



NEW BLUE BOX INFO

We've gotten feedback on the New Blue Box Circuit (Issue 26). One problem of the circuit is that all the diodes for one frequency must be matched. The Motorola Silicon dual diode MSD 6150 (common anode) saves PCB space and is a matched pair.

In fact, you can eliminate the hassle and matching of diodes altogether by using double-pole push-buttons. Polypaks sells a \$6.88 General Telephone Data entry keyboard with 10 buttons. You'll need 2 more DFST and a SPST for 2800, but you'll save money on diodes.

Dear TAP, According to the N.E.T. news line, you people are breaking the state law of Mass. when you published the 1975 Credit Card Code. Upon conviction you can be fined \$2000 and get a year in the slammer.

Device catches obscene callers and other phone criminals. A new system from Telident Inc. can detect any telephone and display the incoming caller's number. Its purpose is to help catch obscene and other objectionable phone callers.

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Yes, after 6 months in the pits we're back! Our unannounced vacation took place for several reasons the main one being a shortage of help and a surplus of work. By now we have sold alot of back issues & the income has helped to put us solidly in the black.

We will try to come out fairly regularly from now on, but this depends also on reader contributions & printing costs. We are also planning a 1975 Convention and need ideas for the convention from everyone. Possibly contests and exhibits and such. Please write to us if you've got suggestions.

In addition, we will be having technical seminars as always. If you are well-versed in any phase of phreaking covered in TAP or otherwise, please get in touch with us to teach at the convention.

Dear TAP, Checking the guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications (House document 398) I noticed the absence of TAP or YIP. Then I noticed the date was 1961. Did you make the new list?

Anyway, tell your readers that it's illegal to remove the dialing instruction plate on payphones (below dial) if they were planning on using a high carbon bit on a hand drill to drill a hole exactly 3/4" to the right and 5/8" down.

Not only is it illegal, but if someone were to accidentally poke the end of a paperclip through the hole, it would do all sorts of terrible things like releasing all the money they had just put in to make a long distance call, preventing them from supporting the wonderful phone company. (Notes: drill will cut through cast iron case, though not steel lock or coin box.)

And the dialing instruction plate could be put back in, obscuring the hole and allowing nefarious individuals to continue their plundering-TAP.

Dear TAP, On a recent trip to Paris I was able to make free calls to any point in the U.S. (except Hawaii) and Europe from a special yellow public telephone booth situated all over Paris called "Interurbain".

The only catch was that the called party had to be muted otherwise a loud tone makes conversation impossible. As you know, the mute prevents supervision, on overseas trunks this is accomplished by sending 2400 Hz to the calling party. C.O., indicating that the called party has answered. It is the lack of the 2400 Hz tone which prevents the loud blocking tone from coming on the Paris phone.

Wait for dial tone, dial 19, wait for a second dial tone, then dial 1 + area code + number. I tried to do a 800 or 555 number, but you can't dial them nor off any number for that matter with an SF. I'm not sure, but you might be able to do this from other European cities. I believe that the black box is international, since most European telephone systems are still step or crossbar.

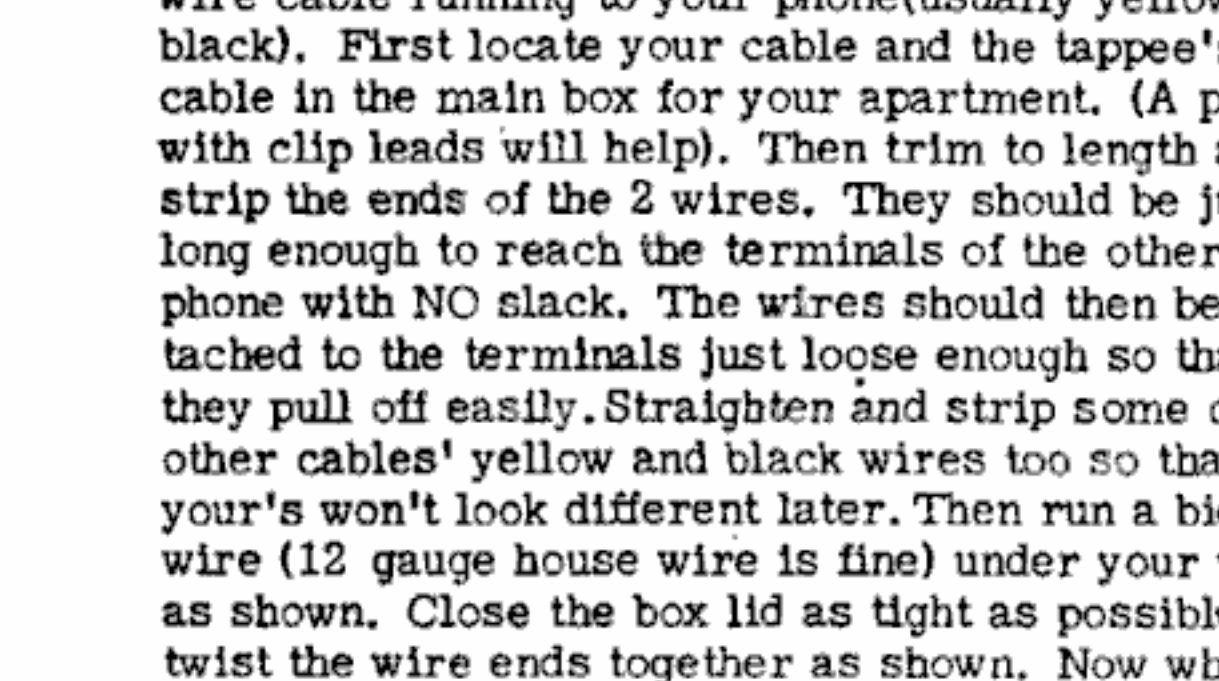
Several readers suggested that the speed-adjust screws do work but not very well and are sometimes labeled backwards to confuse Robin Hoods. However, we tested the New York standard meter which is a Westinghouse DSN, and found that the front screw was labeled correctly (F for Fast is counterclockwise) and could reduce the meter by 40%! And the screw on the side can make the meter start moving in the wrong direction if you turn it enough! These revelations are very encouraging indeed. The other meters also have adjustment screws, and one unmarked meter with large brown coils inside had 5 speed adjustment screws!

Most home meters are of the 220 volt dual-phase (3-wire) type which supplies 110 and 220 volts at the same time. There are two 110 volt "hot" wires that are out of phase with each other, which means that there is 220 volts between them, and there is a ground wire. From either hot wire to ground is 110 volts. One reader writes in that on the 220 volt, GE single phase meters, about a 50% reduction in rotor speed can be obtained by wiring the potential coil so it receives only 110 volts, not 220. The potential coil is the small coil wound out of thin wire & connected in shunt across the load side of the meter. This is accomplished as follows:

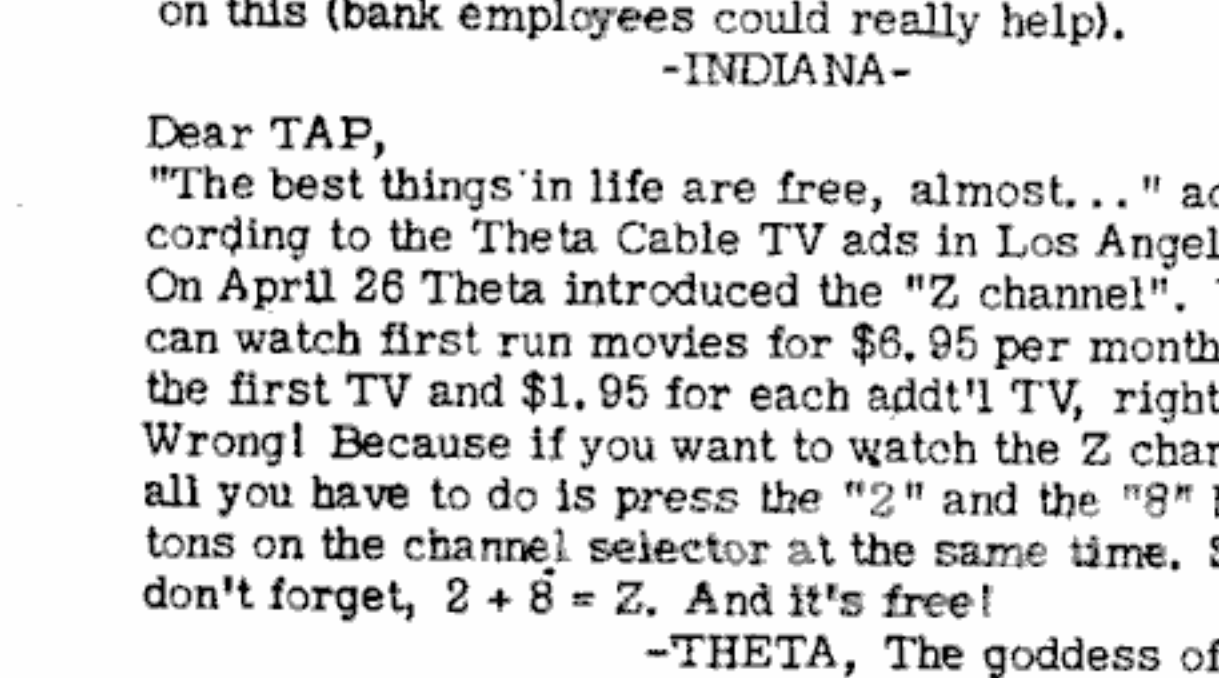
- 1. Remove meter from socket. (Issue 23)
2. Remove case from meter (usually unscrews).
3. Locate the 2 small wires that are connected to the two line terminals (bottom two terminals).
4. Disconnect either of these wires (not both), from the line terminal it's attached to.
5. Connect it to the ground terminal. This is the smallest prong on the back of the meter and usually points a different way (like horizontal). Of course, you're connecting it not on the back of the meter, but on the inside of the back, as the ground terminal goes through the plastic back of the meter.
6. Get electric heat. It's cheaper!



Before doing this you should make sure that your meter has the same hookup as the GE meter used in the above letter. Some meters have a different hookup. For example, the Westinghouse DSN has a voltage coil across one side of the line and ground,



NORMALLY. So this can't be "halved". The Duncan 12S has TWO voltage coils, one from each side of the line to ground. One controls the reading of your 110 volt appliances, and the other controls the reading of your 220 volt appliances. On this meter, the meter will have to be tied to see which voltage is controlled by the two screws on the back. Turn on a 220 volt appliance with the screws loosened and the metal piece pulled out and see if the wheel turns faster. If it does, the screws control your 110 volt appliances. If not, then your air conditioner and other 220 volt units will only cost half as much.

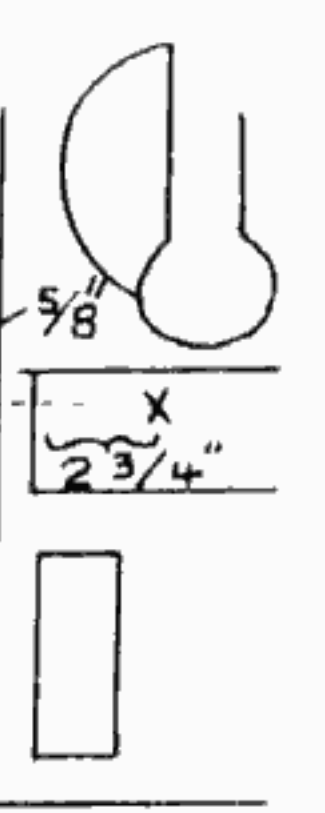


Another idea is to simply turn over the meter and it will run in reverse, unfortunately this is easy for a meterman to spot and is usually impossible with 5-prong meters which are the most common. Most electric companies estimate your bill for several months and adjust it when the meter is actually read, which is less often than every month. It's good to know, however, when the man actually comes if your setup is slightly deductible. If he's on to you, does anyone know if it's legal to offer him a present to keep it in the family? (Not for him, but for you). Let's hear from the lawyers out there.

Dear TAP, For your edification, I'm enclosing a photocopy of the current ITT Telex guide showing country codes. If you have access to a teleprinter, you can access the ITT system quite easily by dialing 710-599-3211. Data Beard will welcome you. Many universities have time-sharing computer terminals that could be used. You know, I assume, that the code for TWX operators is 954-1212. You can dial most any big-city area code plus the code and get the operator.

More common than mail tampering is the MAIL WATCH. The postman delivers your mail--but he makes a record of the return address on every piece. Recommended: a Canadian post office box. Ever since Lee Harvey Oswald, American Postmasters have required positive ID from prospective box renters. Not so in Canada, and the price is right--about \$10/yr. in small towns. Good for ordering reagents.

We understand that the British Post Office and Scotland Yard are now battling the SILVER BOX (also known as a 'bleep'). Inasmuch as out-of-band signaling is far more common than in-band class 5 types (cf. Japan, Australia, Europe) it is urgent that North American phreaks inform the masses on this subject. Other than info about prosecutions, nothing has been received so far. We are continuing to monitor all legal developments in phreaking on a regular basis. Of course black boxing should be easy even under an out-of-band system, but redirecting calls? And what codes would access overseas senders? Re Con Ed: Happily I am far removed from them



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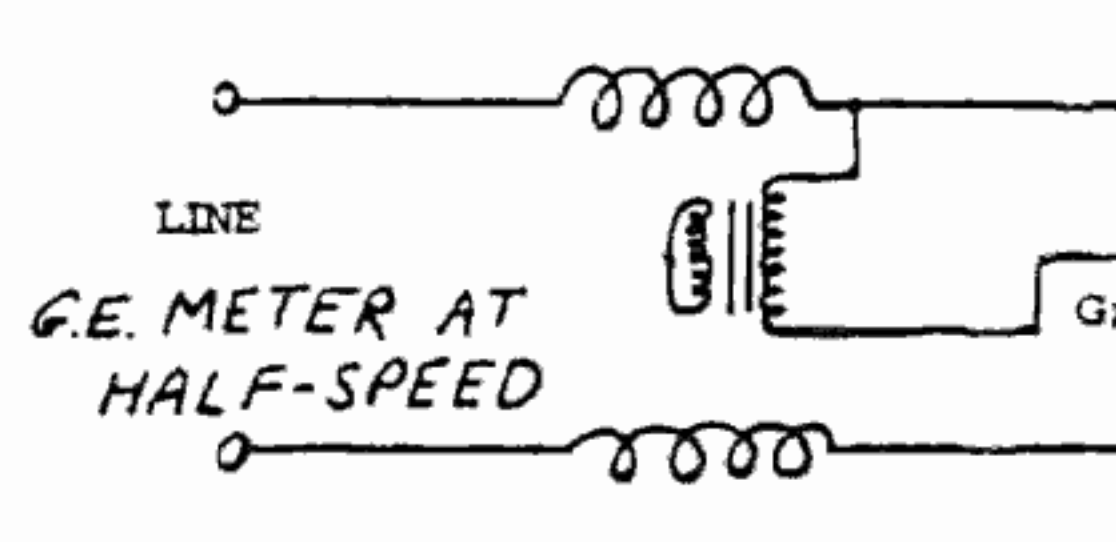
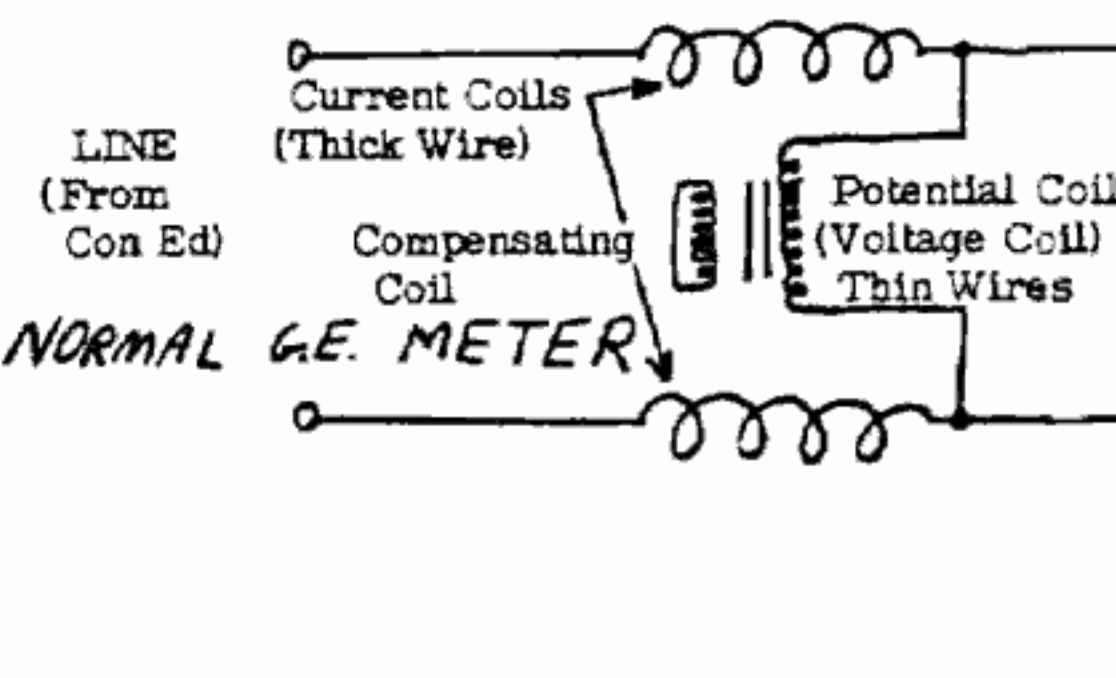
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MORE FREE ELECTRICITY

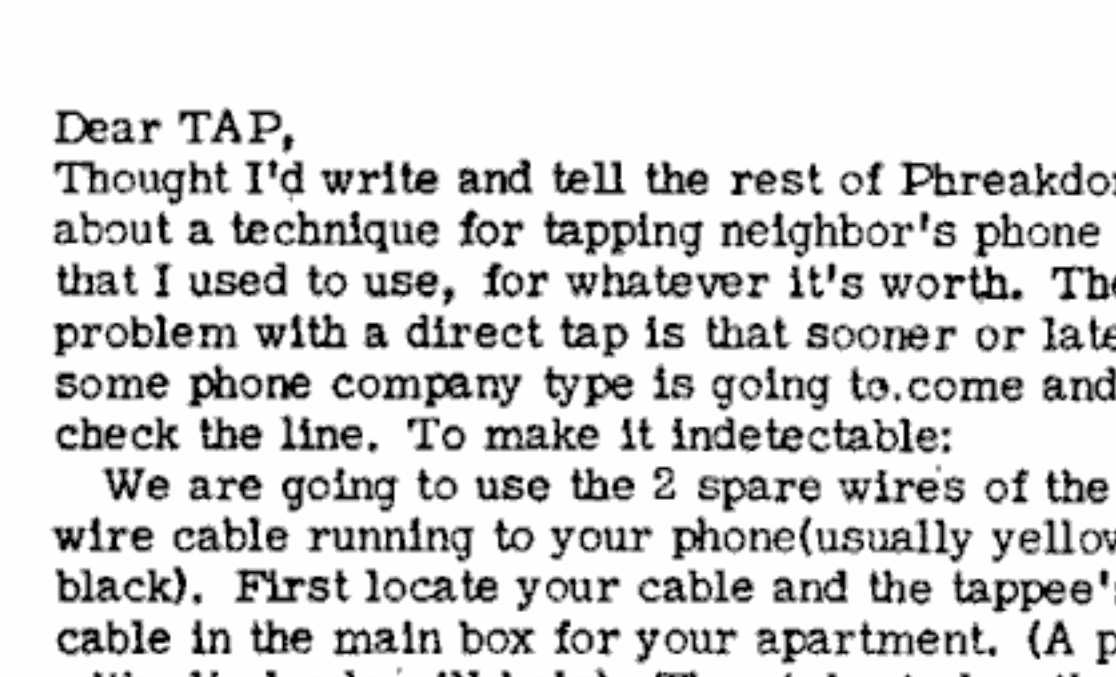
Our article on Free Electricity prompted great reader response and we've got more info on how to do it. Several meters were sent to us and we've learned alot about how they work. Several readers suggested that the speed-adjust screws do work but not very well and are sometimes labeled backwards to confuse Robin Hoods.

Most home meters are of the 220 volt dual-phase (3-wire) type which supplies 110 and 220 volts at the same time. There are two 110 volt "hot" wires that are out of phase with each other, which means that there is 220 volts between them, and there is a ground wire.

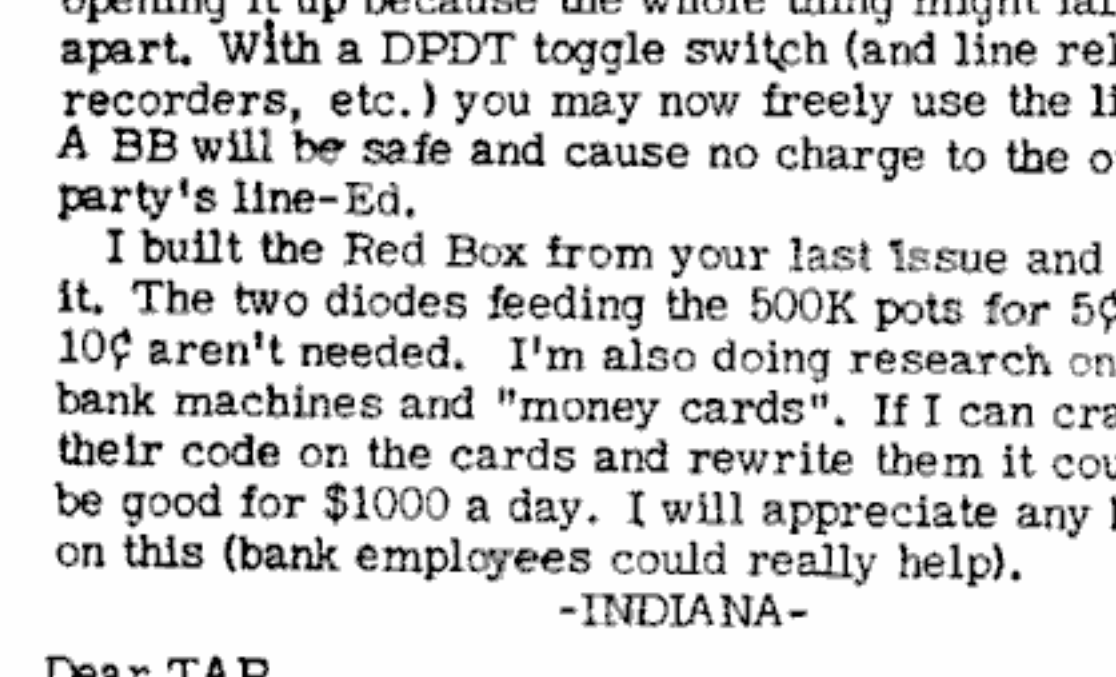
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Before doing this you should make sure that your meter has the same hookup as the GE meter used in the above letter. Some meters have a different hookup. For example, the Westinghouse DSN has a voltage coil across one side of the line and ground,



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Another idea is to simply turn over the meter and it will run in reverse, unfortunately this is easy for a meterman to spot and is usually impossible with 5-prong meters which are the most common. Most electric companies estimate your bill for several months and adjust it when the meter is actually read, which is less often than every month.

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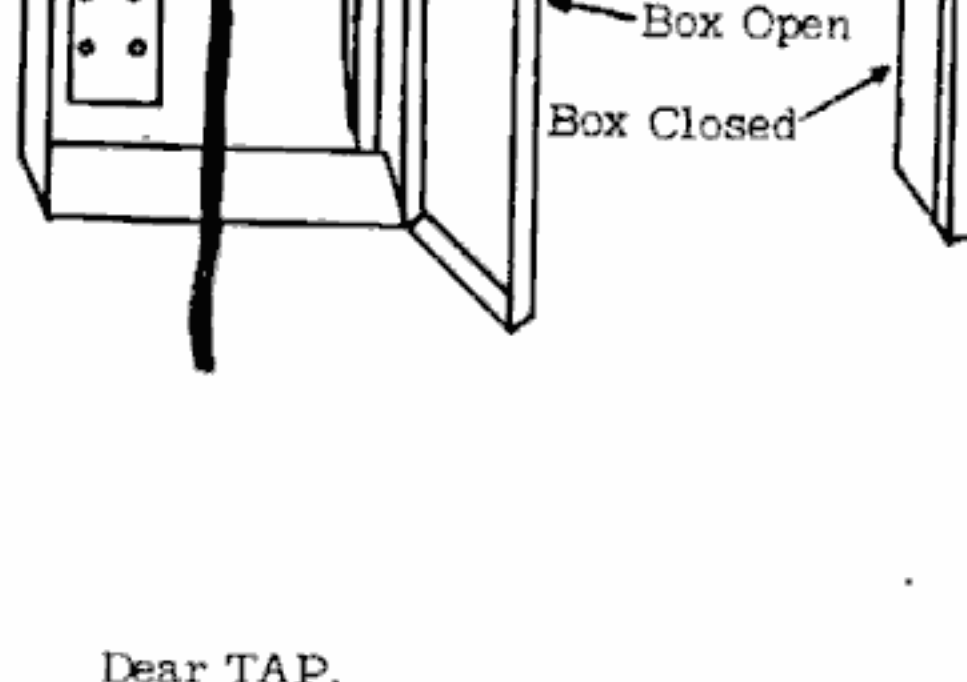
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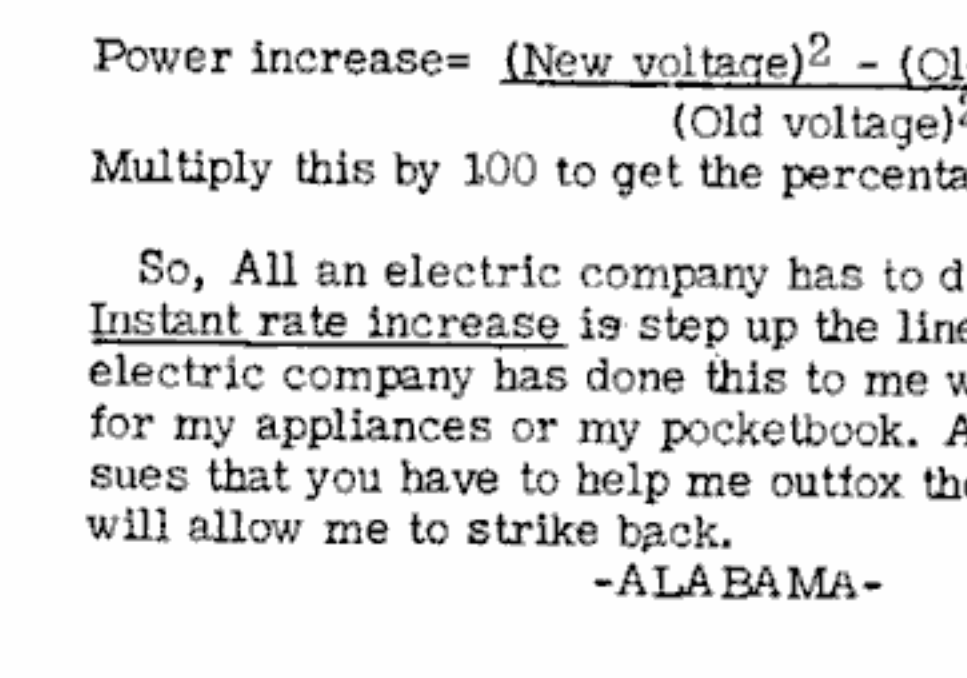
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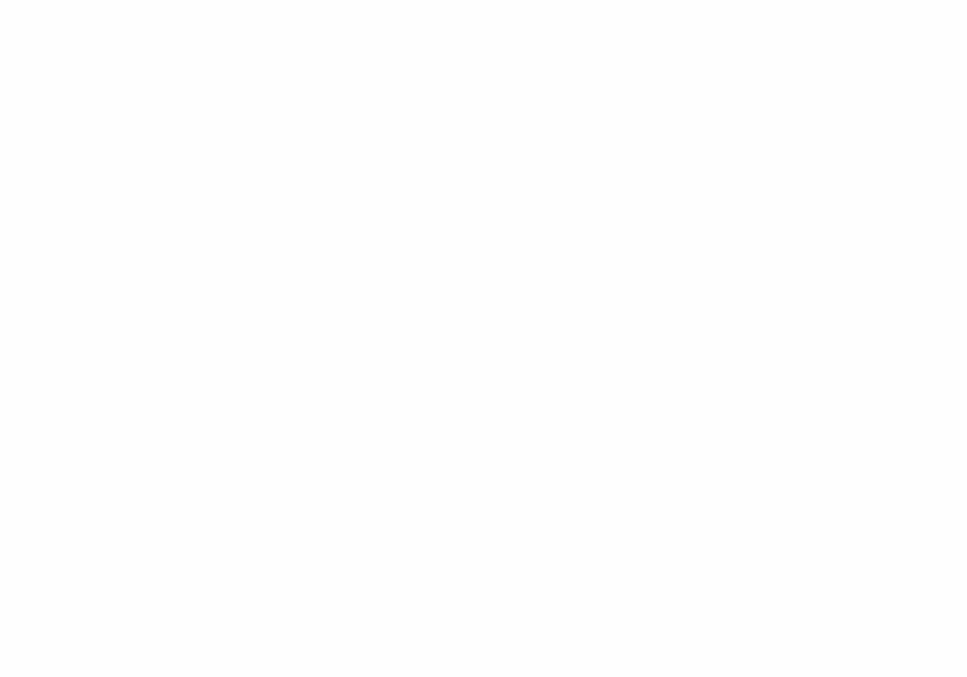
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Hot line cooled

LONDON (UPI) -- "I'm a post office engineer," said the voice on the telephone to Mrs. Hannah O'Flaherty. "Your phone is in danger of overheating and bursting into flames. Place the handset in a bowl of water."

Mrs. O'Flaherty did so. Five hours later, a straight-faced official of the telephone exchange told her: "Placing receivers in water is not, and never will be, an emergency repair technique."

THE STAR-LEADER, Monday, March 25, 1974