



HAM H U M

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB
INC.

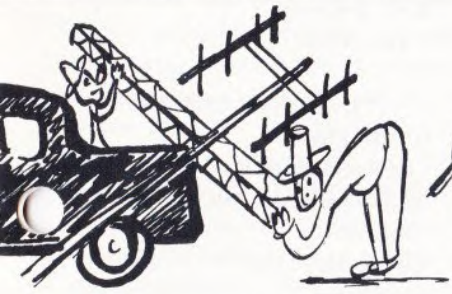
WØEQU

February 1956

P.O. Box 626

Omaha 1, Nebr.

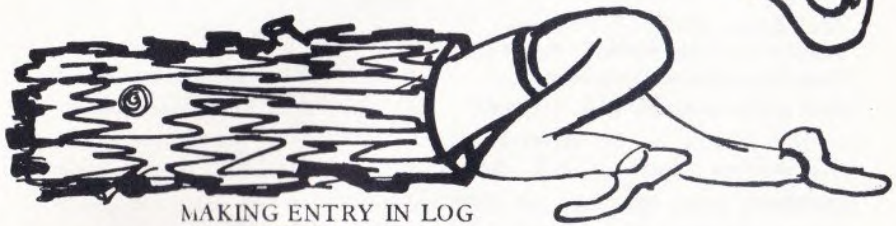
Vol. VI No. 2



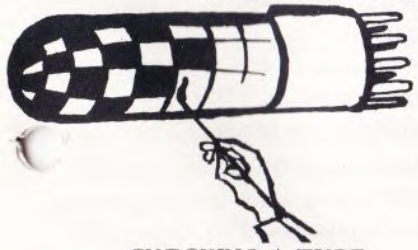
LOADING AN ANTENNA



TUNING A BAND



MAKING ENTRY IN LOG



CHECKING A TUBE

DIPPING A METER



HAM RADIO ILLUSTRATED

NEW MEETING PLACE SEE PA. 3

Ham Hum

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
Post Office Box 626
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Editor---Art Stadler WØQMD

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. OFFICERS

Dick Eilers, WNØYZV, President
Rudy Rampacek, WØRMC, Vice Pres.
Curt Hicks, KØAMM, Secretary
Bob Stratbucker, WØHZE, Treasurer

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. Students 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.

Officers

Dick Eilers, YZV, President
Rudy Rampacek, RMC, Vice Pres
*Bob Stratbucker, HZE, Treasurer
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*2 Year Term

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Frank Cooper, IOS
Allen McMillan, JJK

CIVILIAN DEFENSE
Art Stadler, QMD

NOVICE
Rolly Johnsen, SPO

FIELD DAY
Ed. Gutman, CQX

The cartoon on the front cover was taken from K6ATX "Key-Klix" and Sparks TARS.

NEW MEETING PLACE

NEW CLUB SITE

We're going to have a new meeting room....temporarily, at least! For the past year we have been very fortunate in being able to hold our meetings at the Hotel Fontenelle and from the reaction of the group the facilities have been quite satisfactory. Of course the members of the food committee have not always been too happy about having to lug the grub through the lobby and then having to pack out the remains (?) through the palatial rug covered, draped walled halls of Epley, but that's the other side of the picture.

The most appealing part of the hotel arrangement has been the rental, and there is no use kidding ourselves, the price has been right. Unfortunately and alas, the price has taken a sudden jump of 300% and that's a lot of dough in any man's language.

Our President has taken this situation in stride and has made arrangements for a new meeting spot and it appears to be a dandy. As a result, our next meeting will be held in the

4-H building on the AK-Sar-Ben Coliseum grounds. The 4-H building is that one located immediately to the west of the grand stand and can be reached through the 60th Street entrance to the AK-Sar-Ben grounds. This first meeting is scheduled as a trial run to see how it fits our purpose. After this meeting we will determine the advisability of considering it for a permanent operation's site. You will be the determining factor so be on hand to give your opinion.

This new location will provide for accessible parking, low (?) rental, and in the works is a decision as to whether or not we can install a CLUB STATION. As far as a permanent arrangement is concerned, there are still many problems to be ironed out, but it appears that we are on the road to securing the very thing we have wanted for a long time.

So, DON'T FORGET...Next meeting will be at the AK-Sar-Ben 4-H Building.

Rubber Crystals

The controversy of VFO versus crystal control again comes to light. True the VFO is a flexible and fairly stable frequency determining device for a transmitter but the little quartz crystal does a much better job of it. But even the quartz crystal operates within certain limits.

Let's talk about those limits for a few minutes. As the temperature of a crystal changes so does the frequency. This may be quite a change in a mobile installation. Also and possibly more important is the change in frequency experienced when a crystal is changed from one oscillator circuit to another. A rock ground at the factory for, say 7410 kc, will not necessarily produce a frequency of 7410 in your oscillator or mine. This is due to the different capacity of the individual circuits in your oscillator and mine.

So what can be done? Well, grab a look at the article in the February issue of QST on page 44. Here we have a modification of a crystal holder which will allow you to adjust the frequency of a particular rock a few kc to overcome some of the circuit capacitance. Thus you could put the rock in most any circuit and adjust it, within certain limits, to the proper frequency, say

29,640 kc. You would retain the stability and accuracy of the rock, while still providing for shifting the frequency.

Here is the pitch. An offer has been made to club members to perform the modification and supply the needed materials. You supply the crystals in the FT type holders and we will make the modification and return the rock with all of the parts which were removed and found unnecessary.

This service will cost you 25¢ plus postage. It will include the steel spring and finely threaded screw. This offer is good for the month of February only. You can expect your modified crystal to be returned in approximately 2 weeks. No guarantee is made as to the activity nor the amount of frequency deviation. Send your rock to WOPHW, 4530 N. 56th St.

Scuttlebutt tells us that Don Griffin, WØEWO, of North Platte is now operating SSB...shall we say "Donald Duck"?

KØAMM, just received his "Billy Goat" certificate... RCC, that is. But Curt's so quiet...Whooda think it!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ralph Petersen, WØQFX, writes to tell us that he is now living in Madison, New Jersey. Pete is keeping himself busy with the Bell Labs as part of their Systems Planning Group. We're mighty glad to hear from you Ralph, but why not give us some "dope" on the Ham activities in W1 land. Thanks a lot for the "buck" contribution to the HAM HUM postage pot, and we'll see that you continue to get your monthly copy. 73

The FCC recently decreed that all amateurs will have some method of Conelrad signal warning incorporated into their station. At the present, participation is on a voluntary basis, but, effective in January 1957, the content of this regulation becomes mandatory.

So far, we have heard of a few "Rube Goldberg" devices but

nothing too practical for all around use. We would be interested in hearing from our readers as to their ideas on the subject. Any practical ideas submitted will be published, so how about getting started on this project now.

Why procrastinate? We have only 11 months in which to get this job done.

TO ALL RADIO CLUB SECRETARIES

We need your correct mailing address, and the names of persons to whom correspondence for your organization should be directed. Perhaps a list of names and addresses of your officers will do the trick. Send along your information to Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., Box 626, Omaha, Nebraska. Thanks much.

WAS OUR FACE RED

We GOOFED, that's all. It isn't very often that we flub the old dub on meeting programs but we did it up royally for the January meeting. Our good friend Orville Weimer, GKL, was scheduled to be our guest speaker and had his DXertation all prepared for us. Many of us really looked forward to seeing and hearing Orv' and several fellows drove in from ourstate Nebraska just for the occasion.

Unfortunately, due to QRM in naking the final arrangements, GKL was not able to attend as scheduled. Plans are afoot to re-schedule this very interesting program and as soon as the details are all worked out we'll give you all the particulars.

Sorry to let you down, but we'll try not to GOOF in the future.

LOCAL HAM MAKES GOOD

One of the long time stalwarts of the ARC is pulling up stakes and departing for the heavy populated area, QRM, and a new position with his company.

AQJ, Tom Fifer, has been one of the main cogs in our organization, having served as Vice-President, Editor of Ham Hum, Membership Chairman, Mobile Chairman, and worked on just about every function of the Club for many years. When we needed help, Tom was always there.

On or about February 15th, Tom is moving to Cleveland, Ohio, as a result of his promotion to the position of Branch Sales Manager for the Westinghouse Supply Company.

We're proud of your accomplishments, TOM, and wish you every success on your new assignment. 73 for now but we will be listening for WØAQJ/O in the near future.

Joe Robertson, KNØARK is sweating out his conditional class ticket. If your sweating at this time of year, Joe, your working too hard at it.

Al, JJK, is looking for 10 meter activity in the evenings. The old 28 MC. band is opening wide during the day but why not take advantage of this wide open space for night-time rag chews. No feriners, no QRM of any kind.

Right now...just plain nuthin'. Give it a try.

We are mighty happy to welcome to membership in the ARC, Marvin Mihulka, W0QAL. Marv's QTH is 1036 So. 31st. and is operating a fancy home-brew 500 watt rig consisting of a VFO, 811, and PP 100TH's. The receiver department consists of an HRO-50T and a BC 348. Here is a solid CW man in our midst, so if some of you fellows want to try out your glass fists, give QAL a call and see what happens. Glad to have you on deck, Marv'.

Jerry Knight W0WSN, and Larry Monson are newcomers to ARC and we're all mighty glad to have you fellows with us. Larry is still an SWL but we won't be surprised to hear of him taking the fatal (?) step. So far we don't have the run-down on the setup at the WSN QTH but we'll fill you in on that in the near future. (Bring me up to date, Jerry)

On or about February 15th there will be 3 more CD code classes getting under way. These will be held at the YMCA and at the Jewish Community Center under the auspices of the Douglas County Civil Defense Organization. These classes are available to all that are willing to learn the fundamentals of radio, code, and the procedure for good HAM operation. Call CD headquarters for detailed particulars.

Flattery will get you no where, men, but we like it just the same. George Winkler, CD Communications Director, and Bill Noyce, Douglas County Boss Man for Civil Defense received their first issue of HAM HUM last month. Both George and Bill praised the format, production, and material content of the ARC book of words. Gee, we appreciate your bouquets but you make us blush from the chin to the back of our neck. Thanks a lot.

At the recent Midwest Division-ARRL Convention held in Omaha many of you fellows joined and became members of that mystic HAM group known as WOUFF HONG. We have had inquiries as to when the WOUFF HONG certificates would be forth-coming. Our plate was running a bit hot too in that we have not received them from the "Old Man" but guess we will all have to "cut our drive" a little. We'll get them to you just as soon as they arrive. Thanks for bearing with us.

Thanks to BTM of Grand Island for his "contribution in green". Postage does add up and we really appreciate your consideration for HAM HUM. We'll keep it coming.



Station of the month

The photographs give you an inside view of an efficient, well organized novice station, KNØBHT, owned and operated by Harlan Bercovince. Harl resides at 3322 North 48th Avenue, in Omaha, and is a Physics Major at Omaha University.

The gear consists of a DX 100 operating on 40 and 80 meter CW. The receiver is an SX 100. Harl is not wanting for antennas, as he has available for immediate use his choice of a vertical, dipole, or a long wire.

In addition to his school responsibilities, Harlan does TV repair work and has a line up of test equipment that would put some of the old-timers to shame. The good part about this whole situation is that Harl knows how to use the gear and devotes any spare moments' to experimenting. At the present time a newly conceived antenna tuner is the main project and from reports, the bread-board model has far surpassed his early expectations. We're proud to have BHT as a member of ARC and to have his "shack" as the HAM HUM station of the month.





Judging for the Edison Award has been concluded. Robert W. Gunderson, W2J10, was proclaimed winner in view of his development of special test equipment that opened the entire electronics field to the blind as an occupation. Special citations were also announced for Louis Arivelo, W0CPI, George F. Beard K6HCI, Paul M. Crown, Jr. W3YAZ, Alfred E. Guardiani W1TTN, Roland E. Lemire W1TZO, Murton Lyon, W1BGT, Lewis J. Papp, W3MAC, Stephen P. Temby, K6IRE. All performed especially notable services while pursuing their hobby in 1955. Presentation of the Edison Award to W2J10 will be made in February at a ceremonial dinner in Washington D. C.

Everything new at Norfolk! Yep, the Norfolk Radio Club has new officers with RHZ as President, and K0ABT as Secretary-Treasurer. And that isn't all...W0VNI, the Club station, is sporting a newly purchased WRL Globe Scout. Good going...that's setting the pace for another Club I can think of.

The writer is holding QSL's for the following: K0DBU, DEN, BRS, BOO. You can pick them up at the next meeting, fellows.

The Federal Civil Defense Administration sponsors a 30-minute civil defense program "By the People" over the Mutual Radio Network each Sunday. The program of January 22 was devoted to amateur radio operation during the Eastern flood with a slant toward RACES. Check your newspaper for time and station.

During the last ARC meeting did you notice the big smile on Paul Taylor's face? You couldn't miss it for it stood out like a harvest moon. Paul proudly informed the group that he has dropped the "N" from his call and will be known as K0BSV from here on out. Good going, Paul.

If you hear a great big signal on 6 meters that makes your S meter needle sag in the middle, then you can be sure that you are listening to our Prezz YZV. Dick is in business with a brand spankin' new Gonset on 6 and the same set up on 2. Won't be long and he will have that multi-element Telrex on top of his high tower instead of that end fed twisted pair dipole-Zepp (?). And this is all the result of his new ticket! See you on 20 real soon, Chief.

March of Dimes

The annual March against Polio Thursday, 26 January 1956. Over 40,000 dollars was collected. In addition to the regularly assigned personnel in this campaign, the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club contributed its support by supplying a base radio station controlling twelve (12) radio dispatched mobile vehicles. These mobile stations were assigned to various locales of the city of Omaha which was segregated into six areas or sections.

Preparations for the mobile drive began as early as last Saturday, 21 Jan. 56. George Fox, WØAEM, and Larry Caccomo, WØNMN, set up the base station communications equipment in room 605 at the City Hall. During this period of activity, George and Larry became TV celebrities. Television station KMTV sent a representative and photographer to record this event and the film was run on the Saturday night news broadcast. In addition, the World Herald ran an item and pictorials in the Saturday evening paper in which George and Larry also co-starred. Dick Curzon, KØAIS, also appeared in the evening paper, which shows Dick (in mobile) making an actual test contact with the control station. The equipment at the

control station consisted of a Viking 1 Transmitter, an S-76 Hallicrafter Receiver, a D-104 microphone (Leo's fire-sale special), a Heathkit VFO, a coax whip antenna specially cut and manufactured for operations on 29.640 megacycles. Raising of the antenna was a last minute proposition. Use of the Flagpole for a mast necessitated waiting until the Flag was put to bed for the day. However, a couple of well-placed hooks on the pulley rope and a good tug, and the whip raised high over the building and we were in business. A length of RG8U coax antenna transmission line served as a link between the antenna and the equipment on the sixth floor.

The mobiles participating in this event are listed as follows:

Dan on Nuckols	WØUIO
George Fox	WØAEM
Ed Gutman	WØCQX
Tom Fifer	WØAQJ
Al McMillan	WØJJK
Tony Hiebling	WØQMW
Rolly Fried	WØYMN
John Orr	WØPH
Lewis Tourek	WØPIZ
Rudy Nable	WØSPE

At the control station were:

Control & Dispatch

Art Stadler,

WØQMD

Larry Cacco

WØNMN

Mapping & Routing

Dick Curzon

KØAIS

Jerry Armstrong

WØNKG

Bob Downing

WØNAG

Telephone message center

Art Gaeth

WØFQB

The telephones were manned by a group of women who subscribed the names and addresses of individual doners requesting a pickup of their contributions. A mobile service was also established to pick up and transport area captains and their accumulated funds to the City Hall. An armed National Guard escort accompanied each vehicle. The entire evening was without incident.

Each and every activity of this sort provides a challenge. It requires teamwork. No one man can do it alone. This has been our first real test this year and I do believe we have succeeded in laying the ground-work for greater participation in future mobile activities which will no doubt contribute to the recognition and growth of the AK-Sar-Ben Radio Club.

To each and every individual who took part in this so very great and noble cause - Thanks for a job well done -- God bless you all.

Happy

We're mighty happy to hear that the Johnson County (Kansas) Radio Amateur Club is planning to publish a Club paper in the near future. Good Luck, guys. The officers of the JRAC are as follows: DEL, President, GLN, V.P., CLA, Treasurer, OYY, Secretary, OJW, Tech. Chmn., QYP, Programs, and NCK, Publicity.

Our heart throbs for you, Gus! WØCC, "our boy" at Grand Island, lost his billfold while in Denver during the week before Christmas. In it was his coveted Ham ticket, but thank goodness he had applied for his renewal just two weeks before. So far, County Treasurer say, "So solly, no tickee, no license platee." Poor kid! But don't be surprised to see WØCC on a Nebraska license plate in a few weeks.

READING THE MAIL

Who is the HAM on 20 fone that mortgaged his home and put 4 of his 6 children in a home just to get on the air? What could you get for the other 2, Don?

"The antenna here is a 6 element 'beam'....Oh, come now Dick, its 3 on 10 and 3 on 20 or do you have twins?

"T r r r fb om copi u solid fb ur sigs 559 plus hr in Omaha pse rpt ur handle es qth'.....oh well!

Our good friend Red, LGX, has been in the hospital in Council Bluffs for a serious overhaul job. We miss that "beertone" voice of yours, Red, so take good care. A quick recovery and we hope that you will be back on the air real quick.

"Can't figure out why the final doesn't draw any plate current. Plenty of grid drive"...break... "Do you have the plate voltage turned on...break" "No I don't, but does that make any difference?" Nuf sed.

BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 1956
AT WØQMD'S
4228 LARIMORE



"Fill-er-up!"

COMMUNICATIONS at your fingertips

Communications at your fingertips will be the subject of our guest speaker, Mr. Forest F. Francisco, of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, at the February meeting.

Our program Chairman, Bob Stratbucker, has been making plans for Mr. Francisco to appear at one of our meetings for several months. After several contacts, Bob succeeded in getting the job done.

Mr. Francisco is recognized as a

very capable speaker and is in constant demand by many organizations. In his presentation we will hear of various phases of modern electronics which will include solar batteries, card translators-the new mechanical brain for switching long distant calls, transistors and their general application, plus an outline on the new model 500 telephone.

With the subjects to be covered and the capabilities of Mr. Francisco, every member should be in attendance at the February meeting.

Civilian Defense Program Progresses

The response to our appeal for amateur participation in the Douglas County Civilian Defense program, to date, has been very satisfactory. It is evident that there is interest in community affairs and that the amateur WILL be prepared for emergency activities.

While we are satisfied with the response to our request for participation in the CD program, by no means do we wish to infer that the enrollment has been closed. If you have not yet indicated your intention to be part of one of the most important preparedness

programs available to the HAM fraternity, there is still time to get in. All that is necessary is that you send your name, address, call, and bands worked to WØQMD on the postage-free card enclosed with your HAM HUM.

George Winkler, CD Communications Coordinator, tells us that the Amateur equipment for both the CD headquarters station and the mobile operation will be available within a few weeks. Certainly we want to be ready to get this gear in motion, and to be ready for any contingency, whether it be real or assimilated.

The equipment for both of these stations will be complete in every respect and after installation will represent two of the most well-rounded installations in this area.

Arrangements are under way for a meeting to be held by George Winkler, Fran Johnson, the State

Radio Officer, and yours truly for the purpose of correlating the State and County plans into a workable operation.

With another BIG CD test in the immediate offing, we are counting on every active Douglas County HAM to get on the CD bandwagon by submitting your intention of participation TODAY.

ARE YOUR 1956 DUES PAID? Pay them now and save!

As of today (1-31-56) there were 371 registrants for amateur vehicle license.



"You're looking good, Miss Gibson."

ROSTER ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

Burt, Elmer	2335 No. 65th St.	WA 4525	WØAYM
Edgerton, Millard	3002 California	HA 4883	WØNRT
Johnsen, Rolly	4924 Evans	PL 1046	WØSPQ
Knight, Jerry	8825 Edgevale Pl.	GL 1630	WØWSN
McAllister, Lew	3514 No. 72nd	GL 7876	WØZUI
Mihulka, Marvin	1036 So. 31st St.	HA 2049	WØQAL
Nelson, Ed	4006 No. 42nd. St.	PL 7579	WØMKP
Nuckols, Damon	3744 No. 44th Ave.	PL 3179	WØUIO
Olmstead, D	3020 Newport	KE 2817	
Rosse, Rod	5827 Seward	WA 7403	WØBCA
Sconce, Mark	St James School	Fairbault, Minn.	KNØBYW
Snyder, John	2402 So. 43rd.	RE 1538	WØWRT
Stratbucker, Bob	3115 No. 49th Ave.	PL 3169	WØHZE
Vanderpool, Chas.	La Luz, New Mexico		W5NT

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY - 8: 00 PM
 FEBRUARY 10, 1956
 AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING
 AK-SAR-BEN FIELD

PROGRAM

Mr. Forest F. Francisco
 of
 Northwestern Bell Tel. Co.

SUBJECT

"Communications at your Fingertips"

WANTED!

Let the AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB handle your QST and CQ subscriptions! No additional charge for this service - usual rates apply.

Send all information and your check to secretary,
 AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC., box 626, Omaha,
 Nebraska.

Scottsbluff, Nebr.

January 19, 1956

Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club:

I guess you have quite a club down there. Our club, The TRI-CITY RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, is very small in comparison, but we are really growing. We have 19 members, and 4 prospective-members. During the past year we have given 13 Novice exams, and 5 Conditional exams. We have lost a few members due to moving to other locations. All in all we are doing fine considering the rather thinly populated area out here compared to eastern Nebraska. Two club members have DX 100 rigs, several have Globe Scouts, and two have the Heath-kit low power rigs. Since most of our members were recruited, and given help with their code and theory, we feel that our club is beginning to shape up fine.

I and a few of our members have been receiving "Ham Hum", and find that it is quite interesting. I was wondering if all of our members could receive the magazine. I am enclosing a list of our present members. Also I am personally sending you a dollar bill, to help with the expense of printing the publication. I hope that some of our members do the same, since I got their approval to apply for the magazine at our last meeting.

I will try to keep in touch with you. We may have some news items occasionally.

'73

Charles R. Irion

Charles R. Irion, "W0CDL"
1701 2nd. Avenue,
Secretary
Tri City Amateur Radio Club

LICENSE PLATES

by Larry Caccamo, W0NMMN

Speaking of auto license plates. Just take another proud look at those call letters. Aren't they something? Sort of makes up for that long wait, day after day, week after week, going down to the front gate every morning to meet the postman, looking eagerly for that package in his mail pouch, each day ending in disappointment. We sure had a long wait, didn't we?

Now, the question is "what are we going to do with those plates"? Why did we go to all the trouble and expense of getting these tokens? Are they just for decoration? Do they give the old buggy just a little more class? Ornaments you can buy at any dime store. People are going to stare. They are going to admire. They are going to ask questions. "Where did you get those License Plates?" "How do you rate special consideration"? "Why did you get them"? "What's expected of you

because you carry this distinguishing means of identification"? We have the answers. Let's just go back to the January 1956 issue of Ham Hum and refresh our memories. Let these reasons be our guide.

A few have already remarked "Well, now that it's all over, we can relax". How wrong! It's not all over. It's just the beginning. Once you pin those plates on that bucket of bolts, you are beginning a new era. Many will be observing our activities; those who went to bat for you to attain recognition in the legislature so that all this would be possible; Ham radio which heretofore has remained dormant in the public eye, will no doubt create a great deal of furor and interest.

Keep watching this column. There will be a lot more later. Till then, 73's and good hamming.



"I suppose you don't remember what I told you back in 1923 about being late."

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
P. O. BOX 626
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY - 8: 00 PM
FEBR. 10, 1956

AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
Paid
Omaha, Nebr.
Permit No. 221

Form 3547 Requested