

THE RADIO MONTH



THE MIKE 'MITTER

Newest in tiny, hi-fi, battery transmitting stations is WOR's "mike mitter." Dave Driscoll (see photo) uses it for broadcasts from banquets, sporting events and the sidewalk interviews where regular wire lines are not available. The power output is only 0.2-W.; weight, 8 lbs.; range, about 1 mile.



TELLY ANTENNA OF W3XE

The new 110-ft. antenna of Philco's television station W3XE is atop the 9th story penthouse on the roof of the co.'s main plant in North Philadelphia. Televisioners last month experienced interference between the programs of Philco and C.B.S.

"F.M."

W2XQR are the letters the F.C.C. assigned last month to supplant the original designation, W2XWI, of WOR-Mutual's frequency-modulated transmitter which is slated to take the air early in January. The new call letters are a special dispensation so that they may be associated more readily with WOR. Nice goin'.

Parallel with the "network" frequency modulation experiments of General Electric Co. between Schenectady and New York City is the development of a network program, incorporating 3 stations, by the Yankee Broadcasting System. Net will include xmitters at Mt. Washington, N. H.; Paxton, Mass.; and, Alpine, N. J., to afford improved reception to a potential 20,000,000 listeners (virtually 1/6 of the entire population of the U.S.), prexy John Shepard pointed out last month.

W2XQR, John V. L. Hogan's F.M. station (operated by Interstate Broadcasting Company), on 43.2 mc., is scheduled to air programs 42 hrs. per week. Major source of material will be programs from WQXR (Eastern-most of the only 4 special hi-fi broadcasters in the U.S.), it was announced last month.

TELEVISION

THE new RCA/N.B.C. portable telly equipment demonstrated to the F.C.C. last month incorporated such features as a 1-meter telly relay unit—shortest wavelength yet employed in practical telly work (on this wavelength neither electrical disturbances—notably elevator contactors, diathermy equipment and automobile ignition systems—nor lightning are a serious factor); a "delay"

component for keeping cameras locked in absolute synchronism; and, a new wedge-type antenna which focuses the broadcast energy into practically a searchlight beam.

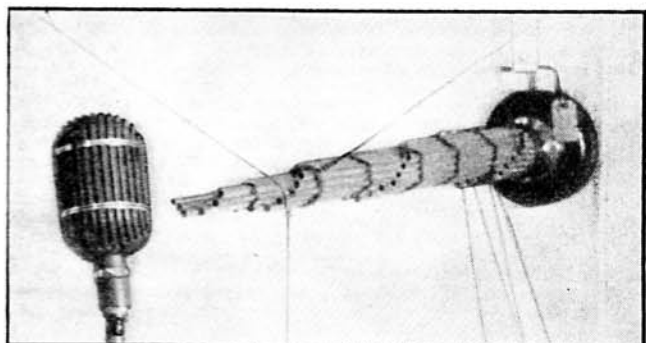
Units operate on 115 V., A.C.; cost is about 1/6; power consumption is about 1/5; and, weight about 1/10, of the present "mobile" equipment carried in 2 large vans.

The fairly general idea that television images and sound cannot be sent between New York and Philadelphia was knocked into a cocked hat, last month, with the lodging of an official complaint by Philco with the Federal Communications Commission that its telly programs from a station in Philly were being interfered-with by programs from the Columbia Broadcasting System's station in N.Y.C.

As this department has repeatedly pointed out, long-distance telly transmissions on the channels in the 6- to 7-meter region are not at all improbabilities; in fact, N.Y.C. telly programs have been picked-up in London, and vice-versa. And for that matter, 5-meter ham-radio stations have established coast-to-coast 2-way contact!

In this connection, we must not lose sight of the fact that a direct line drawn from the top of the Empire State Building to the tops of the tallest buildings in the Quaker City would not drop below the horizon; points at this distance of about 85 miles, however, would be just about at the "fringe distance."

The inquisitive eye of television is giving boxing an unprecedented boost—and at the same time doing a bang-up job of selling telly to Mr. and Mrs. Doakes and family. Telecast boxing cards from Ridgewood Grove, Madison Square Garden, and other hotbeds of fistic encounters, last month, have started to do the trick. Wrestling, too, is garnering air-laurels.



MACHINE-GUN LOUDSPEAKER!

Western Electric Co. engineers have found that a "searchlight" beam of sound can be projected by the bundle of tubes shown in the "machine-gun microphone" (*Radio-Craft*, Dec. '37) when a dynamic speaker unit instead of a mike is placed at one end. New assembly tests a W.E. mike (see photo above and on cover).

THE TELEVISION BALL

At left is a general scene of the Main Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria during the Television Ball held last month. Studio conditions were created by the addition of ten 5-kw. light units, N.B.C.'s mobile units relayed the program. Receivers in nearby room enabled guests to televise affair.