

## New Mickey Mouse is Small in Size Only Latest Radio Corporation Products Good Performers

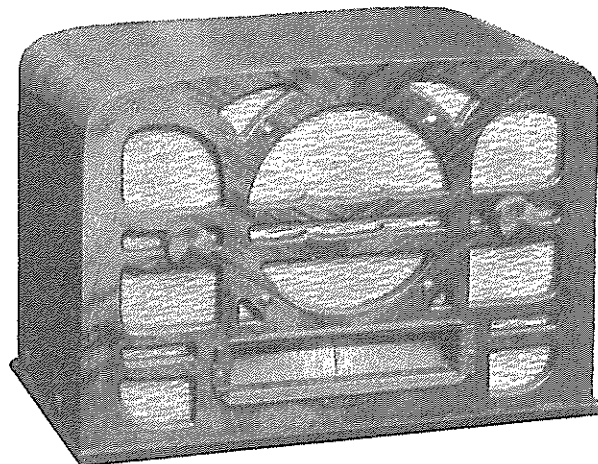
### Novel "Oversea-er" Attachment

SOME time ago, it was announced that Radio Corporation Pty. Ltd. of Melbourne were developing a new midget A.C. operated receiver capable of living up to the performance class of previous Astor "Mickey Mouse" receivers and able to share in the popularity enjoyed by this class of set.

Now comes the news that Radio Corporation are releasing immediately the Astor Mickey Mouse midget receiver Model BE. No details are available at the moment as to the price of the new Mickey Mouse, but it is understood it will fall well within the reasonable price class. The unit is compactness itself and the appearance of the cabinet is characterised by a unique method of construction. The timber employed, although very thin is remarkably strong and the patented processes involved whereby all the "corners" are curved, not only add to the beauty of line, but also considerably strengthen the finished cabinet. Additional strength is also achieved by means of interlocking base and corner joints resulting in a remarkably light yet sturdy cabinet that will remain rigid and unyielding while retaining its shapely appearance.

We would say that engineering resources have been adequately applied in this regard and an aircraft analogy immediately suggests itself wherein great strength and rigidity combined with graceful appearance is obtained.

This new model has but two controls—tuning and volume, of the miniature type previously found in the Mickey Mouse and do not in any way tend to spoil the finished appearance of the receiver. The tuning device is located at the foot of the cabinet and consists of a celluloid scale calibrated from 0 to 100 viewed through a moulded bakelite esutcheon with walls set at a slight angle so as not to impede one's line of vision. Across the scale moves a vertical pointer operated through a suitable reduction vernier movement providing a simple tuning action adequate for pleasant broadcast tuning while not too slow to render the operation tedious.



"Speaks Well!"

The speaker fret extends somewhat beyond the actual speaker orifice in order that a more balanced and symmetrical appearance may be obtained, this being further enhanced by a brown-and-gold silk screen.

The speaker employed is naturally of the miniature type, but has been designed to overcome those troublesome characteristics to which the extremely small type of speaker is sometimes prone. The model we tested had a surprisingly good tone for so small a receiver and no tendency was evident for the speaker to overload. We understand the actual speaker employed is the Radio Corporation type T1.

The circuit arrangement makes use of a 6A7, 6D6, 6B7, 41 and 80 rectifier. A length of aerial wire approximately 16 feet long already connected with a plug (the socket for which is mounted at the back of the chassis) is supplied by the manufacturers and this it is claimed will be found sufficient for all normal purposes although in localities where signal levels are notoriously low an outside aerial of from 35 to 50 ft. is recommended. On the model tested by us no outside aerial was found to be necessary as adequate results were obtained by using the aerial supplied.

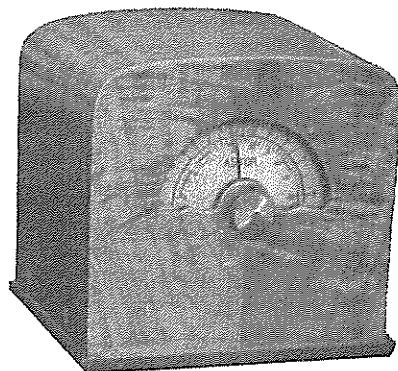
On the rear of the chassis is found a multi-pin plug and socket (thoughtfully secured to the chassis against loss by the manufacturers) which on removal allows Radio Corporation's novel short wave "Oversea-er" to be connected up, thus converting a most satisfactory broadcast

performer into a 6 valve short wave receiver. It would seem that there is an excellent additional selling argument here in that the Astor Mickey Mouse midget model BE is available already equipped at no extra cost with the facilities for adding at any time a compact and inexpensive unit capable of effecting the transfer mentioned above.

#### The "Oversea-er"

This unit which measures 6½ in. cube and is of similar cabinet construction to the Mickey Mouse, contains a miniature chassis upon which is mounted the necessary short wave tuning coils, tuning unit and one 6A7 valve. A seven pin plug and cord are provided for plugging into a socket at the back of the Mickey Mouse previously mentioned.

This "Oversea-er" should not be thought of as an adaptor unit. It functions somewhat differently to the usual run of short wave converters. It is a separable short wave unit. As soon as it is plugged into the receiver, the first detector valve is changed by a clever circuit arrangement into an i.f. amplifier. The actual change over being effected by the process of plugging in. The result is that the combined Mickey Mouse and "Oversea-er" become a complete 6 valve receiver embodying two I.F. stages. The more common type of short wave adaptor on the other hand usually operates by converting the short wave signal into one of broadcast frequency which is passed through the various stages of the receiver in the same way as a signal received from a broadcast station would



be. The "Oversea-er" unit is designed to cover all important short wave channels. Its range is from 15.8 to 51 metres. Within this range all important world broadcasts take place.

The dial is calibrated in megacycles and also combines clearly marked overseas short wave bands.

**Sales Possibilities.** It seems that the new Astor Mickey Mouse and the "Oversea-er" short wave unit is bristling with sales opportunities. Cases are frequently met where the purchaser is unable to afford a complete dual wave receiver and thus Radio Corporation steps into the breach with a product designed to fill the bill. An "adaptor" unit, particularly an adaptor in any electrical sense, is invariably accompanied by some disadvantage and more often than not comes within the category of a makeshift device with a number of disadvantages to offset its usefulness.

No such disadvantages are apparent when using the "Oversea-er" as when the two are combined, one has a complete short wave set and not merely a makeshift "adaptor" and broadcast receiver. By unplugging the "Oversea-er" one immediately has a broadcast receiver once more.

Now that we have had an opportunity of inspecting and testing both these units and in view of the abnormal sales figures previously recorded against the original Mickey Mouse, we believe all dealers will

want to investigate this latest Radio Corporation proposition to the full. Messrs. Radio Corporation Pty. Ltd., of Melbourne, Smith Sons & Rees Ltd., 30-32 Wentworth Avenue, Sydney, or distributors in the various States will be glad to supply further particulars.

### AUTO RADIO IN U.S.A.

(Continued from page 3)  
the dashboard. This arrangement is proving very popular, as it enables the back-seat passengers to hear everything that is going on without discomforting the driver. Another advantage is that a separate speaker with a long lead can be used for camping parties.

Most manufacturers feature this as a de luxe equipment.

The vibrator type of "B" unit has definitely come to stay, and to all intents and purposes has displaced the motor generator type, presumably owing to the latter's high cost and service difficulties. These modern vibrators plug in just like a valve and have a similar life and replacement cost.

#### Only Two Per Cent.

One of the leading magazines recently published a survey of 78 different models of auto radio, of which all but two utilised a vibrator as a "B" supply unit.

Quite a number of the latest auto radios are equipped with a special filtering device, entirely eliminating the need of spark plug suppressors on most automobiles, as it has been found that the usual type of suppressor affects and tends to reduce the efficiency of an automobile motor. This device is an important advance in automobile radio design; in fact, I could almost say that it is the outstanding achievement of the year.

With the advent of all-steel bodies, the roof type of antenna has had to be discarded in favour of various types of under-car antennas. As these antennas have proved to have considerably less pick-up, more sensitive receivers have had to be designed, the latest having a sensitivity factor of a third to half a microvolt, and these new sets are sure the berries.

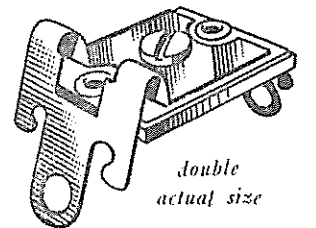
This year has seen receivers more compact than ever: a number of makes even fit behind the glove-box.

Dust-proofing has also been perfected, as owing to the large desert areas encountered over here, the service trouble caused by dust in receivers and speakers was considerable.

Contrary to general expectations, the radio dealers over here are selling quite a large percentage of the market, which was generally believed that the automobile trade would get the main benefit from auto radio, but such is not the case. One possible reason for this is the fact that there is no price-cutting on auto radio and the radio dealer is not worried by "junk" manufacturers, that are always competing with him in domestic radio. It has been found that owing to the many difficulties and intricacies of design, only the reputable and best equipped factories are able to produce an auto radio that gives full satisfaction.

## Announcing 2 Sensationally New RADIOKES PRODUCTS

### ★ M.E.C. TRIMMING CONDENSERS

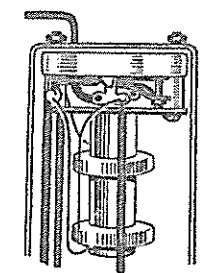


Double  
actual size

This new trimming condenser is a very small low-loss unit designed for trimming the aerial, R.F. and oscillator coils in dual-wave and all-wave receivers. Many other uses can also be found.

So light is its weight that the unit can be self-supported in wiring. The base is only ⅛ in. x ⅜ in.; dielectric is mica and the spring plates are phosphor bronze. The capacity is 3 to 30 mmf. Retail price 1/3 each

### ★ TYPE "T" I.F. TRANSFORMERS



The "T" is a high selectivity Litz wound I.F. transformer which has been designed to meet the demand for high selectivity and extra efficiency created by the new wave-length changes.

The coils are Litz wound and of the high "Q" type. Inductance and capacity values have been designed for the highest efficiency.

The coils are mounted at right angles to the tuning base and parallel to the sides of the shield; this enables the coils to work with the minimum of loss and without restriction of the coil fields.

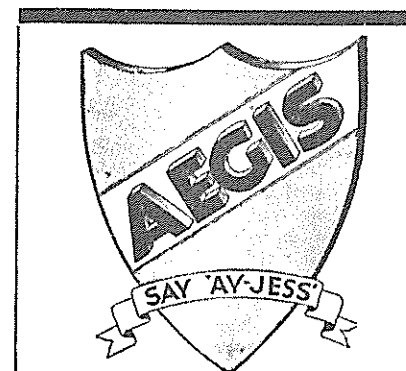
Sensitivity and selectivity and other characteristics are such as to make them equally satisfactory in superheterodynes employing either one or two stages of I.F. in connection with any type of second detector.

Quantity production permits pricing these units very attractively—the list price will be 3/6. Tuning condensers are of the highest grade mica compression type mounted on Isolatite bases and adjustable from the top of the shield can. "Wireless Weekly" colour code is standard; aluminium shield can measures 2 1/16-in. dia. x 4-in. high; mounting is by means of threaded lugs on 3/8-in. centres.

Type T465 is 465 kc. Type T175 is 175 kc.

For further details write to:

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6 Wafer type sockets, 2 "Marquis"  
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