



HAM HUN

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB
INC.

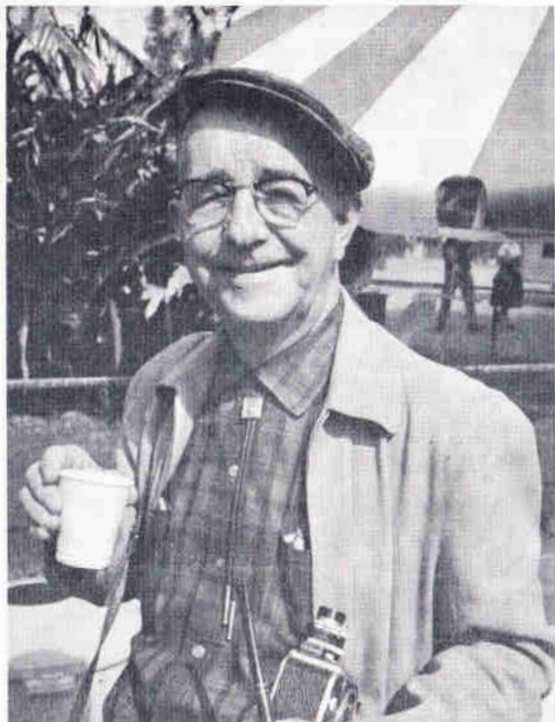
WØEQU

April 1961

P. O. 291

Omaha 1, Nebr.

Vol. XI No. 3



Fay Powell

70 years of meat and potatoes,
and now it's all gravy (See page 3)

Ham Hum

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.

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
Post Office Box 291
Omaha 1, Nebraska

EDITORS
Al McMillan, W0JJK
Dick Eilers, W0YZV

NEXT MEETING

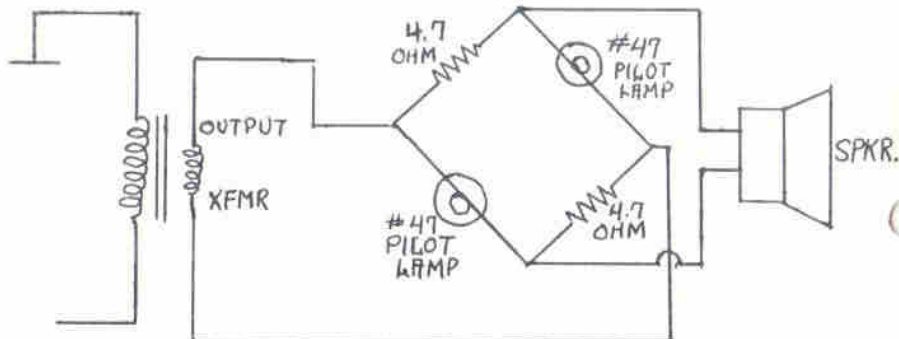
The next meeting of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. will start promptly at 8:00 P.M. We have a special treat this month in that we will visit the Union Pacific Communication Department. The meeting will, therefore, be held at the Union Pacific Building and in order to begin the tour and be admitted to the building we must be there promptly at 8:00 P.M. Latecomers will no doubt not be permitted to enter. So do come early. We will have a short business

meeting as usual, and will adjourn individually to the nearest beanery for whatever refreshment we desire.

You have all heard something about the communications used on our nation's railroads and Union Pacific in particular. This is your opportunity to really get the first-hand information. Our good friend, Bob Brenneman, will be there to help explain it. Be sure to be there on time 8:00 P.M. - Union Pacific Building - 15th Street entrance.

This little gem is so simple that it requires no more explanation than the schematic diagram shown below.

Break the speaker leads from the output transformer and insert the little bridge and off you go. The squelch level is set by the audio gain control.



This was designed by K6UGT and reprinted from the W6SD Carrier and Static Sheet (Des Moines).

The April, 1960 issue of Ham Hum featured Fay Powell, WOISV, as "Ham of the Month." This issue - April, 1961 - is dedicated:

The Fay Powell Edition,

cause he will be Three Score and Ten on April 12th, and is still a very active Ham - in more ways than one.

The fellow who thought up the expression, "People have more fun than anybody", must have known Fay personally. We are reproducing some snapshots of Fay, with comments by Jim Noland, WA6JBB, of a recent week end in the life of Fay. Saturday he visited the San Diego Zoo, and had more

fun than the cage of monkeys. And then went to old Mexico where the Senoritas got the message even before Fay sent it. Sunday he went to Correganville to see the cowboy shows. Just a typical *quiet* week end out California way.

Jim wrote, "Our opinion of Fay is that he is one of the finest fellows we have ever met, he goes through life smiling and saying and thinking nice things about everything and everyone." We agree and salute Fay, and wish him many happy returns on his seventieth birthday.

Puffing on a cigar and listening to the boys in Omaha.



Hasta La Vista - Boy did he have fun in Mexico.





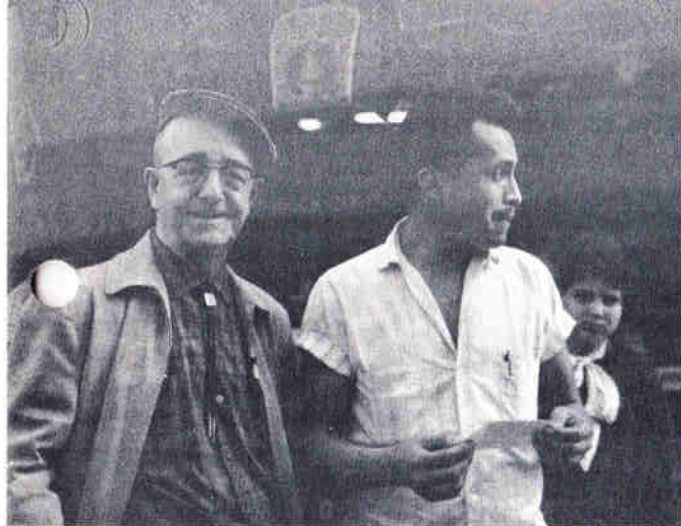
Trying to get a Mexican photographer to take his picture with the Jackass.



Guess which is which.

He finally made it. That's Laura and Peggy with him.



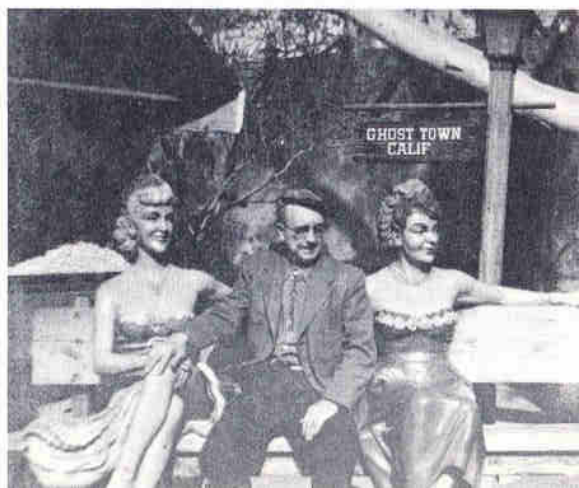


Trying to make a purchase. The Mexican is trying to ignore him.

Talking to WQYVV from California.



Admiring the scenery at Correganville.



LAST MEETING

Dear Editor:

Here is the report on the regularly scheduled Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club meeting of March 10, 1961.

The minutes of the preceding club meeting was read by Lou Cutler, followed by Convention Committee by Bill McDonald (YIW). John Orr also passed along some Convention information to the group.

The usual introductions were followed by Dick Eilers with some details on the recent Florida hurricane followed by request for contributions toward the cost of a VFO for a local amateur who is confined to his home with illness. This chap, Harry Hamilton, KØUID, is badly in need of this VFO in order to dodge the 40 meter QRM from overseas broadcast stations. Harry has only a few crystals at present.

The minutes were then read from the pancake supper meeting. Mention was made of the presence of the group from Fremont, Nebr. Included in the group was an old personal friend Bill Mathemeier, WØVBR. Wonder what's happened to WØVBR on 2 meters? Haven't heard him on for almost a year now.

A request was made for articles for Ham Hum. We hope that this meets with more than the usual amount of interest.

The meeting then turned over to Ed Gutmann - he

mentions the display of the Telephone Company tubes. We noticed a 416B (the gold plated nugget) also couple other Western Electric types. Mostly of interest to the VHF/UHF men.

Al McMillan then gave talk on the subject of antennas starting with the corner reflector design and then some ideas on how to use existing space to make up antennas for the low frequency bands.

Ed Gutmann demonstrated the surplus radar IFF unit and its conversion to 1296 mcs.

The regular raffle conducted by Cecil De Wirt and the winner of new 6146 tube was Lou Tourek.

The meeting was then adjourned for refreshments and we're looking forward to sampling some coffee from the new coffee urn next trip.

73, John Snyder

WØWRT

FOR SALE

A-54 Elmac Coax Relay Astatic
Mike - Base Mount - LOU
Loading Coil - all band - Whip -
Carter Dynamotor 6-V - Gonset
Super-Six Converter.

B. D. Lindvall

WØKJN

Griswold, Iowa

\$100.00



March 21, 1961

Dear Dick:

Here is a little item about about my friend Dr. Lynn W. Thompson that I would like to see get into Ham Hum.

Several weeks ago Doc shipped his KWM2 back to Cedar Rapids, Iowa for latest modifications, getting the new PM2 power pack installed. On March 3, 1961 Doc made a side trip to pick up the outfit on his way home from a convention in Iowa City. He got a grand tour through the Collins plant in Cedar Rapids. "Greatest thing since 7 Up," as he puts it.

He has replaced his beam antenna with a new Hy Tower Vertical antenna working all

bands; so he is rigged up to the very latest in equipment.

Aside from chewing the rag around the ham bands, the old tiger finds time to practice medicine and throw in some legal advice as Justice of the Peace in his township.

He has also a new scotty house trailer which will house this KWM2 when he takes that promised fishing trip.

Here he sits.

Lynn W. Thompson, M.D.

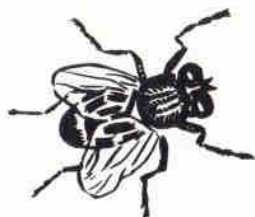
KØJBQ

transmitting from the home base at 2607 South 98th Avenue.

Respectfully submitted

Glen W. Swanson,

KØJQX



DEBUGGING

by WØOPA (de Ground Wave - St. Paul)

These days the home builder of electronic gear expects to spend some time "debugging" the stuff he builds. The "bugs" he looks for are usually the results of the inexorable application of Murphy's Law: "If anything can POSSIBLY go wrong, no matter how remote the chance, it will." The bugs turn up as soldered joints that aren't REALLY soldered, mysteriously reversed polarity in electrolytics, resistors that change value between the factory and your rig, and many other things. But here is my story.--

Back in the good (?) old days a ham shack was often exactly that, a small building in the back yard, out by the alley, just big enough to hold the rig, the operator, a small stove, and a few visitors. They ranged from primitive to deluxe. (I remember one that was the second floor of a double garage and boasted a kilowatt transmitter, a real operating desk, and as a final touch, a davenport, easy chairs, and a refrigerator for entertaining visitors!)

I had a shack, too. I used it only in the summertime, for it was one of the oldest buildings, I believe, at Bald Eagle

Lake, only partially modernized by being wired for electricity (by me) with "Knob-and-tube" wiring (get grand pappy to explain "knob-and-tube" to you) so I could have light and power. It had no such modern improvements such as screened doors, and only two windows with glass in them. There were numerous knotholes and cracks thru which came large numbers and forms of wild life that seemed to enjoy visiting me and my electric lights. I had other visitors, too, of course. My neighbors. I didn't have to have a light on to attract THEM. If they couldn't hear the QRM squealing from my loudspeaker as I tuned the good old 160-meter band they could hear my transmitter on their broadcast receivers. And then there were visiting hams. The hams usually came in carloads. I wasn't often lonesome.

My transmitter was all homemade, and I was rather proud of it. I had a six-foot wooden "rack" with the power supply in the bottom, behind a panel with the main switch on it, and above three open shelves that held the modulator, the exciter, the final amplifier, and antenna tuner. At the very

top was a row of four big meters illuminated by a small hooded light. The modulator and exciter were enclosed in what were called "dust covers" of perforated metal which kept out no dust but added a deluxe touch to the rig. The final, though, was wide open. There was no TVI to worry about in those days, and besides the 160-meter tank condenser and tank coil were much too big to fit inside a cover. The only protection was a small bakelite panel behind the plate tuning knob.

One warm summer night after I got home from an after-supper paddle in my canoe I stopped into the shack. After putting the canoe and paddles in the corner, I turned on the receiver. Soon I was in the usual 160-meter roundtable of Twin City Hams. To avoid the annoyance of visiting wild life, I turned out the light so that the only illumination came from the receiver dial and the meter light and glowing filaments of the transmitter final tubes. But as usual a few "visitors" came through the cracks and the knotholes to flutter around the light on the transmitter I paid no attention to them, enjoying the QSO.

But I had barely started my third transmission and was

about to utter some deathless gem of humor when there came a "Pzzzzt!" and a blue flash from my tank condenser. My homemade overload relay functioned perfectly, and I was off the air. So I confidently pushed the reset button. Again "Pzzzzzzzzt!" and again an arc and the overload relay tripped. I tried everything to get back on the air, but no go. The final arced every time I turned it on. The boys on the roundtable were now making disparaging remarks about my beautiful transmitter. I got mad and turned off everything and went to bed.

The next day I spent nearly two hours debugging my final amplifier. Literally. It took me that long to take the final out of the rack and file and scrape the remains of a highly carbonized and incinerated bug that had welded himself between the plates of my tank condenser. I mean he was really cooked into the hardest grade of baked enamel on those plates! It was no simple brush-off job.

The moral to this story is: Keep your transmitters well "buttoned" up this coming summer, or you, too, may have to do a debugging job like I did!

Harvey R. Pierce, WQ'OPA

Dave Hollander sent us a copy of RSGB Bulletin and called our attention to these letters from readers.

Over there he can only listen and that is bad.

Reciprocity

Dear Sir, I read in G3FPK's letter in the June BULLETIN that licences will only be granted to British subjects in this country, but I was under the impression that foreign nationals could obtain a licence here if their own Government approached ours first and undertook a reciprocal licensing agreement.

However, this would not alter in any way the position of United States amateurs over here, for their Government absolutely forbids any foreign person from operating in the U.S. excepting, perhaps, Canadians. Recent copies of *QST* and *CQ* have dealt with this subject in detail, and only an amendment to an Act of Congress can alter matters for them. Which is a pity, because closer co-operation with U.S. personnel stationed in the U.K. would, I believe, do good and our own amateur movement would benefit in several ways

At the present time we have the edge on our U.S. friends because a licensed British amateur can obtain a Canadian licence and then operate in the United States under a/W call as someone has recently done.

Yours faithfully,
Allan L. Taylor
G3JMO

Acklam, Middlesbrough,
Yorks.

Station Operating

Dear Sir, The views expressed by G2HR (January 1961 BULLETIN) regarding Temporary Alternative Address Licence regulations are probably held by most licensed amateurs throughout the United Kingdom. What possible difference can it make who owns the equipment providing it is only operated by a licensed operator? Many short wave listeners are better qualified to build a transmitter than licensed amateurs having just sufficient knowledge to pass the R.A.E.

It is surely time that a new definition of "operating the station" be made. How the simple act of speaking into a microphone can be termed "operating the station" is completely beyond normal reasoning. Surely if a licensed operator has control of the transmitter power and frequency he is operating the station.

Obviously the licence regulations must be adhered to but a little common sense where their interpretation is concerned is surely not asking too much.

Yours faithfully,
M. Pharaoh,
G3LCH
Hon. Secretary

Mitcham & District Radio Society

Dear Sir, This talk of third party messages, "noble causes" and all the rest is all very well, but here is to my mind an even more niggling restriction.

A/MM operator sails into London, has to close down the station when in the docks, gets on a bus and pays me a visit. He holds a commercial ticket and has a W call from way back, but he must not even recite "baa baa black sheep" into the microphone while I hold it. To those people who would throw their hands up and say "Where will it end if we allow it?" I say that *their* arguments could be used to make a good case against amateur licences at all.

As for third party traffic, pure and simple, I fail to see why one should be restricted to Top Band and 2m which is what R.A.E.N. implies, I don't *want* to let my nextdoor neighbour speak to his brother in Canada, as a small measure of compensation for the herringbone patterns that I occasionally put on his TV screen.

Yours faithfully,

R.F. Flaum, G3BDH

Ilford, Essex.

WANTED

Heath 6'R

Dennis Supply Company

Phone: 342-2277

Ask for Darold Sewing, KØTTT

FOR SALE: Want to buy a house???? Here's the buy for a ham. On top of a hill, complete with a 50' telephone pole, paneled ham "shack" and a completely TVI'd neighborhood. Here you would even feel safe on 15 meters on the final day of the World series. House painted outside and redecorated inside last year. New carpeting, disposal, three bedrooms and completely finished recreation room. Call
Hugh Tinley, KØGHK,
455-6467.

Dear Sir:

Thanks a lot for sending me the Ham Hum for the past several years. I enjoy it very much. Enclosed is \$2.00 to help pay for some of the expense of the paper.

I would like very much if you would print this ad for me in the next Ham Hum.

FOR SALE: Mobile station complete except for mike. Xmtr is an Elmac A54, converter is a Morrow 3BR, dynamotor is a PE 103. The ant is a Webwhip all band. Also with it is all cables and relays including a coax relay, and ant spring mount. Would like to get \$90.00 for it.

This rig is for 6V operation.
Thank you.

73s,

Bruce Anderson, WØIRW
RFD 1

Holdrege, Nebraska

Omaha, Nebraska

As per request of EA2CN of Zaragoza, Spain the amateurs in and around Zaragoza are in need of used call books. These call books will be used as prizes by their local Radio Club, and they are willing to pay the postage on them. If all used call books are brought to the April meeting we can ship them out, or send them direct to Frank L. Bates, Box 5004, APO 286 New York, New York.

Also the Zaragoza Radio Club have an expedition to Andora as PX1EP, May 1st through 7th AM only on 10-15-20 Meters, operating 24 hrs per day.

Lee Menshik, WQNNW

Dear Editors:

Sure enjoyed your last issue. That one flap-jack looked like something from outer-space.

In case you have any tfc men interested, Florida Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Fla. will mail 200 message blanks, padded in 50's post paid any place in USA for a buck. Printed with green ink. We give one day service. It is more of a service to traffic men than anything else. We ain't making any money.

73

Andy Clark, W4IYT
Editor, Fla. Skip

P.S. Glad you like our "DEAR MABEL" column.

TAC-MATS-AMC

Test Voice of "TALKING BIRD"

Submitted by Bob Mitler

ARNS -- A few days ago an Air Force colonel picked up his telephone and dialed the Pentagon Command Post. He asked if they were in contact with "Talking Bird." This was confirmed. Seconds later he was saying, "hello, LOMAY22, hello LOMAY this is 'Dark Star' calling. How do you read me? Over."

Thus began a radio-telephone communication reaching half way around the world, as quickly and as easily as the colonel would call his wife at home.

Such a call should be common place as a result of Project "Talking Bird."

The test aircraft contains eight single side band radios; six walkie-talkies; one VHF-FM station set; one each VHF and VHF air-to-ground set; a telephone switch board; a control panel and console; five teletype terminals; an HF receiver; a minimum of five miles of field wire and 20 telephones; an air operations facility, tables, chairs, display board; two power units (which operate outside of the aircraft); an air conditioner and tactical antenna.

Even if you simply can't love your enemies, sir, the chances are you could do a little better by your friends.

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 794
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN
MARCH 30 1961 TO ALL RADIO
AMATEURS BT**

For all DX workers and amateurs interested in the ARRL Countries List, the following information with effective date of certain changes in that list is now announced. The following constitute two new and separate country listings each to become acceptable for credit July 1, 1961. Kure Island: Confirmations for contact with Kure Island stations must be dated November 15, 1945 or later. Kure Island stations have used the prefix KH6. East Pakistan: Confirmations for contact with East Pakistan stations must be dated November 15, 1945 or later. Confirmations received for either of these additions before July 1, 1961 will be returned without credit. For a more detailed announcement of the above see DXCC Notes May 1961 QST AR

Our family has survived one more year without acquiring color television. But the snide remarks about our last year's old bi-fi 24-inch deluxe black-and white set do not augur well. Modern families eventually rebel against stark living.

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 790
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN
MARCH 2 1961 TO ALL RADIO
AMATEURS BT**

Word has been received that Representative William Ryan, Democrat New York, has introduced House Joint Resolution Number 188 to authorize the President to proclaim the third week in June, preceding the annual ARRL Field Day, as National Amateur Radio week. The resolution has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Amateurs are urged to write their Representatives urging passage of this bill AR

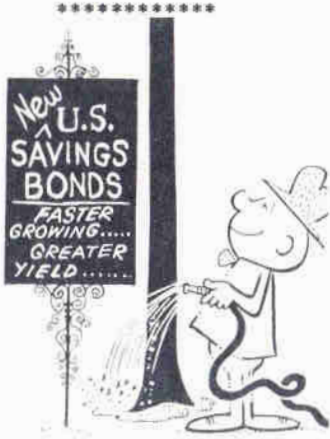
**OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 793
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN
MARCH 23 1961 TO ALL RADIO
AMATEURS BT**

During the April Civil Defense Operation Alert, FCC requests the amateur radio service to participate, on a voluntary basis, in a 30 minute Conelrad drill commencing at 2100 GMT Friday April 28, 1961. ARRL urges full cooperation by all amateurs in maintaining complete radio silence during the drill. RACES stations will proceed in accordance with plans and rules for that service during an alert. The 30 minute Conelrad drill starts at 2100 GMT April 28 AR

U.S. SAVINGS
BOND

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 792
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN
MARCH 16 1961 TO ALL RADIO
AMATEURS BT

The Civil Defense Operation Alert is scheduled this year for April 26 through 30. During those dates amateurs active in RACES will be conducting simulated emergency activities on RACES segments of all amateur bands in this nationwide activity. We hope that as many amateurs as possible will get lined up with their local or other civil defense officials to make the amateur showing in this exercise an impressive one. RACES groups especially will be expected to be active. Amateurs not taking part are urged to be on the alert, when operating in the RACES segments, to avoid causing interference to RACES nets conducting their part in Operation Alert, April 26 through 30 AR



Jappe

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 791
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN MARCH
9 1961 TO ALL RADIO
AMATEURS BT

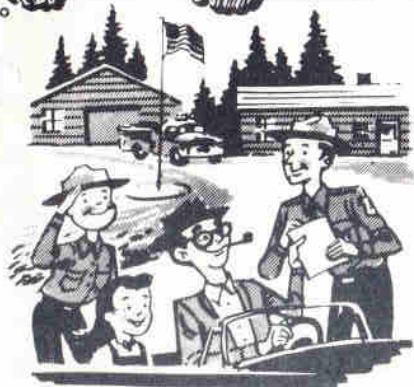
FCC has begun distribution of new forms 610 and 610A to be used in applying for new, modified renewed or duplicate amateur licenses. The new blanks replace the old forms 405A, 602 and 610 which, however, may be used until June 30, 1961. Further details will be presented in April QST. Applicants should use care in filling out all FCC forms to prevent delay in the processing of their applications. AR



The average family can bear up under a cataclysmic tragedy, then go to pieces when the water has to be turned off for a few hours.

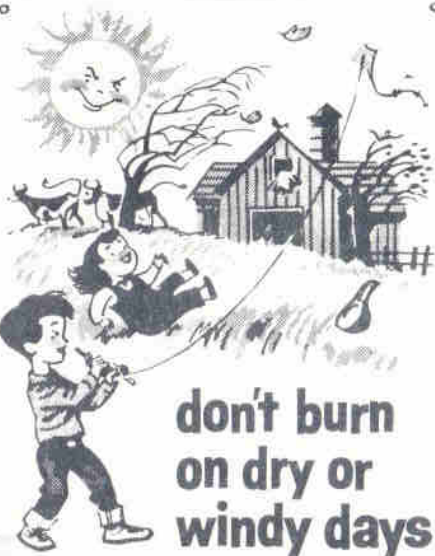


SMOKEY'S DEBRIS BURNING RULES



check local regulations

**be
sure
fire
can't
spread**



**don't burn
on dry or
windy days**

**never leave
fire unattended!**



remember: **ONLY YOU**

CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
P. O. BOX 291
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

NEXT MEETING
15th STREET ENTRANCE
UNION PACIFIC BUILDING
APRIL 14, 1961
8:00 P. M. - SHARP