



# HAM HUM

AK-SAR-BEN  
RADIO CLUB  
INC.

WØEQU

MAY 1956

P.O. Box 626

Omaha 1, Nebr.

Vol. VI No. 5

Don't Keep it Under Your Hat!



Send In Your Club House

Questionnaire---NOW!

# Ham Hum

Published by  
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.  
Post Office Box 626  
Omaha 1, Nebraska

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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*Dick Eilers, WØYZV, President*  
*Bob Stratbucker, WØHZE, Vice Pres.*  
*Curt Hicks, KØAMM, Secretary*  
*Dick Nystrom, WØUKQ, 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.

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\* Dick Nystrom, WØUKQ, Treasurer  
\* Curt Hicks, KØAMM, Secretary  
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FIELD DAY  
Ed Gutman, CQX



NEXT MEETING  
FRIDAY - 8:00 P.M.  
MAY 11, 1956  
AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING  
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD

The Collins Radio Corporation representative, Mr. Stewart, will be the guest speaker at the May 11th meeting. We are very fortunate to have Mr. Stewart as our guest, for with the many and varied phases of electronics in which the Collins Company are involved, the demands by all facets of the industry for personal appearances of their personnel is great. With the advent of the new 75A4 and the KWSI, plus the importance being placed on SSB by the Collins Company, we can be assured of a very interesting and entertaining program. Let's turn out in true Omaha fashion for this one gang.

HAM HUM has been receiving via mail, messages to be handled in Omaha. Unfortunately, we do not pick up our mail daily, or, if we do, it sits at a collection point until time permits for a reading session. We would be glad to QSP but by the time we get to them, the message content is cold. Doggone it, Rocky, we do have to work for a living and just can't make the Neb Net. You might try passing the traffic to Lincoln

for a relay via 2 meters into Omaha.

Now hear this! Be sure to be on hand at the next meeting. The scuttlebutt has it that the transmitter committee have met in secret session and have arrived at a decision as to the action to be taken on purchasing station gear for the Club. Something tells me that there is a storm brewing, so don't miss the fireworks.

In July the program Committee have arranged for a picnic meeting to be held on the 14th or 15th. This one is shaping up to be a real HAM FEST with YL's, XYL's and hams from the entire area invited. More on this one later, though, when the plans are finalized.

This might be just a little bit early but by pre-arrangement, our September meeting will have to be changed from the usual second Friday of the month. With the Ak-Sar-Ben Stock show scheduled in during the week of our regular meeting date, our meeting room will be in use. We understand that the entire building will be used as a dormitory for the youngsters from outstate that are taking part in the show. In view of this situation, the September meeting will be held one week earlier, on Friday, September 7th.

## YL OPS PLEASE GIVE HEED

The YLRC gals who will host the ARRL Convention in sunny California come next July, are planning a tradition setting affair to entertain and honor the XYL's. They have gone so far as to plan initiations into a group to be known as "SWOOP". The only prerequisite being that a member must be an XYL. (Could it be that the SWOOP will swoop down and steal sway the prestige of the beloved WOUFF HONG?) So, gals, put the Bee on the OM to have you in San Francisco on July 6th and in the Hotel Whitcomb in time for the initiation.

## DX'ERS PLEASE NOTE

Russ Burss, W9RKP, has made available to all W and K DX'ers a QSL service that is worth while considering. Russ has starter an out-going DX QSL Service that will save DX men a lot of time ordinarily spent addressing cards and envelopes to the various foreign amateurs and DX bureaus, and also save the individual considerable postage. Basically, all that is required is to send 2¢ in coins for each DX card you want sent to the DX station via his bureau plus an initial 25¢ to help defray the original expense and

your outgoing cards will be forwarded. This means that you will be able to send your cards (standard size) for 2¢ each instead of the 8¢ postage required for first class mail. This sounds like a good deal, so if you want additional information send a self addressed stamped envelope to Russell Burss, W9RKP, 3540 S. 5th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

## LET'S COOPERATE

Did you ever get real disgusted? You know, that old feeling that tempts you to get somebody "told off"?

When the privilege (?) of editing a club paper is yours by choice because you feel that you will have the opportunity of putting together the news, thoughts, and desires of the whole gang and just know that the whole group are going to keep you hard at it putting all their news in print, you look forward to the pleasant task each month. That's the way it is at the end of your first month as "Ye ole ed". Then arri the end of the third month and you begin to wonder if every recipient of the paper has lost your address, or are they in-



sulted about something you wrote, or is it that they just don't give a darn where the news comes from just so the "poop sheet" arrives on time. Right now, and this is the 5th issue for the current year, I've come to the conclusion that maybe this rag is just a lot of stuff!

The kind of situation that makes a guy blow his stack is the kind of results that came from the clubhouse questionnaire that appeared in last months issue.

For the past three years we have kicked around the idea as to whether or not the ARC should have a club house to call our own. There have been those people that get up on their two hind legs, make a lot of noise as to why or why not we should or should not have a club house, but when the hot potato is dumped into their lap they fold up like a rusty accordian. There are those that agree and those that disagree, but never a majority sufficient to dictate to the Board as to how they should act in behalf of the organization.

It's hard to believe, but to date, we have received a total of exactly 10 questionnaires on which are indicated your opinions on the clubhouse matter. If that is the importance that

you as members of ARC place on the subject, than it's obvious that somebody is doing a lot of talking on a subject in which they have no actual interest.

So, unless there is a sufficient response to the questions that that the Board needs to be answered, you may just as well put the subject on your undelivered message hook and forget it.

So, with the apparent apathy, it looks like "old baldy" is going to quit tuning the ham bands listening for local news and get back to the old on the air rag chews and the everlasting hunt for new DX countries unless we get the support via news that is needed to keep a club paper going.

Ise regusted!

We hear that Leo, GFQ, will be the proud possessor of a new, fancy, and fussy KWS1. What did they allow you on your Globe King, Leo? Did you get our "surprise" trade in offer? Man....how could you ever get away from AM?

## CONELRAD ALARM SYSTEM CIRCUIT

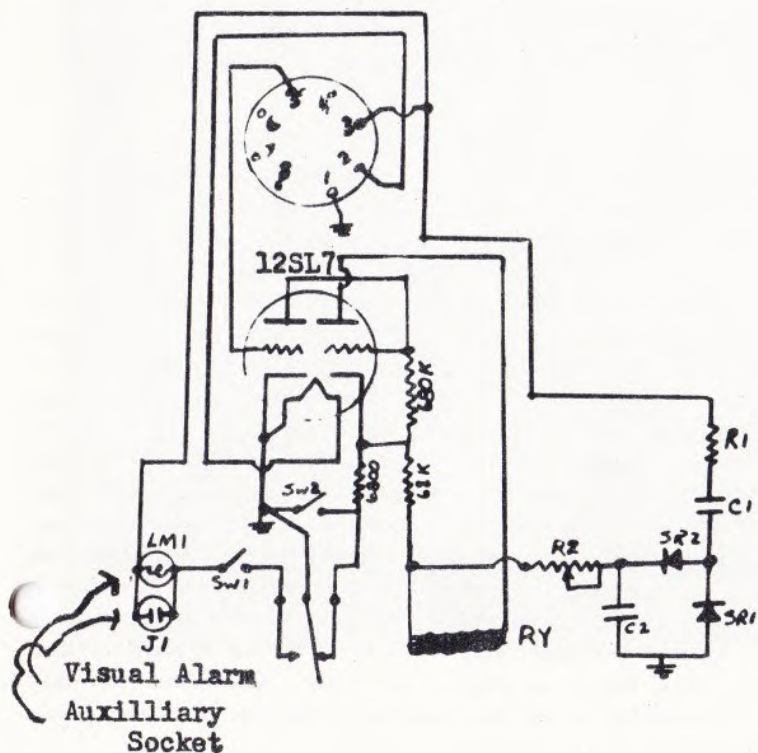
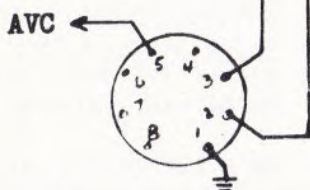
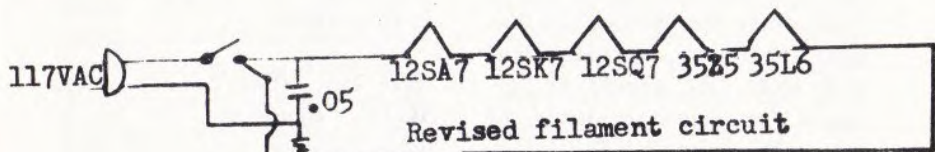
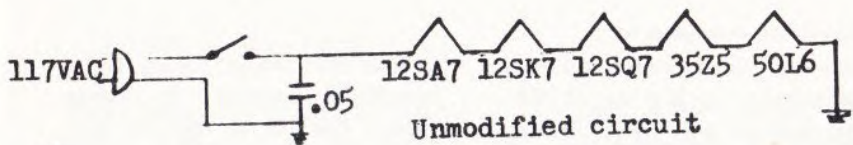
At the April meeting, a member requested publication of a Conelrad Alarm circuit to be used in conjunction with an AC-DC radio set. Reference is made to the circuit published in Ham Hum issue of March 1956. It's a practical circuit and we will utilize its basic design with the exception of changing the filament potential. The original design utilized a 6SL7 vacuum tube. We will use a 12SL7 vacuum tube. Other vacuum tubes (dual triodes) of the same current ratings will also suffice.

Most of the older model AC-DC sets use a 50L6 power amplifier tube. The series line-up totals 117 volts. Simply remove the 50L6 and replace it with a 35L6 which has the same operating characteristics, except for the filament voltage requirements. This potential difference of 11-volts can be utilized for the 12SL7 tube which we will insert into the series filament string. If the space is available, the components can be mounted on the same radio chassis, however, it is preferable to construct a separate accessory unit which can be plugged into an adapter plug at the rear of the chassis (see diagram and sketch). The line-up of the tubes need not neces-

sarily be in the consecutive order as outlined on the drawing. It is necessary to break the connection to ground at the last tube in the series string and run the lead to the adapter plug (pin 2). A continuation of this filament string is seen to run from pin 2 of the adapter plug to pin 7 of the 12SL7, where pin 8 of the 12SL7 completes the circuit to ground.

It is intended to utilize the maximum potential and sensitivity capabilities of the 12SL7 circuit. Rather than use the low potential supplied by the radio receiver, it is suggested that a simple voltage doubler be constructed. The tube manual indicates that the plate current per plate is 2.3 ma. at a potential of 250-volts. Therefore, the smallest selenium rectifiers available can be used to advantage. Rectifiers with 10 ma. or 20 ma. current ratings will be satisfactory for this circuit. The value of R1 (rectifier limiting resistor) will depend on the rectifier used. Each particular model of rectifier will specify the value of the limiting resistor, or, consult your handbook. C1 and C2 will not necessarily require a large capacity since they are not as-

(Continued on page 8)





(Continued from page 6)

sociated with audio circuits. Capacities as low as 10 MFD will provide sufficient filtering. C1 should be rated at 150 volts and C2 should be rated at 300 volts since the potential at that point will be approximately 250 volts. R2 should be adjusted for proper sensitivity of the relay circuit. The plate potential will vary between 180-240 volts. The relay should be a high resistant, low current device which will function at 2 ma. or less.

J-1 is an AC outlet provided for plugging in an external 117-volts alarm system.

LM-1 is provided as a visual alarm. This lamp can either be mounted on the chassis or may be plugged into the outlet.

J-1 and LM-1 will function only when disabling switch SWL is closed.

SW2 functions as a re-set switch. When tuning the receiver for broadcast stations this switch must remain in closed position, otherwise loss of AVC voltage will trigger the relay, exciting the alarm system. After a broadcast station has been tuned in, this switch SW2 may be left in open position. Alternate is to open

switch SW1 while tuning for a broadcast station. In either case, the reset button will need to be depressed to return the relay back to normal key-down position.

Have fun, fellas, but remember, AC-DC equipment can be a lethal weapon around the ham shack. Check with a voltmeter from the chassis to ground and if you get a 117VAC reading, reverse the power plug into the AC wall receptacle.

**BE POSITIVE IT'S NEGATIVE!**

**A HOT CHASSIS WILL ALWAYS LEAVE YOU COLD!!!**

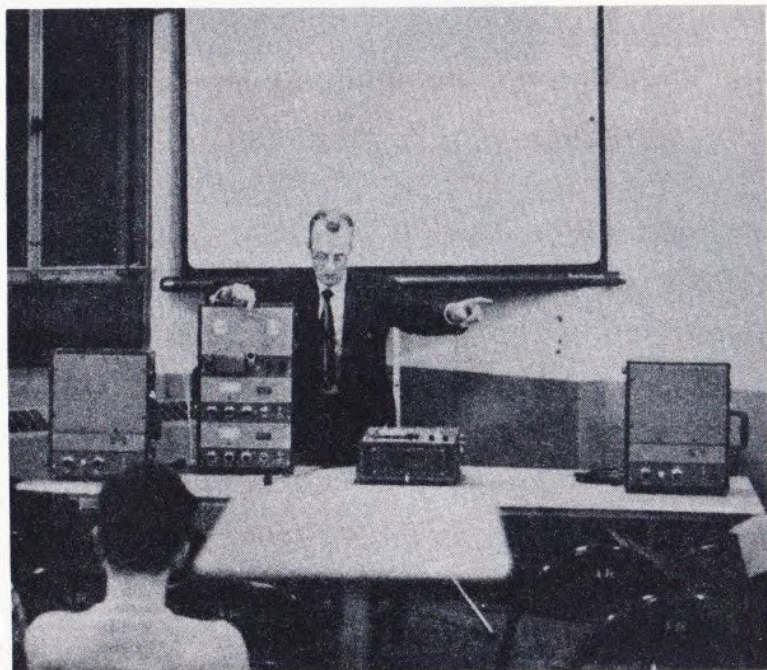
The Northeast Nebraska held their regular meeting at the QTH of UVU with 16 members in attendance and KØABT of Norfolk as a visitor. SSB discussion and the proper procedure on station identification while in round table QSO's were thoroughly discussed. Spd's understanding is that all you have to do is identify one station being worked and announce your own call once each 10 minutes. Rumor has it there is a new FCC ruling on this matter but it has not been officially announced at this time. Anyone have the particulars?



## AUDIO AS YOU LIKE IT

Terry Moss, the proud and congenial proprietor of the Moss Recording Company was our guest speaker at the April meeting and did an outstanding job of familiarizing those of us in attendance with the modern methods and procedures of tape and disc recording. Terry's array of test and demonstration equipment held the interest of the crowd from start to finish.

The climax of the program was the demonstration of stereophonic sound. When out of one of the speakers came the words, "Close the door, Jim" yours truly almost clobbered somebody for slamming the door during Terry's speech, but imagine how I felt when I realized that it was just the true to life sound coming out of the speaker on the other side of the room. Darn that was good!



Terry Moss demonstrates Steriophonic Sound



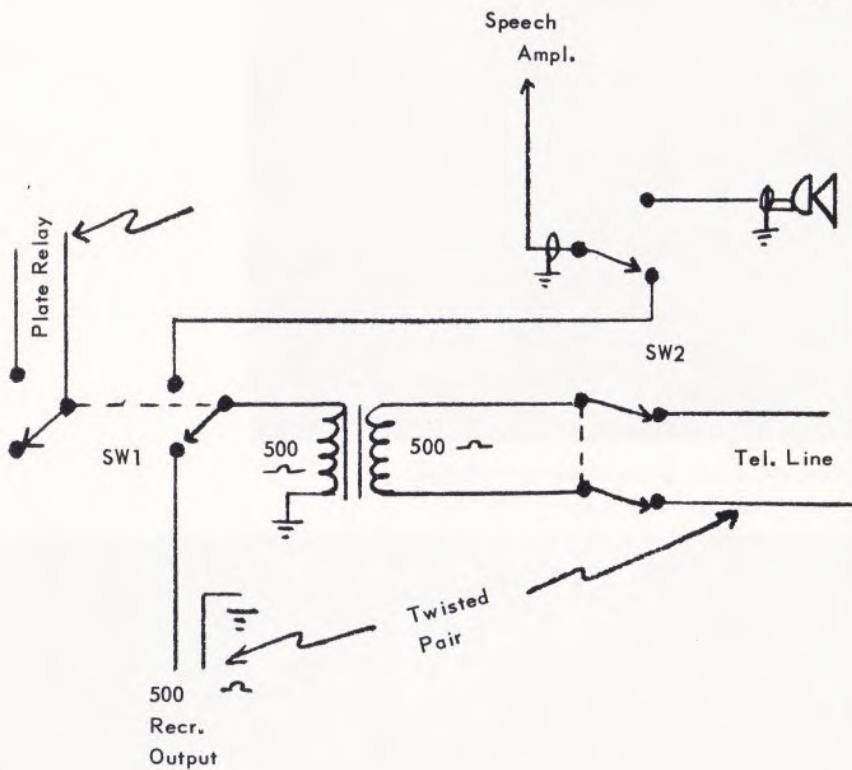


Members attending the April meeting were "on the edge of their chairs" during Terry Moss's dramatic demonstrations of recording on tape and disc.





## ANOTHER PHONE PATCH THAT WORKS



SW1 Rec. Position

SW2 Phone Patch In.

JJK just completed a new Hi Fi amplifier that is all encompassing when it comes to frequency range. This new deal covers from DC to Channel 5. If you want the circuit, ask Al, he knows the answers!

2 meter men around Omaha were QRMing each other to work that potent new signal that recently made its appearance. QXR is just a "lid" when it comes to 2 meter operation fellows, so help him get started. He will appreciate it....won't you Herb! Boy what a 90 foot tower won't do!

BTB had his new (nearly completed) SSB rig at the NNRC meeting. This is a converted BC457, but according to some of the gang in attendance, all that was used of the BC457 was the case! One report has it that if that is a conversion, and a simple deal....he'll start from scratch.

The last meeting until September for the Northeast Nebraska Radio Club will be held at the home of WØGHM in Norfolk. (Sorry, gang, but your reporter can't give us the date! Might be that some of the Omaha crowd would be up too, if we knew the date.)



WØUVU

We don't have all the particulars on the NNRC "Station of the Month" but we do know that Roy McCabe of Fremont is the man with the honors for May. WØUVU is the call and that RME receiver, SSB exciter, sillyscope, and the DX cards that we can see in the photo, all ad up to an active ham operation. A tip of the old top-per to Roy, WØUVU.

Our good friend Tom Fifer, AQJ, is now settled in his new QTH at 1168 Elbur Street in Lakewood 7, Ohio. Tom has not received his new call as yet, but has joined the West-side Radio Ops Club in Lakewood. Look for Tom on 28,250 or 29,450 cause he will have the mobile gear fired up between 1700 and 1800 CST.



YZV and DXS made their first mobile to mobile contacts on 6 and were quite surprised at the results. Looks like it might be better than 10 for local contacts.

How many of you got in on the 6 meter opening that lasted about 20 minutes on April 24th? The band was open into W5 and W3 land with several of the group working several new states.

We certainly agree that the Ak-Sar-Ben grounds would make a swell drag strip, but I suggest that any of you fellows that have a lead foot and the urge to go....restrain yourselves on the meeting nights. We have a fine meeting place, the price is very reasonable, and the people making it available to us with favor. Let's not distort their thinking by displaying our lack of concern. If there has to be drag racing, the salt flats of Utah will really serve the purpose.

Don't let anybody give you that old malorky....KØAIS is still in there pounding brass like a good CW man should be doing. Heard him in QSO with a PAØ the other evening, too. Who said he was quitting. I think Dick just needed that pause that refreshes.

Plans had been made for the big ARC pancake party to be held in June and the gang were all set to really "flip their stacks". For reasons beyond our control, the only logical site on which to hold the event could not be secured. We dislike having to cancel this one but such things will happen. If and when a satisfactory location can be found, we will clue you in real quick.

## C D HAPPENINGS

The 10 meter CD net meets every Monday Night at 9 PM with 10 to 14 members showing up for the past three weeks. The frequency is 29,500 so all hams are welcome to get in the swim. We have had a bit of a problem getting all the fellows to zero in on the control frequency, but we'll try to get that one straightened out in short order.

We have several training ideas to put into practice that will lend to better message handling and which will definitely pay off when we are called upon to handle authentic emergency traffic.

IGL and KØAMM are assistant net control and have already done a good job in handling regular sessions.

The CD equipment for installation in the mobile unit and at CD Headquarters will be available very shortly and will enable us to have gear ready for all emergencies.

We are in need of CD activity on 2 and six, meters, either fixed or mobile, and will welcome those interested in this operation. While not yet nailed down, there are possibilities of a RTTY circuit between Omaha and Lincoln. We are hopeful of securing the necessary equipment, and upon its availability are looking forward to a demonstration of this interesting operation at a future Club meeting. This equipment will certainly simplify the handling of CD traffic between Omaha and the State House at Lincoln. QXR and PHW are old hands at this RTTY business and have done a good job of selling me on the idea. RTTY looks like the lazy mans way of handling traffic... and am I lazy!

We will have more information on the forthcoming CD evacuation program scheduled for July, but we will need a full crew to assist in carrying out the Amateur Communications service for which we have committed to the CD organization. We can tell you that the exercise will be held

on July 20, 21, 22, and 23, inclusive, with the first 36 hours to be solid operation. We need your assistance, so let us know that you will be available.

Jim Droege, WØYCP, is going to work for his uncle...Uncle Sam, that is. Jim is going into the service for six months training and will then return home for an additional 7½ year stretch in the reserves. Good Luck, Jim, we will be looking for you at the Christmas Party.

Charlie Vanderpool, W5NT, has not been able to work into Omaha on 10, so it took UIO to take care of the situation in the usual ham fashion. While Damon was working Bob, W7LZG, at Ashland, Oregon, Charlie heard the W7. and broke in. Bob then relayed NT thru to UIO and there you are. It's a long way to Omaha by way of Ashland, Oregon but the QSO was 100%. Charlie has been looking for ISV all winter long from his Las Cruces, N.M. QTH, but it looks like Fay has vacated the Albuquerque area. Anybody know his whereabouts?(Thanks Chuck for the contribution.)



GKL reports that DX is waiting for you down in the CW portion of the 20 meter band. IOS took a look see and came up with a FK8 at New Caledonia, and an VR3 on Christmas Island. Good going fellows.

Dick, YZV, has his new Telrex 6 meter long John in operation and worked 11 states on the first opening. When the band closed down, and after getting 20 over S9 sigs from the east coast, Dick found out that the driven element on the beam was incorrectly installed and he had been working that 6 meter DX on the feed line alone! Watch that man when he gets the balun coil in operation.

YZK is presently in the process of getting ready to give the boys on mortgage hill a run for their money. Ferris is tired of having his 20 meter beam on top of a 35 foot pole covered with the RF drippings of the neighboring KWs. In a very short time you will see 2 brand spankin new 10 and 20 meter 5 element Telrex beams on top of a 55 foot pole squirting out a narrow, non-splattering AM signal that will be cutting a wide swath thru the DX lanes. (Note to all residents south of Dodge and west of 84th Street.. buy your electronic cooking equipment now...there will be

plenty of power available in your area at any time.)

After months of stalling and boondoggling, Bill, WOIG finally got his Telrex beams raised to the top of his pole. It did take the able assistance of UIO, DBU, YZK (Rumpot) and several other non-hams to get the job done. Of course, all had hoped to be on the supervisory end of the job, but by the time the project was completed all in attendance had a good work-out. One party who seemed to be on top of the whole situation was heard to utter several caustic remarks to the effect that, from an engineering angle, the job wasn't up to Bell System standards, but none the less, the beams are up in good shape and working fine. (TVI committee-please contact). The whole project could have been completed much quicker if it hadn't been for the constant complaining by one of the party about his aching muscles(?).



## COMPETITION BREEDS ACTIVITY

The current seige of Aurora activity and sunspot disturbances have not dampened the DX competition around the Omaha area as evidenced by the continuing growth of countries worked and confirmed by the dyed in the ether local DX'ers.

GKL is still piling'em up on both AM and CW but straining his ears to move up from the present 196 confirmed into the golden "200" circle. When you sign with a local and hear an SP calling you, Mister, that's DX!

Then there is our friend "Power on the Hill" Cooper, IOS, that has racked up mighty close to 150 confirmed that goes around with that air of "Oh well...I don't care if I work'em or not" attitude that is really in there crying his eyes out when only a YI or a lonely CP answers his CQ DX. But....don't forget the fellow that says "you can't work'em if you don't know'em" so I go to the Fiji's to see'em", CPM, who has racked up 114 confirmed in 10½ months.

In the last few weeks I have had an opportunity to snoop into the private DX logs of some of the local celebrities and all that I can tell you selected

people that hold the DXCC... you better get on your horse and start riding the airways cause your about to taken!

## NEW CODE SIGNALS RELEASED

The following are the official national Civilian Defense code signals that will be used on all national, RACES, stations, and all State, County, and Municipal stations operating in the safety and emergency services.

We heartily recommend your placing these code signals in a conspicuous place in the ham shack where they will be available at all times.

- 10-101 Test Air Raid Warning
- 10-102 Air Raid Attack (Yellow) likely
- 10-103 Air Raid Attack (Red) imminent
- 10-104 Air Raid Attack (White) All Clear
- 10-105 Flood Condition at.....
- 10-106 Extensive Fire Conditions At .....

The above information was received from the C D Communications Director George Winkler.



Sioux City, Iowa  
April 20th, 1956

Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club  
Post Office Box 626  
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Sirs:

Many of the hams here in Sioux City, Iowa, and South Sioux City, Nebraska have read "HAM HUM" with much enjoyment. Thought you might like a short run down on our club here, the "TRI-STATE RADIO CLUB".

Our club is now starting out on its second year and has grown from a very few members to a membership of 42 at the present time with all but 3 licensed hams. Meetings are every Thursday night at 7:30 P.M. with a half hour code practice before meetings and an informative program each meeting except for the last of each month which is set aside for business.

Meetings are held in the City Hall in South Sioux City, Nebraska and they have given us a small room for our own use as a club station. We now have set-ups on 80 meter and on 6 meter.

The club is affiliated with ARRL and we just received our certificate of membership and our club call letter "KØEMH" this past week. All eligible members joined races in Nebraska, and in connection with this project, the club is planning to go on 6 meters with mobiles. To date, 18 or 20 are planning to have mobiles installed by late spring.

Hoping some of the above may be of interest to you for use in your paper,

73's

TRI-STATE RADIO CLUB  
200 E. 32nd. Street  
South Sioux City, Nebraska

Corletta Reinhold - KØAKO  
Route 3, Talbot Road  
Sioux City, Iowa

# HAM HUMDINGERS

HAM HUM will publish free of charge for non-commercial amateurs your HAM wants, swaps, or items for sale. All ads should be limited to 25 words or less and must arrive 2 weeks prior to the second Friday of each month for inclusion in the current issue. Send ads to HAM-HUMDINGERS c/o Box 626, Omaha.

## ATTENTION ALL AMATEURS

You are invited to attend the Northeast Nebraska Radio Club picnic to be held at the fair grounds at Stanton, Nebraska, on July 8th. A pot luck dinner will be served at 1 o'clock sharp. Leftovers will be served in the evening. There will be a trader's table so bring all your surplus amateur gear. There will be a X-mitter on 75 meter fone to guide you in, looking forward to see you in Stanton on July 8th.

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA RADIO CLUB



"Excuse me, Mr. Moorhead.  
It's quittin' time, Agnes."



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

**NEXT MEETING  
FRIDAY - 8:00 P. M.  
MAY 11, 1956  
AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING  
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD**

**BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Omaha, Nebr.  
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