

DOWN SOUTH IN SAVANNAH

WSAV Sends Out Strong Signal With RCA-250-K

DOWN in Savannah, Georgia, WSAV sends a sharp, clear signal out beyond the normal expectancy of a local station. And the story of this signal is the story of a happy combination of excellent engineering, fine factory built equipment and seven miles of copper wire strung out as radials like the spokes of a wheel from the transmitter tower.

Transmitter

WSAV's transmitter is located one mile east of Savannah in an old rice field on the banks of the Savannah river. A hundred and ninety foot Lingo tubular type tower, with static drain insulators, sends WSAV's signal out into the air, dwarfing the masts of the ships that steam behind it out of the port of Savannah to ports all over the world. Inside the white transmitter house, a 250-K RCA transmitter, RCA's latest development, combines with the other RCA equipment to do their part in making the WSAV signal so clear and strong.

This transmitter equipment is given every advantage by an elaborate ground system consisting of a thirty foot expanded copper screen at the base of the tower. This screen has running out from

it at three degree angles seven miles of bare copper wires. These wires are just below the surface of the ground. The distant end of each wire is driven down until it rests permanently in water. As the permanent water table of the transmitter site lies only two feet below the surface at low tide, the copper radials are always grounded in salt water varying in depth from a few inches to more than a foot.

The carrying power of the WSAV signal is further strengthened by the fact that the Savannah area has one of the lowest attenuation factors in the United States and because of a criss-cross of tide water drainage canals in and around the city of Savannah. Since the WSAV transmitter is adjacent to one of these canal systems, the signal tends to travel the whole network.

Studios

The WSAV Studios are located on the ninth floor of the Liberty National Bank Building in downtown Savannah, at the crossroads of the city's two busiest streets. Strikingly modernistic in color and treatment, they were designed and decorated by J. Bolton McBride, well known architect of



Corner of the Continuity Room at WSAV.

Nashville, Tennessee, and seldom fail to draw compliments from both technical and decorative minded people. Much of the furniture is custom built, including the announcers' desks in the broadcast studios. These are gray and black with chrome trims and have built in cueing speakers.

Studio A, the audience studio of WSAV, is a striking example of scientific planning for acoustical effect with its curved walls, curved glass panels and floating floors. All wall surface is covered with special acoustically treated board lightly sprayed with casein paint, and no wall surface presents the same surface plane. The result of this unusual treatment is a studio capable of almost perfect tone reproduction.

WSAV's Speaker Studio employs the live end-dead end acoustical principle. Its wall surface is also covered with acoustically treated board.

RCA microphones are used in all WSAV studios. The types selected by M. E. Thompson, WSAV's Chief Engineer, are 88-A's and 44-BX's.

Consolette Turntables—everything within reach for convenient and efficient operation.



Control Room

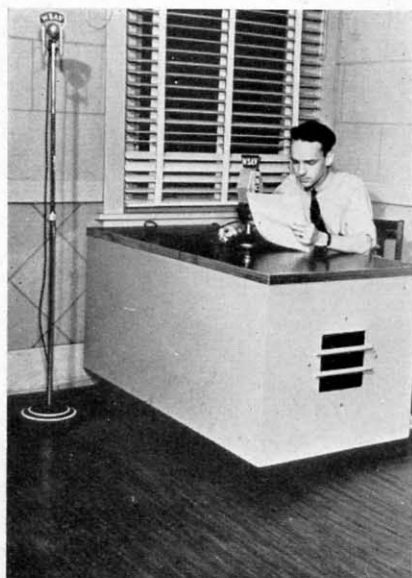
The Control Room at WSAV is, according to visiting engineers, one of the most complete and convenient they have ever seen. The 76-B RCA Console is built into a custom made central desk. This desk also encloses two 70-C RCA turntables, one to the right and one to the left of the operator. Lighting is by modernistic fluorescent lamps. Instead of a jack panel to handle the many remote lines, Chief Engineer Thompson designed and built a unique switch panel which not only more than doubles the remote line capacity of the console, but completely eliminates patching, as well. This was found necessary because of the many remotes run from the clubs, theatres and hotels of one of the South's gayest and most colorful cities.

A typical example is a complete remote studio, glassed in and sound proofed, at the Lucas, Savannah's finest theatre. This studio is used to originate many audience participation programs.

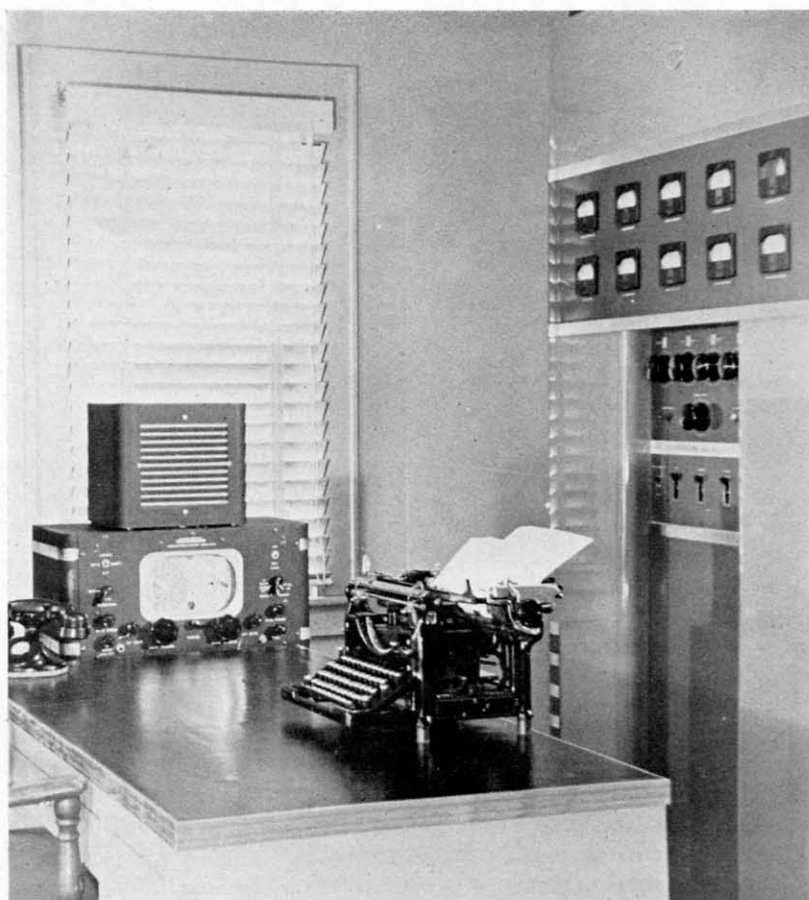
For all remote broadcasts WSAV employs 62-A RCA remote amplifiers.

News Room

Probably the most fascinating place at Savannah's newest station is the WSAV news room. WSAV is served by a full leased International News Service wire, day and night. In the news room a battery of new noiseless type



88-A and 44-BX "Mikes" used in Studio B.



The RCA 250-K at WSAV. Speech input racks are located at the left of the window.

teletypewriters click out the news in a setting decorated with striking photo murals of news scenes and news worthy personalities including the President of the United States and Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

Reception Room, Continuity Room and Offices

WSAV's modernistic treatment is carried out through business offices and reception rooms as well as studios. The main reception room presents a restful arrangement of leather furniture combined with gray floors and harmonizing pastel walls and ceiling, sound treated.

The continuity room, also sound treated, not only houses desks for continuity but also contains the NBC teletypewriters.

Other offices include that of the General Manager, Harben Daniel, offices for the program and commercial departments and offices for the engineering staff. Special keys admit the WSAV staff to Studio X, just down the hall from the main studios.

RADIO CARACAS

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cano have branch stores located in all cities of importance throughout the Republic and in addition to handling RCA Victor, also represent many other well-known American lines. This prominent house is an important link in the chain of increasing goodwill and closer commercial relations between the two Americas.

Program service has gradually increased throughout the years at Radio Caracas and now under the direction of Mr. Ricardo Espina, the well-known manager. Program time amounts to 18 hours continuous daily entertainment. Of all the Latin American stations in this region, Radio Caracas is probably the most noted for the number of radio celebrities appearing on its programs. Cuba, Mexico and other countries send their stars regularly for Caracas engagements.