

Radio Interference Memo. No. 21
Traffic Signal Interference.

At the request of the Ministry of Transport a visit was paid to on Thursday 6th July, to a traffic crossing at Brixton Hill and Streatham Place in order to investigate a case of alleged interference with radio reception by traffic control signals installed at this crossing.

It was found that these signals which were manufactured by the Forest City Electrical Co. Ltd., did cause serious interference in this vicinity with radio reception, on both long and medium wavelengths. The interference took the form of the usual clicks when the signal lights changed and the most severe interference occurred in the change from green to amber on the route crossing Brixton Hill. The driving mechanism of this particular signal caused no interference.

It was ascertained experimentally that this interference could be suppressed by connecting two 2 μ F condensers in series between terminals 5 & 7 on the terminal board and connecting the centre point of these condensers to the cover of the mechanism; this cover being bonded to the lead sheathing of the main incoming cable. It was confirmed that with this filter in circuit radio reception was satisfactory and the suppression apparatus was left in situ in order that an extended trial could be given. It will be observed that in this case a choke unit was not found to be necessary in respect of the particular complaint under investigation, but it is thought that such a unit might be essential if complaints arose from listeners residing nearer to the standard carrying the operating mechanism.

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R. W. [Signature]
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