

FEED BACK

GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

Editor Bill VE3EFX
JANUARY 1976

Executive	President	Dick Shave	VE3BIS
	Vice Pres.	Dave Dixon	VE3DXO
	Sec. Treas.	Cy Weaver	VE3DQA

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The attendance at the December meeting or party was only 18 due to very adverse weather conditions on the evening of the 18th. Those who managed to get to the Yacht club either lived in Owen Sound or lived far enough East of Lake Huron to be out of the wind which was blowing the snow around and creating zero visability on HWY 21.

Cy reports that the club has \$323.44 in the bank and up to December 21st we have 24 Full members and 3 Associate members paid up for the coming year. Of the 24 Full members, 18 are also members of ARRL, so the club affiliation to that organisation appears to be quite safe.

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Need aluminum tubing for beams etc ? Write to BEACH AWNING CO. 301 CROCKETT ST. HAMILTON, ONT. They are reputed to have the right stuff at the right price.

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There is no sign of the VE3AYX story as the deadline passes so you'll have to be content with the EFX story this month. How lucky can you get ? Don't forget, I need to have copy for the next issue of Feedback by the 25th of this month at the very latest, that means get it to me before then if possible, don't start thinking about it on the 25th.

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Jack, VE3DTS was in hospital as this is written, hope it is not serious and you are soon out and about again Jack.

A suggestion was put forward by VE3HIZ, that the club put an article in the local papers announcing the availability of the amateur stations in the area for the handling of messages to points in Canada and the U.S.

I put the information in the Kincardine paper which came out on November 27th and gave myself and VE3ATR as the people to contact. The traffic started to come in to VE3ATR that day and I hope to have his traffic count for the next issue of Feedback.

VE3BIS put the story in one of the papers in his area and the picture of his shack appeared along with it.

The Owen Sound effort never got off the ground and I believe a watered down article on Amateur Radio is to appear at some later date.

The idea of having to get on the ball and handle traffic caused a few cases of instant panic among the membership. Questions like "where can I get message forms"? "how will I move the traffic"? "what nets are on and where can I find them"? "what does QTC mean"? all were heard on the repeater. One guy said that the reason he didn't have any message forms was because he never needed them till now. I assume he doesn't put gas in the car till the tank runs dry for the same reason.

I've been advocating for the last couple of years that you all get familiar with traffic handling and the idea of getting your WAS is to give you the needed experience in finding where the different nets operate. The record shows that of those who got on the air in 1974 only VE3HIR got WAS and she is the only one who takes a regular slot as NCS.

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XJ3EFX has applied for the 1976 Olympic Award, having worked all the XJ and XN prefixes. I have 25 countries worked towards the world section of this award so shouldn't have too much trouble in getting it.

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The ARRL is planning a special WAS Award with a special certificate for stations completing WAS in 1976. Will any of you get this one?

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The Dutch government has abolished the CB radio service in that country. It seems that it was impractical to clean up the mess so as in the case of any other malignant growth the decision was made to cut it out.

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The above two items are from the Canadian DX Association publication Long Skip.

This month we have the annual Simulated Emergency Test run by the ARRL, and the date of the event is January 24th and 25th. As usual you should be on the air handle traffic, originate traffic and monitor the nets . I wonder if there is any danger of the club membership showing any signs of participation this year. I believe that VE3BSF and I are the only ones who have shown much effort in this regard during the last two years.

In order to inject some adrenalin into the lethargic members of the club we will turn it into a bit of a contest. Any paid up member may enter and the following rules will apply.

1. One point for each net you check into
2. Five points for each piece of traffic you originate.
3. Ten points for each message relayed
4. Ten points for each message delivered
5. Those who got on the air less than two years ago multiply their score by two.

The CW stations have the advantage that they can call in to SSB nets while the SSB stations cannot call in to CW nets.

Entries can be CW or SSB but not both. The idea being to help the new operators to compete on an equal basis with the more experienced people.

All messages should be in ARRL format and properly made out. Get your score in to XJ3EFX by the 31st of January with a complete list of net checkins, traffic handled, points claimed and all times in GMT. I will donate a prize to the high scoring station and the only stipulation is that we must get sufficient entries to make a contest of it. A multi operator station such as Rick and Mike will not be able to use the multiplier and will combine their efforts unless they wish to operate at different times and put in separate entries. I hope these rules cover all eventualities. The final decision will rest with me so send in legible and correct entries or you could lose points. BY THE WAY the prize will be a useful item so if you are interested get in there and take an active part for a change.

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When the time comes around for the new executive to be elected in May, I'd like to be relieved of the position of editor of Feedback. I feel that two years at a time are enough and I have a number of other projects that I want to get some work done on. I wish I had time to do the newsletter too but it just cannot be done. I know that there are others in the club who can do this job and there is a lot of satisfaction to be gained from doing it properly. I will put out the June issue as my last one and the incoming editor will have two months to get out his first issue. I will of course be pleased to support the newsletter with items of interest from time to time.

The latest info from XJ3HXX is that he has 40 States worked and 23 confirmed. This is an excellent showing for a new amateur with only five months of operation the bands. What happened to all the opposition?

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Word has it that the class being run at Georgian College will be ready for the exam this month, only a few more weeks and we can look forward to some new blood on the air. I'd like to wish all those taking the test the best of luck.

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The repeater isn't being monitored as well as it could and should be. Frequently it is more by good luck than good management that you can get hold of a station when it is needed. I would like to see if we could persuade more people to put their rigs on whenever they are at home, and if we could have a kind of agreement to observe QUIET HOURS between say 11pm and 7am the rigs could monitor on a continuous basis. I have left my rig on overnight sometimes and usually there is no problem except for the occasional character who feels compelled to thumb his mike button and KERRCHUNK the repeater. It would be too bad if somebody was in need of some assistance during the night and couldn't raise anybody because all the rigs were switched off. My rig is on all the time I am at home but if the rig is in use the gain is turned down. How about some comment on this subject at the meeting? Don't forget, you could be the guy who needs help some night and it seems to me that it is stupid to have half a facility in operation for 24 hours a day while the other half only is available part time.

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I plan to put some statistics in Feedback to show the number of 2m operators in our club, but this will need to wait till the information is available. Other statistics of interest will appear as they become available, so that any of the membership who have special interests can find others with interest in the same field.

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My nomination for the "How I Became an Amateur" series in the February issue of Feedback, is VE3DTS, Jack. Please get the copy to me by January 25th at the latest and if it is typed leave a half inch margin at the left side.

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XJ3HIR got the last contact for her Calgary Centennial Award and she will pick up the Stampede award at the same time.

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No Oscar orbital info this time as the 1976 calendar is not out yet.

As we have a number of FT 101 B owners in the club the following may be of some interest to them. A long standing problem in this rig has been "vox hangup" if a transmission lasts more than a few seconds and I never could get the vox to stay in adjustment. The symptoms were that after getting the sensitivity, delay and anti trip apparently adjusted, the rig would not return to the receive mode after a transmission was made.

The April issue of the FT Newsletter was devoted to clearing up the fault and covers the vox circuit in great detail. I realized that I'd have to clear up my problem when I inadvertently left the switch in the vox position and it kept hanging up when Tess started to operate.

For those who don't get the FT Newsletter I'll go through the modification step by step and it should be a simple matter to effect the cure.

First remove the top cover and locate PB-1189 or in later models PB-1315. This is the AF unit and has the pots for vox adjustment along the top of the board so it is easy to locate. Remove the two screws that hold the board to the bracket and pull the board from the socket.

Locate Q5, it is marked on the component side of the board and is an FET. The next step is to ground the source directly to the ground bus and this ought to complete the modification. See the drawing below for details of the board connections and just make a solder bridge or jumper the gap with a small piece of wire using a small soldering iron so as not to overheat the board.

In effect this mod jumpers out R27 a 680 ohm resistance and R26 a thermistor which you will be able to see on your schematic. There is an additional mod if the above doesn't suffice but it involves the installation of another transistor and should only be attempted if you are experienced in working with circuits of this type. If you don't want to try the above mod either by yourself bring the board to the club and I'll do it in a couple of minutes for you, it is well worth while as vox is superior to ptt in net operation especially.

The address for the FT Newsletter is ; Milt Lowens WA2AQQ, 3977 F Sedgwick Avenue, Bronx, New York, 10463.

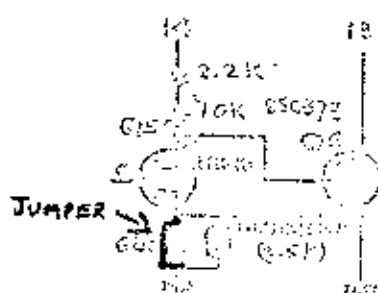


FIG. 1A - Current VOX Circuit (from 1971 to present) (3/79).

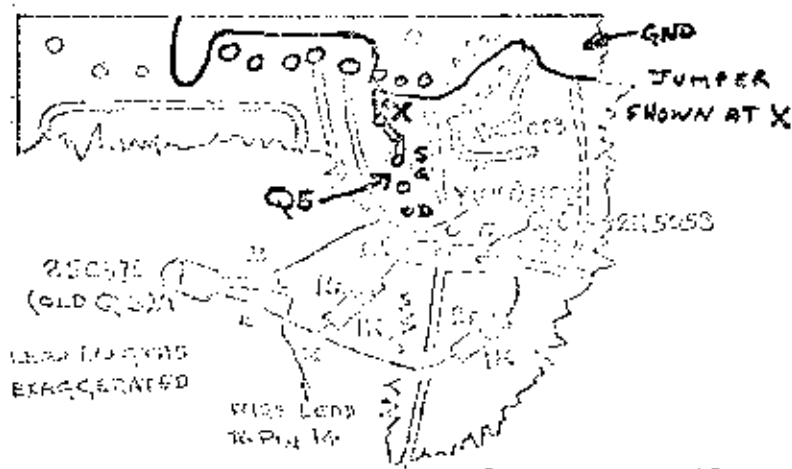


FIG. 1B - Mod of circuit (3/79) (3/79)

The night sky is very interesting these days with the usual winter constellations showing prominently in the late evening and this year they are supplemented by the planets Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. On a clear night with only a pair of 7X50 binoculars you can see some of the more interesting nebulae, double stars etc.

A small telescope will show the four largest moons of Jupiter and the rings of Saturn. The only problem with making observations at this time of the year is the temperatures normally experienced. Those who live in the country are fortunate in not having too much light from homes and street lamps to dim the light received from the stars. The planet Venus is still a brilliant sight in the early morning. It is high in the South East before sunrise and looks like a small crescent moon in a telescope.

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Very nice to welcome Brian, VE3ERT to the ranks of Amateur Radio and to hear him on the repeater.

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XJ3EFX is prepared to sacrifice one U.S. and one DX callbook, of 1975 vintage for a measly \$5 each. They will go on a first come basis.

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Greats are being heard on the air from the new club presently being formed in Woodstock by VE3EMQ. Apparently they plan to wipe us out as contenders for the Field Day honours this year. I guess Jim learned all he could on the last two contests and now intends to put the knowledge to good use.

While on the subject of Field Day, it is not too early to start giving it some thought. I expect to be away on vacation in QM land this year so we will need to have someone else to organise it.

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If you are reading this and have not paid your dues for 1976, it just means that I felt you were unable to get the money in with the recent mail disruption. This won't happen next month so better get the purse strings loosened up if you want to continue getting Feedback. Also remember to send in the completed form with the money as we need the information requested.

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VE3CRV is sporting a brand new Yaesu 2m rig these days and it sounds very nice with VFO control and all the latest innovations. It is in the Multi 2000 class price-wise and seems to have some additional facilities.

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No comments heard yet on a club award. I'd like your comments on the subject.

KJ3EFX now has two spare antennas, a W3DZZ five band trap dipole and a Mosley V3jr ground plane for 10, 15, and 20m. These antennas are available for any club member to borrow on a short term basis, i.e. operation from a vacation QTH, or portable location such as the Split Rail festival, Field Day or Coffee Break. They are of course also available for emergency operation if needed.

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The following was printed on a QSL that I got from WB5KWU. Think about it.

All through life we carefully preserve documents and valuable papers showing that in such and such a year on such and such a day some important event (to us) took place, events such as the date we were born, the date we said our first word, the date we were vaccinated, the date the first tooth came, date we were married, acclaimed, honoured, and finally the date we died.

The QSL card the Amateur finds in his mail box is his document of a worthwhile event and accomplishment. It is tangible proof of his accomplishment.

Without QSL cards there would not be any awards such as: DXCC, WAC, WAS, WAZ, 5BDXCC, WTW, DUF, WEE, WAP, etc and your pride of accomplishment would not be recognized.

The Amateur who works hard for his license, sets up his rig (maybe even building it), spends possibly untold hours getting his antenna just right, maybe many hours trying for a certain contact (EVEN YOU) certainly deserves a QSL for his efforts.

Not everyone likes QSL cards, some are not interested, BUT those of us who take the trouble to send QSL cards certainly indicate that they want YOUR QSL and I am sure that you must feel the same way about this as I do. To make the QSL chore a little easier many stations send along IRC's or stamps of the country worked and a SAE.

QSL's make me happy. won't you help by sending me your card? Thank you and I hope it makes you happy too.

73 and DX, de WB5KWU

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The GBARC net is on 3.783mhz every Sunday at 14.30z and the 2m net is on VE3OSR 34/94 every night at 00.01z. The purpose of the 2m net is to enable traffic to be passed into this area and to get local stations on the air in case they are needed .

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Have you voted for the Canadian Division of ARRL Vice Director yet ? You have six weeks from the end of the mail strike to get it in.

	COMMON BASE (CB)	COMMON EMITTER (CE)	COMMON COLLECTOR (CC)
TRANSISTOR AS A DEVICE (ARROWS INDICATE ELECTRON CURRENT FLOW, LOADS NOT SHOWN)	 $\alpha = \gamma \beta^* \alpha^*$ (SEE TEXT) $h_{FB} = I_C / I_E$ $I_C = I_E - I_B$	 $h_{FE} = \beta = I_C / I_B$ $I_C = I_E - I_B$	 $h_{FC} = I_E / I_B$ $I_C = I_E - I_B$
BASIC TRANSISTOR CIRCUITS SHOWING SIGNAL SOURCE AND LOAD (R_L)			
CHARACTERISTICS POWER GAIN * VOLTAGE GAIN * CURRENT GAIN * INPUT IMPEDANCE * OUTPUT IMPEDANCE * PHASE INVERSION	YES YES (APPROX. SAME CE) NO (LESS THAN UNITY) LOWEST ($\approx 50 \Omega$) HIGHEST (≈ 1.0 MEG.) NO	YES (HIGHEST) YES YES INTERMEDIATE (≈ 1.0 K) INTERMEDIATE (≈ 50 K) YES	YES NO (LESS THAN UNITY) YES HIGHEST (≈ 300 K) LOWEST ($\approx 300 \Omega$) NO
SIMPLE T-EQUIVALENT NETWORK OF TRANSISTOR (DC ONLY - SEE CHAPTER 2 FOR SMALL-SIGNAL & HIGH FREQ. EQUIV. CIRCUITS)			

* DEPENDS ON TRANSISTOR, TERMINATIONS, ETC.

If you are taking the transistor course that Dick is running the above will be of some help. If you are not taking the course, maybe it'll be of interest.

Another amateur has moved into the area and is presently working at the Bruce nuclear complex, VE3FED, John is living on the camp so Cam, VE3CTQ has some competition now. As far as I know there are 19 amateurs working at the plant now.

Peculiar conditions have prevailed on the 80m band lately. The local VE3 stations have been fading out around 7pm and in a few minutes the skip lengthens out till the band is full of stations from VE4,5,6,7, and the odd VE8. The Western nets come in and there are usually good conditions into the Carribean area. Don't pass up the band just because the usual local QRM isn't there, check into the Manitcha or Alberta nets, you might even get some traffic for this province from out there. The weekends have produced good signals from VE1XU/SU with the Canadian forces in Egypt. He is usually on 14.140mhz looking for patches in to Eastern Canada and he comes in for two or three hours in the mornings. XJ3EFX worked him and the QSL manager is VE1APY.

Watch for all the special prefixes that will be used this year in the U.S. as they celebrate their bicentennial. Why not try to work all states and get QSLs with these prefixes? You won't be around for the next one.

HOW I BECAME A RADIO AMATEUR

By VE3EFX.

My introduction to ham radio came in 1948 when I heard GM3BCD on the broadcast band of the vintage radio we used at home. It turned out that he was a school teacher and he lived only half a mile away.

As my brother was still at school I soon got an invitation to visit the shack on a Saturday afternoon, and was shown the rack and panel 150 watt AM rig that fed a Zepp antenna in the back yard. Imagine the excitement of hearing a QSO on 20m with a station in Rhodesia and being able to talk to the guy at the other end too. The first requirement was to get a radio that covered the short waves and I found one that belonged to a friend at work. I started SWling and sent out reports to stations all over the world including broadcast stations. I still have the QSLs from these stations and some are quite rare.

I got a surplus communications receiver in 1949, an R1116A and then in the following year graduated to an R1155. While in the RAF I used a small 18 set and hooked it to the bedspring for an antenna.

When I came out of the forces I bought an Eddystone 640 and it was a big step forward from the old surplus gear. In 1953 I came over to Veland and the rx came too. I was not able to get down to learn the code until I joined the Oshawa club in 1957 and on my first night there I was approached by VE3DSE and he offered to teach me the code. Every night he sent CW over the air from newspapers and the telephone book till I could copy 15 wpm and at the same time I was studying the theory.

Finally I went up to the old DOT offices on Front St in Toronto on March 28th 1958 and at 9am found my way in to the examination room. The test was a lot more simple than I had expected and at 9.45am I was back out on the street with my certificate and the call VE3CLR.

I built a DX40 and VF1 then went on the air for the first time on June 2nd. I was very active for 10 months and got WAS before leaving to go back to Scotland.

The GPO issued me the call GM3NQB and I operated over there with the AM gear till 1964 when I bought a KW2000 and went SSB. The antenna was a G5RV and the QTH was Thurso on the North coast of Scotland till 1965 when I was offered a job up in Labrador. Who could resist a VO2 call? So I got on the air from Wabush Lake in December with the call VO2AI and what a stir that could cause on 40 CW or on 80 SSB when Europe was coming in.

I went to Dryden after that and became VE3EFX, traded the rig for a FTDX400 in 1970 and came here in 1971. I have gone in for DXing nets and contests and I like 2m FM since getting on with a Prog Line in 1972. The last project was to get the xyl on the air and now that she has her Advanced ticket, I can relax too, Hi.

73 Bill

Recipients of Issue #5 of the Ontario Amateur will have had time to peruse the proposal to introduce incentive licensing to the Amateur Experimental Service. After the article in Issue #3 by VE3AR there wasn't a squeak out of anyone in the club and there didn't seem to be any interest in discussing it. Now you have the opportunity to vote on the issue so I hope you show a bit more interest in the subject and get your votes in as soon as possible. The proposal as outlined is closely following the US Novice class licence and your vote can influence the decision to implement it or not.

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The October and November issues of the Canadian Amateur arrived together and unbelievable as it seems there is information in the October one telling all and sundry that VE's can use the XO prefix and VO's can be XJ during the Olympic Year. When this same false info appeared in the April issue I wrote and pointed out the mistake. Now you can order special QSL cards with the Olympic insignia and right underneath it tells all about the prefixes. Boy, anybody can blow it once, but TWICE, and after being told about it must be some kind of record.

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Family memberships are now available in CARF at \$5 for the first member and \$1 for each of the others.

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In West Germany there are three classes of Amateur licence. Class A and B are HF / VHF, while Class C is VHF phone only. Eighty-five percent of the Classes A and B and ninety-two percent of Class C licencees are members of DARC, which is the DEUTSCHE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, how is that for support? The RSO has about thirty percent of the VE3s supporting it and the CARF membership isnt available.

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In Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda there is a proposal to raise annual licence fees to \$110. How is that for inflation?

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The January meeting will be held as usual on the third Thursday which falls on the 15th this month. The location as usual is the CIAG Computer building, and the time is 8pm.

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The CARF National QSL Bureau will send out your cards to foreign bureaus if you are a CARF member.

JUST ROOM TO WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 1967. GOOD LUCK AND GOOD DX.

appliances: wattage ratings, annual consumption and operating costs

electrical appliance	rating (watts)	average annual consumption (KWH)	municipal residents (cost/KWH estimated at 1.3 cents)		
			operating costs per hour (cents)	1 cent will operate for	average annual operating cost
kitchen					
broiler	1,500	100	1.95	31 min.	\$ 1.30
deep fat fryer	1,500	65	1.95	31 min.	\$ 0.85
dishwasher	1,300	200	1.69	38 min.	\$ 2.60
freezer (15 cu. ft.)	335	900	0.218	4 hrs. 35 min.	\$11.70
range - top elements	7,500	1,150	9.75	6 min.]	\$14.95
- oven	3,750		4.875	12 min.]	
refrigerator (12 cu. ft.)	300	700	0.195	5 hrs. 8 min.	\$ 9.10
toaster	1,150	40	1.495	40 min.	\$ 0.52
entertainment					
hi-fi - tube type	115	—	0.146	6 hrs. 51 min.	\$ 1.30
- solid state	30	—	0.039	25 hrs. 38 min.	
radio - tube type	50	100	0.065	15 hrs. 23 min.	
- solid state	6	10	0.007	142 hrs. 51 min.	
tape recorder	20		0.026	38 hrs. 28 min.	
television - black & white	200	370	0.26	3 hrs. 51 min.	\$ 4.61
- color	330	450	0.429	2 hrs. 20 min.	\$ 5.85
laundry					
clothes dryer	4,500	600	5.85	10 min.	\$ 7.80
iron (hand)	1,250	75	1.214	49 min.	\$ 0.98
washer - wringer	300	50	0.39	2 hrs. 34 min.	\$ 0.65
- automatic	700	90	0.91	1 hr. 6 min.	\$ 1.17
comfort					
air conditioner	1,200	400	1.56	39 min.	\$ 5.20
dehumidifier	265	380	0.345	2 hrs. 54 min.	\$ 4.94
electric blanket	190	115	0.099	10 hrs. 6 min.	\$ 1.50
fan	115	—	0.15	6 hrs. 40 min.	
humidifier	80	480	0.104	9 hrs. 37 min.	\$ 6.24
miscellaneous					
block heater	500	480	0.65	1 hr. 32 min.	\$ 6.24
	2	18	0.003	333 hrs. 20 min.	\$ 0.23
hair dryer	375	5	0.488	2 hrs. 3 min.	\$ 0.07
lawn mower	1,500	—	1.95	31 min.	
power saw	275	12	0.358	2 hrs. 48 min.	\$ 0.16
vacuum	800	20	1.04	58 min.	\$ 0.26