

Z E R O B E A T

Vol. 11 No. 6 Hampden County Radio Assn., Inc. May, 1958

Editors Tom Shea, W1HYO
Howard Cutting, W1JWV

Publishers Bob Gordon, W1KUL
Tom Barrett, W1KUE
Eunice Gordon, W1UKR

APRIL For the first item on the agenda we, the editors and pub-
ZERO BEAT lishers, feel that a few words concerning last month's
(April) issue are in order. As a general rule the paper is
received by the majority of members on the first Tuesday of the month
and April Fool's Day was Tuesday --- so---! To recap last month's
issue and help those interested to discern the true from the ridiculous
we offer the following notes:

- Page 1 All true and serious.
- Page 2 1959 Convention - just fooling.
Know your officers - bona fide info.
Blurred line -- he's an ophthalmologist.
New Badges - true and accurate.
Contest Results - ditto.
Club Dinner - Malarkey.
- Page 3 & 4 Of course we didn't print them for April 1st.
- Page 5 Notice Net Crystals - all true.
TVI Trick - strange but true.
Zero Beat Dinner - a pure (?) lie.
- Page 6 License Plates - true.
Zero Beat Contributions - no comment.
Civil Defense - true.
Letters to Editor - no comment.
- Page 7 Building fund - you dreamer, you.
Technical items - ditto.
New Patent - did you recognize 3.141593 as "π"?
Puzzle - the butcher weighs meat.
TVI TRAP - true and finally correct due to efforts of
Mr. Hallenstein of F.C.C.
- Page 8 All true - bless it.

The furor caused by this issue satisfied our wildest dreams. Angry phone calls, threatening language, and irate discussions made the issue the most controversial of our club's history. Did you know that two members threatened to quit if we were wasting (?) money on a Zero Beat Dinner?

In summation let us say that putting out this monthly paper takes a lot of time and work. The only reward we usually get is the feeling of having done our share for the club. The real reward is comments and help (especially help) on the paper. We were paid in full last month for sure. We did not intend to inconvenience anyone or hurt anyone's feelings, just to have a little fun. And we did --- did you????

APRIL Friday night, April 4, some 80 of us learned from Mr. Ernest
MEBBING B. Lewis of East Hartford "How and why crystals wiggle". Mr.
Lewis had the happy faculty of handling a complicated and
highly technical subject in a manner easily understood by even the most
uninformed or casual listener. Not only did he entertain and enlighten
the members, but also presented the club with two crystals that I under-
stand will be put up for door prizes at a later date.

Our genial SCM, Mac, and his able assistants, took care of the refreshment table, and everyone departed reluctantly after enjoying doughnuts, coffee and a busy social session.

MAY MEETING The May meeting is scheduled for May 2, 1958 at the Capt. Leonard House in Agawam starting at 8:00 P.M. sharp, as it appears we are in for a busy, interesting evening with several attractions. This will be ARRL Headquarters night for the Club, featuring with other speakers, Mr. John Hinton, Assistant General Manager of ARRL speaking on "The Coming International Conference".

Over the years the International Conference has held the fate and fortune of ham radio in its hands. We all know the pressure being put on by industry, aviation, entertainment, the military, utilities, and civilians to gain part of our ham spectrum. From time to time in his "The World Above 50 Mc" and in his talks before VHF groups, Ed Tilton has cautioned that we must use all our allotted frequencies to their utmost or lose them.

In recent months a writer in a magazine other than QST has been loudly proclaiming that changes or curtailments among Ham frequencies aren't far off, and hints that the coming conference will be the time; however, QST hasn't voiced any concern, but on the other hand points out that the alarmist writer hasn't even attended or participated in an International Conference.

Better plan to attend the May 2 meeting and get the "low down" on what may develop at the Conference that will affect us and also see what we can do as active operators to maintain and strengthen our position.

Our genial SCM, Mac, will have some comments for us at the meeting but don't think for a moment, that the program will end there. We have heard rumblings and rumors, and have read about transistor power supplies. They're mighty efficient, compact, and did someone just ask "How much the cost?" We personally can't answer the question, but at the meeting Mr. Karl Burnett of the Sickles Company will demonstrate the unit and be ready with the answers.

DX Willie, Ken Hardy, and his able assistants, have taken responsibility for the refreshment hour, and so we will see you there. Line forms on the right!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT For your consideration at the June election meeting, your nominating committee, Leo Brodeur, chairman; and members Bert Gowell, Mal Merchant, and George Nixon, present the following nominees:

For President - - - - -	Tom Ferguson, W1WFL
For Vice President - - - - -	Dick Stevens, W1QWJ
For Secretary - - - - -	Norm Forest, W1STR
For Treasurer - - - - -	Wes Thayer, W1LRE
For Directors - - - - -	Ken Hardy, W1DXW
	Bill Ham, W1RRX
	Chet Dalicki, W1IVK
	Bill Gourley, W1AUF

Nominations from the floor will be in order if any one wishes.

FIELD DAY Let's make the coming Field Day, June 28-29 just as successful as our last VHF contest!!!!!!

Because of the generosity and interest in ham radio of Mr. John Lyman of Soundco, we are privileged to have the use of his grounds and facilities atop Wilbraham Mountain for our Field Day activities again this year.

To be sure that all bands are utilized and all interests organized for the best results, co-ordinators of the activities in the various bands have been appointed as follows:

80 Meters	- W1NY	- Hank Baier	Phone Lyric 6-3074
40 "	- W1WEF	- Jack Schuster	RE 9-1547
20 "	- W1STR	- Norm Forest	RE 2-7620
6 & 2 "	- W1QWJ	- Dick Stevens	RE 2-1735
Novice Activities	K1CZY	- Allen Ramsay	LY 6-4664

We need for a successful field day, enough operators for "round the clock" operation, plus transmitters, receivers, coax cable, antennas, guy wire, and general accessories and paraphernalia. At the May meeting cards will be distributed for members to list their available equipment, and how and when they wish to take part. Signed cards should be turned over to the co-ordinator handling the particular band favored by the volunteer.

REMEMBER*****Transportation will be available for any person and for equipment going to or from the Field Day site.

FINAL FACTS The VHF Contest Pay-Off Dinner will be held at the
ON Howard Johnson Restaurant opposite the Armory in West
PAY-OFF DINNER Hartford on Thursday, May 8 at 7:00 P.M. Be c n u thr
 The Pot Roast Beef dinner will be served for \$3.00,
 which includes complete dinner and tip. Dinner will be served at
 7.00 P.M. Get those reservation cards in to W1DEW right away!!!!

REPAIRING An article appearing in the March 1958 issue of PF Reporter
TV SETS -- a monthly publication for the electronic service industry brings to light several pertinent facts applicable to us as hams. The article was written by Mr. George M. Carrier, W9PQZ, and although it was not slanted directly towards hams it might well have been. It is a fact that, as hams, we are known to have a working knowledge of electronics. Therefore we are sometimes consulted about, and often imposed upon to do, the repairing of things electronic. This is especially true about television. Many of us service our own TV sets and those of a (few) of our relatives. In this light we become what are known in the trade as "do-it-yourself technicians". George brings out in his article that as a professional TV repairman he is often called upon to repair the messes that do-it-yourself mechanics make. His advice, and ours is, that if you do attempt to repair a set and find that after you are done, it still must go to the repair shop--
TELL THE REPAIRMAN EXACTLY WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. It will save him time, and you money, because he will be charging you by the hour.

MEMBERSHIP Total membership for this year now stands at 132 members,
COMMITTEE establishing a new record for the club. The influx of
REPORT younger members continues to swell our ranks, and to lower our average member age. A few of the old timers are drifting back too, making the membership committee's job just that much easier.

USING In our radio magazines and many other magazines and journals
JOBBER are the ads of electronic manufacturers, distributors, job-
CATALOGS bers, saleshouses and the like. Many of these ads carry the
 information that a free catalog of wares is available for
 the asking--free of charge and obligation. You simply mail a two-
 penny postal card giving your name and address to show that you are
 interested and they will mail their annual catalog to you. These
 catalogs are a library of information as to the availability, sizes,
 characteristics, and of course the prices of many articles. When plan-
 ning the building of a new piece of gear you can then figure the total
 price even before you begin construction, or looking for the parts. Do
 not assume that we recommend the purchase of parts and equipment from
 mail-order houses because we advise you to get their catalogs. To the
 contrary--the more we buy from our local distributors, the more they
 will be moved to stock for us. The catalogs will help us to be better
 customers at our local supply houses because we will know what we are
 looking for and how much we can expect to pay for it. The prices in
 the catalogs do not include the "fringe" costs of mailing, check or
 money-order fees, and shipping charges--so the local prices will be
 quite comparable in most cases. Send for those catalogs now. They're
 for free.

BOARD OF Together again they met, these faithful planners of our
DIRECTORS club functions and activities, on Friday evening dated
MEETING April 18, 1958 at the home of our club president. The
 main topic of discussion was the coming Field Day event
 and plans necessary to make it a success were discussed at some length.
 Also it was decided to have another dinner meeting in conjunction with
 our annual meeting and election of officers, similar to last year's
 affair that was such a success. The financial end of such an affair
 presents somewhat of a problem and as it now appears a small charge
 may be necessary to balance the budget. The main cost of the meal
 will be borne by the club treasury in any event. The annual meeting
 this year will be in June rather than November, according to the change
 in the club by-laws. Plans for informal summer meetings were discussed,
 and will be explained in another part of this issue. As usual some
 fool mentioned ham radio and a regular ragchew consumed a good part of
 the meeting and the evening.

ARRL The treasurer informs us that the sums realized by the club for
DUES handling the renewals of memberships in the League are beginning
 to add-up. He has suggested that we continue to draw attention
 to this feature from time to time because the dues to the league be-
 come due for some of us every month. By paying your dues to our
 treasurer you save check and mailing costs and the club earns fifty-
 cents. So get that card and the dough to Wes Thayer, W1RE, as soon
 as you can.

PIONEER Our up-river neighbors, the Pioneer Valley Radio Club, will
VALLEY hold their annual auction at their May meeting. The time and
 place are not available to your editor at press time, but we
 will try to find out in time for our club meeting Friday.

WHERE DOES THE
CLUB GO IN
THE SUMMER

As you well know the club holds no meetings during the months of July and August. Field Day is the only club activity between our June and September meetings.

With this in mind Dick Stevens, W1QWJ, suggests that perhaps the members might enjoy a couple of informal get-togethers on the first Fridays of July and August. An out-of-doors affair consisting of a gathering of interested members for a rag-chew or a little sport. He is willing to arrange a couple of transmitter hunts using 6 and/or 2 meters. If you think the idea has merit, see Dick and let him know. Full details will be given in the next month's paper or at the annual meeting.

A REAL PUZZLER FOR
THE PUZZLER ADDICTS

Once upon a time a wealthy king in the Near East employed the three wisest men in the world to advise him. When a world-wide recession made it necessary for him to discharge two of them he was hard pressed to determine which was the wisest, the one he would retain. So he devised this test.

The three wise men were placed in a tent with no windows, mirrors, or other reflecting surfaces in which they might see an image. They sat on three stools placed in a triangle, whose legs were all six feet long, and faced the center. They were blindfolded and a spot of paint was put on each man's forehead. While the paint was drying they were given the instructions for the test.

On each man's forehead had been placed a spot of paint, of the color red or black. The three men would not necessarily have the same color, but each would have one color and one color only. When the blindfolds were removed each man was to look to his left and then to his right and if he saw one or more spots of red paint on the foreheads of the other two wise men he was to raise his right hand. When he had figured out the color on his forehead he was to lower his hand, rise, and state the color he had and how he knew that he had that color.

When the blindfolds were removed simultaneously the slaves left the tent, leaving the king and the three wise men alone in the tent. Each wise man looked to his left and to his right and again simultaneously all three put up their right hand. After twenty three minutes one of the wise men lowered his hand, rose, stated the color of the spot on his forehead and how he knew it was that color.

Your problem: State the color and the reason it had to be that color. Remember there was no reflection of the spot on his forehead that he could see. There was no spilled paint. The paint and brushes had been removed. He could not see his forehead in the eyes of anyone, nor could he see the spot or its reflection. He could not tell the color by his sense of smell, touch or taste.

FOR SALE New D.C. generator delivers 430 volts, 86 watts, 0.180 amps. Needs to be driven by outside motor or gas engine at 3450 R.P.M. Manufactured by Russell Electric Co., Chicago. If interested, contact owner, Ernie Salvo, 172 Bay Street, Phone RE 6-7958, evenings and make offer.

The publishers wish to thank the anonymous donor for his very useful gift.