CHRS New Old Spark Gear, including that of HALCUN, a San Francisco Company

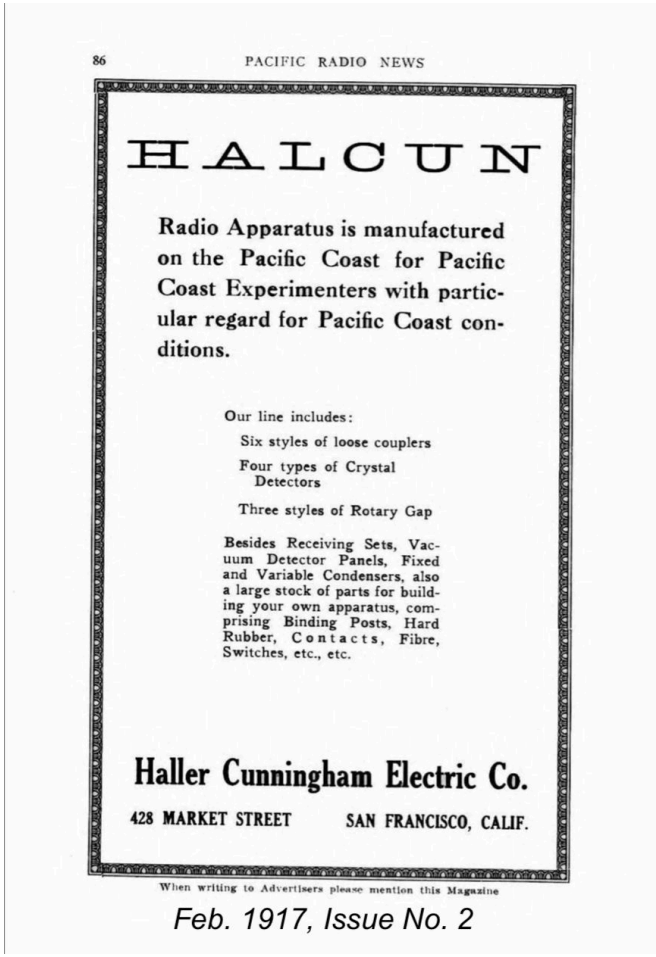
and a coda re Mr. Elmer T. Cunningham

Donations from Craig Pitcher, W6ADV

Implemented by Jaime Arbona, Mike Adams, and Keith Scott

Photos and Text by Bart Lee, 2022,
CHRS Radio Central,
Alameda, CA

A Haller Cunningham ad, 1917



86 PACIFIC RADIO NEWS

HALCUN

Radio Apparatus is manufactured on the Pacific Coast for Pacific Coast Experimenters with particular regard for Pacific Coast conditions.

Our line includes:

Six styles of loose couplers

Four types of Crystal Detectors

Three styles of Rotary Gap

Besides Receiving Sets, Vacuum Detector Panels, Fixed and Variable Condensers, also a large stock of parts for building your own apparatus, comprising Binding Posts, Hard Rubber, Contacts, Fibre, Switches, etc., etc.

Haller Cunningham Electric Co.

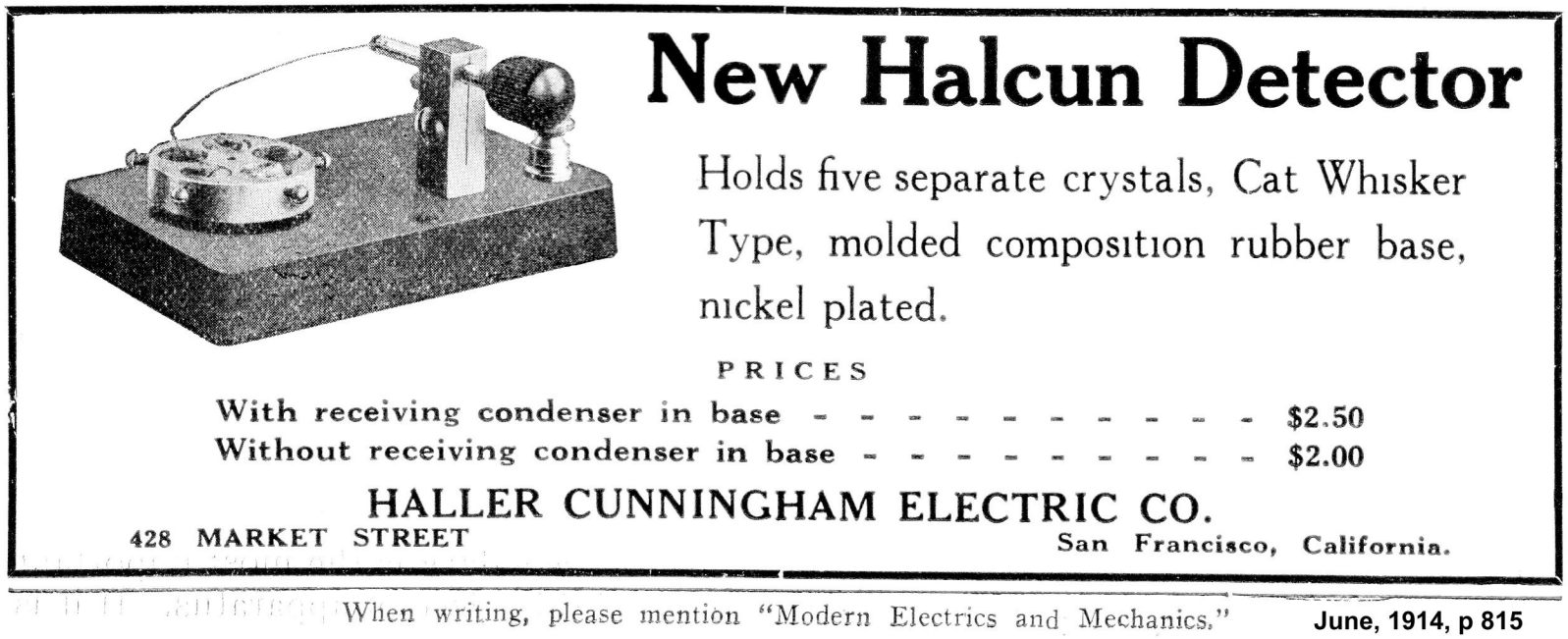
428 MARKET STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

When writing to Advertisers please mention this Magazine

Feb. 1917, Issue No. 2

Elmer T. Cunningham
And
George F. Haller
founded HALCUN, also known as Haller Cunningham Electric Co, in San Francisco, California in 1911

A Haller Cunningham ad, 1914



New Halcun Detector

Holds five separate crystals, Cat Whisker Type, molded composition rubber base, nickel plated.

PRICES

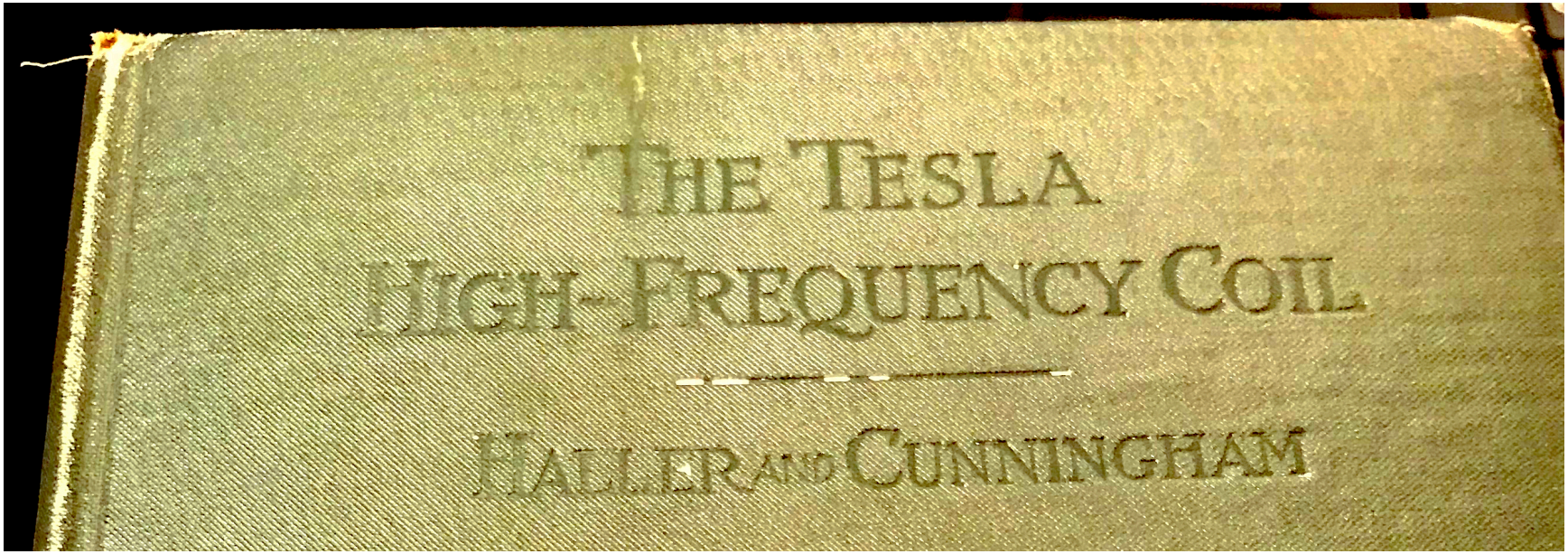
With receiving condenser in base - - - - - - - - - - - $2.50
Without receiving condenser in base - - - - - - - - - - $2.00

HALLER CUNNINGHAM ELECTRIC CO.
428 MARKET STREET San Francisco, California.

When writing, please mention "Modern Electrics and Mechanics." June, 1914, p 815

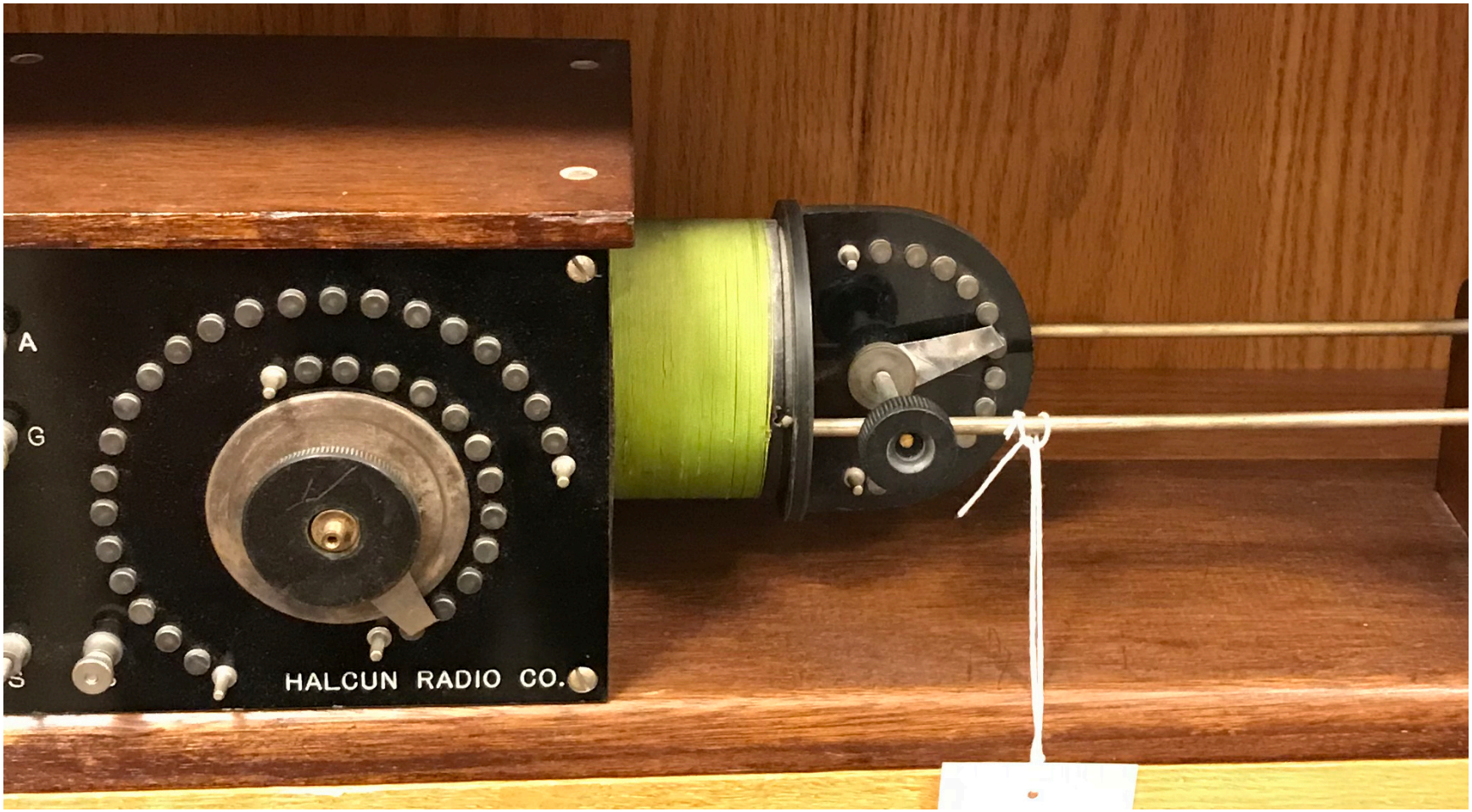
By 1920, it was kaput, but it sold wireless telegraphy gear to the maritime industry and amateurs for almost a decade.

Before going into business together, Elmer Cunningham and George Haller wrote a book on Tesla Coils, 1910

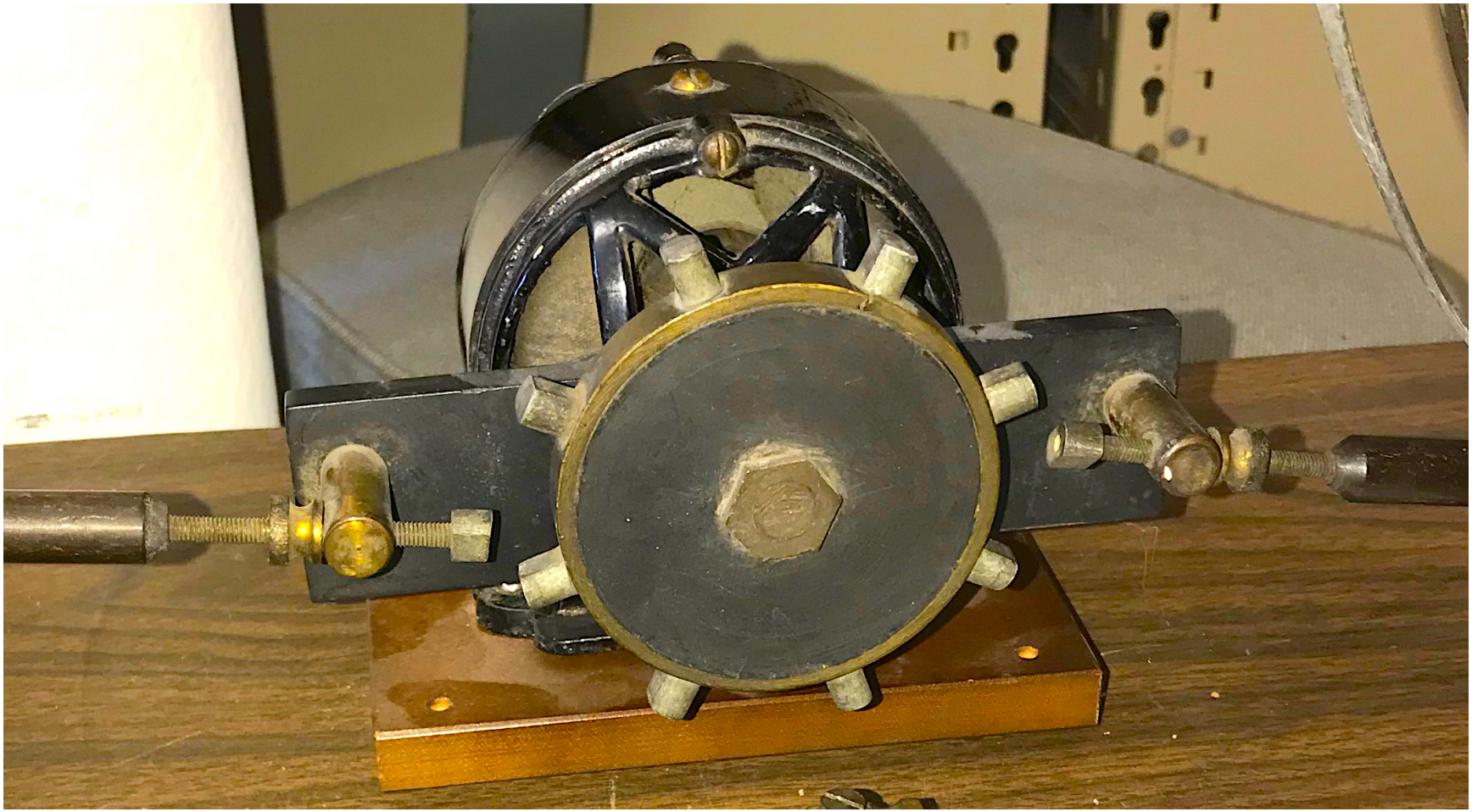


Now in the CHRS Library, courtesy of the Archivist

RadioCentral already has a Haller-Cunningham Loose Coupler, circa 1916



Now, from Craig Pitcher, W6ADV we have the matching Rotary Spark Gap!

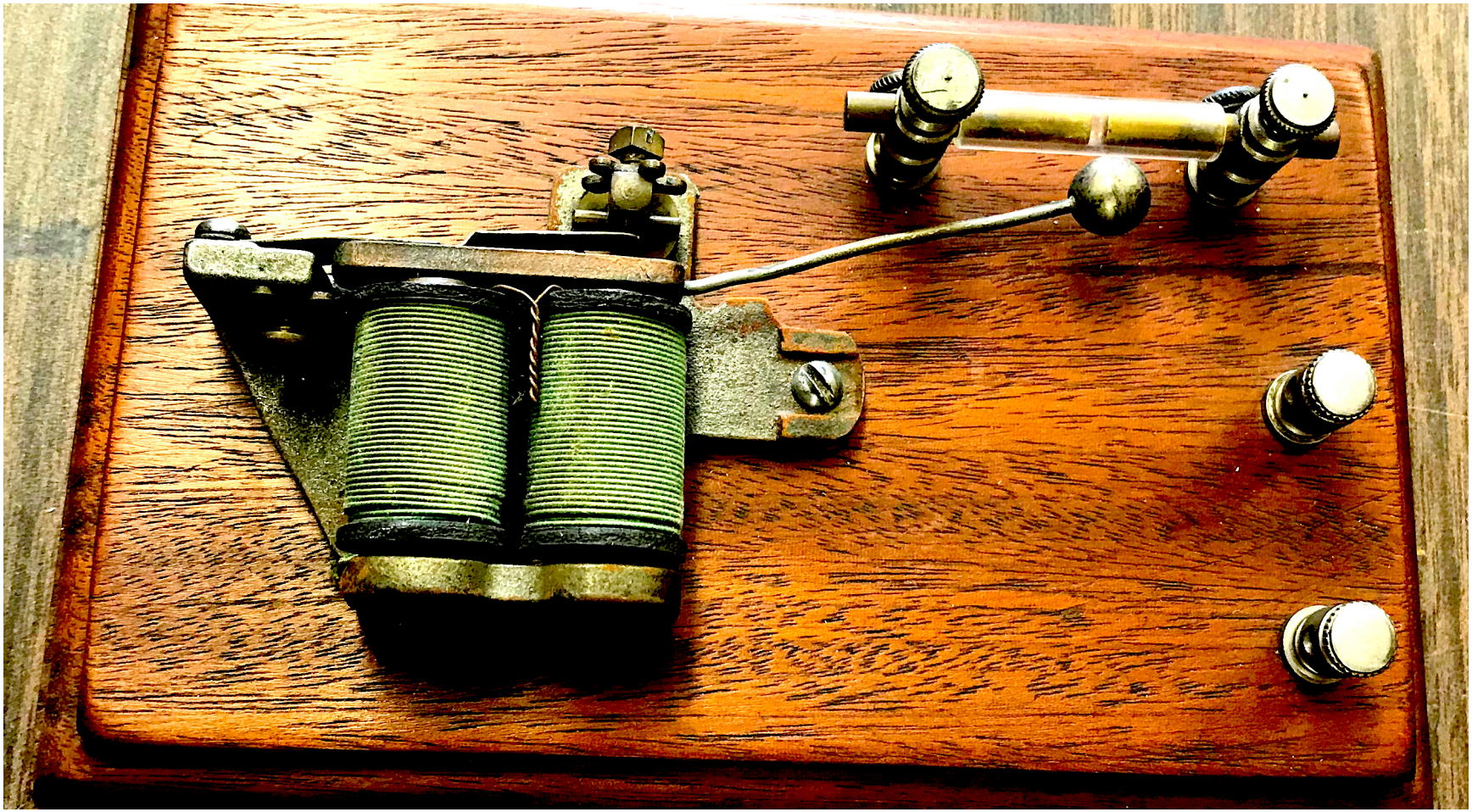


And, many Classic Spark Era Pieces >>>

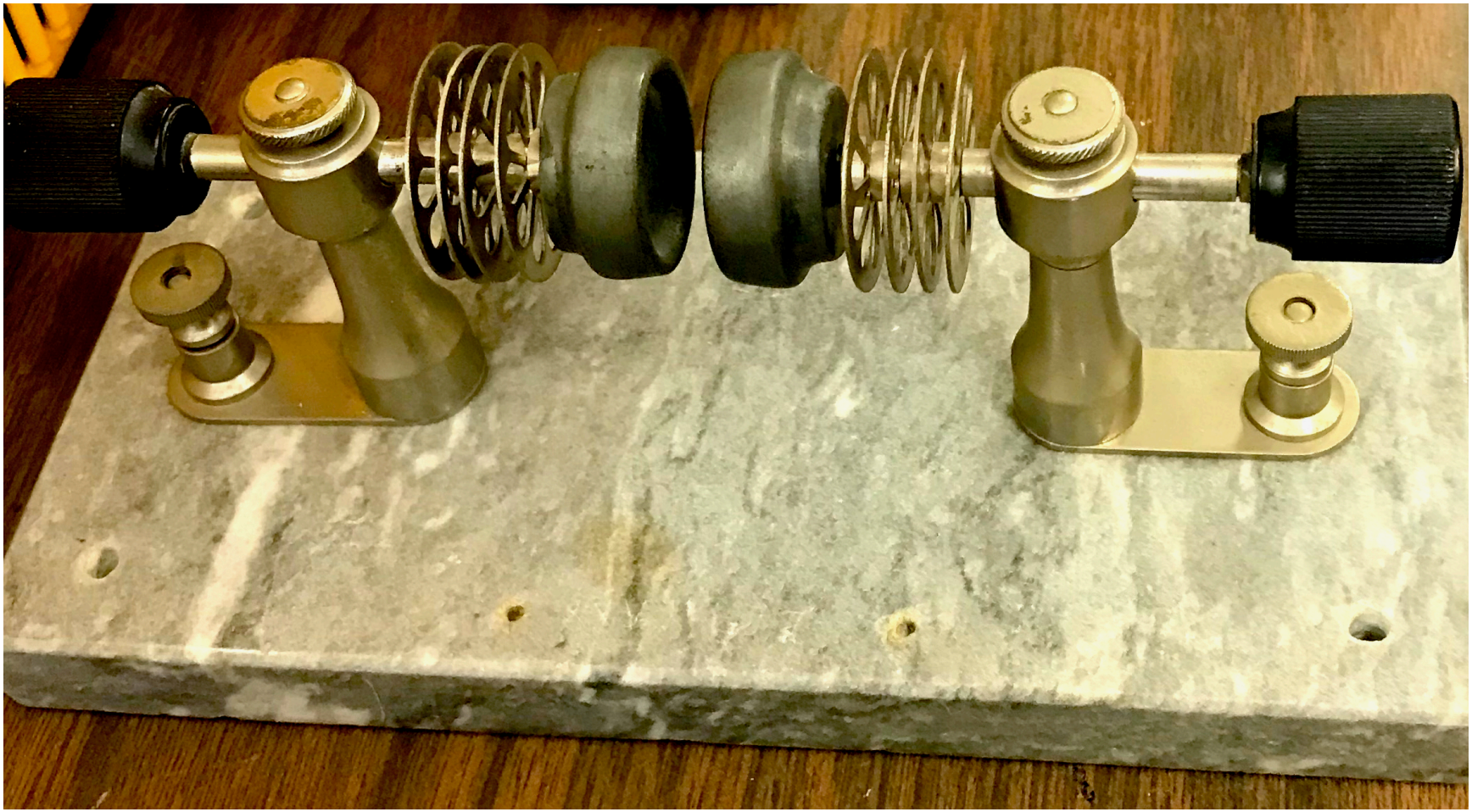
Another view of the Donation >>>

<<< An old Marconi key sits on the white paper

Including a Coherer and Tapper >>>

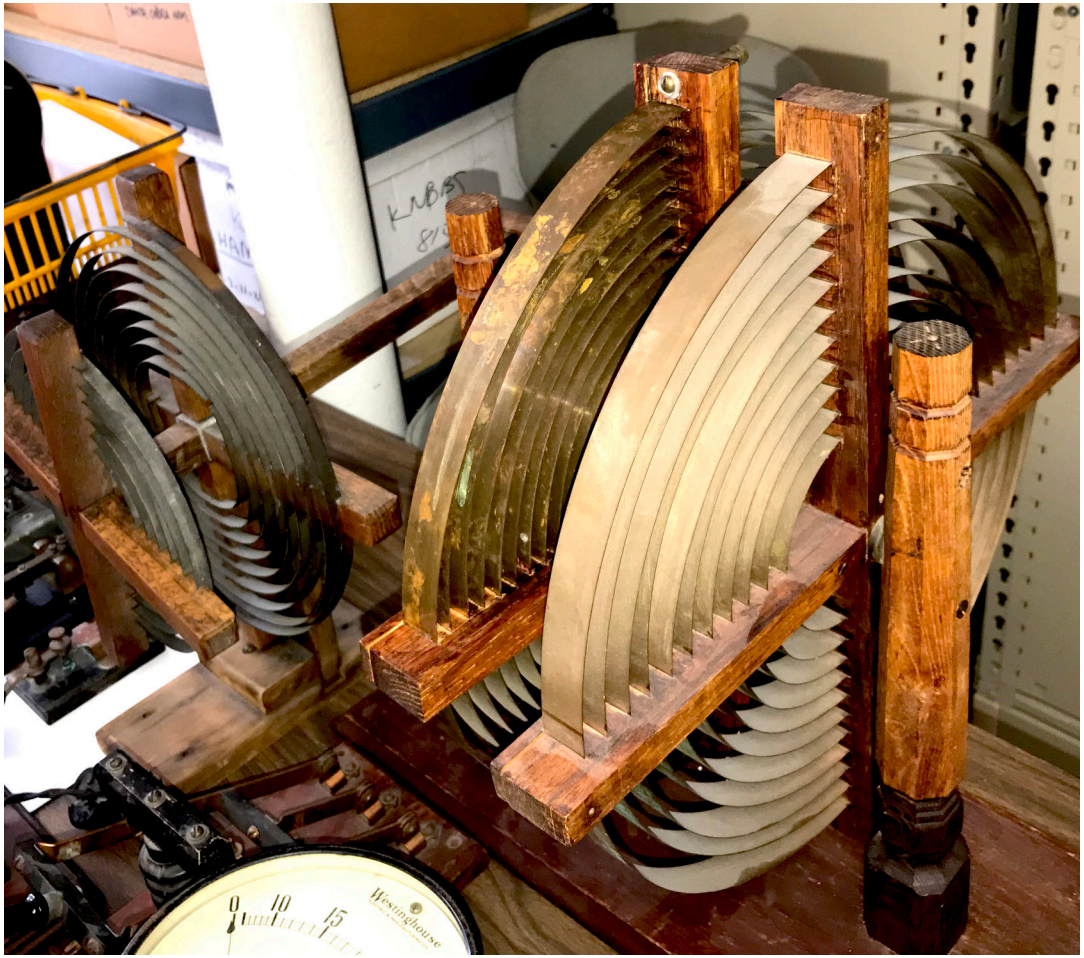


And, a Spark Gap with Heat Sinks >>>



As well as several Wireless Telegraphy Keys (including a Marconi, top, on the white paper) >>>

A keyed spark signal has to get out to an antenna, and antenna tuning inductances, coupled by hand, made it happen >>>



Coda:

- Elmer T. Cunningham founded Remler radio company in San Francisco, about the same time that Haller Cunningham went bankrupt.
- He sold Audiotron vacuum tubes (bootlegged) and then investigated other bootleggers for RCA. He made a deal with RCA to produce the Cunningham 301 triode.
- Sarnoff could spot talent and hired him.
- He became a high executive of RCA.

Cunningham Tubes, 1920s
… it's a long story…

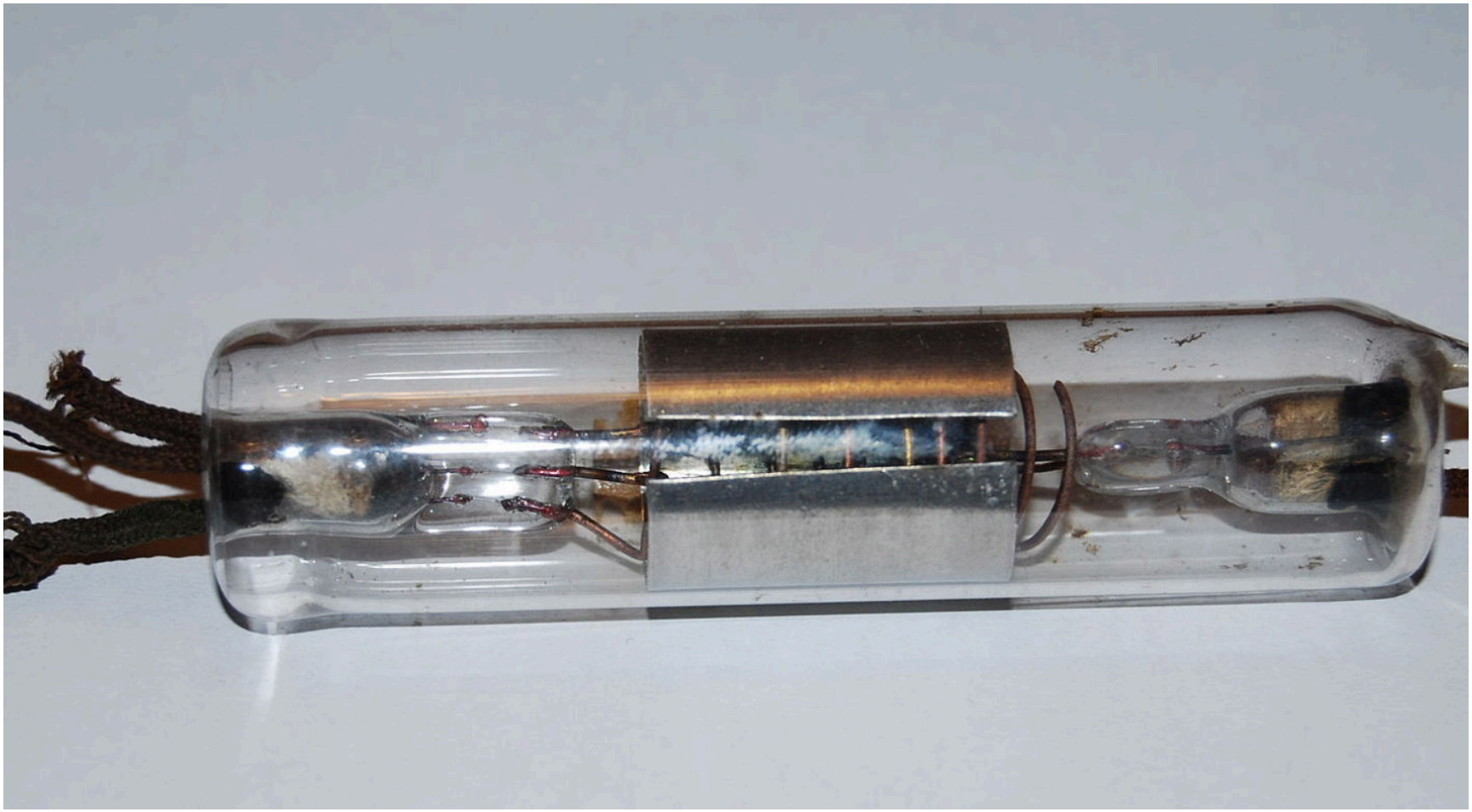
Graphic from Perham Foundation via History San Jose

George Haller, Teacher

- George F. Haller, as noted in 1913, acted as the Vice President of Haller Cunningham in San Francisco.
- He asserted many years later, when he was a teacher, that he invented the cylindrical plate around the filament and grid of the triode vacuum tube, about 1915,which was called an “AudioTron.”
- Lee DeForest then copied the configuration.

The AudioTron bootleg triode

(from the wiki)



From Spark-gaps making Ozone to Grids in Vacuum Tubes in less than Twenty Years…

05 IV ’22 de K6VK ##