



By HARRY O. SMART
K8UOQ

What kind of a transmitter should I get for my new station? This is a question that every new ham must answer.

There are many things to be considered before you decide what can be given. Some of the considerations would be the amount of money available, how much space is available, what mode of transmission is most appealing (conventional, etc.), which band or bands you wish to operate in, whether you want to build the transmitter yourself or build it from a kit or perhaps even buy a commercially built unit.

TODAY THE most popular transmitters are those of the "general purpose" type. They will operate on most of the bands and can be used on at least two modes of transmission, that is, continuous wave and voice, and either single side band or AM (amplitude modulation).

The CW and AM combination is by far the most popular today although the single side band and CW is making big strides. Transmitters are also classed by power. In general there are about three classes: low power (up to 75 watts), medium power (up to 1000 watts), and high power (up to 10000 watts).

IN THE high frequency range power seems to be relatively unimportant in comparison to other things. In the 10 wpc range (100 meters and down) power becomes increasingly important. It seems that the greatest number of hams settle in the medium power area and this is probably true for many reasons.

First of all is the fact that doubling the power of the transmitter does not double the effectiveness of the station. A thousand watt transmitter does not put out twice as far as a 500 watt station and a 500 watt station does not

get out twice as far as a 250 watt station. In other words, there is a decreasing rate of effectiveness that is true in the manner of transmitter power.

CONSIDERING cost as a factor as contrasted with the effectiveness of the transmitter will further indicate that a "good buy" will be in the medium power range where you will run about \$3.50 per watt. This price will vary considerably between kits and commercially built equipment of course. Kits are considerably less expensive as far as initial cost is concerned and are very practical, especially in the frequency ranges from 15 meters down.

In the higher frequency areas, because tolerances become so tight, the price of the transmitter becomes one of the prime considerations, the experienced kit builder with all the proper test equipment can do you some real good. It should be emphasized again, however, that building kits is primarily a matter of following directions.

THEN TOO, there are good kits and bad kits. One of the big distinctions is in the instruction books that are supplied. Some of them leave a lot to be desired in an area where the novice builder runs into trouble.

In general, transmitter kits are easier to assemble than receiver kits. They are also somewhat more dangerous. Transmitters operate on much higher voltages than receivers and these "hot" circuits are exposed. At one time or another almost every ham gets one of his fingers on a hot lead or two. Sometimes these experiences are chalked up to education, but sometimes they're taken to the undertaker.

If you have a junior operator around the house who wants to get into this field, it would be a pretty good idea to have him learn some fundamentals about safety around high voltage circuits before he handles anything.

One of the best safety precautions I know is to always hold the wall plug in one hand while working inside the set. It's too easy to become careless. There is only one precaution. There are many others. Make sure you hear all of them. Then he is and a 500 watt station does not

Civic Group Board Election Takes Place on Anchor Island

By VELMA McCAINE
MA 6-6530

The Women's Auxiliary of the Meadowlake Farm Civic Association met on Anchor Island on July 24 and elected three new board members.

They are Mrs. Richard Hallbeck, Mrs. William O'Connor and Mrs. Albert Olson.

Following this election, there was a board meeting on Aug. 7 at the home of Mrs. Harry O'Draski on Halyard Rd., where officers for the coming year were elected.

The officers elected were: Mrs. Harry O'Draski, president; Mrs. Calvin Meehl, vice president; Mrs. Richard Tolerman, treasurer; and Mrs. Mike Lakoni, secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS will include: publicity, Mrs. Stanley Martin and Mrs. Albert Olson; island improvements, Mrs. Charles Wark; civic improvements, Mrs. Victor Beer; hospitality, Mrs. William O'Connor; corresponding secretary, Mrs. S. Hugh Embury; and ways and means, Mrs. Richard Hallbeck.

WESTCHESTER Villagers will be well represented at the "Circle of Flowers" show which will be held at the Meadowlake Farm Civic Center on Sept. 14 and 15. Members serving on the committee from the Westchester board branch will be: Mrs. Dorothy M. Boyd, chairman; Mrs. Edna M. Boyd, secretary; Mrs. Robert B. Boyd, treasurer; Mrs. Robert B. Boyd, secretary; Mrs. Robert B. Boyd, secretary; Mrs. Robert B. Boyd, secretary.

PLANES, TRAINS and boats all took an important part in the recent vacation experienced by Mrs. and Mrs. Edward Collins of Heathfield Dr.

The first phase of the journey was by plane to Calgary, Canada where they toured such places as Banff Springs, Columbia Ice Fields and Athabasca Glacier.

Then on by train to British Columbia and through the Fraser Valley to Vancouver, where they explored extensively. A boat took them to Victoria where they saw the Butchart Gardens.

MR. AND MRS. Vernon Fitch, along with youngsters Debbie and Vernon have returned to their home on Millbroy Lane after a three week tour of the West.

At Lushmore, the Badlands, Yellowstone National Park and Bryce Canyon were only the beginning of what they saw.

After that there were several gold mines and the city of Deadwood, where they saw a play reenacting the trial of Jack McCall for the shooting of Wild Bill Hickock.

ALTHOUGH THE scenery was beautiful, Mrs. Fitch admits the highlight of the trip was in Tapahusk, at Wild Bill's hunting lodge, where they celebrated their wedding anniversary with

their special guests, Debbie and Vernon.

On the next home they saw the Painted Desert and visited Indian reservations.

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WESTCHESTER The Westchester Women's bowling league had their August meeting at the home of Mrs. William Perry on Westbroke Dr.

After a discussion, Sept. 19 was the date set for the first turn out at the Birmingham Bowl. Time will be 1 p.m.

Election of officers took place and Lois Perry was elected the new president. Others on the slate were: Gladys Comey, vice president; Bonnie Walker, secretary; and Naomi Hassel, treasurer.

Anyone interested in joining may call any of the new officers.

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the Glen Pearsall and Mrs. Earl Helt.

Any Westchester WNEGA member interested in entering may call Mrs. Albert Peffer, 801 Kinross Dr. For those outside the Westchester area, call Mrs. Fred Trickett, outgoing chairman of the show. Any member of any branch of WNEGA may enter.

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State Police Promote Former Resident to Cpl.

State Police Troop. Michael J. Fitzgibbon, of the Grand Haven post, has been promoted to corporal and assigned to Marquette.

He will succeed Cpl. Robert E. Bolinger, who has retired. Corporal Fitzgibbon, a graduate of Birmingham High School, on duty in the State Police April 18, 1949 and was first assigned to Grand Haven in 1952. He was transferred April 21, 1952 to Detroit, March 16, 1955 to Iron Mountain, and July 15, 1957 to Grand Haven.

In Maryland

Wife Sharon E. Carroll, seaman apprentice, U.S.N., daughter of Mrs. Jeanne I. Carroll of 1509 Birmingham Blvd., Birmingham, has reported for duty at the Naval Training Center at Bainbridge, Md.

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