

BUSINESS IS BETTER. Fortunately, we are able to report that the past month has seen increasing participation in communications activities. New units have been added to many WERS station licenses. Oklahoma's application for a new license has been forwarded to Washington and it is hoped that they are on the air by now. The most gratifying aspect of this increased activity is the widespread organization of classes in morse code for CAP Cadets. This is another phase of CAP training which will result in more young men than ever going through the Army Air Forces flying schools with their chances of success more firmly assured.

NEW RADIOTELEPHONE PROCEDURE MANUAL. CAP Manual 34-9, which is the new official CAP radiotelephone procedure manual, has been completed and will be distributed immediately. The California Wing, through its Communications Officer, Captain Fred W. Christian, has arranged to have several thousand copies of this manual printed and distributed to CAP members free of charge. The Electronic Specialty Company has very graciously offered its services in that connection. In the meantime, a limited number of mimeographed copies will be made available by National Headquarters.

PROCEDURE PRACTICE. Clever, enthusiastic Lt. George Muir of the Connecticut Wing's Hartford Squadron has improvised an interesting way of learning what to some folks is a dull subject. They get simultaneous practice in code, reading charts and maps, and procedure and here's how they do it. Several charts are set up at various points around an instruction room and a group of students who simulate a flight is posted at each chart. Each group has a key and sends position reports and other messages to the ground crew which is another group situated in a separate location. All groups follow the course of the particular group which may be simulating flight and all conversation is carried on in code. It can be seen readily that this activity has many instructional advantages and is the closest possible approach to cross-country flying from the procedure point of view inasmuch as the pertinent, essential elements of actual flight are involved. This type of instruction is very stimulating and is applicable to either morse code or radiotelephone practice.

PARALLEL ROD OSCILLATOR. Captain Aaron E. Swanberg, Communications Officer of the Minnesota Wing in reporting the results he had obtained with parallel rod oscillator transmitters of the 2½ meter type made a statement which might well be the criterion when constructing WERS stations. He said, "Simplification of circuits, and thru such simplification, less parts and lower grade parts may well do much toward more active participation." Captain Swanberg cites these advantages for parallel rod oscillators: using series tuning, larger condensers, which are usually more easily obtained, may be used; the stability is very high; they may be bent to conserve space; only one RF choke is required, that for the plate lead. He says that the grid resistor will depend upon the type of tube used, the value usually being around 10,000 ohms. The oscillator his Wing constructed uses a type 955 tube; he has found that the HY615, RCA9002, or type 30 can also be used. All the power required is that necessary for oscillation. Perhaps somebody may have the answer to this question: If the tuning condenser is located at the extreme end of the radio away from the tube itself, will there be a substantial decrease of losses due to leakage?

USE OF ARMY COMMUNICATIONS MATERIAL. The Army Air Forces have made available to the Civil Air Patrol certain items of communications equipment which are no longer suitable for combat purposes for various reasons. We are confident that CAP

Communications Officers will sustain the Army Air Forces trust in and reliance upon CAP's capabilities by taking extraordinary action to ascertain that this equipment is used only in such ways that will contribute to the efficiency and worth of the service to aviation being rendered by CAP. So that the Civil Air Patrol could employ it in the construction of WERS stations, code practice equipment and breadboard models was one of the primary reasons for securing the equipment. Thus, future Aviation Cadets will have some practical experience in what usually proves to be a difficult subject---radio. Wing Commanders and Communications Officers will receive further communications relative to this subject in the near future.

IS OUR FACE RED? In the last issue of the Communications Bulletin, a statement was made that items one and ten of FCC Form No. 455, Application for a WERS Station License, should be signed: " _____ Wing, Civil Air Patrol." Subsequent discussion has disclosed that this is not true. That phrase should be preceded by the Wing Commanders name and rank. With apprehension, we proclaim again. Items one and ten of FCC Form No. 455 should be filled out as follows:

John J. Jones,
Major, CAP
Commanding _____ Wing.

ORGANIZATION. On a recent visit, Captain John A. Doremus, Communications Officer of the Massachusetts Wing, gave an interesting account of the organization of his staff section. Captain Doremus found that due to the **pressure** of business and various other obligations that he required additional personnel in his section in order to operate efficiently. His section is organized on a functional basis and is comprised of three assistants to include a Supply, Operations, and Maintenance and Training Officer. (The individuals actually filling these posts need not necessarily be commissioned officers.) This seems to be a logical setup. In view of the fact that duty is performed on a volunteer basis, it is obvious that the amount of time which can be devoted to every phase of CAP communications cannot always be adequate. It would seem that a functionalized staff section is the answer to such a circumstance. You are urged to share your views on this subject. If you think you have a better idea for the organization of a Wing Communications staff section, why not let us know about it? Further, what do you think the ranks of the incumbents should be? Most Wing Communications Officers have their activities very well organized but, in all due respect, we feel that three or four capable men working harmoniously together can perform more effectively than one good man.

WE STILL SAY. As stated in the last bulletin, it is our desire to make this publication as much of a service to Communications Officers as possible. Many have paid us the honor of a visit to National Headquarters during which helpful, interesting information and suggestions were given us so that others might benefit. The mail also yielded much that is worthwhile. The next issue will be published after a much shorter interval and will be enlarged if necessary.

By direction of National Commander JOHNSON:

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