

GROUNDWAVE

Vol. 3, No. 5

VE3RC

January 1953

MEETING

Time: Wed. Jan. 7, 1953, 2015 hrs.
Place: National Research Council, Sussex St., Room 2121.
Program: Economics of Transmitter Design by J.C.Swail,
VE3KF.

PROGRAM NOTES

How many dollars-per-watt before building; or what to think of before wasting your money. That will be the basis of Jim's talk with some extreme emphasis on the economics of final amplifier tubes, TVI design and anti-splatter devices for modulators. His system is for the new comer and old timer. First, he says, figure what you can afford, (darn little for some of us!) decide what you need, and build a part of it. He will be ready to answer any relevant questions during his talk, and practically any question on transmitter design after the talk. Coffee and something will follow in the ragchew period as before.

PAST HISTORY

Dec. 3 meeting was spiced with a talk from Mead Wood about the R.C.M.P. Prairie Network. He described the growth of the system and mentioned some of the problems encountered in the early stages. He made mention of several instances where Amateurs rendered valuable aid to the police. His anecdotes of the "brew hounds" employed by the police against the moonshiners were much appreciated.

This first meeting in new quarters was not packed to capacity, and all queried said that they enjoyed the coffee and sinkers after. We'll try to have better cups next time!

BANQUET

Due to the fact that the entrance to the Standish Hall is through the Bar (bless their souls) the rounding up of people for the dinner was a problem. But with dinner through, Col. StLouis kept us in stitches with his anecdotes about life in China in the '20's. The formal part of the evening over, small groups of people were seen in not-so-silent contemplation of the bottled stocks. Boquets are due to the Ex. members who made the arrangements and in particular to George Davis and Jim Swail for speechmaking, Stu Gardiner for arranging the door prizes, and Hal Walsh who was our genial M.C.

IN THE CRYSTAL BALL

A tentative line-up of programs for the next few months is as follows. At the Feb. 4 meeting we hope to hear from a representative of the Pye Radio Co. give a demonstration of the construction and design of their mobile equipment. This is not definite and may have to be changed. Feb. 18 is suggested as an auction and extra meeting. We will try to get St. Pats for this. March 4 will feature a talk by George Davis, VE3BBW, about his latest mobile circuits with emphasis on modulation systems. George may be transferred this season so this will be the last chance to get this data. April 1st meeting may bring almost anything -- better be on your guard.

BUSINESS

A matter of some urgency will be discussed at the next meeting. It is about the Club year. At present the Bylaw states that the club year will be 1 Nov. to 31 Oct. Since Ham activity as far as club meetings go is seasonal, it follows that our club operation should keep in step. That is our club year should start in September when enthusiasm is high and the weather still good enough for outdoor activity. This would then put our Election in June. The logical year-end then is June 30. This would give time for contemplation and planning of activities for the next season. And anyone who has ever been on an Executive knows how that is needed. Therefore at the next meeting a motion will be presented to make the official club year 1 July to 30 June.

A FRIEND IN NEED...

A thought that has occurred to several persons concerns the plight of the newcomer to Amateur Radio and in particular a newcomer to the club. When the Amateur Radio Bug bites, the disease may follow two paths. If the victim's constitution is iron-bound he may be able to overcome the effects and so be a lost soul forever. Or the victim may succumb. To make sure that it follows the second course should be the duty of every Ham. The time to act is when he is wavering. A bit of gentle encouragement in the form of a visit to a ham shack has often been known to turn the tide. To facilitate this we hope to select members as temporary guardian angels for these embryo hams. If you can make him a good ham he will likely make a good club member. If we expect our fraternity to prosper, new members must always be encouraged.

50MC MOBILE NEWS

On Dec. 21 a scheme was held between Ottawa and Buckingham with VE3BBW/m, VE3AGU, and VE3OJ participating. Solid contact was held on the path between the two terminals with the conditions on the North side of the river a little better than the South side. From Buckingham (so 2ALD reports) the Peace Tower is visible on a clear day. The three watts of 3BBW/m spanned the 23 airmiles nicely and a complete package (3BBW design) 50mc unit was left with 2ALD for trial. He should be on the air in a few days. This will be another 'DX' station for the boys in Ottawa.

Oliver, VE3ACS, is successfully mobile and 3OJ's rig is awaiting installation. 3SB still crackles out over the wintry air but 3CSD is homebound with a flat battery after a fine mobile summer.

ADS

FOR SALE: Surplus Bargains; Headphones \$1.; DPDT Antenna relays \$4.; Antenna Insulators, 8x12 in. 50¢ ea.; Tubes; 807, 50¢; 808, 75¢; 810, \$3.; 813, \$5.; 816, \$1.; 829B, \$4.; 872, \$2.; 715B, \$1.; 5CP1 & 5NP1, \$3.; 5FP7, 7RP7, 7FP7, \$2.; 6L6, 6V6, 6F6, 5Z3, 6D6, 6C6, 6K7, 6K6 and others, 4 for \$1.00. See Jim Swail, VE3KF, SH6-1437.

FOR SALE: Briggs and Stratton 2½ HP gas engine, 4 stroke cycle, crank start, V-belt or direct takeoff, Gord Grant, VE3DY, 8-6468-R.

Q S L Cards: two colors, individual designs, \$7.00 per thousand, G.Lafleur, 25 Queen Mary Rd., 3-7007.

FOUND: black stiff glasses case after last meeting. Owner may make claim to Gord Grant, 9-6057; 8-6468-R.

LOCAL GALLUP POLL TELLS ALL

Our Oct. issue of Groundwave carried with it a sheet of questions. The prime purpose of it was to see how literate Hams are. It now comes out that only about 60% of them can read. And since it is not necessary to send bulletins to those who cannot read we can pare our mailing list without hesitation. Of course it also told us a lot of other things and we appreciate your taking the time to send it in. Some of the info. that we gleaned was that 80% of the club is satisfied with the present meeting night; 9% didn't know! 72% were in favour of one meeting a month. 47% indicated a willingness to help with the meetings of which 30% were prepared to give talks; 53% said a flat NO! 75% are active on the air with 58% on 3.5mc, 25% on 28. and 14mc, 22% on 50mc, 20% on 7.mc, and 5% on 21mc. The 50mc CD NET gets 22% of the active Hams with all the other nets getting 5%. Contests are interesting to 39% but only 14% mentioned specific types: xmtr hunts, DX, construction, and pie eating in that order; 19% disliked contests but again 42% didn't know!

Program suggestions were made by 22% of the club but 78% were no help at all. 14% had suggestions for GROUNDWAVE improvement but only 8% were prepared to work on editorial committees. However to top it all, 100% said that they liked to receive GROUNDWAVE. (And all this time the Ed. just thought he needed a haircut to get his hat on.)

The questionnaire did bring in some dues for which we are thankful. But something we'd still like to know is what happened to all the stamped envelopes that didn't come in? We know that times are hard but.....

V H F DOINGS

Several openings occurred last month on 50mcs but they were not very useful here. Two in particular on Dec 17 and 19 gave the TV fans something for their money. Your scribe watched Jacksonville, Fla. for half an hour on the 19th and came away seeing more snow before his eyes than was on the ground. Same nite 3AGU worked W4FBL at abt 1900hrs, the only station on the band. W4FBL worked several VE's right after. It appeared to be confined to the East coast. 3BCO is a newcomer on 50mcs over the holidays. 3ACS is thoroughly mobile and enjoying it. 3OJ has his mobile and 2ALD will probably be perking from Buckingham by now.

144 mcs has been worked from Bellville to Smiths Falls and tests are under way with 3CAU in Mountain to stretch it a bit more.

ARCOVERS

A Happy New Year to all and enough turkey to go around. Wally Hainge has recovered and got back home for Xmas ---- 3ACS can now spend all his time at ham radio now that he is retired - see his picture in the paper last month? ----the KYL's Bridge and Gab club starts in Jan. with a session at Mary Hollinsworth's on Friday the 9th ---- 3BBW had to make an emergency run during the holidays in which he aided by Ham Radio. He was guided and encouraged on 50 mcs to find a pan large enough for his 18 lb. turkey. An offer to help dispose of the bird was discouraged---- Dr. Dashney was called out to combat a severe case of feedbackitis. Patient recovered and doing well---- 3NM and 3CAX reported to be listening on 50mcs ---- 2AJR worked cross band 4.mcs to 50.mcs ----

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