

Questions and Answers

(Continued from page 26.)

With the aid of my sketch showing the colouring of wires, can you tell me which of the black wires is 250 volts?

A.: It is impossible to tell. The only way you can find out is to check with a voltmeter.

2. The adaptor is to be plugged into the second detector socket. Which of the 57's is the second detector?

A.: That nearest the 59 output pentode.

3. The adaptor circuit has no volume control. Would the broadcast volume control serve for the adaptor also?

A.: You do not say how volume is controlled in your set, though this is

more than likely accomplished by varying the bias of the 57 mixer oscillator. If this is the case, you will need to fit an additional volume control on your adaptor.

W.F.E.B. (Bay of Islands): My pick-up has three connections—one being a spade terminal. How could I connect it to a 4-valve regenerative set? At present I have one pin and the spade connected to the grid of the detector valve. Would this connection be responsible for the very poor results I am getting?

A.: Yes. The spade terminal should be connected to earth. The simplest way of connecting the pick-up without altering the wiring is to connect it across the grid-leak.

F.B. (Te Awamutu): I have just bought a new 6-valve set. I cannot pick up 2YA and 4YA between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., but at night I can receive them very clearly. Why is this?

A.: This is quite normal. The daylight range of a transmitter is considerably less than its range at night.

"ENGINEER" (Lake Coleridge): Can the test oscillator described in the April "Radio Times" be operated from a power pack?

A.: Yes, as it employs an a.c. valve. 2. A coupling transformer to minimise power interference was described in a recent issue of the "Radio Times." The number of turns for the broadcast band was given. What are the details for the short-wave band?

A.: Primaries, about 10 turns each, and secondaries, about forty turns.

R.D. (Huntville): Between 550 k.c. and 820 k.c. I can receive stations at good volume. From there to 1200 k.c. they are weaker, and from 1200 k.c. to 1500 k.c. I can receive no stations at all.

A.: Evidently your set is badly out of alignment. Call in a serviceman.

Mr. Radio Fan
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"Principles of Radio Communication," by Morecroft, 40/6.
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Scott's Handbook, 1932, 1/6.
"Tune-In" 7d. (Don't miss this new N.Z. publication for Dx-ers' Biggest call list, published locally).

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2YA Engineers "On the Mat"

AS secretary of the Wellington branch of the New Zealand DX Club, I have been instructed by members here to obtain, if possible, information on 2YA's behaviour on Sundays. I refer to that session which commences at 6 p.m. Invariably the generators are switched on at approximately 5.30 and 5.40 p.m. Surely it does not take that long to warm up? 2YC is another offender. Naturally the dial on and near that particular position is covered by the hum. Sunday is usually a good day for overseas reception, and at the particular time the station switches on, American stations are "good hunting," signals being R5, QSA4. Naturally this is very annoying to dxers, who have to switch off disgusted. Dxers perform a valuable service by listening to overseas programmes (sometimes through QRN and QRM), and forwarding full particulars on reception and transmissions to the stations concerned (postage and patience in the bargain). By this means those responsible are able to check up on the data received. Dx programmes are becoming more regular and stations more often than not ask for reports. Why? So I ask for some consideration to dxers. We would be very grateful if those responsible would help us to assist those overseas stations by switching on 2YA, say, at 5.55 p.m.

D. BOUVERIE,

Secretary, Wellington Branch, N.Z. DX Club.

[On inquiry we find that it is necessary to bring 2YA on the air approximately half an hour earlier on Sunday evenings for testing purposes.—Ed.]

PRIZES in a sweepstake promoted by Italian broadcast authorities include "a stay at a first-class hotel, a sea-voyage and a short trip by aeroplane."

SPAIN is suffering an epidemic of secret piratical transmitters. The principal plague spot is Saragossa, where the police recently captured five of the culprits, all of whom were transmitting seditious propaganda.