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## The Troubles of An Amateur In Radio

Mr. Henry M. Neely,  
Dear Sir:

I have been advised that you are an authority on matters pertaining to radio reception, and would like to ask your advice on several matters which have puzzled me for some time.

I have a 5-KW, double-barreled, 9-pasenger, triple-valve, non-skid Testing-house outfit, complete with U. S. Safety appliances (Standard) and Timkin rear axle, which I use in connection with a 210-volt, hammerless, self-winding, automatic, 16-jewel, nickle-plated Marconi antennae with pneumatic tires.

Have had a great deal of trouble with my galena since using Lydia Pinkham's vegetable compound, but get better results by painting it with iodine. I can get undamped waves all right with my regenerative vacuum sweeper in dry weather, but on Sundays I find that my rheostat keeps interfering with the differential, so that it is necessary to cut in a small .0045 M.F. washboard between the piano and the kitchen sink.

On taking the matter up with Mr. Edison, he advises that if I use cylinder records instead of my present intermittent shock absorbers on C. W., my capacity will be increased about 81½ percent Fahrenheit, but Einstein thinks my clutch is slipping, and I ought to use a little more yeast and a copper boiler.

This, of course, is purely a matter of taste, and I am sure you will agree with me that the overload release will work just as well with a mica commutator and a 4-inch by 4-inch coupler shank as long as the piston rings are well oiled and I use plenty of sand on the hills.

I get S.O.L. and P.D.Q. practically every night by tuning to C sharp, and I think I can get A.W.O.L. and H2O by cutting in an interlocking relay between the honeycomb and the Washington Monument.

Do you think I would get better wave lengths if I connect a circuit breaker in series with the tabulator key and used weather-proof conduit in the magneto? Neither do I, but it is practically impossible to get good spread rods since the country went dry, and unless I use something to cut in more static and decrease the potential of my monometer, the fluctuations of the variometer will tend to synchronize with the alternations of the high-frequency kickback preventer and burn out the windings of the eccentric bushings.

Until recently I used a 5-string, tentor, hardwood amplifier with 240 turns of No. 4½ barb wire around the front sight cover, but I found that with this arrangement the follicles of the heating element had a tendency to become impregnated with the pigment from the valve stem, so, on the advice of Gen. John Pershing, I removed the drift slide and substituted a Duplex automatic stoker, which allows the left dorsal ultra to oscillate between the hydrometer and the upper sling swivel, and prevents the choke coils from short circuiting the permanent wave length.

I was wondering if by placing the blow-off cock in juxtaposition to the universal joint on the loop aerial and using an emergency application of air on the primary windings, would the cubic capacity of the variable fixed condenser in any way affect the centrifugal dirt spreader on the three-way switch of the microscope, and if not, would there be a reversible reaction?

Also do you think by using more chalk and a little

English on the cue ball, would the pilot beam interfere with the insulation on the superheated cold air duct?

Any suggestions you have to make will be appreciated by me if you will enclose a stamp to pay for the one I am using.

Yours very truly,

MIKE ROFONE.