

THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN

OFFICIAL JOURNAL, ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION
Published for the Old Time Wireless Operator, Historian and Collector

Vol. 5

WINTER 1964-65

No. 4



Annual A.W.A. Board Meeting

Left row (l. to r.) Earle Young, Henry Blodgett and Charles Brelsford. Right row (l. to r.) Lincoln Cundall, Bruce Kelley, Kenneth Gardner, Clarence Deugler, George Batterson and Jack Armstrong.

A.W.A. DENVER - we had barely revised our club show titled "The World Above 50 Mc." when Jerry Pinard at League Headquarters telephoned and said they desperately needed a VHF program out in Denver, Colorado.

SO - before it could be previewed at Newington, it was shipped to Rocky Mountain Division Director Carl Smith, W5HWJ, who presented it at their Annual Banquet, January 10. The revision includes several new features such as W5UWH describing and playing a recording of OSCAR'S "HI". Covering the history of VHF from the earliest days, it is climaxed with KH6UK's accomplishments and original "moonbounce" pictures.....

MOST RECENT SILENT KEY

RAYMOND HEISING, 76 years, Jan. 18 at Summit, N.J. An endless career in the radio field, inventor, holder of many honors, he is best known to the amateur as the one who perfected Heising modulation.

REPORT ON ANNUAL A.W.A. BOARD MEETING

Nov. 21, QTH: K2JA

Constitution: The general business of the meeting was centered around a revision of the Constitution. A tentative outline submitted by W9EWE, and approved by members at the National Meet, was reviewed and changes made to include many features of the original drawn up by W2CTA.

The primary reason in reviewing the Constitution was to bring it in line with New York State Corporation Laws for a non-profit organization. Outstanding changes are:

Separate the office of Vice-President and Treasurer.

Increase number of Board Members.

Establish definite meeting dates.

State objectives and disposition of assets.

Report on A.W.A. Activities: Programming, demonstrations and exhibits again lead as top activity of the year. These events have been written up various times in the Bulletin and need no further mention.

Coming in No. 2 was the interest in the "OLD TIMERS BULLETIN". The warm response from readers and the many new members indicate the great need to continue its publication.

With fewer visitors than previous years, the club's barn museum, with W2AN as leading attraction, came in 3rd place. It was noted that about 80% of the equipment was owned by only 6 members (or assigned) - the remaining items are loaned or were given outright to the A.W.A. by other members and friends. In October A.W.A. Officers W2GB, W2QY, W2CTA and W2ICE carefully checked the building mentioned in an earlier bulletin. It was found in great need of repair plus installation of fire

escape and other requirements in order to meet the State Public Building Code. It was estimated such improvements may run as high as \$3000. It is hoped the town or county will ultimately convert the structure into a public building with a library on the ground floor and our museum on the upper levels - at their expense. All equipment received in the future will have an identification number and receipt filled out and signed in duplicate by the owner indicating disposition of equipment.

Coming in 4th and last was the production of new film shows. The two persons normally involved in these projects (WQY and WICE) have been so heavily taxed with other work they were unable to come up with anything new for 1964. Two former shows were revised, duplicated and sent to the A.R.R.L. and some film material loaned out for meetings and TV programming.

New Officers and Board Members were elected and another business meeting was slated in the spring.

A.W.A. OFFICERS

President: George Batterson
WGB, ex-9TC

Vice-President: Charles Brelford
WECTA, ex-8BMU, 8W

Secretary: Bruce Kelley
WICE, ex-8ACY

Treasurer: Lincoln Cudall
WQY, ex-10Q

Directors: Jack Armstrong, K2JA
Henry Blodgett, W2UTH
Clarence Dengler, W2IK
Kenneth Gardner, W2RGN
Robert O'Neil, K2AXE
Roy Ruske, W2AFN
Ainslie Rutherford, W2HFO
Harold Smith, W2KND
Larry Triggs, W2YK
Earle Young, ex-W2OVI

MERCER ISLAND - still continues to be an endless source of historical material with Howard Pyle, W7OE at the helm. Most recent from "YF" was an article covering his experiences as a radio inspector - humorous as well as good info. Expect very shortly a story on amateur radio museums. Most of Howard's material appears in "Electronics World" and the "Popular Electronics" magazines; however, every now and then one slips into others such as "Wire and Radio Communication" which carried his Kilbourne & Clark story.

SELL OF SNAP Grebe MU-1, Crowley 51 and 52 and others. Send for list.

John Brookman, 3751 Erie St.
San Jose, Calif., 95111

A.W.A. CALSEWER
Spring Business Meeting and "Get-to-gether" Sunday, April 18 Dinner 1 P.M. QTH: Bob O'Neil's 210 Taylor Place Ithaca, N.Y.
A.W.A. OLD TIMER'S LUNCHEON and PROGRAM Western New York Banquet Rochester, N.Y. Saturday, May 22, 12 Noon
OPEN HOUSE and DINNER A.W.A. HEADQUARTERS Holcomb, N.Y. Saturday Evening, Aug. 14 (In conjunction with N.Y.S.E.A. "Pageant of Steam")
NEW ENGLAND MEET Dinner and Program New England Wireless Museum East Greenwich, R.I. (date to be announced)
NATIONAL A.W.A. MEET Saturday, Oct. 9 Gray Wireless Museum Mason, Ohio
ANNUAL "GET-TO-GETHER" and Dinner Saturday Evening October 30 Holcomb, N.Y.
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Nov. 20 QTH: K2JA, Pittsford, N.Y.
More info on above meets in future Bulletins.

TUCKERTON/SAVILLE - remember the note in the Fall issue telling of W3KOU finding an old NAA postcard? Andy Shafer, W2TE, says he also has an NAA card plus postcards with Tuckerton (1915 postmark) and Sayville (1916 postmark). Friends mailed these cards to Andy 50 years ago and for some reason he kept them. Others, I'm sure, wish they had the same foresight....

WINTER VISIT TO HOLCOMB

We normally discourage visitors during the winter months but when Art Tilford, KOMID and his friend Irving Clegg (Mormon Missionaries from California) knocked on the door Jan. 4, we had to open up. A fellow photographer with his Leica recorded the following scenes.



Greeting the visitors in the driveway. KOMID at left and Irving Clegg on right.



Firing up W2QB's 1000 watt sync rotary spark transmitter always makes a good show if only for a couple "sparks"...



KOMID examining a 1928 Jenkins TV receiver. The holes in the nipkow disc have lenses which magnify the picture on to a mirror which reflects it back to a ground glass in the front !



Operating W2AN's 1922 transmitter. Many of the QSL cards on the wall belong to members who were active over 45 years ago.



Admiring the 1905 Fleming Valve. Art is an electronic engineer and appeared quite familiar with historical gear.



Noting the action of W4AU's "Triplex" key.

WANTED !

Please send info for the Bulletin...latest activities, Old Timer events, new gear on the shelf, historical books read, news items from magazines or newspaper, info on museums, problems with old equipment, photographs. Let us keep the OTB going !

Shelburne Hotel, New York City, Oct. 30. Officers at banquet table 1. to r.: WZAMB (Treasurer), WZKH (Director), WZSW (Director), WZFX (former Pres.) WZMM (new Pres.), WZICE (Main speaker), WZPF (Exec. Secretary), WZCYK (Director) and WZJE (new Secretary). Recognition was given to retiring President John DiRlasi and Secretary Ralph Barber for their many years of faithful service. AWA program by Kelley consisted of playback recordings of outstanding radio pioneers and wireless signals of a bygone era. Included, and quite appropriate at the time, was an excellent recording made by WZELW of John Reinartz who had become a Silent Key only a short time before.



EQUIPMENT INVENTORY - Link Candall, Earle Young and Bruce Kelley will make an inventory of all equipment in the club's barn museum this spring. Using a clipboard, they will go through the building and place a tag on each item that isn't already marked and list it on the Master Record. Members who have gear in the collection may obtain a receipt for same. This form (receipt) bears the number corresponding with the tagged number on the piece of equipment and in the file.

A method for cataloging historical gear was devised about 6 years ago. A code system is used whereby one can instantly recognize type of equipment, class, year and code file with owner's name. Copies of this "code" may be obtained by sending us a large self-addressed envelope. It may help you in cataloging your equipment.

WANT VT-2 or VT-5 TUBES? - seldom you see these tubes on the regular market. Write surplus dealer: John Meshna, 19 Allerton St., Lynn, Mass. He is selling the VT-5 "Peanut Tube" (W.E.) for \$1.00 each and VT-2's (made by Duovac in the mid 20's) for \$1.25 or \$2.00 per pair. (All are new tubes in original cartons.) (Tx-Russ Worthy)

NEW GEAR AT A.W.A.

Keys - W4AU, KZDQ, WZGO
 Receivers- WZPVK, WZIEE, WJELP, WZGO
 Tubes- KSLJV, WJELP
 Telegraph- WZHPQ, WJELP
 Misc. - WZSEK, WZVTE, WJELP, KSLJV
 Books - Bosman, Voorhis, WJYA

WHITE HOUSE RETIREMENT - Bob Hurley, White House Communication Officer since 1939, retired from his post on Dec. 21. An old time Morse telegrapher, he graduated from the Morse School in 1916 and went to work for Western Union. In the succeeding years he handled traffic for the World Series and work for the House and Senate Press as well as special assignments in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. On several occasions he took direct dictation from President Roosevelt. He plans to retire in Arlington and write a book on telegraphy. (Tx Ted Hannah)

BLUE BOOKS for 1909, 1910 and 1911 copies were recently received at AWA from OT Hal Voorhis. These early call books were published by Hugo Gernsback in the heyday of the old E.I. Co. and are priceless to the wireless historian. They contain the call letters of most commercial and Naval stations of the era along with pertinent info such as location, owner, etc.

In addition, a fair percentage of the known radio amateurs were listed along with their power or size of spark coil! Our old friend, Irving Vermilya, WJZE, "VI", always known for having a walloping signal, is listed as having 10 KW!

RADIO NEWS - don't try and complete 12 issues of "RADIO NEWS" for the year 1922 - only 11 were printed!! Seems Hugo Gernsback and staff were swamped with material and running behind in publication date. Result: The April and May issues were combined into one.

OLD TIME HAM-ADS

FOR SALE - last of a huge collection. All kinds of DeForest, Marconi, E.I., Adams-Morgan, Grebe, Federal, Mignon, Nurdock equipment plus collection of loose couplers, spark transmitters, rare tubes, catalogs, etc. A complete museum - will sell all or part.

Bill Travers, P.O. Box 365
Follock Pines, California

FOR SALE - ultimate in modern commercial power supply for your museum. 180 volts at 1 ampere voltage regulated to less than 1 volt using solid state rectifiers and tubes. Made to sell between \$300 to \$400. Like new - yours for \$50.00

Russ Worthy, 18 Spring St.
Williamstown, Mass.

SWAP - various tubes and equipment - want early variable condensers, DeForest tubes with insulating bases such as DV-1,6 etc. - also want real early light bulbs. Floyd Lyons, Elks Club, 456 Post St., San Francisco, Calif.

WANTED - 3" diameter Volt/Milliammeter to read filaments and current on 5 v. tubes. Fred Penard, 65 Maple St.

Norwood, Mass., 02062

QST'S WANTED - May 1917 and June, July and August 1919. Ray DeVos, 140 Summit Ave., West Trenton, N.J.

SELL OR SWAP - Nov. 1925, Jan., Mar., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. 1926 QST's...need Jan. and July 1920.

Bob Cobeugh, W2TFE,
29-29 213th St., Bayside, N.Y.

SWAP - QST's from 1923 to 1953 complete. Want 2 or 6 meter equipment or \$100.00
Lou Hardy, W2QO, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

"AMATEUR MUSEUM LISTING"

The Spring issue will print info about various amateur radio museums operated by A.W.A. Members. The list will include owner's name, address, telephone number, convenient hours to call and general nature of equipment on display.

If you are not already on our list and have old gear of any type (including historical library) - drop a line to Holcomb with above info....

SWAP - 1916, 1917 QST's, 1919, 1920 Radio News and misc. gear. Want telegraph apparatus and books.

E. Stuart Davis, 1149 Weber St.
Union, New Jersey

SWAP - early tubes, etc., want Moorhead ER (baseless) and Dietzen vacuum tube (circa 1925). Floyd Lyons, Elks Club, 456 Post St., San Francisco, California

WANTED - R.F. coil for Atwater-Kent Mod. 10 (breadboard) and panel for Model 58 Federal - will swap.

Harry Cap, 190 Beach St.
Bridgewater, Mass.

SALE - numerous "dupes" of early wireless textbooks. Send SASE for list. Also have early tubes, Audions, old "pickle" tubes, WE 212-D's, FB/X, etc. Frank Shannon, W3QR, 1500 Mass. Ave., Washington, D.C.

WANTED - personal collection - DeForest Audion (spherical), Fleming valve, Ultra-Audion, WD-11, UV-202, UV-203, UV-216, "H" tube, early carbon filament lamps and old tubes in general with brass bases and "tips".

L. J. Schneider, W9EK, 610 Monroe Ave., River Forest, Ill.

SWAP - all kinds of gear - want buss wire, Grebe rheostat and green silk or cotton covered #20 wire.

Bill Lavery, 118 N. Wycombe Ave.
Lansdowne, Penna.

SWAP - Kennedy 110 and 525 amplifier and other gear, books, etc. Want call books between 1920 and 1930 and an early CRL Znth. Erv Rasmussen, W0YPM Box 612, Redwood City, Calif.

MC CUNDO-SILVER 7 tube hi fi Orpheon (1937) receiver or a 1939 Guthman. I would like to hear from anyone who may have one of these receivers.

George Pablow, Box 590
Picton, Ontario, Canada

WANTED - any kind of info on Grebe CR-16. Set uses three 222's, one 201-A and 112A and was built in 1928. I have one but can not find any info on this rare set. (?)
Frank Pagano, 1835 West 7th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223

COLLECTOR has many pre-1925 radio books and magazines to swap or sell. Interested in Federal and Sonora gear. Write: Charles Henry, 6705 Caldwell Avenue, Chicago 46, Ill.

WANTED - Navy type coupler, round commercial helix, transmitting condensers and a good 1" spark coil. Swap ?
George Starry, 612 James St.
Latrobe, Penna.

RETIREES AS OF JANUARY 1ST:

Gerald Tyne from Bell Labs.
Lincoln Cusbell from Eastman Kodak

"THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN"

A news bulletin printed for members of the Antique Wireless Association.

Editor: Bruce Kelley, WJCE/QCP

Publishing Editor: Larry Triggs, WYERK

ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

A.R.R.L. Affiliate

An organization documenting the history and technology of wireless and the work of its pioneers.

Club Station: W2AN

Annual Dues: (including the "Old Timer's Bulletin", certificate and other benefits) - \$2.50 per year payable to Club Treasurer:

Lincoln Cundall, W2QY
69 Boulevard Parkway
Rochester 12, New York

PIONEER DE FOREST STATION near Babylon, Long Island, has location marked by a monument. The general area is now the site of many expensive homes. Will some member write giving the exact location - and if possible, a photo for the Bulletin?

HALLICRAFTER MODEL DD-1

Many have asked - what was a top pre-WWII receiver? We would like to throw the Hallicrafter Dual Diversity receiver in the "ring". Manufactured in 1937, it approached the ultimate in reception. Unlike the diversity receivers used in commercial practice (such as Rocky Point), this receiver was available to the public and covered a wide frequency range. More info can be found in regular catalogs of that period such as Allied.

SEVERAL UNUSUAL KEYS have been received recently. Jim Clapp, W4AU, is displaying a "Triplex" - a semi-automatic key that can be used either by a right or left handed operator - or can be used as a straight key - merely by turning a swivel type head to different positions! Lou Hardy, W2QO, sent a hand key unlike anything we've seen before. The lever can be loosened and set at right angles! And then, Cy Steud, K2DQ, stopped in and left his 1913 Boston Key and two beautiful replicas - all mounted on marble. We plan to have photos of these keys in a future issue so you can get a better idea what they are like.

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM - just received a \$500,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation which will be matched by the city. This will enable them to extend their building on the corner of Woodward and Kirby all the way to Cass Avenue.

W5VT (86 years of age!) decided recently to retire to Texas. Before leaving he gave W5FX a very fine collection of old gear to place in the Detroit Museum. Items include several Grebe receivers, early keys, Murdock and WSA equipment, etc.



NEW GEAR ON SHELF

John Evans, K2VZB, adds a General Radio Freq. meter and Attenuation box, a Thor. $\frac{1}{2}$ KW spark transformer, Type D Kolster Decremeter, Magnavox horn, a Daven amplifier plus many other items to his collection.

Jack Gray, W5JDV, is still recovering from the shock when an old timer from Cincinnati walked in and gave him QSTs No. 1 and 2! Jack also picked up a SE-95A, which was damaged in transit but is like new again after a little work.....

Bill Lavery is now showing interest in transmitting gear. The latest is Traver's 1 KW Thordareon rotary spark transmitter - which, by the way, is quite an item to ship from California to Pennsylvania. Bill's fall trip to Florida netted a Kennedy 110 and amplifier, a CR-5, etc...plus a hot lead on some real old equipment...

Erv Rasmussen, W6YFM, picked up a perfect Clapp-Bastham loosecoupler and several other items while on a trip to Oregon. Erv says he received all kinds of publicity back in the fall as a result of his QSO's with Barry Goldwater back in 1923. Erv was 9BCH and Barry G8PI in the early days..

Frank Shannon, W3QR, received a historical carborundum crystal detector mounted on hard rubber from Tom Appleby. It was used at the old 5 KW. spark station "WIE", Wannemaker Store, Philadelphia. Tom (W3AX) operated this store when Dave Sarnoff was the operator at the Wannemaker store in New York around 1911 or 1912.

Joe Pavak, W4OEP - not much new except some makings for a 1920 transmitter - early Thor. plate transformer, DeForest condenser and edge wound coil. Joe is still working on his new museum.

Earl England - Just found a beautiful inclosed glass receiver called a "De-lores 6" - "The Queen of Krystalclear" made in Newark, N.J. Top, front and all sides are heavy plate glass and in beautiful condition. Another addition for Curly is an IP-501 that he plucked out from under our noses back here in New York City..

Ed Cummings - located a DeForest Multi-wave "tuner" and an E.I. 10 ϕ crystal detector. Nice items - Ed placed them both in Bob Merrian's museum.

Pete Rossmann - has located some fine gear in the Cleveland area including a rotary gsp, etc. As a sideline item he recently purchased a small electric motor with colorful designs.

Wayne Nelson, W4AA, cherishes a very early American Telegraph register which is powered by a weight on a pulley. In general, Wayne is staying away from BC gear and concentrating on wireless and early telegraphy.

Frank Fagnano - has just about rounded out his Federal when he recently acquired a Federal crystal set..He also picked up a Marconi 106 but it was in such rough shape that he turned it over to Phil Weingarten who likes to work on such sets.

Bob Cobanugh, W2DTE, just acquired a perfect set of QST's in binders from August 1920 to December 1930 solid. Bob finds them very enjoyable reading as well as an opportunity to refresh his memory on several subjects of the 'ole days'....

Al Stewart, W8DHF had the good fortune of latching on to a Westinghouse RS & RS series receiver, original dry cells and two pairs of "Baldies". These receivers were the nicest built for the money at the time. It wasn't uncommon for the amateur in the later '20s to change one over to the shorter wavelengths. "Al" is an Engineer at KRW-TV-3.

A.W.A. GET-TO-GETHERS**FOSE**

1st and 3rd Sunday every month
12 Noon and 5 P.M.
1st and 3rd Tuesday every month
7:00 P.M.
3905 KC. AM or SSB

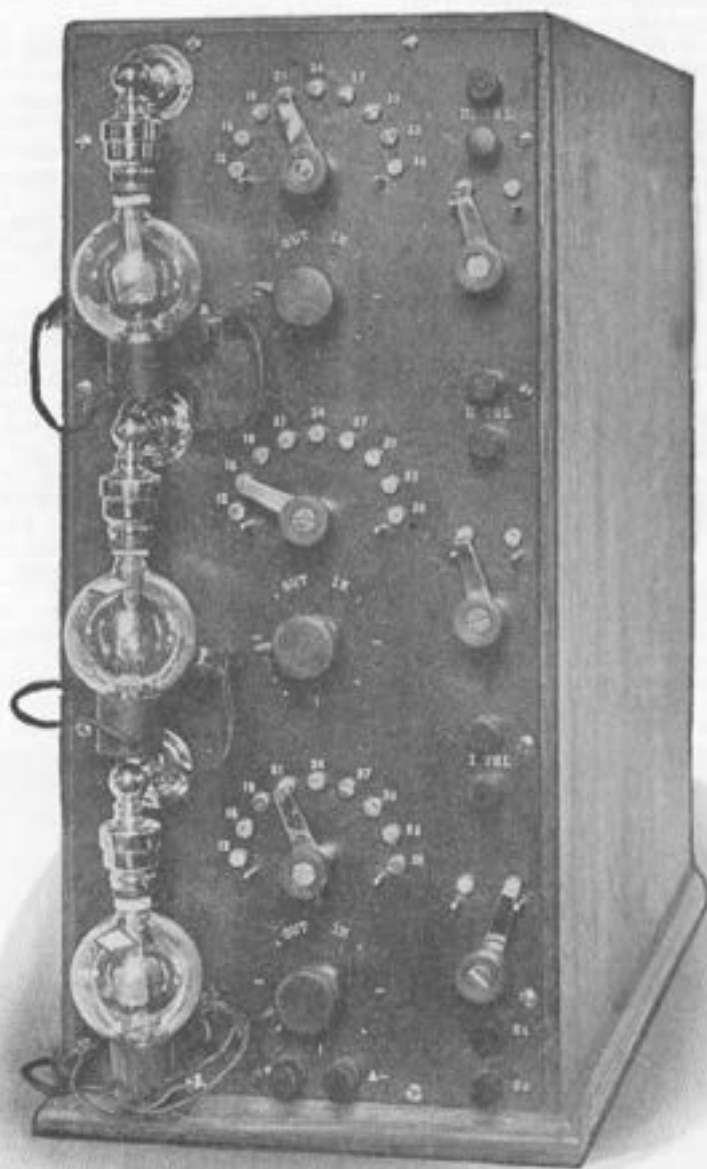
Every Sunday - 11:00 A.M.
7220 KC. - SSB

CW

1st Wednesday of every month
8 P.M. - 3525 kc.
(Call W2QY)

Tentative frequencies for old
time phone transmitters:
3860 or 3865 KC.
and
1807 KC.

PAGE 220, PRACTICAL WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY by Elmer Bucher, published in 1921... Look under Fig. 243 for the Operator's name who had filled out the Ship's record and you will find a fellow by the name of P.B. Colleson, dated 3-1-16. Who is he? Determined to find out, I asked K2DE at the recent QCWA Banquet....and received the correct answer....K2DE and Perce Colleson in this book were one and the same person!



DeForest Audiophone or Audion Amplifier
(THREE STEP)

DEFOREST AUDIOPHONE.

THE Audion Amplifier, or Audiophone, relays or amplifies minute pulsating or alternating electrical impulses from 5 to 600 times their original intensity, with perfect fidelity and without lag or distortion.

It operates on an entirely novel principle, that of cathodic dispersion—fundamentally different from any magneto-microphone, or mechanical relaying devices. Unlike all such amplifiers there is here no apparent lower limit of sensitiveness below which the Audion fails to amplify. Thus even with the two-step amplifier it is easily possible to make clearly readable wireless signals which without it are quite inaudible. Similarly with minutest telephonic currents, or micro-pulsating currents of whatever character, its applications are numerous.

Even with its extreme sensitiveness the Audion Amplifier is simple to operate, not critical in adjustment, and is free from all microphonic disturbances or jarring, which so frequently make impractical any form of sensitive contact relay.

As an instance of the extraordinary amplifying qualities of this device, we may recount that at the present time daylight signals from San Francisco can be therewith read at Washington with the telephone receivers held some distance from the ears.

The wire telephone and telegraph rights to the deForest Audion and Amplifier patents have been acquired by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., but wireless and other rights are vested in our Company.

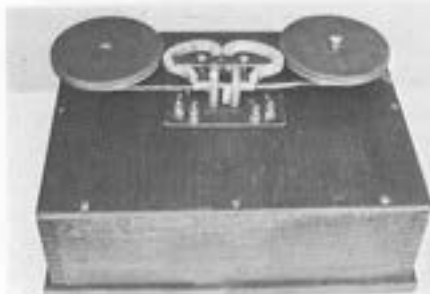
The Amplifier is made in one, two or three steps, the latter being used where especially weak signals are to be magnified, for control of relay-actuated devices, and the like. The Audion Amplifier, in combination with excessively loose-coupled receiving circuits, or "balance" circuits, affords by far the most effective means today for cutting out static interferences. Especially is this method applicable in receiving continuous or weakly damped oscillations, for it is therewith possible to reduce the receiver coupling to a point where no static impulses are picked up in the secondary circuit and then to bring up the signals (which are otherwise totally inaudible), to full readable intensity.

Audion bulbs of special construction and sensitiveness are furnished with the Amplifier. *Detector bulbs are not suitable for this work.*

This DeForest unit is one of the rarer items a historian can add to his collection. Manufactured in small quantities around WWI era, we only know of one or two in existence. There were three in this series of Audion Amplifiers: a One Step selling for \$150.00, a Two Step for \$300.00 and the model shown selling for the staggering price of \$500.00 ! and that was a lot money in those days.....

HOME MADE MAGNETIC DETECTORS

Here are the magnetic detectors we mentioned in the summer bulletin made by Rod, W3KCY. The smaller one is the first model using an electric motor to drive the wire capstan. This model worked OK except for AC hum from the motor. To get around this, Rod built the larger model using a motor from an old phonograph. He and Bruce Boyd plan to make some oscillograms of the detector's operation showing the rectifying effect on the non-linear magnetizing cycle. (Tx - W3QA)



A.W.A. SHOWS - several have written asking about availability of historical film shows for local program material.....As a result of several unfortunate incidents on loaned material - we are no longer sending out original film shows and tapes. These shows are valued over \$400 and in the future will only be available for A.R.R.L. Conventions and special meets.

We are, however, revising the A.W.A. "HISTORICAL SURVEY" show which will be available sometime in the spring. You will need a 35 mm. slide projector and a tape recorder - you pay postage both ways.....

GREETING CARDS - a little late, but WICE and others in the Rochester area wish to acknowledge the many Xmas cards received. Warm greetings and friendly notes are always welcome - sorry we couldn't answer them all.

DE FOREST HISTORIAN - a new member is L.J. Schnedorf, W9EMK, who specializes in DeForest history and equipment. Professionally, he is Chief Engineer at WDMF (WGN/WGNB/WGN-TV). He would like to hear from other DeForest admirers.

COLLECTION DONATED - Harold Reed, W3JEP, recently donated a sizable collection of historical material and equipment to the Ford Science Museum, Dearborn, Michigan. Several additional items ended up in our club's museum with the understanding they ultimately go to the A.R.R.L. Among the items received at A.W.A. were: an early W.E. BC Monitoring and Control Panel system, early G.R. Audio frequency oscillator and a very early Wireless Speciality Navy Type Lightning Switch. The latter is a huge affair which is normally mounted on the ceiling and actuated by 2 ropes. We plan to setup an early commercial station this summer and this switch will have a prominent position. All of this equipment was used in WOL located in the old Annapolis Hotel, Washington, D.C. over 35 years ago.

Harold was one time Chief Engineer of the station succeeding Harry Lyon. He is now in private industry and on occasion writes a technical article for publication.

(Tx - Ted Duvall)

SILENT KEYS

EARL WILLIAMS, W2ED, Oct. 23. Secretary/Treasurer of the Old, Old Timers Club. An active amateur since 1907 and one of the oldest in the books having obtained his "official" ticket January, 1913.

CHARLES SAMUEL FRANKLIN, Dec. 17 85 years old, London, England. Better known as C.S. Franklin, he is one of the last of the Marconi pioneers. Developed many pieces of equipment including famous 210 broadcast station - best known for his work with directional antennas. (W3KOU)

HOWARD SEEFRED, W6EA (no definite info) - participant in first successful Transcontinental Relay with 52A and other well known pioneer stations following WWI. Known for his low power DX work and A.R.R.L. activities. (W5VA)



W1EB as it looks today - with modern store-bought gear sandwiched in between all kinds of home brew devices - most of them for the pursuit of DX on 160. The twin 3 meter panels on the right



house the original 1932 L.F. gear. The picture below shows the 1932 FP 211 final on the left and beside it the FP 210 exciter/doubler/driver. Note the SW-3 and "modern" FB-7 at the operating position.

ULTIMATE IN LOW FREQUENCY DX - W1EB

Ever "fish" for DX on the broadcast band with a 1 tube set or a 5 tube neodyne using 201-A's ? Remember the thrill of receiving WGY, KKKA or KGO ? We take the broadcast band for granted today with no thought of sitting up all night listening for DX - but not Stewart Perry, W1EB, who is the world's low frequency DX man.

Operating just below the broadcast stations on the amateur 160 meter band, he has had two way contact with over 60 different countries including such remote spots as U.S.S.R., South Africa, Australia, Tangiers, Finland, Liberia and South Orkney Islands ! Of interest to the historian is the fact that most of this work was accomplished with a relatively low power transmitter originally constructed in 1929 and 1932 !

The original rig started out with a pair of 210's in the final. In 1932 he added an amplifier using 211's. Little change has been made in this layout for the past 33 years. More meters and aluminum panel have been added but it is still the same old reliable transmitter.

The reason for his success ? - it is not the transmitter for as Stew says "RF in 1965 is no different than RF in 1929".....the answer is obviously operating skill and a darn gal antenna ! We might add that W1EB was a one time commercial operator - nuf sed...

A.W.A. MEMBERS - 1923 While glancing through the November, 1923 issue of "Radio News", I noticed articles by four A.W.A. associates written 42 years ago ! Ralph Batcher, Howard Pyle, E.T. "Zip" Jones and now deceased John Reinartz... (Thx C.G.)

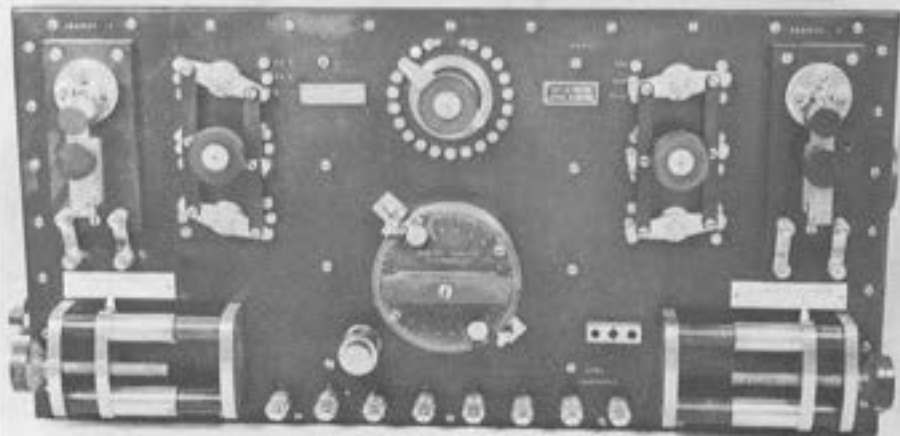


A.W.A. ON TELEVISION

Our Association hit the "one-eyed" monster twice recently. First - the A.W.A. sent material to Philadelphia which was used on a TV Educational program concerning the life of Marconi. This was viewed on Channel 12, January 22.

Next - part of a movie covering the amateur radio activity in the Rochester area was taken in the club's museum. The camera "moved in" on old gear and early station setups and the microphone picked up W2CB's 1 KW. rotary spark transmitter. This interesting telecast was shown on Channel 10, February 7.

OLD OLD THINGS CLUB - The new Secretary/Treasurer is Eunice Thompson, W1MFP of Lovell, Maine. The O.O.T.C. is indeed fortunate to have such a capable volunteer since the job is a tough one. It goes along with the old saying "pick a busy person to do a good job" - and W1MFP is a busy person. If you were on the air before 1925, drop Eunice a line for info and application blank.



ULTIMATE IN A CRYSTAL SET RECEIVER ?

This beautiful receiver was presented to us sometime ago by George Gurney, pioneer Marconi operator and former Manager of the old Great Lakes Station V8H at Kingston, Ontario. Strictly a commercial receiver, it was manufactured by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. of Canada, Limited, sometime between 1910 and 1914. Completely restored by W2QY, the OT wireless operator had a choice of 8 different minerals for detection or he could switch into a nearby magnetic detector. Main tuning is from the center condenser with fine adjustments from the 2 "Billi" condensers located at the two lower corners. Coupling control is obtained by a knob on the side (not seen). Range: 300 to 1600 meters extending to 4200 with loading inductance.

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH MUSEUM is in the process of being setup by Stuart Davis, W42C/K2O8J at his home in Union, New Jersey. It will be part of the Toledo (Ohio) Morse Club and associated Wire Service permanent exhibit. The club, by the way, is presently working on the project of refurbishing an "1890 Wabash Station" to serve as the club's permanent home as well as provide space for "live steam railroaders"....

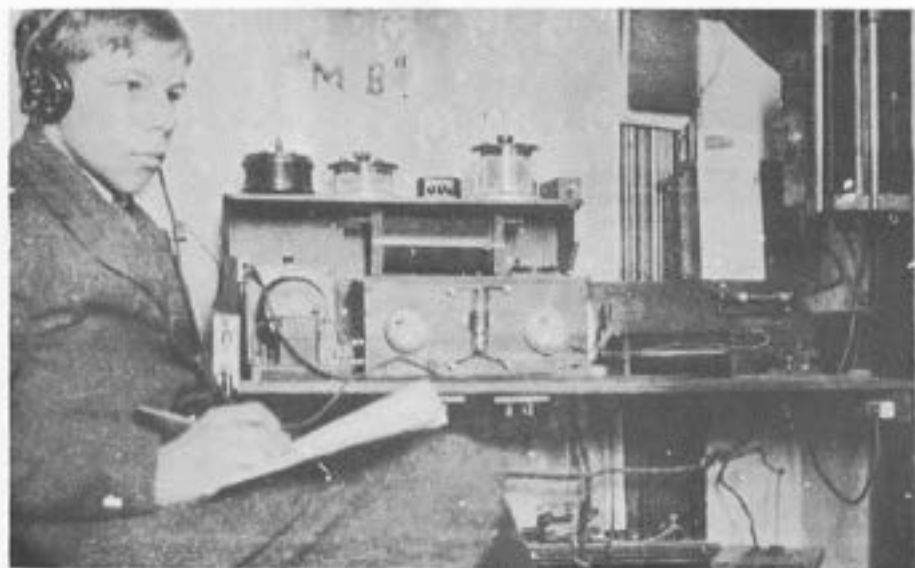
"Stu" will have an excellent display of telegraph instruments as well as a working morse circuit which may tie in with the W.U. nationwide circuit on S.F.B. Morse's Birthday Party in April. Equipment will be a Quad, two Single Line Repeaters, etc. More information on this interesting museum in a future bulletin.

We asked K2O8J about his exhibit in the Manchester Historical Society Museum at Manchester, New Hampshire. A sad story - seems a new curator took over several years back - and on a recent visit "Stu" found a large portion of his instruments had disappeared as well as a nice collection of vacuum tubes - to persons unknown !

EARLY VACUUM TUBES is the title of an article written by Paul Watson appearing in the December, 1964 issue of "Electronics World". Good material for the layman; however, the tube historian is advised to read Tyne's "Saga of the Vacuum Tube" which appeared in "Radio News" several years ago for full account of tube development.

Along this same line, it is rumored that since Jerry has retired, he may start writing a second series of vacuum tube history - this time covering tubes of the 20's. There is a great demand for such information and we hope the rumor is true.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP - of course you've all seen the recent 5¢ Amateur Radio stamp - and many have a "First Day" issue envelope from Anchorage, Alaska - but how many are aware there were two different envelopes ? We believe the most common is the one with the photo of the old time wireless station. Less common is the one bearing the familiar picture of Hiram Percy Maxm seated at old WJMK. (Tx - Jose Garcia)



THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Photos like this bring memories of one's youth. This is "Ace" Ratcliff, WJWA, 1914 station layout in Madison, Wisconsin. "Ace" was using the call letters "MB" at the time. He must have been the envy of his companions with that tubular triode detector. Down in the lower right is a jar with 2 wires going through a wooden cover - can't figure just what it is from the photo - battery? rectifier? or electrolytic interrupter.....

OKLAHOMA - Oren Gambill, W5WI, reprints an old gear exhibit at the recent State Convention (Tulsa) and another planned for the coming West Gulf Division Convention in July. Deforest, Grebe and other old pieces were on display. Oren will have his spark set in operation providing he can find a good rotary gap....

WINDOW DISPLAY - Minneapolis, Minn. WJSE's business occupies a fair size building and frequently he brings out some of his more interesting gear and places it in one of the windows. Old receivers, unusual tubes, etc. are all eye-catchers - and on more than one occasion it has paid off - hi!

NICE COPY - In Nov. 19 issue of the "Christian Science Monitor" covering the NEW ENGLAND WIRELESS MUSEUM.... Well written with photos except they "goofed" on Bob's name - they had it as Merrill - not Merriam! Guess the reporter had another well known Robert in mind.....

ALL SOLD OUT !!

with the exception of a few copies for sample purposes, all back issues of the OLD TIMERS BULLETIN are sold out. Sorry, no more copies orders can be taken.....

OLD BATTERIES - sounds crazy, but old dry cells and "B" batteries are becoming collector items. K2VZB reports picking up some off brand makes recently including a #6 "Hercules" dry cell, a "Franco" $\frac{1}{2}$ volt "C", and a "Power Plus" 45 volt "B" battery.

They were all about 40 years old and of course "dead as a doornail" - but interesting, they were all clean - no chemical action taking place or bulging sides. Why do present day batteries react this way?

Speaking of batteries - we have a fair collection here at A.W.A. - mostly Eveready and Burgess. The choice of the lot is a NESCO #6 dry cell of pre-WWI era with Fabenstock clip mounted on center carbon pole.

OLDEST TELEGRAPHER - ?? As you read this Bulletin, old time Morse telegrapher Albert Vernon of Linwood, Pa. will be looking forward to celebrating his 104th birthday - born April 1, 1861 !!

HARVARD RADIO SCHOOL - another who attended this well known WWI Radio School is Bert Hall, WJCF. Guess we should have an A.W.A. Alumni Chapter.

CONGRATS TO N.R.I. ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

October, 1914 marked the birth of pioneer radio school the "National Radio Institute". And incredible as it may seem, its founder, J.E. Smith, after 50 years, is still associated with the school as Chairman of the Board !

Founder Smith, a lively gentleman approaching 84 years, still reports regularly to his office. He retired as President in 1956, succeeded by his son J. M. Smith, a graduate engineer of Worcester Polytechnic Institute like his father.

The "Golden Anniversary" issue of the N.R.I. Journal (published last fall) tells the full story of this old time radio school - now a modern institute of learning. Ted Duvall (ex-3DW) well recalls teaching code classes at the old National Radio School during WWI (1918). Any other members associated with N.R.I. ?

DARN OLD STORIES - in last issue of OOTC "Spark Gap Times" - and subject matter wasn't entirely wireless as witnessed by VESIF's WWI experiences in the Mediterranean ! Frank Atlee's (KZFI) biography brought back many memories and K2EX continued the excellent of "Amateur Number One" - Irving Vermilya, W1XR.

TOP SHORTWAVE RECEIVER COLLECTOR ?

Just received a list of some gear collected by Curly England out in Los Angeles. In addition to having an excellent collection of early wireless and broadcast receivers, we noted this column of shortwave receivers in his amateur museum:

National Thrill Box, National SW-3, National PB-7, National PF7-X, National HRO, Pilot Super Wasp, Pilot Universal Super Wasp, Jones-Silver super gainer, Patterson PR-10, Patterson All Wave, Patterson PR-15, Pierson-Delane UN PR15, Brenting L2, Brenting L4, RCA ACR-136, RCA ACR-155, RCA ACR-175, RCA SW Converter, Hallicrafter S-38, S-40, Sky Traveler S-29, SX-16, SX-27, and Hallicrafter SX-32, Samsarlund Super-Pro, RNE 69, etc....can anyone beat this listing for receivers in this category ?

RARE PHOTOS - SOUTH WELLFLEET - have been received from Fred Parsons, W2EOM. They include 3 exterior photos - two of which are of the original antenna - the circular one that was blown down in a gale and later replaced with the familiar 4 master. The pictures were turned over to W2QY who immediately copied them into 35 mm. slides.



PARAGON UNIT

Here are the 3 Paragon units in Bill Laverty's collection - each of which is a collector's item by itself. On top is the famous RA-10 tuner, lower left the 10-R amplifier and the DA-2 detector and 2 step audio at the right.

REPLACEMENT ITEMS - a problem confronting many members is obtaining exact replacement parts for old receivers. The "purist" demands every component be an original and in working order. Harry Cap and others point out the most common problem is the burnt out audio transformer. Many prefer an original transformer with an open winding to a good off brand replacement (?).

Guess the solution is to save ALL types of receivers, etc. regardless of condition or appearance...you may never know when you may need that old Carter rheostat or Karas dial. We have a large supply of miscellaneous parts here at A.W.A. - yours for the taking - we will not ship.

I guess the moral is - unless there is a need to have the equipment in operation - don't apply plate voltage. To test a circuit - use an ohmmeter - and above all - don't try and light up that Deforest Audion - the little flash and puff of smoke you may see may cost you between \$30 to \$40 !

INTERESTING ITEM - recently received at A.W.A. from Joe Pavak, W4ORF, is an autographed book by Don Wallace, W5AM, titled "SHORT WAVE MANUAL".

Written by Don in 1933, the book is profusely illustrated with circuits and photographs. Published in the depression years - not too many copies were sold. Don autographed the book during a visit with Joe enroute to recent N.Y.C. A.R.R.L. Convention where he spent sometime at our exhibit booth. The newcomer associates W5AM with his DX antenna farm, but the old timer remembers him as the crack operator behind the key at old 9ZT and a Hoover Cup Winner.....

Historical Wire Communication
WESTERN UNION

To millions of Americans, the 113-year-old Western Union Telegraph Co. means bicycling messengers in green uniforms, miles of wire along railroad tracks and yellow shafts of light from all-night offices. The telegraph business still accounts for more than half of the company's revenues, but it is dwindling along with the poles and messengers. W-U is transforming itself into a new kind of giant, using the latest pushbutton automation to provide a range of services as broad as electronic wizardry allows.

It operates a nationwide system for the Air Force designed to detect nuclear bomb explosions, an automatic teleprinter network that serves 9000 customers in 2000 cities and a private telephone system for stock exchanges. Its 30,000 mile facsimile-data-voice net serves the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and a bigger hookup for the Pentagon. Last fall it opened a "broad-band exchange service" to 19 cities that not only combines telephone, teletype and facsimile communication but enables computers to send data across the nation.

The original company, the New York & Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Co., was formed April 1, 1851 in Rochester, N.Y. Increasing its line coverage by acquiring 11 other lines, the name was changed to Western Union on April 5, 1856. The name was suggested by Ezra Cornell, an officer and later founder of Cornell University. An office is still maintained in the original building - Reynold's Arcade. Harold Smith, WAZKRD, is the Wire Chief and an A.W.A. Director.

The company had only one strong competitor in the telegram field - the old Postal Telegram Co. A merger in 1943 left the field clear; however, as W-U moves into new fields they have found a new competitor - A.T. & T.

We have many W-U employees in A.W.A. with at least 10 avid "land-line" historian/collectors. Early telegraph instruments precede wireless gear by 50 years and provides an excellent field for the lay historian. One of the finest collections in the world is located in the Ford Science Museum, Dearborn, Michigan.

P.S. As we go to press, word is that WU just elected a new president - Russ McFall, K3JAB. Congratulations on new job, ob!



PIONEER HISTORIANS

Tom Appleby (W3AX) at rear left and George Applegate (W2IA) in their booth at the American Dental Association Annual Convention in San Francisco. As you recall, Tom and George have written a book covering the work of Dr. Mahlon Loomis, dentist and wireless pioneer of the 1860's. The A.D.A. were such enthused over their pioneer inventor and asked the boys to come out and publicize his early achievements. Over 30000 dentists from all over the world paraded pass their booth and became aware of Loomis' work! (foto-W3AX)

NAVAL HISTORICAL DISPLAY CENTER

The casual visitor to Washington is always faced with the problem of what to do or where to go in a limited amount of time. The result - he frequently overlooks the fine display at the Washington Navy Yard.

A Tour through the Naval Museum is like an intimate voyage through Naval history from the Revolutionary War to the nuclear age. From early flags to huge guns - plus a fair start on early wireless equipment are all waiting to be seen. Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. - not open weekends.

MARCONI MAGNETIC DETECTOR - is the property of George Stary (Letrobe, Penna.). The nucleus of a small collection, George has a fine start. He recalls being at a friend's house and listening in the evening the "Titanic" sunk - a moment never to be forgotten!

MORSE TELEGRAPH CLUB - the Nov./Dec. issue of their publication "DOTS and DASHES" printed a photo taken for the A.W.A. by Link Cundall, W2QY. It shows officers of the Joseph Henry Chapter copying the President's message. Don't forget - Morse's Birthday Dinner coming up again in April - see you on the circuit...(Txn - W2ITQ)



TYPICAL FAMILY GATHERING

during the 1920's

at least that is what we would like to have you think. Actually, it is a recent newspaper shot taken by Ralph Baker of Ithaca, N.Y. of Bob O'Neil (KZAXE) and his family. A publicity photo, it was printed in the local newspaper and aroused considerable interest. Participants are Bob's wife, daughter and grandchildren - the hovering expression on the OM's face is most likely concern over the feedback adjustment on the Clapp-Bastham "Radak" regenerative receiver!

DEARBORN'S OLD TIMER NITE

Saturday, May 8th

Main Speaker:

George Bailey, W2KH

Former President A.R.R.L.

Secretary I.R.E. (I.E.E.E.)

Write Frank Davis, Ford Science Museum, Dearborn, Michigan for more information.

OLD TIME RADIO RECORDS - another sideline to our hobby is old radio photograph records. Fred Penard of Norwood, Mass. has added several to his collection of which one or two are quite rare. The most interesting one is titled: "When the Lusitania Went Down" - a record inciting the public to war... Others include "Cohen Buys a Wireless Set", "Cohen Listens in on the Radio" and "Twisting the Dials" (mentioned in Vol. 5, No.2)