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OLD RADIO

The Silver-Marshall "Round the World" Four

There are many photos of ham stations in the early 1930s QSTs and I've always enjoyed reading those station descriptions. One receiver that showed up in many photos was the Silver-Marshall model 730 series "Round the World" Four.

First advertised in the September 1928 QST, the "Round the World" Four quickly became popular. The ad declared, in part, "9BBW, receiving on the 'Round the World' Four," worked in one evening stations in Germany, France, England and Italy. Low-power amateur code stations over the U.S.

and Canada are received regularly on the 730. And for television work, it's ideal." The rig covered all the active short-wave ham bands, 17.4 to 204 meters.

The 730 was a four-tube receiver consisting of one stage of screen-grid RF amplification, a regenerative detector and two stages of extremely high-gain audio amplification. It was available three ways: a basic kit, the model 732, which sold for \$16.50 (just essential parts); the model 731, an intermediate kit with an RF amplifier, detector, adapter plug, cabinet and four



The Silver-Marshall "Round the World" Four. The left-hand vernier dial controls the tuning, the right-hand vernier dial controls regeneration. The small lower knob regulates the detector filament voltage and at the extreme anti-clockwise position turns the entire set off. Four different plug-in coils cover from 17.4 to 204 meters.



"ROUND THE WORLD" FOUR

Just What the Name Implies!

The trimmest short wave set ever—that's the verdict everywhere on the new 730 S-M "Round-the-World" Four. It does everything you expect of a short-wave receiver—everything, even, that you expect of an S-M receiver. The Radio Broadcast Laboratory, in initial tests of the 730, received English 5SW daily on the speaker, during afternoon hours. 9BBW, receiving on the "Round-the-World" Four, worked in one evening stations in Germany, France, England and Italy. Low-power amateur code stations over the U. S. and Canada are received regularly on the 730. And for television work, it's ideal!

The "Round-the-World" Four is a complete four-tube regenerative, non-radiating short wave receiver kit with aluminum shielding cabinet. It has one screen grid r.f. stage, a regenerative, non-radiating detector, and two high-gain Clough audio stages. It tunes from 17.4 to 204 meters with four plug-in coils. The kit is \$51.00, complete with cabinet, four coils, and full instructions—ready for immediate shipment.

The 731 "Round the World" Adapter is the two-tube, r.f. amplifier and detector, less the two stage a.f. amplifier of the above set. With an adapter plug, it converts any set to long-distance short wave reception. Price, complete with cabinet and four coils (17.4 to 204 meters) \$36.00. The 732 "Round the World" Essential Kit contains the two tuning and tickler condensers, the four plug-in coils, coil socket, and three r.f. chokes, with full instructions for building a one, two, three or four tube short wave set. It costs but \$16.50 complete.

And it beats anything for getting out into the short-wave "Thrill Band." Choose the kit you prefer—and "step out!"




New S-M 131 Plug-In Coils (used in the 730) wound on moulded bakelite, fit any 5-prong tube sockets. Wound, \$1.25, or blank, \$0.50 each.

plug-in coils for \$36; and the full kit, model 730, which was available for \$51. This variable pricing structure made it very affordable and hams were quick to respond.

These sets are hard to find in good condition. I have only seen two for sale in the last four years, one of which I purchased. This radio would be a good candidate to replicate today with old parts. The components were fairly standard and the cabinet was assembled with small sheets of aluminum. If anyone has already done this, I would like to hear from you. For anyone planning to build one, I have more information, schematics and photos of this radio on my Web site at: <http://www.eht.com/oldradio/arri/index.html>.

Collector Profile

"Start early and don't stop," is the motto of Tom Anderson, K5HPF. Tom started at the age of three when his dad built him a crystal receiver. The crystal set didn't last long, but the radio bug had bitten. At age five Tom built his own crystal set and at six he learned to solder. By the time he was seven years old, Tom had built a one-tube radio. A superregen short-wave receiver followed three years later.

After a couple of years as a short wave listener, Tom was licensed as a Novice as KN5HPF and later upgraded to General. His first station consisted of the superregen he built at age 10 and Knight Kit 50-W transmitter, Knight VFO and a home-brew modulator. A Speed-X key and JT-30 Astatic microphone rounded out the collection.

Tom went on to get an engineering degree and worked at NASA and IBM. He now owns an engineering firm in Corpus Christi, Texas.

He says, "Vintage radio is my mid-life crisis! I can now afford to own the rigs I always wanted as a child."

All that is left of the original station is the JT-30 microphone. Tom enjoys his Viking Valiant transmitter and a Hammarlund HQ-170A receiver. He also has a Heath SB-10 SSB adapter for vintage SSB operation. As backup, and for portable operation, he has a Multi-Elmac AF-68 with the PMR-8 receiver and the matching M-1070 power supply. On 2-meter AM he enjoys using his Gonset Communicator with his JT-30 microphone.



QST