

SURPRISING FACTS IN RADIO HISTORY

One Youth with 12 Grounds Gets 700 Stations in 52 Countries, Says Report

"Surprising things already have been discovered concerning the results of radio in isolated homes" says a report from Washington, D.C., by the department of the Interior. Dr. T. H. Harris, state superintendent of public instruction in Louisiana, has found radio receivers in places where he least expected them. While visiting a home 40 miles from a railroad he was asked if he had heard President Hoover's address on flood control.

"The lady of the house told how she had heard it with her radio and she discussed it with every indication of interest and understanding. The matter was of vital importance to her for her home was in the area occasionally flooded by the Mississippi.

"A young man on a farm in Rhode Island saved enough money to buy a two-tube receiver. He found by experimenting that an extra ground wire improved the reception and one

by one he increased the number to 12. At the end of two years he had a log containing records of programs that he had heard from more than 700 broadcasting station in 52 countries.

Records Are Verified

"Many of these records had been verified by comparison with records at the broadcasting stations. He had brought in stations on all five continents and Oceania so many times that six children in the family were mimicking the accents of the foreign announcers.

"When skeptics expressed their doubts, or ascribed his results to 'a freak location,' he referred them to another young man in Pennsylvania who had secured equally remarkable results with a receiver that he built himself.

"Educators will supervise this experiment with no preconceived notion as to what it will prove or disprove. Teachers for centuries have depended on printing to supplement their oral efforts, but much education was accomplished before printing was invented — even before writing was invented. Why should not persons who have received the ideas of hearing be able to hear, understand and learn from fellow humans whose voice come to them by means of radio?"

Plan to Landscape State Fair Grounds; Governor Favors It

Believing that the state fair grounds should be a place of beauty the year around, Governor Louis L. Emerson has approved plans for extensive landscaping of the property.

Two of the main features in the beautification project are the establishment of an arboretum, and a game preserve on a section of the fair ground property that has been neglected in the past.

The arboretum will take years to perfect, but when it is completed it will contain at least one specimen of every tree that is indigenous to Illinois, as well as some imported specimens that will thrive in this climate.

For immediate effect, especially during fair week, August 16-23, thousands of showy annual flowers are being propagated under the direction of John Tiplady, landscape designer for the department of public welfare. These flowers will be planted in beds facing the grandstand, and will brighten the appearance of the infield without obstructing the view of the track.

In addition, shrubs and trees will be planted in other sections of the fairgrounds. All shrubs and most of the trees will be propagated by patient and prison labor. Hence the cost of the landscaping will be held to a minimum.

Work on the game farm is progressing rapidly under the direction of Director Ralph F. Bradford, and by the time the fair opens Mr. Bradford will have many quail and pheasants in the pens.

Suitable berry bearing bushes will be planted in the area occupied by the game farm to provide food and shelter for the birds.

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