

With the Experimenter

Some Useful Points

IF you are doubtful about your ability to obtain a well-finished wooden cabinet, do not forget that rexine and leathette have possibilities as covering materials.

IF your aerial runs close to your neighbour's do not share an earth with him, as this often gives rise to mutual interference.

ODD lengths of wire which would otherwise be thrown away can often be wound upon empty cotton reels, and can then be thrown into the tool box instead of into the dustbin.

IF you use a carrier strap for your accumulator on no account allow the acid to come into contact with this, for it may break when you are carrying the battery over the carpet one day, with disastrous results.

OWING to the very high frequencies used in modern short-wave work the term "mega-cycle," which means one million cycles, is coming into favour amongst experimenters.

EXPERIMENTERS who like doing delicate work will find that improved results are sometimes obtainable with a horn type loudspeaker if the two magnet coils under the diaphragm are connected in parallel, instead of in series.

WHEN fitting a potentiometer to improve sensitivity or reaction control, remember that its action must be smooth and reliable, or it will cause far more trouble than it is worth.

VERY often a short-wave set works better without the earth connection.

DO not expect a super-power valve to increase volume, because its function is not to provide this, but to handle it without distortion.

FLAT spots or dead spots in short-wave tuning are due to aerial tuning effects and can be shifted by connecting a variable condenser in the aerial lead, adjusting this when necessary.

WHEN wiring up a screen-grid valve remember that the P. terminal of the valve holder will not be the output terminal, but will supply the necessary priming voltage to the screen of the valve.

IF your set is to use only one anti-microphonic, and the rest rigid valve holders, remember that it is usually the detector which gives rise to noises, so the anti-microphonic holder should be used for it.

AN ordinary neutralising condenser makes an excellent means of loose coupling the aerial for short-wave work if connected in series. (Re-adjust the condenser if "blind-spots" are troublesome.)

A SHOCK to the telephones, such as is caused by dropping them upon the floor, is liable to damage the permanent magnets and to render them insensitive.

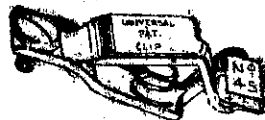
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