

me all mixed up. Why they are even passing messages direct from Halifax to Regina. That's not supposed to be possible. I feel all off the beam".

We tried to reason with him. "Look", one of the detachment men said, "we on detachments get to think we are the only ones in the world with troubles. Your network has broadened our outlook. When we think that everyone in the world is getting along fine except ourselves, just flick up the squelch on the radio. Then all these other stations come in and we hear that other people have troubles too. If you have the Gaelic you learn that over in Cape Breton, little John Rory, big Alex's son, has the shingles; in Newfoundland the herring are not running; in Quebec they are having trouble with tourists who forget to stop at the Customs; out west wheat is disappearing; down on that Texas ranch the herd stampeded; something must be wrong over in Mexico the way they are yelling; in short, everybody has their troubles. When we hear that it helps us to carry on."

But we couldn't convince him. He was a real headquarters man when it came to trying to get him to see a viewpoint from detachment level. He left abruptly, muttering about sunspots and skips. We felt anxious about letting him go on alone.

The next time we met him, he was his old self again. He was elated by a recent technical break-through in the communications field made by a detachment man's wife. It seemed that one Sunday night at 7.22 p.m., to be exact, this lady was trying to relay a message to her husband in the police car. She called the car, missed it by 14,000 miles and startled a man in Sydney, Australia, with the sound of her Canadian voice. A lively two-way conversation followed. Later investigation made with the help of an observatory disclosed that she had ricocheted her signal off "Sputnick II" which was passing over Australia about that time.

"Don't you see the possibilities", the technician cried. "I'll build an R.C.M.-Pnick, economy-size of course, which

will orbit from Newfoundland to British Columbia. Why it will be tremendous. Every police office in Canada can be linked up. All you will need to do is turn up the squelch on your radio and—"

"It might need a radio technician in it to act as a control operator", ventured the junior man who had been listening intently.

We haven't heard about the plan since. It got the squelch all right. ●●●

A detachment in Manitoba received an envelope addressed as follows:

"too

The Copps

Hodgson

Come at once "

The body of the letter read:

"policements.

Bring your dog Come at once because There's some drunks making trouble against use. Bothering peoples close by us. swearing at me and They had lots of mose milk.

I got something to show you you come by the place where I stay. I know the boys who was drunk."

CANADIAN COLLECTOR

wishes to purchase

antique, and obsolete fire-arms of all descriptions.

Especially interested in guns stamped NWMP in butt.

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