



Western Electric 42A, 205D PP and 205D rectifiers.(1925 ?)

Pheew....I like the simplicity....Tubes and iron really goes well hand in hand...Input phase-splitter and step up. Thats the way I like it. We would not need that much gain today, but we can trade it for a better transformer.



(Picture from “Soundup.ru”)

The 575 Ohm resistor is the common cathode returns of the two 205 power tubes. The 48k Ohm and 0.5uF forms a weird HF pass filter, however as there is no signal from ground to the center tap of the secondary (common mode), it does not make a lot of sense. But it does couple unbalanced high freq artifacts onto ground. The undecoupled choke ahead of the output transformer acts as a “constant current” inductor. This will improve the linearity and reduce distortion and is still used today by some “cost no issue” hardcore tube audiophiles. Anyway – this is pretty much a plug and play amplifier. Add a volume pot and you are there. That is – if you can get your hands on some 205D’s. Although Push Pull was not a new invention as it had been used for small signal amplifiers and oscillators, the 42A was one of the first PP power amplifier.

WE 25B (Not shown) is a SE version of the 42A darling.