

# SOUTHWEST HEARS NEW WKY

*Beautiful Studios and Modern Speech Input Equipment Place Oklahoma Station in Front*

By EARL C. HULL, Chief Engineer

RADIO Station WKY, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, first went on the air in 1920 with 20 watts. It was the first station west of the Mississippi and the third in the United States to broadcast daily programs.

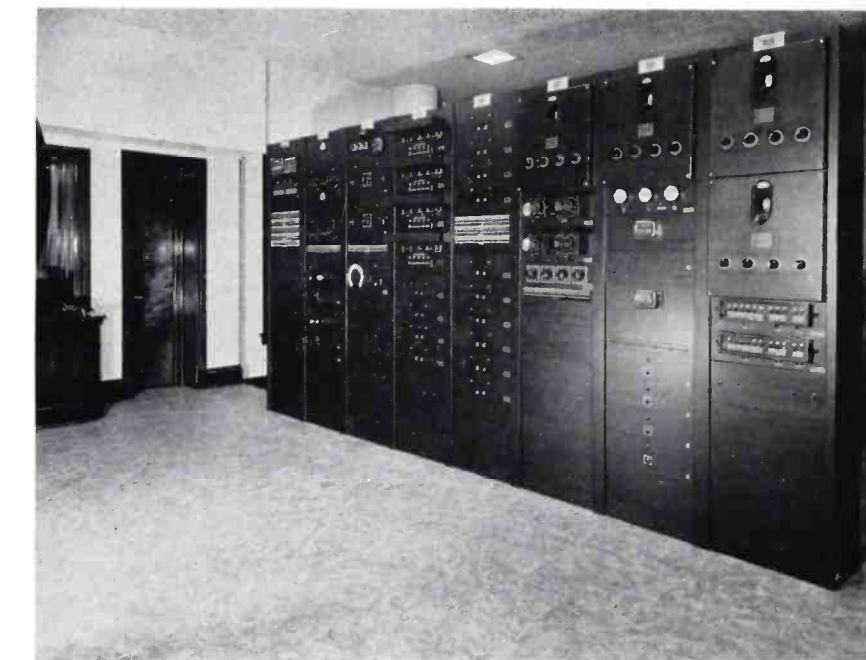
The station was purchased in 1928 by the Oklahoma Publishing Company, and until the recent move, occupied quarters in the Plaza Court building in a suburban residential-business district. The new move brings it downtown to a home conceded to be as thoroughly modern, if not as large, as the best studios in New York, Chicago or elsewhere.

The new studios occupy an entire floor in the recently-completed Skirvin Tower Hotel, and are RCA-equipped throughout.

The new WKY quarters include four regular broadcast studios, one conference-audition room, capable of use as a studio, and a large auditorium studio, still under construction, capable of seating 1,200 persons. This studio is located on a separate floor.

### Modern Soundproofing

The latest discoveries in soundproofing have been incorporated



The modern speech input equipment layout.

in the studio design. "Floating" floors and walls and suspended ceilings reduce vibration to a minimum, and observation windows are of three-pane construction. Doors are of special laminated sound proof construction with squeakless hinges. Another striking feature of the studios is controlled lens lighting, which elim-

inates either glare or shadows. Each light is flush with the ceiling to avoid acoustical interference.

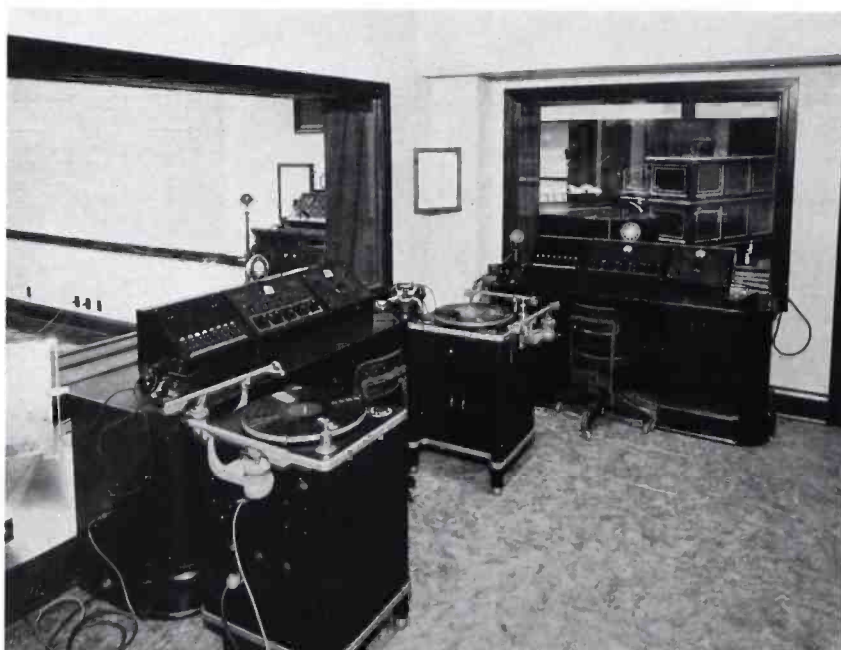
### Air Conditioning Throughout

All studios and offices are air-conditioned, with an installation which assures automatic control of both temperature and humidity the year around. This is said to be the largest installation of the kind in Oklahoma. To prevent sound-conduction through the air ducts, special acoustical treatment was required. This consists of a lining of a type of seaweed from Nova Scotia.

### Constant Check Maintained

High-fidelity transmission is assured by many changes and improvements. For example, all program loops from the studios to the transmitter have been equalized to 8000 cycles, and an RCA audio oscillator incorporated in the control panel permits the equalization of all remote lines to the same degree. Six separate equalizers are incorporated in the line terminal equipment. A constant check is maintained to see that all lines are in condition for high fidelity transmission.

The heart of the set-up is the eight-bay control panel of RCA



The WKY control room showing the two RCA operator's consoles and turntable equipment.