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Interference Problems Are Being Solved Gradually

SHIP TRAFFIC SHOULD HAVE RIGHT OF WAY BUT TROUBLE FROM THIS SOURCE IS BEING ELIMINATED BY USE OF C.W. AMATEUR CO-OPERATIVE ANIMAL IF FUR IS RUBBED THE RIGHT WAY—PROPOSED FIRST QUIET HOURS.

(By S. Kruse, Technical Editor QST)
Interference is a part of the radio game, there have been interference problems ever since the second sending set went into action and all of these problems have been solved. This has been done without shutting down any class of stations, in fact all classes of service have steadily increased.

In the working out of radio problems it is well to begin by recognizing the fact that ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore radio is more important than all other sorts of radio combined in a lump. For ship service radio cannot be replaced—there is nothing else. If other services interfere with ship radio then those other services should be made to stand back, even if that involves scrapping every broadcasting station and every amateur station and every trans-oceanic station in operation today. The ship service has premier right—when it interferes with another service that is too bad—but the other service hasn't much of a case.

Next it is well to recognize that for ship service, especially for small ships, the spark set is likely to be useful for some years to come. We cannot reasonably expect a ship to install a transmitter so costly that the ship's business cannot possibly pay for it—and tube sets are very costly.

Next after that one may as well admit that the ship's operator—is perfectly justified in working traffic on waves in the broadcast band of wavelengths—even when he knows that he is raising thunder with the reception of all manner of telephonic matter. His traffic is the most important stuff in the ether—it has a perfect right to tear a hole through radiophone material if necessary. Nevertheless the Radio Corporation and the Department of Commerce are attempting to minimize the transmission on 450 and 300 meters and are replacing the spark sets with tubes as fast as possible. There is nothing in it for them—they merely demonstrate the spirit of co-operation that underlies radio in many branches.

Still they cannot replace all sets today—many operators will continue to use sparks (especially on foreign ships) and not a few of them will be compelled to use 450 and 300 meters when the jam gets too thick on 600 meters. Grin and bear it!

The amateur can show that he has good intentions for he first invested the "quiet hours" and observed them tolerably well in many places. The majority of them are today engaged in "riding" the man who still uses a spark set. So effectively have the sparks been "razed" that today they form a disappearing minority—although they were used in all amateur sets a few years ago. On this count the amateur has gone far beyond the commercial firms, partly because his fellows will so unmercifully denounce him for using a spark, partly because he can afford to change equipment better than can a commercial station that must generate dividends.

Amateur interference is decreasing in the country at large, partly because the amateur station is improving, partly because the radiophone listener's receiving set is improving. Interference elimination does not depend on the number of tubes in the set, and it doesn't depend on the fancy cabinet. It does depend on the goodness of the coils and condensers, provided only that one will avoid the use of a single-circuit tuner which is peculiarly vulnerable to some classes of interference—especially nearby stations and sparks. It is quite possible to build high-priced and simple sets that are very selective at little expenditure and then again it is quite possible to build high-priced sets that are simply unmentionable.

Speaking of the law—no one can be less pleased with the ancient radio law (it was born in 1912) than the amateur. The Radio Corporation isn't pleased with the law, the broadcast interests are not pleased, the Government isn't, and the amateur is least pleased of all. Amateurs sat on Secretary Hoover's conference board and determined the present regulations of the Department, and they rooted for the passage of the White Bill—but Congress never got to that. The amateur will be the listener's ally in bringing the law up to date and he will do it through the American Radio League as far as possible.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TIMMINS GOLF CLUB

The annual meeting of the Timmins Golf Club will be held in the Council Chamber, Timmins, on Friday evening, March 14th, at 8:30 p.m. Election of officers for the year, receiving of reports, etc., will be among the items of business before the meeting.

FOURTEEN ARRESTS AT ONE HOUSE IN MONETA SUNDAY

Mah Jong is no more popular game with the world at large today than the gentle game of "cleaning up Moneta" is with the Timmins police at present. The townsite of Moneta, recently annexed to the Town of Timmins has had conditions that will not be tolerated by the local police and the work of cleaning out the improper places in Moneta goes merrily on. Sunday evening Chief Greer and his men raided one house in Moneta near the old school, and as a result of the raid eleven men and three women were placed under arrest. Three of the men arrested will face charges of illegally having liquor, bottles being found on their person or in their care. Grace Donota and Mrs. E. Bouchard, who are on remand from last week's court on charges of immoral living, were found in the house on Sunday, as was also Agnes Pagan. Grace Donato is charged now with being the keeper of a disorderly house while the other two women and the eleven men are charged with frequenting a disorderly house. Most objectionable conditions were found in the house at the time of the raid. There seemed to be a steady stream of men visiting the place, some twenty or so being around during the short stay of the police at the house. Several of the men arrested as frequenters were allowed out later on bail, as were the three women, while others were held further on the liquor charges.

On and after March 20th, the local banks will not remain open after supper on Hollinger Pay Days, the banks being open, however, on the Pay Days until 6 p.m.

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