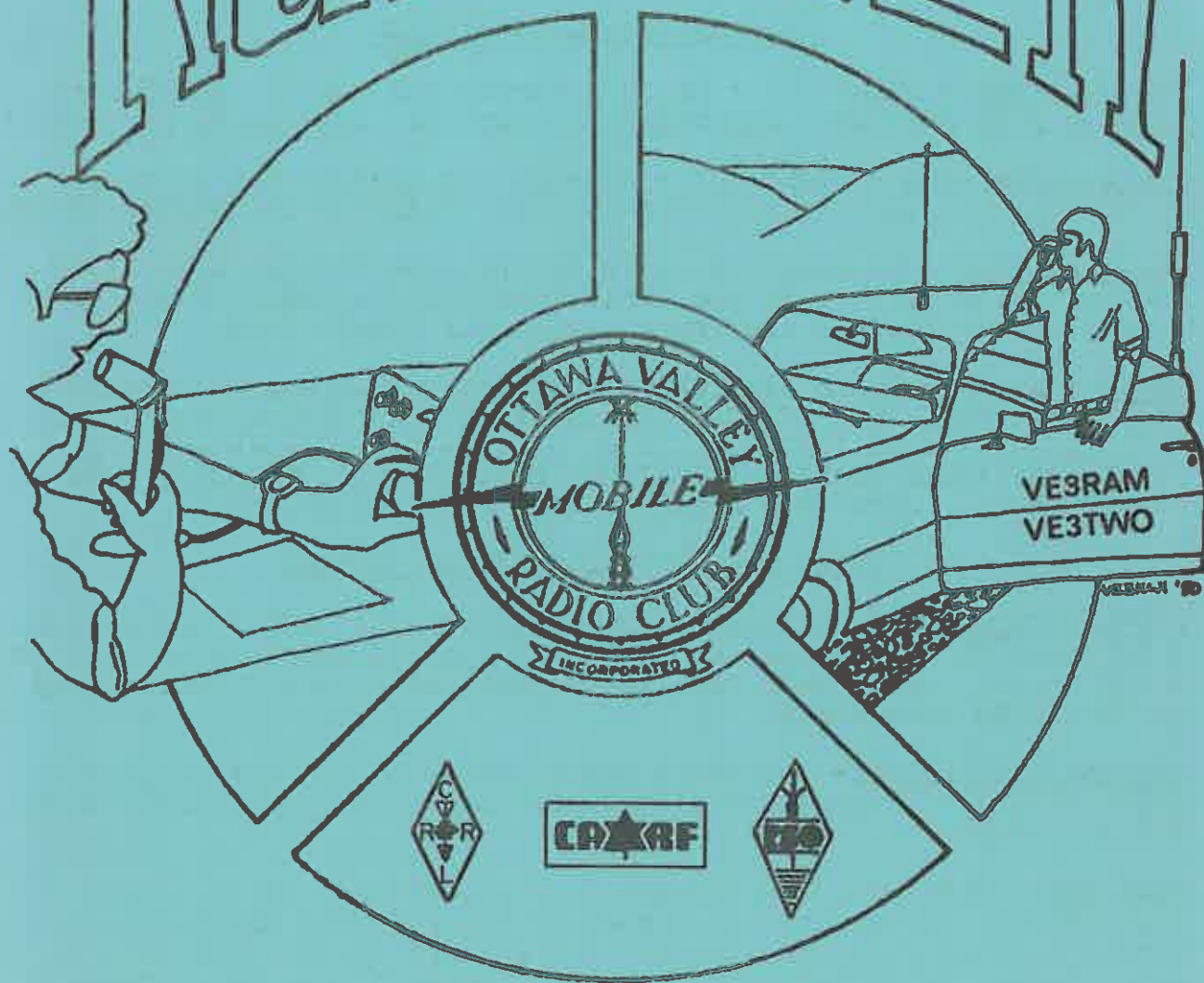


# RÄMBLÄR



MAR 1982

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1981-1982 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Russ Pastuch	VE3FSN	828-9235
VICE PRESIDENT	Tom Hayes	VE3ABC	822-2811
SECRETARY	Bob Daye	VE3MPB	224-1432
TREASURER	Ralph Thomas	VE3GG	729-9252
TECH ADVISOR	Dave Coutts	VE3KLX	829-2537
PUBLIC REL.	Bucky Berkley	VE3JRR	733-3429
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3CLS	225-7374
PAST PRESIDENT	Ray Perrin	VE3FN	225-8132

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CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT-HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 local time on 3.76 MHz SSB. All radio amateurs are welcome to participate.

THE WISE OWL NET - OVMRC Net - Ragchew net each Friday evening at 20:00 local time on the club repeater VE3TWO - 147.90/147.30 MHz.

CODE PRACTICE - Transmitted on VE3TWO by Dave VE3KLX. Wed. 19:10 20 wpm, 19:25 7, 10 & 13 wpm. Fri. 19:10 25 wpm, 19:25 13, 15 & 18 wpm. Both sessions end about 19:55; all times local.

VE3JW - Amateur Radio Station of the National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC helps maintain the station, schedules provides operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display. VE3JW operates on all HF bands, both CW and phone. Slow scan Amateur TV is also demonstrated.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NET ACTIVITIES

POT-LID CW NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. An informal slow speed CW net meeting every Sunday (except July and August) at 10:00 local time on 3.62 MHz, to promote interest and proficiency in CW and CW procedures.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET- Sponsored and operated by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday at 20:00 local time on repeater VE2CRA 146.34/146.94.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. Every Sunday (except July and August) as a part of the POT-HOLE NET and every Monday (except July and August) as a part of the Capital City FM Net. Ed may be contacted at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur radio. Regular Club meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 20:00 local time unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the National Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd. (south of the Queensway).

THE PREZ SEZ

March is upon us and spring should be just around the corner. We got a fine example of what's coming in February, so hopefully you're getting your tower climbing belt, coax and copperweld all ready for antenna/tower maintenance activities.

The scheduled wine and cheese party went off without a hitch on February 27. All those attending enjoyed themselves, except possibly Ray, VE3FN who was not pleased when he saw ALX and FSN throwing his two meter beam around in the VHF contest video tape which was shown.

The entertainment at the general meeting was very informative and I trust that everyone took the information on home security to heart. Many thanks to Constable Paul Roy of the Ottawa Police.

Entertainment for the March general meeting is a show and tell presentation. Time to bring those home built goodies out of the closet and show them off to your fellow amateurs.

Election time is rapidly approaching and both a nominating committee and some prospective executive members will be required. How about it, we have a number of new members in the club, how about running for an executive position. You can start at the bottom and in a couple of years can be a czar just like me.

And last and maybe least, field day. Every year the president gets on his soapbox and tries to make field day sound like a gala event that shouldn't be missed. So here's my pitch, field day is coming and we need a coordinator and volunteers. There is no way that I am employing arm twisting and threats this year.

That's it for this month so I'll close and start trying to figure out how to move that lump of equipment to the March meeting.

Russ VE3FSN

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MINUTES OVMRC MEETING 19 Feb 82

INTRODUCTION

The Feb meeting of the OVMRC was held at the Museum of Science and Technology and was opened at 2000 hrs by Pres. Russ VE3FSN who welcomed Mr. George Caskey and Mr. Warren Post.

OLD BUSINESS AND EXECUTIVE REPORTS

It was moved by Don VE3ATJ seconded by Bucky VE3JRR that the minutes of the Jan meeting be adopted as presented in the Rambler, motion carried.

Past President - Ray VE3FN, President - Russ VE3FSN, Treasurer - Not present, Secretary, Not present, Public Relations, Nil Report.

Technical Advisor - Dave VE3KLX - Dave advised that he would receive donations for the April auction, registration for the Club project (Anemometer) and that he had the list of those still in the running for the wise owl Certificates. Dave also advised that Code Practice was continuing.

Editor - Nil report.

Pres. Russ VE3FSN announced that this meeting is the last chance to sign up for the Wine and Cheese Party of 27 Feb 82 as the first of many events to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the OVMRC.

Radio Society of Ontario Report - Merv VE3CV stated that he had membership applications for the RSO.

CRRL Representative - Ray VE3FN solicited recommendations re proposed changes to regulations and any copies of correspondence directed to DOC.

Pres. Russ announced that a nominating committee would be required by next meeting to select candidates for nomination to club officer positions.

Pres. Russ presented field day 82 as a topic of discussion.

Dave VE3KMW reviewed details and data for a nicad rapid charger project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pres. Russ announced the following new Advanced Amateurs:

- VE3GJY - Jim
- VE3MJD - Brian

Entertainment: Pres. Russ introduced Constable Paul Roy of the Ottawa Police who gave a very interesting talk on prevention of theft of personal property.

Adjournment. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2200 hours.

Bob Daye VE3MPB  
Secretary



SPURIOUS EMISSIONS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

It seems like I just wrote this article last week when the editor requests copy before the executive meeting, all scribes jump.

By the time the march issue hits the street, the 25th anniversary of the club will have happened at the presidential palace.

Frank Collins, VE3MSC, is interested in forming an ex-RCAF personnel net. The net will probably be conducted on VE3TWO at a time soon to be determined. Frank requests that anyone who is interested should call him at 733-8134 or on VE3TWO.

The club project, a digital anemometer, is looking good. Eight people have expressed a desire to participate. A cost will soon be determined and those who expressed an interest will be contacted and told where to leave the ransom.

I'm still taking articles for donation to the club for the spring auction. If you have anything to donate, contact me at 829-2537 or on VE3TWO.

The wise owl news service recently learned that Brian Seed, VE3MJO and Jim Hamilton, VE3GYJ are members in good standing of the advanced amateurs society of Canada. Congratulations for an achievement well done.

In closing I will quote a poem by one of the regulars on the Wise Owl Net...

A wise old owl sat on an oak  
 The more he saw the less he spoke  
 the less he spoke the more he heard  
 So take a lesson from this wise old bird

Frank Collins VE3MSC

With that I will return to my perch and scan the ground for small creatures.

Dave VE3ALX T.A./NM TWON

Note;

The net referred to above for ex-RCAF personnel will have their first session on VE3TWO at 2000 hrs. March 15....

*Making Net*

*Mil Net*

THE BOAT ANCHOR RADIO FEDERATION

BARF is an Ottawa based amateur radio club with a membership of over 50 interested persons. The club was formed three years ago by a group of amateurs with an interest in 70 cm. fm operation. The name, Boat Anchor Radio Federation arose due to the type of equipment in use by these people at the time. The equipment was obsolete commercial gear, full of tubes and should have been scrapped long ago.

BARF owns and operates a 70 cm repeater operating on 449.1 MHz input and 444.1 MHz output. This is an open machine and membership in the club is not a requirement to use it.

BARF is currently in a membership drive. Dues are one cent and we hold no meetings, have no publication but are a growing and active concern. We expect to do many unusual things with our repeater and ask that if you are interested in 70 cm fm repeater operation, why not join and have BARF listed by your name in the Ottawa Area Directory.

Russ VE3FSN  
Co-President BARF

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

I have followed with interest the various discussions with regard to the proposed changes by DOC which were published in last month's Rambler. The main topic of discussion has been the controversial section 50. From comments I have heard and bulletins from the two national organizations which represent radio amateurs in Canada, there are very definitely two points of view. Without doubt the proposed wording of section 50 appears to have been, let me say, "not too carefully thought out." Notwithstanding, we as radio amateurs have an opportunity to express our concerns to the DOC.

If you wish to express your opinion with regard to the proposed changes, do so where it may have some effect. Write to the DOC and express your views.

Jerry VE3CDS

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MARCH MEETING

Our regular monthly meeting will be held at the usual place at the usual time. The date is March 18. The program at this meeting should be the highlite of the winter season. It is show and tell time. Here is your opportunity to show your home built winter works project. Who knows, your fancy little gizmo may induce some of the less handy members to undertake a home construction project.

REMEMBER...."IT'S SHOW AND TELL"  
MAR 18

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Operation in Canada by visiting amateurs

In February 1980, the DOC issued amendments to the amateur regulations, one of which introduced a new section 50 specifying the operating privileges available to amateurs visiting Canada. Section 50 stated that visiting amateurs could only use the radio frequencies, types of emission, or modes of transmission they were permitted in their home countries provided they were also permitted in Canada.

The problems created by this seemingly innocent section became immediately obvious to CRRL, and were briefly discussed on the Canadian Newsfronts page of the May 1980 QST. Basically, because many amateur bands enjoyed by Canadians are smaller, or non-existent in other countries, visiting amateurs were now prohibited from using these bands while in Canada. The most obvious example of this restriction is that in region 1 (Europe & Africa), the 2 meter band is only 144-146 MHz so, because of section 50 visitors from these countries are forbidden from using our 146-148 MHz repeaters. In addition, the phone segments of our bands for which phone is not allowed in the U.S., are denied to Americans while visiting Canada.

As the Canadian member society of the International Amateur Radio Union and, recognizing these unfortunate limitations on visiting amateurs, the CRRL Board of Directors approved sending a letter to the DOC urging it to revise Section 50. CRRL considered it unfair to impose a "double jeopardy" on visitors, and suggested they should be limited only by Canadian regulations while operating in Canada. This is analagous to international driving where only the host country's rules of the road apply to visiting drivers. Further, making specific reference to the 30 year old Canada/US convention which governs reciprocal operation with the US, CRRL pointed out that only the host country's regulations were specified in that convention. Moreover the CRRL could see no reason why an American visiting Ontario should be prohibited from checking into ONTARS and speaking to his Canadian hosts on frequencies where Canadians normally operate.

Canadian Advanced Amateurs should be aware that on visiting the US, they are granted privileges which are only available to Amateur Extra licence holders-a class of licence demanding increased technical and code proficiency over the Canadian Advanced Amateur certificate.

A summary of the CRRL submission to DOC, with one typographical error, was printed in Canadian Newsfronts in the October 1981 QST. A complete copy has been submitted to the OVMRC executive. In summary, the CRRL position is that amateurs visiting Canada should only be bound by Canadian rules. I urge all of you who agree with us that visiting amateurs should not have their operation in Canada artificially restricted because of a lack of certain bands or emissions in their home countries, to write to the DOC and request the Department to change Section 50. Please send me a copy of your letter.

Kay Perrin VE3FN  
Director, CRRL

The following article is reprinted from the "FEEDLINE" the monthly bulletin of The Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club Inc. I think you will enjoy it...Ed.

"TESTING: ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR....."

(an excerpt from "The Sound and the Fury" by Warner Troyer)

The first broadcast by radio waves of a human voice was made by a Canadian. What moves that experience back into the realm of the ordinary and predictable is the knowledge that :

- (a) The experiment took place in the United States with American funding.
- (b) The inventor, forever frustrated in his efforts to get Canadian support, died in Bermuda a bitter and mostly unrecognized man.
- (c) The Canadian government, while denying assistance to the most brilliant man in the field, a Canadian, was busily funding and supporting an Italian inventor.
- (d) Finally, in an awesome blend of genius and banality, our intrepid inventor, making the first broadcast of a human voice in all of recorded history, uttered the stunning words, "one, two, three, four." Every public announce system tester in the time since owes him a debt of gratitude.

My own earliest memory of broadcasting comes from the thirties, when many Canadians had a crystal set, probably in their kitchen. The first set I saw, in someone else's home, was quickly covered by a newspaper or tea towel when there was a knock at the back door. It might have been an inspector from the Federal Department of Marines and Fisheries who, finding any home radio receivers, would demand payment of the one-dollar annual licence fee used by the government to regulate broadcasting, check on sources of interference, etc. Nobody much liked the licence fees, although by 1930 more than 300,000 Canadians were paying their buck a year for the privilege of plucking sounds out of the air. In England that same year, the home licence fee was ten shillings; in India listeners were charged about \$3.55 annually; and in Germany, better organized perhaps, licence fees were collected monthly and cost about 50 cents every 30 days.

But 1930 was already almost post-history in terms of the development of radio broadcasting in Canada. By then the country had 78 private commercial radio stations, sixteen of them the so-called "phantom" stations which broadcast over the transmission facilities of more fully equipped stations. It had been 30 years since the immortal "one, two, three, four" had been sent by radio transmission through 50 miles of virgin North American air. And four years had passed since Ernie Bushnell, a pioneer of Canadian broadcasting, had inflicted the world's very first singing commercial on hapless Toronto area listeners. Written to the melody of "Three Blind Mice", the commercial extolled the virtues of the Toronto Wet Wash Laundry. It was an entirely appropriate harbinger of the laundry and detergent commercials which assaulted our senses for the rest of the century.

Most of the world credits Guglielmo Marconi with the invention of radio. Certainly he reaped the rewards, not least the assistance

of the Canadian government in establishing his research facilities in Cape Breton at the beginning of the century. Marconi's most celebrated triumph was the transmission of a Morse radio signal from Cornwall, at the extreme tip of the British Isles, to a receiver on what has forever since been known as Signal Hill, overlooking St. John's, Newfoundland. What the Italian inventor did on December 12, 1901, was to send the single letter "S" by Morse.

Neither Marconi, the rejoicing folk of Ottawa, nor the rest of the world had noticed that a year earlier, on December 23, 1900, a 36-year-old Canadian inventor had broadcast a total of 77 letters over a distance of about 50 miles. But Reginald Fessenden, the Sherbrooke boy who was chief chemist for both Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse before striking out on his own, wasn't sending Morse code; he was talking into a microphone. Speaking to his assistant at an experimental receiver in Arlington, Virginia, 50 miles from his Cobb Island laboratory, Fessenden said, "One, two, three, four. Is it snowing where you are, Mr. Thiessen" If so telegraph back and let me know."

Moments later Fessenden's telegraph key rattled out Thiessen's message that it was, indeed, snowing at Arlington. The world's first radio broadcast of speech, of real sound as opposed to Morse signal, was a success.

Six years later, on December 24, 1906, Fessenden made the first public radio broadcast. He played "Oh Holy Night" on his violin, read the Christmas story from the New Testament, wished his listeners a Merry Christmas, and asked them to write if they had heard him. And they had. The mail response from incredulous radio operators on several ships lying off Boston proved the success of Fessenden's experiments.

Fessenden, a brilliant inventor who added the radio compass, the tracer bullet for machine guns and the first North American TV receiver (in 1919) to his accomplishments was not, however, a good businessman. Nor was he very successful in self-promotion. McGill University turned him down as a teacher of electrical engineering (they hired an American instead), and he had to turn to the U.S. Weather Bureau and to the United Fruit Company, which wanted better communication with its ships, for his funding. The Canadian government, which found \$80,000 for Signor Marconi's work at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, was equally unwilling to assist the Canadian. What the Ottawa mandarins did, instead, was to give the Italian Marconi initial exclusive rights to build any radio stations in Canada. So much for our inventor of "radio telephony," a man as much known today as the son of the lady who invented Empire Day in Canada.

There is clearly an element of poetic justice in the fact that although Signor Marconi's ~~first~~ radio station, XWA Montreal (now CFCF), was licenced and began broadcasting before any other station in North America, modern histories of radio, including those published in Canada, credit station KDKA Pittsburgh, a Johnny-come-lately, as being first. The actual chronology is as follows:



1905 Canada passed our first wireless Telegraph Act, intended to regulate and control Morse code radio broadcasts.

1913 The act was amended to include "radio telephones" or "voice transmission."

1919 Donald Manson, a radio officer in the Royal Canadian Navy through World War I, was employed by the federal government as chief inspector of radio, and none too soon, because in September of that year he was asked to issue a licence to Canada's (and North America's) first radio station.

1919 (September) Marconi radio station XWA was issued a licence to broadcast from its "factory" on William Street in Montreal.

1919 (December) XWA made its first broadcast, playing phonograph records over the air for the first time on this continent.

"Fessenden's recital on Christmas Eve 14 years earlier was, you'll recall, a live performance.)

1920 (May 21) XWA broadcast its first regularly scheduled programme.

The show included the contributions of a full orchestra and a Miss Dorothy Tulton as soloist. The audience included Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden, arctic explorer Vihljalmur Stefansson and William Lyon MacKenzie King (who would be prime minister, himself, just 19 months later). That splendid group, attending meetings of the Royal Society of Canada at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa, heard the music from Marconi's Montreal transmitter over 100 miles distant, further than any previous-known broadcast.

1920 (November 2) KDKA Pittsburgh finally made it. With its first broadcast on this date, KDKA informed its listeners of Warren G. Harding's election as President of the United States, succeeding Woodrow Wilson.

From 1920 on, radio stations multiplied almost as quickly as the speak-easier and flappers of the Jazz age. Canada's first commercial station, CJCB Winnipeg, owned by the Winnipeg Free Press, successor to the Manitoba Free Press established in 1872, broadcast a test programme in April 1921 and began regular programming in July of that year. Still located in the Free Press Building on Winnipeg's Carlton Street, by 1980 the station was called CABC, and was specializing in country and western music, a far cry from its salad days in the thirties and forties when it invited guests to a plush studio theatre for live programmes featuring a full studio orchestra and singers. That same year the Canadian National Railway broadcast band concerts from St. Catharines, Ontario, to receivers in a railway coach on the Canadian National Exhibition grounds in Toronto.

In 1923 the Canadian "firsts" began to multiply, almost to breed. In March alone, Canadians heard their first church broadcast (from Fort Rouge Methodist Church in Winnipeg); their first play-by-play hockey game over CKCK Regina; (the game, between Edmonton and Regina, was described by sportscaster Pete Parker); and their first university lecture (on the poetry of Bliss Carman, a Canadian who had, however, been living in Connecticut since 1908). Canada's public broadcasting was presaged, too, in 1923 with the inauguration of radio station CKY, operated through its telephone system by the Government of Manitoba.

In July the CNR added radio receivers to a parlour car out of Montreal, setting another precedent by broadcasting a message from President W.D. Robb to the captive audience before letting

them hear some music. Three months later the railway company had radios in all of its parlour cars and was broadcasting news to them as well. The first such broadcast was heard by British Prime Minister Lloyd George who was visiting Canada. He told the Canadian, American and British journalists toasting the inaugural newscast with him that it had been "invaluable" in informing him of world events "of the highest importance." None of this foreshadowed the brutal political warfare that occurred 40 years later when broadcast journalists began their efforts to invade the sacred precincts of federal and provincial legislatures, formerly open only to print reporters.

In 1924 the CNR opened its own radio station in the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa. That same year it broadcast Canada's first sponsored hockey game, a Stanley Cup contest between the Ottawa Senators and the Montreal Canadiens. The Senator's are gone, but the radio station lingers on, still in the Chateau Laurier, as CBC station CBO. 1924 also heard the first Dominion Observatory time signals broadcast from the facility at St. John, New Brunswick. The premiere livestock market reports were carried in January, 1925 on stations in Moncton, Winnipeg and Ottawa.

By now the GNR was up to its corporate larynx in transmitters, and in August Sir Henry Worth Thornton the railway president, opened a station in Vancouver. In October the Canadian National made a broadcast from a moving train in Ontario, and on November 26, 1925 the BBC closed down in England so its listeners could hear a GNR programme beamed to them from Moncton.

But August had been the month for technical developments: that was when a Canadian company, Rogers, displayed the first radio receiver ever made which could be plugged into an electrical outlet in the home. The Rogers Batterless (35 years before the world went portable crazy and began spreading sound pollution into every public area via transistor radios) was a mental radio model and sol in the heady boom of the mid-twenties for \$250. Oh, yes. The loud-speaker was an extra \$45.

By 1926 there were only 15 radio sets in all of Canada's Yukon and Northwest Territories; but undeterred, arctic explorer Richard Byrd flew over the pole in a plane carrying a radio transmitter, just in case anyone tuned in.

Regular school broadcasts began in October, 1927, from Vancouver, under supervision of that city's inspector of public schools. That same month Francophone Canadians heard transmissions in their native language, but from the CNR station in Edmonton, Alberta. The programme, like most subsequent French broadcasting outside Quebec, was designed chiefly as an exercise in public relations; the Canadian National on this occasion in 1927 being anxious to promote a rail excursion fare to Quebec.

1928 brought probably the first broadcast drama produced in Canada onto the airwaves: CNRV Vancouver presented three one-act plays by Vancouver authors. Eight months later in February of 1929, the CNRV Players, as they were known by then, presented a complete version of Othello to their listeners. Two months later, cooperating

with the Vancouver Shakespearian Society, they broadcast "The Merchant of Venice". The quality of mercy for regional drama production became much more strained after the CBC replaced the CNR as Canada's major programmer. Despite an illustrious history and a demonstrated skill, Vancouver broadcasting has been vastly under-represented in drama and variety productions across Canada.

The CBC has been unremitting in its devotion to its production facilities and staff in Toronto and Montreal. Even Vancouver's fancy new CBC production building was most obviously used in the seventies by visiting firemen from Toronto who produced shows like TV's "Ninety Minutes Live" on location, while Toronto production staffs were busily patronizing and irritating highly qualified "locals."

The year of the stock market crash also brought Canadian listeners regular classical music, broadcast live in the form of 25 concerts by the Toronto Symphony carried on the CNR national network, (The Metropolitan Opera premiered in Canada on Christmas Day, 1931 with "Hansel and Gretel.") 1929 was also the year that Canadians were driven close to lethal boredom by the initial broadcast of the series "The Nation's Business," a programme devoted to self-serving descriptions of governmental and political activity, delivered always in the most turgid prose which could be constructed. Other new traditions were to follow quickly. In 1932, for example, King George V was to make the first of those Christmas Day broadcasts from Buckingham Palace or Balmoral which still punctuate Christmas mornings throughout the Commonwealth.

But 1929 brought problems other than incipient collapse of the speculator's bull market on Wall Street. Canada's broadcasting was virtually like Topsy, without any organization or regulation; it had "just growed up." The CNR network aside, our 87 radio stations were a weird amalgam of private radio societies, commercial enterprises, and stations pumping out hate messages for the further glorification of rump evangelical societies and bible associations. Most distressing of all, especially to the proprietors of those stations, Canada was being engulfed by the much richer, higher-powered radio transmitters of New York, Chicago, Detroit, Seattle and the like. The 604 stations in the United States were swamping our airwaves, some even using the few frequencies agreed by the Canadian and American governments to be for the exclusive use of Canadian broadcasters.

So on December 6, 1928, Mackenzie King had appointed Sir John Aird, president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, to head a royal commission enquiry "to examine into the broadcasting situation in the Dominion of Canada." Thus the most unremitting chronicle of navel-gazing in the annals of recorded human society. There has scarcely been a year since without its royal commission, special study, parliamentary committee or public inquiry into broadcasting in Canada.

Unlike its successors, the Aird Commission worked quickly. It scheduled public hearings in 25 Canadian cities, listened to 164 oral presentations, waded through a further 124 written briefs, and presented its slim (and bilingual) 29-page report to the government on September 11, 1929. Sir John was given to a succinct

expression of opinion, unlike those who followed him. He left no room for misunderstanding of his main conclusion, that the interests of the public "can be adequately served only by some form of public ownership, operation and control."

Nor did he mince words about the causal needs for a national, publicly owned broadcast service:

"At present the majority of programmes heard are from sources outside Canada. It has been emphasized to us that the continued reception of these has a tendency to mould the minds of the young people in the home to ideals and opinions that are not Canadian. In a country of the vast geographical dimensions of Canada, broadcasting will undoubtedly become a great force in fostering a national spirit and interpreting national citizenship."

Quite an endorsement from the bank president who is quoted by broadcast pioneer T.J. Allard as having said shortly after his appointment to the royal commission that he'd "once owned a radio but later threw the damned thing out." Evidently untroubled, however, by his personal distaste for the impertinent, young medium, Sir John Aird pressed his study home - and abroad. Having visited London, Berlin, Paris, Brussels, the Hague, Geneva, Dublin, Belfast and New York (where there may have been some cultural compensations), the commission also toured most of Canada and observed:

"We are of the opinion that the development of broadcasting far beyond its present state, and this may include television is one of great importance and should be kept pace with so that the service in Canada would continue equal to that in any other country".

The commission also noted that in its hearings and briefs, "there has been unanimity on one fundamental question - Canadian radio listeners want Canadian broadcasting."

What Sir John and his colleagues did not know was that there was a federal election in the country's future, and that Prime Minister MacKenzie King who had appointed them was about to be defeated by Conservative R.B. Bennett. So the commission's urging for the establishment of a "Canadian Radio Broadcasting," to be funded by licence fees on receivers, "rental of time...for indirect advertising," and a small federal subsidy was put aside. It wasn't until 1933 that a beleaguered federal Conservative government under Prime Minister Bennett took the microphone in its teeth, as it were, and created what it called "The Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission." It has gone mostly unnoted since then that the precursor of the CBC had its beginnings that year on April Fool's Day. Not every subsequent act of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has denied its natal origins.

#### AUCTION

Just a reminder that our annual spring auction is not too far off. The date is April 17 at the Canterbury High School. If you haven't started to dig into the junk box...Do it now! The club will accept any donated equipment. If you want to advertise any item in the Rambler... Call any member of the executive. Ralph, VE3GG will be our convener...details in the April Rambler.

TECHNICAL SHORT COURSE

VE3TWO.. With the second anniversary of the wise owl net having come and gone, it seemed to me that some of the newcomers to the club may not be aware of the technical aspects of the club repeater.

The repeater is located on a building owned by Energy mines and resources. It is just about the corner of Booth street and Carling Avenue, overlooking Dow's Lake.

Working from the top down, the antenna is located above the roof and is a 6 db gain colinear. The antenna location enables the machine to have reliable coverage over a 20-25 mile radius of this location. This may seem meager compared to other repeaters in the area but one must realize that VE3TWO was designed to be a local coverage, rag-chew repeater.

The antenna is connected through a 15 foot length of coaxial cable to the Sinclair Res-lok duplexers. The duplexer being designed to allow the transmitter and receiver on the repeater to share a common antenna.

The transmitter and receiver are both Canadian Marconi DT-65 mobile radio equipments. The receiver has a sensitivity of better than .5 microvolts for 20 db s/n. The transmitter while capable of in excess of 45 watts output, is currently loafing along at 15 watts output. This is to ensure that the transmitter does not outdistance the receiver.

The control system, the heart of the repeater, allows all the separate units to function together as a repeater. Herein lies the identifier, the time out timer, squelch tail timer and the audio switching. A point to note is the time-out timer does not require the repeater transmitter to drop, it resets when the received carrier drops.

Power for the repeater is provided by two separate 13.8 volt D.C. supplies, one feeding the power amplifier and the second feeding all other equipment. In addition, there is a 12 volt storage battery and charger, which automatically switch in if the AC power fails. This has happened several times in the last few years. Operation on the battery supply can be detected by listening closely to the identification. Battery operation is signified by a stray pit preceding the VE3TWO identification.

Hopefully this has cleared up any questions regarding VE3TWO

Russ VE3FSN

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MATERIAL PUBLISHED IN THE RAMBLER DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT CLUB POLICY OR VIEWPOINT. ANY ITEMS MAY BE REPRINTED BY AMATEUR RADIO OR SIMILAR PUBLICATIONS WITH THE PROVISIO THAT CREDIT BE GIVEN TO AUTHOR AND SOURCE?

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P.O. Box 5530, Stn. F

OTTAWA? ONTARIO

CANADA

K2C 3M1

Editor

Jerry Wells

VE3CDS

The following was received from one of our members.....perhaps it will give other members food for thought.Ed.

To Executive OVARC

Dear Oms

Some were disappointed with the january meeting, but not I. The eyeball QSOs made it a good event.

When a programmed event has to be cancelled, I suggest that a questionnaire be pulled from a pigeon hole.

This questionnaire should be designed to draw out experiences of old timers and beginners and those in between. Experiences with antennas, station layout, DX, traffic handling, SSTV, RTTY, public relations, experimnts, ham-made test equipment etc. Alternatively, topics could be assigned ahead of time, with the material held in abeyance, subject to call up on short notice.

73 Fred VE3BAJ

THE DURHAM REGION AMATEUR RADIO MARKET being organized by the South Pickering ARC Inc. and the North Shore ARC Inc. is being held this year at Ajax Rec centre, corner of Bayley and Monarch Ave. on Saturday April 3 from 8 am to 2 pm. Admission \$1.50, children under 12 free. Exit from No.2 or 401 at Harwood and drive south. Talk in on 52, VE3FIC, 07/67, VE3OSH 12/72 Contact Phil wasburn VE3IAA at 416-683-3368.

James Hamilton, VE3GJY  
2038 Arch St.  
OTTAWA, Ontario.  
K1G 2H1

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