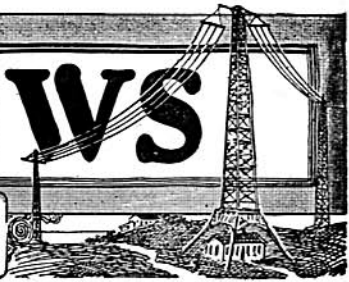




# RADIO NEWS

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## THE RADIOTROLA

**T**O the careful observer, during the past six months it has become apparent that we are finally headed in the right direction as far as popularizing radio is concerned. We may say that we are now right in the midst of a revolution, as far as radio and the great public are concerned. We see the weather marks everywhere. The newspapers are becoming enthusiastic about radio, and devote more and more space to it. The man in the street is beginning to take a lively interest in all things radio. The editor's desk is beginning to become flooded with letters, not from radio bugs alone, but from the layman, who does not know the difference between a detector and a telephone receiver—all of which is a healthy sign, and we may say that radio is entering into its last and final stage, as far as the public at large is concerned.

Most of this, of course, is due to the radio telephone. Take for instance, the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., with its broadcasting radio telephone stations at Pittsburgh, Pa.; Newark, N. J., and Springfield, Mass., as well as Chicago, Ill. (roof of the opera theatre), is doing the one thing that is needed to popularize radio. These stations operate from 10:00 A. M. to 10:00 P. M. each and every day. They broadcast not only radio telephone talk, but jazz music, singing by the best opera artists, violin and piano concerts, etc.

The progressive daily newspaper, the "Newark Call," now has a daily, as well as a Sunday section containing nothing but radio. All the various radio activities are truly reported in these pages and that is not all. This newspaper works in conjunction with the Westinghouse broadcasting station at Newark, and thus, for instance, they send twice a week at 7:00 P. M., a story for children, supposed to be told by "The man in the moon." This has been going on for some time, and has proven a huge success, and there are now countless children within a radius of several hundred miles listening in on these good-night stories, which are spoken by the authoress into the phone at the broadcasting station.

At the Westinghouse broadcasting station at Newark, lectures are also given. Thus, for instance, the writer, early last month, delivered a lecture on radio which was heard by thousands of amateurs who were within range.

Then recently in New York one of the progressive amateurs started to broadcast Sunday sermons by a well-known minister, and this service will be continued right along. No wonder that the man in the street is beginning to become interested in radio when the air is full of music, talk, jazz, and what not. Hence, the day of the "radiotrola" is approaching with ever-increasing speed.

The writer coined the word radiotrola, from Victrola, for which he may be pardoned. If you turn to page 494, you will better understand what the radiotrola looks like. We are fast approaching the time when some enterprising company will manufacture precisely such an instrument. We all know that a layman does not want to be bothered with circuits, loops, tubes, and a lot of other—to him—useless junk.

The telephone would never have become as popular as it is to-day if you had tried to sell each man an instrument that he had to connect himself, and in order to do so learn all the "how and why" of telephony. That may be all right for the telephone engineer and specialist, but not for the business man, who wishes to use the instrument.

We cannot expect the future wireless radio enthusiast to buy the parts of an outfit, and put it up himself. He will never do it. What he wants is a sort of radiotrola that is all connected up for him, and, with a few intelligible instructions, can be used as easily by the young hopeful as by grand-dad.

As our illustration shows, all we require is a nice cabinet which contains all the instruments readily put up. In front, there should be a knob that could be turned for any desired entertainment, such as jazz, lectures, good-night stories for children, grand opera, etc. To be sure it will be necessary to send out the different entertainments on different wavelengths, and we are coming to exactly this. Thus, for instance, in the future let us say, jazz will be sent out on 250 meters, grand opera on 350 meters, etc.

Then the radiotrola, at the bottom, will contain a few batteries that can be slid in just like flashlight batteries, without having to bother with wires and nuts. No adjustments should be necessary outside of turning the loop one way or another to intensify the sound coming in through the loud talker.

Perhaps you think all this is very fantastic. Indeed it is not, as the editors have built precisely this instrument. The loop in question measured only one foot across, and in the crowded downtown New York section, surrounded by steel buildings, and skyscrapers, we have been able to receive all the music and talk as sent out by the Newark broadcasting station, the sounds coming in strong enough to be heard all over a large floor.

Only one adjustment was necessary, and that is a variometer. All the other adjustments, rheostats, etc., were fixed. This outfit will be described in an early issue.

We are indeed in the millenium of radio. As one of our manufacturers said to us the other day: "Radio is getting to be such a tremendous thing, that I am becoming afraid of it."

That is just the sentiment to-day, and it seems a healthy condition.

H. GERNSBACK.