

RADIO STATION FOR DISASTER CORPS

RADIO SYSTEM PLANNED IN EMERGENCY

An emergency communication system for time of disaster was being organized by the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association today in co-operation with the American Red Cross-American Legion disaster relief committee.

It will center around a high power, short wave transmitter owned by the late Col. Clair Foster, wealthy Carmel amateur, who died last October. Mrs. Foster has notified the local club, of which the colonel was a member, that she will give it the equipment when the estate is settled.

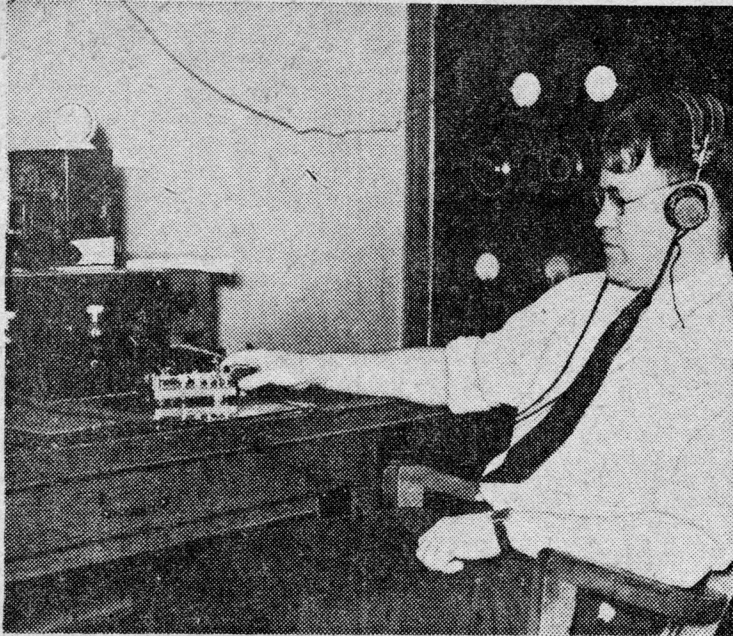
Tentative plans are to install it in the fan room of the new Municipal Auditorium, directly beneath the tower on San Carlos Street. Efforts are being made to obtain an auxiliary power supply for use when disaster cripples power lines, the telephone and telegraph systems.

FIVE-METER FIELD

Under plans being carried forward by President Roy Finkham and club members, a web of communication will be woven over the entire area through the use of five-meter field equipment, which will relay messages to the central station. The latter operating with radiotelegraph signals, will provide connection with the outside world. The club includes a score or more of operators who are able to handle the work.

The group will work closely with the Red Cross disaster relief organization, relaying orders and instruction to facilitate relief work in case of a major catastrophe. This has proved a

PLAN EMERGENCY RADIO WEB



President R. E. Pinkham is directing the organization of the emergency communication net which the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association is forming in co-operation with the Red Cross. He is seen here at his own powerful station in Santa Clara, W6BPT.

highly effective means of communication in the eastern floods, Southern California earthquake and also in the Florida hurricane belt.

The Red Cross work is directed by Neil O. Thomas, reserve captain of the United States army.

To members of the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association the station in the auditorium will be not only an important tool in time of disaster, but will be a memorial to the late Colonel Foster as well. He was an aggressive leader in the fight for amateur rights over a long period and

was well beloved by operators in all parts of the world. For several years he handled a free trans-Pacific message service to Hawaii and the Philippines.

The transmitter, built by Heintz & Kaufman, who handle radio communication for the Dollar Steamship Line, has a power of one kilowatt. The call of W6HM which went out from it for several years became one of the most famous in amateur radio annals.

At its new location the call will be

IS PLANNED HERE

W6SV, which is assigned to the local radio club.

The transfer of the equipment here will be handled by a committee headed by Harry Engwicht, W6HC, radio instructor at San Jose State College and personal friend of the late Colonel Foster.