



Vol. 3 No. 5, June 1995

Editor: Ludwell Sibley

THE MONTHLY PREZ

Mike Koste

SOME QUICK FLASHES from the head table . . . A superb turnout at our May meeting added four new members to our midst. Greetings & salutations to JOHN BLACK of Telford, FRANK JOHNSON of Fairless Hills, DAVE NESS of Broomall, and LUTHER HOLT of Mahanoy City . . . JIM TROE reports an encouraging response to the questionnaire mailed with last month's *Oscillator*. Maximum participation will help formulate the future direction of club programs, tech talks, and the auction program. Your opinion is very important . . . The DVHRC encountered the usual suspects at the AWA Schooley's Mountain meet on May 13, including MARTY & SUE BUNIS and a number of familiar faces from the NJARC. It was a glorious day and a good time was had by all . . . Have you decided what to contribute to the club exhibit at Buckingham on June 25? Remember, this is a two-fold contest this time: an open-class competition for the "People's Choice" award, and a special DVHRC award for the outstanding "Made in Philadelphia" radio item. Ribbons will again be presented to the first 30 members who bring items for the display . . . BILL OVERBECK tells us we've exhausted our supply of Radiomania books. The club is still offering Harry Poster 2, the Lane transistor book, and the fine Transoceanic volume at very attractive prices. . . **DON'T DELAY MAKING RESERVATIONS FOR THE BUCKINGHAM SWAPMEET!** Spaces outdoors will probably sell out in advance. Use the registration form in this month's newsletter or call DAVE ABRAMSON at (610) 827-9757 . . . Have one or two items to sell but not renting a swapmeet space? The DVHRC will be offering a consignment table at Buckingham. The association benefits 10% from all consignment sales. See BOB KUSHNERICK or myself in the parking lot on June 25 for details. . . Should you see any publicity for Swapmeet VI in your local paper, kindly cut it out for inclusion in the club scrapbook . . . Don't forget that July is our vacation month, so following the June 13 meeting, and the meet on the 25th, we won't be getting together again until August 8 . . . Finally, a reminder that the DVHRC is always interested in your unwanted books and paper for the club's reference library. Likewise, your surplus tube donations benefit the club treasury. Contact CHARLIE CLASS for pick-up at (215) 699-7149 . . . If we don't see you at Buckingham, have a safe & happy summer!

Along the line of tube donations: experience with the NJARC tube program is that the types most demanded are 01A, 24A, 26, 27, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 75, 1T4, 5U4GB, 5V4G, 6A7, 6A8G, 6BE6, 6C6, 6D6, 6J7G, 6K6G, 6K7, 6L6G/GA, 6Q7G, 12BE6, 12SA7, 35L6, 35W4, 35Z5 ("hottest" seller by far), and 50L6. Donations of these types would be particularly welcome! - Ed.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 13 and August 8, 7:30 PM, at North Penn Amusements, 113 Main St. (PA Rte. 113), Souderton.

JOINING THE CLUB

Just send \$10 to DVHRC, Box 41031, Philadelphia, PA 19127-0031.

ADS & SUCH

Please send ads, articles, etc., to Ludwell Sibley, 44 E. Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822-1224, (908) 782-4894.

NEXT MEETING

We'll be seeing the second part of Mike Adams' "The Radio Collector" video, whose first section was well received last month. After covering final details on the Buckingham meet, we'll have the usual auction.

PITTSBURGH MEET, JUNE 3

The Pittsburgh Antique Radio Club will present a flea-market-only event at the Westinghouse Lodge, off the Greensburg Pike in Monroeville. Event starts at 10 AM, with food available nearby. There is no formal program, but a novel one-category contest: for "ugly" radios (ugly by tasteless design, not by natural deterioration!). See next page for contacts.

ON THE HORIZON

- June 3** PARS flea market, Monroeville, PA. Contacts: (412) 222-6678 or (412) 241-1085.
June 9-11 MAARC RADIOACTIVITY, Timonium MD. Contact: Ed Lyon, (301) 293-1773.
June 17 Raritan Valley R. C. Hamfest, Columbia Park, Dunellen, NJ, 8 AM
Contact: John, (908) 722-9045/Bob, (908) 846-2056 pre - 8:30 PM
June 21-22 3rd Annual Symposium on Telecommunications History, Wilmington, DE
Contact: Russell Pizer, fax (516) 422-2324.
June 25 ***DVHRC Swapmeet, Buckingham***. Contact: Dave Abramson, (610) 827-9757.
July 7-9 MARC EXTRAVAGANZA '95, Lansing, MI. Contact: Jim Clark, 517-349-2249.
July 15 NJARC meet & catalog auction, Hightstown. Contact: Tony/Kathleen Flanagan, (908) 462-6638.
July 29 Central PA Radio Collectors meet, Williamsport. Contact: Frank Hagenbuch, 717-326-0932.
Aug. 12 NFWA Amherst Museum meet & estate auction, near Buffalo. Details in next issue.

MAARC RADIOACTIVITY - JUNE 9-11

The Mid-Atlantic club has finalized plans for this year's event, with the theme "A Golden Anniversary of Victory in Europe." Features will be a large flea market (opening at 6 PM on Friday), an old-equipment contest of 11 categories (four of them WW II - related), presentations ("Zenith Trans-Oceanic and Other Morale Sets," "Radio Repair/Restoration Seminar," "Comparing Allied and Axis Electronics"), a bus tour of two electronics and cryptographic museums, a buffet-style banquet, and a three-hour auction. Site will be the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Timonium, MD (Exit 3 of I-83N just off the I-695 Baltimore Beltway). Registration and flea-market fees are below the levels of other major collector events. The hotel (410-252-7373) is offering nightly room rates of \$65 single/double and \$75 triple/quad up to June 1. For a copy of the registration package, you're welcome to contact your friendly editor (quickly). MAARC is exerting major, skillful efforts to build this meet into a major regional/national event, so it has great promise.

MICHIGAN EXTRAVAGANZA - JULY 7-9

The Michigan club has another robust event coming up. Site is the Holiday Inn South/Convention Center in Lansing. Features include three days of outdoor flea market, four talks, a contest with 12 categories, social hour, and large auction (with six hours allotted to it!). Hotel number: 800-333-8123; special room rates for the event. Information contact: EXTRAVAGANZA '95, PO Box 585, Okemos, MI 48805-0585. Judging from the promotional flyer, and from reports of a local collector who attended last year, this is a well organized, substantial meet rivaling the other national events.

MEET REPORT - AWA, BLOOMFIELD, NY - MAY 6

This long-standing meet enjoyed excellent weather and a bit of growth this year, reaching perhaps 40 vendors. Unlike events held under aggressive Big City influence, it traditionally starts in relaxed fashion - activity was getting started at 8:30 and the place wasn't in full operation until about 9:15. The three auctions didn't have a lot of Magic Stuff, but there was substantial material here and there (the first lot from the Museum Annex, auctioned before the bidders were warmed up, included ten good 2A3 tubes - for \$3!). The first phase of a major ("barn full") estate arrived as a full trailer load and included some goodies (a nice Trirdyn, a scarce ARC-5 transmitter dynamotor, etc.) mixed with, well, junk. We'll likely see more of this particular estate at the NFWA Amherst meet on August 12 and at Rochester.

DVHRC SWAPMEET VENDOR REGISTRATION

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 10' x 20' Tailgate Space: | () \$5, DVHRC Member |) Tailgate spaces will be \$10 on the day of the event. |
| (Bring your own table) | () \$7, Non-member | |
| Indoor Table: | () \$10, DVHRC Member |) Indoor tables will be \$15 on the day of the event. |
| | () \$12, Non-Member | |

IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, TAILGATERS MAY MOVE INSIDE AND USE AVAILABLE TABLES AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Send to Dave Abramson, 1649 Yellow Spring Rd., Chester Springs, PA 19425.

WANT ADS

Free exposure for your desired or unwanted stuff! Unless requested otherwise, we'll run each ad for two months, and will send ads to the *NJARC News* for double coverage.

WANTED: Tabletop, Edison, Victor, and Columbia phonographs. Also all phono-related items: records, wax cylinders, needle tins, cutters, dusters, advertising mirrors, original advertising items. Please write or call with description, condition, and your price. Thanks! Bernie Seinberg, 714 Moredon Rd., Meadowbrook, PA 19046-1907, (215) 886-6124. (6-95)

FOR SALE: Two Zenith AM-FM table models, identical except that one is light oak and one mahogany, purchased new in 1957. Don Heath, (215) 345-7498. (5-95)

WANTED: Circuit diagrams for the N. R. I. "Professional Radio Servicer" No. 1175-B (a combined oscillator and VOM made for National Radio Institute by Triplett. Alton DuBois, 67 Peggy Ann Rd., Queensbury, NY 12804, (518) 792-3130. (5-95)

FOR SALE: Sonora M5464 (?), mid-'40s, with orig. literature. Ed Torres, 741-1962.

WANTED: An RCA 6L7 of the steel-stamped, all-black (not inked) vintage. Have other early steel-stamped RCA metal tubes for trade - complete your collection of the "original nine." Also Johnsonburg (JRC) tubes - duds OK - and cartons. Ludwell Sibley, (908) 782-4894. (6-95)

FOR SALE: Farnsworth BK-85 radio-phono. John Kern, (215) 386-4491.

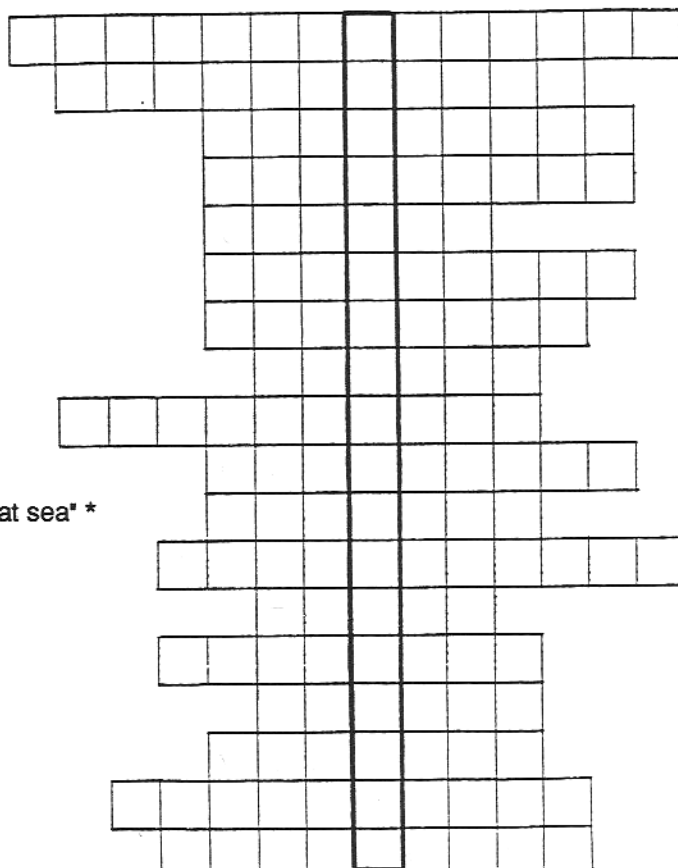
FOOD & DRINK: a good place to join fellow collectors for dinner before meetings is the Hillside Tavern, half a block uphill from the meeting site.

RADIO PUZZLER

Mike Koste (inspired by **Frank Magglore** and **Ted Sowirka**)

How's your knowledge of old-time radio programs and personalities? Using the clues below, fill in the blanks (*not* in the same order top-to-bottom!) and reveal the name of a popular comedy program of the '30s in the boxed-in area. Good luck - and no wagering!

- Faithful Native American Companion
- The Schnozola
- Newscaster H. V.
- Mr. Snerd
- Gracie's husband *
- Bob or Bing
- Famous duck salesman *
- The Fire Chief *
- "War of the -----"
- Singin' Sam's product
- Greeted "Mr. and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea" *
- Fanny Brice character *
- "The Cliquot Club -----"
- The All American boy
- McNeill's Club
- "The Voice of -----"
- Fireside Chatter
- Bud's partner *



* Two words

(Answers in next issue.)

RESTORATION TIPS:

READING FADED TUBE NUMBERS

Edited by **Jim Cross**, from the Antique Radio Collectors of Ohio Code, April 1995.

These tips come from the most modern of sources: the Internet, the worldwide computer network, via Bill Forg. The Internet is a very useful tool with something for just about anyone. If you have access, some of the useful bulletin boards include: rec.radio.swap, rec.antiques, rec.antiques.radio+phono, rec.radio.amateur.equipment, and rec.radio.amateur. Of course, there are many more.

I have found a method to read the numbers on tubes that have been washed off. Clean the tube very well with water and dry completely with a towel. Take some cooking flour and sprinkle over the tube until it has a light dusting distributed evenly over the surface. Then read the number left in the dust. It works remarkably well.

I generally avoid washing tubes, simply to preserve the original markings on them if at all possible. Also, it is my personal feeling that if I attempt to be as gentle as possible in my treatment, there is less chance that I might damage a working tube by treating it harshly.

Most are no worse than dusty and can be cleaned off with a dry tissue. The really crud-coated ones I usually clean as much as possible with a dry tissue, then switch to a moistened one if needed, then follow up by polishing dry with a clean dry tissue. I try to avoid the areas that contain markings, especially the marking that identifies the tube type. I never use anything other than plain water to clean tubes. This method works surprisingly well and I've used it to make very cruddy tubes look almost new; more importantly, I've not yet seen a good tube turn bad after cleaning it this way.

If you manage to obliterate the marking containing the tube type, by all means be sure to re-mark the tube! I find a Sanford Sharpie permanent marker to be useful for such purposes. [braymen@braydio.tip.ameslab.gov (Steve Braymen)]

When I was a kid and started playing with radios, back in the '50s, I was shown that if I rubbed the tube on the back of my neck it picked up a touch of skin oil which made the faded letters stand out. That made it easier to read the 80, 41, or Tung-Sol and number on the tubes. [davidb@ce.washington.edu (David W. Barts)]

A couple of other tips on reading faded tube numbers:

1. Place the tube in the freezer for a few minutes, then take it out and as it warms up sometimes the numbers will stand out long enough for you to read them. Try blowing your breath across the tube.
2. Try rubbing the tube in your hair to get the oil from your hair on the tube, then rub gently with a cloth and sometimes the numbers will be visible. [billhar@space-works.com (Bill Harris)]

My husband-to-be uses a black light to read faded tube numbers. [Dianne (no name given)]

Here I'll [Jim Cross] add a couple of my own tips. There may be something to Dianne's black light. I have found that while some numbers are virtually invisible under incandescent light, they may be easily read in sunlight. My second tip is that I clean my tubes with dry #000 or #0000 steel wool. This actually works quite well. Baked-on grime comes off easily, and the numbers are preserved if you just clean them lightly. Additionally, the steel wool shines the bakelite bases, and can also be used to clean the pins.

MADE IN PHILADELPHIA: HYBRID RADIO

This ad, from the *Philadelphia Inquirer* of Feb. 24, 1924, was reproduced in *Radio Age* some years ago, accompanying a photo of an Atwater Kent TA amplifier mounted atop a Clapp-Eastham HR tuner in Alan Douglas' collection. Someone had found a way to clear out stocks of obsolete tuners and breadboard units. This would explain why tuners may be found today with odd screw holes in their lids. In any event, Lit Bros. was selling a Pittsburgh-made tuner attached to a Philly-made amplifier.

HATS TRIMMED FREE OF CHARGE

Lit Brothers

Yellow Trading Stamp with Every 10c Purchase
MARKET : EIGHTH : FILBERT : SEVENTH

Great Value for Monday Shoppers!

Westinghouse ^{R.C.}TUNER Sets

\$69.50

Can Be Purchased on the Club Plan



These sets are complete — ready for installation. They include AK detector and two-step amplifier, Brandes horn, three WD-12 bulbs, one large 45 volt and large 22½ volt B battery, three dry cells and complete aerial equipment. Limited quantity.

MADE IN PHILADELPHIA:

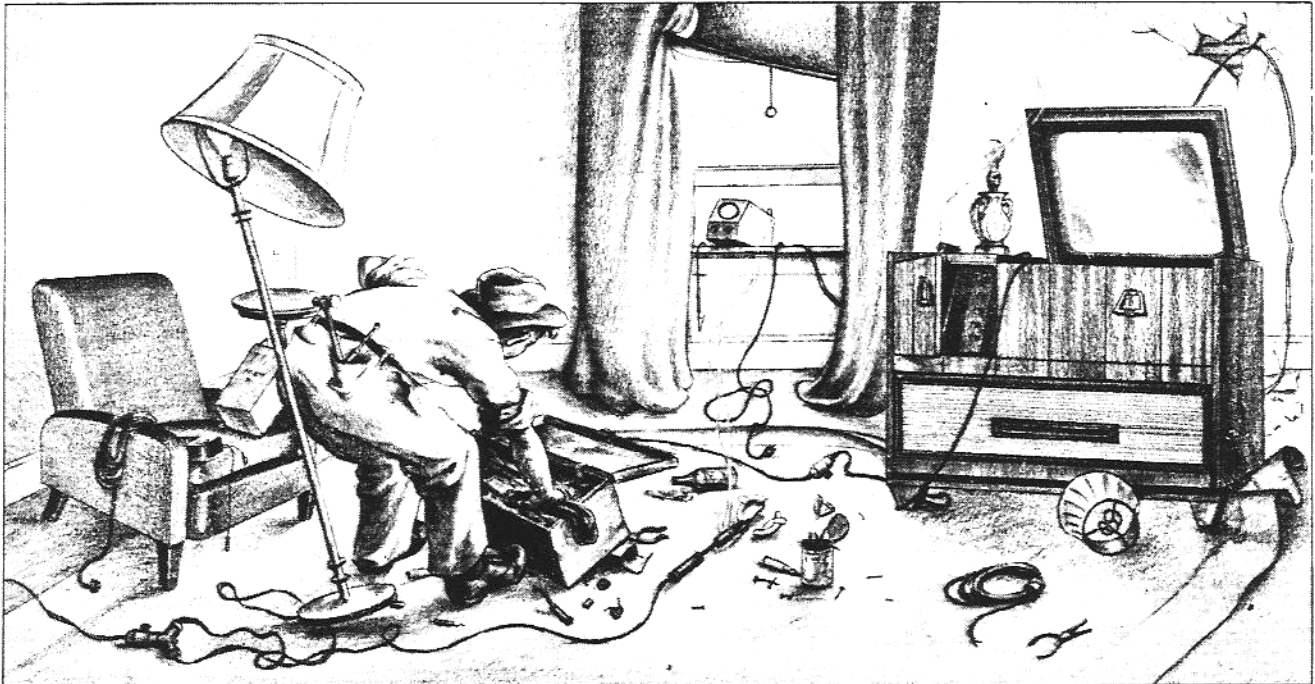
ADOLPH HEINRICH AND PHILCO PUBLICATIONS

The producers of radio publications, like all graphics designers, often used bits of line art to add visual interest, emphasize an important point, or fill empty space. Philco, for many years, used art by one of its staff members. Here's how long-term Philco employee Paul Bohlander, W 3 V V S, tells it:

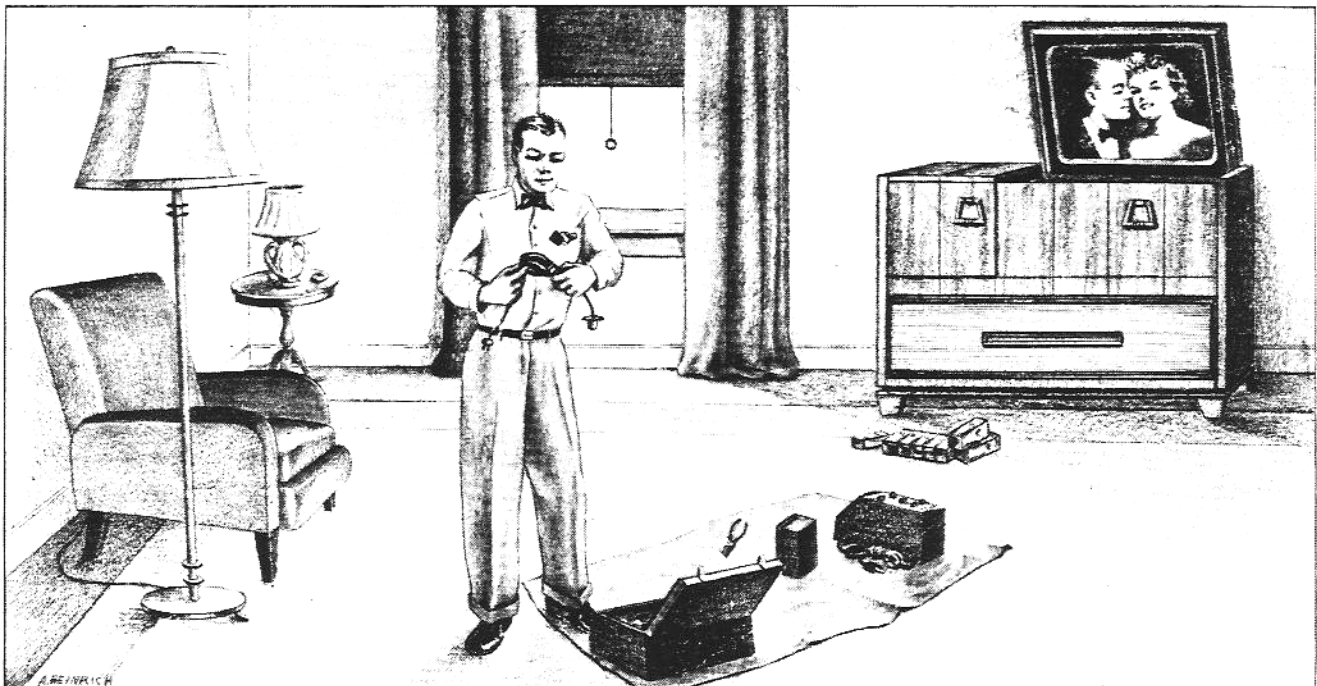
The original "Mike Farad" character was the brainchild of Adolph Heinrich, an employee of the graphic arts department, which was a service of the technical publications department. I knew Adolph. He later was let go from the department and did free-lance work from his home. He did oil paintings and water-color works which he sold. At one time Adolph tried to promote "Mike Farad" as a cartoon, but Philco advised him in no uncertain terms that, although he may have created the character, he did so as an employee of Philco Corporation and, therefore, the character was the property of the company and not his.

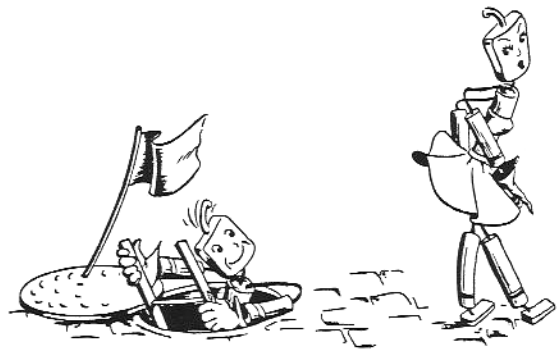
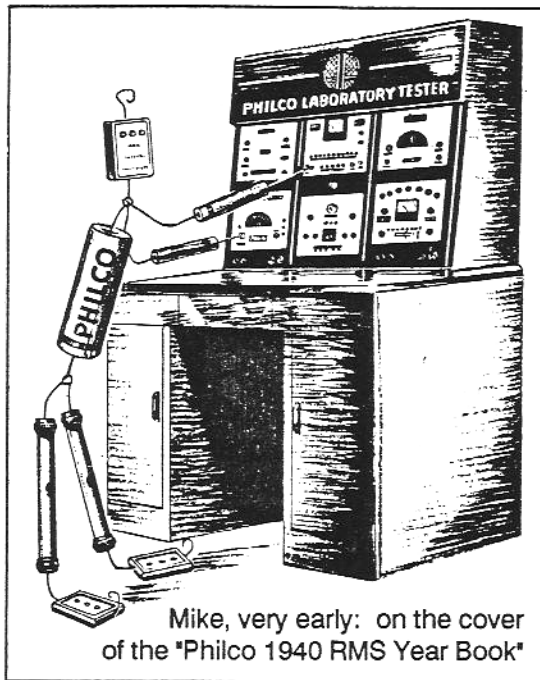
If you look closely at some of the artwork, you may observe "A. HEINRICH" somewhere near the bottom. I don't recall what the female character was named, but it was something like "Millie Farad" or "Minnie Farad."

The illustrations below were part of the 1947 service manual for the Model 48-2500 projection TV receiver.

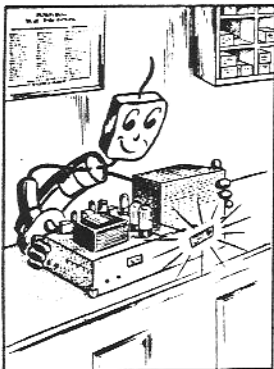


WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER IN YOUR OWN HOME?





MIKE FARAD sez:



Chassis Stickers (PR-1535) are another sure way to remind your customers that they can count on you for **AUTHORIZED PHILCO SERVICE** which is **Expert, Reliable, and Guaranteed**. Only \$4.40 per thousand or \$2.75 for five hundred, with your personal imprint, from your Philco Distributor.



"Philco Service - Army-Navy Equipment - Exciter Unit O-5/FR," 1947.

MADE IN PHILADELPHIA:

HERBACH AND RADEMAN COMPANY

Robert G. Thomas, W3QZO

Almost anyone having technical interests will be familiar with the name Herbach and Rademan (H&R) through that company's periodic publication *This Month*, an absorbing catalog of new and surplus equipment useful to experimenters, radio amateurs, and schools. Some old-timers may have even visited the original Market Street store in person. Few, however, are aware that H&R had a thriving Manufacturing Division that made a material contribution to the national effort during WW II.

The H&R store was founded in 1934 by Maury Rademan and Mr. Herbach, whose first name I cannot remember, for he was universally referred to as "Mr. Herbach."* The contrast between these two men was profound: Maury, with sleeves rolled-up and darting about like a chickadee, was a "Counterman's Counterman" of boundless energy and encyclopedic knowledge of his stock. Mr. Herbach was a soft-spoken elderly gentleman of the old school, always impeccably dressed, not too involved with details, but possessing a keen sense for business opportunities and customer satisfaction. In common with many large radio stores of the time, H&R catered primarily to radio servicemen, commercial sound contractors, schools, and amateurs; but also carried extensive lines of sporting equipment, scientific apparatus, and model supplies. What set H&R apart from the others was a comprehensive manufacturing capability. All engineering and manufacturing facilities were located on a single floor above the H&R retail store in an ancient long, narrow building at 522 Market Street, Philadelphia.

The H&R Manufacturing Division was established in the '30s to design and produce public-address amplifiers, process timers, electronic counters, and various other products for sale in the retail store. In addition, a standard line of portable and laboratory Geiger counters was manufactured for the emerging field of radiation research; a laboratory notebook shown to me, which had belonged to a scientist employed by H&R in the late '30s, indicated that significant in-house research was conducted as the basis for product design in this field. Custom design and construction services were offered to industrial and government customers for a wide range of special products. With the onset of WW II, production of radiation-measuring equipment for oil exploration and atomic research increased, and resources were expanded for manufacture of numerous strategic products for the war effort.

Mr. Herbach was in charge of the Manufacturing Division, assisted in day-to-day operations by Maury's brother Norman, who was foreman and timekeeper. The Chief Engineer was Jack Wagenseller, W3GS, former ARRL Section Communications Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania. Altogether a grand fellow, Jack displayed great depth in all technical matters, possessed a temperament that was even to a fault, and had a disarming sense of humor. He insisted upon and received the absolute highest quality of workmanship in everything made by H&R. In my subsequent 40-plus years in the industry, except for Tektronix, I never encountered construction quality even approaching that which was routine at H&R.

At the peak of the war effort, the Manufacturing Division employed three highly qualified technicians, two mid-level techs, a machinist, 15 to 20 female assemblers, and two or three general assistants who picked up the slack wherever needed.

Some of the products manufactured by H&R in the late war years were as follows:

- High-volume production test systems for IRC carbon resistors.
- Compact HF transceiver "Spy Set" concealed in a suitcase.
- Plug-in one-tube BFO assembly.
- TRF (non-radiating) broadcast receivers for merchant-ship crew morale.
- Inexpensive portable Geiger counter.
- Laboratory radiation measurement equipment.
- Rack-mounted Up/Down event counters.
- Specialized equipment for the U.S. Navy.

I was employed by H&R full-time during summer vacations and part-time on afternoons and Saturdays in 1944-45, during my last two years of high school. At 35¢ an hour, it was no way to become rich, but I was more than compensated by learning "how things are done," rare practical training that was an asset throughout a later career in engineering. My job began as dogsbody and gradually advanced to spot welding, coil winding, spraying moisture/fungus-proofing (MFP) varnish in isolation on the dreaded unheated third floor, cable assembly, equipment final assembly, trouble-shooting, and receiver test.

* Herbach must have been a true old-timer: the McGraw-Hill Radio Trade Directory for Aug. 1925 lists Moskowitz & Herbach, a seller of radio kits at 512 Market St. - Ed.

My departure from the company occurred suddenly and unexpectedly - as it did for many of the other employees. One morning in August, I took time off to visit the Navy recruiting office in hopes of taking the Eddy Test, which was used to screen candidates for electronics training. Failure of a preliminary vision test disqualified me from further consideration, so I returned to H&R, where I was astonished to see all work in progress covered with brown wrap-

ping paper, and everyone standing around chatting. I was told a new kind of bomb had been dropped on Japan, and the war was over! Company management tried to assure everybody that existing work would be completed, but that afternoon telegrams started rolling in, cancelling all Government contracts. So ended a memorable phase of my life.

The war's end did not terminate the Manufacturing Division, however. Commercial equipment continued to be built and, in a bold attempt to move toward civilian products, Jack and his remaining staff introduced the ECO-1, a single-control 35-watt amateur radio exciter, and the AMM-1 Modulation Monitor, advertised in 10/46 and 12/46 QST respectively. Further advertisements of the ECO clearly reveal the continuing saga of the Manufacturing Division. While early ads referred to the old Market Street address, in March 1948 the Liberty Lincoln Building at Broad and Chestnut Streets was listed as the address - clearly a mail drop, for that was about when redevelopment of Market Street began in preparation for the new Independence Mall, forcing H&R to re-locate the store to Arch Street without a manufacturing facility.

Finally, in April 1948, the ECO-1 was advertised under the banner of El-Tronics, 2647 N. Howard Street, heralding the sale of the manufacturing operation to a Mr. Ellis, who already had an established business in automatic garage door openers. Jack and some of the original H&R people also made the transition. Manufacturing continued much as it had at H&R with such products as a frequency meter for the CAA's new Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) navigation system, a projectile-velocity measurement device for Aberdeen Proving Ground, a medium-cost triggered oscilloscope, and subcontracted construction of RCA service test equipment. Unfortunately, for want of sound financial management the company failed in 1952, sending my old pals off to new endeavors.

As for H&R, the Arch Street store was sold to new owners who moved first to Erie Avenue, then to Bristol, Pennsylvania, where it is presently located, continuing to offer an Aladdin's Cave of interesting products, which are still advertised in *This Month*. Several of the former principals retired in Florida, but sadly, Maury suffered a sad death from cancer shortly after the war.

EPILOGUE

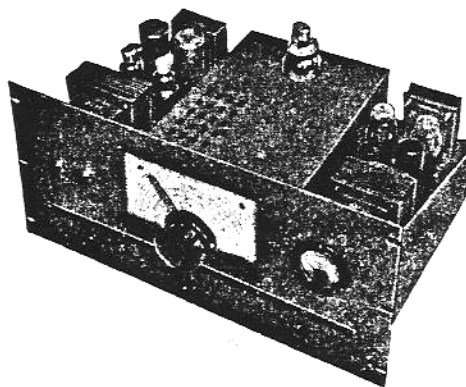
The scene now moves to Fifth Street just north of Chestnut Street, where a crowd of several hundred has gathered in a driving rain storm on New Year's Eve 1976. Slowly, out of the shadows, the Liberty Bell begins a short trip on a temporary railroad track from its traditional home in Independence Hall to a new pavilion just off Market Street. When it has completed its historic journey, I am struck by the realization that it now reposes almost precisely where the H&R counter once stood. Thus, in addition to its traditional significance, the bell has become an uncelebrated monument to American free enterprise and industrial excellence.

NEW!

35-WATT SINGLE DIAL TUNED BAND SWITCHING EXCITER UNIT

ECO-1 Exciter Unit, 35 watts, output R.F. on 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80. Gang tuned, Band switching, Single dial control. Type 807 power output tube is straight R.F. amplifier on all bands. Oscillator keying for break-in operation. Stabilized oscillator circuit, clean chirpless keying. Regulated power supplies. Phone-CW switch. Remote control connections. Tubes (3) 6AG7 (1) 807, (2) 816, (1) 5T4, (1) VR150, (1) VR105.

Price \$160.00 for rack mounting
Table mounting cabinet \$7.50 extra



DESIGNED BY HAMS—FOR HAMS

BY THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION OF

THE HAM CENTER

HERBACH & RADEMAN, DEPT. Q-1
522 MARKET ST. PHILA. 6, PA.