

**GREETINGS** With 1950 opening up before us, we wish all our friends and members a most Happy & Successful New Year. Amateur-wise, we hope the H.C.R.C. will help to make it one of your best, and of course, to enable it to do so, YOU will have to make this year the best for the H.C.R.C. by putting into our Club endeavors your own individual best efforts.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** While we have enjoyed the advantages of meeting at the Hampden County Improvement Building for many a month, we will have to seek other quarters for future meetings. That organization has been darn good to us, but finds its own activities are using the building facilities to the saturation point, hence the move. For our next get-together on Friday, January sixth, at 7:30 p.m. we will be at the Oppenheimer Memorial Room of the Springfield Y.M.C.A., corner of Hillman and Dwight Streets. Parking on adjoining streets (but watch the signs), also parking lots on Bridge Street, north side of the Kimball, Dwight Street, behind the Y. When we heard about the new location, we thought of Harold 9BIB/1 right off. It's his outfit, Springfield Sound, that's contributing the door prize this time, and Harold, who spends most of his time out of working hours at the Y, will probably be able to make this meeting and present the door-prize in person. For our program, we expect to hear Joe Piekarski, WPIR, with all the dope on filters. Joe besides being one of Westfield's leading hams and fellow club member, is the engineer at Wico - in charge of the Research Department.

The R.T.G. has favored us with a general invitation to attend their January 23rd meeting at the Chalet in West Springfield. The meeting starts at 8 p.m. -- Subject: Antenna Installation. All are welcome too at the 6 o'clock dinner preceding the meeting. For dinner, see Art Zavarella for reservations at \$1.75.

**LAST MEETING** It was our good fortune last month to have "Mac" McCoy, LICP, and John Cann, LRWS, of the ARRL Communications Dept. as speakers. It was the first time that the HCRC has had a meeting devoted largely to operating procedures and practices and judging from the interest shown during the meeting and the enthusiastic comments heard afterwards, the innovation was entirely successful. Mac and John covered every phase of the game from DX to Traffic and then tossed in WLDEN's excellent TVI film to boot. We had planned to show more pictures of field day, but due to projector difficulties, we weren't even able to show the complete roll that Lou Richmond had taken. However, we will have another showing of the FD pictures at a later date. Vic Paounoff, LEOB, again walked off with the door prize, a copy of the latest edition of the Radio Handbook from Santa Dressler of Hatry & Young Co.

Article 3 of the Constitution was unanimously amended to include the following sentence: "The executive committee shall be composed of four officers and eight elected members plus the retiring president who shall serve on the committee for the year immediately following his term of office."

Bob Gordon, 1KUL, Osborne McKeraghan, 1HRV, and Bob Carlson, SWL, were duly elected new members and we take this occasion to welcome them to the Club.

**NOTICE** The Executive committee had quite a session Dec. 16th. Here's some of the ground covered

\*Regretful acceptance of Bill Rosner's (1RFU) resignation as executive committee member. Bill's waking hours, outside of his job and family requirements, are much occupied at Northeastern University. Even so, Bill together with one or two other members similarly situated, manages to make club meetings soon after school closes.

The VHF sweepstakes, held the week-end of the 21st found at least eight club members in there pitching. Scores are not all compiled, but here's what we heard and print in order to scoop our rival publications:

WIRFU	34	Contacts	6	sections	2	bands	408	points
WLRVW	11	"	3	"	1	"	63	"
WIQWJ	29		9		2		522	
WINLE	18		2		1		70	
WINY	12		2		1		48	
* WLMNG	17		2		2		34	
WIOLS	2		1		1		4	
WLJWV	11		2		2		44	1193

\* We didn't get this from Art as he was out of town, but we understand he had at least this much and maybe more.

The going was fair Saturday P.M., but not so good Sunday, especially for the two meter fellows.

The big event of the late winter season will be the ARRL DX contest coming up in February and March. Some will frown upon contests of any sort. Contests however, are more conducive to improvements in equipment and operating skills than any other method I know of. If a goal of continual progress toward the ultimate is set, what better way is there to measure the result? And besides that, it is a lot of fun to get in there and compete with the other fellows in your own area. To measure our progress from the past year, the following scores are set. The quota is based on last year's scores. Those with a score of over 100,000 last year must improve it by 20%. If you were over 10,000, your goal should be an improvement of 50%, and anybody who had less than 10,000 should shoot for a 100% increase. Those who did not participate last year must beat me. This is a real opportunity to add some of those hard-to-get countries. How many will be able to go over the top with those few added countries needed for DXCC? I'm going after it! How about you? And don't forget to let me know your score.

Vic

OFFICIAL NR 224 from ARRL Headquarters dated January 3, 1950 - The Radio Society BULLETIN of Great Britain invites participation in its first 1950 Top Band Contest, to be held from 2100 GCT February 4 until 0800 GCT February 5, 1950. The contest is open to all amateur stations operating in the 1.8 mc. band. RSGB estimates that there will be 100 British stations on the air during the contest period, many of which will attempt transatlantic contacts if propagation conditions prove favorable. A second Top Band Contest will be scheduled November 18 and 19 during hours to be announced later.

TRAFFIC I am still off the air and so can't give any details as to the 80 meter By WLRHU net operation. (Fine guy I am to tell you to get on the nets when I'm not on myself, so I will omit the crabbing this month)

Vic, EOB, is, or soon will be, assistant manager of Eastern Area Net.

In the January CD Bulletin, all CD appointees were asked to vote on three things of interest to all traffic handlers:

1. Should the name BPL be changed to something more appropriate for both phone and cw message handling?
2. Should there be a reduction in the number of originated points required for BPL, the idea being that a message has to be originated before it can be handled and delivered.
3. Should the traffic count system be simplified? The present system is taken from the commercial lines. Since we are not charging for the words, would it be better to simplify check and just have it to insure correct receipt of the message?

Technical High School is on the air as WLGCR. At present operation is limited to 7 mc, but a 200 watt, three band job is ready for a power supply. The only reason it is not going yet, is that the chief (and only) operator has been on SSN all the time. (Maybe I do have an angle to tell you to get on the nets. Hi!)

Traffic this month seems, from activity on SSN, to be much lower than over the holiday. This is to be expected, but how about some more originations?

Russ

DX  
By WlkfV My apologies for not getting out the DX column last month, but I was too busy getting ready for Xmas and getting over New Year's Eve. Most of the gang said they will never forget this New Year's and here I am trying to remember it! Starting this year the column will cover from the 15th of one month to the 15th of the next month. So, Please have all contributions in by the 15th. Also requested is the band the DX was worked on, and if CW or fone.

80--On this band quite a few of the fellows have been active and the DX worked there will surprise some of you who think it is just a place to chew the rag locally. Hats off to WlcJK-with only 4 watts he added a new one with SP1CM. Bill wants it down in writing that KfV will buy him a beer when he gets the QSL. So here 'tiz. WleOB reports conditions good with OH, DL, OK, and YO worked and MI3SC heard. WlJYH and WleOB added VP5BF on the Caicos Islands. So, for a good start on DX, why not give it a try on 80 where power doesn't mean everything...

40--If you can't find any DX on 80, come down and give 40 a whirl and you will be surprised at what can be done. Using only 30 watts with his ARC-5, WlrZG worked a bunch of Europeans including G, I, F, PAØ, and YO. The difference between a high score and a winning score in the DX contest usually tells if the operator made wise use of this band. Remember too, you have no rotaries to compete with on this band...

20--The old DX band where more countries are worked than all the rest added together. DX can usually be found morning, day and night. Of course, you have to contend with corn-fed kilowatts and all types of beams, but this band is your short cut for your CW DXCC. A new coming on 20 made WleOB, WlJYH and WlkfV even happier when his card came through. Oh yes, the station-FY8AA... The only letter received last month from WlAPA sez he is quite busy, but did manage to knock off VR2AS FA8BG FF8MH VQ3KIF and VQ4HJP. That brings his postwar total up to 109. WleOB worked six new ones in a couple of days, bringing his total up to 115. WlPDF went on fone and worked XZ2KN and checking his log shows a total of 138. (He would have a lot more cards if he sent 'em some...) With an unbelievable total of 209, WlJYH went on with SP5AC VS9AL and with the FY8 he is now resting (?) at 212... Also Roger switches to fone and brings his total up to 65 on fone-with such choice stuff as SVØWY 4X4AS CT3AV EKLAD FE8AB and PJ5CE. It's a tough band but a swell place to find scads of DX. (99% of my total was worked on this band with no beam and JYH climbed to 181 before putting up his 2 element whirlamagig.)

10--A good band during the winter and the only place a class "B" fellow has a break on the fone DX--and we find WlrDR has brought his fone total up to 81 with FF8AH ZS9F KJ6AF FQ8SN OE5YL and AR8AB.

Here is the latest tabulation on countries that have kicked through with QSL cards--:

WlJYH	186	WleOB	77
WlkfV	151	WlrDR	58
WlcJK	117	WlAPA	??
WlPDF	112	WlAVK	??
WlIOZ	101	etc.	??

That winds up the column for this month, and please, gang, how about a card with your activity so no one will be left out in this battle againsy QRM (and might I add -- T.V.I.) Don't forget the DX contest during the middle of Feb. and March.

73, KfV.

**THE TRADING POST** Business is picking up, fellows! Jot down an item or two on a penny postcard and send it in. Some of us are always building or rebuilding and may need just what you may have collecting dust.  
**By WIMNG**

**FOR SALE** U.T.C. High voltage transformer, 3000, 2500, 2000 VCT at 300 ma. Also 300 ma. swinging choke and 300 ma. output choke with pair of 2 mfd - 3000 volt filter condensers. What am I offered? Al Jackson WLOBQ

**SWELL OR SWAP** Abbott TR-4 two meter rig and receiver with five spare HY75 tubes. Set of QST magazines from 1939 to 1948. Webster automatic record changer model 50-1. Asking \$20. Bob Pease, W1OLS.

**MUST SELL** PP 813 rig complete with 811s modulator in 6 ft cabinet, 450 watts, VFO controlled. If interested in a good buy, drop a card to W1PWX, Paul Dunmire, 6 Burrows Place, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

**FOR SALE** Four Leece-Nevelle, heavy duty automobile generators with dry disc rectifiers, produces up to 60 amps at 6 volts dc. Phone after 6 P.M. 2-3917. Also available 1 American Bosch heavy duty car generator.

**HELP WANTED** Radio Technician wanted. Contact W1PDF, Nick Andrews, Supreme Radio, Westfield, Mass.

**HELPING HAND** Mac, IJQ, and Cookie, FOF, wrote recently concerning a fellow ham, W1CMN. who spends all of his time flat on his back. John (W1CMN) sells magazine subscriptions and can give Club members a discount on QST and CQ. So, if you wish to save as well as help, write to John Mansfield, 1175 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass.

**FLASH** One of the South Shore Club boys presented a bill to the Mass Legislature requesting that the Registry of Motor Vehicles be required to issue special registration plates to any amateur presenting his station license at the Registry, for a fee of one dollar (Add'l we presume) Mac & Cookie will let us know later the number of the bill so the local hams can bend their district representative's arm in gentle persuasion.

**JOTTINGS** We have heard all kinds of stories about RRW, his trick knee, and how he came to damage said member. Soooo- Tuesday evening last, Ye Ed journeyed to Glen's QTH and found him with his leg out straight, propped up by a coffee table, his crutches beside him, and soberly viewing a beautiful FM pattern on his TV CR tube. To cut it short (the story not the leg) Glen forgot to take it easy on his trick knee when he swung over a porch railing and proceeded to tear an already damaged ligament. A trip to the hospital and a bit of surgery has taken care of the situation for good - until the next time. By the way, the ten meter band has not been so hot in the day time, he woefully reports.

After a long absence from the air, RFU was again heard on the occasion of the VHF SS. It seems he had to remount his six and two meter beams, but made the dead-line OK and now should be joining the boys regularly.

NY dusted off his 2 meter rig (since a year ago last field day) and put a nice signal into town as well as some junior DX we overheard him work.

RVW labored to exhaustion to get a new 6 meter rig on the air in time for the VHF SS and also made the grade. It's said he was jinxed by a visitor Sat. eve tho

As we stop to consider, it seems the VHF SS was quite a help: renewed activity on 2 meters and some new-comers on 6 meters. Hope it lasts this time.

DXW and RDR have both just received their coveted Class A tickets as a result of that wintry ride to Worcester last December.

**TREASURY** Remember the Edwards F M Tuner we "gave away" at the picnic a year ago  
**NOTES** last August? Vic took in the most "donations" towards same, and the Club Treasury netted a considerable amount, part of which helped to reduce the cost of your steaks at the Spring Banquet. At our February meeting, we expect to have ready for distribution, some 150 books of 12 receipts each (@ 3 for 25¢) to be exchanged for "donations" towards a Motorola A.M. and F.M. (non-radiating per QWJ) Receiver as the main gift, and an A.C.-D.C. receiver as consolation. There will be a prize of \$5. for the one turning in the most donations. Drawings are to be at our March 3rd meeting. We hope EVERYONE will take at least two of these books and many

of you can use a lot more.

By the way, are your dues showing? In arrears, that is!

TECHNICAL TOPICS

SOME THOUGHTS ON SIMPLE EXCITERS

By WLQWJ

The approach to a simple and inexpensive all-band exciter is crystal control. The exciter to be described will offer direct output of 5 to 10 watts on all bands to 6 meters. The unit contains two tubes, a 6AG7 crystal osc. and an RCA 5763 amplifier-multiplier.

Several crystal osc. circuits have been tried and for good order harmonic output a 6AG7 with a Pierce grid-screen osc. circuit and harmonic multiplication in the plate circuit has proven best. The circuit is straight forward and with a good crystal, the 4th harmonic output of the oscillator is more than ample to drive the new miniature R.F. pentodes.

The amplifier-multiplier uses the new RCA 5763, which operates with good efficiency as a straight amplifier or a doubler. Actually, the only time the 5763 needs to double is on 6 meters. The exciter was made to furnish drive to an 829B final amplifier on all bands. On 6 meters, the 5763 will supply more than enough drive to the 829B. For the two meter fans, a 6 mc. crystal could be used taking the 4th harmonic in the oscillator, 24 mcs. The 5763 should triple easily to 72 mcs and an additional 5763 should double to 144 mcs. with enough efficiency to drive an 829B.

The original exciter as shown in the diagram was built by RVW and to quote Pete, "Worked first time, and on six meters, too!"

No information is given on coils as the handbook has coils of all types described. The coils may be soldered directly to the condensers if one band operation is desired, or made plug-in type for all band use.

\* \* \* \* \*

Registration for FCC exam, March 31, 1950. Fill out and mail to Hampden County Radio Club, Kenneth L. Gurney, Secy, 170 Parkerview Street, Springfield, 9, Mass.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ To Take exam for

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Class A ( ) B ( )

(check proper space)

(Facsimile or post card may be used or make up your own form, BUT mail on or before March 17th, 1950)

\* \* \* \* \*

LAST MINUTE STUFF

You fellows who think you are in line for the prize offered earlier for best 6-2-1 1/4 meter ~~420~~ 420 mc. contacts, bring in your reports by the February 3rd meeting or lose by default.

Max Voigt, WLQXV, (7-6972) tells us his NC-173 Receiver (the later model with power plug on back) is still available --- price \$100. This has not had continuous service and in fact has only been turned on a few times since taking out of the carton.

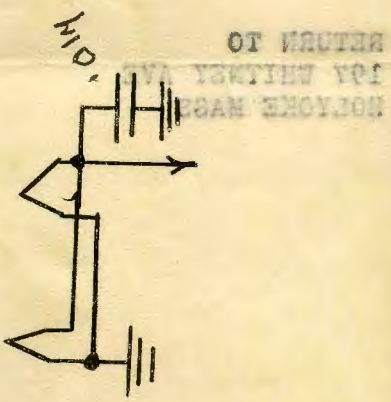
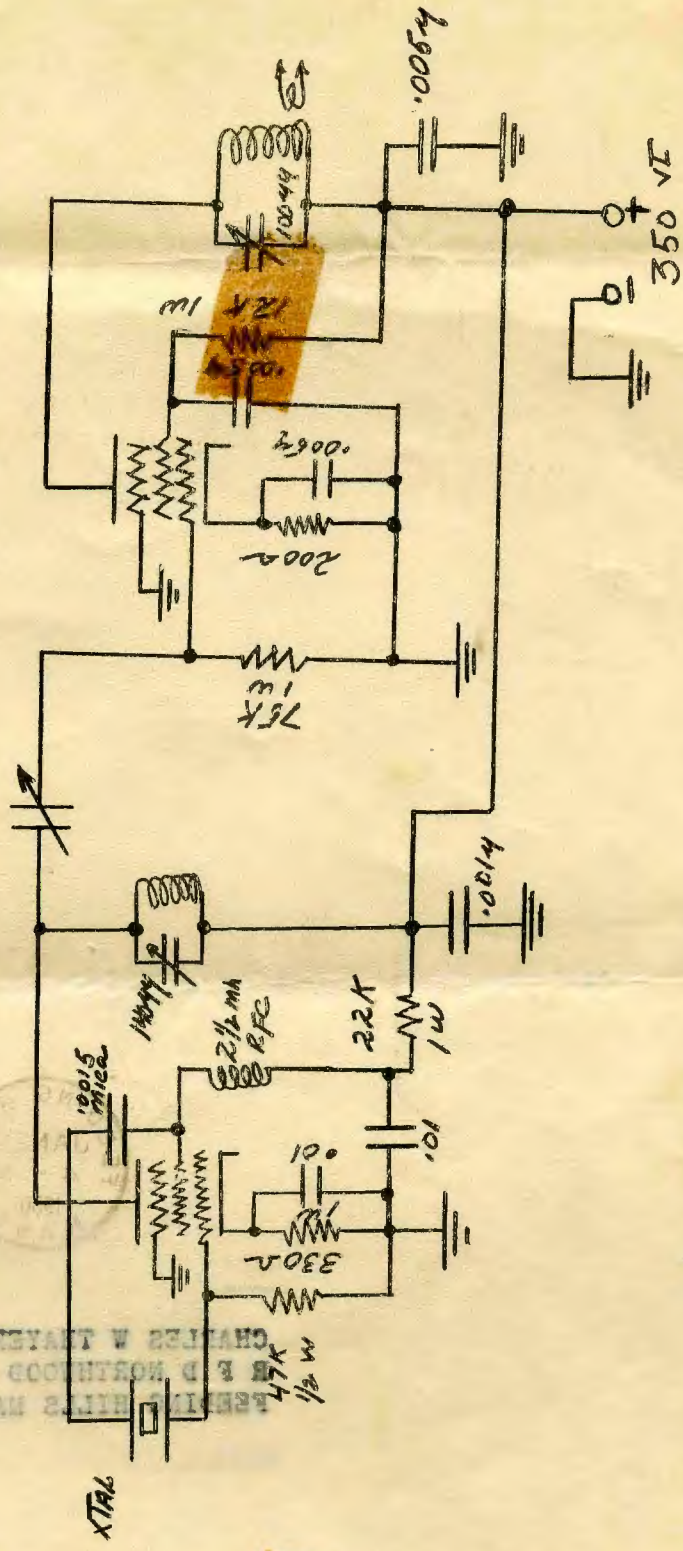
For those fellows who have not been able to make the Club and take out or continue membership, Zero Beat can be mailed regularly for \$1.00 per year. Contact WINLE if interested.

RENTON HILLS MASS  
47K  
1/2 W  
CHARLES W TAYLOR  
R F D NORTHWOOD STREET  
WILNE

6AG7

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3-30



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