



# HAM H U M

AK-SAR-BEN  
RADIO CLUB  
INC.

WØ EQU




Nov.

1957

P.O. 626

Omaha 1, Nebr.

Vol. VII No. 11

The harvest had been abundant  and the Pilgrims at Plymouth,  in gratitude,  gathered for our first Thanksgiving, in 1621...



They ate of wild turkeys...

and their Indian friends

gathered with them.



# Ham Hum

Published by  
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.  
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## EDITORS

Alan McMillan, WØJJK

Dick Eilers, WØYZV

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request. News and information of interest to amateur radio is gladly accepted. All items must be received at least two weeks prior to the second Friday of each month for inclusion in the current month issue. Submit all correspondence to P. O. Box 626, Omaha, Nebr.

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AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC.

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• 2 Year Term

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Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club memberships are open to all persons having an interest in amateur radio and its activities. Dues are 50¢ per month or \$5.00 per year when paid in advance. Student rate is 25¢ per month or \$2.50 per year. Initiation fee \$1.00. Special rate for OM-XYL, \$6.50 payable annually. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month.

## Mr. AK-SAR-BEN Origin of "Ham"

At the board meeting the other night it was decided that we should show our appreciation of the efforts of the Ham who has done the most for Amateur Radio and the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club. An award will be given to him at the December meeting. The big question is - "Who is he and what has he done to deserve this high honor?" That is where you come in. You will have an opportunity to put in your vote at the November meeting or by mail before December first. We need to know your choice to be sure the award goes to the best man (or woman). If you give a little thought to the matter you will come up with the name of someone you think has done something outstanding or maybe even just been helpful to many of you. To get this award to the proper person we should hear from each one of you. Don't know what the award will be as yet, but am told it will be a useful item. Look for more details at the meeting.

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We hear W0RND in Council Bluffs scheduling a Lincoln, Nebraska station on 10 meters and that is a good piece of ground wave showing what a good antenna will do.

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Received a nice letter from Ed Handy, WIBDI, Communications Manager of ARRL. Our story regarding the origin of the word "Ham" as lifted from another ham paper it seems is not to be found in the history books of Ham Radio. He enclosed a copy of a letter from Mr. Budlong to another club regarding this same story. These stories do get around. Maybe we can slow this one up by quoting Budlong's letter.

"Dear OM:

I was much interested in noting the item in your club bulletin "Mike & Key" June '57, recently on the explanation of the word "ham."

We're quite familiar with this matter from our experience with it several years ago and it occurs to me you might be interested in what we found when we looked into it.

We originally came upon it when some doctor in New York--not an amateur himself, so far as I could see--sent in the clipping from a medical journal. He wanted to know if we confirmed the story. We had to say that we'd never heard of it before and that offhand it sounded a little incredible that after all these years of speculation on the origin of the word no one

had ever come up with this story.

We checked the Senate Committee hearing record of the 1912 bill and found no mention of the incidents mentioned or the people.

Senator Walsh wasn't a senator in 1911. According to the "Biographical Dictionary of the American Congress," he wasn't elected to the Senate in 1919. He was governor of Massachusetts in 1914-15, and lieutenant governor in 1913; so far as his activities in 1911 are concerned, we can find nothing to indicate that he wasn't anything other than a private practicing lawyer.

You will recall the recent series of articles on early radio by Sumner Young, WQCO. He was originally one of the pioneers in the Boston area. We wrote him about it and he'd never heard anything of the people or the station.

Some time later we had a letter from Dr. Hyman's secretary who wanted to know if we'd like a story. We said we would, but that it should be well documented. We never had a reply.

Just thought you might be interested.

73.

\*\*\*\*\*

Doc Underwood, WOGFK, down Lincoln way is sporting a new KWS-1.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Advance dope. Second Friday as usual and when we refer to the trusty calendar on the wall we find it to be Friday the 13. Your lucky day of course. And the presents under the tree will be something to be lucky for. The raffle money for the year will go into the present fund as has been the custom plus some sweetening from the club treasury plus the presents you bring with you. Get your thinking cap on now so you can bring a good one. Not expensive - a buck or so - but one you might like to receive yourself. (After all, you just might) So stay away from the junk box or the stray unusable surplus gear. Mine is already to wrap up, and who ever wins it will not go home unhappy except maybe for not winning one of the big ones.

The committee has been working real hard to make the party a good one, complete with refreshments. Don't forget the election of officers same night. Plan to be there so as to help elect those you think can do the best job of running your club for you. Which reminds us. If your dues are not paid up, you cannot vote nor can you participate in the drawing of the Christmas presents. Look for your name on the roster printed in this issue. An asterisk indicates you had better have a conference with the treasurer.

## THE ENCLOSED CARD

The little postage prepaid card that dropped on the floor when you opened your Ham-Hum (what is it laying there under your chair) is not only put there for you to use sending in news, but to let the board members know what to do to please you. Right now while you think of it write the words Nominating Committee on top and then list those members you would like to vote on. Sign it, we hope, but send it unsigned if you choose. At the December meeting we must elect a President, Vice President and four members of the Board of Trustees. (Four members carry over from this year because the board member is elected for a two-year term.) If you can't find the mail box, bring your list to the meeting and give it to Curt Hicks, KQAMM. Put your choice for Mr. Ak-Sar-Ben on the same card or use the one from last month.

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## SINCE

Everyone has had Sputnik on the mind there has been no mention of flying saucers. Do you suppose they went home when they saw that the only thing anyone could throw up at them was a little ball?

\*\*\*\*\*

## A.R.R.L. OB's

#622

With the change to standard time effective October 27th, WIAW returns to its fall and winter schedule. Complete information on the schedule appears on page 101 of November QST.

#621

Signals from the satellite have commanded wide interest among amateurs. The early assistance of amateurs was appreciated. Mr. J. T. Mengel, head of the Guidance and Tracking branch of Project Vanguard, has advised ARRL as follows "There are an increasing number of Minitrack fixes on USSR satellite readings so that observations by amateur and volunteer observers are no longer required. The US Naval Research Laboratory expresses its thanks for the splendid cooperation provided by these amateur and volunteer observers".

#619

The annual Edison Award nominations must be in by January 3, 1958. See page 97 of September 1957 QST for details.

#618

FCC has proposed changes in amateur rules governing notice of mobile or portable or other operation away from authorized home location. Details in November QST.

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## Q&A (See answer on page 15)

### NOVICE

How does DSBSC differ from SSBSC?

### GENERAL

What bands can be used for A5 emission?

### ADVANCED

Can a push-push amplifier be operated on AM without frequency multiplication?



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### Bulletin 73

October 28, 1957

from The Hallicrafters Co.

We have had numerous requests to extend Hallicrafters SSB Contest. We reviewed the many aspects involved and feel it would be advantageous to all if the contest continued until November 30, 1957.

How many of you fellows have a spare fuse or fuses on hand for your transmitter and receiver, etc. KOCYP had to go to the gas station to get some so he could get back on the air after he had one blow during a local rag chew. The books say that there is needed; For transmitter - 2 (for each fuse holder) under 100 watts, 5 (for each fuse holder) over 100 watts. For receiver - 2 (for each fuse holder) for each receiver, also two for each of the other fused equipment.

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Maybe now that Dick Eilers has his new Communicator III he can separate the DX from the locals.

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### HIGH POWER PARTS

Len Clark, W0FSX (BE2559) has a pair of new Eimac 4-125-A tubes, sockets and caps to match. Len also has for sale a Gonset Super-Six and noise limiter and a Eicor dynamotor rated at 600VDC \* 275 Ma. You can phone Len or see him at the next meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

### A. R. R. L. Infor

A. R. R. L. observers (and FCC we fear) are finding citable instances of key clicks and phone splatter this fall. Besides club cautions on Novice harmonic troubles we suggest a timely review of FCC rigs, operating practices and precautions.

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## NO WATTS TO SPARE?

The ten meter activity has picked up quite a bit now that propagation is better. Activity on the up-swing for local activity as well as all state side and DX. One afternoon's operation netted your editor 4 continents with no strain. In fact I called CQ (not even CQ DX) and each time got DX in reply. You fellows that don't have many watts to spare in the antenna should give this band some attention if you have not operated it. A good 50 watts in a good 3 element beam will put you on a par with nearly anyone. On ten its more the antenna than the power. On ten there are more mobiles with DXCC that there are KW's with the same award on 20.

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%

The power run; 31% between 75 watts, 28% use 35-75 watt, 20% are in the 150 to the 500 watt class, with a small 12% using under 35 watts, and the big ones 500 watts and above are in a 9% class.

\*\*\*\*\*

40 Meters are worked by out 67%, 80 meters by 60%, 10 meters comes 54%, 20 Meters for another 48% with 33% for both 6 and 2 meters.

\*\*\*\*\*

## TRAILER NEEDED

The club still needs a nice trailer to go under the generator we have stored at Dick Eilers. Lets keep an eagle eye open for a good trailer at a real reasonable cost. In fact nothing is real reasonable, though we could stand a dollar or two.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FLASH \*\*\*\*\*

A revolutionary new concept in communications has just been developed. It requires the use of some diagrams to present clearly and therefore we are not presenting it in the paper, however, we will be happy to explain it at the next club meeting. With this little gem you can work several hundred miles constantly, no antenna, just a few watts of power and a small investment.

\*\*\*\*\*

## SPUTNIK WORMB

Now that Sputnik has bitten the dust (radio-wise), the Russians have introduced Kudryavka, the first space traveler. Kudryavka is a small shaggy dog who has traveled into near outer space several times before, riding back by parachute. She is one of several dogs trained for this job and seems to enjoy her work.

Good-by Sputnik I; Welcome to Mut-nik.

\*\*\*\*\*

## "CRYOTRON"

A new device, called the "Cryotron", which shows possibilities of surpassing the the vacuum tube or transistor, has been invented by Arthur D. Little of M.I.T. The cryotron is of standard size 0.2-0.3-0.6 inches. It is made from 0.003 Niobium wire, wound over insulated 0.009 Tantalum gate.

Because of the phenomenon of superconductivity at low temperature, near absolute zero (minus 459.69), many metals and alloys suddenly lose all their electric resistance. If a current is started to flow in one of the super cooled superconductors, it will continue to flow even though the source is disconnected. If the superconductor of this type is exposed to a magnetic field the resistance is restored, thus stopping the current flow.

A computer capable of multiplying ten figures could set on a desk top, using the cryotron as a memory unit. It is experimental yet, but bound to be practical in time.

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## SILENT KEYS

Wayne Coy, 53, former chairman of FCC (1947-1951) died of a heart attack September 24, 1957.

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## A LITTLE FINESSE

There has been much pro and con on the merits of SSB. We won't go into that at this writing, but we do want to throw a little cold water on a practice that is getting mighty common with SSB operators and which to many is really a laughable situation. The practice we would like to point out is the use of voice control, or should we say it's mis-use? It seems to be very common to hear He (clunk) LO TE (clunk) ST O (clunk) NE TWO TH (clunk) REE and so on into the night. The point in fact is that the boys are setting the voice control circuits too fast and many drop out between syllables and some on a one syllable word. We realize that fast recovery is desired when the operator stops talking, though it is bordering on the ridiculous in so many cases. This is no criticism of SSB but only of poor operating practice, the same as we would criticize AM splatter, long winded CQ's and anything similiar that is unnecessary, and contributes nothing to the art.

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There is an XYL on 6, KØLHZ - Julie.

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## WANDERING NEWS

Hear tell there is a 75 meter phone net that calls itself the "Interplanetary Space Patrol". How do you get ground wave in space? It's as bad as our Ex-Video Rangers.

\*\*\*\*\*

ISV, Fay, has up a nice new Quad on 20/15 and tells us that it works FB. Fay is using a beam on 10 meters that he scrounged from WØWR. Fay says that he is thinking of making a 3 band Quad now that his 2 band job is giving such a good account of itself. Look out that you don't get too many loops Fay.

\*\*\*\*\*

If anyone is looking for a small 75 meter phone transceiver there are some at WRL. They are Xtal both Xmitt and rcv. Small battery pack built in, collapsible ant. 3865Kc. or 3995Kc.

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We hear tell that the VK boys are getting television now and becoming aware that their 50 watters can get into a TV set as easily as the US.

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About 49% of hams now buy their transmitters. Furthermore, 75% of their receivers were bought since 1952. And about 30% of the hams are mobile.

\*\*\*\*\*

You have heard of the potent drink known as the Screwdriver. Now there is a similiar type that appears to be for those that need a little help. It's made with orange juice, gin and milk of magnesia and called the Phillips Screwdriver. (CV-arc Cedar Rapids, Iowa).

\*\*\*\*\*

## AROUND TOWN

WØWRT says a new ham was worked on 10 meters in the person of Kenneth Andreasen, KØERI. We hope that Ken is active and worked by all, both on the air and for an eyeball QSO at the club meeting.

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One of the things that is needed is a power supply that is light weight yet with voltage and current ratings of the heavy weights. Can any of you fellows come up with this. (Ye old Ed says, "Check transistor power supplies .

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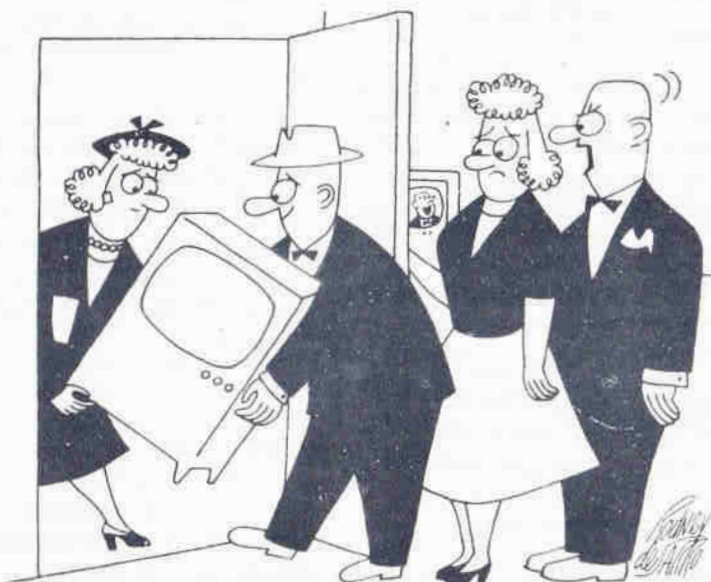
## FOR SALE

RCA ATJ/ATK TV camera and AXT-2 transmitter as described in May 57 CQ magazine. If you want to transmit a profile of your kisser, then see Wilfred Jensby, WØEOM at 331 No. 13th Lincoln, Nebraska.

# welcome new **Hams**

As new comers to the club we are very happy to officially welcome the following:

Russell Woodward	4544 Charles St.	RE 3539	WQFWD
Meroe Harvey	144 W. Center	TE 0683	KNQLKF
	Millard, Nebr.		
John Shoemaker	8323 State St.	OR 5031	KQLYK
	Ralston, Nebr.		
Dr. Joe Sobota	2446 Ida	KE 5883	KQKKS



"Why can't you invite people who like the same programs we do?"

## DALLAS DRAGNET

Chuck, W5NT, tells us that the circulation dept. of Ham 'um is a bit behind the times. So right Chuck. We hope that the mailing list can be revised and put in good order soon. In the meantime we will enter your plea for the paper. Chuck also tells us that "Ham Day" at the Dallas State Fair was a big Ham gathering. Most whips ever seen at one place at one time says Chuck (Nope none from Nebr.).

\*\*\*\*\*

## AIR MOBILE

Our East coast correspondent, Dick Bilon asks if there are any AM in this neck of the woods. Well Dick, I would say that a majority of the AM are in this neck of the woods at one time or another on their journeys. Most are 20 meter SSB and most frequently heard is Gen. Griswold, K0DWC/AM.

## NOVICE ANSWER

DSBSC has two side bands where SSBSC has one side band.

## GENERAL ANSWER

All amateur bands 420 meg. and

## ADVANCED ANSWER

No - the signal would cancel in the final.

Leo Meyerson, W0GFQ tells us that he has several new items coming on the market soon. A small modulator, a compact G0 linear, small antenna tuner and hi power antenna tuner with SWR bridge built in.

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you need a SCR-522 two meter rig, PE-103 6&12 v input 500 v output dynamotor, 2 meter regen receiver, 75 meter xtal converter with squelch and bfo? Also misc. other items. If so, see Charles Kern, 2649 Ave. B, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Ph. 2-1573.

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Mr. Joe McGuire of 5022 South 38th says make an offer if you are interested in his National NC-98 receiver and a automatic record changer.

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## MORE QSL'S

We still have cards on hand for; KN0IPY; W0KVZ; W0WR; W0ZAJ; W0ABI; W0EUG; KN0IJW; W0RIU; KN0KGD; K0DXS; KN0JBP; KN0KQI; W0RIO; W0LFM; KN0IPS; KN0KES; KN0KQD; KN0LOD; KN0KNJ; KN0LFM; KN0JQS; W0VGL; K0KKP.

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**AK-5 3-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.  
P. O. BOX 626  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**NEXT MEETING  
AK-SAR-BEN 4H BUILDING  
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD  
NOVEMBER 8, 1957  
8:00 P. M. - SHARP**

**Form 3547 Requested**

BUY DATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
Paid  
Omaha, Nebr.  
Permit No. 221