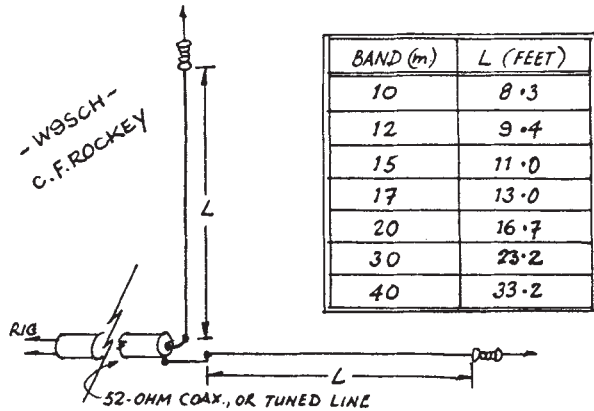


THE "UP-AND-OUTER", A GOLDEN-GOODIE
C.F. ROCKEY W9SCH - Albany, Wisconsin, USA

A few feet of wire, a few feet of co-ax - this is enough for a good antenna, or should be..... Drop a vertical quarter wavelength wire from the eave of your cottage; string another wire out horizontally and you, too, are "coupled to the universe," as Professor Ronold King so aptly put it, yet the total cost is negligible, relatively speaking. Poo-pooed by the Plutocrats, ignored by the intellectuals the good-old "up and



outer" antenna so widely and effectively used during amateur radio's "Roaring-Twenties", apparently works as well during this semiconductor-age as it did in the days of the glowing bottle, - or so I have found.

Just for the fun of it I hung-up such an antenna about three weeks prior to this writing. Despite a spate of "Solar-flares" with the accompanying ionospheric disaster, during this intermim on fifteen meters CW, I have worked: Siberian, USSR, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Japan, Argentina, Britain, Germany, Hungary, Canary-Islands, Bulgaria, Finland, Jugoslavia, Lithuania, France, European USSR, plus dozens of state-side and Canadian Stations from coast-to-coast; this with but five watts and from here in "America's Boonbocks", - Wisconsin.

Despite the base of the vertical portion being about two feet above ground-level, the radiating wires being cuddled within inches of the wooden siding of my cottage and being well-surrounded by the clutter of civilisation, this antenna seems the equal, perhaps superior to my faithful 80-meter, center-fed zepp at 25 feet, - at the effective height of 0.53 wavelenths at 15 meters. As one who has had some rather poor luck with vertical antennae from time-to-time, I am amazed by the performance of this silly thing for both reception and transmission.

Some will remark that a few more radial, quarter-wave wires would improve this antenna's efficiency and I will not dispute this point here. But since the very simple "up-and-out" configuration is so easy to erect, seems to work so well and fits so well into my physical ambience, I'll probably leave it as it is, - for a while anyway.

This is essentially a mono-band antenna but may be made for any amateur band one wishes to use, - and where it will fit. (The fifteen-meter size exactly fits my situation and taste, however.) The diagram shows the wire-arrangement, the table the wire lengths for other bands. Since the run from my rig to the antenna is so short, I feed it with an old, mouldy length of RG-58U I found in my garage, where any run greater than about one wavelength is involved, I'd certainly suggest feeding it with open-wire, tuned line, - or at least larger and more-efficient co-ax (incidentally, using RG-58-U cable, I find the SWR to be less than 1.5 across the entire 15 meter CW band when eleven-foot "elements" are used here). Try it - you may like it!