

# Marketplace

Advertisements for the next issue must reach the Editor by the 18th January 1993. Ads should be either hand printed or typed on a separate page. Note: no verbal or phone ads will be accepted. Remember to include your name, address and phone number. There is no charge for ads but the NZVRS is not responsible for transactions between members. Address ads to: Ian Sangster 75 Anawhata Rd. Piha RD1. New Lynn. 1232.

## AVAILABLE

Columbus 173 bc/sw/push buttons. Going and in good condition. Magic eye. \$80  
Doug Virtue c/- Post Office, Kingston, Southland. Ph.03-2488585.

To sell as one lot, Valves new and in cartons, mostly in dozen lots. Total 2594, list available.

Bill Lambie, 12 Foster St. Avalon, Lower Hutt. Ph.5678840.

Paco T60 valve tester (110 volt). Has roller chart test selection and an 8 page test supplement (update). \$60. Jackson 636 valve tester (240 volt) with roller chart test selection. \$30. Mantel cabinet for RCA Victor 118, offers. Doug Fairbank 5 Richardson Ave Gisborne. Ph.06-8671592.

Crosley 121 10 valve chassis, suit console.  
Murray Hall 802 Rolleston St. Thames. Ph.07-8688804.

Victor RE45 chassis set. Comprising two tuner chassis, one power amp and one speaker. Ian Sangster address in ad heading.

Offers wanted for the following:- (i) Riders Perpetual Trouble Shooter's Manuals, vols I-XII, XXI, indexes; (ii) pair of RCA AR-77 communication receivers in 'restorable condition'. Highest or any offer not necessarily accepted. Purchaser to collect or pay freight.

John R.L. Walker (2L31B), 19 Athol Terrace, Christchurch 4. Ph.03-3489084.

Crosley Showbox, cabinet only. Amplion RS1, folded horn only. HMV 465 NZ in rare mirror cabinet. Bell Colt in rare red cabinet, mint condition.  
Dieter Bardenheier 50A Park Rd. Auckland 7. Ph.8177268.

Philips 830A, 834A, 930A, 832B, 940A, Radioplayer, Gecophone no.1 crystal set, Murphy 8AD94, Pye M78, Sobelette, Sonora "Cadillac", round EKCO AC74, EKCO AD95, EKCO M23, Czech Tesla and butterfly Philips, chrome U.S. Silvertone, Marconi 47 (1928), Brownie crystal set, Pye 555, Fada "bullet", Midgetronic (Radio Radio fig 727, Emor globe, Ferranti 546 (RR fig 657), Philco peoples set. Simon Wade "Finchcroft", Broadwater Down, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 5PE. Ph.0892-543505 or 071-6235530 (day). Wanted (see swaps)

STC 65A 1934 cathedral, AWA 34/c76 1930 tombstone, RCA Victor 9T-1 1936 tombstone, RCA Radiola 20, Amplion horn RS1 with driver, Brown horn Q missing the bird, Western Electric horn straight neck ebonite.  
Eddie Maddocks P.O. box 1035, Rockdale NSW 2216. Australia.

## WANTED

Hornspeakers, TMC (British), Brown Q, BTH type D form C1, Amplion dragonfly, AK L or M. Highest prices paid or lots to trade. Dieter Bardenheier see available ad for address.

Radiogram (Lamphouse) Annuals 1933, 1934. Will pay \$50 each or swap.  
Barry King 16D Parity Pl. Glenfield Auckland 10. Ph 4435639 bus. (collect).  
Early Philips radios. Chassis, turntable and speaker information for The Westminster, The Radio Orchestra. Eddie Maddocks address in available ad.

One knob for Philips (Aust) Radioplayer, has stars and waves pattern on face 1/2" shaft, dark brown. J. Riddle. East Takaka RD1 Nelson.

First issue with Ian Sangster's name as editor

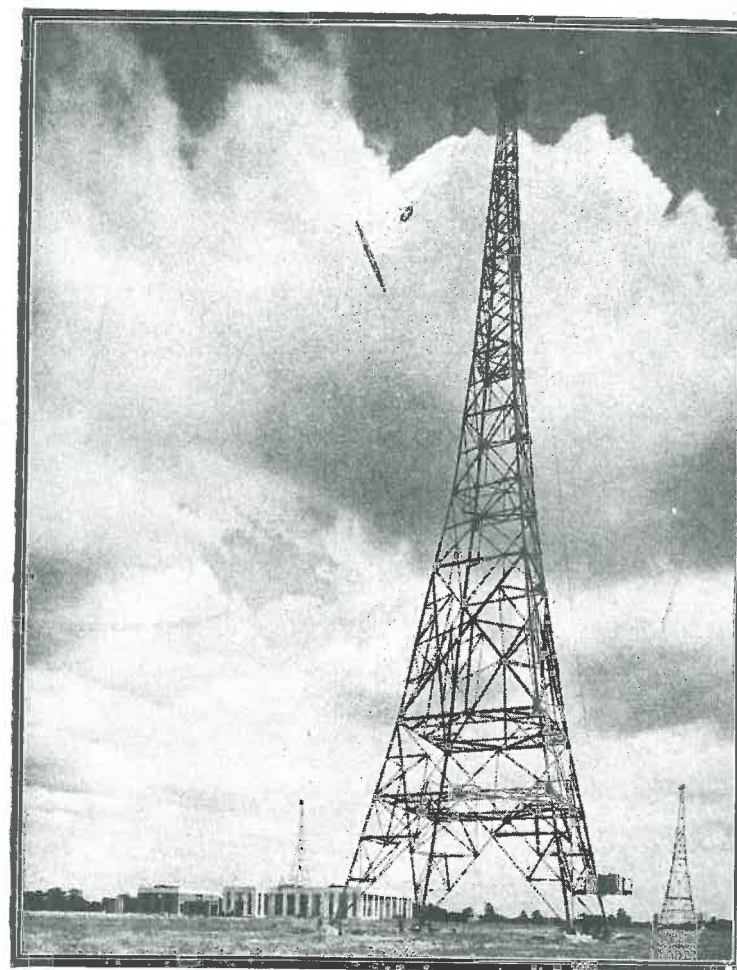
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NZVRS

# Bulletin

Vol. 13 No. 3  
Nov. 1992

NEW ZEALAND VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY



THE FIRST TWIN-WAVE TRANSMITTER IN THE WORLD  
The new London Station at Brookman's Park

From B.B.C. Year-Book 1930

# NEW ZEALAND VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

A non-profit organisation devoted to the preservation of early radio equipment and associated historical information

**PRESIDENT:** Murray Stevenson  
82 Waimumu Road  
Massey West Auckland  
Phone 09-8325414

**SECRETARY:** David Millett  
1/17 Capilano Place  
Glenfield Auckland  
Phone 09-4434995

**TREASURER:** Bryan Marsh  
20 Rimu Road  
Mangere Bridge Auck.  
Phone 09-6367712

**MEETINGS:** Regular Auckland meetings of the NZVRS are held on the third Monday of each month as follows:  
1992, May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, Sep. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 Dec. 21.  
1993, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 22, April 19, May 17, June 21.  
**VENUE:** Meeting Room of the Dominion Rd. Methodist Church (at rear of the Church) 426 Dominion Rd. Mt. Eden.

**AUCTION SALES** of vintage articles are held quarterly in the months of March, June, September and December.

## AUCKLAND MEETINGS CALENDAR

Nov 16: Talk by Peter Lankshear  
Dec 21: Auction Sale  
Jan 18: To be announced.

## WELLINGTON AREA MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held at the Tireti Hall, Te Pene Ave, Titahi Bay at 1 pm on the first Sunday of every month. For further details contact Neville Grubner 27 View Rd. Titahi Bay Wellington. Phone 2366661.

**THE NZVRS BULLETIN** is published quarterly in the months of Feb, May, August and November. Contributions from members are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor.

Opinions expressed by writers are not necessarily those of the Society.

**BULLETIN EDITOR:** Ian Sangster  
75 Anawhata Road  
Piha. RD1. New Lynn.  
1232.

**EDITORIAL CONSULTANT:** John Stokes  
281-C Hillsborough Road.  
Mt. Roskill Auckland 1004

Classified advertisements are accepted from financial members only. See back cover for further details and please observe the conditions as set out.

## BACK NUMBERS OF NZVRS BULLETINS

With the exception of Vol.1, Nos 2 & 4 Vol. 4, Nos 2 & 4 Vol. 5 No. 1, all issues are still available. Price is \$1.80 for a single copy up to Vol. 10 posted. From Vol. 10 onwards the price is \$2.80 per single copy posted.

As up to 12 issues can be posted for the same price as one, you can save money by ordering several copies at one time.  
Order from: John Stokes  
281-C Hillsborough Rd. Mt. Roskill Auckland.

## NZVRS LIBRARY

Members are reminded that our library contains a good selection of books plus magazines and newsletters of several overseas societies. A list of publications is available from our librarian: Clarry Schollum 34 Pentland Ave. Mt. Eden Auckland. Ph.09-6307011.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Commencing with this issue, Ian Sangster is taking over as editor of the NZVRS Bulletin. Ian will already be known personally to many members, not only in Auckland but throughout the country and even overseas. As some readers may have noticed, he recently took over the job of handling the classified advertisements, an important though time consuming part of producing the Bulletin which relieved me of some of the work load. Now, Ian has bravely volunteered to step into the editorial shoes and I am appealing to readers to support him in every way possible, particularly during the 'running in' period.

As has been said before, to be a success any publication such as ours requires reader participation, articles and photographs will always be needed, so please send them in. For my part I hope to continue writing articles from time to time and will also try to provide any backup assistance Ian may require. After twelve years in the editorial chair I feel it's time for me to bow out; we can do with new blood and a new broom. Go to it, Ian!

John W. Stokes

I am sure readers of the Bulletin and indeed all who refer to it as well as John's invaluable books will join me to thank him for the twelve years of effort and wish him a retirement free of quarterly Bulletin deadlines.

Ian Sangster.

## AVAILABLE FROM THE NZVRS TREASURER

Membership lists \$1.50. NZVRS enamelled lapel badges \$5.00 posted.

## WAIKATO AREA NOTES

The September meeting was held at Frits Willemsens on the 27th with 18 members attending and four spouses. Three Auckland members were a welcome addition, Ned Match, Bob Cook and Murray Stevenson venturing over the Bombay Hills in search of treasure. We welcomed three new faces George Were from Katikati, Paul Fitzgerald from Te Aroha and Andrew McTurk from Whangamata plus a visitor Bryan Clements from Kihikihi. These together with our familiar faces made for a great afternoon of viewing, discussion, swapping for that elusive item to finish off a project.

A note for the Waikato, Bay of Plenty area members as per the last newsletter: please advise me if you wish to be reminded of the forthcoming meetings. My address is 3 Haines Tce, Te Kuiti. Ph.07-878888 most nights except Monday or leave a message on the answerphone.

We have decided to request a levy of \$4 per annum to cover photocopying and postage expenses. Murray Hall at 802 Rolleston St Thames is the accountant. Next meeting will be 16th Dec at 1.30pm probably at Frits Willemsen's 42 Challinor St Hamilton. Afternoon tea is served and a plate would be appreciated as Mrs Frits does a mean cup of tea.

ERIC CARTER.

R1  
T2

# ANOTHER "PEOPLE'S SET"

BY JOHN W. STOKES

Quite a lot has been written in recent years about the German 'Volksempfänger', the so called 'People's Receiver', introduced during the Nazi regime in that country. Perhaps not so well known, at least outside the U.K., is another radio, or rather a series of sets, advertised by their manufacturer as the "People's Set".

Towards the end of 1936 there appeared on the British market an extremely low priced superhet made by the Philco Radio & Television Corporation of Great Britain. The production of this receiver was advertised as being in response to a recommendation issued by a recently appointed government committee that the radio manufacturing industry should produce a cheap yet efficient radio priced to be within the reach of the British working man. Philco responded by producing a 4-valve AC superhet, their model 444, together with an AC/DC version and a 3-valve battery set, selling at the unheard of low prices of 6 guineas for the AC model and 5 gns for the battery set.

How was it done? For a start, the use of a bakelite cabinet must have been one of the main factors in cost reduction as the same set in a wooden cabinet (model 269) was priced at 9 gns, exactly 50% dearer. Another factor was the experience and expertise in mass production techniques provided by the American parent company. Although Philco had previously marketed receivers in the U.K. these were of American design, modified to include longwave coverage. The 444, on the other hand, closely followed contemporary British practice as far as circuitry was concerned, and as for its styling, well, judge for yourself.. Its production represented an all out effort by Philco to capture a larger share of the British market.

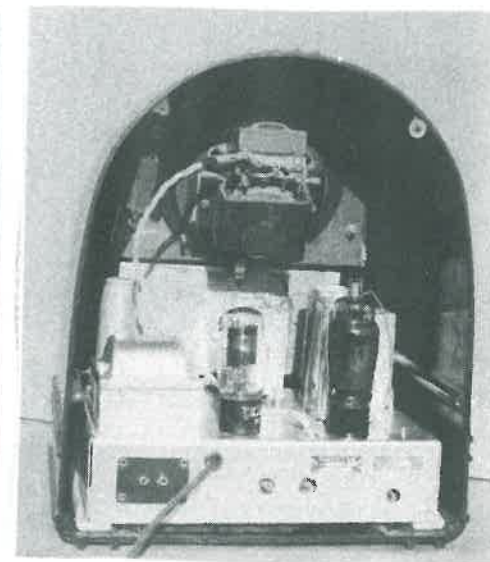
Nowadays, the rapidly increasing popularity of early plastic-cased radios among collectors in many parts of the world makes it likely that the Philco People's Set will be of interest solely because of the styling of its bakelite cabinet, but there are other reasons why this receiver merits some attention. Of course the likelihood of one turning up in this part of the world is very remote as they were produced solely for the British home market. Nevertheless, the example illustrated here (now in the hands of that well known collector Fred Pond) is proof that at least one reached this country, and by courtesy of the owner I recently had the opportunity to examine it at first hand.

The 444 was a 4-valve AC superhet using a then quite common circuit arrangement for small British superhets of the day. In order to avoid the use of tricky reflexed circuitry to obtain adequate performance, use was made of a combined duo-diode output pentode which was sensitive enough to be fed directly from the diode detector. What made the 444 different was that American valves were ~~were~~ used in all positions except the output stage where a British valve was fitted for the very good reason that no American counterpart was ever produced.

Having made the decision to use such a valve Philco were then faced with the problem of its incompatibility with the other valves which had 6.3-volt heaters; not only did the British valve have a 4-volt heater but its base was different too. Although the necessary four volts could easily have been obtained by including a separate winding on the power transformer, for some reason Philco chose to have a special valve made by Mazda which was obviously that firm's standard type AC2/PenDD fitted with a 6.3-V heater. (Could the reason have been that the power transformers had been made and stockpiled before it was realised that no 6.3-volt output valve was available?) This hybrid valve went under the type number PenDD61 and was used exclusively by Philco.

Although the 444 was obviously made to a price it showed no evidence of penny pinching in its construction, standard parts being used throughout, in particular the power transformer was of extremely generous dimensions. With some justification Philco could claim the People's Set to be British made as the only imported parts were three of its four valves, plus a few paper capacitors of the well known black bakelite cased type.

About a year after the 444 was released it was followed by a De Luxe 5-valve version, model A527, housed in the same cabinet which now had a walnut finish. At much the same time a 5-valve "All Wave" (LW, MW, SW) model became available in both AC and AC/DC versions models B537 and V537 respectively. Features included a multi-coloured dial scale and a "handsome black cabinet flecked with Pompeian red, and with gold meshed speaker fret.". All these delights were available for the modest price of £9-15s. In an advertisement dated August 26, 1937 Philco claimed to have sold 100,000 sets in the first year of production.





# WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ....?

BY JACK RHODES

Because a death is involved, some may find this a gloomy story. Should such story be written? If the title question is to be satisfied, then the answer is obvious.

Many people who reach a level of prominence fade from public view, some because they themselves want to return to private life; others because they are no longer of public interest or acclaim. Simply put, they are no longer "news", and the world has moved on. Entertainers and politicians (is there a resemblance) are typical casualties. Many just disappear.

To answer the question with respect to Mr. E.H. Scott, the radio manufacturer, is not difficult: one day while walking across the lawn with his wife, Gladys, at his home on 3441 Mayfair Drive, Victoria, British Columbia, on Canada's west coast, he was seized with a heart attack, collapsed and died at 4:30 pm on Saturday afternoon, October 27th 1951. He was in his sixty-fourth year.

Although he was getting to be well-known during the four years he lived in Victoria, he had almost no close friends, and only those because of his association with a local film club and the Rotary Club. Hardly anyone got close to Scott or stayed there very long because he was huffy, short-tempered and took liberties that made people shy away from him. Probably his high blood pressure didn't help. But he fawned over his wife.

He tried desperately to establish a motion picture business and he achieved a limited success. Viewed today, those films appear amateurish, although at the time many were well received. He enrolled in a course of film-making but didn't have the patience to finish it. Perhaps he felt that it was obviously a skill within the reach of anyone, despite his failings in other areas, and he failed to be persuaded by the evidence of his own inexperience. That evidence was hundreds of feet of film discarded on the floor of the editing room in his basement workshop, the result of his not recognising a most common peril - the slow disintegration of achieving precision.

When Scott was bossing the radio laboratory in Chicago, he could call on the many talents of his employees in much the same way that Henry Ford and Thomas Edison had done. Nevertheless, his artistry as an administrator could not be measured simply by the fact that he usually got his own way. For example, it was probably imprudence to spend time, energy and money to continually battle with McMurdo Silver over who had the better radio or some feature thereof; or his failure to perceive the future role of television in the home. Yet, we must acknowledge that every man is entitled



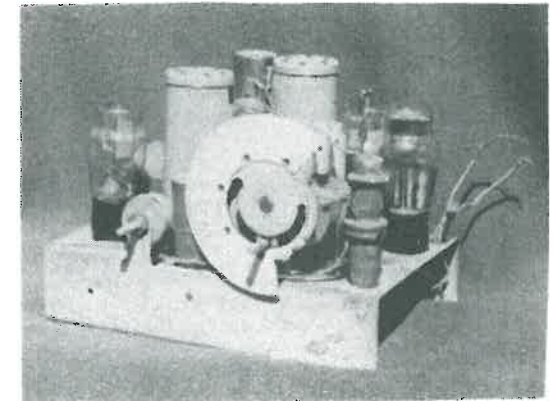
to the defects of his character, even though one's character finally becomes one's destiny.

Before ending this article, there are a couple of other points that need to be stated. When he died, Scott was not a wealthy man even by 1951 standards. The net worth of his estate was valued at \$45,279.86. Still, it was more than Lee deForest reportedly left behind.

The other final point is that Scott's remains were cremated on November 1st 1951. On November 9th, the gardener was despatched to collect the ashes, which were then scattered around the shrubs and grounds of the Scott residence. While this method of disposal might be acceptable in some form and not objectionable in others, the writer expresses no opinion as to the wisdom or otherwise of any comments it advances.

R1

G.M. Little Corporal Chassis note the dial scale arrangement



The Little Corporal makes a handsome small cathedral.

Ian Sangster.

Relax Zenith lovers, transoceanic here is used in a geographic sense rather than its usual radio meaning.

Last year I attended an auction of radios and parts in Inglewood, a rural town in the Taranaki province of New Zealand's north island. The radios were not especially rare, most had been dismantled and it rained heavily for the whole weekend. My only purchase from the main lots of radios on display was a General Motors chassis, inspired by John Stokes's glowing report on the Little General set in vol.8 no.4 of the NZVRS Bulletin. Upon sloshing our way home and referring to the article I found that what I had just purchased was a somewhat different animal. My chassis was an S9 whereas the Little General used a S1. According to Langley-McMahon and Riders vol.3 the S9 appeared in a 211 cabinet and that is what I advertised for in NZ with no success. I was unable to even find a picture of such a set. Thus the chassis resided in my radio orphanage until this year.

On a visit to the USA I called to see Edwin Buhite in Portland Oregon. Edwin is the editor of Puget Sound Antique Radio Association and Northwest Vintage Radio Society magazines as well as a radio collector. Amongst his sets were several GM radios and from among his spares he produced a small cathedral GM cabinet. It had the two holes for two controls flanking a peephole dial and on turning it around I found it was badged as a 211 cabinet. I was overjoyed when he agreed to sell it to me, since having owned it for some time he had not found a chassis for it.

When I reached home one the first things I did was try the chassis in the freshly unpacked cabinet. Shoehorn would be an apt description for the process involving removal of the output valve, the cabinet even bore a wax mark where, in the past, the aerial coil had rubbed on a diagonal brace. But fit it did and it made for a handsome little set. The chassis size is 10.5" by 7" and the cabinet is 15" from shelf to the top of the arch. The set does not have a metal dial escutcheon but a petal shaped carved design surrounds a round hole in the wooden cabinet backed by a transparent lens with a graticule line on it. Beneath this is a small rectangular GM radio metal badge and another metal badge on the rear of the cabinet at the top of the arch carries the 211 cabinet number, a clarity of labelling many other set manufacturers could have emulated, making things easier for the collector 60 years further down the track.

The circuit is somewhat similar to the aforementioned Little General but with only one IF stage instead of two. A preselector is used with no RF stage but still having a three gang tuning capacitor, the coils for this and the IF are in the same 1.25" copper cans as the larger set assisting with the compact layout. A 24 mixer is fed from 27 oscillator and followed by a 35 IF stage. A 24 detector and 47 output with 80 rectifier. IF is 175kHz.

I wish to thank Edwin for his generosity in supplying the cabinet and his hospitality during my visit to Portland.

## RECEIVERS ONLY

Whilst immobilized with a broken right arm I hatched the idea of a specific receiver index as being something I could accomplish one handed and that would update and add to the previous indexes in vol.7-1 and that included with vol.10-1 covering from vol.7 to vol.9.

Ian Sangster.

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If upon reading through this index you discover that you have sets in your collections not covered previously please feel inspired to set pen to paper and keep this bulletin up with the best in the world. We are dependant on you, our members and contributors to maintain the standard set over these thirteen years.

E.H.SCOTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O.Box 1070 Niceville. Fl.32588-1070  
USA.

This recently formed society is oriented towards the historical preservation of E.H.Scott radios and offers a service to help members and collectors of Scott radios, plus a quarterly publication the "Scott News". Membership of the EHS is US\$20 per year. Write to the above address.  
Jim Clark.  
(Info from the NZVRS treasurer)

#### NEW MEMBERS

Jeffery.I.W.	Waimate
Walker.B.	Whangarei
Svensson.E.B.	Sweden
Hawker.A.R.	Auckland
Meiklejohn.W.W.	Whangarei
Ross.D.J.	Tasmania
Tuck.J.P.	Auckland

Membership total 265 N.Z.  
44 overseas

## WITH THE COLLECTORS (15) .... Bob Cook.

Although Bob Cook is a relative newcomer to the ranks of vintage-radio collectors he has, by a deal of energetic searching, managed to build up a sizeable collection of sets in quite a short time.

While smaller radios of the 1940s and 1950s predominate in his collection, there are also many larger models and even a few consoles. Bob says he likes small sets of this period because they can often be picked quite cheaply, and also because they take less display space enabling more to be on show in a given area.

But, even by concentrating on smaller radios he soon came up against the same problem which besets so many collectors - lack of space. So far, this problem has been solved by banishing the car to a carport and converting the garage to a display area. Now, rows of shelves provide a neatly arranged and attractive display. Worthy of mention are a well kept work bench and an orderly parts storage which together should be the envy of all visitors.



by Alan Roycroft

After a too hearty lunch, I was in no mood to handle the first call of the afternoon. Somewhat of a mystery, it seems that a very elderly gentleman had a large Majestic radio phonograph and he had called several service shops but upon their calling, refused to make any repairs, their general consensus was, "beyond repair" which was totally unacceptable to this very elderly gentleman. Our sales department, hearing of this, decided that it may be a prospect for a new set sale so handed me a large mantel model with broad hints that I may make a commission. Pressed for more details of such a reimbursement, they became rather vague so I agreed to demonstrate their set, but privately I had reservations. So off I went to one of the more affluent parts of the city and soon was knocking on an ornate front door of an ancient mansion. A young girl in uniform answered my ring promptly and invited me in with my toolkit but minus the new radio.

Upon entering a large lounge could not miss the massive console cabinet, it overwhelmed the rest of the furnishings. A croaky voice echoed from down the hallway, "Yes Yes, of course I know he's here, do you think that I am deaf as well as crippled, damn it to hell". The last words increased in volume as my customer wheeled into the room in a large wheelchair. "I must be fair with you Mister, er, young'un, you're the fifth and maybe the last fella to look at my set. I wouldn't have bothered so much but my late wife bought it for me, Bless her, and I'll be damned if I will be railroaded into junking it. Tell me honestly son, are you a learner? God help me if they don't get younger everytime". Somewhat overcome by this harangue I pulled myself together and bravely ventured with a smile and a comment that may help us start off on a friendlier note. "Sir, I do believe that everyone's a learner, only some are smarter at than others". A remark that I remembered many times from my grandfather. That did it, the old boy grinned and responded with "Aha, we have a philosopher as well as a wireless repairer. Well let's get to it. I'll hand you a phrase that all the others used on their way out the door, and I quote, 'it's pot metal pot metal, no cure', I hoped that they would fall on the front path and break a leg but then they would want to sue me".

Suppressing a grin, I asked "Did they actually inspect the chassis?". "If you mean the, er, guts, NO!" the old gent roared and now I knew he was actually enjoying himself so I relaxed and asked for details of the trouble. "I used to be able to tune from that station down at the bottom of the dial, the low numbers if you follow, and then up to any of the others but the trouble started with not being able to get distant stations and now the set clicks at about 650 on the dial and all is dead. Pot metal? What in hell has this has this to do with my radio?" I obtained his permission to pull the set away from the wall and get into the "guts" of the situation. I understood the term of pot metal that referred to the manufacturers' use of an alloy casting for all manner of mechanical parts from volume controls that seized up tight to the bearings of the ganged tuning capacitors that caused the moving plates of the capacitor to twist and deform and finally short against the fixed plates. If this was the case in the Majestic, I could not help the old man, but it was worth removing the cover over the ganged tuning capacitor and proving the point.

There were six 6-32 screws securing the cover and when it was wrestled free of the chassis, I was in for a shock. Instead of the expected three or even four sections of tuning capacitors, there were five and also a potentiometer mounted on the common tuning shaft. I was a little flabbergasted and all I could think of was my mentor, Albert, he was my guru for such mysteries but

I did have sufficient aplomb to inspect the bearings of the ganged capacitor. A careful inspection showed each section to have an almost new chromium finish without cracks, I tuned the set from 550 up to 1500 and only by laying across the top of the cabinet could I inspect the moving vanes of the capacitor as I tuned. At this, the old gent roared with glee, "Never saw any of the others try that trick, matter of fact there were two of them that could not have climbed on the chair". I had to ask, "As a learner sir, may I telephone a very clever friend?". "You sure can young fella if he lives in this country".

From the hall phone I heard Albert's cheery Yorkshire accent and then his explosive laughter upon hearing of my latest predicament. "A Majestic model 93 you say? With the five gang tuning cap?" On receiving my affirmative answer, his guffaws increased with each salvo. "What do the bearings look like?". "Very good, actually shiny new, and by the way, what does the pot do on the same shaft?" I asked as Albert was recovering himself but descended into helpless mirth as each comment I made seemed to provoke him into further attacks. "That my young friend was Majestic's or more accurately, Grigsby Grunow's last ditch effort to stop this latest model of theirs from oscillating above 900KC. Other manufacturers were building and selling similar sets and here was the Grisly Groano outfit (as we called them) stuck with a squealing pig. General Motors did it right as did Stewart Warner with adjustable neutralising on each RF stage, Majestic saved a few pennies by using fixed neutralising. They finally put that pot on the shaft to reduce RF gain above 900KC, it's actually in series with the volume control. If I recall correctly, it's about twenty five hundred ohms and that my friend, if it's true what you say about the bearings, is where your trouble lies. The pot has a tapered resistance curve with shaft movement which means that there are three splices in the resistance wire. If you are very clever you can pull it apart and find the break and put in some cigarette paper foil to bridge the gap. That's all, except, change the local-distant toggle switch, it's an Arrow and they should never have gotten into switch making in the first place. Goodbye". And as Albert abruptly ended the one sided conversation I could hear peals of laughter echo down the wire.

Now that was quite a load to digest at one sitting so I returned to the lounge, opened up my toolkit and faced the monster with the thought that it would be either the Majestic or me. My customer wheeled over to one window and pretended to be engrossed in the morning newspaper but I saw that he kept a wary eye out for his beloved radio and how I was attacking it. Shortly I had the chassis out and on the floor and noticed that it would be fairly easy to disconnect each fixed section of the ganged tuning cap and tune the dial from end to end while clipping my ohm meter across each section in turn. At least this would lay to rest the doubts of pot metal and this was finally done so the next mystery was the pot. Dismounting it was easier than I thought as it was obviously an afterthought as Albert had described. The break in the resistance strip coincided with the approximate dial position mentioned by the old gent. Gently, ever so gently, I dismantled the pot and found the break and by removing two turns had sufficient nichrome wire ends to twist together and tuck in behind the strip and then I found that the wiper arm would sometimes detect the area where the two turns had been removed but the day was saved by edging adjacent turns closer together and that crisis faded away. Reconnecting the tuning gang capacitor wires and remounting the potentiometer completed the chassis work. Dangling from its extension wires was the local/distance switch. Now, if what Albert suggested was true, the failure of this switch would account for the complaint of lost sensitivity. Setting my ohm meter at the low ohms range, I clipped the test leads across the switch and after about ten tries of on and off, I found that the switch made contact only about



## WANTED

twice. I knew that I did not have the replacement switch with the long shank that was necessary to mount the switch through the thick wooden side of the cabinet, so I decided to cross this bridge when I finally came to it.

As a final test, I ran the dial fully backwards and forward to ensure that the potentiometer on the ganged shaft moved correctly. Like all Majestics of this time, the speaker cable was always too short and lacked a speaker plug so that moving the chassis in and out of the massive cabinets was a serious chore. Just another objection to this Grisly Groano outfit. As I hefted the chassis into the cabinet, I sensed that my customer was close by, his wheelchair moved soundlessly on the deep carpeted floor. "What's the prognosis young fella?". "Well theoretically everything is OK but the proof of the pudding is in the eating" I responded. "You're more than a philosopher, you're a trier. D'ya like cream puffs?" He enquired and without pausing shouted out at the top of his lungs, "Get some tea and cakes right now!". I swear the volume of his order caused the crystal ornaments on the mantelpiece to tinkle violently.

My palms were getting moist as the tension mounted, should I proceed putting all the chassis screws and knobs in place, I seldom had such a critical audience. The heck with it, lets go, full blast ahead. With the last knob in place, I pushed the power plug into the outlet and turned the power switch on. The dial light glowed and a slight hum came from the directly heated push pull 45's and then a deeper hum from the 27 detector tube and there was music from 1270 on everyone's dial, hip hip hooray! Next was the local / distance switch action, I had shorted the switch connections and coiled the wires and switch inside the cabinet. I tuned in to the strongest local station and by Golly the volume control handled the signal smoothly without overloading. Next was a weak station on 1420kHz, would it come in and would the Majestic squeal? Yes on the first count and NO on the second. I turned to the old gent whose eyes were glistening and we silently shook hands.

A middle aged woman pushed a loaded tea wagon through the door, a pleasant smile on her face as she introduced herself as the housekeeper and, in an evident way to show the old man never intimidated her, shouted at him, "If you do not care to use the bell, I will not care to respond to your every whim". At this show of spunk I expected fireworks, but they both smiled at each other and the man of the house turned up the volume of his Majestic to its maximum 5 watts.

This article previously published in Radio Age has been reproduced with the permission of its author Alan Roycroft a NZVRS member now resident in Hawaii. Alan's regular contributions to the Bulletin are much appreciated.

## WANTED

Radiolettes from the early 30's preferably green or ivory, catalin, small cathedrals, Astor "Mickey Mouse", Kriesler, Haywin. Stylish colourful small sets. Simon Wade, address in available ad.

Chassis for AK255 or power trans and IF coils only. Lid for Crosley 41S 'Unitrad' tin box. Measures 20½"x 10½". Dial scale for Fleetwood FL517A (Philips Hilversum Conbrio). Lamphouse Annuals for 1937, 1941 to complete set, have others available for trade.

Arthur R. Williams 26 Centre Street Invercargill. Ph. 2168985.

Riders manuals vol 1, 2 & 3. Cabinet for Majestic 461 1934 (see p 107 Golden Age). Cabinet for Stewart Warner R104A (see p125 Golden Age).MS4B catkin . Murray Hall 802 Rolleston St. Thames. Ph. collect 07-8688804.

Valves 6SQ7, 6A8, 6K8, 156A, E444, E463, 2 x AF2, FC4, AK1. Two cabinets for Philco/Bell mantel sets.

Doug Virtue c/- Post Office, Kingston, Southland. Ph.03-2488585.

Dial escutcheon, crescent shaped, for Patterson PR10 also small circular peephole escutcheon for PR10. (see bottom right p98 Golden Age). Will buy or have wide range of battery set parts for swap.

George Askey 106 N. Avon Rd. Christchurch. 8001. Ph.03-3892024.

Copy of Golden Age. Ian Sangster address in ad heading.

Glass dial and frame with rounded plexiglass for Gulbransen A14 (see p179 Golden Age) C. van der Wee. 10 Balance St. Kihikihi. Ph.07-8718336.

Pilot radios, any model, any condition and parts. Have trades.

Bill Moore, 3049 Box Canyon Rd. Huntsville. AL. 35803. USA.

Circuit for Radio 1936 Ltd. CJC. Valves are AR8, ARP12, ATP4. Manual for Philips GM6000 vtm. Circuit for Army Radio no.208 made by Radio Corp. Pty. of Melbourne. Dennis Seymour P.O. box 88061 Manurewa West. Ph. 5730800 work 2674442 home.

Set of 3 knobs for Philco 52E. Same as 89E (see p 110 Golden Age). Horn type speaker or speaker suitable for Stewart Warner 801 (tin box). Metal lid for Stewart Warner 950 tin box.

Des Smith 156 Rangitoto Rd. Papatoetoe. Ph. 2783541.

Circuit or any info on British WWII miniature communication set, type unknown but is not a MCR-1. This set is in two steel boxes 170 x 90 x 35mm (6.6 x 3.5 x 1.25"), covers 500kHz to 18.4mHz in four bands using a four-way plug-in coil box, uses 1R5 plus four sub-miniature hearing-aid type valves. The dial calibration is on the battery box.

John R.L. Walker (ZL3IB), 19 Athol Terrace, Christchurch 4. Ph.03-3489084.

Buy or swap brown or white Radiolette in good condition also one brown Radiolette knob. Any unusual bakelite radios wanted e.g. Zenith SR312 or Kreisler 11-4. I have wooden radios for trade including cathedrals for suitable swaps. Fred Pond 44 Watea Rd. Torbay Auckland 10. Ph.4736606.

Instructions for the use of Philips 2802. My booklet has pages 11,12 and part of 15 missing. Round Ⓢ badge for Hallicrafters.

Bryan Marsh 20 Rimu Rd. Mangere Bridge Auckland. Ph.6367712.

Escutcheon for Cromwell 721. Anything related to E.H.Scott radios. Philco 37-61 chassis. Philco 91E chassis. HMV (1933 English) 65 chassis (see p140 Golden Age). Cabinet for Atwater Kent 717X. Cabinet for Wellmayde 53A. Cabinet for Ultimate CU. Cabinet for Skyscraper BZS. Cabinet for Futura (Akrad) 65. E.J. (Ned) Matich "Melody Park" 38 James Laurie St. Henderson. Ph.09-8364400.

Columbus or Courtenay 12 complete or parts. Dial scale and wooden speaker grille for Columbus 17 or 14R. HMV midget or HMV Truetone 2,3 or 4 valve complete or bits. Philips extension speakers. Philettes and Mullardettes complete or parts. Montgomery Ward Airline teledial 1936 cabinets. Columbus 504A (p118 More Golden Age). Chassis for Pacemaker 5M0 (p106 MGA). Dial scales for Columbus 12, Courtenay 12, Astor Mickey, Astor GF. Lid or complete Ultimate RJ bat/elec portable. Any small sets at all. Knobs Columbus, Courtenay any types at all. Call in some time.

Bob Cook Unit 3/475 Blockhouse Bay Rd. Blockhouse Bay. Auckland. Ph.6266241.