

The Newspapers' Part in Radio Development

By ROSCOE SMITH



The Display of Apparatus Made by Amateurs Who Were Awarded Prizes in a Newspaper Contest.

RADIO has become a very practical business in Chicago. High school students are not only studying its theories and principles, but making apparatus as well. Radio equipment on display at the *Chicago American* Radio Show, ranging from the finest regenerative set with two-stage amplification, capable of receiving at a distance of 1,200 miles, down to the simplest outfit a boy can make for \$1, is the product of the Austin High School, Lane Technical High School and the Tilden High School workshops.

The big attraction of the Tilden exhibit was the 20-watt radio telephone transmitter, flanked by the other apparatus completing radio transmission. The transmitter has a sending radius of 200 miles under good condi-

tions, carrying voice and music. A motor generator of 100 watts, wound by Tilden students, a 500 cycle transformer supplying the plate voltage for the four tubes when the set is used as a modulated C.W. set and a filter coil, also attracted much attention. Three radio receiving sets, the largest being a variometer regenerative set made by Frank Smolek, a 2B student, a Reinartz tuner with single current spider web inductance and tickler feed back gave evidence of Austin High's activity in the field of manufacture.

Ever since RADIO NEWS published the account of "Opera Broadcasting at Chicago" in February, when it became a practical reality, radio development in Chicago has been a succession of daily surprises, with new angles confronting the "fans" at every turn.

When opera broadcasting was given publicity and the public realized that wireless telephony had come to them overnight, so to speak, the first questions asked were, "What are the best radio sets?" "What do they cost?" "Where can we get them?" Everybody was "at sea" and none so badly waterlogged as the radio craft itself!

Then the newspapers came to the rescue. Radio pages, radio supplements, and radio columns began to appear. Concert programs were printed, market schedules and news broadcasted by various newspapers from the Westinghouse station. Clergymen broadcast sermons, Sunday evening concerts became popular and Mayor Hylan, Anne Morgan and other celebrities gave special talks.

(Continued on page 326)

Radiophone Broadcasting Station Installed by Texas Newspaper

THE Fort Worth (Texas) *Record* is the pioneer newspaper in the radio field in the Southwest. It is the first paper west of the Mississippi to install its own radiophone broadcasting station. The set is of 200-watt input, with a range of from one to two thousand miles, and is used for broadcasting weather forecasts, crop and market reports, baseball scores, police bulletins, concerts, etc.

The set was purchased through a Fort Worth firm and all work on it was done by

A Texas Newspaper Station Broadcasting Entertainment and Weather Reports.

the *Record's* staff. It is located on the roof of the *Record's* five-story building, where remodeled windmill towers are used to carry the antenna 125' above the ground. The station is regularly licensed by the Government for broadcasting, and has been assigned the call letters WPA and wave-lengths of 360 meters for broadcasts and 485 meters for weather forecasts.

This station is in charge of a licensed operator, W. H. Pitkin, an ex-Navy man, who has been in the wireless game for a number of years.

