

AGRICULTURAL EYE OF NATION CENTERS IN ANNUAL MEET

WASHINGTON—(AP) In the midst of the cry against "farm abandonment" Secretary Jardine's calm defense of the exodus, expressed in his annual report to the president, is regarded as oil for the troubled waters.

His attitude is discussed with approbation among agricultural economists and students of rural sociology. They are interested particularly in his view that the situation is an evidence of health and progress rather than of deterioration in agriculture.

The secretary points out that in 1927 the net loss in farm population was but 125,000, the lowest in years, and that there was a larger gross movement to the farm than the farm to the city. Continuance of present tendencies, he says, "may bring us within a few years to a point at which the annual loss will not exceed the proportion necessary to allow for draining off the excess in natural increase and for the drop in labor requirements."

Mr. Jardine does not minimize the seriousness of wholesale desertion of the farm, such as agitated the public mind in the early post-war period. His position is predicated on the fact that a simultaneous opposite movement of population to the farm is now counteracting the flow to the city.

Some relative loss of population from the country to the town apparently is a normal characteristic of American agriculture. By reason, the secretary says, of the comparatively high natural rate of increase in the country and because of the progressive substitution of mechanical power for man power. He insists that a readjustment of farm personnel to a diminishing labor requirement need cause no concern.

It is pointed out to the president that the movement of young people from the farm is normal and natural. They leave for two reasons, Mr. Jardine says; because more children are born and reared on farms than can find a suitable place in farming and because many young people born on farms do not take to farm life.

"The census of 1920," he continues, "showed that 4,000,000 more persons under 21 years of age were living on farms than there were in any urban group of our population equal in size to the farm group. When we hear in mind the constantly increasing power of agriculture to produce more food and fibers with a given amount of labor, it is obvious that this excess of young people on the farms must be drawn away."

In the case of farm children who do not like agriculture, the secretary says it is natural for them to seek other occupation. He recalls that American farm people always have been more mobile than those of some other nations, although it is true that some of them are not mobile enough and cling to farm life under unsatisfactory conditions. The normal movement of adolescents away from the farm is quite compatible with the well-being both of agriculture and of the nation.

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Byrd's Men Transmit Messages to Homes Via Amateur Station



WICHITA, Kas.—(AP) With a home-made sending and receiving set, William Christ, 25-year-old postal clerk of this city has followed Commander Richard E. Byrd's flagship, City of New York, over the first few thousands miles of its voyage toward the south pole.

The amateur operator first established connection with the City of New York as it sailed the Pacific 600 miles south of the Samoan Islands. The ship's operator "talked" with him for nearly two hours, transmitting messages to be forwarded to families of the adventurers aboard the flagship.

"Yours is the first amateur station we have been able to pick up in ten days," a message said, "and you have done fine work. You are easy to hear and send and receive like an expert."

Christ worked for five years to bring his set to its present degree of efficiency. Now he is able to establish radio communication nearly every night with far-away amateur stations in Australia, the South Sea Islands and Africa. His station, 9H12Z, has a 50-watt transmitter, using 1500 volts of rectified alternating current on the plate. The City of New York's wireless station, WYFZ, uses a tube transmitter of 1000 watts.

Soviet divers have discovered the hull of the largest warship of the Soviet Black Sea fleet, "Free Russia," torpedoed off Novorossiysk harbor in 1918. Far-reaching ruins of a great city of unknown origin have been discovered in the valley of Eskikermen, in the very heart of the Crimean Peninsula.

Grid Resistor Checks Oscillation

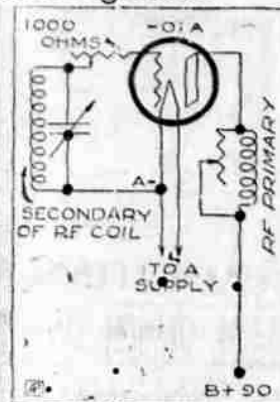
By C. E. Butterfield
(Associated Press Radio Editor.)
NEW YORK—(AP) A resistor in the grid circuit of a radio frequency tube provides a certain means of oscillation control.

There is a slight loss of selectivity with this method, but its reliability overcomes any defects. The resistor may be variable or fixed. If fixed, the first stage resistor is 500 ohms and the second stage 1000. If variable the maximum ohmage is 1000.

Variable resistors will give a closer adjustment than do fixed units. With them it is possible to operate the set just above the oscillation point, thereby increasing its efficiency.

If a tuned radio frequency set using neutralization "quills over" on the lower side of the waveband, this difficulty may be stopped by a grid resistor on the second RF tube. It is inserted by breaking the grid lead, and should be variable down to a 100 ohms or less so that it may be set at the most effective point.

The resistor is always mounted close to the tubes so that the grid lead will not be too long. It will be sensitive to body capacity and



Resistors may be inserted in the grid circuit of radio frequency tubes in improperly neutralized sets to help control oscillation.

is adjusted with a wooden screw-driver. Control of volume is obtained by shunting a 200,000 ohm variable resistor across an RF transformer, preferably that in the plate circuit of the first tube.

more than 2,000,000 before Santa Claus arrives. Each set calls for an average of seven tubes, and right there are sockets for 14,000,000 valves of various types. Replacements are putting another strain on the tube manufacturer, sets bought last season requiring new tubes by this time.

The demand for tubes isn't confined entirely to the AC. The direct current or battery tubes have not passed out by any means, indicating that the number of receivers powered by batteries or eliminators has dropped comparatively little. This fact also is borne out by a statement by one manufacturer that the decrease in B batteries has been only three per cent since the flood of AC sets and eliminators was loosed upon the country.

Move Wheat Pit.
CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—(AP)—The Chicago board of trade suspended active service today in order that equipment might be moved to their temporary quarters, where business will be resumed Monday. The old board of trade building is to be razed and a new 44-story building is to be erected on the site.

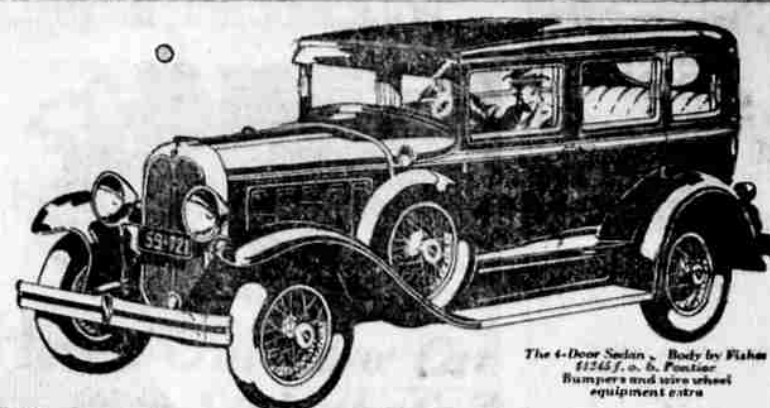


By C. E. Butterfield
(Associated Press Radio Editor.)

One of those radio tube shortages is making its semi-occasional appearance. Ever so often the cry of "no tubes" is heard, and this fall seems to be such a time. The demand for electrically operated receivers is behind it all. The supply of alternating current valves gradually is dropping despite the almost herculean efforts by the trade to keep atop of things.

Jobbers say they have few, if any, in stock, and retailers are beginning to feel the pinch. Factories are working night and day. One of the biggest tube makers in the world is striving to raise his monthly output from 500,000 to a million tubes.

Where all of these tubes are going is not difficult to determine with a set market expected to total



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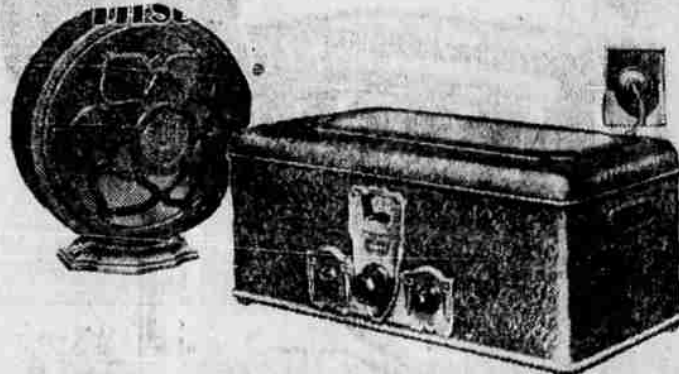
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