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Television Relay Tower Is Built Near Capital City

A 262½ foot television and telephone microwave relay tower is going up in a field about one mile north of Holts Summit.

Until Jefferson City has a TV station of its own, the tower will have no effect on television reception here, officials at the tower said yesterday.

But when TV does come to Jefferson City, the tower will be "beamed" at the city and make possible good reception of network programs.

Work began on the tower—built on order of the American Telephone and Telegraph Corp.—last Thursday. Completion is expected by a week from today.

It is one of a series of seven towers which will connect St. Louis and Kansas City. The contractor for the job is John A. Costelow of Topeka, Kan.

Foreman Jack McElroy of Shawnee, Okla., has nine men working on the project. His crew has completed identical towers at Prairie Home, Slater, Dover and Alcorn. They plan to erect towers at Hermann next and then Gray Summit.

"Sometime in the future we'll put up another in a St. Louis suburb," he added. "But the date hasn't been set yet."

The tower rests on four points, with a perimeter of 219 feet.

Beside the tower is a flat, white structure housing a maze of wires and electrical equipment. The technical term for the building is a TD 2 radio relay station. No men are needed to man it.