

YLRL Scrapbook 1-5

Chicago Sunday Tribune
May 2, 1954
Part 1—Page 16 FM

FEMININE HAMS DEDICATE OWN RADIO STATION

First Unit of League in
Middle West

There is going to be considerable amateur radio activity in the Gompers Park fieldhouse, 4222 Foster av., from now on. It's all because a recently licensed station, W9DEQ, has its transmitting station there. And a group of Chicago

area women, mostly housewives, will be the operators. The station has been set up

by the Chicago chapter of the Young Ladies Radio League, a national organization. It was

Women Open Ham Radio Station



(TRIBUNE Photo)
Mrs. Eleanor Engebretsen (left), Mrs. Grace Ryden (center), and Mrs. Shirlene Nolde at dedication of station W9DEQ.

described as the first station of a unit of the league to be established in the midwest.

On Air Since January
The station, which took to the air last January, was formally dedicated at a meeting of the league's Chicago chapter yesterday. Sixteen women, all of whom operate "ham" stations in their homes, were there for the festivities. One, Mrs. Shirlene Nolde, 10130 Armitage av., Melrose Park, brought her three month old "junior operator," Richard.

Albert Marchese, superintendent of Gompers Park, has set aside a room for the virtually exclusive use by the woman operators of the station. He said the station can play an important part in communications in event of a disaster.

Equipment Is Donated
The women will be able to operate the station at all hours

the fieldhouse is open. Mrs. Grace Ryden, 2054 Lincoln av., president and founder of the league's Chicago chapter, said the station can transmit to points 100 miles from Chicago. Equipment was donated by a Chicago radio manufacturer. Mrs. Ryden said the Chicago chapter will have a second unit capable of transmitting coast to coast in several months.

The Chicago chapter includes 15 licensed operators and five others seeking licenses. Mrs. Ryden said the club soon will conduct code and theory classes for women who wish to become operators.

Some of the women have long experience in amateur radio, such as Mrs. Ethel Sando 5038 Superior st., who has been licensed 28 years. When Mrs. Marguerite Brenigan, Homewood, got her "ham" license two years ago it meant

that a fourth station was added to her home. Both her husband and two sons have stations.

Husbands of most of the women are operators of "ham" stations. But it's not true with Mrs. Ryden's husband, James.

"She's the radio operator," he said. "I do the dishwashing."

Lady Radio Hams Anticipate May Convention In Chicago

Crocheting is some women's forte, others indulge in hours of knitting but for six women in this area, amateur radio is the love of their lives, hobby-wise. Members of a sisterhood of nearly 700 women throughout the world indulging in that most unusual hobby which at times becomes a public service, they are eagerly looking forward to attending the YL ("young lady" which is radio hams' slang for any licensed female) Midwest Convention in May at the Allerton Hotel.

All members of the Ladies Amateur Radio Klub-LARK, a local group of licensed women "hams," they include: Mrs. Gladys Jones, 4232 Hampton, and Mrs. Evelyn Tibbits 1329 Walnut, both of Western Springs; Mrs. Mardene Magnus, 4048 Fern, Lyons; Mrs. Rosemary Tregay, 2817 13th, Broadview; Mrs. Gloria Matuska, 2322 So. 2nd, North Riverside; and Mrs. Virginia Marshe, 1347 So. 57th Cicero. Their call letters respectively are W9MYC, W9YWH, W9N1WP, W9T MZ, W9YEC and W9KQC, issued to them by the Federal Communications Commission. Mrs. Matuska is LARK president.

Usually a YL is introduced to ham radio by her husband but this was not the case with Evelyn Tibbits or Gladys Jones. Their husbands are not licensed operators. Mr. Jones does not as yet show an interest in the hobby but Mr. Tibbits has decided to join the many thousands of male operators. He is studying for his general class license.

Besides being amateur radio operators they are busy housewives and mothers but ham radio is always included in their daily schedule. Mrs. Marshe finds time to hold down a position. Mrs. Marshe's husband is also a ham and is quite well known in the amateur circles. They also operate mobile from their car.

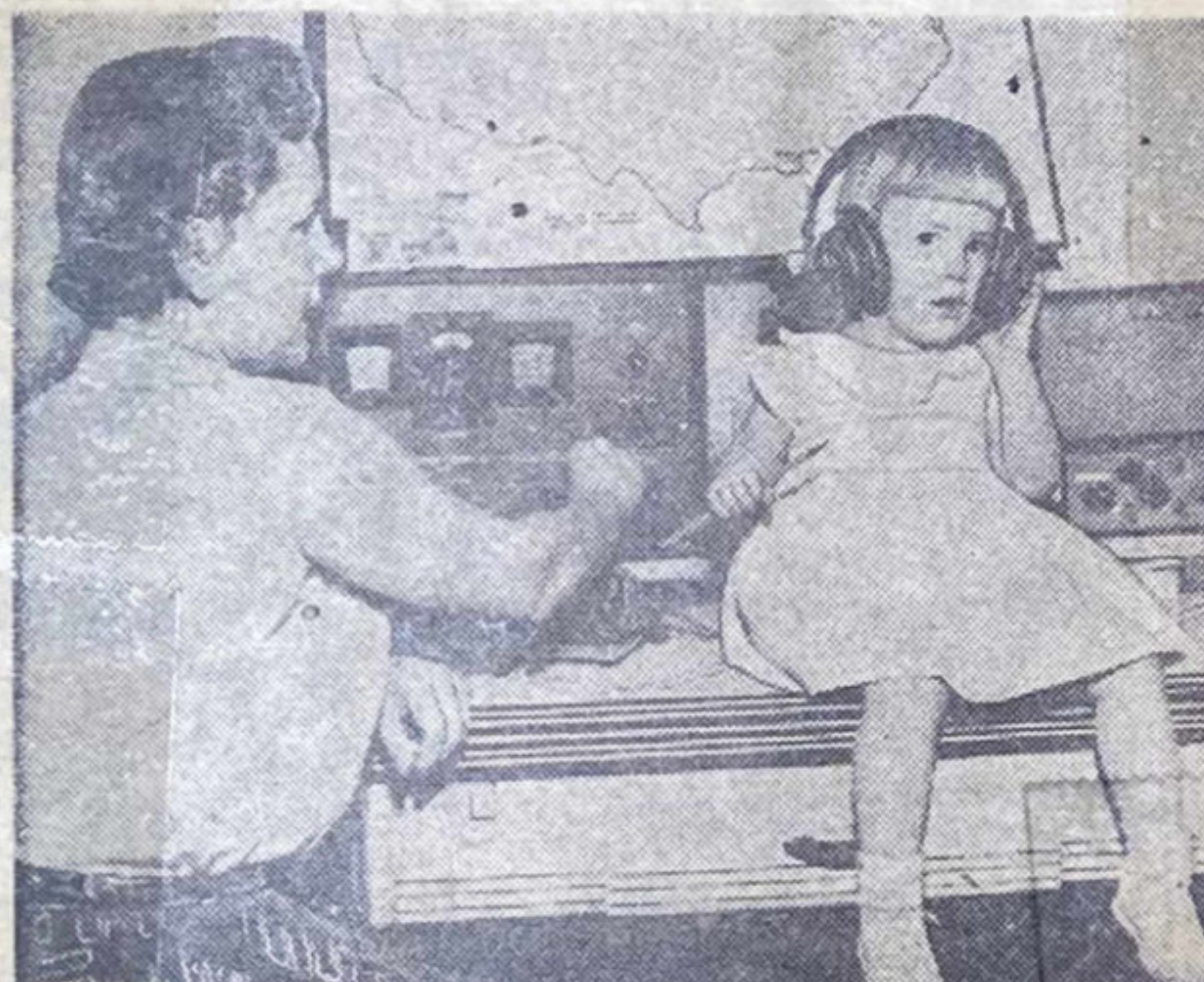
They agree that the most personal satisfaction from their hobby is the ability to talk to each other and keep in contact with the activities of other YLs. Through the medium of ham radio they are able to talk to YLs in all of the United States. Mrs. Matuska has talked to nearly 100 YLs in about 33 states, while Mrs. Jones has worked a ham in each of the United States. The YLs handle messages promptly for anyone without a fee of any kind. These messages may be relayed across the country from one amateur to another until it finally reaches its destination. There is no reward, just a personal satisfaction one feels from helping his fellow ham, says Mrs. Matuska.

As a novice class operator, Mrs. Mardene Magnus is limited to certain bands and must operate mostly in code, microphone being permitted only on very high frequencies and to general class as well as Class A operators. A novice license will expire within one year, so Mrs. Magnus must bring her code speed up to 13 words and pass a very rigorous test given by the Federal Communications Commission to become a general class operator.

Mrs. Tregay, and her husband, Jack, have very recently given a demonstration of how amateur radio works to the Boy Scouts of the A. W. Komarek School in North Riverside. While Mrs. Tregay twirled the knobs of the receiver placed in the school auditorium, Mr. Tregay invited several of the scouts to ride with him while he tried to contact another station from his mobile transmitter in his car. The result was a very pleasant chat with another YL, Mrs. Matuska, whose daughter, a member of the Girl Scouts, said "hello" to the many scouts with whom she goes to school.

Mrs. Tibbits has joined the Civilian Defense net program and is quite active as an amateur radio operator. She has just returned from an extensive trip to California and Mexico where she visited many of the hams she has talked to on the air. She was able to keep in touch with home via ham radio.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, FRIDAY, APRIL



Mrs. William Wiegert and Peggy Joyce at ham radio.

CHICAGO BRIEFS

Wife A Radio Ham— Purely Self-Defense

Mrs. William Wiegert, 4217 N. Oketo, Norridge, will never forget the night her husband sat at his ham radio set for eight hours straight.

He was playing chess with another ham in New York. "That's when I decided to take up the hobby, in self-defense," said pretty Mrs. Wiegert.

Now she's licensed as W9SYX, and every night she sits back and enjoys long conversations with operators as far away as Canada.

Her OM (radio slang for "old man," or husband) is licensed as W9MND, and while Mrs. Wiegert is rattling out the messages on her automatic sending key, the OM continues his chess games via the same medium. Their daughter, 19-month-old Peggy Joyce, also shows signs of becoming a ham, often insisting upon putting earphones on and listening in.

BY RITA FITZPATRICK

There is a group of women in the Chicago area who believe back fence gossip is as old-fashioned as high button shoes. They converse with the world.

They are the "Larks." Now a lark is said to be a bird, a songbird, who announces to the world that all is well. The Oxford dictionary also claims that a lark, among other things, is a "colic, a merry adventure."

The women who have adopted the term have created a new definition of the word combining both meanings. They say "Lark" is the nickname of the Ladies' Amateur Radio Klub, made up of 14 licensed women radio "ham" operators.

One of Largest Groups

The Larks are housewives and business women who are not encumbered by the kitchen or a career. They are incorporated in Illinois and are one of the largest clubs of women "ham" operators in the country. They are women who know the value of their hobby in times of disaster and national emergency, and many of them have been given official recognition for cooperation in civil defense.

That isn't to say they don't have fun in a feminine way on the airways. One "hamstress" will trade recipes over the "net" with a gal in Keokuk, Ia., or verbal dress patterns with another in Los Angeles. But they are concerned chiefly with widening the horizon for women.

In the words of their president, Mrs. Cris [Frank] Bowlin, 1049 W. Columbia av., better known in radio circles as W9LOY:

"Many might consider amateur radio an unusual hobby for women. But actually it is a hobby that allows a woman, often tied to the home by children, a chance to visit, either by code or microphone, innumerable people in all parts of the United States and other countries without leaving her home.

Helpful in Emergencies

"It can be social, which it frequently is, or it can be a great help in times of emergency and disaster, which it has been. A woman is home most of the day, and a woman 'ham' can be a valuable asset to men afield."

There are many stories to prove this point.

Mrs. Helen [Ralph] McKeral, 3029 N. Lotus st., registered as W9FZO, who keeps a monitor, which is the watch dog of radio, on her "rig," heard one day [while baking a cake] that a power line was down. She quickly called the Public Service company. Within an hour, the line was repaired.

Then there was the night that Mrs. Jackie [George] Toppe, of Sutton rd., Barrington, W9AYX, was instrumental in helping a missionary in the Virgin Islands talk to his mother whose voice he hadn't heard in six years. The missionary was going into the African bush and wouldn't be able to contact his mother for another 10 years.

The Larks each handle as many as 800 traffic messages from all over the world in a month, and relay messages from service men to their folk. They talk to ships at sea, and were even in contact with Capt. Kurt Carlsen when his gallant ship, the Flying Enterprise, was sinking.



(TRIBUNE Photo)

Licensed amateur radio operators meeting in home of Mrs. Ralph McKeral, 3029 N. Lotus av. Seated (from left): Mrs. Peggy Wilgert, Mrs. Shirley Nolde, Mrs. Helene Green, Mrs. Marge Bremigan, Mrs. Gladys Jones, Mrs. Bernice Schmidt. Standing (from left): Mrs. Chris Bowlin, Mrs. Edna Neumann, Mrs. Virginia Marsh, Mrs. McKeral.

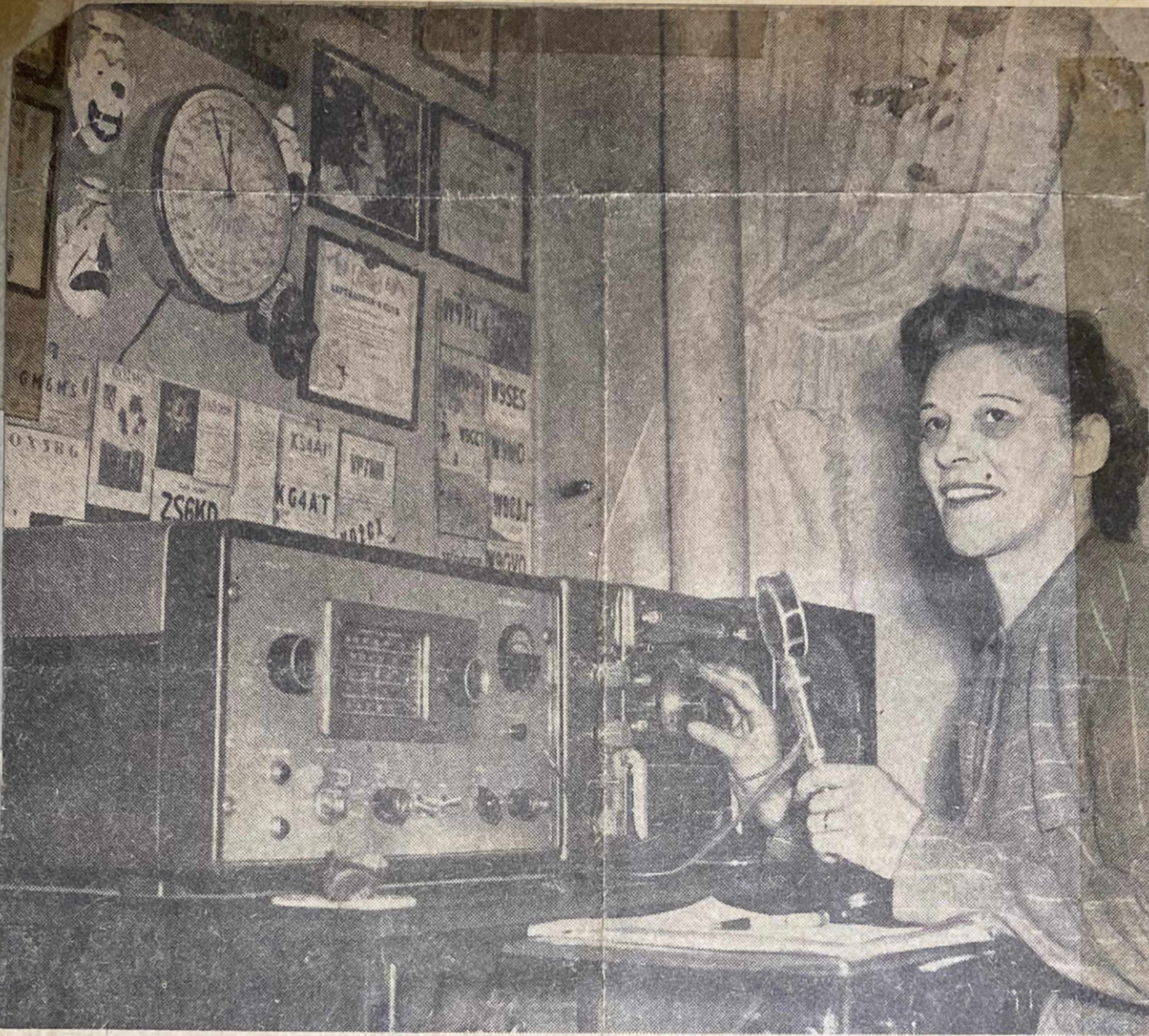
LARKS FILL AIR WITH GOSSIPY 'HAM' CHATTER



"It keeps you out of the rut of housework . . ."

Lady ham radio operators gather around Mrs. Orville Boddy (seated). Standing (left to right) are Mrs. Jack Weiland, Mrs. Jack Tregay, Mrs. Laurence Tibbits, Mrs. Roy Drye and Mrs. William Vonderhaar.

ARTICLE ON NEXT PAGE



(Herald-American photo.)

WONDERFUL "MIKE VOICE," is the way Mrs. Grace V. Ryden of 2054 N. Lincoln av. describes Capt. Kurt Carlsen, skipper of the S. S. Flying Enterprise. Mrs. Ryden, a ham radio operator, has established contact twice with the heroic captain, now clinging perilously to his listing vessel off the storm-racked coast of England. She contacted Capt. Carlsen last April, again in November, and recalls that he extended her an invitation to "come aboard."

YL Hams to Meet Here; OM Barred

When you're a ham radio operator, and a woman, you're a young lady, though you may be 90 years old.

Your husband may not have reached voting age, but he's the old man, just the same.

"YL" and "OM" are standard slang in the ham operator fraternity, feminine members of which will hold a Midwest convention here May 20 to 22.

Women who ordinarily are pinned down at home by offspring and housework will find sitters for their "Jr. Ops"—junior operators—and gather at the Allerton hotel.

IT'S WONDERFUL to have your first face-to-face meeting with a friend you have known only by voice and call number, local "YLs" said as they met at the home of the convention chairman to complete plans.

Mrs. Orville Boddy, 1057 Dakin, has arranged for most of the convention tours and discussions to take place in conjunction with a breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Any interested woman, whether or not she holds an operator's license from the Federal Communications Commission, may register for the convention May 20 at 10 a.m. at the Allerton.

2. Ham radio is almost always a hobby shared jointly by husband and wife, says Mrs. Roy Drye, 3325 N. Kenmore.

"In nine years of marriage, this is the first thing we have gone into together," she says. "We only started in February, and now we find we can spend our free time together on something we both enjoy."

3. Radio operating does something for a woman in the eyes of her children, says Mrs. Jack Tregay, 2817 S. 13th av., Broadview.

"They decide you aren't just an ordinary mother," she smiled. "In fact, they think maybe you're a genius."

A COUPLE could get started in amateur radio operation with \$200 worth of equipment, these women estimate.

From then on, says Helen Boddy, despite age or physical infirmity, they'll have a rich recreational interest.

She knows from personal experience that ham operating is adaptable to the ham's own needs—for she is blind.

THERE ARE three great things about their hobby, say Mrs. Boddy and her fellow-members of the Larks, or Ladies' Amateur Radio Klub.

1. "It keeps you out of the rut of housework and lets you take part in woman talk even though you can't leave your own home," says Mrs. William Vonderhaar, 4408 Grace, Schiller Park, who's the mother of four children.

You can turn on your rig and listen to a "net" or round-table discussion while you're working—or you can put out a "CQ"—a query for someone to talk to—any time you're idle.

See Picture-Preceding Page

WOMEN RADIO OPERATORS TO CONVENE HERE

Prove Their Ability at Difficult Hobby

A group of young women who are united in a hobby which once was thought to be the exclusive property of men—wireless telegraphy and telephony—will meet in convention at the Allerton hotel May 20 to 22. They are the Young Ladies' Radio League, 100 of the 700 women throughout the world who are licensed amateur radio operators.

The "Y.L.s," as they are known, have proved their competence at copying and sending international Morse code and have passed federal examinations in radio and electronic theory so stiff many men have to take them three or four times to obtain a license.

Husbands Spur Interest

Many of the women, such as Mrs. Robert Matuska (W9YBC), 2322 S. 2d av., North Riverside, who is publicity chairman, became interested in amateur radio thru their OM ["old man," or husband]. Mrs. Matuska's "handle" [first name] on the airwaves is Gloria. Her OM is licensed as W9ATW. Mrs. Matuska has become an XYL [ex-young lady] since she married a "ham" [amateur operator].

"Bob's enthusiasm for 'hamming' didn't seem to rub off on the XYL until she had listened to it without too much interest for nearly seven years," said Gloria. "I only crammed for the test to please him, but now I do more operating than he does. He doesn't mind, tho, since he now enjoys building the gear that I use."

Child Studio Code

Gloria is president of LARKS [Ladies Amateur Radio Klub], which is affiliated with the Young Ladies Radio League. She has two children, Bunny, 8, and Skipper, 4. Bunny is studying Morse code under his mother's tutelage, and Skipper calls "CQ" [the general call inviting anyone to reply], for his mother on the radio telephone.

Another XYL who will have a prominent part in the convention is Mrs. Frank Bowlin, 6563 Tahoma av., better known on the air as "Cris" [her given name is Alice] and the call letters W9LOY. Her OM [husband] was interested in amateur radio, and kept talking about it, but never got so far as to pass the examinations for a license.

"I got tired of hearing him say he wished he had a license to operate a short wave transmitter from his home," said Cris. "I know it couldn't be that hard, so I started studying the code and theory. It isn't easy for a housewife who has to mind the baby while pounding out code and studying schematics and formulas."

Gets License First

But Cris made it ahead of her husband, and got her federal communications commission license before he did. She has "worked" almost every state in the union by amateur radio and has won permanent possession of the LARKS' gold cup. Her husband was licensed as W9RQF and is vice president of the North Suburban Radio club. He specializes in handling radio telegrams in regular traffic networks. They have sending and receiving equipment in their automobile.

Another well known YL is Grace Ryden, 2054 Lincoln av., who received her license and the call letters W9GME in 1948. Her husband, James, is an advertising salesman and spends many hours listening and talking to amateurs on his wife's equipment. But Jim isn't a "ham"—he's a SWL [short wave listener]. He never got a license.

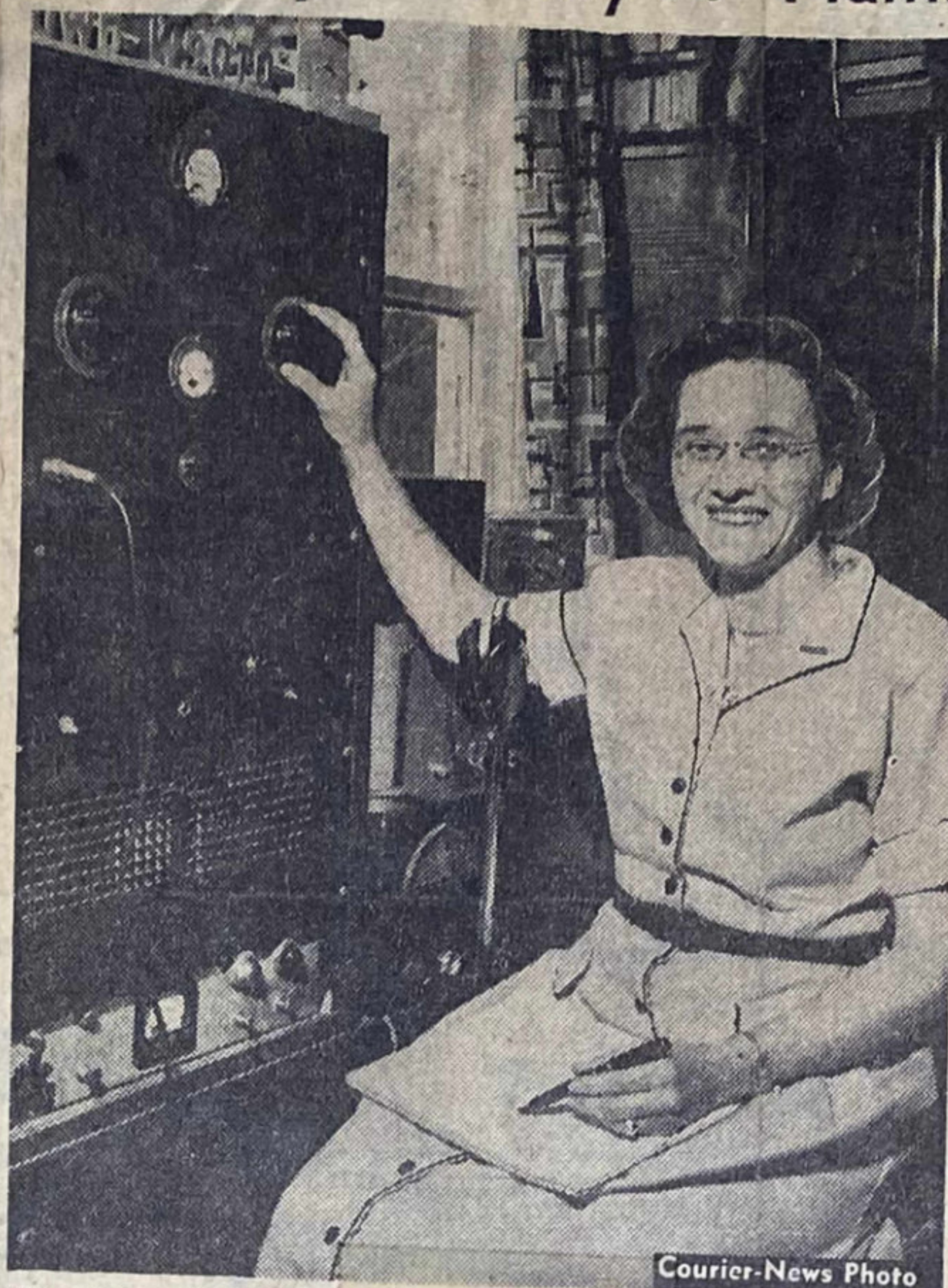
Among features of the convention will be a tour of the Hallicrafter company plant at 4401 5th av., makers of electronic and amateur equipment, and a demonstration of microwave transmission by the Illinois Bell Telephone company. The convention chairman is Helen Boddy (W9BCA). Mrs. Boddy is one of the most active amateur operators, and lives with her husband, Orville (W9SHE) at 1057 Dakin st. She is blind.

ELGIN DAILY COURIER-NEWS

This Lady Is Really A "Ham!"

Tuesday, May 3, 1955

Each day a staff member of your Elgin Daily Courier-News prepares an article of general or opinionated interest.



Mrs. Everett Battin, 616 Glenwood Ave., is shown here at the controls of her radio transmitter licensed as W9OTO.

One Elgin matron who doesn't mind being called a "ham" is Mrs. Everett Battin, 616 Glenwood Ave. Mrs. Battin is a radio fan, operating her own short wave station with the call letters W9OTO. She was licensed by the Federal Communications Commission in September 1951.

A member of the Young Ladies Radio League, Mrs. Battin is known to her airwaves chums as

No other people—in any other country—under any other system—enjoy as widely the wonders that only we Americans enjoy!

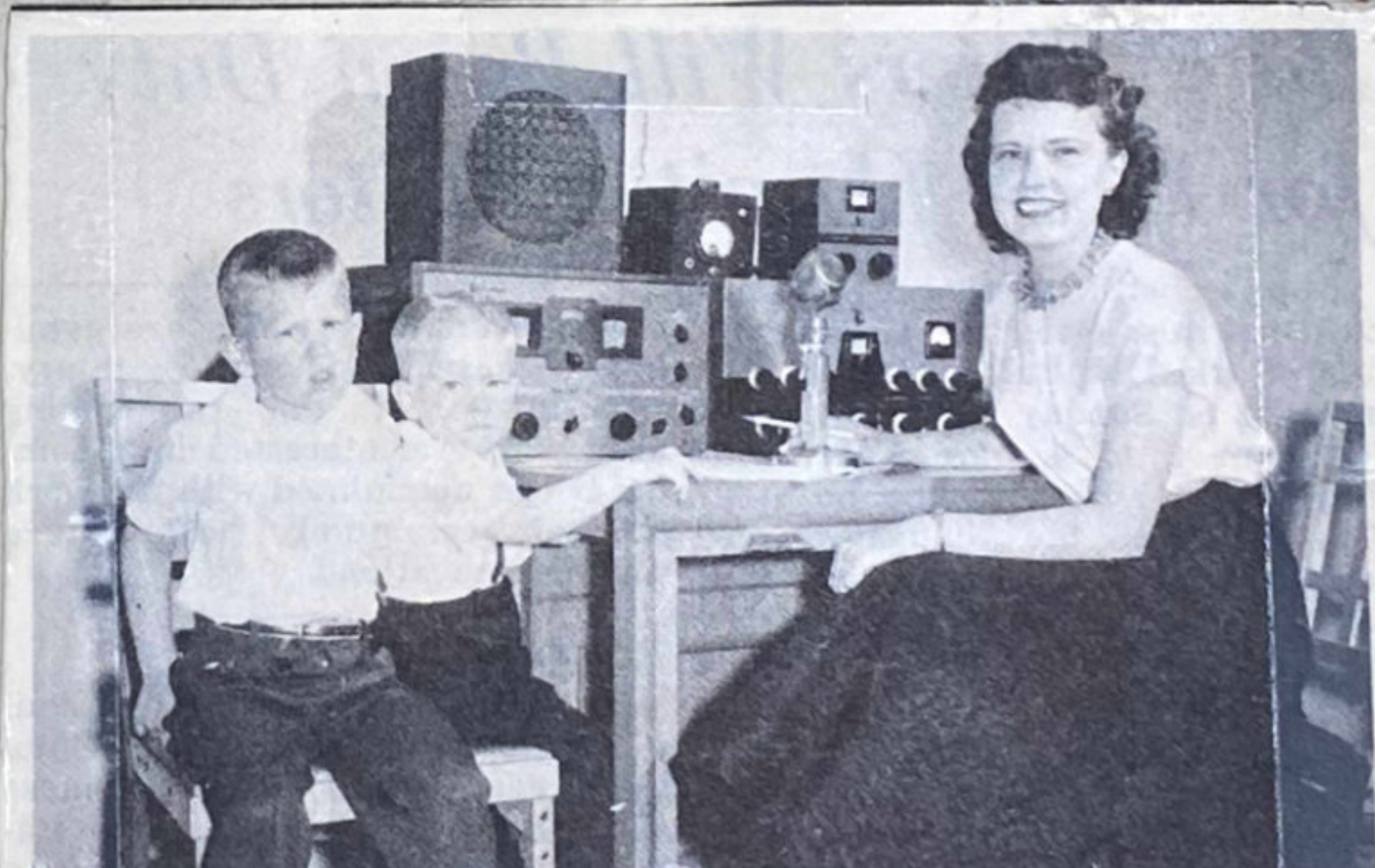
"Edith" and she has a great time chatting with pals such as "Marge" at W9RXY in Oregon, Ill.; "Norma" at W9AQE, Mishawaka, Ind. and with her daughter and son-in-law in Milwaukee, Wis. Her daughter, Mrs. Denny Guilbert is married to another "ham" who operates W90DS.

Mrs. Battin is the wife of the Rev. Everett Battin who is also licensed as W90WD. Rev. Battin recently conducted an eight day evangelistic meet in New Castle, Ind. and all arrangements for the meeting were made via short wave talks with another "ham," Salvation Army Captain William Larned.

John Battin, son of Rev. and Mrs. Battin was the first member of the family to be licensed. He was an operator at the age of 13. His mother, father and sister all took their exams on the same day.

Not all members of the Young Ladies Radio League are really young in years, but YL or young lady, is the term used by radio operators for all licensed women operators just as OM—old man—is the term used for male operators.

With all those operators in one family, it would seem that life in the Battin home is just a matter of switching and dialing!



Northfield Woman Is Radio Operator

Mrs. Loren Green of Northfield became a licensed amateur radio operator "in self defense," she states. Wife of an avid "ham", Mrs. Green put in many hours of work on the theory of radio operation and on radio code in order to win her call letters W9BCB, issued in 1947 by the Federal Communications Commission.

With Keith (left) and Jerry (center) already enthusiastic about their parents' hobby, Mr. and Mrs. Green feel sure they will have two more operators in the family within a few years.

As a "YL"—code slang for any woman holding an amateur radio license—Mrs. Green is outnumbered more than 500 to 1 among the fraternity of amateur radio operators.

The hobby is growing in popularity, however. More than 100 women are expected to attend the YL Mid-West Convention in Chicago, to be held May 21 to 23 at the Allerton Hotel. Mrs. Green is a member of the sponsoring club, "Lark", code slang for the Ladies Amateur Radio Club.

'88' FOR THE OLD MAN

Female Hams Cut Up CQ Here

When young lady amateur radio operators get together, they talk about the same thing their old men do. Radio.

They're together now, at the Allerton Hotel, for the fifth annual convention of the Midwest Young Ladies Amateur Radio Operators.

Female hams are always young ladies on the air. Their men are always old men. The terms are abbreviated YL and OM. Hams' children are Jr. Ops.

First, one of the young ladies straightened out a male visitor on the origin of the word "ham."

Where Ham Comes From
Mrs. Cris Bowlin (W9LOY) of 6536 N. Tahoma, one of the 25 members in Chicago, explained, "it comes from the British, the British cockney. They called it 'hamateur', and it got shortened to 'ham'."

With that out of the way, they settled into a loving and

detailed explanation of their hobby.

Mrs. Gladys Jones (W9MYC), 4232 Hampton, Western Springs, said, "I'd rather build 'em than operate 'em. I majored in mathematics in college and have always been interested in radio."

"You can build a set, you know, for thousands of dollars, or for \$25 or almost nothing. And you can put it almost anywhere. Some hams use walkie-talkies, and they've got sets in cars, boats and planes."

Some Terms Explained

Mrs. Peggy Wiegert (W9SYX) of Norridge explained some of the terms: Handle for name, QRM for man-made interference, QRN for static, QHT for home address, CQ for a general call. The hams use "30" for end of message, and "73" for best regards—both old telegraphers' terms.

And "33" means love, and "88" love and kisses—"That's

what we give the old men," explained Mrs. Lydia Johnson (WOKJZ) of St. Paul.

Hear Red Propaganda

Some of the young ladies have heard Russian propaganda on their shortwave sets. "They're always saying how well off they are," Mrs. Jones said.

"We ourselves talk about anything," she went on. "We can't play music, and we can't use obscene language, but almost nothing else is barred. The old men talk mostly about equipment, but the women talk about other things, too. Children, cooking, weather, hobbies."

Why had these young ladies taken up radio? It seemed an odd hobby for a woman.

Mrs. Wiegert got a far-away look in her eyes. "You get on and forget yourself," she said. "It's a different world."

"And it's your world," Mrs. Bowlin said.

May 21, 1955



CALL LETTER INTRODUCTIONS

Radio operators W1YLP, W9AYX, W9MLE and W9LRT exchange greetings at the annual convention in the Allerton Hotel of the Midwest Young Ladies Amateur Radio Operators. The female hams pictured here are otherwise known as (l. to r.), Ardelle Johnson, Lisbon Falls, Me.; Jackie Toppe, Barrington; Peggy Putnam, Elkhart, Ind.; and Julia Morgan, Mishawaka, Ind. (Sun-Times Photo)

Y. L.s CONVENE FOR RAG CHEW; O. M.s BARRED

Some Y.L.s got together for a rag chew yesterday in the Allerton hotel with no O.M.s or Jr. Ops. allowed.

Y.L. is radio ham talk for young lady operators—whether they're 16 or 60. O.M. is the old man or husband, regardless of age, and Jr. Ops. are the children—left home with baby sitters for the three day midwest convention. Rag chew is talk. What else?

The feminine hams streamline their conversation with code but they don't limit its quantity or quality. The world is their back fence, and anything under the sun their interest.

Meet Face to Face

Purpose of the convention, arranged by the Chicago Larks [Ladies Amateur Radio Klub], is to permit hams to meet after getting to know one another by voice and call number.

By throwing the meeting open to any woman, they hope to interest newcomers in a hobby important to civilian defense. Women hams, of which there are 1,500 in the country and 75 registered at the convention, are involved in all sorts of worthwhile activities.

Some are with M. A. R. S. [Military Amateur Radio System], others in traffic handling, relaying messages from service men in Korea or Germany to families in their own home towns, and all engage in round table discussions with women hams all over the world.

Must Pass Tests

"If we can't speak their language, we use Morse code," said Mrs. Gloria Matuska, 2322 2d av., North Riverside, Lark president. She said to qualify for an operator's license hams must pass a Morse code test at 13 words a minute and a theory exam on basic radio engineering. Equipment can cost anywhere from \$25 to \$2,000.

The program, which closes tomorrow, includes tours of Hallicrafter's company, and work with their latest equipment, installed by the radio firm at the hotel; business sessions; a banquet, and a party with games of unscrambling radio and electronic terms.

They're Never Bored

Mrs. Helen Boddy, 1507 Dakin st., chairman, listed reasons for the Y. L.'s enthusiasm: Restricted to four walls by housework and babies, they never know boredom. It's a hobby they can share with their husbands. Their children, and the neighbors, regard them as near-geniuses. Some have been romanced over the air waves and married by male hams.

The number 88 means love and kisses. And it's a perfect hobby for shut-ins.

Mrs. Boddy, who knows that from personal experience because she is blind, then closed the interview with QRU, which means "I'm running out of words."

May 21, 1955

Parley of Women 'Hams' in Radio to Open Here Today

The Young Ladies Radio League, composed of women who have invaded a field once exclusively male—a amateur radio and electronics—will open its convention today in the Allerton hotel. About 100 licensed operators, nearly a seventh of the licensed female "brass pounders" in the world, will attend. Mrs. Helen Boddy (W9BCA) of 1507 Dakin st., is convention chairman. Mrs. Robert Matuska (W9YBC) of 2322 S. 2d av., North Riverside, is publicity chairman. Both are married to "hams."

League Elects 2 Lady 'Hams' To Top Posts

Two Chicago area women have been elected to top posts in the Young Ladies Radio League, an international organization of women radio "hams."



They are Mrs. Frank Bowlin, of 6563 N. Tahoma, and Mrs. Robert Matuska, of 2322 S. 2d av., North Riverdale. Ballots were cast by mail. The two will take office July 1.

MRS. BOWLIN operates her own "ham" station with the call letter W9LOY.

She's had a Federal Communications Commission license to operate since 1952 and regularly reaches more than 100 woman "ham" friends on her set.

Mrs. Matuska operates station W9YBC.

June 3, 1955

TWO WOMEN 'HAMS' HERE WIN OFFICE IN RADIO LEAGUE

Two young women whose ham operator husbands interested them in the hobby were elected president and vice president of the Young Ladies Radio League yesterday. Votes were cast by mail by 600 members all over the world.

They are Mrs. Alice [Cris] Bowlin, 6563 Tahoma av., call numbers W9LOY, president, and Mrs. Gloria Matuska, 2322 S. 2d av., North Riverside, W9YBC, vice president. They will hold the offices 18 months. Because they are mothers of small children, they will be unable to attend the organization's national convention in Los Angeles June 25-26.

Through their home radios, the two talk to members all over the world, either by voice or in Morse code.



HAM OPERATORS ARE FAMILY GROUP—Two-thirds of the Albert Courtney amateur radio broadcasters are shown at the set in the Courtney home on Elmwood Avenue, Rt. 2, Mishawaka. Mrs. Norma Courtney is at the controls and 9-year-old daughter, Jeanne, a third grade pupil at Fulmer School, brushes up on code sending with a telegraphic key. Mr. and Mrs. Courtney, "hams" for about two years, hold FCC licenses W9AQA and W9AQB respectively. Besides the acquaintances they have made through radio in the U. S. and South America, the Courtneys joined in a civil defense radio network during the flood emergency last fall.

she confided, "but decided that the CW (code) noise in the house might affect my mind. The only way I could stand to listen to it every night was to copy it, too."

Studying Code, Too.

Jeanne has been studying code, too and says she is going to get a license this summer. She has been promised QSL cards (cards confirming radio contact) for contacts made from her broadcasting position on her OM, er, daddy's lap. Jeanne sends out CQ's (a call for any amateur to respond) regularly.

She doesn't need any parental prompting, either, and carries on her own conversations.

Mrs. Courtney is hoping to attend the first international convention of the YLRL in California this June.

Aside from her broadcasting activities and duties of a housewife, this Mishawaka YL is a substitute school teacher and has worked at summer youth camps.

And since meeting people is one of her hobbies, her CQ is heard frequently by North and South American hams.

Local Housewife's Voice Heard All Over Air Waves

By BIRCH STORM.

Tribune Staff Writer.

"W9AQB calling CQ. This is W9AQB, Norma in Mishawaka, Indiana, calling CQ."

This cryptic message has at one time or another brought response from Cuba, Scotland and Paraguay, besides many towns and cities in the United States.

It has been sent by a YL who lives on Elmwood Ave., Rt. 2, Mishawaka.

And in case you don't understand the abbreviations, W9AQB is the number on the license issued by the Federal Communications Commission to the YL or "young lady" whose name is Mrs. Albert (Norma) Courtney, designating her as a licensed radio amateur.

A Bona Fide Ham.

This Mishawaka housewife is a bona fide ham, or amateur radio operator, and a stellar member of the Young Ladies Radio League, a world-wide group of licensed women hams.

Not all of the 700 YLRL members are young ladies but YL is standard radio slang for female operators just as OM or "old man" is standard for male operators.

Mrs. Courtney's OM, er, husband, Albert, holds FCC license W9AQA and is a research and development engineer in wheel and brake production at the Products Division, Bendix Aviation Corp., South Bend.

Both Courtneys, the YL and the OM, are Purdue graduates and both are on call to local civil defense groups to take to the airwaves whenever emergencies arise.

Relay Messages During Flood.

They both stood by at the radio set in their home and relayed messages during the floods last fall.

ELECTED PRESIDENT

Mrs. Frank J. Bowlin, 6563 N. Tahoma Ave. was elected President of the International Young Ladies Radio League, a world wide organization of women amateur radio operators.

The term of office is 18 months, starting July 1st. The YLRL is 17 years old, has approximately 600 members all over the world. All business is carried on by amateur radio or correspondence. The first International Convention for Women Amateur Radio operators is being held on June 25th in Los Angeles, Cal. at which time the newly elected officers will be installed. The convention will be attended by women from all of the United States, Alaska, Canada, Mexico, Hawaii and possibly South Africa, South America and parts of Europe.

Mrs. Bowlin, whose amateur call issued by the FCC is W9LOY, is one of the founders and past president of the Ladies Amateur Radio Klub, a local affiliated club of YLRL. She has talked, through Amateur Radio, to over 150 women operators throughout the world. Mr. Bowlin is also an amateur radio operator and they have a complete amateur radio station set-up in their home.



After 10 years of trying, Mrs. Henry G. Meyer, Patricia Lane, town of Brookfield, has succeeded in winning her amateur radio operator's license. She took the tests many times before she passed. Her good friend, Mrs.

George Toppe, a former Milwaukeean, now of Barrington, Ill., encouraged her to keep at it. Mary Meyer is chairman of the women radio amateur's convention in Milwaukee this week end. Friday, May 21, 1954

W9RUJ-MARY



Be Sure to VOTE

NOVEMBER 16

FOR

H. G. Meyer

FOR

4th WARD ALDERMAN
CITY OF BROOKFIELD

Authorized and paid for by H. G. Meyer, R. 4, Box 568, Waukesha, Wisconsin

USE THIS HANDY BLOTTER
W9RUJ's OM

Homemaker Wins Ticket After Ten Years of Effort

By DOROTHY WITTE

Of The Journal Staff

WHEN Mary Meyer calls CQ these days there is more than a faint note of triumph in her voice, a triumph that is shared by dozens of her radio friends in many states. She got her ham radio license three weeks ago, you see, after 10 years of effort. That is her "ticket" to the airwaves. Now she is W9RUJ. And she can sit at her microphone in the basement, or clutch her hand mike as she drives about in her car, and talk endlessly to radio hams in many states. A comradely bunch, they rejoice with her.

This week end when she is chairman of the women radio amateurs convention, she will entertain 55 of her friends. All of them long since know the good news, which travels fast by air. And many of them who are still unlicensed, will, she hopes, be encouraged by her example.

Gray haired and grandmotherly, Mrs. Henry G. Meyer, Patricia Lane, town of Brookfield, is one of few women radio hams whose interest is independent of her husband's. He is not a ham operator, and quite frankly views the goings on in the basement with indifference.

"He thinks we're crazy," says Mary confidentially, "but he doesn't really mind."

Enjoys Pole Cat Club

Henry was away on a business trip and was unavailable for comment, but there in the basement is proof that he did not really object to his wife's hobby. It was a brand new transmitter, Mother's day gift.

Here Mary Meyer sits at the microphone early in the morning or late at night, and never keeps track of the time. One definite appointment is with the Pole Cat club, which meets via the airwaves at 11 a.m. every day. The chairman calls the roll from Green Lake, Wis., and 29 radio hams report their presence. Edward Giese, Palmyra, Wis., is the originator of the Pole Cat club

and "chief contaminator of the airwaves every noon hour."

And here is a kind of comradeship, evidently, which women rarely find time for in lives which are busy with their own families. Mary's good friend, Mrs. George Toppe, a former Milwaukeean who lives with her husband, another ham, at Barrington, Ill., is a week end guest. It was she who encouraged Mary to keep trying during the long years when she thought she never would be able to pass the license test.

"I told her never to give it up," Jackie Toppe says proudly, "and she never did."

She Serves as Example

There is a teacher at Rufus King high school who uses me for an example when he teaches his radio group," Mary Meyer says cheerfully. "I'd hate to say how many times I took that test and failed."

Long before she began taking the test, however, Mary Meyer was an ardent short wave listener. It all began when the Meyers acquired a radio with a short wave band and she began to listen to the hams. That was 18 years ago.

One of the first, and friendliest, voices she heard was that of Jackie Toppe, the first licensed woman radio ham in Milwaukee. Mary called her up one day and said she would like to stop in for a visit. Jackie was delighted to find another convert to her radio hobby.

"So I went one day at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and stayed that night until midnight."

Eight years later she began to try for a license. But it had been a long time since she had set herself the task of learning anything new, apart from new recipes, at any rate, and radio did not come easily to the middle aged homemaker.

Builds Speed in Year

Finally the rules were modified, and it became possible to get a novice's license by passing a Morse code test at the rate of five words a minute, plus a relatively simple written test on theory. For a year Mary Meyer held the novice rating, established more than 1,000 cw contacts with her keys, one in at the basement set and another in her car, where she used to hold the key on her knee as she drove. Gradually she built up her speed to the point of 31 words a minute.

"Then I stopped trying to memorize the theory and started trying to understand it," Mary recalls, "and I began to make some progress."

Many radio friends hoped and prayed and struggled along with her, and there was quite a celebration the night the good news came that Mary had at last qualified for her "ticket." Jackie and her husband came from Barrington, and several hams from the neighborhood gathered at the Meyers.

One of them thrust a catalog under her husband's nose.

"Now you've got to get Mary this transmitter," they insisted, "even if you have to call the two cars and your golf clubs."

And he, who had been known to snore through ham broadcasts at the Toppe's house, could not but agree.

Now Mary talks to a wide circle of radio friends, some of whom she has never met, although all of them are on a first name basis. One is Mrs. Verona Thackeray, Albuquerque, N. M., W9ZUD. Another is Mrs. Helen McKreal, West Palm Beach, Fla., who is flying up for the week end.

She has a W.A.B. certificate from a minister and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Everett L. Batten, Glenwood, Elgin, Ill., signifying that she has "worked all Batters," and another from a doctor and his wife and their two children at Sycamore, Ill.

Meets "Ossified Zebra"

There are frequent chats with a Maryknoll nun, Sister Charlotte, who teaches at St. Theresa's academy, Boise, Idaho, and with a Ardmore, Pa., man who calls himself "elegantly ossified zebra," W3EOZ, who happens to be head of the company which makes Mary's transmitter.

Another good friend via radio is a St. Paul (Minn.) nurse, Mrs. Lydia Johnson, who was to get off night duty in time to fly for the week end in Milwaukee. And

another who has promised a visit to Robert "Uncle John" (Mary's call letters are W9RUJ) is the Rev. John Haas, WRUJF, rector of the Queen of the Apostles seminary at Madison, Wis.

Radio hams, women as well as men, live in a world of their own, clearly, and it is a close knit and friendly one. Mary for instance believes that if everyone were a radio ham, there would be no more wars. All radio hams everywhere become good friends, call each other by their first names, "chew the rag" (there is a Rag Chewers' club) endlessly, do many valuable favors for people they probably never will see.

Mary continues to send and receive the Morse code, as well as talking and listening to other hams. Many times the code gets through when a voice does not, she has learned. She has achieved her great ambition, true, but that does not mean there are no more worlds to conquer.

More Ambitions Remain

Now she hopes to W.A.S. ("work all states") and also to make contact with her son, Jerry, 24, stationed with the air force at El Paso, Tex. He shows no inclination to be a radio ham any more than her husband does, but Mary does not mind. She is radio ham enough for the whole family.

Although there are, among Milwaukee's 11 licensed women radio amateurs, those who have made more contacts, none has more enthusiasm for the solitary hobby, at once the loneliest and friendliest of all. It is nothing to sit up until 2 a.m., trying to make a contact for one stranger or another, but the result, when it comes, is worth the weary hours.

"These are the happiest days of my life," she told her electrician, another radio ham. They had met by radio first, and when he came to the door, his first words were:

"Are you RUJ? I am SYV from Pewaukee."

"Come in," she said.

"I have the XYL in the car," he said.

"Bring her in," she returned.

And that was the beginning of another radio friendship. Life is full of them for Mary now, and she plans to renew 55 such contacts over the week end when the women radio hams have their convention. She is the chairman, and plans to entertain them at her house Saturday night.

**FIFTH Y. L. GET-TOGETHER
FIRST MIDWEST CONVENTION
MAY 20-22, 1955
ALLERTON HOTEL
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

The Ladies Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) warmly welcomes you to the midwest Y. L. convention. We are pleased to have the opportunity to entertain you and hope that your visit here will prove well worth your while.

Convention Chairman
Helen Boddy — W9BCA

OFFICERS OF THE HOSTESS CLUB

Gloria Matuska — W9YBC.....	President
Peggy Weigert — W9SYX.....	Vice-President
Rita Vonderhaar — W9YXK.....	Secretary-Treasurer
Gladys Jones — W9MYC.....	Publicity Chairman
Rosemary Tregay — W9TMZ.....	Editor

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Friday, May 20, 1955
 10:00 A.M. Tour and luncheon at Hallicrafter's and afterward a tour through Allied Radio.
 6:30 P.M. Supper in the LARK suite at the Allerton Hotel.
 (Y.L.s only)

Saturday, May 21, 1955
 9:30 A.M. Sight-seeing bus tour.
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon and business meeting at Younker's Restaurant
 6:30 P.M. Banquet at Younker's Restaurant.
 (O.M.s very welcome.)

Sunday, May 22, 1955
 ?? Progressive breakfast??

CONVENTION PRIZE DONORS

Adirondack Radio Co., Amsterdam, New York
 Walter Ashe Radio Co., St. Louis, Mo.
 Frank Bowlin of Lukko Co., Chicago, Ill.
 Central Electronics, Inc.
 Centralab, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Electro-voice, Buchanan, Mich.
 Elgin Metal Formers Corp., Elgin, Ill.
 Elston Electronics, Chicago, Ill.
 Fort Orange Distributers, Albany, N. Y.
 Gonset Co., Burbank, Calif.
 Greenlee Tool Co., Rockford, Ill.
 Heath Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.
 International Crystal Co., Okla. City, Okla.
 J.F.D. Mfg. Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Morrow Co., Salem, Ore.
 Motorola, Chicago, Ill.
 National Co., Malden, Mass.
 Nation-wide Radio, Chicago, Ill.
 Newark Electric Co., Chicago, Ill.
 Premier Metal Co., New York, N. Y.
 Rocky Costabile, W9AHD, Chicago, Ill.
 Ivar Wiberg, W9FEU, Chicago, Ill.
 World Radio Lab., Council Bluffs, Iowa
 Lark members and their friends

Mrs. Henry G. Meyer Is Radio Ham

Brookfield Woman Ready for Civil Defense In Case of an Emergency

BROOKFIELD — When it comes to civilian defense, Mrs. Henry G. Meyer, of Patricia lane in Brookfield, is always ready.

Mrs. Meyer is what is known as a "radio ham" and is perhaps the only woman in this area actively engaged in short wave radio work. There are 11 licensed girls in Milwaukee but none of them active.

The Brookfield grandmother is registered with the police department as many other hams in the Brookfield area and is ready to cooperate in case of any emergency.

She received a big thrill recently when called upon to participate in the Milwaukee county civil defense operation exercise at Lapham Peak hill in Waukesha county.

A mobile unit in her automobile and a transmitter unit in her recreation room is constantly in use. The amateur radio operator is one of some 700 women in the world who are eagerly turning their hobby into public service as well as fun.

Plans are being made to organize a strong civil defense in Waukesha county, and Mrs. Meyer is included in them.

"It was not easy to begin in radio work," said Mrs. Meyer. "It was hard work, and after a 10-year struggle, I received my license, and have been improving daily by constant practice."

How did she begin? What gave her the "radio bug?" Some 18 years ago, Mrs. Meyer heard various strange sounds on her regular radio. Various short wave bands were interfering with one of her programs.

"All I could hear was 'CQ' repeated several times," she said. The term is a general call to any other amateur station. "I was curious, and made up my mind to find out what it was all about," she recalled.

Mrs. Meyer said that her husband, who is an alderman now in the city of Brookfield, bought her a short wave receiver so she could "just listen" to the new world of sound that opened to her.

She soon contacted other friends interested in radio and was on her way to becoming an amateur operator. She took many tests for a license but flunked most of them, until in April, 1953 her dream came true. She passed with flying colors.

A high school instructor uses her case as an example to his students to never give up trying, for if the interest is there, with practice, more knowledge and perfection will be attained.

Mrs. Meyer originally came from Chicago to Milwaukee in 1929 with her family, which includes one son, Jerry, and has lived in Brookfield about two years.

On the airwaves, she is known by her given name and her call letters, Mary, W9RUJ. The call letters were issued to her by the federal communications commission.

She is a member of the Young Ladies radio League, a world wide group of women "hams." Not all of the League's members are young, but YL or young lady is the radio hams slang for any licensed female, just as OM or old man is the term used for the male operator.

Her husband is not a ham but takes a great deal of interest in his wife's hobby. Mr. Meyer is employed as a district passenger representative of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and transportation and communication have become a mutual interest for the couple.

One of her radio friends, Mrs. Robert Matuska, W9YBC of North Riverside, Illinois, calls Mrs. Meyer the grand old lady of the airwaves. She has this to say of her radio pal:

Mrs. Meyer is quite an active amateur. She tries to get into all the Nets on which she can be heard. She loves to make new friends and "rag-chew" with the old ones.

"She has called many servicemen's parents and given them messages that she received from their sons. That is always quite a thrill. She is ready to help out in any emergency. Her transmitter can be put on the air at a woman's notice."

Mrs. Meyer talks regularly to women all over the world. She holds several certificates, and joined the Ladies Amateur Radio Klub Round Table. She makes contacts of servicemen with their parents reaching Germany, Finland, and England.

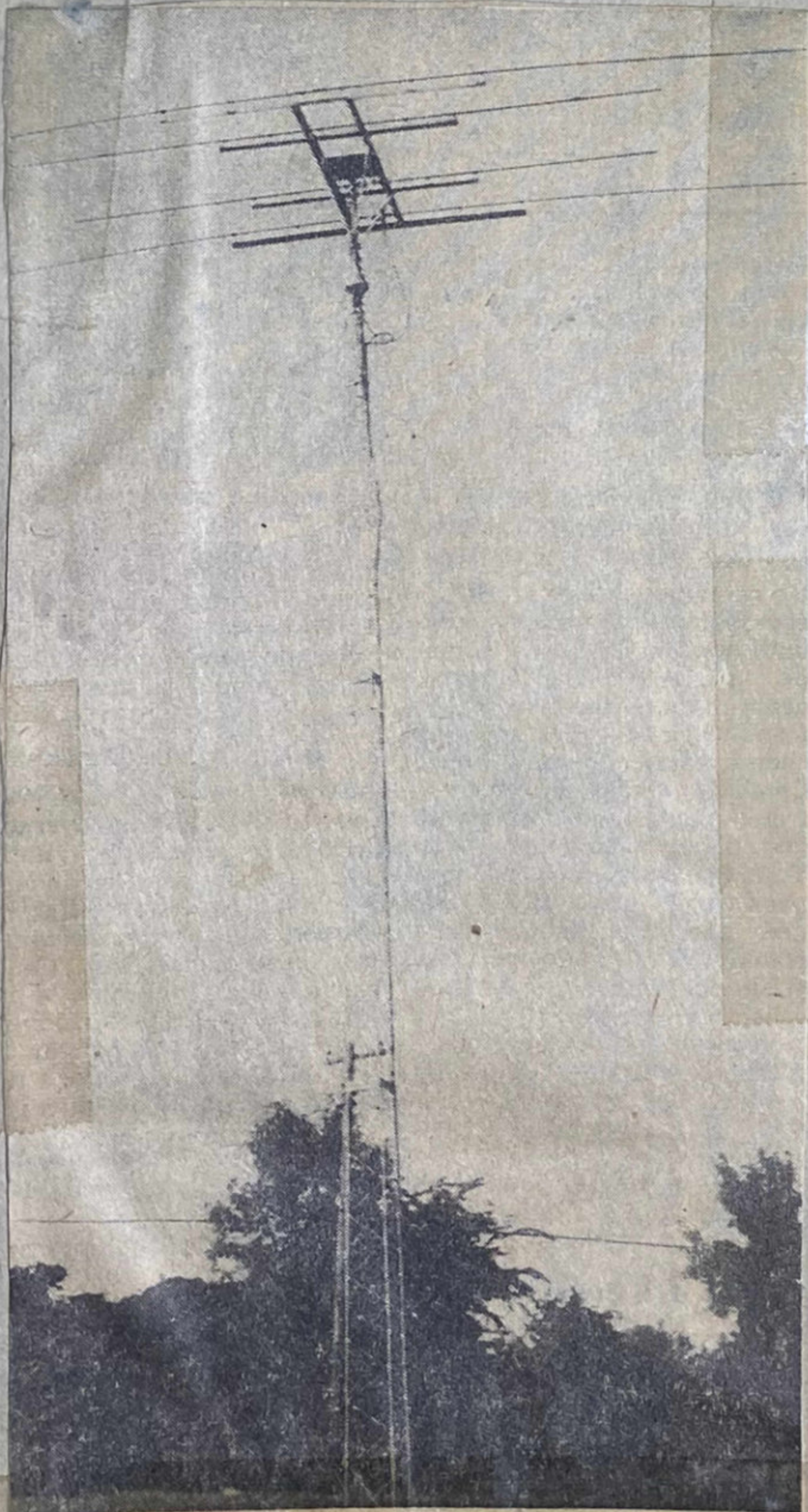
One of her pleasures is contacting her son and his family in El Paso, Texas. She goes on the air daily at any leisure moment.

Lately, she has been listening to the weather reports on the present heat wave. Much as she depends on the radio, on Monday of this week, Mrs. Meyer resorted to the telephone when an oil tank in her basement burst flooding the floors. She became the busy housewife chasing for pans and buckets to control the leak.

Mrs. Meyer never had any daughters of her own, and earlier took an active part as Girl Scout leader for a period of 12 years. She loves children and takes pride in her recent grandchild.



Originator
Grandmother's
Certificate



A large antenna is used by Mrs. Meyer



Picking
Business
Out of the
Air!

Mrs. H. G. Meyer, Wife of B&O's DPR in Milwaukee, is an Enthusiastic Radio Ham Operator. Here's How She Serves Fellow Hams by Putting Them in Touch With B&O People Who Can Serve Their Travel Needs

ALL of us on the railroad are constantly being urged to "broadcast" the word among our friends and acquaintances that the B&O is the way to go.

But few have the opportunity to do so, literally. For it goes without saying that none of us own radio stations and, despite the good relations that the railroad enjoys with many of the big commercially operated stations in its territory, we certainly couldn't expect our friends to open their microphones, gratis, to us as individuals frankly trying to persuade people to ride the B&O.

But one member of the B&O family has managed to turn the trick—though not officially, never commercially—and only as an aid to her friends.

She is Mrs. H. G. Meyer, wife of B&O's well known district passenger representative in Milwaukee, Wis. Mrs. Meyer happens to be a licensed radio ham operator. From her home she operates under the call letters of W9RUJ. With her modern radio broadcasting and receiving installation she talks with other hams all over the country and in many foreign lands.

For Mrs. Meyer this is just a hobby, but a very fascinating one.

And here's an interesting experience she had recently:

Early in June, via the airways, Mrs. Meyer was talking to Mrs. Larry Tibbitts, another ham operator in Western Springs, Ill. Mrs. Tibbitts happened to mention that her daughter, Lynn, was planning a trip to Boston, New York and Washington. Mrs. Meyer was ready for that one. "Why don't you let her go by B&O?" said W9RUJ to W9YWH.

W9YWH thought that would be a fine idea.

"I'll tell you what to do," said Operator Meyer to Operator Tibbitts, "Call up Mr. Denton Turner of our B&O Passenger Department in Chicago. He lives in Hinsdale, Ill., a suburb very near you there in Western Springs. I know Mr. Turner will be glad to help you plan that trip for Lynn."

Operator Tibbitts said that she would.

So on June 18, in Chicago Denton Turner received a call from Mr. Tibbitts, husband of the lady behind the mike of W9YWH. The Tibbitts' daughter, Lynn, would go direct from her home in Western Springs to Boston, but on the return trip she would travel B&O, from New York to Chicago. Could Mr. Turner fix up the ticket for her?

Denton could—and he would! What's more he'd bring it home with him and deliver it to the Tibbitts, saving them a trip to the station. A very pleasant visit ensued and some pretty solid relations between the B&O and the Tibbitts family were established.

And all because Mrs. Meyer while visiting with her friends, via the airways, hadn't forgotten the Baltimore and Ohio—and was alert to back up her husband's own fine sales effort on behalf of the railroad, in a purely friendly fashion.

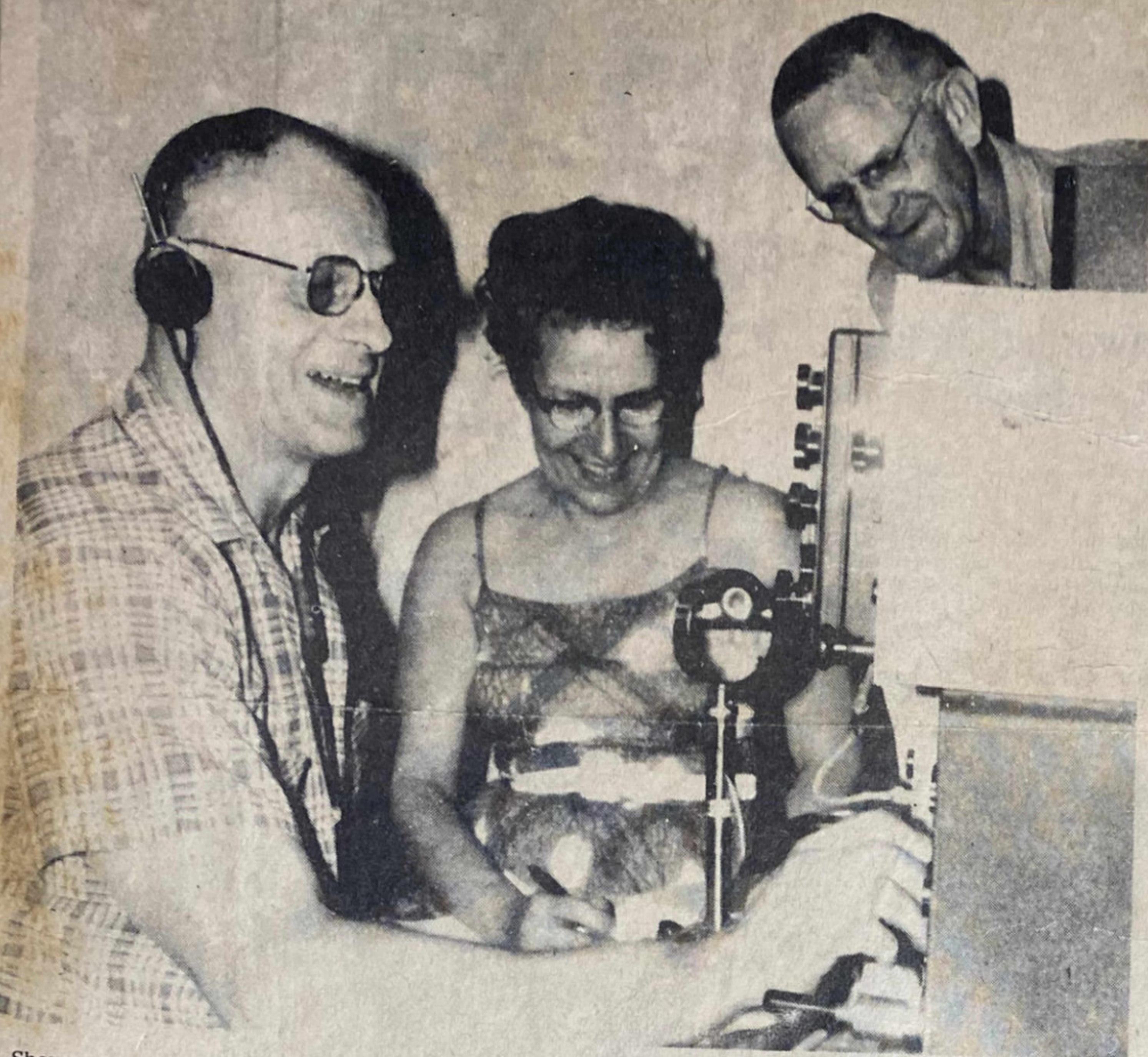
This isn't the first time either that Mrs. Meyer has aided fellow hams by putting them in touch with B&O people who could serve them, according to Passenger Traffic Manager R. E. Coleman who reported her story to the Magazine.

The Magazine salutes Mrs. Meyer, both for her pursuit of an unusual hobby, and for her resourcefulness. We hope, too, that Lynn Tibbitts, she of the household of W9YWH, had a fine trip over our lines.

Incidentally, Mrs. Meyer is anxious to contact any members of the B&O family who may also be licensed ham radio operators. If you are one, remember her call letters are W9RUJ and call direct or write and make an air appointment. Send your letter care of Mr. Meyer at B&O's Milwaukee office. He'll be glad to deliver it to the lady with the headphones. The address is: H. G. Meyer, 303-4 Majestic Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Tibbitts, of Western Springs, Ill. Mrs. Tibbitts is a radio ham operator too, and growing out of her chat via the airways with Mrs. Meyer in Milwaukee, the Tibbitts' daughter, Lynn, tried the B&O on trip from New York to Chicago





Shown operating one of the units used during the Field Day activities last weekend, are, seated, Art Sutton, Kenney, president of the DeWitt County Amateur Radio Club, and Mrs. Claude Cain, secretary, and standing, B. T. Harry, Chestnut, one of the local members who participated. (Staff Photo)

Radio Amateurs Hold 24-Hour Field Day

Members of the DeWitt County Amateur Radio Club participated in the nation-wide two-day Field Day beginning Saturday at 3 p.m. and ending Sunday at 6 p.m.

Amateurs compete, either as a club or as individuals, for points in operating their outfits with

portable power.

The local group set up their operations at the Lab's Callison farm about eight miles east of Clinton.

Those taking turns during the 24 consecutive hours out of the 27 were Art Sutton, W9 VHD; Claude Cain, K9 HRC; Hazel Cain, K9 QGR; Jim Dunskey, K9 CTR; Bill Chamberlain, K9 BSK; Phil Redman, WA9 EJA; Frank Stout, W9 MAJ; Elmer Moffett, W9 UZE; Ray Lane, W9 KNX; Bob Crouch, WN9 GIS; Joe Johnson, K9 YNG; B. T. Harry, K9 AKH; Jim Maltby, W9 KRH.

The call of K9 QGR (Hazel Cain) was used as the Field Day call.

Equipment was loaned by Johnson, Cain, Sutton, Dunskey, Redman and Moffett.

The generator was loaned by the Illinois Central Railroad, where many of the club members are employed.

Calling K9QGR

Illinois farm woman joins her husband in fascinating world of ham radio

By RUTH KIRKPATRICK GOODWIN

■ IN ANSWER to those call letters on the short-wave radio you would get Mrs. Claude Cain or her husband of DeWitt county, Ill. Both are ardent amateur radio operators or "hams" as they are most often called.

One room of their farm home has been turned into a radio shack with a Viking 500 transmitter which they built themselves.

Mrs. Cain says that for a number of years she just listened to her husband's conversation with other hams. She was very much interested, but the idea of becoming an operator had not occurred to her. Then events changed things.

Her mother who lived in California became ill. By contacting an operator who lived near her, they could "phone patch" Mrs. Cain's sister and get daily reports on her mother's condition.

She explained that phone patching is done when a radio operator calls a third party on the telephone and the conversation is carried by means of short-wave radio.

"This made me think how much I really appreciated what those licensed operators did for me, so I decided to become one in hopes that I might pass the good deed on to others."

To become a licensed operator, Mrs. Cain had to learn to send and receive code at the rate of five words per minute, and to pass a theory test which concerns rules and regulations of radio operations. After passing the test, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued her call letters. They were KN9QGR, the N standing for novice. Novices can use only code, not talk.

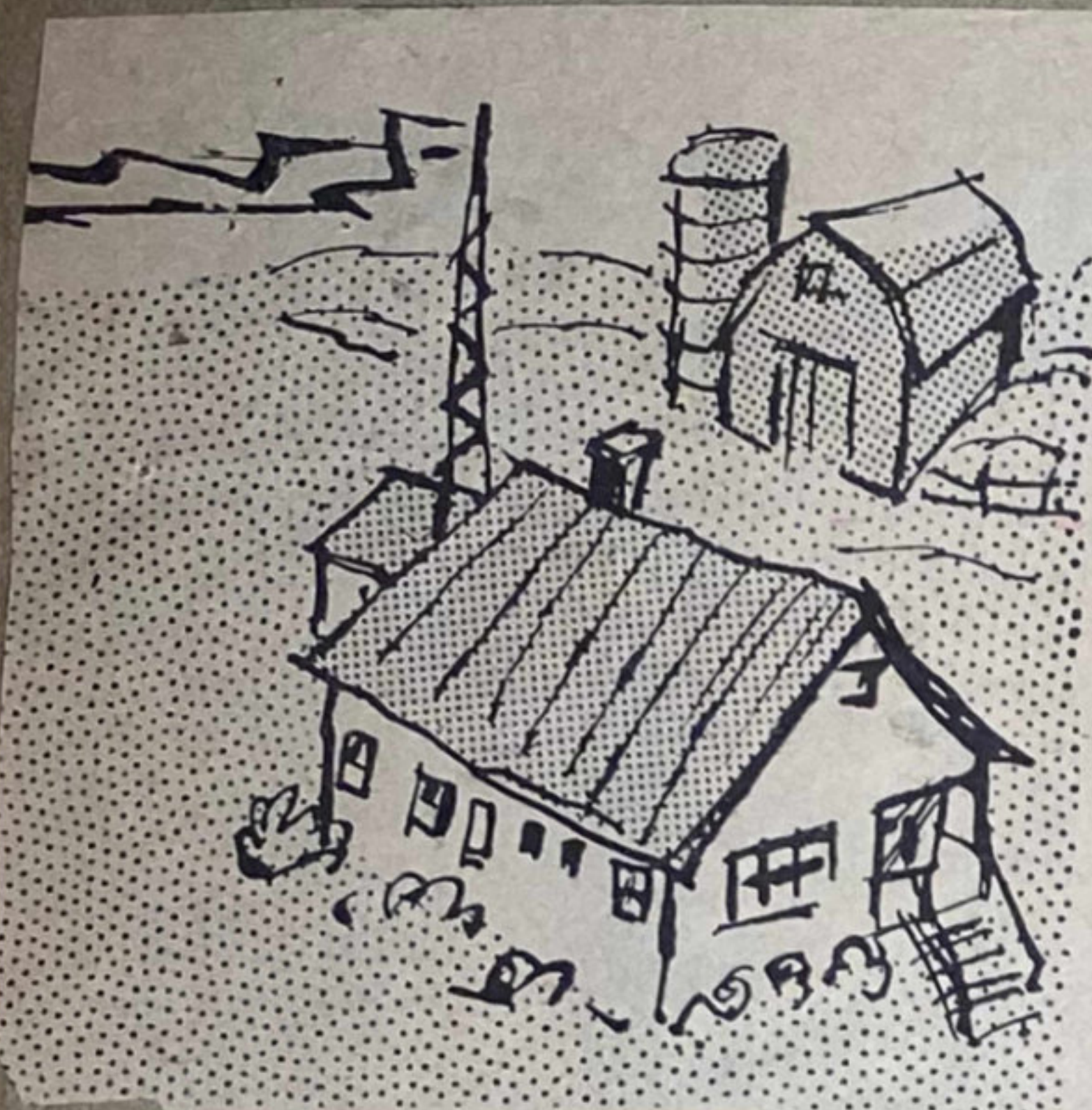
After a year of study, she took another test. She had to take and receive code at the rate of 13 words per minute and pass a more difficult theory test. When she passed this she was listed as a general, and the N was replaced by G in her call letters. She can work on any code and any method of band. This license must be renewed every five years.

Since becoming a general less than five years ago, Mrs. Cain has won more than 40 certificates in contests and amateur radio work. She is the first woman to receive the USACA (United States Amateur County Award) which covers 3000 counties, and the first woman to win the Illinois County Award.

A few years ago, the Breakfast Club was started with eight men for round table from 4 to 6:30 a.m. 365 days of the year. The club now has more than 500 members. Each morning there is a

Article CONT on
Next
PAGE.

K9QGR - HAZEL



MRS. HAZEL CAIN has her hand poised on the key ready to send code on short-wave radio. Both Mrs. Cain and her husband are "ham" operators. They turned one room of their home near DeWitt, Ill., into a radio shack, the term for a radio room even if not a separate building, and built their own equipment.



controller, for members are allowed to talk only two minutes. Mrs. Cain joined the club and was the first woman to become a net controller. This encouraged many other women to join.

"To be a ham operator one should have a sense of humor," Mr. Cain says, "and if there is anything that makes Hazel eligible, that is it."

"I was strictly a city gal and had lived all my life in Los Angeles. Then about nine years ago my husband decided to give up the photography business and move back to Illinois to farm the land that had belonged to his grandfather. I didn't know how I would take to country life.

"All I knew about farms on the prairie was what I had read—that women had to pump water and use an outhouse.

"When we got to the farm, sure enough, there was a pump in the front yard, but when I got inside the house, I discovered it was modern, even to hot and cold running water and a complete bathroom. So the day was saved.

"Then after we got settled, I looked out the window where I could see for miles, and wondered how I would ever get to know anyone. How would I meet people and make friends, or even have anyone to talk to?"

She laughs now at those ideas for she has entered into community life. She is past

worthy matron of the Eastern Star, and is their organist at the present time; is past worthy high priest of the White Shrine; secretary of the county chapter of the D.A.R., is a local dressmaker, writes for three newspapers, and does her own photography, and is an active church member. She also does ceramics and gives instructions to home extension and 4-H groups.

Farm life? Yes, she has time for that too, but mostly for the animals.

"I never saw a live pig until I came to Illinois," she says. "But the little pigs are the cutest things on the farm.

"The first year I was here, one of the sows refused to mother her babies and I found them in the barn almost freezing. I wrapped them in my coat and took them to the house, but in my state of confusion I didn't think to use a box. I put them in the bathtub and kept them there until my husband returned from a trip.

"My city dog took to country ways and would jump in the tub and curl up with the pigs to keep them warm. He's not a mother dog—just has the mother instinct.

"I fed the pigs with a doll nursing bottle and they all became pets. They even knew my voice. It just broke my heart to part with them when they were raised.

"The next year a runt was my special pet. I doctored him as I had my dog, and he be-

came such a pet that when he got older he had trouble keeping him in the field. He would find a hole and crawl under the fence. Then he would come to the kitchen screen, scratch on it and whine for attention."

Mrs. Cain relates many amusing incidents that happened because of her inexperience with farm life.

"Things always happen when my husband is away on a trip," she says. "One winter I tried to water the cattle and the water in the tank was frozen. I chopped and chopped. Then I decided to light the heater. After several tries, the thing blew up. I looked like Tar Baby for it drenched me from head to foot with oil, but all I could do was sit there and laugh thinking what a funny picture I could have if I could just take a snapshot of myself."

Would Mrs. Cain move back to L. A.? All the tractors in Illinois couldn't pull her back.

"After breathing this air, I never want to breathe that smog again. Now when I look out my window, there is something to see, not the neighbor's window staring back at me.

"There's only one thing that California has that Illinois doesn't. That's my grandchildren. I get homesick for them."

But Mrs. Cain's son is also an amateur radio operator, so when they talk she can sign off with the grandchildren with 88 and 73—Love and Kisses and Goodbye.

1963



Donita Price, the Hallicrafters Co. "Space Maid" is shown above with a mock-up of the Space Capsule at the Museum of Science and Industry. Hallicrafters, a local electronics firm, active in Research, Development and Production of special electronic equipment for use in the Space Age, has selected Miss Price, Amateur Radio Call Letters K9 TVN to represent them in the activities of the Chicago and Midwest Space Month. Miss Price is a secretary in the Commercial Sales Department.



MRS. EVE HANSON, director of the Schoharie County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, checks off stations during a "call up" exercise.

Ham Operators Aid During Flood

By ALAN GINSBURG

As the waters in the creeks and streams of Schoharie county began to rise and the threat of flooding became imminent on the night of March 21, Doris Gordon, deputy director of the Office of Disaster Preparedness in Schoharie called Eve Hanson. Mrs. Hanson is the director of the Schoharie County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Radio Service. Referred to as RACES by the Ham operators and broadcasting under the authority of the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs, the network was created to provide radio communications during periods of local, regional or national emergencies. When Eve Hanson arrived at the Office of Disaster Preparedness in Schoharie, she immediately activated the network sending out the call for RACES members to check in. And within minutes amateur radio operators responded. With the help of radio ham Frank Archer, Eve assigned two or three hams to areas most likely to be affected by flooding from the rising

creeks and streams throughout the county. Patrolling designated areas in their cars, the amateur radio operators relayed information to Mrs. Hanson through mobile radio units — reporting on road conditions, taking water level readings in the creeks and streams, checking on families needing assistance, helping to coordinate evacuation information and providing a count of people at the Middleburgh fire house (which became a shelter for evacuated families). Mrs. Hanson also maintained contact with RACES networks in the surrounding counties of Montgomery, Broome, Columbia, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Albany and Otsego — where amateur radio operators offered assistance. Because the waters of Schoharie creek empty into the Mohawk River in Montgomery county, it was important to maintain communications between the two counties. As RACES net

Continued on Page 9.

Radio Hams Help Out . . .

Continued from Page 1.

control Eve Hanson received information about the amount of water going over the Gilboa dam and into the Schoharie creek, she contacted Montgomery County RACES. Keeping watch on the roads and creeks in the Village and Town of Middleburgh, radio hams Tom Valosin and Phil Morrissey warned travelers of impassable roads and directed them to routes not yet affected by the flooding. While patrolling Bush road in the town of Middleburgh, the radio operators, noticing that the flood waters had washed away the dirt around the supports of a bridge, notified Mrs. Hanson who in turn relayed the message to Sheriff Harvey Stoddard's office. The bridge was closed, preventing what might have become the scene of a serious accident. Sheriff Stoddard said that the ham operators were definitely an asset in helping to handle emergency communications. "They have a good communications

network," Sheriff Stoddard said. "The RACES net helped reduce the amount of radio traffic through our own network." Commenting on the operations of the RACES network, Doris Gordon praised the amateur radio operators for the way they handled the emergency. "The hams worked beautifully," Mrs. Gordon said. "I called Eve Hanson as soon as the flood warning came in and she was here in minutes. We turned the communications operations over to RACES and didn't have to worry about it after that." And the reason Deputy Gordon didn't have to worry has a great deal to do with the organization, technical skill and know how of about 40 amateur radio operators who are active members of the Schoharie County RACES. Utilizing their own radio equipment, the hams were able to transmit information to RACES headquarters through a signal repeater

located on Petersburg mountain in the town of Fulton. Keeping the repeater in good working order is the responsibility of the Schoharie County Amateur Radio Club, many of whose members also belong to RACES. The Schoharie County hams were well-prepared for the flood emergency. With its emphasis upon training, the RACES net, under the direction of Mrs. Hanson, conducts a "call up" one night a week in order to receive up-to-date information from the New York Civil Defense Commission on procedures to follow during an emergency. And at unscheduled times Mrs. Hanson conducts a practice call up from the Office of Disaster Preparedness. "We have a very active membership," Mrs. Hanson said, "and I'm sure I would have no trouble at anytime, day or night, establishing emergency radio communications throughout the county."

P O O S

PETTICOAT OPERATORS OF SIX

This Will Certify That Radio

Y. I. R. L. CONVENTION, 1960

Has Successfully Contacted, held QSO and QSLed the Following P O O S

K 3 A 2 Z	K 3 B A K	K 3 C O P	K 3 D G U
K 3 D K N	K 3 D Y Q	K 3 E D O	W 3 E R K
K 3 J T H	K 3 M Z T	W 3 U T U	K 3 K Y I

Issued This Day of APRIL 20, 1960 19

Award No. . . 57 Approved By W. S. P. T. V. Net. Mag.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

HEADQUARTERS, WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, U. S. A.

Charter of Affiliation

Whereas it is the desire of the American Radio Relay League to establish bonds of affiliation with local non-commercial amateur radio societies of kindred aims and purposes to make possible unity of action in matters affecting the welfare of Amateur Radio and lend mutual strength; and Whereas

Young Ladies' Radio League Bowbells, No. Dakota

has declared its sympathy with and allegiance to the aims and policies of the League in its efforts to strengthen and advance Amateur Radio Communication and Experimentation, and has expressed its willingness and desire to co-operate therein:

Now Therefore, under the policies of its Board of Directors, the American Radio Relay League as of this date hereby declares the said society to be an affiliated body, and issues this charter in token thereof.

June 1, 1940
 Charter Issued


Secretary


President

Colby Girl Is Ham Operator

Here in Colby is a 15 year old student who joins with nearly 700 other women throughout the world who as amateur radio operators are eagerly turning their hobby into public service as well as fun.

She is Rebecca Jain, who is known on the airwaves by her nickname, Becky, and her call letters, WNOVGE, that were issued to her in June of 1954, by the federal communications commission.

The W stands for the United States, N for novice operator, O for the district of the country to which she belongs and the VGE are for personal identification.

"Becky" is a member of the Young Ladies Radio League, a world wide group of licensed lady "hams" and is looking forward to the league's first international convention in June at the Miram hotel in Santa Monica, Calif.

Not all of the league's members are as young as Becky, but YL or young lady is the term used for any licensed female operator, OM or Old Man is the term used for any male operator.

Becky has "worked" fellow hams in New York, California and Washington. She operates her station in CW—code. Her interest in ham radio began when her father, Dr. Ralph H. Jain, became a ham. His call letters are WOLOW.

She attends the Colby Community High school. She is a sophomore. Her father is the emergency coordinator for an area of nine northwest Kansas counties.

Amateur radio operators play an important part in receiving and relaying messages all across the country. They carry messages without any fee. They have been known to get messages through when other means of communications failed. Besides this what other hobby can offer you a new friend with just the flip of a switch?

Sophomore Holds Radio License

Becky Jain In Contact With Four Corners

"K6ANW," this is WNOVGE. Come in please." This is what you might hear when you listen to Rebecca Jain tap out a message over her short wave radio.

Becky, as she is known to her many friends, a shy sophomore in CCHS, answered questions concerning amateur radio operators for a roving reporter.

Upon inquiry as to when she became interested in radio, Becky replied, "I became interested in radio when Dad got his license two years ago. After a while my interest fell, but then in February of 1954, Kansas University sponsored a radio theory class which I took.

In June I took a Novice theory test and a code test. Four weeks I got my license call of WNOVGE, issued by the Federal Communications Commissions of Washington, D.C., in which the W stands for the United States, N for Novice, O for the district, and VGE for the personal identification.

Becky further added: "This license is good for one year only. Before it expires you have to pass an advanced radio theory test and a code test of thirteen words per minute. If you pass these tests you will be issued a General Class License which authorizes full amateur radio operator privileges, and, the "N" is then dropped from the station call letters." Becky's call would then become WOVGE.

Upon further questioning we find that Becky is one of seven "hams" or amateur radio operators living in Colby. Of course she is the youngest by far.

These amateur radio operators belong to the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps and play a very important part not only in Civil defense, but also in the receiving

and relaying of emergency messages.

Many times these emergency messages get through sooner than other forms of communication. This has been true for messages going to and from members of the armed forces, overseas as well as in the United States.

In time of disaster such as fire, flood, and tornado, these "hams" have performed admirably.

It is customary, after an operator has talked to another station, to exchange a card with the operator of the station carrying information about yourself and your station and these cards are called QSL cards. So far in just a few months Becky has talked to well over a hundred different operators in more than twenty different states. She is also a member of the young Ladies Radio League which is an organization of women radio operators in the U.S.A.

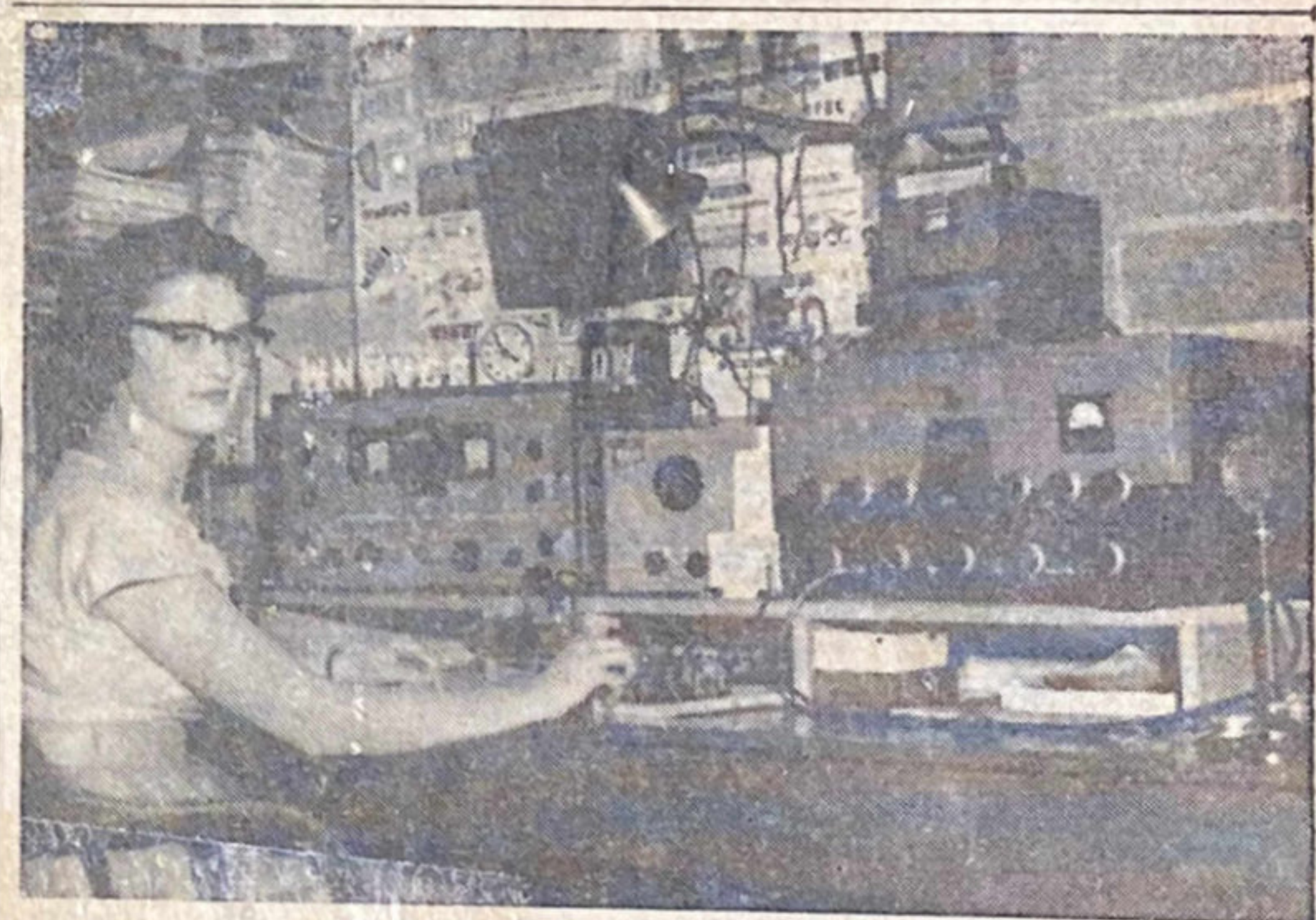
Becky is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Jain. Dr. Jain is another radio enthusiast, who at present belongs to the American Radio Relay League and is Emergency Coordinator for an area of the northwest Kansas counties.

LOS ANGELES, TUES., MAR. 18, 1952 — THE MIRROR



YOUNG GIRL 'HAM'

In St. Cloud, Minn., Carol Millett, 12, sits in front of her short-wave "ham" radio set on which she trained to pass the Federal Communications Commission test for a novice license. She is believed to be one of the youngest persons ever to hold such a permit.



Becky Jain Shown at Work with Radio Equipment.

A Network of Friendship



JEAN HEIKKILA with visitor Otto Oltmanns.

WHEN Jean Heikkila has something special on her mind, she's apt to let the whole world know about it. An amateur radio operator, she chats daily with hundreds of friends across the nation and in a dozen countries.

Her 125-watt station, WOIJK, is located in her bedroom at her parents' farm some miles from Cromwell. She is at her set practically all the time, talking or listening to others talk about a wide variety of subjects—from coffee in Brazil to fishing at the Canadian border.

One time when she was away from her set for a day she received scores of letters and four "hams" came to visit her to inquire if she was feeling okay. Another time Jean aided in a rescue operation by relaying a message that a hunting party, stranded in a wilderness region, had suffered a casualty and was in need of immediate help. A mercy plane reached the spot two hours later, Jean learned afterwards.

A visitor at her home last week was Otto Oltmanns, foreman at a research center at Basswood Lake, northeast of Ely. He is one of Jean's airwave friends, better known to her as WOLIG. He had been in Wrenshall to see his sister, Mrs. Arthur Bolander, and drove to Cromwell with her to say "hello" to Jean and her folks. Jean says she gets lots of company that way.

The radio "bug" bit her about three years ago when her brother Eino, now an electronics engineer at the Finland radar station, left a small receiving set at home. This enabled Jean to listen to the conversations of other "hams," but she couldn't talk to them.

To do that, she needed bigger equipment and, above all, a license. Sid Markusen of Cromwell became her tutor. He helped her master the Morse code. She can send and receive more than 30 words a minute. And he also helped her grasp the required theory of radio communications.

Jean passed the test for her novice ticket easily and proved herself equally superior in the more advanced tests, although she had to take them under adverse conditions. Jean, you see, is confined to a wheelchair.

Once she got on the air, it was only a matter of a short time before she developed a network of devoted friends. As is the custom, she exchanged greeting cards with every person she talked with on her radio and listed their names and call letters in her log. This quickly led to an extensive correspondence, besides daily gab sessions that often last around the clock.

Some Finnish exchange students once had an opportunity to talk with Jean and were so impressed by her hobby and her command of the language that they caused a story to be written about her in a newspaper in Finland. She also has been featured in a magazine of the Muscular Dystrophy association, but she and her parents are not too happy about that. They say this fund raising group has "never done anything for Jean in any way" and they feel that it was misleading to include a story about her in that magazine.

Jean, 25, has known for the greater part of her life that she is suffering from muscular dystrophy. She was 14 when it forced her into a wheelchair. But she finished high school and has been able to do many of the things she wanted to do—thanks to her excellent spiritual adjustment to "do the best you can with what you have."

Polio dealt her a setback three years ago, but it could not bow her spirit. For the past eight years she has been attending a summer camp through the auspices of the Easter Seal society, and she and her family say this is the only group that has ever shown a real interest in Jean. "I look forward to that camp all year," she says.

Jean's physical disabilities are no handicap, however, when she sits at the controls of her radio station. In fact, she is quite an important person on the air. She has been chosen as Carlton and Pine county co-ordinator of the Amateur Radio Emergency corps, is a prominent member in this region of MARS, the military affiliate radio system, and has to take roll call one day each week as a net control station. She also is a member of the Young Ladies Radio League, a worldwide group of licensed "hams" that claims nearly 700 members.

As a good will ambassador, Jean does much in her daily conversations over the air to boost the spirits of other disabled "hams" or listeners, and she spends much time talking about life in America to her radio friends overseas.

She tells them also of her gratitude of the friends and neighbors whose generosity helped her obtain much of her radio equipment; of Dr. Sach Rowitz from Moose Lake whose care and encouragement have helped to sustain her; of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Heikkila, and of her brothers and sister, who look after her needs and occasionally take her on trips through the area.

All of this has endeared Jean to her friends and listeners and has helped to spread the popularity of amateur radio station WOIJK. If a poll were taken then, the appeal rating might make a commercial station envious.

Never a Dull Moment at the Goyette Ham Shack

Burrton Couple Enjoy Amateur Radio Hobby

If you have ever been curious about the activities of a "ham" radio operator, you need be curious no longer. The door is open at the R. V. Goyette home, where two ham operators are in action (when one of them isn't away at work, that is.) In other words, visitors are welcome at their "Ham Shack."

The Goyettes, Russell and Pat, live in the Matlack property east of the Burrton Tire shop, having moved here last July when he became an engineer for the Hutchinson television station, KTVH. They and their two daughters, Christina, 8, and Betty, 3, came here from El Dorado Springs, Mo., their home town.

Goyette obtained his station license in 1941, and had been an amateur operator in El Dorado Springs. His father-in-law, O. J. Hornbeck of El Dorado Springs, is also a ham, with the result that the two families visit back and forth each day.

It isn't surprising, therefore, that Mrs. Goyette became actively interested in ham radio, to the extent that she wanted her own license after moving to Burrton. She obtained her license in November, after studying like mad

to answer the many technical questions relating to radio operation. The licenses must be renewed after five years. Her call is WOVZM, and her husband's is WOPBU. The "O" has a diagonal line through it to indicate it is a "zero" rather than an "O." The zero refers to the zone in which Kansas is located, which includes eight states. The United States is divided into 10 zones. Mrs. Goyette is one of four active women operators in Kansas and there are over 100,000 active ham operators in the United States.

Mrs. Goyette had reason to be glad she had her own license last week, for she was able to relay messages during the snow storm. Because of ice on the Frisco's telegraph lines, pertinent information was obtained from K. K. Kluthe, station agent, and relayed to Neodesha and Ft. Scott by Mrs. Goyette via amateur radio. Wellington was completely cut off because of down lines, and a ham operator kept the town in communication until line service could be resumed. During the emergency the Kansas 75 meter phone (microphone) net was standing by to give weather reports and assistance where needed in the storm

area. The Goyette "ham shack" consists of a large desk practically covered with a communications receiver and a transmitter, microphone, two log books (one for each operator) and a call book which lists every licensed amateur in the States and foreign countries.

A ham operator must know how to operate code, and to receive a license one must be able to send and receive 13 words a minute by code. As for the log books, every operator is required by the Federal Communications commission to keep a record of all contacts and messages. These records are kept for a year.

One of the interesting sights of ham radio is the "QSL" card. Each licensed operator has his own QSL card, which is approximately the size of a postcard and may go to any lengths as far as originality is concerned. Many of the cards bear the picture of the operator or of his ham shack. These cards are sent out as a confirmation of a "QSO" or conversation.

To receive a "Rag Chewers" membership certificate, a member must hold a half hour conversation with another ham, then report

that conversation to the Rag Chewers club in Hartford, Conn. The other ham must also confirm the conversation before the certificate is granted. The purpose is to encourage the hams to be conversationalists rather than the "Hello-Goodbye" type of operator. Both the Goyettes have Rag Chewer certificates, and now Mrs. Goyette is interested in obtaining a certificate showing that she has contacted a ham in every state. This is a WAS certificate meaning "Worked All States."

Goyette is interested in the technical aspects of ham radio, and his wife in visiting with other operators. Both like to drive to other towns and become acquainted with the operators they have met over the air. They know two blind operators and one who is a polio victim since ham radio is a wonderful outlet for the handicapped.

Mrs. Goyette rarely misses a session of the Kansas Net, which meets at 8 o'clock on Sunday mornings and at 12:30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. At that time all on the roll report, and necessary messages are relayed.

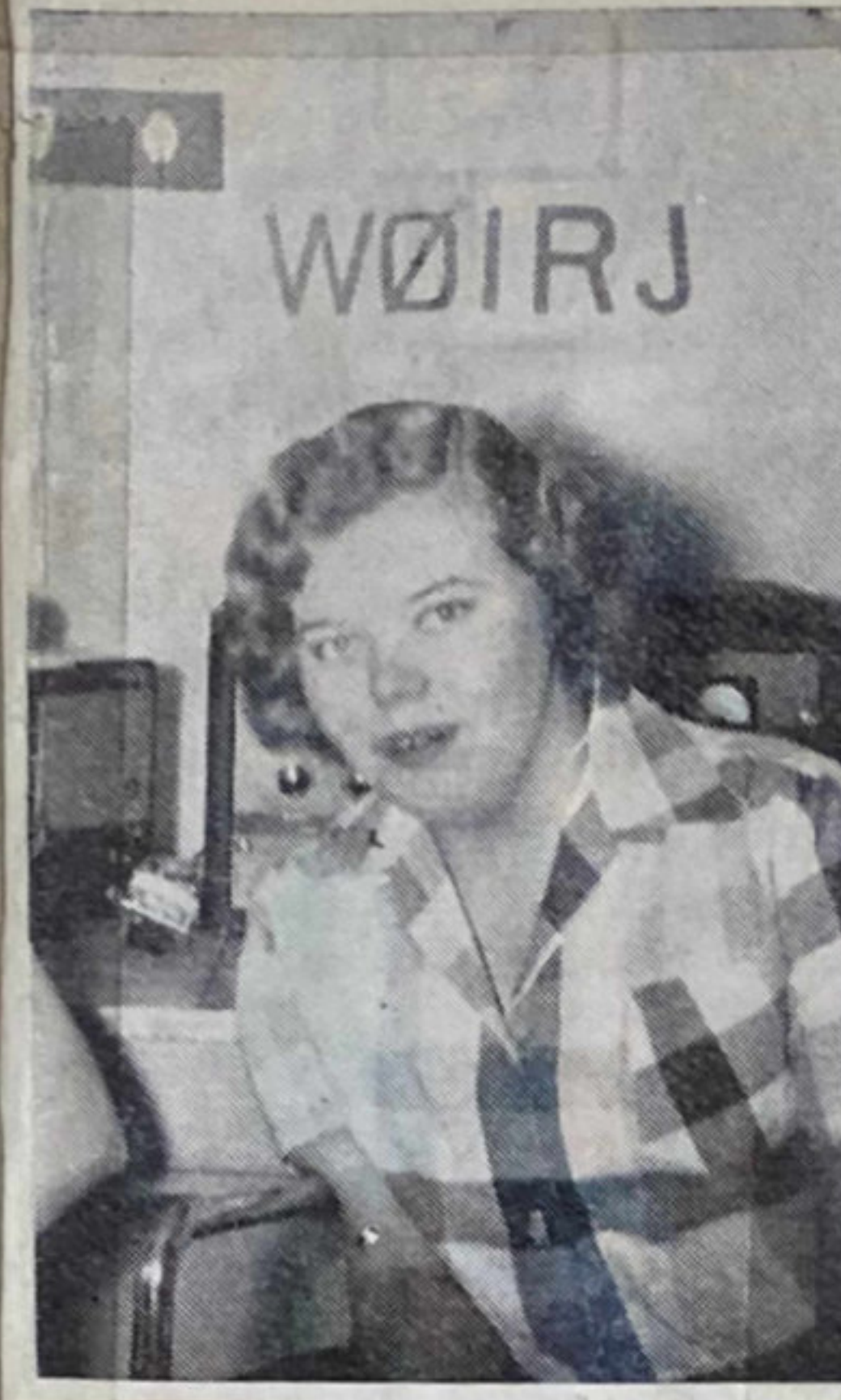
Long distance contacts are al-

ways interesting, and recently Goyette heard a woman operator in Costa Rica, but she was unable to answer him. He also talked with Australia while in El Dorado Springs, and conversations with hams on either the east or west coast are common. A few nights ago Mrs. Goyette talked to an amateur in the Pentagon building in Washington, D. C.

Goyette has a mobile in his car, and often talks to his wife while en route between Burrton and the KTVH transmitter, or to other places while driving. Another ham with a mobile in his car was responsible last week for warning of a traffic tie-up due to a large truck being jack-knifed across a western Kansas road. He reported the incident to other hams in the Russell area, and the message was relayed to Salina from where help was sent.

Aside from being a hobby of incredible interest, ham radio is an invaluable aid in time of emergency. A town need never feel isolated during a storm if it has an active ham operator in its boundaries, and as Kluthe said regarding Mrs. Goyette's help last week, "Someone ought to give her a 'big red rose.'"

Amateur Radio New and Absorbing Hobby of Shut-in Jean Heikkila



"This is Amateur Radio Station WØIRJ, Cromwell, Minnesota, calling CQ, CQ, CQ, W zero IRJ calling CQ and listening for a call."

Thus starts the daily radio activities for our own Jean Heikkila, muscular dystrophy victim, who lives on a farm near Cromwell. From a wheelchair she carries on her interesting hobby of talking with other amateur radio operators all over the country.

"In fact," says Jean, "like most shut-ins I am more or less confined to the house, but with my radio station I have traveled via the air waves to the near and far corners of the earth. I have talked to other 'hams' in 39 different states, 5 Canadian provinces, Greenland, Honduras in Central America, and Brazil in South America."

"I have made a world of new friends, people in all professions; farmers, doctors, lawyers, priests, ministers, and most any other you could name. Also I've found other handicapped persons on the air. Many of the hams have stopped to visit me. They also see that my transmitter stays in good working order. They are wonderful about helping."

"I have wished many times that more handicapped people would become 'hams' because it is loads of fun. It has opened a whole new world to me."

Jean became interested in 'ham' radio in 1949 when her brother gave

her a short-wave receiver to listen in on amateurs talking back and forth. Soon she had regular listening periods, starting early in the morning, listening to the Screwball Net, a group of amateurs who get together every morning to "chew the rag" and indulge in good-natured kidding.

Through another ham in Cromwell, the members of this net learned of Jean listening in and they began addressing remarks to her every morning. From that time on, Jean was bitten by the bug that bites all hams. And of course she thought it would be more fun to be on the air talking than just listening, so she began studying the code and a little technical stuff, preparing for her Novice Class license. One of the requirements is that the applicant be able to send and receive the code at five words per minute.

Within a month Jean had it mastered, took her examination—and passed. She operated code for two months, then took the examination for General Class license, which gave her more operating privileges.

Before she was to operate by voice using a microphone, however, a serious setback befell Jean. In addition to her present disability, she contracted polio! It was while she was fighting that, that friends and neighbors of Cromwell brought Jean a gift—\$300 in money, to be spent as she wished. And Jean "wished" for a new 100-watt transmitter, one much better and many times more powerful than her present one!

Then some ham friends were putting up a new aerial, making hook-ups, and a contrivance whereby Jean could operate her station while lying in bed. From then on, Jean became one of the most active hams on the air, talking to whomever she met on the airwaves, from coast to coast. What do they talk about? Everything under the sun—from themselves and their stations, to the weather, and what-have-you!

"Whenever I get tired of doing nothing," says Jean, "all I have to do is turn on a couple of switches and I have literally a hundred people to visit with! No longer are there any weary hours of nothing to do and nothing to think about. Now it is impossible to imagine how I got through one long day after another without my station."

Can others similarly handicapped do this also?

"Absolutely yes," Jean says emphatically. "I have found hams to be the most helpful people in the

Jean Heikkila

(Continued from page 1)

world. All you need to do is let it be known that you'd like to get started in this wonderful hobby, and there will be more than enough hams ready and willing to help you get started, help you learn the code, give you a smattering of technical knowledge that isn't too hard to understand, and—yes, even climb a pole or a tree and hang up an aerial for you too!

"Now don't think for a minute that you can't learn the code! I learned it, and you can too. So get on the air and have fun. You'll love it. And besides—one of these days I'd like to talk to YOU!"

Call 'Pretty Brunette' To Contact Topeka



"CQ" ... CALLING ALL AMATEURS ... Mrs. Melvin L. Breeden, 2517 Edgewater Terrace, is one of only two women in Topeka who have earned general practice "ham" licenses. Mrs. Breeden has contacted 1,438 other operators with this set and one in her car. She learned the hobby from her husband, a radio engineer at WIBW.

BY AMY DE YONG
K.U. Cadet Reporter

Amateur radio broadcasting has become a family project at 2517 Edgewater Terrace.

The strange signals and "slang language" sent out and received by Melvin L. Breeden made Mrs. Breeden curious. So she started studying. In July, 1954, she earned her license as an amateur radio operator.

Since that time Mrs. Breeden has made 1,438 contacts throughout the United States and spends much of her free time talking over the "rig."

Mrs. Breeden said the call letters soon became so instinctive to her that she found herself crying, "QYX" (Stand by!), when her 18-month-old son, Randy, had got into mischief. Mrs. Breeden's call letters are WØMPE, but under the phonetic system used to avoid possible confusion of letters her signal becomes "Mighty Pretty Brunette."

Altho more than 100 men operate amateur radios in the Topeka area, Mrs. Breeden is one of two women in the immediate vicinity who have received licenses. Mrs. Peg Morgan is the only other YL, or young lady operator, here.

Because of her unusual avocation, for a woman, Mrs. Breeden appeared on "What's Your Hobby?" during the Christmas season.

Altho Mrs. Breeden may use either phone or a code key for sending her messages, she often chooses the phone mike because she can carry it around the house on an extension while caring for Randy.

This proved dangerous once, tho, she admitted, when she suddenly yelled, "Randy, get out of there!" into the mike. A startled answer came back from the ham she was talking to, who had been using a mobile "rig" in his car. "You almost wrecked me," he responded.

The effective range of the frequency band which Mrs. Breeden generally uses has enabled her to talk with other "hams" on other coast, and one in Canada. "There are fascinating people to talk with," Mrs. Breeden said, mentioning ministers, lawyers, several pilots and persons in many other occupations. She particularly enjoyed talking with a blind man in Nebraska with whom she sent code signals for three or four hours at a time. Handicapped persons are often the best amateur operators, she said.

In the public service field, amateur radio has become increasingly valuable, and Mrs. Breeden and her husband often relay messages to and from servicemen overseas. Birth announcements are often sent to the men from their families.

Once Mrs. Breeden heard another "ham" sending a call signal to Topeka and was able to give a message to a woman here. A not handles emergency traffic over the amateur sets, and messages are constantly relayed over this system.

"This is the friendliest organization," Mr. and Mrs. Breeden agree. They have traded cards with many of their contacts and are especially pleased when these persons are traveling and stop to visit.

A mobile rig which Breeden built in the family car enables his wife to speak with him on his way to and from work. She finds this particularly helpful when she has forgotten to ask him to run an errand, and he uses the mobile rig to tell her when he is coming home.

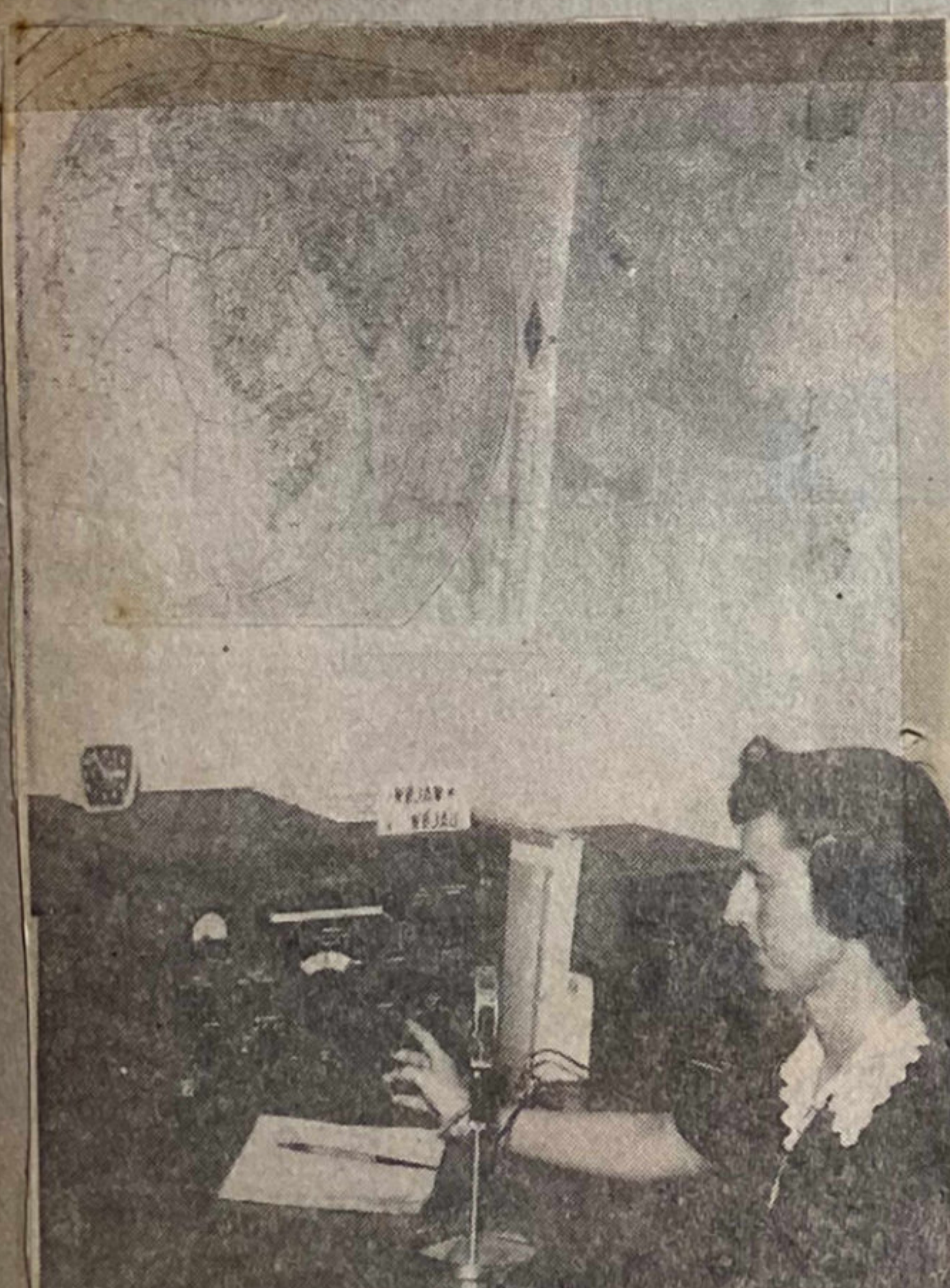
Other Topekaans who have rigs in their cars have organized mobile hunts every other Friday evening. The drivers hide their cars in the area, and their fellow operators search for them, judging how near they are by the strength of the signals.

The FCC encourages this practice because of its value for covering hidden transmitters during wartime.

Breeden, who built the "rig" in his home and car, was given the call letters, WØLHX, when he received his license in January, 1954. He is employed as a radio engineer at Station WIBW, Topeka.

Study Radio Together

Man-wife Team's Hobby Gets Husband Job



ADVENTURE AT FINGERTIPS — Romance and adventure are available at the fingertips of Mrs. Jack Huston, who takes numerous "radio breaks" from her household chores to converse with other radio "hams" in the family radio room. Mrs. Huston is one of approximately six women licensed as radio operators in the Wichita area.

What started out as a hobby for the Jack Hustons of 4215 Greenhaven has proved to be not only thrilling but convenient at times and indirectly profitable as well.

Although it is still a hobby they credit their interest in amateur radio operation with paving the way for Huston's position as an electronics engineer.

Jack and Carol Huston learned radio code together in the early days of their marriage and were granted licenses in 1952.

"Jack had been interested in radio for a long time," his wife said, "and we discovered it was a lot easier if we studied together."

That's how the attractive housewife found herself involved in a hobby dominated by men. Women ham operators are outnumbered by approximately 500 to 1.

The Hustons broadcast on a 65 watt transmitter assembled from a factory kit by Jack. Their receiver and other equipment is commercial.

"Yes, I guess it is expensive," Carol smiled. "If I get a ride home from a meeting and Jack's out with the car, I can just call him up and tell him not to stop for me."

Radio operating provides thrills too. Carol once conversed with a man in Ecuador, South America, and her husband reached Hawaii and New Zealand.



FAMILY AFFAIR — "Hamming" is a family affair for the Hustons. Both Mr. and Mrs. Huston received their licenses in 1952. Carol, 2, usually kept away from the radio equipment by a folding gate, welcomes an opportunity to show her know-how with "daddy's toys." (Eagle Staff Photos.)

the Air Capital Radio Assn., and are interested in Civil Defense.

"It would be fun to attend the first international convention of the Young Ladies Radio League in Santa Monica, Calif., in June," Mrs. Huston said. "But I guess I won't make it this year."

The Hustons are expecting another "little ham" this summer.



OPERATING HER SHORT WAVE radio station through 1956 sleet and snowstorms won a national citation for Mrs. Martha Shirley of Black Hawk. Mrs. Shirley, shown here with a portion of her "ham" radio equipment, was South Dakota's nominee in the Edison Radio Amateur Contest sponsored by General Electric. The Black Hawk woman's "ham" operations have been important in many emergencies and in collection of vital weather and road information. (Journal Photo).

Black Hawk Radio 'Ham' Receives National Award

Mrs. Martha Shirley, Black Hawk "ham" radio operator, has received national recognition for her work during storm emergencies last year. Her call letters are W0ZWL.

Mrs. Shirley received a special citation and plaque award in the fifth annual Edison Radio Amateur Contest sponsored by General Electric, Schenectady, N. Y. The citation will be presented at a dinner to be arranged in Black Hawk soon.

First place winner in the contest was the only other woman contestant, Mrs. Mary Burke of Morton, Pa. Mrs. Burke handles an average of 3,000 radio messages a month, most of them to servicemen stationed overseas. She has transmitted more than 300,000 such communications since 1949.

The two women were among 50 persons nominated in the national contest. All were chosen for their efforts in emergencies, educational work, Civil Defense organization

and handling messages to overseas servicemen.

Judging was based on the amount of sacrifice, ingenuity and greatest benefit displayed by amateurs in employing their "ham" radio stations in the public interest.

Judges were Herbert Hoover, Jr., E. Roland Harriman of the American National Red Cross, Commissioner Rosal H. Hyde of the Federal Communications Commission, and C. L. Dealand, president of the American Radio Relay League.

Mrs. Shirley's nomination was for operating 24 hours during a two-day sleet storm that isolated several towns in South Dakota last April and for operating four days and three nights during the blizzard emergency which kept her snowbound at home alone last November.

A 52-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Shirley for years has performed vital public services at great personal expense and time for no pay.

She is the West River mainstay of the South Dakota weather network. Each morning at 7:45 a.m. Mrs. Shirley gets on the air to exchange weather information. A minimum of 16 calls from small town in eight neighboring states and Canada come in each morning. The communities are located in sparsely settled areas not served by the U. S. Weather Bureau. The information Mrs. Shirley gathers is needed to complete weather maps and predict weather conditions for pilots and motorists.

The Black Hawk woman telephones her information to the Weather Bureau at the Rapid City municipal airport. Her data on roads goes to the State Highway Department and state police radio.

Two mornings a week Mrs. Shirley is assisted by Mrs. Grace Ellis of Rapid City.

Mrs. Shirley is emergency coordinator of Civil Defense for Meade County.

General Electric's telegram of congratulations to the Black Hawk woman said a World Wide Service photographer will be here to take pictures of her and her equipment for national publicity.

Mrs. Shirley was chosen as South Dakota nominee for the award by a committee of ham radio operators. Gen. Theodore Arndt of Rapid City was honorary state chairman.



EXPENSIVE, BUT WORTH EVERY CENT — Mrs. William P. Ellis of 608 Lesser Drive is shown here before about \$600 worth of radio equipment in her trailer home. Starting two years ago, Mrs. Ellis' interest in the operation of a "ham" radio station has made her one of the leaders in civil defense communications. She was prevented from

the more typical housewife hobbies of sewing and knitting by an ailment in her wrists and hands several years ago. Her search for an interesting pastime resulted in her brother's guiding her into radio operation. Her general amateur radio operator's license allows Mrs. Ellis to conduct tests for issuance of licenses to novice operators.

Radio Hobby Leads Woman To Civil Defense Activity

By JAMES P. HARGREAVES

"A hobby which would prove exciting, within my financial means and one that would not tax my ailing wrists and fingers, was my goal two years ago," says Mrs. William P. Ellis of 608 Lesser Drive? Today she is one of the most active amateur radio operators in Fort Collins.

Mrs. Ellis is one of several hundred women throughout the county taking part in the development of amateur radio networks which government officials have said would be invaluable in a national emergency. Her active participation in "ham" radio operator groups has led to her to become secretary of the Trout, Route, Mike and Key Club in Fort Collins, made up of persons having radio interests.

Started in 1952

Her first interest in the hobby

was aroused by her brother in Colorado Springs, with whom Mr. and Mrs. Ellis lived for a year. A "ham" operator himself, her brother noted Mrs. Ellis' interest and offered to help her set up her own "rig."

Soon after her start in 1952, Mrs. Ellis received a novice license. For the next year she worked and studied for the permanent general license she received in 1953.

"Some persons may think," she said, "that the \$600 I have invested for radio equipment is too much money for a hobby. But the pleasure and enthusiasm which it arouses is worth more than money can show," said Mrs. Ellis of her pastime.

Among the organizations of which she is a member is the American Radio Relay League, with headquarters at Hartford, Conn. In the national civil defense organization established by this group, Mrs. Ellis is section emergency coordinator for Colorado, with 22 assistants, all "ham" radio operators. She is also the assistant director for the Rocky Mountain district—Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. In this public service duty, she works closely with the state civil defense organization. Mrs. Ellis announced that the next national alert will take place June 15 and 16.

Military Facility

In national emergencies, she explained, military authorities in Denver would take over radio communications. The Red Cross also has priority for the use of amateur radio in emergencies. So important a part of the civil defense organization have these radio operators become that the federal government has recently given them new advantages.

Even in her short time as a radio operator, Mrs. Ellis recalls several occasions on which she has helped transmit messages across the world informing parents about their son's welfare and taken part in disaster communication.

As a member of the Young Ladies Radio League, a branch of the ARRL, Mrs. Ellis said she looks forward to the first international convention of the organization next month at Santa Monica, Calif.

SOCIETY

A Woman And Her Work



Miss Catherine Barclay
Radio - Active - Ham

KOBTV - "KAY"

Cockney pronunciation of "amateur" produced "hamateur" and that's how radio "hams" were born! So goes one of the stories attempting to clarify the designation origin given non-professional radio operators.

Here in Boulder is a young lady who is ready to turn a hobby as an amateur radio operator into public service as well as fun, along with 700 other women throughout the world.

She is Miss Catherine (Kay) Barclay, residing with an aunt, Mrs. H. W. Miles, at 2334 Broadway.

Kay is known on the airwaves by her given name and her call letters, W31LSX, which were issued to her in August of 1946 by the Federal Communications Commission.

Transferred to the West about a year ago from Washington, D. C., when the National Bureau of Standards moved its large portion of employees to Boulder, Miss Barclay settled here as a physicist with the Boulder Lab. She is currently doing research on quartz crystal oscillators.

Originally from Beatrice, Neb., Miss B. joined N.B.S. in 1943, having graduated from Knox College, Illinois, the University of Nebraska, the Capital Radio Institute in the District, as well as having a long list of formal school experience to equip her for both her work and her hobby-work.

When the Washington, D. C., Radio school began giving code classes, Miss Barclay became interested. The instructor frankly told the group that only a few would complete the class, but Miss Barclay accepted the challenge and received her license from the FCC.

The examinations for this license include passing a test on international Morse code, radio theory and law. And one must be able to send and receive thirteen words a minute.

Miss Barclay has had a commercial radio license, which means she can operate commercial stations of certain types.

She is a member of the Young Ladies Group League, a world-wide group of licensed women "hams" and is looking forward to attending the League's First International Convention in Santa Monica, California, Calif.

YL or young lady is the radio ham's slang for any licensed female, just as OM or old man is the term used for the male operator.

Miss Barclay is also a member of the American Relay League; of the "Rag Chewers club," and she was active with Civil Defense Communications club in the nation's capital; she was first vice president of YLRL, and has served as its district chairman of the W3 district, Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

She taught international Morse code for the Washington Radio club and was its treasurer. She was supervisor at W3PZA about three years, the amateur radio station of the American Red Cross in Washington, D. C., which was set up for emergency purposes.

Back East she had equipment built in her home which she eventually rebuilt. She has rebuilt her own transmitter.

During part of this time every radio amateur contact made from

Missouri inevitably included "How's Harry?" as introduction. Current topics are frequently the subject of discussion.

First, radio hams give signal strength, and then their "handle" (name), followed by location; they tell what type of equipment they're operating, and these are the formalities.

A note of mystery in the Boulder lady's log includes communication with a man from the Ukraine, behind the Iron Curtain. Not much was said, it was all in code, of course, but her scrapbook boasts the customary QSL card hams always send each other in writing, upon completion of radio contact.

Just a few weeks ago Miss Barclay set up a mobile rig in her Ford. The equipment is under the dash and it can be operated while driving. A mike hangs from the neck of the operator. The amount of power run on the mobile rig is 60 watts.

Any type auto can accommodate a rig, and there are extremely active groups engaged in this amateur work with mobile equipment in Chicago and in Los Angeles.

As yet Miss Barclay hasn't found any other lady in Boulder sharing the same hobby interest, so to our knowledge in "ham" language she reigns supreme as Queen YL, this week's featured Woman And Her Work.

Boulder Radio Lady Holds District Office



Catherine Barclay

Catherine Barclay, 2334 Broadway, is the new Tenth District chairman of YLRL, an organization of licensed women amateur radio operators whose membership is world-wide. The Tenth, or as it is often called, the Zero District since the ten in the call letter is written zero with a slant bar through it, includes eight states: Colorado, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Minnesota.

members in her district for the YLRL official publication "Harmonics."

Kay, as she is known on the air, has been assigned the call letters KOBTV by the Federal Communications Commission, and operates at present from a mobile radio station installed in her car. She has been licensed since 1946 and has previously held the YLRL offices of Third District chairman and vice president. She is employed at the National Bureau of Standards in the Quartz Research Laboratory.

She Gossips With the World City 'Ham' Sits in Her Home and Visits Everywhere

By FRANK PREMACK
Minneapolis Tribune
Staff Writer

The dishes pile up while Mrs. Joyce Polley sits in her home at 2724 S. Bryant Av. and finds out what the weather's like in Leningrad.

Two hours every morning, plus two afternoons a week, she plunks herself down before her radio and talks with other ham operators all over the world.

With Morse code or voice she may contact the Belgian Antarctic or Montevideo, Uruguay, or Tokyo. Or maybe a ham in Montana.

"WE TALK about the weather mostly," the 23-year-old mother of two youngsters said. "If it's another gal, we talk about our children."

"One woman told me, 'If you have trouble with the baby while you're sending, just put syrup on his fingers and give him a feather.'"

She sits in her "shack," a 7-by-12-foot room off the dining area, before an amazing collection of dials and wires and tubes that her husband, Art, 35, put together.

The walls of her "shack" are plastered with awards she has won and with cards from hams in dozens of foreign countries.

"In five years she's going to run out of wall space," her husband said. "Wherever hams are, they all speak English."

Polley's a radio bug, too, but his wife does most of the operating.

"I BUILT most of the rig myself," the steeplejack, stained-glass window craftsman and jack of all trades said. "It's rated at 150 watts. Right now I'm building one that will be 1,000 watts. I love to build 'em."

"I've been interested in radio all my life. Had a crystal set during the depression when I was a kid."

"Three years ago I picked up an amateur radio magazine and got all fired up. I wanted to get a license right away. But since I'm a Canadian, I couldn't."

"So I trained Joyce and she got her license first."

"NOW SHE'S a better operator than I am. In fact, she's one of the top women amateurs in the world."

Mrs. Polley sends Morse code at 25 words a minute. "That's like typing at 100 words a minute," Polley said. "Or it's as good as the aver-



MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE PHOTO BY CHARLES BRILL

MRS. POLLEY TUNES IN OTHER 'HAMS' DURING RECENT U.S. CONTEST
The walls of her 'shack' are filled with awards and certificates

age telegrapher working for the railroads.

"I didn't know the 'bug' would hit her so hard."

"Me, I get on at nights once in a while and talk to the boys. But Joyce is the operator for contests," Polley said.

"When she's in one of 'em, I'm cook, dishwasher and baby-sitter. But Joyce is a terrific cook."

"Radio's the most wonderful hobby there is," Polley

concluded.

"I CAN SIT at home and travel all over the world," Mrs. Polley chimed in, taking time to rest her ears during a 35-hour contest to see how many OM's ("old men") the YL's ("young ladies") could contact in Morse code.

"When you're short on money it's a swell diversion. I don't have to sit and mope, wondering what I'm going to do with myself."

"I just go over to the radio."

KOIKL-JOYCE
1960

73's From Kay



WAØWOF

In Missouri



HILO RADIO HAM AND HOUSEWIFE, Mrs. Ardelle Johnson, sits with mike in hand in front of her 10 meter phone rig with which she converses with fellow hams over a major part of the world. When this photograph was taken, Mrs. Johnson was holding a gabfest with W50CQ, operated by Lewis Echert of Dallas, Tex.—Tribune-Herald photo

World Is Playground Of Woman Radio Ham Here

By JIM WAIRY

One Hilo housewife has the whole world as her playground. She is Mrs. Ardelle Johnson, who, in addition to her regular occupation of housewife, is a radio ham, operating amateur radio station KH6TL. Known to many of her friends of the radio waves simply as "Dell," Mrs. Johnson may be found at almost any time of the day (or night for that matter) holding a gabfest with some voice on the mainland or the other side of the world.

Even now, she could be in contact with Dr. Guillermo Melo, operating CO7GM at San Juan, Cuba; E. H. Brickhill, ZS6JB at Germiston, South Africa, or Federico Gonzales, T2FG in Costa Rica, just a few of her amateur radio friends.

Or perhaps she is exploring the ether for a new contact in some far off part of the world.

Mrs. Johnson said she became interested in amateur radio through her husband, W. Gould Johnson, a radio engineer with Mutual Telephone Co. here, who also is a ham.

She explained that she used to pester him to get on the air more often so she could listen in or say a few words. He finally told her to get her own license—so she did.

Now she's probably the most enthusiastic radio ham in the family. Since Mrs. Johnson obtained her license last September, fellow hams in every state, all the continents and about 30 foreign countries have "met" on the radio waves this smiling voice from Hilo, Hawaii.

Conditions permitting, she keeps in constant touch with her family in Maine via a regular schedule with amateur radio station W1BEU, operated by Dan Giroux of Fairfield.

"It sure beats letter writing," she exclaimed.

Through her many radio contacts, Hawaii also is better known here and there in the world—particularly in the English town of Helmsingham, Sleaford, Lincoln.

Making his first Hawaiian radio contact, C. B. Railby, operating amateur station G8GI and dean of a school in this English town, and Mrs. Johnson spent many minutes discussing their respective islands.

During the course of the conversation, he wondered if he could get some pictures of Hawaii to show students at his school.

Needless to say he got them.

While this reporter was snapping a picture, Mrs. Johnson sat down at the mike in front of her radio and, in about the time it takes to read it here, was passing the time of day with W50CQ, operated by Lewis Echert of Dallas, Tex.

It just goes to show you how small the world really is—by radio anyway.

The Johnsons, who have been in the territory three years, including 1½ on Oahu and 1½ here, operate their stations at their home at 2425 Kilauaea avenue.

Mrs. Johnson does her skipping about the world on 50 watts of power on 10 meter phone, and 10 watts on 40 meter cw.



Eddie Leiato, Samoan medical practitioner who performed major surgery in Pago Pago while the operation was being monitored by "ham" radio in Honolulu, meets local operator who provided communication between a Honolulu surgeon and Samoan medical authorities during the emergency. In Honolulu now as a UH pre-medical student, Leiato talks to his wife in Pago Pago over "ham" radio.

Local Woman Finds Drama In Air Waves

(Editor's note: The "ham" radio operator in this story does not want to be fully identified because of the flood of telephone calls she says would surely follow. She has regular "hamming" hours, except in case of emergency, and the rest of her time is devoted to her home and family, including a 3-month-old baby.)

To a housewife named Hazel the Pacific Ocean, filled with lonely outposts that aren't always equipped for emergencies (or instant communication), is a theater of human drama.

Her hobby, her volunteer work and her abiding interest is to "meet" and beam in her fellow man and woman on distant islands via "ham" radio.

One of the most dramatic incidents she has encountered in her years of "hamming" is the accompanying story of an emergency operation performed by a Samoan medical practitioner in Pago Pago while Hazel stood by to broadcast instructions from a Honolulu surgeon if they were needed.

NOR IS this all in her Pacific panorama.

Battered victims of South Sea typhoons, survivors of wind or wave or human caprice who want to get word to their loved ones, contact Hazel. Others may have news of illness or death or a need for money or just the need to talk to someone. First contacts are always through other licensed "hams" on distant islands.

"I listen for Guam, Wake, Kwajalein, Canton, Samoa, Tahiti . . . even Alaska, New Zealand and Australia," says Hazel. "Most of the people I 'meet' are construction workers, government employees, military personnel or Islanders who want to contact somebody here, or maybe they want to send a message to somebody on the Mainland.

"Sometimes all they have is a last name and no phone number, or just a slim clue. Sometimes it's a couple of days before I can find the party, but I usually do find them."

IT WAS Hazel's own need in a family emergency that made her decide to become a licensed "ham" 13 years ago.

"My husband was a ham operator when we were married," she said. "His trousseau consisted of two little gray boxes, one receiver and one transmitter, and he built most of the equipment we have now.

"But once, when he was on Wake Island, I wanted to get through to him quickly to help me with a decision about surgery our daughter needed.

"Here was all this equipment spread out in front of me," she gestured toward a bank of dials and switches and mikes. "But I couldn't touch it because I didn't have a Federal Communications Commission license.

"After that, I studied for three months, until I could send and receive at 13 words a minute. Then I got my license and my call letters and I've been hamming ever since."

*KH6AFC - HAZEL
See STORY ON
1963 NEXT
Page*

By MARY COOKE

"KH6AFC in Honolulu
KH6AFC in Honolulu
KH6AFC in Honolulu
this is K6CQV portable
KSG in American Samoa
calling and standing by."

"Hello Hazel, We've got an emergency tonight. I wonder if you can help?"

This was a "ham" station in American Samoa calling Honolulu for assistance in a not-long-ago medical crisis in Pago Pago. Since there is no commercial telephone between Hawaii and Samoa, the appeal came by radio.

THIS WAS the situation: A patient with symptoms of complete intestinal obstruction had been brought to the hospital in American Samoa. There was no

surgeon on the island (although a surgeon from Honolulu was on his way to Samoa that night), and the medical director was away.

Two medical practitioners (Samoan men who have received certificates after several years' training at the Central Medical School in Fiji) alerted the acting director who called in a third medical practitioner, Eteati T. (Eddie) Leiato.

Eddie, who had had some experience with similar cases, had a license to practice medicine and surgery in Samoa. He examined the patient.

"Operate Now"
"What I think right now is, we have to operate," said Eddie.
He was reminded that a

surgeon was even then winging toward Samoa.

"No," said Eddie. "I think that would be too late."

That's when "ham" radio operator Hazel was asked if she would help. The acting medical director wanted a surgeon in Honolulu to stand by to give instructions via radio if necessary.

Hazel made contact and let the parties talk. The acting medical director in Pago Pago described the physical findings and the patient's symptoms to the Hawaii surgeon. He responded by telling them what they might encounter after surgery began.

Meanwhile, Eddie called in a nurse and an anesthetist. The patient was prepared and he began the operation.

Eddie's Decision

We got the rest of the story from Eddie himself, now in Honolulu as a first year pre-medical scholarship student at the University of Hawaii.

"The patient had been in agony 14 or 16 hours," said Eddie. "He had some sedation, but then after a while he'd begin shouting again."

"When I came and looked at him I saw the abdomen was distended, and when I listened I couldn't hear any bowel sounds. This revealed to me complete obstruction of the intestine.

"I ASKED the other medical practitioners to listen and they said no, they didn't hear anything either."

"That's why I thought, 'If we leave the patient even two or three or four more hours, gangrene will set in,' because it seemed to me that circulation in the intestine was completely cut off already."

"I said to them, 'I'm willing to operate and take all the responsibility on me instead of waiting for the surgeon from Honolulu.'"

"THEN THEY wanted me to talk on the radio to the doctor in Honolulu but there was no time to talk. I said, 'Somebody else do the talking. I don't want to take time to talk now.'"

Eddie performed a successful major operation and the patient recovered. The surgeon in Honolulu who was pacing developments by radio said afterwards, "It wasn't a problem that he couldn't handle all right. Help was standing by in case complications developed, but it turned out to be unnecessary."

In Surgery

Eddie described his findings:
"When I opened up the belly and saw that the intestine was unusually long, I made another incision and pulled it out in a loop. There was already some damage—the intestine was

bruised and almost bleeding from being twisted so long.

"I thought, 'If I close him up again right away I'm doubtful that the circulation will function, and the intestine might twist again.' So then I thought, 'The best thing is to externalize that part of the bowel and treat it, and that will be all.'"

THE HAWAII surgeon who arrived in Samoa after the operation was finished said, "He did everything I would have done. I looked at the patient and I didn't have to do anything more for him."

"We all think Eddie is terrific," he added, speaking for himself and other local doctors who have been giving their services in Samoa for over a year. "He's very talented and just soaks up knowledge."

A New Challenge

Eddie, at the age of 36, is here to start all over again with his medical education because he wants to be an M.D.

"Right now I'm just a practitioner without a degree," he says. "We need doctors in Samoa, and if I can do this I know I can help our people. I think it would be a lesson for our young people and for my own children, too."

BUT TWO years of pre-med here and four years of medical school on the Mainland loom up as a long, lonely road to go, even for a young man just out of college. Eddie, a family man, has had to leave his wife and five sons, 2½ to 12 years old, in Pago Pago while he studies for a medical degree.

"My wife is a nurse and so she understands," he said. "She has gone back to work, and there are people at home to help with the children. We own our house and have a garden and chickens and pigs, so I know they're all right while I'm not earning anything."

HIS MANNER was unaffected, serious and direct as he told his story and his hopes for the future, for which he is sacrificing home and family life now.

"I just hope I can make it," he said. "The hardest part seems to be now, try-

ing to learn how to study again."

Said one of his UH instructors, "We have reason to believe he'll do very well, judging from his approach and his attitude and the questions he asks."

Help For His Son

Eddie keeps in touch with his family through appointment calls on "ham" radio which Hazel sets up for him, and through which he arranged for one of his sons to come to Honolulu for surgery.

"My second boy is a cripple," said Eddie, "a victim of polio. As soon as there is a vacancy at Shriners' Hospital he is going to be operated on."

"I had to talk to my wife on the radio first to find out what plane she

was sending him on so I'd be sure to be there to meet him."

But it turned out to be not that easy.

HAZEL set up several early evening appointment calls for the Leiato's to talk. Each time it was reported that Mrs. Leiato had just left the hospital. After queries, the Pago Pago "ham" told Hazel that the Samoan nurse was missing her husband's calls because she had to leave on the only bus going to her village, or not get home at all.

The solution: Another appointment was made. Hospital authorities were notified and Mrs. Leiato was told she could miss the bus. She was taken to her village in the ambulance that night.

Pan American Photograph
Eddie Leiato meets his son, Tunufai, who arrived by Pan American from Samoa Tuesday to enter Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children.



'Ham' Stands By During Surgery In Samoa
THE SUNDAY STAR-BULLETIN & ADVERTISER
March 10, 1963

Amateur Experimental Station 1948-1949
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
 Call Sign VE3BYJ No. 2631
 DOMINION OF CANADA

"Licence to use Radio"

Issued in accordance with the provisions of The Radio Act, 1938, and the Regulations made thereunder.

Margaret Jean Calder,
 351 Princess Avenue,
 London, Ontario.

is hereby authorized to establish and operate an Amateur Experimental Station at the above address

from the date hereof until the thirty-first day of March, 1949, subject to the provisions of The Radio Act, 1938, and to the Regulations hereof or hereafter made thereunder, and to the conditions, if any, stated on the back of this licence.

Frequency Bands	Types of Emission
3 500 —	3 750 mc/s A1
3 750 —	4 000 mc/s A1
7 000 —	7 300 mc/s A1
14 000 —	14 150 mc/s A1
14 150 —	14 350 mc/s A1
14 350 —	14 400 mc/s A1
27 150 —	27 430 mc/s A2 A2
28 000 —	28 200 mc/s A1
28 200 —	29 700 mc/s A1
59 000 —	51 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
144 000 —	148 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
235 000 —	240 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
420 000 —	450 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
1215 000 —	1285 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
2300 000 —	2450 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
3500 000 —	3500 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
5650 000 —	5925 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
10000 000 —	10500 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.
21000 000 —	22000 000 mc/s A1 A2 A3 & F.M.

No transfer of this Licence or of any rights hereunder shall be made by the Licensee.

Date April 1, 1948
 S. J. Ellis
 for Minister of Reconstruction and Supply.

Canada
 No. 6669
Certificate of Proficiency in Radio
 GRANTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE RADIO ACT, 1938

Amateur

This is to Certify that ROSE HALLIFAX has been examined in Radio and has passed in—

(a) THE ADJUSTMENT, OPERATION AND CARE OF APPARATUS.
 (b) TRANSMISSION AND SOUND SIGNALING AT A SPEED OF NOT LESS THAN TEN WORDS A MINUTE.
 (c) KNOWLEDGE OF THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING RADIO COMMUNICATION AND THE OPERATION OF AN AMATEUR EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

It is also certified hereby that the holder has made a legal declaration that he will preserve the secrecy of correspondence.

18th July 1947.
 Examining Officer.
 for Minister of Reconstruction & Supply.

VE3BTE-1949

"1948"

ROGER! OVER
Girl Accepts Radio Proposal



RADIO ROMANCE: Jeanne Drouin, 20, of 272 Eugenie St., who accepted the proposal of marriage over an amateur radio set Sunday afternoon, talks into the mike she used to say "Yes, I accept," to her boy friend, Damien Marc Vermander (left) 22, a Winnipegger now stationed in the army at Ottawa.

Cupid thought of a new way to send a message Sunday afternoon, when a young man in Ottawa popped the question to his girl friend in Norwood by means of amateur radio.

"I was surprised by the way it was done, but I sort of expected," said 20-year-old Jean Drouin, 272 Eugenie street, who gave her acceptance by return radio. The young man in Ottawa, Damien Marcelle Vermander and his brother, Claude, are both with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. Every Sunday about noon they contact their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Vermander who have a receiving set at their home, 127 Lawdale avenue.

But last Sunday Claude sent a message through two other radio "hams" — to Len Cuff of Rutland street, St. James to contact Dan Wood, of 510 Ingersoll street, a friend of the Vermanders. The message was, in effect, that the Vermanders wanted their parents and Jean to go to Dan Wood's, as they had something to talk about. (The Vermanders set can only receive messages and not send them, while Dan Wood's station, VE4LF can do both.)

After a talk between parents and sons, Jean came on the air. "Hello, Jean," said Damien. "I have something important to ask you."

"All right... What is it?" came the reply from Winnipeg.

"Will you marry me?" said the Ottawa voice, after a long pause. Silence.

"I accept," answered mike-shy Jean.

Letters will take care of the rest of the planning for their wedding in Winnipeg sometime this summer.

Boy Proposes On "Ham" Radio; Girl Says "Yes"

A boy in Ottawa talked to a girl in Winnipeg over an amateur radio contact Sunday afternoon. He proposed. She accepted.

The man is Damien Vermander, 80 Stevenson Street, Ottawa, and his fiancée is Jeanne Drouin, 272 Eugenie Street, St. Boniface.

Damien and Jeanne had known each other for some time. The distance between their two homes was not to their liking. One day last week Damien's brother Claude (VE3BOC) contacted Len Cuff, Rutland Street, St. James, (4LC) another "ham."

Claude asked Len to contact Danny Wood (VE4LF) on Ingersoll Street. The Vermanders are family friends of the Woods.

Danny brought Mrs. Vermander, a Winnipegger, and Jeanne to his home Sunday and contacted the two brothers in Ottawa at 1:45 p.m.

"It was a surprise to all of us here," said one of Damien's friends in Winnipeg.

The wedding date hasn't been set.

"Voulez-Vous?" HAM PROPOSES BY SHORT WAVE

A chance conversation by amateur radio between Len Cuff, 286 Rutland street, and Claude Vermander, Ottawa, resulted in a proposal of marriage by Damien Vermander, also of Ottawa to Jeanne Drouin, 272 Eugenie st., Norwood.

In accordance with arrangements made during the morning conversation, Danny Wood, (VE 4 LF) was notified and thereupon arranged for Mrs. Vermander and Jeanne to be present at his home on Ingersoll street to talk with the boys in Ottawa. Following the establishment of contact at 1:45 Sunday afternoon Mrs. Vermander talked with her sons and then turned the microphone over to Jeanne for her chat with Damien. It was at this time that the surprise proposal was made. The actual wording was in the French language and came as a complete surprise to all concerned.

Communication in Ottawa was carried out through the station of Claude Vermander, (VE3BOC) former Winnipeg amateur.

Radio Amateurs Have Thrilling Time Talking To Persons in Far Places

By SHIRLEY WASHER

Most women get a kick out of calling their friends on the telephone and chatting for a minute or two (husbands insist it's more like an hour or two) once the housework is done and the dishes dried.

And Mrs. Cyril Williamson of Port Weller is no exception. Her favorite pastime is talking to friends who live thousands of miles away, and she does so for hours at a time every day in the week. What's more, her husband approves of such frivolity and even helps her out now and again.

Mrs. Williamson usually begins calling her friends about 11 o'clock in the morning and compares notes with a chap in the Fiji Islands or has a quick chat with her friend in England checking on the weather and other interesting happenings of the day. Nearly every day she talks to Maxine in California and is a little ashamed to admit that they often talk for more than two hours. Sometimes her husband gets a word in edgewise and has a chance to exchange ideas with his soldier friend in Guam or pass the time of day (and that is all) with a fellow in Russia. In the afternoon Mrs. Williamson often renews acquaintances with a friend or two in Finland or makes a new contact in Palestine.

With conversations such as these, you'd think the Williamsons would have to pay an extremely high telephone bill each month. But they don't! Mrs. Williamson and her husband are "hams"—radio amateurs, to be more specific.

Only Woman "Ham" Here

The dark-haired, dark-eyed mother of two grown sons has been "talking" for 20 years or more, but received her ticket to operate an amateur radio set only three weeks ago. As a matter of fact, Ethel Williamson is the only woman "ham" in the St. Catharines area, and it is believed that she is one of 10 women radio amateurs in the whole of Canada. Her husband, tall, quiet Cyril Williamson, lighthouse keeper at the Port Weller entrance to the Welland Canal, has held his ticket since 1932.

He is a skilled radio operator, having served with the radar branch of the R.C.A.F. doing top secret work in England and Africa during World War II. For his present position as officer in charge of Aids to Navigation at Port Weller lighthouse Mr. Williamson had to obtain his commercial operator's license to operate the radio beacon on the canal.

Work as a Team

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson work as a team in their adventures by radio. He is first operator and she is second operator. Their call is "VE3TW"—magic letters which carry them on a carpet of radio "bands" and waves to people and places in far-away lands. A twist of a knob the push of a button or two, and they are transported from the cosy den of their lighthouse home beside the Welland Canal to a parlour in Sweden or an army outpost in Guam or Japan. "Hams" are known to each other by numbers and first names. Mrs. Williamson is VE3TW Ethel. Her husband is VE3TW Cyril. Sometimes, however, the second operator is "my darling, darling Ethel" to hams in South America who seem to think that this is the correct North American greeting.

Make Many Friends

"It is just like calling up your friends around the world and having a chat with them every day," Mrs. Williamson says. "I get such a kick out of it. It is difficult sometimes to say very much because many of the 'hams' don't know too much English, so our conversation is usually limited to the weather and our respective states of health."

Two years ago she met her good friend Maxine of California via the radio waves, and now they talk nearly every day. When Mr. and Mrs. Williamson visited California a year ago, they met "Maxine" and her husband, also a radio "ham." Maxine's husband made the first radio contact across the Atlantic and the Pacific and heard Admiral Peary at the North Pole.

Plenty of Thrills

Shortly after the end of the war, the Williamsons "worked" Guam and Japan for the first time and spoke to American military personnel on both occasions. One day Mrs. Williamson spoke to a ham at a lonely outpost in Baffin Land. He told her that he handles all the radio traffic for the Arctic area through his station, then proudly announced that his five-year-old son had just in recent months was her talk with an operator of the Royal Air Force Station at Habbaniya in Iraq, after trying to work that wave length for three months. Since the war, she and her husband have spoken to two Russian hams whom they describe as "very polite and interested." Their most recent contacts have been with Ethiopia and the Fiji Islands.

Holland Talk Recorded

Last week, by special arrangement, Mrs. Williamson spoke to Holland's only woman ham in The Hague, and their conversation was recorded by the International Broadcasting Station, P.C.J. It will be re-broadcast on short wave stations throughout the world tomorrow at 9:30 p.m. Standard Time. Owners of short wave radio sets will be able to hear the "schedule" on 31.28 meters, 9.59 megacycles, station PCJ. The Dutch ham, whose call signal is PA0ZC Louise, told Mrs. Williamson that she lives near the tulip fields where the famous Holland tulips which are being exported to Canada and the United States are grown.

Sent Canadian Greetings

Last Christmas Canadian Christmas greetings were broadcast throughout the world by VE3TW Ethel as part of a special Christmas short wave program arranged by the British Broadcasting Corporation. She didn't know when she sat down

to talk to her English ham friend that she would be representing Canada on the British program. Hams from several other countries in the world which could be worked that day, also brought Yuletide messages from their sections of the globe.

Have Own Language

When a ham calls a station within his own country, and wants to talk to "anyone" he calls "CQ." When he wishes to speak to anyone outside his own country, he calls "CQDX." Once a contact is made, a record of it is written in the ham's log book and weeks later a "QSL" is received to verify the call. Mrs. Williamson explains that a "QSL" is a verification card, like a postcard, received from a ham she has contacted. This card is checked off against the log book and filed with hundreds of other cards received from hams throughout the world. They also have cards from amateurs known as "listeners". There are thousands of these people throughout the world, who listen in on ham schedules and report via a card similar to the QSL, how the conversation sounded to them. Mrs. Williamson received a card from one listener last week, who wrote that she had been an invalid for 11 years and her unique hobby makes her life much brighter.

Hundreds of Cards

The Williamsons have close to a thousand QSL cards, some of them bearing clever cartoons, all of them unique. They contain the ham's number, date of his contact with the ham to whom the card is addressed, an usually a brief message of greeting. QSL's in the Williamson team's files have come from a monk in an abbey in Beyrouth, Lebanon; and from other more conventional hams in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Jamaica, Germany, Palestine, England, Scotland, Wales, Roumania, India, Japan and countless other corners of the earth. The ambition of every ham is to own a Century Certificate which means that he has contacted 100 different countries. To prove such a claim he must send his QSL cards to the International Amateur Radio Union in Hartford, Conn., which embraces all the amateur radio societies in the world. Although Cyril Williamson has contacted 100 countries, he does not yet own the coveted certificate because all the necessary QSL cards have not yet been received. However, he does hold the WAC certificate (which means he has contacted all continents) and this and several others are hanging on the walls in their ham station.

Jumble of Switches

Ham equipment, to the inexperienced eye, is a jumble of switches, keys, knobs and lights flicking on and off. To the experienced ham, it is merely a transmitter, receiver and microphone which are as easy for them to operate as rolling off the proverbial log.

"It's just getting used to it," the Williamson's insist. "Once you learn the rules, there's nothing to it!"

Asked, the value of their modern equipment, Mrs. Williamson replied happily: "Well, a lot of fur coats went into this. But it is worth it all!"

Location Counts

Her husband said that a radio amateur can spend anywhere from \$50 to \$50,000 on his equipment, according to his ambition and his means. In his opinion a ham can talk around the world just as well with \$50 worth of equipment as he can with a \$5,000 set. Location makes the big difference in the kind of reception in the final analysis, Mr. Williamson claims.

Others besides Mr. and Mrs. Williamson enjoy their hobby. Last year two boys from Ridley College spoke to their parents in Mexico every two weeks, via VE3TW facilities. One Christmas a St. Catharines family spoke to their son's war bride in England and heard their small grandson recite a poem to his daddy. Friends and acquaintances drop in at the Williamson home by the dozen to listen in on a conversation with someone on the other side of the world or to talk to relatives in far-off lands. Most amazing of all, their trips on the magic carpet don't cost them a cent.

PICTURES TO ARTICLE NEXT PAGE

How To Become A Ham
 How does one become a radio amateur? All you need is a sincere

desire to learn and a little effort to gain the necessary knowledge. Boys of 10 and 12 have become expert hams, as have men of 60. They come from all walks of life, but are bound together by the invisible threads of fascination that reach out to every amateur once he has taken his first step in the adventures of radio. They are participants in a universal hobby which provides adventure, competition and endless variety.

Play Important Roles

During times of emergency such as floods and earthquakes and explosions, have been worth their weight in gold. Two hams handled all the communication in and out of Ecuador at the time of the devastating earthquake there some months ago. When all other communication was cut off with the outside world, radio amateurs are the most valuable assistants of the Red Cross in times of emergency when supplies and additional help are needed. Today there are more than 100,000 hams operating their sets, simple or ultra-modern, around the globe.

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson are members of the Niagara District Amateur Radio Association, which has its headquarters in St. Catharines. Emile Hicks VE3API is president of the club which meets once a month.

Although her two sisters also married radio amateurs, Ethel Williamson is the only one of the trio who is a ham in the official sense of the world (Somehow ham doesn't sound quite feminine — perhaps "hamette" would fill the bill, or as they are called in Africa, "SW's"—sweet woman). Ham, Hamette or SW, Mrs. Williamson is all wrapped up in her amazing hobby and for her the lowly telephone holds no charm.

"YL" KZ5AC



Mrs. Angela M. Combs, above, is the first woman in the Canal Zone to qualify as a licensed amateur radio operator. Known in ham jargon as a "yl" (young lady), her assigned call is KZ5AC.

Angela Combs Qualifies As Radio Operator

Informed yesterday that she had passed the code and theory examinations, Angela M. Combs, wife of P. C. Combs, of Balboa, becomes the first woman in the Canal Zone to qualify as a licensed amateur radio operator.

Mr. Combs, an employee of the Health Department at Gorgas Hospital, is also a licensed amateur, operating station KZ5PC, and now shares with his wife the distinction of being one-half of the first husband-and-wife radio team on the Isthmus. Angela, in ham jargon is a "YL" (young lady) and her assigned call is KZ5AC.

Mrs. Combs became interested in amateur radio several months ago when her husband began studying for his ham ticket. She attended the code and theory classes with him at the school sponsored by the Canal Zone Amateur Radio Association aboard the S. S. Barracuda at Diablo. With persistence and determination she waded through tough technical subjects and mastered the International Morse Code, her sights always set on the attainment of that coveted ham ticket.

Mrs. Combs is a Canal Zone girl, having been born in Pedro Miguel, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pimento. She attended the Canal Zone schools and graduated from Balboa High School in 1932. The Combs have two "junior ops", aged 9 and 12.



ANGLO-AMERICAN HAMFEST HELD AT THE MOSTYN (AMERICAN RED CROSS) CLUB, LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1944.

Front row: Mr. Arthur Milne, G2MI (Hon. Editor), F/Lt. John Clarricoats, G6CL (General Secretary), Miss Pamela Clarricoats, Miss Nell Corry, G2YL, Mr. E. L. Gardiner, G6GR (President), Lt.-Col. David Talley, W2PF (Chairman of Meeting).



Margaret Mills, G3ACC, is regularly active on both the DX and L.F. bands. With a total of 111 countries worked—97 confirmed—she may soon be the first since receiving her licence in July, 1946, to qualify for DXCC. This recent view of her station in East Dulwich, London, shows that the feminine touch can keep even a DX station neat, tidy and comfortable to operate—but perhaps these features are due to her war-time training as a W.A.A.F. Signals Officer. The equipment includes a compact 150-watt 813 P.A. transmitter with built-in 1,500 volt power supplies; an AR77E receiver; a crystal calibrator and a small speech amplifier for occasional telephony transmissions. Meg's only regret is that her call-sign is less appropriate than her former B.R.S. number—7388.

T12BX, San Jose, Costa Rica, is much in evidence these days and is active on all bands. The QM, Jax Westlake, has held the calls of Canadian 9FU 1922/30, W6RIG 1949/41 and CP12X 1952/53. His XYL, Ginny, is very popular on 21 Mc. Phone and has recently acquired the MMARC Certificate. Since the appearance of T12BX, 78 countries and 28 zones have been worked. Gear: A Viking II, NC-133-D receiver with a D623 preselector with a beam on 14 and a 210-ft. long wire for 28, 7, 3.5, and 1.8 operation.



EL TELEGRAFO — Guayaquil, Ecuador — Viernes 5 de Mayo de 1950

EL TELEGR

1884 El Diario con más años al servicio de la Patria

Regresó del Archipiélago de Colón la Delegación del "Guayaquil Radio Club"

DESDE NUESTRAS APARTADAS ISLAS, LA DELEGACION ESTABLECIO COMUNICACION CON LAS ESTACIONES DE RADIO - AFICIONADOS DE TODAS PARTES DEL MUNDO. SOBRE LA LABOR CUMPLIDA HACE DECLARACIONES EL SR. JOHN M. REED



El Sr. John Mark Reed, infatigable radio-aficionado, quien en su carácter de Presidente del Guayaquil Radio Club viene desarrollando una activa y eficaz labor en pro del incremento de la radio-afición ecuatoriana y su vinculación con todos los países del planeta. En la presente gráfica aparece el señor Reed operando su moderno equipo transmisor y receptor, mediante el cual se mantiene en frecuente comunicación con los radio-aficionados de todas las latitudes y meridianos del globo.

A bordo del B/P. Esmeraldas, retornó en la madrugada de ayer a este puerto, con procedencia de la isla San Cristóbal del archipiélago de Colón, la delegación del Guayaquil Radio Club, que viaja a esa región ecuatoriana con el objeto de establecer comunicación desde allí con las estaciones de radio-aficionados de todo el orbe, incorporando de esta manera un nuevo PAIS al mundo de la radio-afición.

La delegación estuvo constituida así: Sr. John Mark Reed, Presidente del Guayaquil Radio Club; Sr. César Ramírez, Secretario de la misma institución; Sr. Jorge Philippe, Sr. P. K. Myhre, Sra. Teresa de Reed y Sra. Sofía de Philippe.

Con el objeto de informar a nuestros lectores sobre las labores realizadas en Galápagos por la delegación, visitamos en la tarde de ayer, en su distinguido hogar, al señor John Mark Reed, quien en unión de su amable cónyuge nos recibió con suma gentileza y nos hizo las declaraciones que a continuación publicamos.

Doble propósito del viaje. "El viaje a Galápagos se organizó, nos dice el señor Reed, con dos propósitos: el uno encaminado a satisfacer el deseo de los radio-aficionados de esta ciudad que querían conocer esa sección territorial del Ecuador; y el otro, dirigido a dar a conocer a los millares de radio-aficionados de todo el planeta, esta región insular, cuya historia está rebosante de dramatismo. Estimo que ambos objetivos se lograron en buena parte, si bien el segundo mucho más que el primero, ya que se trabajó durante las 24 horas del día todo el breve pe-



En esta foto, impresionada en la isla San Cristóbal, del Archipiélago de Colón, aparecen de pie de izquierda a derecha, las siguientes personas: señora Teresa de Reed, el señor P. K. Myhre, señor Sofía de Philippe, Sr. César Ramírez, señor John Mark Reed y señor Jorge Ramírez.

riodo de nuestra permanencia en San Cristóbal, que fue la única isla que visitamos. "El inspirador del viaje. "Debo manifestar — continúa hablando el señor Reed — que la instancia que nos acompañó en el viaje a Galápagos fue inspirada por el señor Carlos Eisner, miembros del Guayaquil Radio Club, quien señaló la importancia y trascendencia que tendría en el mundo de la radio-afición. Desafortunadamente, motivos de última instancia obstaron el viaje del señor Eisner, lo que fue por nosotros lamentado."

El equipo. "La delegación llevó un equipo completo y moderno, en el que — como se comprende — habla generadores, transmisores, receptores, antenas y todo cuanto es necesario para trabajar en telegrafía y telefonía. — En telegrafía se operó en las bandas de 10 y 20 metros; en telefonía en las bandas de 10, 11, 20 y 40 metros. En todo caso con resultados plenamente exitosos. Período de labor en Galápagos. "Comenzamos a trabajar en la isla San Cristóbal, el viernes 21 de abril último, a las 8 de la noche y concluimos de operar el 28 del propio mes, a las 9 de la mañana. Seis, trece horas de ininterrumpida labor de transmisión y recepción, atendida mediante turnos entre los seis radio-aficionados que componían la delegación del Guayaquil Radio Club. Se comunicaron con todo el mundo. "Desde Galápagos nos comunicamos virtualmente con todas las regiones del planeta. Nos escucharon y nos respondieron 68 PAISES situados en América, Europa, Asia, África y Oceanía, en donde por primera vez se escuchaba una estación instalada en nuestra región insular, la que hoy está registrada como un nuevo PAIS dentro del mundo de la radio-afición. 2166 estaciones contestaron. "Dos mil ciento dieciséis estaciones de radio-aficionados nos contestaron desde sesenta y ocho PAISES, como ya se dijo. Desde las gelidas latitudes del Ártico, en el Canadá, hasta las ardientes latitudes de Sudáfrica. Si se considera que no todos los radio-aficionados poseen aparatos transmisores que les permita contestar los mensajes, limitando su labor a escuchar a través de sus receptores, se podrá calcular cuán alta será la cifra de radio-aficionados de todo el globo que han receptado a la delegación del Guayaquil Radio Club, operando desde la isla San Cristóbal, de nuestro archipiélago de Colón. También operaron desde a bordo. "Aunque en términos discretos, la delegación en su viaje de ida también operó desde a bordo del B/P Esmeraldas de la Armada Nacional. En el viaje de retorno el agotamiento producido por la prolongada labor realizada en San Cristóbal, indujo a los radio-aficionados a tomar descanso. Hasta ayer el señor Reed había recibido más de medio millar de tarjetas procedentes de distintos países, enviadas por otros tantos radio-aficionados, dándole a conocer las condiciones en que habían escuchado a la estación de Galápagos. Vimos tarjetas venidas por correo aéreo desde Australia y Nueva Zelanda, Inglaterra y Checoslovaquia, Egipto y Sudáfrica, la India y Pakistán, Canadá y Chile. Es decir, de todas las regiones de la Tierra. La Estación de Galápagos es ahora la más famosa del mundo. "Uno de los comunicantes declaró con manifiesta euforia: La Estación de Galápagos es ahora la más famosa del mundo. Otro dice: "Conocimos a Galápagos a través de su leyenda; ahora sabemos dónde está y a qué país sudamericano pertenece. Aficionado uruguayo no conocía la ubicación geográfica de las islas. Nos refiere el señor Reed que

cierto día captaron a una estación uruguayo, cuyo operador decía que estaba recibiendo perfectamente los mensajes de la Estación de Galápagos y que había orientado su día positivo hacia el sur, rogando que se le indicara si efectivamente había ese punto cardinal se hallaba el archipiélago ecuatoriano. Sr. Reed significa sus agradecimientos. El señor Reed nos expresó que la delegación estaba muy reconocida de las facilidades que para viajar en el B/P. Esmeraldas habían dado el Ministerio de Defensa Nacional y las autoridades superiores de la Armada, bajo cuyos auspicios el Guayaquil Radio Club pudo llevar a la realidad su propósito. Igualmente nos manifestó que él y sus compañeros de delegación se hallaban profundamente agradecidos de las finas y reiteradas atenciones que les proporcionaron en San Cristóbal el Gobernador Marítimo del Archipiélago, Teniente de Fragata don Jorge Páez Torres, gracias a cuya cooperación pudieron obtener un local en donde instalaron los equipos. Finalmente, también significa el señor Reed su gratitud para el Comandante del B/P. Esmeraldas, Teniente de Fragata don Sergio Sáenz Bejarano, quien con sus Oficiales prodigó a la delegación cuantas atenciones estuvieron en su alcance. Honorarios diplomas. "En nuestra al hogar del señor Reed, pudimos informarnos este caballero que posee un Certificado expedido el 18 de noviembre de 1949, por The American Radio Relay League Inc., de West Hartford, Conn, que acredita que el señor Reed ha trabajado con un centenar de PAISES del mundo de la radio-afición. A la fecha el señor Reed lleva trabajados 152 países. El Guayaquil Radio Club y el terremoto de Ambato. "Valga esta ocasión para señalar que para la gran mayoría del pueblo ecuatoriano, incluso para la casi totalidad de la prensa nacional, pasó desapercibida la enorme cooperación que el Guayaquil Radio Club prestó desinteresada y noblemente al país entero, comen- zando por el propio Gobierno, en los días subsiguientes al terremoto del 5 de agosto de 1949, que azotó las provincias centrales del altiplano, operando con sus propios equipos desde la martirizada Ambato. En la cooperación que gran número de naciones del Orbe prestaron al Ecuador en su hora de tremendo dolor, influyó en buena parte el Guayaquil Radio Club, que hizo saber oportuna y patéticamente al mundo entero la magnitud de la tragedia que asolaba a una importante región de esta República. "La modestia, que el distintivo característico de la citada entidad, perfectamente traducido en la persona de su presidente, señor John Mark Reed, ha contribuido al primer término para que se desconozca la valiosa cooperación prestada al país en momentos de innarrable amargura, por el Guayaquil Radio Club.

"Round-the-World" Messages



It's fun reading over messages from ham friends in all parts of the world, as evidenced here by Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Williamson as they look through "QSL's" from Norway, South Africa, Denmark and Australia. Mr. and

Mrs. Williamson operate their own ham station, "VE3TW", in their home at Port Weller.—Staff Photo, Standard Engraving.

"VE3TW Calling PA0Z in Holland"



"VE3TW calling CQDX" Mrs. Cyril Williamson, the only woman "ham" operator in the St. Catharines area, turns the magic dial which takes her to far-off lands. She received her ham "ticket" or

certificate to operate as a radio amateur three weeks ago and is believed to be one of ten women hams in Canada.—Staff Photo, Standard Engraving.