

Antenna Called Doorstep of Wireless Receiving Apparatus

Aerial Should be Properly Braced and Fitted With Lightning Arrester Equipment So That It Will Not be Menace.—Important Tests Described

BY FRANK C. YODAN.

An "antenna," according to the dictionary, is "one of the feelers on the head of an insect," or, we might say, "bug." "Bugs" and "antennae" seem to have much in common—antennae on bugs and bugs on antennae.

Why is an antenna? We can catch radio signals in so many different ways that it would be foolish to start any quarrel as to whether an antenna is needed or not. At the same time, we realize that unless we have some sort of a wire strung up to intercept radio waves, we must install and maintain quite a few amplifier tubes to bolster up the strength of the incoming signal.

It is to be regretted that we are unable personally to interview a radio wave. It would be a great story if we could say, from Chicago, could tell us about its journey through space on its tour to the Eastern seaboard.

Some waves arrive in good shape and are treated with care and consideration when we get them. Others arrive all bent up and battered, and announce themselves in a stuttering sort of way, only to suffer a rather discourteous "shut-out" from our receiving sets.

A third class of visitors to our "radio boxes" are accorded the treatment of a good natured past—they play hide and seek with us, we torture them every chance we get, twist them, distort them and then complain about them. Really, none would care how much of this foolish treatment were accorded, straggling signals from the neighboring astronomer didn't so upset and muddy the water for everyone else. It's poor sportsmanship.

With that point made, we get back to the "doorstep" of our radio set—the antenna. This is the place where we meet and greet the radio signal, and there is much to be said about the etiquette we should observe.

Most of us know what an antenna is for, but an antenna on a roof doesn't make a radio set, and a radio set can't make an antenna.

As a rule, builders are careful in "topping off" a house, so as to arrange the skyline that it will not be offensive to the sight. Cornice lines may not always be artistic, but they are at least conventional and acceptable. Is there any reason why our antenna can't be designed along the same lines? These ragged, shapeless radio things on our roofs certainly do detract from the property value of any neighborhood.

Think this over—if the builder of your house had placed such "objects of decoration" on your home at the time he was selling it to you, your present address would likely be somewhere else! Let's get busy and straighten out this antenna business. A tiny squeak in your motor-car gets all kinds of attention, but these ill-planned things on the roof are neglected day after day.

An antenna properly erected, braced and guyed and fitted with proper lightning arresting equipment, is not a menace and does not "attract lightning." Three years of broadcasting have proved this.

Many persons have a pronounced fear of lightning in connection with antennae. Some persons probably have more reason

off, for, when we ground the antenna, that is exactly what we are endeavoring to accomplish—to see to it that this static leakage is as great as possible. The leakage from the antenna will be just as good as the ground connection or lightning device used. So this brings us to the matter of "grounding."

One of the sure ways to take the chance of doing without fire insurance on our homes and their contents. We would be foolish, indeed, to jeopardize these insurances through the careless installation of a radio set. If we do not heed the few simple rules and regulations of the National Electric Code, which, by the way, is a definite part of insurance underwriting, we expose ourselves to constant risk of loss.

Our fire insurance policies cover losses only under certain conditions, as it is primarily assumed that all insurance requirements are complied with. To neglect these requirements is folly.

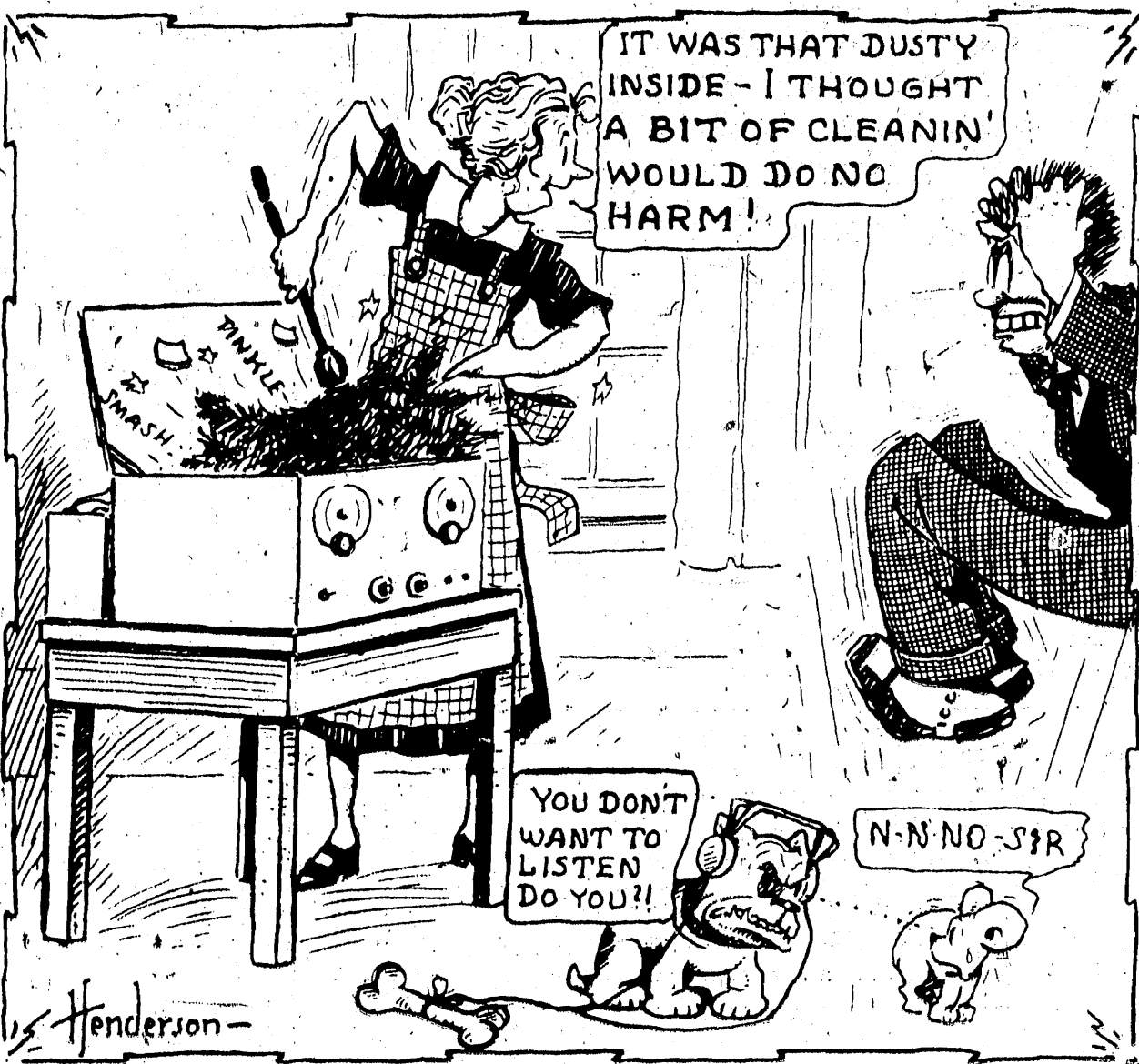
The National Electric Code regarding antennae specifies that: "Each lead-in conductor shall be provided with an approved protective device (lightning arrester) which will operate at a voltage of 500 volts or less, properly connected and located either inside the building at some point between the entrance and the set which is convenient to the ground or outside the building as near as practicable to the point of entrance. The protector shall not be placed in the immediate vicinity of easily ignitable stuff or where exposed to flying or moving combustible materials.

"If an antenna grounding switch is employed it shall, in its closed position, form a short around the protective device. Such a switch shall not be used as a substitute for the protective device. It is recommended that an antenna grounding switch be employed and that, in addition, a switch rated at not less than 30 amperes 250 volts be located between the lead-in conductor and the receiving set."

The code which explains in diagram what the rules require are reproduced with this article for the convenience of readers.

We will stop for a moment to consider when is a ground really a "ground?" This matter is important, for it has been observed in many instances where the lightning ground is made separate from the operating ground, that trusting to the

To-day's Hook-Up



Why She's Looking for a New Job

best test is the one with the 110-volt current and the 25-watt lamp.

There is no danger whatever in making this test if the fan makes sure that the 25-watt lamp is firmly connected in the circuit before the free end of the test wire is touched to the ground that is being tested. As attachment is made to only one side of the lighting circuit, there is no danger whatever from shock. Of course, if contact is made to the grounded side of the 110-volt line, the lamp will not light at all when the free end of wire is touched to the ground wire being tested.

For that reason, before the test is made and after the lamp has been firmly connected in the test circuit, take the free end of the test wire and touch it to a cold-water pipe. If you have connected the lamp lead to the grounded side of the 110-volt lighting circuit, the lamp will not light. If it is attached to the ungrounded side of the lighting circuit, then the lamp will light at full brilliance and you can proceed with the testing of the protective ground, as illustrated in Fig. 6.

It is just as difficult to make a good mechanical job of the antenna as it is to make it electrically right. The antenna

how high, how long and how many wires. Physical limitations attend to the "how-long" end of the debate, but the height of the antenna is usually something the constructor can regulate. Ten to 15 feet above the roof usually seems sufficient.

A question that seems to puzzle a lot of us is how many wires ought to be used in the horizontal part of the antenna. There is so little difference in the actual capacitance of single-wire and multi-wire antennae of short length that it really doesn't seem right to recommend additional wires.

If the question of using more than one wire really seems important, we can rest assured that putting two wires in the flat top will not double the capacity of the single wire, and putting in three wires will not make the capacitance three times as great as that of one wire.

In some cases real improvement in reception results with the use of a short antenna of several wires. The answer is, "try it!" But remember this: The "more" the antenna, the "more" the static!

In using multi-wire antennae, don't place the wires much more than 30 inches apart and make a good job of running the lead-in. Tie the free ends of the multi-wire antenna together in any instance. In installing the antenna pay strict attention to the insulation.

Money invested in the best of insulators and insulation is well spent.

A room big enough to hold the crowd interested in "the kind of wire to use" might require a stadium! After experiments with different kinds of aerials I am of the opinion that probably as good results as may be expected are obtained with the well-known T-Strand No. 22 copper wire. An antenna should be gone over about every 18 months. You will be amazed at the corrosion that has taken place in the antenna wires! It takes about several months for the bright surface of copper wire fully to oxidize, but from then on the dust and grime pile up rapidly.

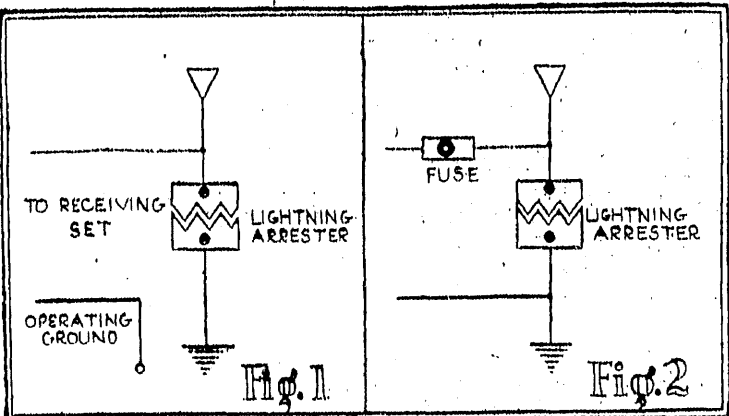


Fig. 1

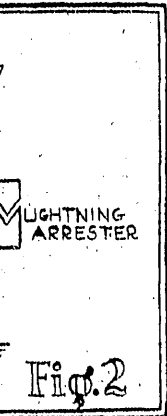


Fig. 2

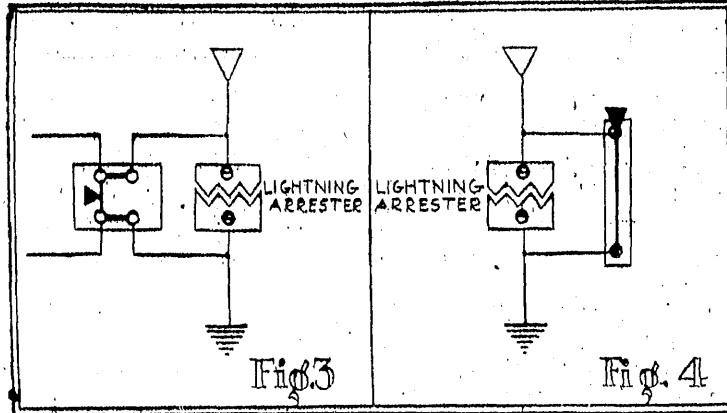


Fig. 3

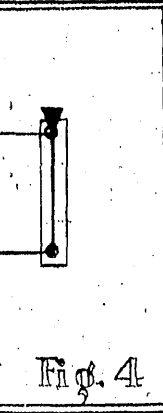


Fig. 4

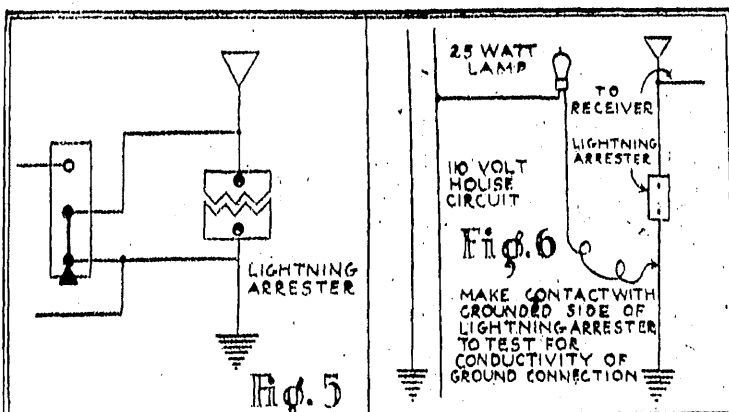


Fig. 5

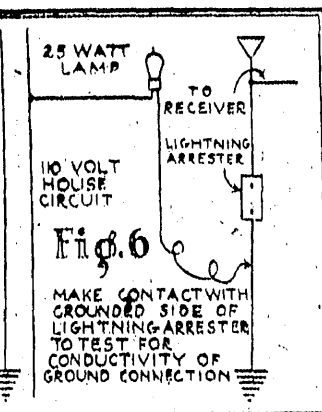


Fig. 6

for this fright than they are aware. An ungrounded or unprotected antenna during a thunderstorm is a serious matter and greatly exposes the structure beneath it and those in its vicinity. One should be warned that merely loosening the antenna lead-in wire from the set and throwing it out of the window, or putting this free end otherwise out of sight in no way decreases the danger during an electrical storm. On the other hand, if the antenna is thoroughly and properly grounded, it serves as a real protection to the house and adjacent structures.

There is little danger from lightning where a grounded antenna is constantly adding itself of "induced charges." During a storm the grounded antenna acts as an "equalizer" between the cloud above and the earth below. This means that the antenna should be made of a material that cannot be construed as meaning only an atmospheric disturbance, accompanied by rain, as during a severe electrical storm rain may be totally absent. The electrical charges induced in antennae are more or less independent of the rain factor. These charges may become very great long before any rainfall occurs at all.

So we see that the antenna when grounded acts to relieve the "electric strain" between the cloud and the earth. It is only when this electric strain becomes too great between the antenna and the cloud that the lightning affects the antenna.

There are very few cases on record where lightning has made "direct hits" on antennae. In the few cases known there exists an element of doubt, as the destruction which accompanies a direct hit is so terrible that that there usually is little evidence left for investigation.

However, the important thing for us to remember is this: If our antenna is thoroughly grounded there will be little chance of large static charges building up in the aerial system, and that those charges that do collect will rapidly leak

protective ground is an example of misplaced confidence.

A pipe or rod driven in the earth is not necessarily a good electrical ground. Grounds made in ordinary earth often present very high resistance to the flow of electric current. There is a way of finding out definitely whether the ground is a good one, and that is, test it!

Where 110-volt current is available, a ground may be readily tested by running the ungrounded side of the 110-volt lighting circuit through a 25-watt lamp and touching the grounded side of the protective device (lightning arrester, etc.) with the other wire from the lamp socket. See Fig. 6. If the conductivity of the ground is good the lamp will light up brightly, but if the ground is poor and of high resistance the lamp will not light at all or only very dimly.

In case a poor ground is indicated by the test, additional grounding rods or pipes should be driven and then the whole bunch of pipes should be electrically bound together. The conductivity of the protective ground may also be tested by switching over the ground lead from the receiver to the ground of the protective device. This test is not very reliable, as in many cases, the connection mentioned will permit reception, a high resistance in the protective ground acting as a capacitance, that is, like a condenser. The

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GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS: Appearance, leather suitcase
model, completely self-contained, for carrying, and folds to dress-
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Speaker.
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about one
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GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS: Same as Model 24 with the
following additions:
CABINET: Is of grained walnut.
LOOP: Mounted within frame of front door and a part of
the front cover. When the door frame is swung open, loop rotates
on axis to obtain full advantage of its directional characteristics.
Loop may be removed from door frame and attached to rear of
cabinet, thus permitting the set to be operated while it is being
carried.

HOME BATTERY BOX: Permits the use of external batteries
of the larger sizes. A plug connector in the rear of the portable
set permits operation either from the shorter-life batteries in the
cabinet proper or the longer-life batteries in the Home Battery Box.
ANTENNA COUPLER: The Home Battery Box contains an
antenna tuning element with binding posts for connection to an
aerial or ground wire. With the addition of either an indoor or
outdoor aerial, Radiola 26 provides loud speaker operation over
very great distances.
WEIGHT: Approximately 40 pounds, complete with batteries
for portable use, but without the Home Battery Box.

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The Transmitter Tuned So That
Pitch of Audible-Beat Note
Changes When Metal Is Taken
Through Gate.—Novel Idea De-
veloped by German Scientists.

"The last few years have brought such a rush of inventions in the transmission of wireless signals that it seems normal to hear of some new application of radio waves every day," according to a report to the Department of Commerce from the office of the American commercial attaché at Berlin discussing the radio situation there.

He continues: "Wired wireless, train telephony, the radio compass, long-range control of vehicles, wireless-picture transmissions are just a few of the interesting achievements of radio.

"A new and distinctly novel application of radio-frequency oscillations has now been developed by two German scientists, Dr. Göttschen and Dr. Richter. It provides a quick and easy method of preventing theft of any metals in factories or mines. In post-war years the German factories have suffered considerable loss from constant thefts of steel, copper, brass, tools and other fabricated or raw materials. The method of inspecting the workers at the factory gate by hand is tedious, slow and disagreeable. A large number of workers pass through the gates in a short time, and it is only a remote chance that the gate keeper will be able to pick out such men who have concealed metals of some kind on their persons.

Here the control by radio waves fills the breach. Every workman passes through a small gate. In this gate an electrical field is maintained with a small tube transmitter. The power lines from a coil concealed in the gateway fill the space through which every workman has to pass.

"It is natural that any metallic conductors brought into the magnetic field will react on the generator. The magnetic lines of force will 'crowd together' as any metal within the gate and change the strength of the electrical field.

"The tube transmitter is tuned to an audio-frequency by means of a heterodyne tube. Any metals brought into the magnetic field will immediately change the pitch of the audible-beat note. The detector can be adjusted to varying degrees of sensitivity, according to the amount of metal which can be brought through the gate, without changing the note of the transmitter. This may be necessary to prevent changes in the magnetic field caused by small metal pieces such as keys, watches, garters, buttons, gold teeth fillings and spilled bolts, etc.

"Of course, a metal lunch kit or thermos bottle cannot be taken through the gate. A small table is, therefore, provided beside the gate, on which the workman deposits such articles as he picks them up as soon as he has passed through the gate. The advantages of this device are obvious. Every workman is inspected without fumbling or unnecessary waste and not even live to be sorry for it.

"Don't attach an antenna to any pole or tower to which other wires are attached, or climb or attempt to climb such poles or towers for any purpose. Don't run an antenna over or across any public highway. Don't attach an antenna to any electric light, telephone or telegraph pole, even though no other wires are attached thereto. If using an outside antenna, always comply with the regulations governing the installation of an approved lightning arrester. Such a device is inexpensive and easily installed. Don't borrow your neighbor's antenna by attaching your lead-in to the far end of his wire. You don't know what he is doing and besides antenna wire is cheap. Don't attach your antenna to a kite. Remember that a high voltage 'B' battery can cause considerable damage if carelessly handled. The insulation on the wiring must be sufficient for the voltage used. Care should be taken in the installation of a high-capacity storage battery. Short circuits should be guarded against by proper wiring and insulation, and the use of protective fuses. Remember that results can always be obtained from an inside antenna if the necessary precautions cannot be taken in the installation of the usual, outdoor aerial. It is far better to sacrifice a little signal strength and distance reception than to take too much for granted, and not even live to be sorry for it.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

Special exercises marking the 100th anniversary of the Baptist State convention will be broadcast from the First Baptist Church to-day at 2:50 and at 7:30 o'clock by WEAN. This station will broadcast descriptions of Brown baseball games from Aldrich Field Friday and Saturday afternoon. WJAR and WDWV offer the usual programmes to-day, the former featuring "Box" and the latter broadcasting a concert by the Venetian Serranaders.

WEAN, THE SHEPARD STORES
(370 METRES.)

TO-DAY.

11:00 a. m.—Service, broadcast from Grace Church.

1:30 p. m.—Concert Young's Concert Orchestra, Harold H. Sawyer, director.

2:50 p. m.—100th anniversary of Baptist State Convention, broadcast from First Baptist Church, J. Willard Baker, President, presiding. Organ prelude; Invocation, Rev. Arthur W. Claves, D. D.; pastor, First Church, Providence; hymn, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past," responsive reading, Psalm 137, led by Rev. S. D. Hargrove, pastor Roger Williams Church, Providence; musical selection, Union Male Quartet; announcement of services, President Baker; Scripture lesson, Rev. Walter H. Groom; musical selection, Union Male Quartet; prayer, Rev. Clarence M. Gallup, D. D.; centenary sermon, Rev. Edward Holmbeck, D. D.; hymn, "Grown With Many Crowns," benediction, Rev. Charles H. Burr; organ postlude, Union Male Quartet; Ann. A. Pond, first tenor; John Downes, second tenor; Fred W. H. Cheek, baritone; Albert B. Seal, bass; John B. Archer, organist.

7:30 p. m.—Service from First Baptist Church. Organ prelude; call to worship, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"; Invocation, Rev. Horace H. Hayes; Lord's Prayer; musical selection, the combined choirs; scripture lesson, Rev. Lewis A. Walker; hymn, "How Firm a Foundation Ye Saints of the Lord"; prayer, response by choirs; announcement, Rev. William Field, general secretary; "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"; address, "The Glorious Retrospect of the Hundred Years," Rev. Frank Reeder, D. D.; musical selection, the combined choirs; address, "The Moving Applaud of the New Hundred Years," Rev. Frank W. Pateford, D. D.; hymn, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus, Ye Soldiers of the Cross"; benediction, Rev. J. B. Lathrop; organ postlude, combined choirs, First Church, Mrs. Preston F. Gould, soprano; Walter R. Morris, tenor; Mrs. George P. Miller, alto; David A. Mitchell, bass.

MONDAY.

11:55 a. m.—Time signals.

12:00 p. m.—Shepard Colonial Orchestra, Harold Sheffers, director.

12:10 p. m.—Weather report.

12:30 p. m.—Continuation of musical programme.

4:00 p. m.—Shepard Colonial Dance Orchestra.

4:30 p. m.—Weather report.

4:35 p. m.—WEAN dinner dance, Shepard Colonial Orchestra, Harold Sheffers, director.

7:35 p. m.—Health talk, Dr. S. B. Kellher, relayed from station WNAC.

8:00 p. m.—Broadcast from Mechanics Building, 60th anniversary of the founding of the Boston Missionary and Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

8:30 p. m.—WEAN dinner dance, Shepard Colonial Orchestra, Harold Sheffers, director.

8:45 p. m.—Minerva Trio and assisting artists, relayed from WNAC.

10:00 p. m.—Dance music, broadcast from Coppley-Plaza Hotel, Coppley-Plaza Orchestra, direction W. Edward Boyle; popular songs, George Rogers and Irving Crocker, relayed from WNAC.

WJAR, THE OUTLET CO.
(306 METRES.)

TO-DAY.

7:20 p. m.—Musical programme by "Rox" and His Gang," direct from the Capitol Theatre, New York, by courtesy of the Capitol Theatre management and review its features—many surprises in every way that of any automobile in this country or abroad.

A Few Flint Six B-40 Features:

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FLINT SIX

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People are now setting their watches by the time given by radio broadcasting announcements; as they sign off. Cut off from the outside world for months by severe storms, inhabitants of a little island off the Alaskan coast near Kodiak no longer find it necessary to set their watches and clocks by the tide, but listen in on their radio receivers for the time announcements made by announcers. By watching the clock closely the inhabitants were formerly able to tell the time within about 20 minutes, according to a guide into the "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes." It is no longer necessary to use this method of telling time, he explains in a letter to a Pacific coast broadcasting station.

pal Church, address by Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, relayed from station WNAC.

9:30 p. m.—Ralph Wolf, tenor; Sara Minder, violinist; Evelyn Borofsky, pianist; relayed from station WNAC.

WEDNESDAY.

11:55 a. m.—Time signals.

12:00 p. m.—Colonial Concert Orchestra.

12:10 p. m.—Weather report.

12:30 p. m.—"Fifteen Minutes of Music Appreciation."

4:00 p. m.—Colonial Dance Orchestra.

4:30 p. m.—Weather report.

4:35 p. m.—Colonial Dance Orchestra.

8:30 p. m.—WEAN dinner dance, Shepard Colonial Orchestra, Harold Sheffers, director.

8:00 p. m.—Salvation Army Band and assisting artists, relayed from WNAC.

9:30 p. m.—Dance music by Rhodes Orchestra, direction Charles W. Culverwell, broadcast from Rhodes-the-Pawtucket.

THURSDAY.

10:00 a. m.—Message to Housewives by Miss Gladys L. Peckham, Home Service Department, Providence Gas Company.

11:55 a. m.—Time signals.

12:00 p. m.—Colonial Concert Orchestra.

12:10 p. m.—Weather report.

12:30 p. m.—Broadcast from Tremont Theatre—Christian Science lecture, John W. Dooley, C. S. B., of London, England, relayed from WNAC.

4:00 p. m.—Shepard Colonial Dance Orchestra.

4:30 p. m.—Weather report.

4:35 p. m.—Colonial Dance Orchestra.

8:30 p. m.—WEAN dinner dance, Shepard Colonial Orchestra, Harold Sheffers, director.

FRIDAY.

11:55 a. m.—Time signals.

12:00 p. m.—Colonial Concert Orchestra.

12:10 p. m.—Weather report.

12:30 p. m.—Baseball game, Brown vs. Penn State, broadcast from Aldrich Field.

4:30 p. m.—WEAN dinner dance, Billy McBride's Beachorchestra, relayed from station WNAC.

8:00 p. m.—Broadcast from Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory of Music Orchestra, relayed from station WNAC.

9:30 p. m.—Bite from "Miss Cinderella," relayed from station WNAC.

10:00 p. m.—Emery Theatre Concert Orchestra.

SATURDAY.

10:00 a. m.—Message to Housewives by Miss Gladys L. Peckham, Home Service Department, Providence Gas Company.

11:55 a. m.—Time signals.

12:00 p. m.—Colonial Concert Orchestra.

12:10 p. m.—Weather report.

12:30 p. m.—"Fifteen Minutes of Music Appreciation."

2:45 p. m.—Baseball game, Brown vs. R. I. College, broadcast from Aldrich Field.

8:00 p. m.—Concert programme.

8:45 p. m.—Minerva Trio and assisting artists, relayed from WNAC.

10:00 p. m.—Dance music, broadcast from Coppley-Plaza Hotel, Coppley-Plaza Orchestra, direction W. Edward Boyle; popular songs, George Rogers and Irving Crocker, relayed from WNAC.

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A Few Flint Six B-40 Features:

4-Point sub frame motor mounting and four-wheel Lockheed self-aligning brakes; Balloon tires, heavy duty headlights, completely nickel-plated, winged motorometer cap, five tires, extra rim and cover, automatic windshield wiper, front bumper, stop light.

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FLINT SIX

Hol Grand Orchestra. The second part of the programme will consist of a special presentation by Mr. Rothfelf of vocal and instrumental artists direct from the broadcasting studio in the theatre.

9:15 p. m.—Organ recital by Maurice Garabrant direct from the studio of the Skinner Organ Company, New York city, assisted by Theo Karl, American concert tenor and Joy Babcock, violinist.

10:00 a. m.—Housewives' Radio Exchange. A department conducted by Mrs. Wood on all matters of household interest.

1:05 p. m.—Gladys Ballou, Brightman, pianist, Mildred Tibbels, soprano.

7:30 p. m.—Grace Winter Ward, soprano.

7:45 p. m.—"Berry Spring Dance Hour."

9:00 p. m.—A. & P. Gypsy String Ensemble relayed from the New York city studio.

TUESDAY.

1:05 p. m.—Providence Baltimore Hotel Orchestra, under the direction of Erwin White relayed from the hotel.

8:00 p. m.—Green Acres Lodge Orchestra.

8:30 p. m.—Premier Kiddie Xylophone Duo, accompanist, Gertrude Greenhalgh Walker.

7:50 p. m.—Charles B. Nolin, baritone.

8:00 p. m.—Speaker from the Providence Safety Council. Subject: "Some Interesting Figures," Ralph L. Hayward.

8:05 p. m.—Musical programme.

8:30 p. m.—Gold Dust Twins direct from New York studio.

9:00 p. m.—"Everyday Hour."

WEDNESDAY.

10:00 a. m.—"Housewives' Radio Exchange. A department conducted by Mrs. Wood on all matters of household interest.

1:05 p. m.—Green Acres Lodge Orchestra.

7:30 p. m.—Programme direct from New York. Concert by the United States Army Band, direct from Army Music School Auditorium of the United States War College.

9:00 p. m.—Manhattan Trio, William Dureux, cellist; Marjorie Canby, pianist, and Dorothy Hoyle, violinist, assisted by Deaton Kent, tenor, and Raymond O'Brien, baritone.

1:05 p. m.—Green Acres Lodge Orchestra.

8:00 p. m.—Programme under the direction of Mme. Olive Schleicher.

9:00 p. m.—"Atwater Kent Radio Artists."

10:00 p. m.—"The Silvertown Cord Orchestra," under the direction of Joseph Knecht.

FRIDAY.

10:00 a. m.—"Housewives' Radio Exchange. A department conducted by Mrs. Wood of the Housewives' Radio Exchange.

1:05 p. m.—The Woodstock Orchestra, under the direction of Martin J. Casey.

7:45 p. m.—Joseph Trainor, baritone.

8:00 p. m.—Miss Marie Pearsall, soprano.

8:15 p. m.—Joint programme by Marie-Jeanne Fautoux and Hervé A. Giguere.

9:00 p. m.—"The Maine Creamery Hour."

11:00 p. m.—Providence Baltimore Hotel Dance Orchestra, under the direction of Erwin White, relayed from the dining room of the Providence Baltimore Hotel.

SATURDAY.

1:05 p. m.—Green Acres Lodge Orchestra. Silent night.

WDWE, DUTEE W. FLINT, INC.
(41 METRES.)

TO-DAY.

10:00 a. m.—Chimes and Bible reading.

5:00 p. m.—Venetian Serranaders and Aurele Forest, organist.

THURSDAY.

6:30 p. m.—Narragansett Hotel Orchestra and soloists.

WGBM, T. N. SAATY
(256 METRES.)

MONDAY.

10:00 p. m.—Presentation by artist pupils of Henri and Marie B. Faucher; Peter Augustine, violinist, accompanied by Tanny Cohen, playing compositions of Dancie, Leonard, Gounod and Verdi.

FRIDAY.

9:30 p. m.—Violin recital by Leibert Goldowsky, student of Miss Evangeline Larry.

WNAC, BOSTON, MASS.
(180 METRES.)

TO-DAY.

10:55 a. m.—Service broadcast from Temple Israel.

1:30 p. m.—Concert by Yeong's Concert Orchestra.

Continued on Page Twelve

JOHN SMITH ANTI-HIS RADIO

INEXPERIENCE SPOILS A CONCERT. With invited guests to listen in on the speechmakers at a prominent banquet, Smith was again on his best behavior as a radio operator, but his best proved to be rather feeble. He blundered from the very beginning by giving his audience a taste of the clarity and volume from a near-by station, thereby putting them in a bad mood for listening to a distant station that naturally would call for closer attention.

His next mistake was to wait until the speeches commenced before tuning in on the desired station. "It was not so much that he missed some of the opening remarks," because of the time consumed in tuning, but mainly that he doubled his difficulties. There had been several opportunities to tune in on the station before the broadcasters switched the control from the studio to the banquet hall, but each time he failed for the station and caught a vocal selection he told his audience that he hadn't invited them to hear music and that he would hold off until the real show was on.

Had he used the final of the vocal programme for tuning in on the station, he would not have been so completely upset by a local station that suddenly came on at the appointed time for the banquet addresses. This confused him to a point where it was 10 minutes before he could locate his desired station well enough to hear music, when he was cutting out the local station he was not also cutting out the banquet.

The chances are that if the set had been all tuned for the banquet the local station would have come in as a sort of obligato. And it would have been heard relatively easy, with so selective a set as his to have tuned out the local without losing the banquet at the same time. Going at it the way he did was virtually trying to catch the obligato of a distant station through a broadly tuned local one. That is always difficult.

"But my troubles had only begun," Smith told me the next evening. "No sooner had I demonstrated my inability to make a good job of tuning for the distant station than one of the guests sought to help me out by suggesting that we be content with the local programme. I thought that would be easy, but when I brought it in clearly I noticed that some of the people looked annoyed. The tones were harsh and there was a lot of static, but I had to let it go at that.

"Of course I tried plugging in so as to cut out one of the smaller tubes, but while that eliminated the noise it also eliminated the detail. One of the women present insisted upon hearing the words of her favorite song, so I went back to the full number of tubes and turned down the rheostat as much as I could without spilling it altogether. I know they didn't like it, but what else could I do?"

"You could have been a little more experienced," I told him frankly. "Perhaps you think that you're wasting time some evenings when you're in on nothing in particular, but by now you probably realize that this gives you practice so that when you have company and want to show them what a good set you have you need not get off that old story about the radio being like a bashful child. In this particular case, if you had been a little more experienced you would have solved your tuning and volume problem with the local station by first tuning it in sharply on all the tubes and then throwing one of the dials off a little. By detuning, so to speak, instead of reducing amplification or current, you could have had volume with clarity."

Smith, however, had two or three other

troubles on his mind, and we had to run along to these. They, too, involved experience, but he decided to try a little intensive radioing while he was on the subject. It explains why he was so eager to admit that he finally spoiled the evening by dropping a radio amplifier tube when he had removed it for inspection of the contacts.

"This was my spare tube that I had installed just a few days ago," he explained, "so I was up against it."

"For what?" I started him.

"For a tube, of course."

"Are you sure it was not for a little resourcefulness?" I asked. "There was a time when you had to send the family home by train, just because the engine stalled, but those days have passed. Nowadays you use a little gray matter and get home on your wits. You'll soon be doing the same with your radio set. You could have used one of the audio amplifier tubes in place of the burned out rectifier, and then given them an earful with a little less amplification. There's always something on the air that you can get even if your set isn't tuned up for what you would prefer."

When Smith bought a new tube the next day he felt as if he were buying a radio to new opportunities in radio pleasure and instruction.

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SUPPRESS HARMONICS

Warning Issued to Class B Stations by Government.

Warning has been issued by the Department of Commerce to Class B broadcasting stations that immediate action must be taken to eliminate the emission of harmonics wherever they may exist.

The specifications governing Class B broadcasting stations, as formulated by the Third National Radio Conference, prohibit harmonic emissions.

Here is the notice that has been sent to Class B stations and to radio supervisors:

"Immediate action must be taken to eliminate the emission of harmonics. Supervisors will bring this to the attention of owners of stations failing to correct this source of interference.

"Interference from harmonics results from the emission of power on one or usually several frequencies higher than the fundamental. Any transmitting set, including the transmitters, is subject to this fault if oscillating directly in the antenna circuit, and tube transmitters also show the same tendency when pushed to maximum output.

"The trouble can be virtually overcome by the use of master oscillator-power amplifier system and greatly improved by the use of loose coupling between oscillating and radiating systems. An effective remedy is comparatively simple and inexpensive.

"If the principle of licensing a station to use only one frequency per class, transmitting station were rigidly applied, stations radiating harmonics could be dealt with severely because they are actually radiating appreciably lower power on frequencies other than that for which the station is licensed.

"Harmonics of the carrier wave of stations operating in the lower frequency range of the broadcast frequency band and under certain conditions will prove to be a serious cause of interference. It is recommended that all possible steps be taken to minimize the emission of technical means well known to the art and by careful supervision on the part of radio supervisors."

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