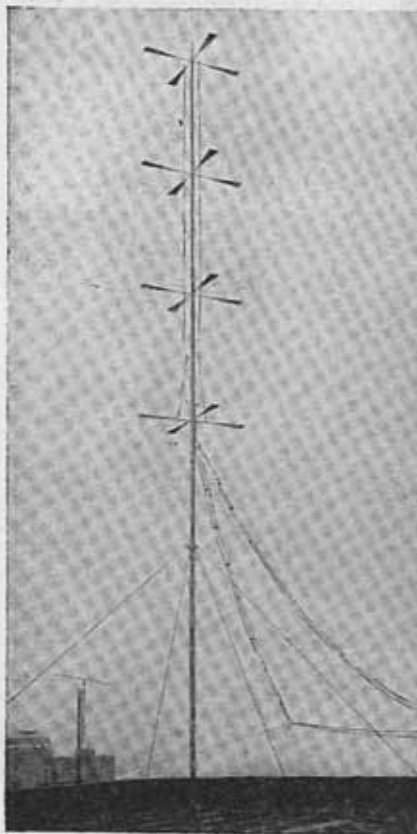


Harry Lubcke Tells Plans for Pacific Coast Television



At left: New type television antenna devised for the Thomas Lee station at Los Angeles, Calif. This station has built up a large following among television fans in that locality.

First aid was recently demonstrated by television in a telecast from the well-known Lee station in Los Angeles. The educational possibilities of television are legion.

● APROPOS of the debate before the FCC relative to whether or not television should be frozen into RMA standards of 441 lines per frame, 30 frames per second, Harry Lubcke, Chief Engineer of the Thomas S. Lee station, W6XAO, Los Angeles, has some rather revolutionary ideas which are based on good sound experience.

When the Pacific coast station first opened in 1931, it used the cathode ray system, but at 80 lines—a comparatively *low definition* picture. A few receivers were built and put into use. Meanwhile the station kept improving the definition of its transmissions. A few months ago it was using 330 lines and then shifted to 441. This worked no great hardship on the 300 or 400 television set owners in its service area. Mr. Lubcke said that on the home-made sets—as the majority of them were—the *total expense of shifting to the higher definition was \$1 or \$2, and a little of the experimenter's time*—so little in fact that he believes servicemen could have done the job for a maximum of \$5.00.

Due to the simplicity of changing to a higher definition (which merely means altering the sweep circuits and making sure that all the video frequencies are passed by the television I.F.) he does not feel that it is very important whether television standards are now frozen or not. He does, however, doubt that anybody would regret such

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Harry Lubcke Tells Plans

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freezing for a moderate period because it might give the industry the "go ahead" which it has been awaiting.

Programs transmitted by the Don Lee station, according to Mr. Lubcke, are quite different from those being emitted by the NBC station in New York, while the Eastern station has been concentrating to some extent on complete shows—i.e. a play or athletic contest lasting for an hour or more—the Don Lee station has been stressing variety shows. The longest play they have run so far has been a 40 minute production of Hamlet featuring Fritz Liebert, a noted Shakespearean actor.

Although only about 300 to 400 sets, most of them home-made, are in use in the W6XAO area, six makes are on sale. In their order of importance these are: RCA, General Electric, Gilfillan (manufactured by a local distributor), Stromberg-Carlson and a few Stewart-Warner and Du Mont receivers. Most of the apparatus in use is using 12" tubes.

The Hollywood station is on the air approximately 10½ hours a week, 60% of this time being occupied by films. The production end is using travelogs, commercial films and others. They also keep a 16 millimeter camera available to make sure all newsreel jobs are covered. To date they have covered 2 fires, a hurricane, an aquaplane race, a Tournament of Roses parade, etc. Being so favorably located in regard to the entertainment industry, the station has been able to put on a number of well known actors, such as Bobby Breen, Morton Downey, Reginald Denny and others.

Its permanent production staff consists of 7 technical men and 2 production men on full time. In addition there are 3 part time assistant production men. Union stage hands, camera men and make-up men are also employed as are various entertainers. The present station uses an antenna 200 ft. above the street and 1000 watts power.