

# LESSONS IN MORSE

## (2) Practice In Receiving

**T**HE second of the series of Signal Training Lessons in Morse which are being broadcast from station 2YC, 12M and 3YL was broadcast on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week.

This lesson (No. 2), was devoted mainly to receiving.

It was intimated that those trainees who own short-wave radio receivers, are able to obtain plenty of receiving prac-

tice, but for the benefit of the others, more and more time would be devoted each session to receiving, so that everyone would be able to gain a certain amount of receiving practice each day.

It was pointed out that the habit should be formed of impressing the sound equivalents of the letters on the mind rather than endeavouring to remember the letters as dots and dashes. As an example, the letter "C" should instinctively come to mind as *dahditdahdit*, not as *dashdotdashdot*. It

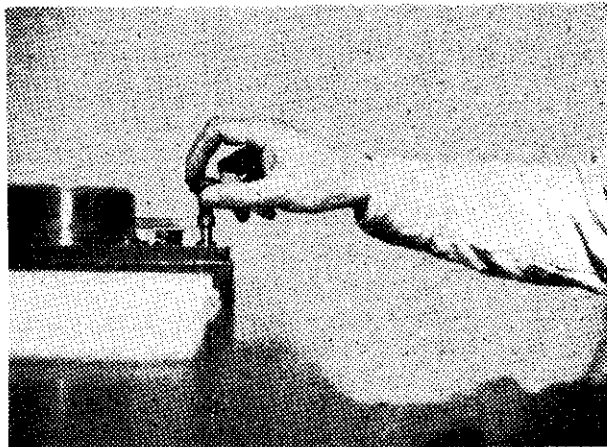
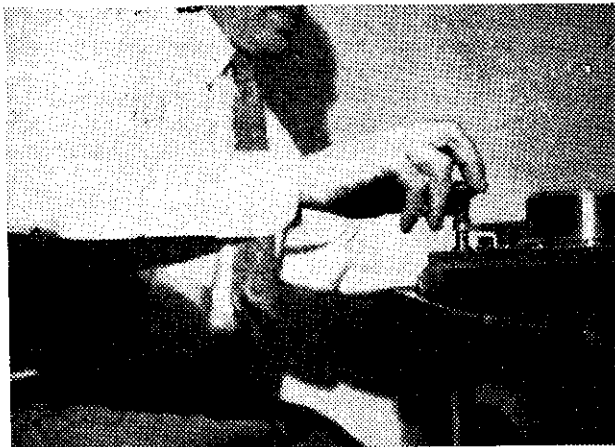
is the sound of each letter that should be memorised.

In order to assist trainees in the formation of the Morse characters for each letter, the instructor transmitted each letter of the alphabet twice, and, before starting, stressed the method that should be adopted in holding the key. This was briefly, as follows:

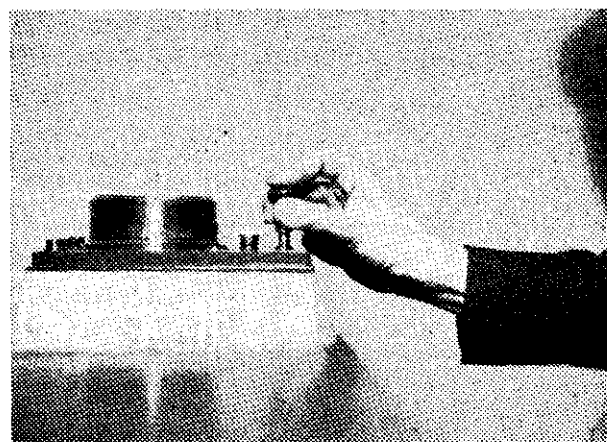
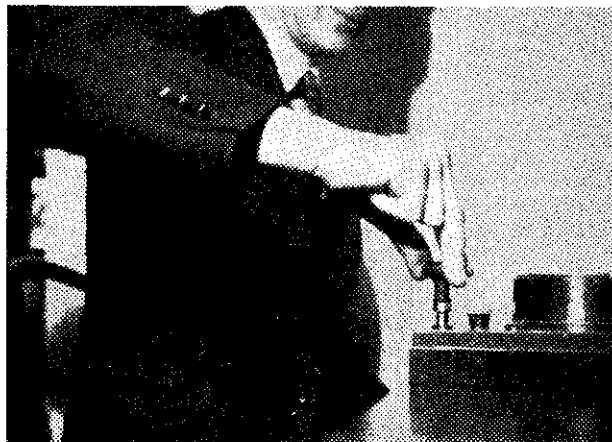
*Thumb under table top or knob of key, tops of first and second fingers resting lightly on top of table or key knob, and, most important of all, a light grip, so that the arm muscles are relaxed.*

The remainder of the lesson was taken up in receiving practice, particular attention being given to certain letters which are fairly easy to remember.

## KEY MANIPULATION



**THE RIGHT WAY:**—First and second fingers on top of key; thumb under knob of key; third and fourth fingers in natural relaxed position; arm and wrist on a level with the key lever.



**THE WRONG WAY:**—Key is gripped. The muscle strain is clearly noticeable. Operating the key from either of the above positions would be extremely awkward and would result not only in a cramped style but in faulty formation of the morse characters.

## WATER DOES THE WORK

(continued from previous page)

The man in the street in New Zealand can come off the street after work, set up his tanks in the backyard of his home in a crowded city area, and reduce the fruiterer's bill, the vegetable bill, and the doctor's bill. So "hydropondriacs" claim.

For the man who wants more than his own supply of vegetables, or his own experimental flower plot, the possibilities are endless. In one tank he can grow crops of potatoes, peas, tomatoes, and

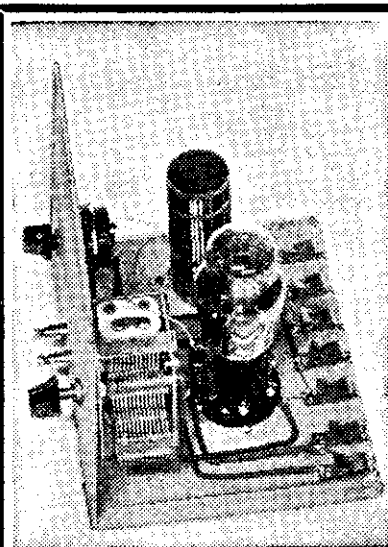
many other vegetables all at the same time, in spring, summer, autumn, or winter. He gives them the root feed and puts them in the sun: nature does the rest. If frost is coming he can just about carry his garden inside, or at least cover it very easily. If insects attack it he can attack the insects. If disease comes to it he can go straight for the disease.

### A Word of Caution

A word of caution, however, is necessary. The Institute warns members in its publicity matter that small experience of the science as a hobby does not

necessarily fit them to rush into it commercially.

Many things have yet to be found out about it. It has certain obvious virtues—many obvious virtues—and many things to recommend it over soil culture in special circumstances. But the most fascinating thing about it seems to be its possibilities for experimentation and for growing things in flats and other places where there is no soil available, as is often the case, for instance, in a city like Wellington. Used with knowledge and discrimination, hydroponics can be useful. It can't fail to be interesting.



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