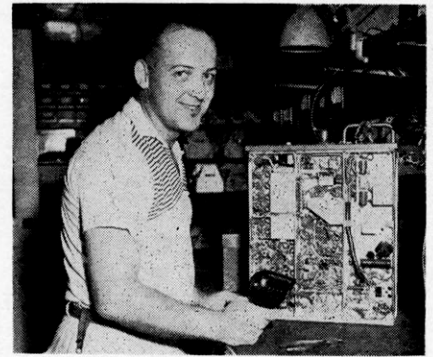


# Grid-Leak Drippings . . .

By BILLIE J. H. ABRAHAM W9ENS/W9VSH

6343 Homestead Drive, Indianapolis 27, Indiana



Them fellers with an analytical mind will out-guess you every time; e.g., postcard from ol' faithful, F. E. McNally, W9NLA, of SP Madison, Wisconsin: "Hi, OM, bet u just wanted to stir up some controversy with ur last article," (the one on a superspeed cross-country microwave system).

Matter of fact, YES. Have been trying for months to get some argument out of somebody, without too much luck. Here's why: (1) I can make good use of all the material anyone sends me, and I'm not particular whether they agree with me or not. (2) There are a couple of nice chunks of lettuce just waiting for some of you "thinkers" if you'll take the time to send Mix an award article. (P.S. — If you've got the story but can't seem to assemble it right, I'll be willing to do a bit of ghosting for you.)

(3) Finally, any time you set 10 radiomen down to a conference table to discuss a problem, you will invariably wind up with at least 8 completely divergent opinions; maybe, if I stir things up enough between sessions, there will be a lot more productive thinking done in preparation for the August 4 through 7 International APCO Conference in Baltimore. There is one place where you can stack your arguments up against the other fellow's and reach some definite conclusions.

Continuing with Mac's welcomed comments, "I for one, am besieged and bedeviled by too much TT already, and our future hopes are that it can be used as a mooring for the *USS Wisconsin* in the moth-ball fleet. Can't stand in the way of progress, and there is a place in our business for TT, but let's put it where it belongs and keep police communications out of the (commercial interests) clutches. As a brass pounder, I feel that Idaho installing CW would be more of a step in the right direction. Best wishes for the New Year and trust that your writer is not the only young old-fogey on the police CW net."

Well, Mac, I don't know about my vast reading audience (either one of him), but your sentiments sum up the general feeling of the midwest pretty well — or is it the bad acoustics here in the Hoosier heartland that give me that echo.

## AMA, "Loggers" and APCO

The AMA (American Municipal Association) is to be both thanked and congratulated for the honor and responsibility they have bestowed upon APCO in asking us to act as the frequency advisory committee for their group; this paves the way to a much more smoothly integrated system of allocations among the interleaved Police, Fire, and Local Government radio services — leaving only the Highway Maintenance and Interstate Highway services as possible "outsiders" between our channels. — and IRAC might even see their way clear to eliminate the latter by putting them in IRAC bands.

The Local Government Radio Service (which I have dubbed LoGoRS, alias "loggers," for brevity), on the books now only as a proposal, is destined to become an actuality before much longer; and many of us will necessarily become involved in its operations. In a lot of cases, LoGoRS will be a catch-all for the many items of a municipal complex that cannot honestly be classified as strictly "police" or strictly "fire." Of course, police, fire, and combinations of them supposedly will be eligible for LoGoRS channels, too.

Thus, in a town of a half-million population, for example, there might be a need for control points and/or base stations with mobile units somewhat as follows: (1) Municipal Kennels — 4 dog wagons, 2 sedans; (2) City Hospital — 7 ambulances, 1 supply truck, 4 sedans; (3) Traffic Engineers — 4 line trucks, 2 sedans; (4) Street Department — 4 crew trucks, 2 sedans, 1 emergency truck, possibly more; (5) City Officials — 1 Mayor or Manager car, 3 Safety Board or Commissioner cars, and 5 or 6 other VIP; (6) Civil Defense Department — 4 staff cars, 6 emergency units; with maybe 3 or 4 other offices having 15 to 20 other mobile units.

Obviously, a system of this sort, with only 60 or 70 mobiles, can readily be accommodated on a single pair of duplex frequencies; consequently, it lends itself beautifully to an MCC-type approach. For those not familiar with MCC (Miscellaneous Com-

(Continued Page 21)