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New Towers To Transmit TV Signals Cross-County

Six radio relay stations—one at Hillsboro—will be constructed in Southeastern Missouri as part of a new microwave system that will beam lorg distance telephone calls and network television programs between St. Louis and Memphis, Tenn.

Missouri sites for these relay stations will be near Hillsboro, Lawrenceton, Alliance, Jackson, Bloomfield, and Campbell, Lyle K. Jones, local manager of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, has announced.

The new radio relay system will go in operation in February, 1959, Jones said.

In addition to the Missouri relay stations, others will be built near Marmaduke, Bay, and Gillmore, Arkansas, with terminal towers at telephone company buildings in St. Louis and Memphis.

Each of the relay stations will include an antenna tower and a small concrete building to house relay equipment. The towers will range in height from 325 feet at Jackson to 150 feet at Alliance.

The Long Lines Department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company engineered the new radio relay system and will supervise its construction and operation.

In the radio relay method of transmission, super high frequency radio waves—called "microwaves"—are beamed from tower to tower along the route.

These signals travel in a straight line and the towers must be spaced about 30 miles apart along the route to avoid interference from the curvature of the earth.

This new microwave route initially will carry three south-bound TV channels. Later the load will be increased to four long distance message channels, two television channels and two protection channels in each direction.

The system will be capable of carrying 20,000 long distance messages or 30 television programs simultaneously.

Key equipment in this new system will be the giant antennas that will be mounted in fours on each tower along the route. Called "cornucopia" antennas because they resemble "horn of plenty," they are the latest type and were developed by Bell Telephone Laboratory engineers.

Each cornucopia antenna weighs one ton and is 20 feet tall, extending from a base three inches wide to a top width of 10 feet. The cornucopia's transmitting or receiving mouth covers 65 square feet.

At present, TV signals and long distance calls are being transmitted by underground coaxial cable between St. Louis and Memphis. Increased usage of long distance and the growth in national television network requirements made the new system necessary. The present underground cable will be used exclusively for transmitting long distance calls when the new microwave system is completed.

SIX TALL ANTENNA towers will be constructed in Southeast Missouri this year as links in a new radio relay system from St. Louis to Memphis, Tenn. This system will transmit long distance telephone calls and network television programs. One of the towers, to range in height from 150 to 325 feet, will be built near Hillsboro.

This microwave route was tested last spring by American Telephone and Telegraph Company engineers, using temporary relay towers at the locations where the permanent relay stations will be built.

Valles Mines 4-H Club Holds Meeting

Valles Mines 4-H Club meeting was held Apr. 4 with 17 members and one visitor present. The meeting was called to order by the president.

Roll call was answered with each member stating his name, name of his project, who his project leader is and the office he holds in the club. The secretary then read the minutes from the last meeting. The treasurer read her report. The club decided to build and put up 10 bird cages.

HUNTER KILLS (WITH SHOTGUN

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