

EXPLAINS "STATIC" OF RADIOPHONE

Tells How Atmospheric Electricity Affects Workings of the Receiving Sets

Now that the "radio craze" has swept the country, many persons with receiving sets are bothered by the mysterious something that the radio experts call "static". Just what this atmospheric electricity is and how it is related to the electricity in thunder storms, are discussed by Eric R. Miller, meteorologist, U. S. weather bureau, Madison.

"The average man is unaware that there is such a thing as atmospheric electricity, except when it thunders. The work of the radio operator is interfered with continually by sounds of snapping, crackling, and grinding in his head-phones. These signal the arrival of stray waves from more or less distant thunderstorms.

"The generation of electricity in thunder storms has been explained by G. C. Simpson of the weather bureau of India. He found by experiment that when drops of water fall through a vertical blast of air that the breaking of the drops into spray is accompanied by the production of positive and negative electricity and that the drops are left with a positive charge. "A strong upward current of air is

one of the most conspicuous features of the thunderstorm. It is always evident in the turbulent cauliflower-shaped heads of the cumulus cloud from which thunder storms grow. Besides, strong upward currents are necessary for the formation of hail, which so often accompanies thunder storms, since the freezing raindrops and growing hail must be carried repeatedly to the cold that is found only at high altitudes. In the turmoil of a thunder storm, raindrops may be forced through the cycle of union, division, of coalescence and disruption many times with the formation at each disruption of a correspondingly increased electrical charge.

"Hence, once started, the electricity of a thunder storm grows to a considerable maximum. If this theory is correct, and it seems well founded, it must follow that the one essential to the formation of the giant cumulus cloud, namely the rapid uprush of moist air, is also the one essential to the generation of the electricity of thunder storms. This is the reason that lightning seldom occurs except in connection with a cumulus cloud. It is simply because the electrifying process of splashing is vigorously active in this cloud and nearly absent in all others.

"The use of a coil antenna will enable any radio receiving outfit to locate approaching thunder storms and to forecast their time of arrival quite accurately when within twenty or thirty miles. The coil antenna gives the strongest effect for waves approaching in the plane of the coil, least along the axis of the coil. The vertical coil must be arranged to turn through a semi-circular horizontal arc. In experiments at Hampton Roads, Va., the average wave length on which the best results were obtained, was 900 meters. The average intensity of NEBRASKAN—TWO

static or thunder storm days exceeded the average static on no thunder storm days by 36 per cent, but the difference was much greater as the storm approached."

ENGINEERING COLLEGE SENDS OUT NEWS LETTER

The eleventh annual news letter to the graduates of the College of Engineering was sent out last week to about 1,000 former students of that college. The letter contains a review of the work of the college for the last year and a number of items of general university interest.

Included in the letter is information regarding registration, the new system which has proved so successful, and the figures, the football schedule for next fall, the plans for the memorial stadium, comment on engineers' work, news relative to the annual inspection trip, a discussion of the five year curriculum, news of the active alumni, faculty items and other news of interest.

MISS POUND WINS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Miss Louise Pound, of the University of Nebraska English department, Friday won the country club golf championship for women when she defeated Mrs. Ray Elliott, 5 and 4. Miss Pound defeated Mrs. J. M. Stewart, 7 and 6, in the semi-finals. She had previously defeated Mrs. H. E. Gooch.

The biggest baseball star of all is some times figured cheesy. And that's because he always makes The hardest plays look easy.

TITAN HAIRED BEAUTY WINNER

(Continued from Page One)

should adorn the cover was a decided success. Adamson Monday gave out the following statement in regard to it:

"It is evident to everyone that to choose a girl representative of the University of Nebraska would be an absolutely impossible feat. When the idea of selecting some university girl to adorn the cover of 'Cornhusker Rose' was suggested to me, there was but one thing to do and that was to make the selection through a vote of the university students. Of course, many of the winter students do not receive the Summer Nebraskan and for that fact the determining of the most representative girl of the university by contest was a difficult thing. What the outcome of such a contest would have been had we waited until fall, an impossible thing seemingly, is only a matter of contemplation.

"The students of the university have chosen Miss Hanson and her picture shall appear on the cover. Personally, I feel that anyone of the many girls who received votes would have been satisfactory and I would have been glad to dedicate 'Cornhusker Rose' to any one of them, but I know that the selection made by the students will meet with the approval of all."

Copies of the "Cornhusker Rose" may be secured through the Summer Nebraskan by any one wishing a copy. A note enclosing thirty cents together with name and address should be sent to the Nebraskan in payment of a copy of the song.

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