

THE CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN

By PROEHL HALLER JAKLON
Drawings by Ray Walters.

I asked my mother for fifty cents To see the elephant jump the fence. He jumped so high he hit the sky. He won't be back till Fourth of July.



Times change and fashions change. But the circus, the Biggest Show on Earth, whether it open its tent flaps in your town or mine, in your father's time or yours, is ever the same old pageant of color and action.

Tinselled ladies in tight smiles as they fly through space at giddy heights; clowns scamper insanely around the arena; cowboys and girls ride madly hither and thither; bareback riders leap nimbly from horse to horse. The circus goes on.

Here is a human pyramid constructed in a wink of strong men and strong women. Over there are seals balancing gaily-colored spheres on their noses and tossing balls to each other for the reward of a fresh fish. Jumping horses, white and pink tights, dashing vehicles—with all the rings competing for our attention, we are at a complete loss as to where to focus it. We do not wish to miss anything, and still some of the very best acts get no proper attention because we are expecting something to happen somewhere else.

Before certain acts the ringmaster shouts a loud announcement which no one understands. A blast of a trumpet and a long roll of drums to

suasive oratory served up free of charge on the outside?

There's the midget, with his unchanging grin, reaching from ear to ear, his calm manner and his dress suit, strikingly out of place in the light of day. Then the giant, looking sheepish in his ineffectual massive-ness. Next, perhaps, a Wild Man from Borneo or a pair of midget bushmen. The Fat Lady, whose proportions are unbelievable, bursts through a simple white dress, fashioned more after the dimensions of a tent than of any garment designed for more personal and individual human occupation. In ridiculous contrast is the Living Skeleton, that animated pair of walking stiffs who exists, it seems, in defiance to nature's laws.

The others are there, too. The Sword Swallower, the Fire Eater, the Glass Cruncher, the Snake Charmer (who flies into a rage if you as much as suggest that his pets are minus their sacs of deadly poison), the Two-headed Sheep, pictured on the outside as alive and kicking as you would want, but found actually, after we've paid our money, to be lifeless and still, enshrouded in a glass case.

From the circus of Nero's time to the gay show as we know it, the word itself has meant fun and frolic and a good time. We say "Didn't we have a circus?"

But the Roman youth was cheated out of one thrill of the circus—he couldn't go down to the tracks early of a morning and watch the circus detrain. For this is an event in the lives of little men. From the time the billposter slashes barns and fences

porarily halted. Long before scheduled time, the line of march is lined with happy, carefree onlookers. Despite the crowd the street is strangely silent. Then some one shouts "Here they come!" And the parade is on.

Circus men will tell you that the prestige of the enterprise depends to a considerable extent upon the length and quality of the parade. A short, shabby parade conveys the idea of a dinky, mediocre circus. "Only one band? Two starved elephants? And no cellophane?" A poor circus indeed, is the thought that runs through the disappointed crowd.

Yes, the circus is an old, old institution. Nero was a circus fan at a time when bread, instead of peanuts, hot dogs, and pink lemonade, went together with circuses. This was the Circus Maximus whose 12,000,000 square feet of area lay between the Palatine and Aventine hills of Rome, and accommodated, it is estimated, nearly 250,000 spectators.

Here the Romans sat round-eyed watching the feats of the strong men and laughed at the funny faces of clowns, dead now these 2,000 years. There were athletes and chariot races and living statuary—only tights were considered not in good taste. And how the crowd would delight when those early Christians were thrown to the lions!

But, essentially, the circus is the same. All color, noise, confusion, abandonment, chaos; so it starts, so it ends. It is the great leveler. You go in palpitating and come out exhausted—physically, emotionally. To man, woman, child, it is all the same.

There are additions and deletions; new fashions and features change outside and a few creep in to join with the changeless. Nero never saw elephants on roller skates. We are forbidden the horrible spectacle of feeding humans to wild beasts. But surely the Roman circus had nothing more terrible than that collection of freaks in our side show. For the Romans prized beauty and perfection even if their value of human life was cheap.

Even New York and Chicago and other large cities, which offer no end of amusements for their citizens, go to the circus and enjoy it immensely. But in these large places part of the glamour and romance of the circus, as most of us know it, is lost.

No one goes down to the tracks to see it come in. It is held indoors in a large building, and runs, not for one day, but for weeks. And there is no parade. City traffic is too heavy, and the dollars that every tie-up and knot in the swift movement of vehicles loses to business are too precious to be sacrificed for a mere circus parade.

But once inside the new Madison Square Garden in New York or the Coliseum in Chicago, your city circus goer has the same good time and he thrills to the same reckless performance.

Since the advent of the movies there has been some talk regarding the possibility of the slow dying-out of the circus. It is perhaps true that fewer companies are on the road now than there were twenty years ago, but many of these have been consolidated, making for bigger, grander and gaudier shows, each the Greatest on Earth.



with gaudy posters announcing, in letters tall as a man, the great day on which the circus is to arrive, the youth of the favored town await that eventful morning when the mysterious train steams into view, comes to a halt and disgorges the queerest appearing lot of people, paraphernalia and whatnot that the eyes of youngsters ever were permitted to see.

As if by magic, hundreds of hard-boiled roustabouts, working furiously, and with the precision and dexterity that comes only to those who have learned their parts through countless experiences, are at their posts, and the task of unpacking a circus has begun.

They work fast. The big parade is scheduled for half-past ten, and by that time wagons must be put in readiness, horses groomed and harnessed, and everything running with machine-like regularity.

And what is a circus if there is no parade? A buzz of excitement runs through the town. Business is tem-

turn, much to their surprise, they found the patient sitting up and taking nourishment administered by the owner of the place. The man explained that it was the odors of frying ham and eggs that revived him.

Pride

The seaman does not commonly desire to be made captain because he knows he can manage the ship better than any other sailor on board. He wants to be made captain that he may be called captain. The clergyman does



not usually want to be made a bishop only because he believes that no other hand can, as firmly as his, direct the diocese through its difficulties. He wants to be made bishop primarily that he may be called "my lord." And a prince does not usually desire to enlarge, or a subject to gain, a kingdom, because he believes that no one else can as well serve the state, upon its throne; but, briefly, because he wishes to be addressed as "your majesty" by as many lips as may be brought to such utterance.—Ruskin.



Wanted Ham and Eggs

The tonic value of ham and eggs long has been recognized, but it remains for an inhabitant of the Thames valley, England, to place this dish in the pharmacopoeia of restoratives of life. Collapsing on the road between Chertsey and Staines, he was removed to a bungalow by motorists, who hastened to the nearest telephone to call an ambulance, believing the man in a dying condition. On their re-

RADIO

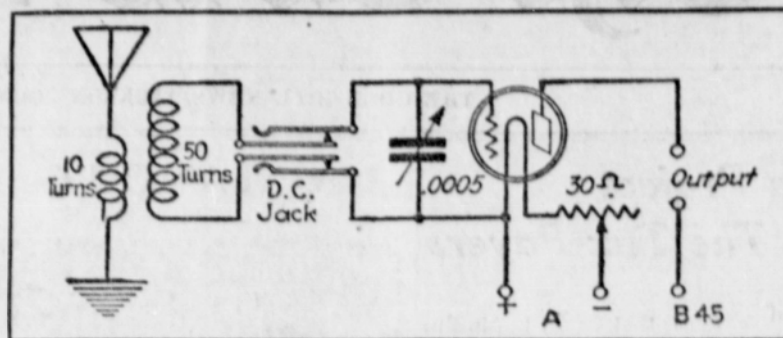


Diagram Showing How to Add a Stage of Radio Frequency to a Three-Tube Regenerative Set.

By C. J. KELLY

In New York Herald-Tribune.

More distance, greater selectivity and an all-around better set may be had by using a stage of tuned radio frequency with three-tube regenerative sets of the type utilizing a variable tickler coil to secure feedback. Although intended for this special type of receiver, the tuned radio-frequency stage may be used to advantage with almost any receiver that is not neutralized.

Aside from increasing the distance and selectivity of the set, the extra stage will permit the use of a loop antenna—a highly desirable feature these days when stations are only 15 kilocycles apart and selectivity is an all-important thing. As the loop has directional properties, interference from man-made static can practically be eliminated by operating the set with the loop in such a position that it picks up a minimum of interference.

Aerial for Best Results.

With an aerial and ground the set will be found to be superior in some ways to many five-tube radio-frequency sets. The combination of tuned radio frequency and regeneration will make for better distance records.

The radio-frequency stage may be built in a small cabinet and placed alongside of the three-tube set.

A double-circuit jack has been placed across the secondary tuning condenser to receive the plug to which the two leads from the loop are attached. By using this method it only will be necessary to insert the plug to use the loop, the double-circuit jack automatically disconnecting the secondary coil.

The loop will be found excellent for use where it is impossible to erect an aerial. The set can be installed in an automobile or motor boat and operated in a few moments, as it only is necessary to connect the battery leads and insert the plug.

The parts for the radio-frequency stage are all standard, and while most fans already have some of the parts around their workshop they may be obtained in any well-stocked parts store for very little.

List of Parts.

The following is a complete list of parts needed to construct the stage: One radio-frequency coil, one 0.005 variable condenser; one panel, 7 by 10 inches; one baseboard 6 by 6 inches; one standard socket; one rheostat, 30 ohms; five binding posts, brackets and screws for coil and baseboard.

If the coil is to be purchased, any fixed coupler having enough inductance in the secondary to permit it to work over the broadcast wave lengths (from 200 to 600 meters) when tuned by a 0.005-microfarad condenser can be used.

To wind the coil at home a composition or hard-rubber tube about six inches long and three and one-half inches in diameter is used, as it is a stock size and will be easy to obtain. A spool of No. 22 gauge double cotton-covered wire will be ample for winding the coils and connecting the set.

A 10-turn primary and a 50-turn secondary are wound on the same tube, separated by about one-quarter of an inch. Be careful to wind both coils in the same direction.

After the connections have been checked the rheostats on both the stage and the detector are turned on. Tuning will be the same as with any other set. The dials will differ slightly (usually a few degrees) because of the circuits not being matched, but both circuits will be in resonance when a station's carrier wave is received loudest.

Excessive squealing or whistling may be caused by reversed primary leads or too high plate voltage. Reduce the plate voltage from 45 to 22 volts. If this does not stop the squealing reverse the leads to the primary on the detector coil.

amplifier tubes used in the old way. He called this system "regeneration."

Regenerative sets became popular very rapidly, since a regenerative set operates as efficiently as any other type of set using several more tubes. They are still the most efficient type of set today. In fact, regeneration is the technical principle which has made it possible to manufacture the best of radio sets within the reach of the average man's pocketbook.

Strong Battery Voltage Necessary for Speaker

Many good sets fail to deliver sufficient volume on the loud speaker because they are not supplied with the necessary power to do so. Forty-five volts on the plates of the amplifiers will not deliver enough current to the magnets of the loud speaker to produce loud signals. Ninety volts will give much better results, and is certainly worth the additional cost. An extra grid bias is sometimes necessary with higher voltage, and this is connected with 4½-volt "C" battery, which is connected between the F post of the transformer and the filament. The negative terminal of the battery connects to F and the positive terminal to the filament.

Audio Howl

It happens sometimes that a steady howl or loud hum will exist in a loud speaker, and one is at a loss to account for it. This howl or hum is unlike the regenerative squeal, in that it will keep up indefinitely unless the set is shut off. In the majority of cases this trouble is due to an audio howl and can be stopped by removing the loud speaker from the top of the set or placing the loud speaker in another position.

A Radio Log Dial

A dial upon which call letters can be marked at the point at which stations are received can be made by cutting a circular piece of cardboard one inch larger than the dial. Glue it to the back of the dial and extend the original dial markings perpendicularly on the cardboard, using these pen markings as pointers to the call letters to be written in as stations are received.

Using New Tubes

There is no advantage to be gained in using the new UX power tubes if the proper B battery voltage is not applied to the plate of the tube. These tubes were designed for power amplification and therefore the tube will not function as such if the correct "B" battery voltage is not applied. In addition to using the proper "B" battery voltage, it is also necessary to use the proper "C" battery.

ATTRACTED BY BOOKLET

Read of Other Women Who Found Health

Brooklyn, New York.—Mrs. G. Hegmann of 35 Central Ave., was in a run-down condition and could not do her housework. She could not sleep at night. Her story is not an unusual one. Thousands of women find themselves in a similar condition at some time in their lives. "I found your advertisement in my letter box," wrote Mrs. Hegmann, "and took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and got relief." Mrs. Hegmann also took Lydia E. Pinkham's Herb Medicine and Lydia E. Pinkham's Pills for Constipation, with good results. She says, "I am recommending your medicines to all I know who have symptoms the same as mine, and to others whom I think it will help. You may use my statement as a testimonial, and I will answer any letters sent to me by women who would like information regarding your medicines."

There are women in your state—perhaps in your town—who have written letters similar to this one telling how much Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has helped them. The Pinkham Medicine Company, Lynn, Mass., will gladly furnish other women with these names upon request.

Also Represented People

Congressman Sol Bloom was forcibly impressed with the fact that a public official is the servant of the people at a recent gathering in New York city.

Mr. Bloom was scheduled as principal speaker, but when he arrived a surging crowd blocked the path to the entrance of the building. The representative gently asked the nearest shoulder if he could get through.

"Who're you?" asked the owner of the shoulder.

"I represent the people and am supposed to speak here tonight," explained Mr. Bloom.

"What of it?" growled the would-be member of Mr. Bloom's audience. "I am the people."—New York Evening Post.

Sure Relief



Famous Old Timepiece

Said to be the oldest working timepiece in England, the famous old clock of Rye parish church has been repaired by the generosity of golfers all over the world. One of the finest golf courses in England is at Rye, and many Americans who have played there answered an appeal for money to restore the old timepiece. It was erected in 1515. The pendulum, which may be seen swinging within the church, is 20 feet long. Cannon balls are used for weights.

Granulated eyelids, sties, inflamed eyes relieved overnight by Roman Eye Balm. One trial convinces. 372 Pearl St., N. Y. Adv.

Business

"Some girls are mercenary," said Countess Pierre de Fallenc, at a Miami luncheon. "I overheard two girls talking on the beach this morning. The first girl said:

"Susan tripped purposely so that young Coppers, the Montana millionaire, would rush forward and save her from falling."

"I see," said the second girl. "Yes, I see what you mean. A business trip."

First English Woman Flyer

Mrs. Elliott-Lyon is the first English woman aviator to fly commercially. Under the rules of international law she is not allowed to take paying passengers, so for the present her work will be confined to carrying merchandise.

Shocked

M. D.—You look sick, all right. What's the trouble with you?
C. O. D.—I came in to pay my wife's bill.



And Sprinkle in the Foot-Bath
ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

The Antiseptic, Healing Powder for tired, swollen, smarting, sweating feet. It takes the friction from the shoe, prevents blisters and sore spots and takes the sting out of corns and bunions. Always use Allen's Foot-Ease for Darning and to Break in New Shoes. Sold everywhere.

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