



Hamstation W9DDD.

has a large number of amateurs all putting in one allowed amateur transmitter. The government furnishes much of the equipment and as soon as the boys get the license, things should begin to hum over the air in that particular area.

We still think Stan Velkanje, W7ETX, has the most efficient 100 meter phone possible. Even though it uses only two relatively small tubes, and about 100 watts input, it reaches Southern California stations on a 100 meter phone schedule with ease.

We are certainly missing the fine signals of ZS3Q these days. Just before the South Africans shut down, he was booming in to great shape along with a dozen or so of his fellow South Africans.

George Davis, W6SJ, is going in for television.

WORSE. Dave Ellis on 40 meter CW is turning out some fast code these days.

WUNAT, the Mobile Ham, is on the air from some hill or mountain top most every Sunday. We certainly miss the W6CHE and W6UF transmitter in the World's Fair. W6USA certainly rolled into Southern California on 4 mc. phone. They also worked all continents RP on twenty meter phone.

KALCS reported to the Southern California Amateurs that he had been sick for three weeks, and in the hospital during one week of that time. He is finally up, but not on the air so much, so I guess that there is a limit to how much an amateur station can be run. One night, however, he worked all districts in two hours and 45 minutes, and that is going some for a station in the Philippines.

W2AO still works the West Coast regularly on 20 meter long schedules. He recently told the West Coast boys that he had been working Washington, D. C. About 200 miles away daily on five meters with consistent regularity.

W6HP is still keeping schedules with W6FW at 7 A. M. (P.S.T.) This is the Yacht California on 12452 kc.

THE Argentine regulations seem to be more reasonable now, because the Argentine stations seem to come on often; that is when they had their restriction to 4 hours' operation a day.

The neutrality regulations in some of the foreign countries are quite similar to our own. In Chile, for example, the amateurs must not refer to any shipping or give any news items, unless they quote the news agency. They must be careful in all their conversations not to offend any other country.

When ZS3Q announced that all South Africans would be off at midnight, October 23, little did we realize what a blank spot that would leave in the morning on 20 meter phone.

BUD WERDO CRAWFORD says:

Maybe I shd hv waited til "April Fool" day to publish this job. I find out how many BCLs I had locally. During my regular weekly slot w/ "Amos" AMY, I suddenly broke off my line of banter, as they went into excited comments abt a 79 plus red-headed female it was passed by the shaft—I sure laid it out! Asked "Amos" to QRX with I went out 4 a bit zipped. Found many of the housewives out sweeping abt the front porch or scanning their notes in an effort to see this "100% receiver" I'd been raving abt. Hi. After counting the industrious OWs as those I could imagine were behind their curtains peering out, I went back in as finished my QSO w/ AMY—not forgetting, of course, to thank aldy abt wat I'd seen, as do U know; some of those OWs won't speak to me now!

EX-DEEW—mayb some of us older hams wonder wat has becom of Kato? The health of this prince of fellows has not by so good, as decided to give up ham zans as preserve his strength to run on his job of dispatching trains for C&O RR.

DEXP is now carrying rural mail at Columbus, inactive in ham way.

SFRD—Funny red claws—Ervin married it and Roberto wldn't dare to be on 100% in v-z-z-z-z A.M.'s as w/ they R "R" as thinkin' abt becomin' active w/ a best fr.

PXX had more "harmonies" than a wife has pickles, w/ he went to meet the DJ's in his tank up on 100%. Sumboldy lend Mervin or Mabel BUE or "harmonic-strator" as they sure an requested w/ their "all hand" xmtr instead of 100 watt!

KQC—sweet old Louie stressed it "beautiful wimmen" lost of his shugan w/ he invited all his ham neighbors to help him raise a new ant. Es, the ant didn't put-out so gud 4 a wife!

KQX got a thrill out of hunking NEX an xpt up

(More Hamchatter on page 42)

The VIDEO Reporter

by SAMUEL KAUFMAN

THE Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories registered several successive achievements in recent weeks that commanded wide trade attention.

First of the new developments was the new type persistence screen in which special fluorescent salts hold the image for a fraction of a second thereby eliminating the dark interval between consecutive images which is the reason for bothersome flickering.

The Du Mont firm holds that such a halving of the repetition rate may be utilized to cut the required television frequency band in half, or to increase the number of scanning lines to obtain a finer textured image necessary for clear pictures of enlarged dimensions. The company prefers the latter use.

Another development of Du Mont involves a video system which utilizes the vertical synchronizing pulse signal, and a "universal" receiver which automatically adjusts itself to picture reception of any number of lines, regardless of the interlacing and repetitive image rate of transmission. The firm's contention is that this development opens up the field to improved pictures on larger screens. At present, the arbitrary 441-line standard is inflexible in most receivers in public hands.

Du Mont has also introduced a 20-inch diameter cathode-ray tube and a receiver to accommodate it. This huge picture tube produces an image measuring 11 by 16 inches.

AS the year of 1939 made its exit the customary pile of annual reports by various industry executives reached our desk. And on television, particularly, there seems to be a more optimistic outlook than in former years. All of which is as it should be. But we are so used to hearing remarks about television being a thing of the far distant future that it is refreshing to note the comments made by radio and television leaders as 1940 came 'round the bend.

Here are a few quotes:

"Each week in television is the equivalent of a year or more in other media of entertainment and education."—Alfred H. Morton, NBC vice-president in charge of television.

"—we will continue to explore the new frontiers of television, looking towards a proper mastery of technical and program technique rather than mere novelty or exploitation."—William S. Paley, president of CBS.

"The first public service of television programs, adding sight to sound,

was introduced in the United States in 1939, by RCA's broadcasting service, the National Broadcasting Company. It marked the triumph of many years of radio research and technological advance. It represents a pioneering effort of the first magnitude. Those who predicted that the introduction of television would retard radio progress have been poor prophets of the year's amazing results in sound receiver sales."—David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America.

"Television is still an engineering achievement and a commercial enigma. The actual sales of television receivers have been extremely limited. Many reasons have been advanced and all are undoubtedly correct to a degree. Some of the causes advanced for the negligible consumer acceptance so far as purchases are concerned are the limited program hours, the type and quality of programs, the list prices of receivers, and the relatively short trade discounts as compared to radio.

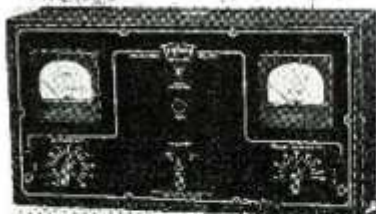
"Nevertheless, and in spite of the limited sales, it is the general opinion that the New York experiment has demonstrated that television service can be rendered over the area originally estimated, and that given acceptable programs, such service provides real entertainment value and opens up new educational possibilities."—Dr. W. R. G. Baker, radio and television department, General Electric Company.

EVERY now and then some radio stories pop up about people being able to receive radio programs through the fillings in their teeth or through the water faucets in their bathroom or some such thing. Broadcasting went through almost a score of years with such weird tales reaching the public ear. Now, it seems, television is concerned with similar "freak" reception yarns.

NBC told us some time ago about a complaint from a partially deaf man who was bothered by the sound portion of the W2XBS television programs. It seems that his electronic hearing aid was able to tune in the transmissions from the Empire State Building. And now we receive word from the WOR press department to the effect that an electric guitar located in the WOR New York studios (a few city blocks from the NBC television antenna) also serves as an impromptu receiver for the audio por-

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been simplified to bring it down to the level of a lazy man's pleasure: push a button and the rig is "on," push another and it's "off." Reference to the diagram of this control unit will tell the rest of the story. The push button affair is home made from a strip of spring metal, the "off" contact being arranged so that normally it is closed while the "on" contact is normally open. This unit is built in a small box on the operating table and the two relays are mounted in the bottom of the cabinet. The overload relay is shunted by a semi-variable resistor so adjusted that the armature pulls in at 250 ma. Thus, should overload of the final r.f. stage occur due, for example, to condenser flash-over this relay would act causing the off-on relay to drop out, shutting off the plate power supplies. A touch of the button and the rig is back on the air.

Results? At the time this article was being written the transmitter was only a few weeks old but enuf contacts both on the East and West coasts had been made on 10-meter phone that Andy was satisfied "she was really putting out." A dozen or more contacts on 160 within a radius of 100 miles have resulted in R8-9 and R9 plus reports. All these, using a 34-foot Premax vertical antenna mounted one foot off the ground.

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Video Reporter

(Continued from page 39)

tion of the sight-and-sound transmissions.

Judging by the queer tales radio prompted, it seems that we'll be hearing a lot more about freak television reception in the months to come.

WITH RCA's anticipated introduction of a theatre-sized television system early in 1940, it is believed that there will be a big boom in this end of the business. The Baird, New York, demonstrations several months ago proved that images can be clearly blown-up to sizes large enough to be seen throughout a large auditorium.

This end of the television business will undoubtedly be distinct and apart of the video programs designed for home entertainment. It is our guess that the large New York theatres using such big-screen systems will count on exclusive rights to the showing of such programs to paying audiences. There are so many details—particularly legal points—to be ironed out that, even with such systems installed in theatres, it may be a considerable time before such things as prizefights, baseball games, etc., will be seen in theatres without being available over facilities simultaneously accessible to home listeners.

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Have you tried the "TEST-IT"?
See page 25.

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