea. incl. postage, or 3 for **44 50** incl. postage. Designed to be series paralleled. Parmeko 6:3v 2 amp × 4-**4**1 **13** ea. Gard/Parm/Part. 450-400-0-400-450. 180 MA.  $2 \times 6.3v$ . **43** ea.

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MARCONI Noise gen. TF1301, **£40**. Carr. £1:50, Vacuum tube Voltmeter TF1041A, **£33**; 1041B, **£45**. Wide Range Oscillator TF 1370 and TF 1370A, 10 c/s-10 nc/s from **£140**. Deviation Meter TF934/2, **£50** ea. Carr. £1:50. Deviation type 719, **£30** ea. Carr. 75p. TF 1026 Frequency Meter **£12**:50. Carr. 75p. TF 329 Magnification Meter. As new condition **£60**. TF 801A Signal generator **£35**. Carr. £1:50. TF 801A Signal generator **£35**. Carr. £1:50. TF 886 Magnification Meter **£45**. Carr. £1: TF 369 N. 5 Impedance Bridge from **£50** ea. Carr. **£1**:50. TF 309 F. 5 Impedance Strage 1 51-50. TF 144G Signal Generator, Serviceable, Clean £15. In exceptional condition £25. Carr. £1-50. Valve voltmeter type CT208, £1750 ea. Carr. 75p. TF 885 Video Oscillator Sine/Square £35 Carr. £1-50. TF885/1 £55. Carr. £1-54.

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CINTEL

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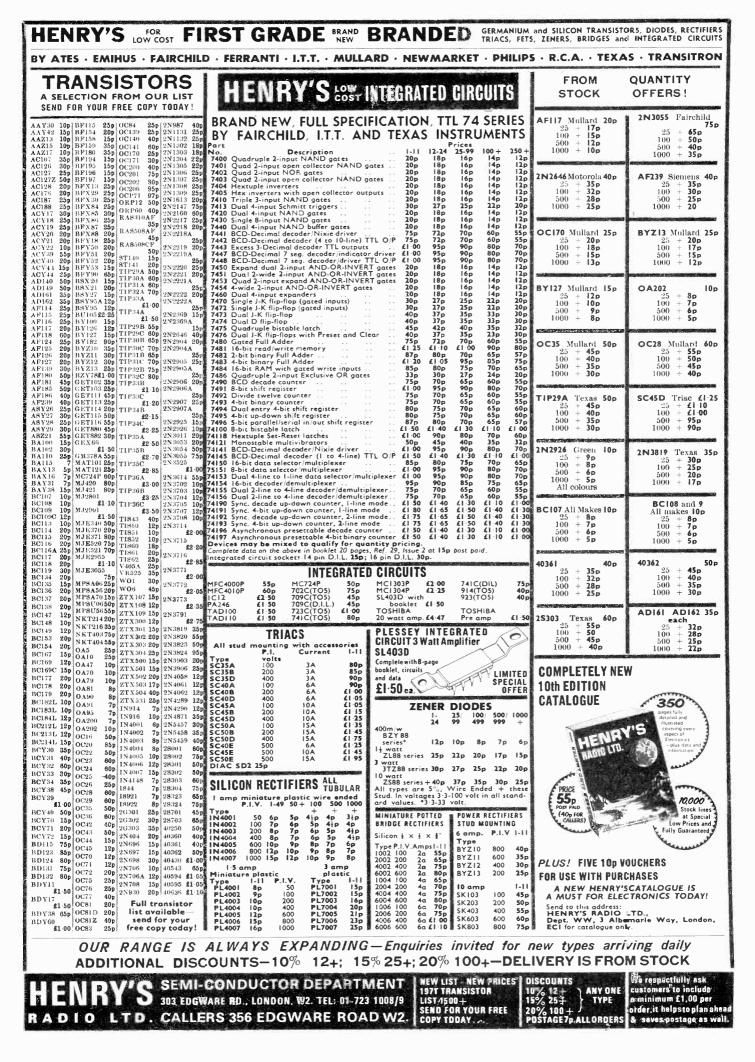
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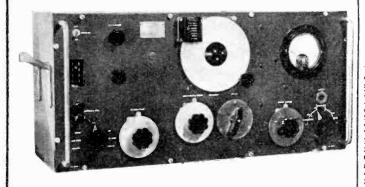
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variable. O/put Impedance—50  $\Omega$ . Price: **£120** each + £2 carr. **SIGNAL GENERATOR TYPE 902**: (P.R.D.). A portable, general-purpose, broadband, microwave signal generator designed for testing and maintenance of aircraft radio and radar receivers in the SHF band. The RF output level is regulated by a variable attenuator calibrated in dbm. The frequency dial is calibrated in Mc/s. Provision is made for external modulation. Power Supply— 115V, ±10% A.C., 50 c/s. Freq.—3650-7300 Mc/s. Internal Transmission— CW, Pulse, FM. External Transmission—Square Wave, Pulse. Power O/put— 0.2 milliwatts. O/put Attenuator: —7 to —127 dbm. Load—50  $\Omega$ . Price: **£135** each + £2 carr.

£135 each + £2 carr.
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CT.54 VALVE VOLTMETER: Portable battery operated. In strong metal case with full operating instructions. 2.4V-480V. A.C. or D.C. in 6 Ranges,  $1\Omega$  to  $10\text{Meg}\Omega$  in 5 Ranges. Indicated on 4in. scale meter. Complete with probe, excellent condition. £12.50, carr. 75p.

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DIGITAL VOLTMETER & RATIOMETER Model BIE. 2116, £65, carr. £2. DIGITAL VOLTMETER Model BIE. 2114, £55, carr. £2. (Mnftrs. Blackburn Instruments).

MARKA SWEEP GENERATOR MODEL VIDEO (Kay Electric, USA) £65, carr. £2.

ROTARY CONVERTERS: Type 8a, 24 v D.C., 115 v A.C. @ 1.8 amps, 400 c/s 3 phase, \$6:50 each, post 50p. 24 v D.C. input, 175 v D.C. @ 40mA. output, £1:25 each, post 20p.

CONDENSERS: 40 mfd, 440 v A.C. wkg. £5 each, 50p post. 30 mfd 600 v wkg. d.c., £3:50 each, post 50p. 15 mfd 330 v a.c., wkg., 75p each, post 25p. 10 mfd 1000 v. 63p each, post 13p. 10 mfd 600 v. 43p each, 25p post. 8 mfd 2500 v. £5 each, carr. 63p. 8 mfd 600 v. 43p each, post 15p, 8 mfd. 1% 300 v. D.C. £1:25, post 25p, 4 mfd 3000 v. wkg. £3 each, post 37p. 4 mfd 2000 v. £2 each, post 25p. 4 mfd 600 v., 2 for £1. 0:25 mfd, 2Ky, 20p each, post 10p. 0:01 mfd MICA 2-5Kv. £1 for 5, post 10p. Capacitor 0:125 mfd, 27,000 v. wkg. £3:75 each, 50p post.

TCS MODULATION TRANSFORMERS, 20 watts, pr. 6,000 C.T., sec. 6,000 ohns. Price £1.25, post 25p.

SOLENOID UNIT: 230 v. A.C. input, 2 pole, 15 amp contacts, £2.50 each.

CONTROL PANEL: 230 v. A.C., 24 v. D.C. @ 2 amps, £2.50 each, carr. 75p. OHMITE VARIABLE RESISTOR: 5 ohms, 51 amps; or 40 ohms at 2.6 amps. Price (either type) £2 each, 25p post each.

**TX DRIVER UNIT:** Freq. 100-156 Mc/s. Valves  $3 \times 3C24$ 's; complete with filament transformer 230 v. A.C. Mounted in 19in. panel, £4:50 each, carr. 75p.

**POWER SUPPLY UNIT PN-12A:** 230V a.c. input 50-60 c/s. 513V and 1025V @ 420 mA output. With 2 smoothing chokes 9H, 2 Capacitors, 10Mfd 1500V and 10Mfd 600V. Filament Transformer 230V a.c. input. 4 Rectifying Valves type 5Z3. 2 x 5V windings @ 3 Amps each, and 5V @ 6 Amp and 4V @ 0.25 Amp. Mounted on steel base 19"Wx11"Hx14"D. (All connections at the rear.) Excellent condition 65.59 each corr. £6.50 each, carr. £1.

AUTO TRANSFORMER: 230-115V, 50-60c/s, 1000 watts. mounted in a strong steel case  $5^{"} \times 6\frac{1}{2}" \times 7"$ . Bitumen impregnated. £6 each, Carr. 63p. 230-115V, 50-60c/s, 500 watts.  $7" \times 5" \times 5"$ . Mounted in steel ventilated case. £3 50 each, Carr. 50p.

LT TRANSFORMER: PRI 230V. Output  $3 \times 6.3$  at 3 amps each winding,  $3\frac{1}{2}^{\prime\prime} \times 4^{\prime\prime} \times 5^{\prime\prime}$ . Fully shrouded £1.50 post 50p.

VARIABLE VOLTAGE REGULATOR TRANSFORMER: Input 230V A.C.; Output 57:5V-230V in 16 equal steps @ 21 Amps. £22:50 each, carr. £1:50. TRANSFORMER: 230V A.C. input. 17.75V @ 35 Amps output. £9.50 each, carr. £1

TRANSFORMER: 'C' Core. 230V A.C. input. 1000-0-1000V or 750-0-750V @ 250mA. £6:50 each, carr. 75p.

MODULATOR UNIT: 50 watt, part of BC-640, complete with  $2 \times 811$  valves, microphone and modulator transformers etc. \$7.50 each, 75p carr.

CATHODE RAY TUBE UNIT: With 3in. tube, Type 3EG1 (CV1526) colour green, medium persistence complete with nu-metal screen, £3.50 each, post 37p. APNI ALTIMETER TRANS./REC., suitable for conversion 420 Mc/s., com-plete with all valves 28 v. D.C. 3 relays, 11 valves, price £3 each, carr. 50p.

ANTENNA WIRE: 100 ft. long. 75p + 25p post.

APN-1 INDICATOR METER, 270° Movement. Ideal for making rev. counter, £1.25, post 25p.

VARIABLE POWER UNIT: Complete with Zenith variac 0-230V., 9 amps.; 21 in. scale meter reading 0-250V. Unit is mounted in 19 in. rack. £15 each, £1.50p carr.

AIRCRAFT SOLENOID UNIT D.P.S.T.: 24V, 200 Amps, £2 each, 25p post. RADAR SCANNER ASSEMBLY TYPE 122A: Complete with parabolic reflector (24 in. diameter), motors, suppressors, etc. £35 each, £2 carr.

DECADE RESISTOR SWITCH: 0.1 ohm per step. 10 positions. 3 Gang, each 0.9 ohms. Tolerance  $\pm 1\%$  £3 each, 25p post. 90 ohms per step. 10 positions, total value 900 ohms. 3 Gang. Tolerance  $\pm 1\%$  £3.50 each, post 25p.

CRYSTAL TEST SET TYPE 193: Used for checking crystals in freq. range 3000-10,000Kc/s. Mains 230V, 50c/s. Measures crystal current under oscillatory conditions and the equivalent parallel resistance. Crystal freq. can be tested in conjunction with a freq. meter. £12:50 each, £1 carr.

LEDEX SWITCHING UNIT: 2 ledex switches, 6 Bank and 3 Bank respectively, 6 Pos.; 1 Manual switch, 16 Bank 2 Pos. 24 each, 50p post.

VARIAC TRANSFORMERS: Input 115V, output 0-135V at 2 Amps. £3 each 50p post. Input 115V, output 135V at 5 Amps. £5 each, 50p post.

GEARED MOTOR: 24c. D.C., current 150mA, output 1 rpm, £1.50 each, 25p post. ASSEMBLY UNIT with Letcherbar Tuning Mechanism and potentiometer, 3 rpm, £2 each 25p post. SYNCHROS: and other special purpose motors available. List 3p.

DALMOTORS: 24-28V d.c. at 45 Amps, 750 watts (approx. 1hp) 12,000rpm. £5 each, 50p post.

GEARED MOTOR: 28V d.c. 150 rpm (suitable for opening garage doors). ich, 50p post.

SMALL GEARED MOTOR: 24V d.c., output 200 rpm. Meas'm'ts 11in. dia. × 31in. long. £2 each, 23p post.

FUEL INDICATOR Type 113R: 24V complete with 2 magnetic counters 0-9999, with locking and reset controls mounted in 3in. diameter case. Price £2 each, 25p post.

COAXIAL TEST EQUIPMENT: COAXWITCH--Mnftrs. Bird Electronic Corp. Model 72RS; two-circuit reversing switch. 75 ohms, type "N" female connectors fitted to receive UG-21/U series plugs. New in ctns., £6:50 each, post 37p. CO-AXIAL SWITCH--Mnftrs. Transco Products Inc., Type M1460-22, 2 pole, 2 throw. (New) £6:50 each, post 25p. 1 pole, 4 throw, Type M1460-4. (New) £6:50 each, post 25p.

PRD Electronic Inc. Equipment: FIXED ATTENUATOR; Type 130c, 2.0-10.0 KMC/SEC. (New) £5 each, post 25p. FIXED ATTENTUATOR: Type 1157S-1 (New) £6 each, post 25p.





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0-45 0-40 1-60 0-60 0-40

0·40 0·40

0.45

3.25

8.00

0.50

3·75 3·00

0.75 0.40

0.25

0.20

0.30

0.30 0.40 1.00 0.55 1.12

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 5:00

 K305
 12:00

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 12:00

 K305
 16:00

 K305
 16:00

 K37
 16:00

 K37
 16:00

 VL417A
 150

 SJ/92/E
 37:50

 SC22
 18:00

 714AY
 4:00

 725A
 16:00

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.50\\ 0.50\\ 0.45\\ 0.65\\ 1.37\\ 1.50\\ 2.25\\ 0.20\\ 0.25\\ 0.50\\ 0.15\\ 0.15\\ \end{array}$ 

6K76 6K825 6K25 6S476T 6S476T 6S476T 6S476T 6S476T 6S476 6S476 6S47 6S476 6S476 6S476 6S476 6S476 6S476 6X4 6X56 6X4 6X56 6X4 6X56 6X4 6Z4 7B7

7C5

7C6 7-7 7Y4 9D6 11E2

12AT6 12AT7

12AT7 12AU7 12AV6 12AX7 12BA6 12BE6 12BE6

12BH7

12C8

12E1

1985

12Q7GT

128G7

19A05

1487

1903

0.20 0.45 0.70 0.40 0.32 0.25 0.35 0.37

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0-32 0-35 0-39 0-35 0-17

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0.45

0.85

0.83 0.40 0.32 0.60 0.37

2.50

0.30

0.30

0.29 0.30

0.30

0.35 80

0.27 803

0.32 805

1.25 807

0 - 55 0 - 40 0 - 45 0 - 30 12K3 12K7GT 12K8GT

0-35 0-75 955

0.40

4.25 1.50 5.00 1.00

 $\mathbf{78}$ 

807 813 832A 866A

954

956

957 991 1622

2051 5933

251.66°T 300215 300217 300218 300F5 300F11 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F113 300F114 300F13 300F114 300F15 700F15 300F15 700F15 7000

2H (31) (F96 (96) (94) (94) (94)	2 1.75 E 0.35 H 0.38 E 0.37 H 0.41 E 0.42 E 0.40 E 0.41 H	CH84 CH200 CCL80 CCL82 CCL83 CCL83 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL86 CCL87 CCCL87 CCL87	£ 0.45 0.62 0.45 0.35 0.45 0.45 0.42 0.45 0.45	KT88 N78 OB2 PABC80 PC97 PC984 PCC89	£ 2.15 1.25 0.35 0.37 0.40 0.47 0.37 0.45 0.55 0.75 0.30 0.33 0.46	QQVO 6-40A R17 R19 STV 280/40 STV 280/40 STV 280/80 TT21 U25 U26 U27	£ 5.25 0.45 0.37 3.00 9.00 2.75 0.75 0.75 0.50	UBC41 UBF80 UBF89 UCC85 UCF80 UCH42 UCH42 UCL83 UCL83 UCL83 UV44 UF80 UF89 UF89 UL41 UL84	£ 0.47 0.35 0.35 0.40 0.55 0.70 0.35 0.60 0.36 0.35 0.60 0.30	V R 150/30 Z759 Z801U Z803A Z900T 11.4 1R5 1B4 185 IT4 185 IT4 1X2B 3A4	£ 0.35 1.65 1.50 1.25 0.75 0.15 0.25 0.24 0.22 0.40 0.40 0.30	5B254M 5B/265M 5B4CY 5U4G 5V4G 5V4G 5Y3GT 5Z4 5X4GT 6AB7 6AC7 6AH6 6AK5 6AK8	£ 2·20 1·75 0·60 0·32 0·40 0·35 0·40 0·35 0·40 0·35 0·40 0·30 0·15 0·50 0·30 0·32	6AQ5 6AQ5W 6A86 6A76 6A76 6A76 6AX4GT 6B7 6B7 6B7 6B7 6B7 6B7 6B7 6B6 6B6 6B6	£ 0·35 0·50 0·37 0·80 0·25 0·40 0·65 0·40 0·40 0·25 0·30 0·25 0·30 0·55 0·45	6C4 6C6 6CH6 6CL6 6CL6 6EA8 6F23 6F33 6H6M 6J4WA 6J5 6J56T 6J6	£ 0 30 0 25 0 55 0 49 0 20 0 55 0 75 1 50 0 20 0 75 0 20 0 75 0 40 0 25 0 20
470 786 787 7802 80C/01	0.30 H 0.32 H 0.48 H 1.80 H	(F39 (F40 (F41 (F80 (F83 (F85	0.40 0.50 0.62 0.25 0.55	PCF86 PCF200 PCF201 PCF801 PCF802 PCF805	0.57 0.77 0.77 0.48 0.48 0.48	U191 U801 UABC80 UAF42	0-70 1-00 0-35 0-50	UU5 UY41 UY85 VR105/30	0-55 0-45 0-30 0-35	3D6 3Q4 354 3V4	0·15 0·37 0·35 0·45	6AL5 6AL5W 6AM6 6AN8	0·15 0·40 0·30 0·50	6BQ7A 6BR7 6BW6 6BW7	0·35 0·80 0·80 0·70	6J7G 6J7M 6K6GT 6K7	0·35 0·40 0·56 0·32
80CC 81CC 82CC 4BC80 4F42	0.90 H 1.05 H 0.32 H	5F85 5F86 5F89 5F91 5F92	0·32 0·31 0·26 0·15 0·37	PCF805 PCF806 PCF808 PCF200 PCL81	0.72 0.65 0.72 0.70 0.47	SPECI O9J T	AL C Ube	FFER T	RA	NSI	ST	ORS,	ZE	NER	DI	ODE	s
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21142 21181 21183	0-65 E	Z81 Z34 T66	0-27 0-52 1-60	PY801 QQVO 3-10	0·52 1·25	0 A Z225 0 C16 0 C22 0 C25 0 C25 0 C26	0.50 0.50 0.50 0.37 0.25	OC170 OC171 OC172 OC200 OC201	0.25 0.30 0.37 0.40 0.60	2N 3053 2N 3054 2N 3055 2N 3730	0-25 0-50 0-75 0-50	ACY17 ACY28 AD149 AD161 AO162	0·30 0·17 0·50 0·37	BU100 BYZ13 BYZ16 CRS1/10	1.80 0.25 0.63 0.25	ZENER DIODES All prefer	rred
TEL	FO	NE E R VAL 749 354	VES 2			0C28	0-62 M.A.N Specia	OC206 Y OTHER I Valves. U	0-90	2N3731 STOCK inc	2.75 lude (	AU162 AF118 Cathode Ray 12p. £1-£2,	0.37 0.62 <i>Tube</i> 17p. 1	CR81/20	0.38	- voltag ‡W 1W 1.5W 7W	0·17 0·37 0·25 0·40

MARCONI VHF OSCILLATOR TYPE TF 924/1. Complete with power unit Type TM 4230. Frequency range 2,100 MHz to 3,750 MHz, output power 10 to 50mW, Klystron Osc with auto-matic tracking. facilities for reflection modulation. £125. Carriage £2.

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£32:50. MARCONISIGNAL GENERATOR TYPE TF 8018/3/S Frequency range 12-485 Mc/s in five ranges. Directly calibrated frequency dial Output waveform: C.W. sinewave A.M., pulse A.M. (from ext. source only). Internal modulation frequency 1,000 c/s. Output: a, normal—con-tinuously variable directly calibrated from 0·1µx.—0.5v. b, high; up to 1 v. modulated for 2 v. unmodulated, output impedance 50 ohms. Fine frequency tuning control carrier, on/off switch, built-in crystal calibration for 2 Mc/s and 10 Mc/s. Stabilised voltage supply. In excellent "as new" condition. In excellent "as new" condition. Laboratory checked and guaranteed. Including necessary connectors, plugs and instruction manual. Price on application application

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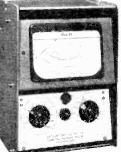
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4, 5 and 8 bank 25 way uniselectors, 24V, guaranteed perfect, £3.75; £4.50; £6.87 respectively. AR88 SPARES. We hold the largest stock in U.K. Write for list.



Originally made to work with Hallicrafters BC 610E transmitters. 2mc to 18mc, for output up to 450 watts. Brand new £8:50. Carriage £1.

**PRECISION VHF FREQUENCY METER TYPE 183.** 20-300 Mc/s with accuracy 0.03% and 300-1,000 Mc/s with accuracy 0.3%. Additional band on harmonics 5.0-6.25 Mc/s with ac-curacy  $+ -2 \times 10^{-4}$ . Incorporating calibrating quartz 100 kc/s  $+ -5 \times$ 10-<sup>5</sup> 120/220 v. A.C. mains. £85. Carriage £2.





and instruction manual





AM/FM SIGNAL GENERATOR TF 937 (CT 218) Frequency range 85kHz. 30mHz. 8 bands. Main dial total 56 foot. Built in crystal calibrator 200kHz and 200Hz RF output 1µV to 1V. Fourint and mod. freq. FM deviation up to 9kHz. 4115. F.M. DEVIATION METER TYPE TF934. Frequency range 2.5-100MHz. Can be used up to 500MHz. Deviation range 0-75kHz £67-50. Carriage £1-50.

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CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage £1.50.

HARNESS "A" & "B" control units, junction boxes, headphones, micro-phones, etc.

29/41FT. AERIALS each consisting of ten 3ft., 2in. dia. tubular screw-in sections. Ilfc. (6-section) whip aerial with adaptor to fit the 7in. rod, insu-lated base, stay plate and stay assemblies, pegs, reamer, hammer, etc. Absolutely brand new and complete ready to erect, in canvas bag, £4. P. & P. £0-50.



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DY86 DY87 DY802

DY802 E88CC/01 E180CC E181CC E182CC EABC80 EAF42 EB91 EBC33 EBC41 ECC34

ECC8

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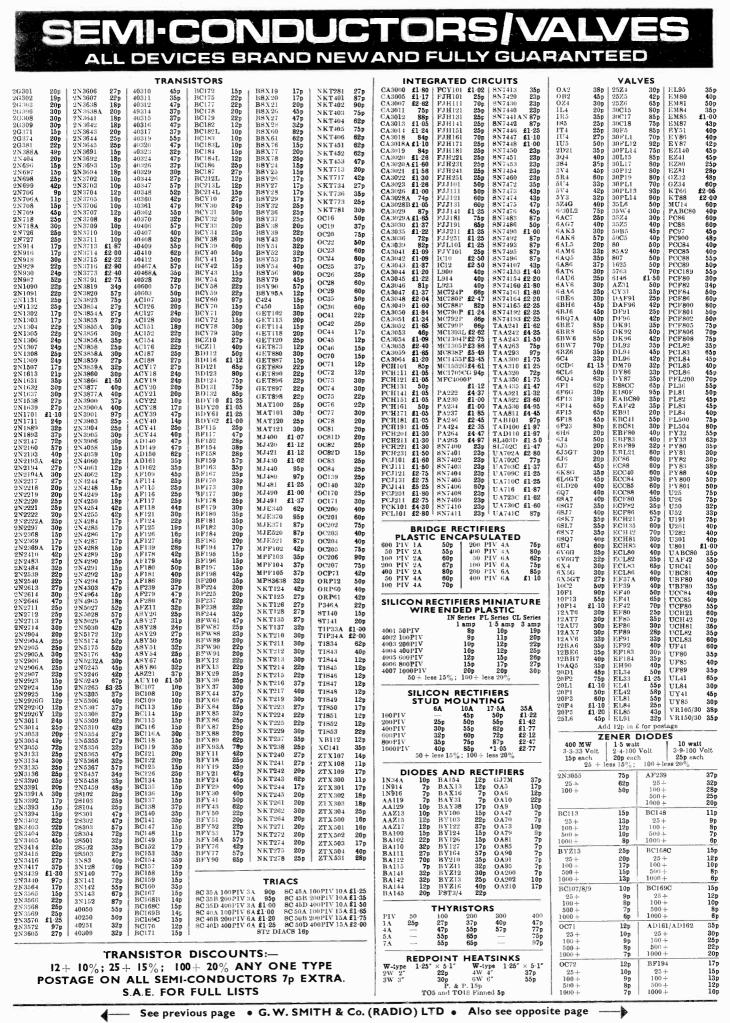
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**BAILEY 30w POWER AMPLIFIER.** Edge Connector Mounted Printed Circuit in Fibreglass or Paxolin material, size  $4\frac{1}{4}'' \times 2\frac{3}{4}''$ . This unit and the above Pre-amplifier can both be used in our new Metalwork Assembly.

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AF1	424p         BC142         30p           425p         BC143         P.A.           30p         BC143         P.A.           30p         BC143         P.A.           30p         BC144         17p           25p         BC148         17p           25p         BC149         17p           25p         BC149         17p           20p         BC1672         17p           20p         BC1688         17p           20p         BC1638         17p           20p         BC1638         12p           30p         BC1637         21p           52p         BC1637         21p           52p         BC1637         21p           52p         BC1637         22p           52p         BC1637         22p           52p         BC1637         22p           52p         BC1637         22p           52p         BC1637         22p <tr< td=""><td>BF224         30p           BF225         30p           BF257         31p           BFX54         30p           BFY50         221p           BFY51         221p           BFX54         30p           OC55         30p           OC56         30p           OC57         30p           OC48         30p           OC71         12p           OC72         12p           OC74         32p           OC75         22p           OC75         22p           OC74         32p           OC75         22p           OC78         23p           OC78         23p           OC78         23p           OC78         23p           OC70         30p           OC73         32p           OC74         32p           OC78         23p           OC70         30</td><td>6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 8 8 8 8 8 8 8</td><td>Inc. 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P. T.           0S         each           1P79         63p           1P91-18c         £1.05           1P91-28c         £1.05           1P91-28c         £1.05           1P92-28c         £1.24           1P94-1         £1.25           1P94-3         £1.24           1P94-4         £1.57           1P95         £1.32           1P95         £1.34           1P96         £1.38           C3M         8/8         £1.39           C3M         8/8         £1.38           C4M         8/8         £1.32           C5M         8/8         £1.32           C5M         8/8         £1.38           C5M         8/8         £1.32           C5M         8/8         £1.31           X5M         5/8         £1.31           X5M         1/8	Inc. P. T. ecode         Inc. P. T. ecode           SX5H         D/8         £2.00           X4N         D/8         £2.00           X4N         D/8         £2.00           S50         £3.06         £2.55           G800         £1.36           G800         £1.50           G800 Super E         £15.00           G800 E         £15.00           G800 E         £15.00           G0NETTE         8/8         99p           DC400         S/8         70p           DC4008C         S/8         70p           DC4008C         D/8         £112           DC4008C         D/8         £125           9TA         D/8         £1.25           9TA         D/8         £1.79           9TA HC         D/8         £1.79           1800tt         51         \$35p
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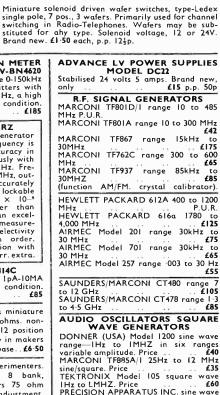
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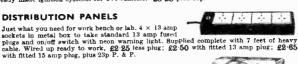
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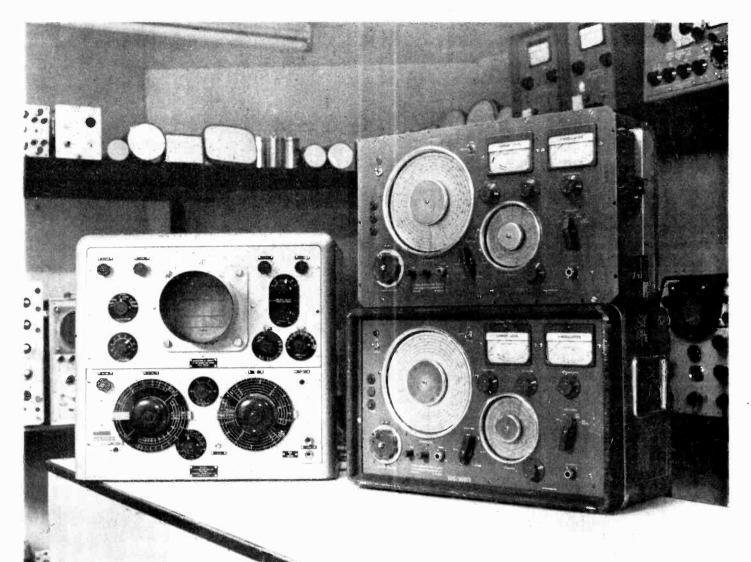
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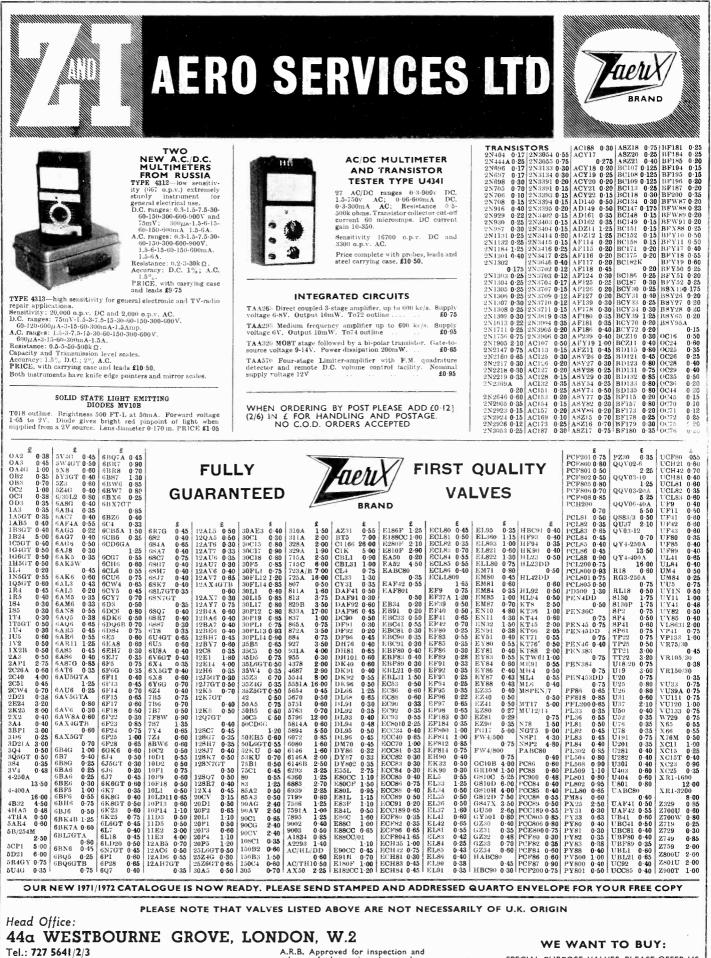


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enclose them by doors. A other features include—all corners and edges rounded, Interior fittings tropicalised. Removable built in cable ducts. Removable built in blower ducts. Ventilated and insect protocd lops. Detachable side panels. Full length Instantly detachable doors fitted expanding bolts if ordered with cablinets. Made in U.S.A.-moost the American Government £107 before devaluation. Finished in grey primer and in new condition. PRICE £26:56 each (Carriage extra) Full length door £5 each extra

Full length door £5 each extra Doors are not needed if panels are mounted back and front and they are not required to be enclosed.

and they are not required to be enclosed. **TYPE C:** 80° high  $\times$  27° deep  $\times$  22° wide. American Standard First Grade totally enclosed ventilated 19° rack panel mounting cabinets, made by Dukane, U.S.A. Open front fitted rack mounts drilled and tapped all the way down every 4°. Full length rear door with latch. Finished in grey these cabinets have been used but are in good condition but if decordion is of importance it is recommended they are re-spraxed before use. **PRICE 115** each (Carriage extra) **TYPE D:** 76° high  $\times$  18° deep  $\times$  22° wide. These are slightly smaller and finished in black otherwise they are slightly smaller and finished in black otherwise they are slightly construction and conduction to Type C above. **PRICE 212 50** each (Carriage extra) **LISO** OPTIER TYPERS 77 DOGE VIACH AVAILABLE

ALSO OTHER TYPES 80" TO 88" HIGH AVAILABLE

Full details of all above available on request. TRANSPORT: We have made special economical transport arrangements for these cabinets to ensure they arrive undamaged and to avoid expensive crating. Full details on request. 

FREE	-
40-page list of over 1,000 different items in stock	c i
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Marconi TF-867 Standard Signal Generators 15 K/cs/30 m/cs	
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Commercial & Broadcasting type Lattice	
lightweight steel triangular Aerial Masts Accordi 12 to 30 inch sides up to 200 ft. high to heig	ny zhi
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We have a large quantity of "bits and pieces"	1
we cannot list-please send us your requirements we can probably help-all enquiries answered.	
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# **APPOINTMENTS VACANT**

DISPLAYED SITUATIONS VACANT AND WANTED: £8 per single col, inch.

LINE advertisements (run-on): 45p per line (approx. 7 words), minimum two lines. Where an advertisement includes a box number (count as 2 words) there is an additional charge of 25p. SERIES DISCOUNT: 15% is allowed on orders for twelve monthly insertions provided a contract

is placed in advance. BOX NUMBERS: Replies should be addressed to the Box number in the advertisement, c/o Wireless World, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1. No responsibility accepted for errors.

#### EXPANDING COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA REQUIRES EXPERIENCED CERTIFICATED ENGINEERS

FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS

#### CHIEF ENGINEER

B.Sc. or equivalent with 10 or more years experience in Operation and Maintenance of Transmission and Broadcasting Equipment.

### ENGINEERS TECHNICIANS

Experience in Operation and Maintenance of Broadcasting Equipment, Studio Equipment and Teleprinters.

Please submit a complete resume and state availability and salary required. Box WW 1270

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT

with technical and commercial ability wanted for managing director of London TV Retail business of the highest standing; established over 40 years. A suitable applicant would be trained to take increasing charge during the gradual retirement of the present managing director. Exceptional opportunity for keen and capable man. Write, stating age and details of background and career. Box WW 1452.

### **OXFORD UNIVERSITY ENGINEER/PHYSICIST**

Salary £1870-2887 (with F.S.S.U. benefits)

HEAD OF ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTATION GROUP NUCLEAR PHYSICS LABORATORY

A vacancy exists for a graduate engineer/physicist to head a group responsible for the design and maintenance of electronic instruments used in nuclear physics research. The nuclear physics laboratory is housed in a new, well equipped building. A large experimental re-search programme is in operation involving the use of high precision analogue electronics and on-line data analysis using PDP-10 and PDP-7 computers. Development of CAMAC data systems will assume an increasing importance in the future. Applicants should have experience in the design of electronics and logic systems. A knowledge of the nuclear instrumentation field would be an advantage but is not essential.

but is not essential. Applications, which will be treated in confidence, should be accompanied by full particulars and addressed to:

addressed to: Professor K. W. Allen, Nuclear Physics Laboratory, Oxford OXI 3RH

# **MARINE RADIO PROJECT AND SYSTEMS** ENGINEER

We are looking for a man to join a small unit engaged in economic design. An "Ideas" man conversant with semi-conductors, linear and digital integrated circuits, propagation and aerials related to maritime communications and navigational devices.

Qualifications, H.N.C. or similar, plus three or more years experience; also the ability to communicate and co-operate with sales teams and customers, and be mobile for occasional travel for system commissioning. An excellent salary is offered plus the usual fringe benefits associated with a well established company. Write, in the first instance to

> Norman Manion. Recruitment Officer, REDIFON LIMITED, Broomhill Road, London, S.W.18.

REDIFON

A Member Company of the Rediffusion Organisation

### **OPPORTUNITIES IN** TELECOMMUNICATIONS



Men with good telecommunications knowledge are required to be responsible for electronic equipment on London Transport.

The work consists of maintaining, testing and fault finding on Radio, Television and associated electronic equipment. A sound knowledge of the work is required and the possession of City and Guilds certificates (or equivalent) in telecommunications subjects 49 and 300 would be an advantage. The rate of pay including a variable incentive bonus averages £31 for a 5 day 40 hour week. Additional payments are made for overtime.

These positions offer:-

Free travel on and off duty, sick pay and pension schemes.

Please apply in writing to:-

www.americanradiohistory.com

Superintendent of Recruitment **Griffith House** 280, Old Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. (Ref. R.L.)

Advertisements accepted up to THURSDAY, 12 p.m., 4th NOV, for the DECEMBER issue, sub-ject to space being available.

# APPOINTMENTS

# **Telecommunications** KENYA Engineers

- ★ Salary up to £2,718
- ★ Low Taxation
- ★ Contract 24 months
- ★ Gratuity 25% (45% if leave foregone)
- ★ Education allowances
- 🛨 Subsidised accommodation
- ★ Appointment Grant £100 or £200 payable in certain circumstances

Required by the Police Department Signals Branch.

The officer will normally be based at the Provincial Headquarters Workshop although he may be required to undertake extensive safari throughout Kenya.

Candidates, 25-58, must have served an approved apprenticeship followed by at least five years' experience in telecommunications engineering. They must hold City and Guilds Certificates or an equivalent qualification and have had experience in two or more of the following: (i) HF transceivers with emphasis on SSB and ISB in fixed mobile and portable roles; (ii) VHF transceivers (AM and FM) used in fixed, mobile and portable roles; (iii) Multiplex equipment in VHF and HF bands together with a knowledge of teleprinters; (iv) Fixed, mobile and portable equipment in the UHF band; (v) Aerial arrays in the HF, VHF and UHF bands.

The ability to train local engineers in practical work would be an advantage.

Apply to CROWN AGENTS, 'M' Division, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.I, for application form and further particulars, stating name, age, brief details of qualifications and experience and quoting reference number M2k/710927/WF.

# **Electronic Test Engineers**

Pye Telecommunications of Cambridge has immediate vacancies for Production Test Engineers.

The work entails checking to an exacting specificationVHF/UHF radio-telephone equipment before customer delivery; applicants must therefore have experience of fault finding and testing electronic equipment, preferably communications equipment. Formal qualifications while desirable, are not as important as practical proficiency. Armed service experience of such work would be perfectly acceptable.

Pye Telecommications is the world's largest exporter of radiotelephone equipment and is engaged in a major expansion programme designed to double present turnover during the next five years. There are therefore excellent opportunities for promotion within the company. Pye also encourages its staff to take higher technical and professional qualifications.

These are genuine career opportunities in an expansionist company, so write or telephone without delay for an application form to:

Mrs. A. E. Darkin, Pye Telecommunications Limited, Cambridge Works, Haig Road, Cambridge. Telephone: Cambridge 51351 Ext. 355

Pye Telecommunications Ltd

#### **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY**

Earn a substantial extra income through a fascinating part-time business of your own that you could share with your wife and operate from your own home. This is an outstanding business opportunity with rewards exceeding £5000 per annum at the higher levels. We are looking for organisational and managerial ability. Telephone for an appointment MAIDENHEAD 28754

VISTA MARKETING

### WALSALL & STAFFORDSHIRE

1447

TECHNICAL COLLEGE Applications are invited for the following

post, duties to commence as soon as possible:

### LECTURER GRADE I in TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Applicants should be prepared to teach Tele-communication Principles and Telephony to the Final Year of the City and Guilds Course in Telecommunication Course C.G.L.I. No. 49, and to assist in the organisation of the

Telephony Laboratory. Qualifications should include the Final Certificate of the C. & G. Course in Tele-communications Technicians and Post Office experience is essential.

SALARY for the above post will be in accordance with the Burnham Further Education Scale, viz. Lecturer Grade I 21,110 to 21,955 per annum with appropriate additions for education and training.

additions for education and training. APPLICATION FORM and further particulars may be obtained by applying to the Principal, Walsall and Staffordshire Technical College, St. Paul's Street, Walsall, Staffs. WSI IXN. Applications should be returned by Monday, 25th October, 1971. Assistance with cost of removal will be

granted in approved cases.

R. D. NIXON,

Secretary to the Joint Education Committee. 1463

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## **APPOINTMENTS**

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA

# Vacancies in **Telecommunications**

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs in Papua New Guinea is currently looking for skilled Telecommunications Engineers and Technicians to help get its \$A14 million development programme under way.

This programme provides for an S.T.D. system throughout the entire communications network, and for automatic functioning of the telegraph and telex services, all using the latest equipment available.

### Duties

Engineers: Class 3 – Exchange Planning or Telegraph and data equipment maintenance.

**Class 2** – Installation of radio external plant, exchange and telephone equipment design, workshop construction.

Senior Telecommunications Technical Officers and Telecommunications Technical Officers Grade 2 : A number of positions at both levels of responsibility in the fields of radio station installation and inspection, broadcast and mechanical equipment design and installation, and similar functions in respect of telephone subscriber and exchange equipment. There are also positions involved in management of teleprinter workshop maintenance.

Senior Technical Officer (Mechanics) – responsible for provision of auto-plant, mechanical aids and power plant services.

**Telecommunications Technical Officer Grade 1**: A number of positions covering maintenance of VHF, HF and Microwave systems, installation of telephone exchange equipment and power plant, manufacture of special telephone equipment, installation and maintenance of telegraph and telex services.

**Technicians :** Installation and maintenance of radio, or telephone or telegraph equipment.

### Qualifications

**Engineer**: Applicants must be eligible for membership of the Institution of Engineers, Australia (eligibility for membership of Institution of Electrical Engineers, U.K., generally determines this) and have at least 2 years' relevant experience since qualifying.

Senior Telecommunications Technical Officers and Telecommunications Technical Officers : City and Guilds Telecommunications Technician Certificate in Radio, Telephone or Telegraphs, preferably with at least two supplementary certificates and extensive relevant experience.

Senior Technical Officer Grade 1 (Mechanical) – an appropriate technical certificate or diploma is essential, plus extensive mechanical, electrical or automotive experience. Technicians : City and Guilds Telecommunications Technician Certificate in Radio, Telephone or Telegraphs.

### Salaries

Engineers Class 3 (Telecommunications) \$A9601 -- \$A10,682 Engineers Class 2 (Telecommunications) \$A8150 --- \$A9070 Senior Telecommunications Technical Officers Grade 1 \$A6632 - \$A7012 Senior Technical Officers Grade 1 (Mechanics) \$A6632 - \$A7012 **Telecommunications Technical Officers Grade 2** (Radio – Telephones – Telegraphs) \$A6060 \$A6441 **Telecommunications Technical Officers Grade 1** (Radio - Telephones - Telegraphs) \$A5175 - \$A5919 Technicians (Radio - Telephones - Telegraphs) \$A3952 - \$A5175  $($A1 = 46\frac{1}{2}p. stg.)$ \* An additional \$A360 p.a. is payable to married men. Income tax in Papua New Guinea is currently about half that in the United Kingdom.

### Conditions

\* 4 year contract engagement

- \* Fares paid to Papua New Guinea, and to the U.K. on completion of contract
- \* 3 months' leave after each 21 months' service
- \* Generous allowances for leave fares to Sydney, accommodation, children and their secondary education.

Apply - with full details of qualifications and

experience indicating the position in which you are interested, to — Recruitment Officer, Public Service Board, Canberra House, Maltravers Street, London WC 2R 3EH *Telephone*: 01-836 2435. Applications close October 29th.



1459

### **APPOINTMENTS**



a108

Experienced Test Engineers are invited to write to Redifon with regard to vacancies in our Test Department at Wandsworth.

The salary range for these positions is £1,248– £1,749 plus. The Company is engaged in the design and manufacture of a wide range of radio communications and allied equipment from military pack-set to broadcast transmitter, including communications receivers, M.F. beacons, teleprinter terminals, complete radio office installations for the Merchant Marine and mobile H.F. S.S.B. stations. Our Test Engineers have sound technical knowledge coupled with good practical experience in the alignment and test of H.F. and V.H.F.

Communications equipment. The work is varied and interesting and offers excellent opportunity to broaden experience in semiconductors S.S.B. and Frequency Synthesis.

Please write in the first instance to Norman Manion, The Recruitment Officer, Redifon Limited Broomhill Road, Wandsworth, S.W.18



1437

### VOCATIONAL TRAINING CIVILIAN INSTRUCTIONAL OFFICERS, GRADE III RADIO AND TELEVISION SERVICING

required at

HM BORSTAL, PORTLAND, Dorset. HM PRISON, THE VERNE, Portland, Dorset.

SALARY: The commencing salary is £1,549 (at age 26); £1,779 (at age 30 or over) rising to £1,960. An additional allowance of £92 a year is also paid. The posts carry the prospect of pensionable employment.

HOURS: A 40 hour, 5 day week is worked with 18 working days annual leave in addition to the usual 9 public and privilege holidays.

QUALIFICATIONS: Full apprenticeship plus at least five years practical experience in the Radio and Television and/or Electronics servicing industry. City and Guilds Certificate (or equivalent) is desirable. Teaching, instructing or colour TV experience are added advantages.

DUTIES: The successful candidates will train inmates in Radio and Television servicing and prepare them for City and Guilds examinations.

One of the candidates selected for the posts at THE VERNE will be required to perform some relief duties at other Prison and Borstal Service establishments.

PLEASE WRITE FOR APPLICATION FORM TO: The Establishment Officer, Home Office, Portland House, 10/10, 33T, Stag Place, London, SW1, stating for which post you apply.

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms: November 2, 1971.

1457

BALLS PARK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Hertford

**Educational Television Unit** 

### **TELEVISION ENGINEER**

required for 1st January, 1972, to assist Director of unit and be responsible for operation and maintenance of studio and mobile equipment.

Experience with  $\frac{1}{2}^{"}$  and  $1^{"}$  V.T.R. equipment essential, together with detailed knowledge vidicon cameras and associated audio and vision mixer facilities.

The person appointed will be expected to organise most of his work without direct supervision, and to consult with staff at the college and at local schools regarding the arrangements for recording and replay of video tapes.

Salary will be on N.J.C. Scale T3/4 with additional allowances for recognised qualifications.

Further particulars and application form from the Principal at the College.

#### St. George's Hospital, S.W.1 and S.W.17 A SENIOR ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN or TECHNICIAN

is required for the Department of Medical Physics at the above Hospital. The work is varied and includes design and development of interesting projects in connection with all departments of the Hospital.

Applicants should have, preferably, for the senior position an H.N.C., but other qualifications will be considered. Salary scales, which are at present under review, within the range:

Grade V---£1,035 - £1,335 Grade III---£1,356 - £1,764 Please apply to Mr. G. Davies, St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.I or telephone him on 01 235 4343, Ext. 335, for further details. 1426

### ASSISTANT TECHNICIAN

for servicing radio sets, tape recorders, cine and still projectors, in educational establishments throughout Berkshire. Vehicle provided for travelling. Salary scale: £1,194 to £1,395 per annum, starting salary depending on experience and qualifications. For further particulars and application form write to: The Director of Education, County Education Office, Shire Hall, Reading RGI 3EZ. 1466

COLOUR TELEVISION TEST ENGINEER

Rediffusion have a limited number of vacancies for test engineers capable of fault tracing on colour television receivers.

Applicants must have a sound knowledge of transistor and colour receiver circuitry and holders of the R.T.E.B. final certificate will be preferred. Salary scale according to experience

and qualifications. Applications to: A. E. Cox, Rediffusion

Vision Service Ltd., Fullers Way South, Chessington, Surrey. Tel. 01-397-5411

a109

### **APPOINTMENTS**

# up to £1741 p.a. and all the variety you want as a Radio Technician

**NAT** 

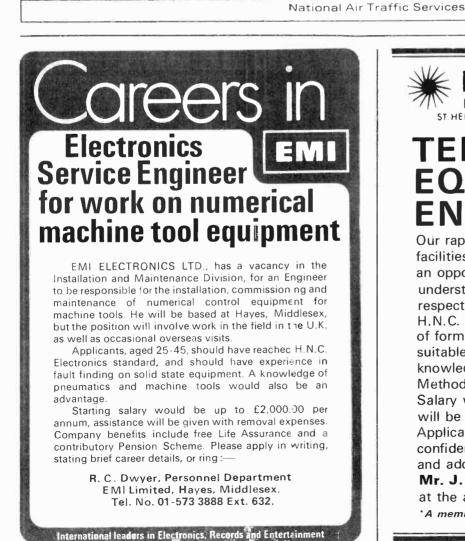
Variety is the keyword. As a Radio Technician with the National Air Traffic Services, you would be installing and maintaining a wide range of sophisticated electronic systems and highly specialised equipment. You would be involved with RT, radar, data transmission links, navigation aids, landing systems, closed circuit T.V. and computer installations. All custom-built to meet the stringent operational requirements of air traffic control throughout the U.K.

If you're aged 19 or over and have at

least two year's electronics experience, preferably with O.N.C. or C. & G. (Telecoms.), you could qualify for entry to our training course. Your starting salary would be £1,143 (at 19) to £1,503 (at 25 and over), scale max. £1,741 – shift duty allowances. Good career prospects.

Write NOW for full details to: A. J. Edwards, C.Eng., MIEE, Room 705, The Adelphi, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6BQ, marking your envelope 'Recruitment — B/ww/30'.

Not applicable to residents outside the United Kingdom.



REDIFFUSION VISION SERVICE LTD ST. HELENS AUCKLAND, BISHOP AUCKLAND CO. DURHAM.

1274

# TELEVISION EQUIPMENT ENGINEER

Our rapid expansion of manufacturing facilities at Bishop Auckland has created an opportunity for an Engineer who understands television especially in respect of Test Equipment.

H.N.C. or equivalent preferred but lack of formal qualification will not debar a suitable applicant if he has practical knowledge and experience of Production Methods.

Salary will be by negotiation and assistance will be given towards relocation expenses. Applications which will be treated in confidence should be marked Confidential and addressed to:

Mr. J. Davison , Engineering Manager at the above address.

\*A member Company of the Rediffusion Organisation

Wireless World, November 1971

New posts available at SOUTHERNGAS H.Q. Southampton				
Radio Technician £1,707-£2,013 p.a.	Will assist with installation and surveying of new radio and trunk network schemes. Should have H.N.C. Telecommunications or City and Guilds Certificate plus formal training with telecom- munications manufacturer or major user plus several years experience; also knowledge of V.H.F., U.H.F., Microwave and Radio Multiplex techniques essential. Ref. P.621/D.			
<b>Radio Technician</b> (Conversion) £1,596-£1,884 p.a.	Will survey and plan V.H.F. and U.H.F. systems ahead of the Conversion activity. Applicants should have City and Guilds Final Certificate and have had formal training with a manufacturer or major user and subsequent operational planning experience totalling at least five years. Ref. P.622/D.			
SOUTHERNGAS	Salaries within ranges shown according to qualifications, experience and ability. Assistance with cost of moving will be given. Application forms may be obtained from the Senior Personnel Officer, The Southern Gas Board, 164 Above Bar, Southampton, SO1 ODU, to whom they should be returned by 1st November, 1971. quoting the appropriate reference number.			

a110

### **RADIO OPERATORS** DO YOU HOLD

PMG II OR PMG I OR NEW GENERAL CERTIFICATE

**OR** 

HAD TWO YEARS' RADIO OPERATING EXPERIENCE?

Looking for a secure job with good pay and conditions?

Then apply for a post with the Composite Signals Organization. These are Civil Service posts, with opportunities for service abroad, and of becoming established, i.e., non-contributory pension scheme

Specialist Training Course (free accommodation) starting April and September 1972 and January 1973.

If you are British born and resident in the United Kingdom, under 35 years of age (40 for exceptionally well qualified candidates), write NOW for full details and an application form from:-

Government Communications Headquarters,

**Recruitment Officer**, Oakley, Priors Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 5AJ. (Telephone: Cheitenham 21491, Ext. 2270).

### **OXFORD REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD ELECTRONICS** TECHNICIANS

required for the areas of Oxford, Aylesbury and Reading.

Salary scales in the ranges: Senior Technicians: £1797-£2568 pa Technicians: £1104—£1764 pa according to qualifications and experience.

Qualifications:

Senior Technicians: HNC (Electronics) or equivalent.

Technicians: ONC or equivalent, HNC (Electronics) advantageous.

Successful candidates will form small teams engaged by Hospital Management Committees for maintenance, repair and modification of a wide range of medical electronics and allied equipment used in hospitals. The posts offer challenging and

rewarding work in a new and expanding field. Opportunities available for further study, Write for further information and application forms to the Secretary, Oxford Regional Hospital Board, Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LF. Completed applications required by 8th November quoting ref V73/71/G.

1465

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

A FULL-TIME technical experienced salesman re-quired for retail sales; write giving details of age, previous experience, salary required to-The Manager, Henry's Radio, Ltd., 303 Edgware Rd., London, W.2. 67

Henry's Radio, Ltd., 303 Edgware Ed., London, W.2. [67] A.V. AIDS TECHNICIAN required for Language modern language laboratory and associated tape record-ing and duplicating equipment. Experience of relay and transistor circuits and O.N.C. or City and Guilds qualification in electrical engineering or electronics preferred. Duties will involve some operation and main-tenance of other recording and projection equipment and a small amount of clerical work involved in keeping maintenance records and advising users of the laboratory. Salary on scale £1,041-£1,410 plus £175 a year London Allowance according to qualifications and experience.—Applications to the Personnel Officer, London School of Economics and Political Science (WW/N1486), Houghton Street, London, W.C.2. to be received not later than 29th October, 1971. [1486] D.RAUGHTSMEN. Mechanical and Electrical required hyb expanding electronics Lid., 47 Old Woolwich Road, Greenwich. London, SE.10. Tel. 858 4784. [22 EXPERIENCED Tape Recorder Engineer-familiar with Revox, Akai, Ferrograph, etc. Good wages and bonus. Telesonic Lid., 92 Tottenham Court Road, W.1 0.6308 6171. [1425] GRAMPIAN have a further vacancy for a Senior

Ol-636 8177. [1425]
 GRAMPIAN have a further vacancy for a Senior Development Engineer. He must have a proven record of experience and responsibility in audio electronic equipment design and preferably with some knowledge also of transducer design. Qualifications H.N.C. H.N.D. in electronic subjects.-Write in first instance to Grampian Reproduces Ltd., Ref. H.G./1, Hanworth Trading Estate, Feltham. Middlesex. [1454]
 IF you have had at least 5 years continuous technical experience with an audio equipment manufacturer then GRAMPIAN may be able to offer you a situation of interest appropriate to your ability. We are only interested to this section of industry.-Apply to Grampian Reproduces Ltd., Ref. S.M./1, Hanworth Trading Estate, Feltham, Middx.
 JAPANESE Radio importers require experienced

JAPANESE Radio importers require experienced engineer for servicing radios and allied goods. Tel. 628 6157. [1432

628 6157. [1432 **R** EDIFON LTD., require fully experienced TELE-COMMUNICATIONS TEST ENGINEERS and ELECTRONICS INSPECTORS. Good commencing salaries. We would particularly welcome enquirels from ex-Service personnel or personnel about to leave the Services. Please write, giving full details to--The Recruitment Officer, Redifon Ltd., Broomhill Road, Wandsworth, S.W.15. [21]

SERVICE ENGINEER required (internal and external) for Hammond Organs. Salary £1,350-£1,400.-Apply Box No. W.W. 1469.

Apply Box No. W.W. 1469. T.V. Service Engineer, preferably with some colour experience. A permanent post. Salary according to ability. Hydes of Chertsey Ltd., 56/60 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey. Phone Chertsey Ltd., 56/60 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey. Phone Chertsey Ltd., 56/60 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey. Phone Chertsey Ltd., 56/60 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey. ColLEGE requires ELECTRONICS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE requires ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN for the construction and maintenance of research equipment involving digital control, com-muter interfacing, CCTV, and audio techniques. Some metalworking experience an advantage. C. & G. Tele-communications certificate or O.N.C. desirable. Salary £1,041-£1,410 plus £170 London Welghting.—Applica-tion form from Personnel Officer (Technical Staff CK2), University College London (WW/N). Gower Street, London WCIE 6BT. [1446]

#### SITUATIONS WANTED

HNC Electronics 13 years experience telecommunica-tions designing, seeks interesting and rewarding position.—Box W.W. 1451, Wireless World. RADIO Radar Technician (29) returning to U.K. early 1972 seeks interesting appointment. Private, govern-ment, home, overseas. Currently employed as radar instructor.—Write Dempster, 54 Taman Permata. Singa-pore 20. [1442

#### ENGINEER

Engineer with good academic background and wide experience in telecommunications, electrooptics and colour work, wishes the opportunity to participate in an interesting project, or initiate one, Salary is of secondary importance. Box No. WW 1460.

UIPMENT - SURPLUS AND SECONDHAND

SIGNAL generators, oscilloscopes, output meters, wave ovinmeters, frequency meters, multi-range meters, etc., etc., in stock.--R, T. & I. Electronics, Ltd., Ash-ville Old Hall, Ashville Rd., London, E.11. Ley. 4986.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Shore jobs for Radio Officers.

> If you'd like a job ashore, at a United Kingdom Coast Station, the Post Office will start you off on £1,080-£1,360, depending on age, with annual rises up to £1,850. In addition you would receive payments that can be as much as £300 or more a year for attendances during evenings, nights, Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Opportunities also exist for overtime.

There are good prospects for promotion to higher posts.

You will need to be 21 or over, with a 1st Class Certificate of Competence in Radiotelegraphy issued by the Postmaster General, or the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, or a

Radiocommunication Operator's General Certificate issued by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, or an equivalent certificate issued by a Commonwealth administration or the Irish Republic.

Find out more by writing to: The Inspector of Wireless Telegraphy, IMTR, Wireless Telegraph Section (WW), Union House, St. Martins-le-Grand, London, EC1A 1AR.



## RESIDENT COMPUTER ENGINEER

required for the Express and Star group of newspapers, based at Wolverhampton, who are currently pioneering a new approach to computer technology within the newspaper industry. The computer complex now being installed has been purposedesigned to provide an integrated on-line system serving both the production and accountancy functions of the group's two plants—at Wolverhampton and 20 miles distant at Telford in Shropshire.

The main part of the equipment-an on-line system for control and type-setting of advertising material and handling of other daily publishing functions-consists of twin PDP-11 processors, 12 video terminals, Memorex 660 discs, and telecommunications links to two PDP-8 processors. This system plays a vital part in the daily production of two evening newspapers and it is imperative that the plant should remain fully operational at all times.

In addition the engineer may, from time to time, be asked to assist in the maintenance of other electronically-operated production equipment which is indirectly related to the computer complex.

This is a first-class opportunity for a computer service engineer who wishes to exchange field work for the stability, security and amenities that exist within a forward-looking company. The ideal condidate is likely to have experience in maintaining computing equipment and the servicing of electro-mechanical equipment. Formal qualifications are less important than evidence of technical training.

Applications, in writing only, with full details of qualifications, career to date and present salary to:

#### T. BOTTOMLEY,

Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton. 1467

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### APPOINTMENTS

#### a112

### City Engineer and Surveyor's Department

# **Area Traffic Control**

Coventry has been invited by the Department of the Environment to participate in the development of prototype systems of Area Traffic Control by use of on-line computer. A team is being set up under the control of a Chief Traffic Engineer which requires the services of a

# **Senior Engineer**

### (system equipment and data transmission) £2766—£3180 or £3390

Applicants should hold a professional qualification and be capable of working in a multi-discipline team. The Senior Engineer's responsibilities will include:

- (a) vehicle control, detection, location and surveillance equipment
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- (c) control displays
- (d) equipment and transmission procedures and monitoring.

The successful candidate should have practical knowledge/experience of multiflex (TDM/FEM) systems and be capable of conceiving, developing and evaluating systems for data transmission over post office type circuits. Removal and associated expenses up to £200 may be available.



Application forms from City Engineer and Surveyor, Broadgate House, Coventry CV1 1NH, returnable by 1st November, 1971.

1481



# V.T.R. ENGINEER

The Road Transport Industry Training Board has in operation a 3-camera broadcast-quality colour television studio with full telecine and video recording facilities at its Wembley headquarters. We now wish to appoint an experienced V.T.R. engineer to join a small team working on the production of training and educational television films.

He will be responsible to the Chief Engineer, mainly for the operation and maintenance of the V.T.R. equipment. This includes a 2" TR 50 master V.T.R. and a selection of 1" Helical scan equipment; he will be based at Wembley with occasional travel to training outlets.

Applications are invited from engineers (minimum age 24) experienced on such equipment with personal initiative and enthusiasm for producing high quality recordings. A knowledge of studio lighting, camera techniques and/or telecine equipment, together with the ability to drive and travel, would also be an added advantage.

Commencing salary from  $\pm$ 1800 according to qualifications and experience, three weeks' holiday, contributory pension and life assurance scheme.



Please send all relevant personal history, stating how the above requirements are met and quoting reference ZH238, to: J. R. Barber, Personnel Manager, Road Transport Industry Training Board, Capitol House, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 ONG.



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a113

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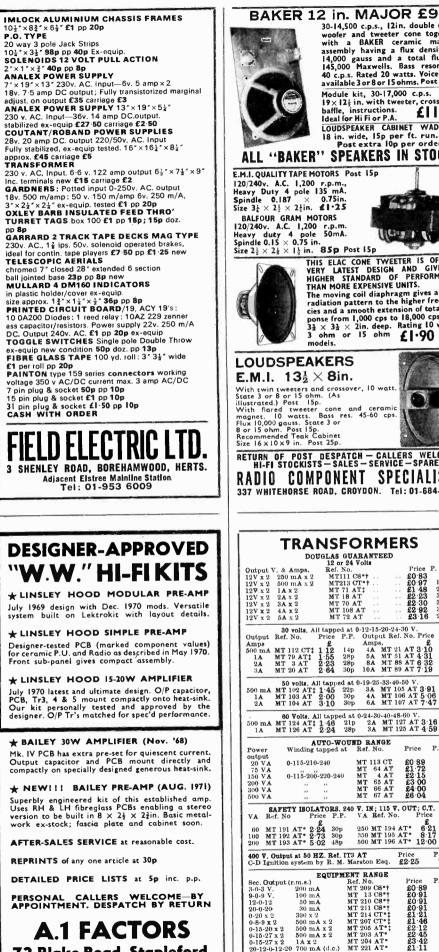
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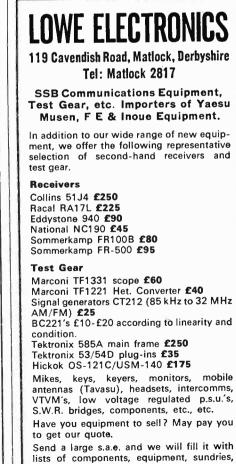
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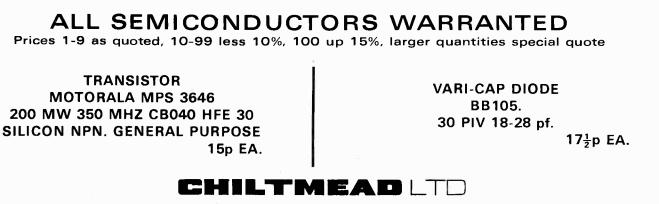
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