

# WKAR SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Climaxing an active broadcasting history that began before the first national network (NBC), and before the Federal Radio commission, WKAR this month celebrates its 25th year of broadcasting as an educational station.

The history of this station, however, begins in the years of the first World War, when radio telegraphy was taught to military and civilian students at the college by Norris E. Grover, now chief engineer at WKAR, and Paul G. Andre, an assistant professor of physics. At the end of the war the army commended the college for the work done by these two men.

Taking their cue from war-learned skills, several students in the electrical engineering department set up an unauthorized station in 1918, which operated until 1922. They broadcast personal message to other amateurs, and campus events whenever they had the opportunity. In May of 1922, the station broadcast a speech by College President David Friday to a Founders Day meet-

ing. Six days later first authorization arrived for a radio station at Michigan Agricultural college. Final licensing, however, was not completed until Aug. 18, 1922.

The call letters WKAR, then assigned, have been used ever since, although they have no significance to the college.

The status of the station was often precarious, even though the college was officially authorized to operate a radio station. There are many stories told among those who have been at MSC for the ensuing period, of the trials of establishing a radio station on the campus.

Prof. B. K. Osborn of the electrical engineering department tells of the occasion when Dean Bissell of the engineering division walked into room 111, Olds hall, where he noticed an odd array of electrical equipment on the lecture table. Assuming it to be of no particular value, he ordered it removed to the floor. The next time WKAR went on the air, it did so from the floor

of room 111, Olds hall.

B. J. Haselman of the publications department of the college was put in charge of the new station in April, 1923. F. I. Phispany, one of the original students who put the clandestine MAC station on the air, was appointed technical director under Professor Sawyer of the electrical engineering department.

Although Haselman was in charge of the station from April, no regular programs were scheduled until Jan. 23, 1924.

The first transmitter tower was built between the engineering building and the foundry. With this, and other new equipment, WKAR was able to broadcast on the 250 watt assignment of the federal government license.

The studios were moved from room 111 to the fourth floor of the Home Economics building in January, 1924. This was to be the home of "Education's station" for 16 years.

The MAC Record described the new studios in April, 1924: "... a main room, covered with olive drab drapes, to deaden sound. At one end of the room is a board with three lights: green indicates that the operating room is not ready, white that everything is set, and red means that the station is 'on the air'."

"Off this main room is another, used for talks. This studio is well equipped, having a rug on the floor, a piano, several chairs, and a small table."

These studios were a great improvement over the Olds hall room, but there were drawbacks, such as the hum of the building's passenger elevator, which could usually be heard over the air.

The other main drawback was the height of the building. Elevator service wasn't always perfect, and many speakers decided climbing four flights of stairs was just too much.

See WKAR HISTORY, Page 4

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

## Michigan State News

Michigan State's Summer Student Publication

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1947

No. 16

### WKAR Director



Robert Coleman, director of WKAR, at his desk finishing the work on the silver anniversary program. The full hour show will be heard Monday evening at 6. Coleman is a pioneer in the field of radio and a member of the famed "20" Year Club.

### Bridge Ready October

By ARNOLD BRANDSDORFER

The trek to the south campus in fall will be shortened for the fortunate by the building of a new footbridge across the Red River midway between the railway and Farm Lane bridges.

The footings and foundations are erected by the Reniger Construction company with the structural steel work by the James Engineering Works.

The two 105 foot trusses were completed in single units and trucked to the site.

The usual piece by piece construction was used.

### ROTC Convo Draws Three

The ROTC convo drew three speakers at the annual conference at the University of Minnesota, Aug. 18, 19, and 20.

They will meet at Minneapolis with representatives from the Midwest's leading colleges and universities for the purpose of discussing the development of the post-war ROTC program.

Harold A. Engel, President of the NACB and director of WHA, Michigan, was one of the speakers.

John H. Grover, Jr., President of the NACB, was also present.

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## College Station Inaugurated In 1922; Pioneered Education Broadcasts

### Thirty-Four Staff Members Make Speaker Work Easy

"Teamwork and a microphone? Why the announcer just sits there and talks!" That's a comment heard recently from a man being shown through WKAR.

Right here on Michigan State college's campus the men behind the man behind the mike are 34 strong, a team whose skills make our talking friend's job appear simple.

The announcer is the show-window of broadcasting, and his skill is necessary, but without the rest of the team you would never even hear him.

At WKAR, this is the team:

**Coleman Directs**

Director, Robert J. Coleman, head of the department of radio. He has been in radio since 1925 and director of WKAR since 1934. He is also one of the 250 members of the "20 Years Club of Radio Pioneers," which requires 20 years in radio before 1945. A graduate of DePaul university, he is now vice president of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters.

Chief engineer, Norris E. Grover, was an instructor here in 1917, teaching radio telegraphy. Later a boxing instructor in the physical education department, he joined the station as technical director in 1928.

**Radio Transmitter**

Engineer Linn Towles, who graduated from MSC in 1933, being put on the staff shortly after graduation, served in Africa, Italy and Germany during the war, and became a Lt. Colonel by the time he returned to civilian life and WKAR. He is now transmitter engineer.

John Blahodien graduated from MSC in 1937. He was a student engineer and joined the regular station staff on graduation. After 20 months on an Albatross destroyer and a hitch instructing in San Diego, he was mustered out of the navy as a Lt. Commander. He is now in charge of audio engineering.

**Directs Programs**

Lawrence T. Frymire, program supervisor and traffic manager, is from Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from MSC in 1944, taking his degree in speech correction, and will get his M.A. in Guidance in 1947. He was appointed to the staff in 1944, after having been a student announcer. Larry was president of the class of 1944, and active in other undergraduate activities.

J. Kenneth Richards, production supervisor at WKAR, has degrees from Monmouth college, Indiana, and MSC. He was a speech instructor here before joining the station staff in July, 1944.

**Handles Continuity**

Robert William Kamler, News and Special Events editor, also handles continuity work for the station. Bob graduated from MSC in 1945. After a year at News editor at WEDU, Kansas City, he returned to MSC to take his master's degree.

**Book Written By Ex-Spartan**

A former MSC detachment aviation student, Joseph Dever, has written his first novel, "No Lasting Home," which will be published September 1, and has already won praise from literary critics.

Dever's house has installed a five cubic foot deep-freeze unit and the equipment with the unit proves successful, plans will be made to install the unit in other co-op houses.

ICC has also purchased a cinematograph for use by its members.

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### Council Hits Lax Debates On Issues

By ED HOWARD

Methods for increasing student council efficiency were the subject of debate Wednesday night as the council's summer committee met on the Union sun porch.

A full report will be submitted to the council when it reconvenes in plenary session in the fall.

The committee was agreed that a change in council operating procedure was needed to expedite the handling of business. It was pointed out by several members of the summer committee that too often council debates have lingered on without constructive action being taken.

**Suggest Committees**

One solution offered was an increased use of standing committees, modeled somewhat on the Congressional plan, to consider routine business and submit factual reports to the full council as a basis for action.

It was also pointed out that the council had already voted the necessary appropriation to buy necessary reference books for all council members, but that the books had so far not been bought.

At the time of the appropriation, it was found to be impossible to obtain the books.

**Cafeteria Prices**

George Stewart, who last week was appointed by the council to investigate current prices in the Union cafeteria, reported that he had consulted with Leslie Scott, Union manager.

Stewart, Detroit junior, had complained at the last council meeting that he thought cafeteria prices were climbing out of range of student pocketbooks.

**Let Things Ride**

After going through cafeteria operating procedures with Scott, Stewart said that he was not yet entirely convinced of the need for the price level now in effect, but recommended that the council "let things ride" for the rest of the term. He suggested that the council not let the issue drop now, but wait and see how prices turned out when fall term started.

The final meeting of the summer council will be held next Wednesday evening at 7:30. Details of the report to the full council will be ironed out at that time.

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### Educational Broadcasts Fill College Station's Air Time

Combining instruction, information and entertainment, Michigan State's radio station has pioneered in many fields of educational broadcasting.

A varied schedule of speakers, lectures, dramatic plays, round tables and full scale radio and audience shows round out the current program, designed for all of Michigan.

"Played to over 8,000 in study audiences, and rated a listening audience of at least 50,000. No, it's not NBC, but WKAR."

**Chief Engineer**

In a different tempo, the "Farm Forum," learned to over 600 organized discussion groups throughout the state appears weekly on the station, during the school months. This program, typical of the timely educational programs offered in the field of agriculture, uses the first radio discussion each month as the monthly topic for the discussion groups.

The schools of Michigan have played an important part in the adult education schedule of the MSC station, with program representing the state Department of Public Instruction, the Parent-Teacher association, the college division of education show, "Our Children: Go To School" and many others.

**Geography in the News**

Prof. E. C. Prophet, of the MSC department of geology and geography, has a record of eight years of informing the people of Michigan of the relation of current events to the "Geography in the News" discussing both diplomatic battles and the armed conflicts around the world, and many domestic issues.

Don Buell's program, "Curtain Going Up," and the "A Poem, A Book and A Play," with J. A. Callaway, cover the dramatic and literary scene and form a regular part of WKAR's broadcasting day.

**Farm Service Hour**

Among the other educational programs are several aimed at the

See EDUCATIONAL, Page 2

### Gallacher Exposes Truth About Folklore, Proverbs

By BOB DAVIS

Paul Bunyan may roll over in his grave, and Superman, his contemporary counterpart, might get mad, but according to Dr. S. A. Gallacher, associate professor of languages, the episodes of these two brawny heroes should not be confused with true folklore.

Dr. Gallacher, who has been doing research in the folklore of France, Germany, Italy, America, England, Norway, Sweden, and a number of other smaller European countries, says that folklore is more than just a mere collection of "tall tales." Literally, it means, "science of the folk."

Dr. Gallacher points out that "it is an attempt to explain the phenomena of nature and behavior."

The proverbs of Benjamin Franklin are a good example of material falling within the scope of this definition.

Dr. Gallacher and Dr. Rudolph, assistant professor of languages, recently completed a book, "German Language and Folklore," which will be used on campus.

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### Happy Birthday

### Many Send Congratulations

Michigan State can point with pride to some of the many congratulations that have come to WKAR, congratulating its director and staff for a quarter of a century of service.

Dean Anthony, of the School of Agriculture, "Heartiest congratulations to station WKAR on its twenty-fifth anniversary of service to the people of Michigan. The close association between the school of agriculture and WKAR has enabled the farm population to benefit richly from the knowledge and skills of the teachers and scientists who have worked so long for the advancement of Michigan agriculture."

I know that WKAR is now embarking on an even greater period of education and service, as well as fine entertainment, and that it will continue to bring its listeners increasing benefits in keeping with its past history."

W. G. Armstrong, Master of the Michigan State Grange, "Congratulations upon your twenty-

five years of service to the people of Michigan. We wish you continued success and happiness."

Jack Gallagher, WKAR student announcer, "WKAR, for a quarter of a century, has been a source of information and entertainment to the people of Michigan. It has been a pleasure to work for you, and I hope to continue to do so for many years to come."

Harold A. Engel, President of the NACB and director of WHA, Michigan, "The National Association of Educational Broadcasters extends its greetings and highest respects to one of its most loyal members—WKAR."

In these days when radio seems to have lost sight of its own purpose, it is refreshing to find a station which has the courage and freedom to experiment with programs which are truly in the public interest."

Good wishes to WKAR, its director Robert Coleman, and the loyal staff of workers on this twenty-fifth anniversary."

R. J. Baldwin, Extension director at MSC, "It is a pleasure to offer congratulations to WKAR on its twenty-fifth anniversary. The station has served Michigan well. It has taught the people of the state to depend upon authentic information. It has broadened their interests. It has enriched their lives with programs of high excellence."







# WKAR Begins 25th Year Of Spartan Sportcasting

## Trainer Gives First Aid Tips To Mentors

Heppinstall, head trainer of Michigan State, was at the Michigan college. Mar- yesterday, teaching the and care of injuries to athletes.

Heppinstall will conduct his in- at Mt. Pleasant next where he will be as- with "Bo" McMillin, in- of athletics and head foot- coach at the University of

Heppinstall is a member and a past of the National Ath- Trainers association. Jack- considered an authority on al- training.

Heppinstall to State in 1914. He- has been head trainer in sports since that time.

Heppinstall will be assisted by B. Robinson and Frank J. Hey.



Early WKAR football broad- caster Harry Wismer is now one of the nation's top grid casters and sports commenta- tors. Wismer broadcasted Spartan games over WKAR in 1926-37 while a student here at State. Since leaving WKAR he has advanced rapidly in the radio field. He is now vice- president of radio station WJR, Detroit, and Sports Director of the American Broadcasting Company.

## College Station Started With 1924 Football Tilt

On the 27th of September the Michigan-Michigan State football game will be aired over radio station WKAR. This will inaugurate the 25th year of sports broadcasting over the college station.

WKAR began broadcasts of the college athletic games on October 8, 1923, when State was known as Michigan Ag- ricultural college and the nickname Spartans pertained only to the early inhabitants of ancient Greece.

The event was the Chicago- M.A.C. football game and the first sportscaster was J. B. (Jimmy) MacFarland, head of the Public Relations department.

The Maroons now a defunct organization, were one of the townhouses of the West and what was a red-letter day for sports broadcasting was a sad day for the Aztec rosters, as Chi- cago won by a slaughter, 34-0.

Later that year and through the early part of 1924 WKAR was broadcasting M.A.C. basket- ball games. This was probably the first attempt anywhere to broad- cast the fast-moving sport.

Credit for success in the basket- ball broadcasts can be given mainly to Jimmy MacFarland. He was a rapid speaker and well adapted to all sports.

MacFarland began his first cage broadcast from a converted tele- phone booth with the only ap- paratus being the replacement of the phone by a microphone.

MacFarland highlighted his play- by-play accounts of the game by making his sentences to add to the excitement of the game.

WKAR did not begin broad- casting basketball until 1938, when Al Theiler, Sports Editor of the State News, handled the play-by-play description.

Staff members have broadcast the games ever since, starting with Forrest Owen and continu- ing with Larry Frymire, Charles Anthony and last spring Bob Shackleton.

In 1935 and 1936 WKAR broad- casted the Spartan tennis matches with faculty men M. E. Farle- man and Ormond Drake handling the action. Both were well ac- quainted with the sport.

Trick has also been done over the college station at various times. The main attractions for the radio were the All-State High School and the All-State College meets.

WKAR also included swim- ming meets in their broadcasts and an occasional wrestling match. Neither were done on a regular schedule.

The college station intends to continue football broadcasts this fall, of both home and away games, with the possible excep- tions of Washington State and Ha- waii, time being his predom- inant factor.

WKAR is licensed to operate on a number of short bands, and the Washington State game will not be played until 5 p.m. EST, and the station must leave the air at six. The Hawaii game will be played even later.

Basketball will return to the WKAR schedule, when the new FM station is completed. This station will be allowed to continue after dark.

WKAR has watched and reported the college athletic teams ad- vance from the M.A.C. Aggies to the Michigan State Spartans and from second rate ability to one of the up-and-coming powers of the Midwest.

With due cause we pause to proudly congratulate on its silver anniversary, WKAR, the Voice of Michigan State College East Lansing.

## Smoke Shop Laces M.A.C. To Top Loop

The Smoke Shop Specials con- tinued to lead the independent league as they scored their third straight win Tuesday night down- ing the M.A.C. 16-6.

The Specials capitalized on sev- eral sacks and the loose-finding of the Mac men for an early run rally in the third to tie the game.

For Stone kept the Mac men's but well scattered getting in trouble once when he served a punting ball to catcher Dave Adams with two out. It was Adams third home in as many at- bats.

George Mitchell was on the mound for the Macs.

The maximal pitching of Bert Piles enabled the A.T.C. Board- ing Club to move into second place Tuesday night. Piles was out of the game as the Boarding club edged the Walnut Lakers, 14-1.

The defeat was the third straight for the Lakers while A.T.C. record now stands at 2-1.

There were only two games scheduled last night. The remain- ing games are to be played next week with the Smoke Shop Specials vs. A.T.C. Boarding club and the Boarding club vs. Tunkle Terrors.

Next week's games: Tuesday Aug. 19, Walnut Lakers vs. Tunkle Terrors; H. Smoke Shop Specials vs. A.T.C. Boarding club; M.A.C. vs. Tunkle Terrors; Wednesday Aug. 20, Walnut Lakers vs. Tunkle Terrors; Smoke Shop Specials vs. Tunkle Terrors; Thursday Aug. 21, M.A.C. vs. Tunkle Terrors; H. A.T.C. Boarding club vs. Tunkle Terrors.

Don Wattick returned in 1943 to describe the action. Frymire then switched to the color angle.

Last year broadcasts were handled by Bud Watson and Charles Anthony returned to keep the fans posted on between-the- half happenings.

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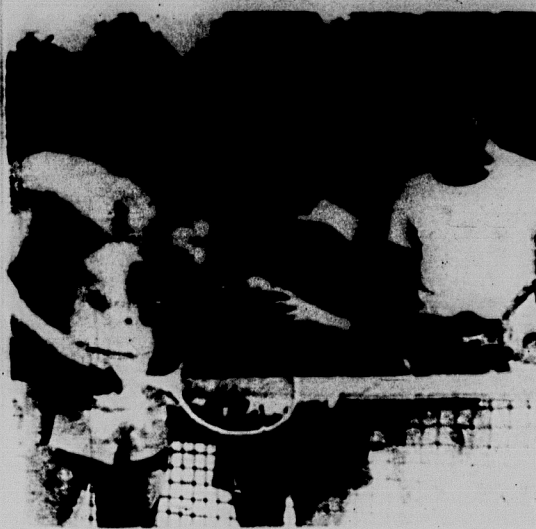
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## Start Of 'Mural' Net Title Match



Defending Champion Tony Waldron (left) receives the official ball from umpire-in-chief Russ Noble (center) at the start of the title match in the all-college men's singles tennis tourney. Jack Van Wagoner (right) Waldron's opponent looks on. Waldron retained his crown as he defeated Van Wagoner in straight sets 6-1 6-3.

## I-MNet Title Taken Again By Waldron

By JOHN CHAMBERS  
Tony Waldron, defending champion, won the Men's Singles title in the All-College Tennis tournament for the second straight year by defeating Jack Van Wag- oner 6-1 6-3.

Waldron won the first two games by hard drives to the base- line. Van Wagoner's shots just couldn't seem to find the court.

Van Wagoner broke his oppo- nent's service for the first time as the score became 1-4. Waldron continued to hit hard, well-placed drives and pushed ahead 5-1.

For the first time in the match Van Wagoner played steadily and kept pace with Waldron's game as the score went to deuce.

But Waldron won the point as he returned a low down-the-line shot off his backhand to pass Van Wagoner as the ball sailed the line.

Van Wagoner began service in the second set but Waldron won the first two games quickly as his opponent continued to hit out. Waldron's steady play pushed his lead to 5-1.

Van Wagoner began to hit hard drives to the corners and advance to the net. By his net attack Van Wagoner saved off defeat as he took two more games, win- ning mostly by aggressive play.

But Waldron continued to drive hard to the baseline and score points as his opponent's shots hit the net or sailed out. Waldron won the final point as Van Wag- oner missed a shot at the net.

## Dr. Webster To Help Army

Michigan State's chairman of graduate studies in physical edu- cation, Dr. Randolph W. Webster, has been selected to Washington and placed on temporary active duty with the Surgeon General's sta- tion.

He will assist in the revision of the physical conditioning pro- gram of the army.

While at Washington, Dr. Web- ster will be in charge of a group of graduate students. The physical conditioning program and the revision of the program from the Surgeon General's station.

Webster is a member of the staff of the physical education department at Michigan State. He has been in the physical education field for many years.

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**ALL-COLLEGE DANCE**  
To the Sweet Music of  
**BOB SHINBERG**  
AND HIS ORCHESTRA  
TUESDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS  
LANSING SEXTON HIGH SCHOOL 11:45  
TAKE COLLEGE-FISHER DIRECT TO 1000R

**TWO LEGS Inc.**  
Bigger and Better  
Selections of  
NEW FALL MERCHANDISE  
Styled by Two Legs  
PANTS • SWEATERS • JACKETS  
115 SO. WASHINGTON

**AUTHENTIC EQUIPMENT FOR EVERY SPORT**  
WANDERLUST SPORT EQUIPMENT  
E. GRAND RIVER EAST LANSING

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to  
**W.K.A.R. AND STAFF**  
on this  
**Your 25th Anniversary**  
**Shepard's HOES**  
317-319 East Grand River Ave.

**STOP**  
for  
Efficient - Courteous  
Service  
at  
**Stanley's Service**  
your  
East Lansing  
Marathon Dealer  
728 W. Michigan  
Washing and Polishing  
Tires and Lubrication  
Motor Tune-up  
Five Days  
Week, 9:00-6:00  
P.M. 6:00  
**OPEN**  
1 A.M. - 11 P.M.  
For Your Convenience  
Phone 5-0000

**STOP**  
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P.M. 6:00  
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## Abbot 12 Wins To Top League

Abbot 12, a team of 12 players, won the top league title last night, defeating the Lakers 12-1.

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**COLLEGE BIKE SHOP**  
GUARANTEED REPAIR WORK  
  
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**SPORTS WEAR-BASEMENT**  
LARGEST STOCK OF TROUSERS IN MICHIGAN  
● SPORT SHIRTS  
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Tux • Tails • All Accessories  
**H. Kositchek & Bros.**  
115 N. WASHINGTON

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY W.K.A.R.**  
**EAST LANSING PHARMACY**  
"The Friendly Store on the Hill"  
Beverwood and Grand River East Lansing



# Governor Speaks



Governor Kim Sigler addresses the people of Michigan each Tuesday at 12:15 over the station. He discusses the current topics and problems dealing with the state. This series of programs was originated by the late Frank Fitzgerald in 1935. The governor will again be heard this fall.

State of Michigan  
Office of the Governor  
Lansing

Kim Sigler  
Governor

August 11, 1947

TO STATION WKAR, EAST LANSING:

It is with pleasure that I extend heartfelt congratulations to station WKAR as it completes twenty-five years of service to Michigan State college and surrounding communities.

The second oldest educational radio station in the country, WKAR has developed from a small part-time station into an indispensable branch of the college, offering excellent educational and entertainment programs to both rural and urban communities of the state.

It is my earnest hope that station WKAR will continue to pioneer in the ever increasing fields of radio endeavor and that its second quarter-century of service will be marked by even greater progress.

Sincerely,  
KIM SIGLER  
Governor

## STAFF

(Continued from Page 1)  
test, degree and work again for WKAR.

Joining the staff on a permanent basis in July, 1947, Bob is known on the campus for his work in all fields of speech, being a member of all three honoraries in the speech and dramatics field.

**Home Fr Specialist**  
June Szost, Home Economics specialist for the station, graduated from MSC in 1947. June was prominent in oratory and other speech activities in her undergraduate days, and joined the staff July 1, 1947.

John Isatula, Transmitter operator, has been with WKAR since 1934.

Ry Wilson, Studio operator, has been a member of the station staff since 1942.

Joe Archambault, Studio operator, also joined the WKAR team in 1942.

William Winters, Public address service radio man, completed the list of full-time staff members, and has served the station since 1942.

**Student Workers**  
Students have always played an important role in WKAR's production team, and many successful men have come from their ranks.

## State Plans FM Station By January

Michigan State college will soon be the owner of a frequency modulation (FM) radio station, according to information from R. J. Coleman, director of broadcasting at MSC.

Equipment has already been ordered for the new station and will be in place on arrival.

**Ready In '48**  
By January 1, 1948, it is hoped a new transmitter and FM antenna will enable the new station to begin operation. The frequency of WLAZ will be 90.5 megacycles, and it will have a power of 3000 watts.

The project will allow the station to broadcast for an unlimited time each day, a measure of importance for the station to broadcast during the night. The FM station will continue to broadcast with such features as basketball games, lectures, and music programs.

## Students Speak



Program Supervisor Larry Frymire in action with his "The Students" show. The Union building in the scene of a 15-minute Wednesday afternoon student opinion question period. Frymire also has the popular morning platter show, "The Salute."

## Four Parties Head Society This Week

Two dormitory radio parties, a term party and a square dance, highlight the college social activities this weekend.

On Saturday night the women of South Campbell hall will be hostesses at a radio party in the dormitory dining room. Women and their guests will dance to recorded music from 9 till 12. Mr. and Mrs. Russell E. Carr will be the chaperons.

Madison-Abbott men are giving a radio party on Friday night. The party will be held from 9 till 12 in Abbott's lower lounge. Chaperons will be Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson and Mr. and Mrs. Laker.

Members of Hibel will have their term party tonight at 8 at the Hibel house at 219 Hill road. Refreshments will be served. All State students are cordially invited to attend.

The all-college square dance, being sponsored by the Spartan Citizens committee, will be held tonight in the stock pavilion, and not in the Women's gym as was previously stated. Claire Deussen, Spartan Citizens committee chairman, announced.

It will be an informal affair, held from 9 till midnight. Admission is free and refreshments will be purchasable.

## YARDBIRD'S CORNER

By LYMAN FINK

**STUDENTS** of the Naval Aviation College program who attended the summer session at Michigan State may be ordered to flight training at the end of the second quarter of the coming college year, according to an official bulletin received from the naval district headquarters.

It is therefore necessary that they arrange their fall schedules insofar as possible to meet the English, physics and mathematics requirements of the course by the time they receive orders to proceed.

## INFORMATION

### THEATER

"The Moon is Down" will be shown in Forebault theater Saturday night at 8.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The Christian Science organization will hold its final meeting for the summer term Tuesday night at 7:15 in the Chapel of the Peoples church.

### PEOPLES CHURCH

The Sunday evening discussion group sponsored by the YW and YMCA will meet at 7:30 Sunday in the student parlors of the Peoples church.

# WKAR'S History Goes Back 25 Years

(Continued from Page 1)  
When the speakers didn't show up, or when there wasn't a program available, the announcer and the engineers would talk to each other over the aerial. This was the only time the station was like what a broadcasting studio was like and what occurred when a program went on the air.

**News Gives Transmitter**  
The Detroit News, operating station WWJ, America's first commercial radio, gave WKAR its transmitter, the first ever produced by Western Electric when their station bought new equipment. At the same time in 1924, the Consumers' Power company gave the station a new tower, over 180 feet tall.

With this new equipment WKAR was able to broadcast more programs on a different wave length. The basic programming consisted of agricultural and music programs with football and basketball broadcasts whenever the MSC teams played at home.

The federal government raised the power license to 1000 watts in January, 1926.

**Reached Oregon**  
During this period letters reached the station from Oregon and from other points over the country, telling of the clear reception of the station by people all over the country.

Keith Hinebaugh of the publications department took over the station in 1926, in addition to his duties in athletic publicity and issuing releases for the weekly papers in Michigan.

Operating only one hour a day, from 12:00 to 1:00, WKAR continued its program of campus broadcasting, until in November 1928, the government reduced the license of the station to 500 watts.

**Grover Returns**  
Norris E. Grover, who had constructed telegraphs here during the war, returned as chief engineer, replacing Phinney, in 1929.

A "Radio Committee" was formed in 1927 by President Butlerfield, to act as a buffer or "buffer" when people requested time on the air and the station did not regard it as good policy. The people were referred to the committee, which would approve the request.

R. J. Baldwin, now director of the extension division of the college, received jurisdiction over the station budget in 1924. Chairman of the radio committee during the period of greatest growth for the station, he was instrumental in the programming of agricultural education on WKAR.

**One Hour Schedule**  
The one hour daily schedule

was continued from 1928 through 1934, with an occasional special broadcast. Programming featured classroom broadcasts from the agriculture, home economics and liberal arts divisions of the college, plus weather forecasts and market reports.

The period from 1934 to 1935 was continued from 1928 through 1934, with an occasional special broadcast. Programming featured classroom broadcasts from the agriculture, home economics and liberal arts divisions of the college, plus weather forecasts and market reports.

**Farm Forum**  
Also for the first time since 1928, all the home football games were broadcast. Handling the commentary were M. G. Farley.



James Mays, assistant supervisor emergency of farm labor, is quizzing C. M. Harrison, professor of farm crops, about a problem submitted by a listener. Then Hootman, extension specialist in horticulture, fills out the trio on general farm problems heard on the Farm Forum show Mondays at 1 p.m. This program brings the general problems of farm life to the public by a question and answer period.

saw a phenomenal rate of expansion for WKAR, the greatest in its 25-year history.

R. J. Coleman, present director of the radio station, then business manager of the music department, was appointed in August 1934, to supervise the station. The appointment stipulated that he spend two-thirds of his time at the station with the remaining one-third in the music department.

**Coleman Directs**  
One year later, however, his appointment was revised to require full-time direction of the radio station.

Coleman had previous experience in educational radio, having been a full-time announcer and program supervisor at the Ohio State university station, WOSU. Previously he was with the educational division of RCA for a year.

Four months later the station had increased its schedule to three hours a day. In addition to agriculture and home economics, two

departments of the state government were scheduled, the departments of conservation and education.

**Football Broadcast**  
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**Farm Forum**  
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That same year the inauguration of Governor Murphy was broadcast by the college station, as well as the meeting of the joint session of the legislature, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the statehood of Michigan, which was addressed by former governor Chase S. Osborn.

Early in 1937 the Lansing State Journal began listing the programming of WKAR each day, the only complete listing in that newspaper.

**National Hook Up**  
About the same time, in April, NBC's Farm and Home Hour program was broadcast over WKAR on a national hookup. Also, later in that year, the Varsity show program of the Pontiac Motor company was broadcast over the college station.

An increase in power, to the present 3000 watts, was authorized on July 2, 1938. This power enabled WKAR to reach at least 35 percent of the more than one million radio sets in Michigan at that time.

In February, 1939, authorization for a new transmitter was received, and 15 months later the transmitter and its building were completed. An interesting feature of this building is that the heat from the transmitting tubes was used to heat the building.

This is the present building in use, south of the Red Cedar and east of Farm Lane bridge on campus.

**Provide New Studios**  
New studios provided in the auditorium building, then being completed, were located on the third floor above the main entrance of the building, the present site of WKAR's studios.

These facilities consist of three broadcasting studios, a control room, transcription studio and observation corridor. In addition to these, there is a reception room, offices for the director and chief engineer, and several other staff rooms and offices.

In 1940, through arrangement with the State Journal, WKAR

"Rising Sun Melodies," one of the first wake-up programs.

Granted full day-time operation in January, 1936, WKAR closed its facilities after the early morning program at 6, and began broadcasting again at noon, when it returned with the "Farm Service Hour," and continued until 5 in the afternoon.

**Add Programs**  
Starting in April of that year other programs were added to the morning schedule, including musical and classroom broadcasts, as well as many special events, such as the long broadcasting days during Farmers week.

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In 1940, through arrangement with the State Journal, WKAR

broadcast the news four times daily, using the press facilities provided by the newspaper and by International News Service, Associated Press, and United Press.

**Create Radio Department**  
A department of radio was created in 1941 by authority of the State Board of Agriculture as a part of the all-college division under the president of the college.

Coleman, then director of the radio station, became head of the new department.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor changed the radio station activities as it did every department at the college. Many government and local groups scheduled weekly "war effort" and propaganda programs, including the Michigan Defense council, the Michigan War board, the U. S. Treasury department, Flying Cadet board, and many others.

February, 1942, brought a change in broadcasting hours for WKAR when rules of the FCC required strict adherence to the daylight broadcast stipulation in the station's license. The 6 in the morning programs being eliminated, and two hours added at the end of the broadcasting day.

**Aid War Effort**  
In an effort to aid the stay-at-home regulations of gasoline rationing and other war rules, WKAR broadcast more events concerned with meetings which usually attracted thousands from all parts of the state. Farmers week programs, scrap and salvage programs, 4-H mobilization week, and others all contributed to this end.

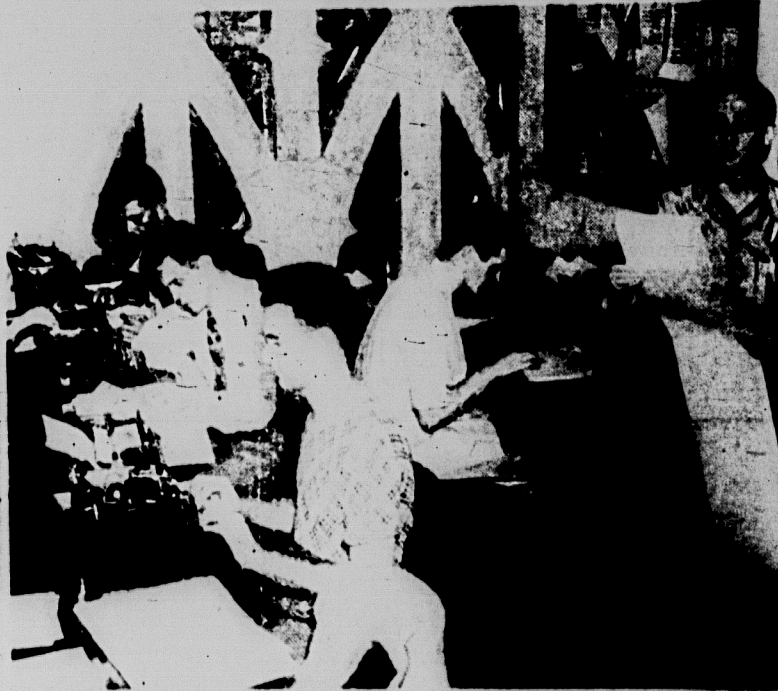
Also during the war under an arrangement with WJIM, the college station's listeners heard President Roosevelt, Maxim Litvinoff, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, and Winston Churchill, as well as other "Blue Network" programs of national interest.

When peace was declared in 1945, the station began its swing back into peacetime programming and production, highlighting the problems of peace and reconstruction.

**Plan FM Station**  
The postwar plans for an FM station subsidiary to WKAR were recently realized when authorization was received for "WLAZ" to operate at 90.5 megacycles. This station will be in operation by the first of 1948, barring unforeseen interruptions in construction plans.

A quarter of a century of service to the state bears out the statements of staff and college heads, that WKAR will "continue to grow in educational and public interest service to the college and the state."

## Writers At Work



Supervisor of News and Special Events Robert Kamins hurrying through the continuity room on his way to Studio C for one of the nine five-minute news summaries aired daily over WKAR. Charles Berry, Grand Rapids sophomore; Jack White, the trot junior; Leo Hinch, Flint freshman, and Rudy Pessel, Detroit junior, at work on various radio scripts. Approximately 25 programs, ranging from symphonic to disc shows, are written daily by the continuity staff.

## Show In Rehearsal



The dramatic presentation "Life at Liberty Mills" is aired Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 1:15. Written and produced by J. Kenneth Richards and directed by Robert Kamins, the story depicts the life of a small community in Michigan. At the sound effects board is Kamins with Producer Richards directing Jack White, Detroit junior, the announcer; Barbara Forbes, Des Moines graduate student as Joe Wilson; Irving Haggart, Flint sophomore as Jack Elden, the farm service advisor; Ann VanSickle, East Lansing junior, as Bertie Nelson, and Floyd Clark, Englewood junior, as "Pop" Wilson, the proprietor of Wilson's general store.