Radio broadcasts for use in schools have been invaluable to the postwar German teacher struggling against the handicaps of inadequate supplies of books, pencils, paper and other essential teaching aids.

During the first two years of occupation not more than one new textbook was printed for every school child in the US Zone—a condition which led educators to seek other methods by which teachers could be helped in their work. Conditions such as a shortage of radio sets and repair material were not favorable to the development of school radio programs, but children brought sets from their homes and a few were obtained from Military Government—radios which had been the property of the German army and the National Socialist Party. And so, gradually, a program of education by radio took its place in schools all over the US Occupied Area.

The use of radio for instruction is not a recent development in Germany. The Weimar Republic, for example, encouraged the educational use of radio. A generous allotment of air time on Germany's most powerful station at that period (Deutschlandsender) was provided for education.

Although the government supported these radio programs, the Ministry of Education made no attempts to centralize the work. The German government's part in the production of programs was an indirect one, that of offering guidance and advice rather than orders and directives. On the other hand, the ministries of education in the individual states actively participated in the production of educational radio programs, but control was by no means absolute. The amount of school time earmarked for instruction by radio depended to a large extent on the local school authorities' attitude.

With the ending of the Weimar Republic in 1932, steps were taken to centralize the direction of the school system, including educational radio (Schulfunk), and within a short time after 1933, educational programs ceased altogether. Instead, educational radio was exploited by the National Socialist Party for political aims, shifting the emphasis from offering instruction to providing political indoctrination for actual and prospective members of the Nazi Party Youth Movement (Hitler Jugend).

In the fall of 1945, the German radio stations, notably Frankfurt and Stuttgart, were anxious to start broadcasting educational material. In 1947, Military Government brought five radio education experts from the United States to the US-Occupied Area. They were Dr. Ronald Lowdermilk, specialist in radio education, US Office of Education, Washington, D.C.; Mr. Charles MacInnis, director of radio and public relations, Public School System, Columbia, S.C.; Mr. Sam H. Linch, supervisor of radio education, Public School System, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Charles Palmer, superintendent of schools of Cleveland, Ohio; and Dr. J. Keith Tyler, director of radio institutes, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

For a 90-day period each consultant worked with German and MG radio and education authorities on the production and utilization of radio, supervising the writing of scripts and making suggestions as to how the programs could be improved. At that time, Radio Frankfurt, Radio Stuttgart, and America's Berlin radio station (RIAS) had included educational broadcasts on their regular schedules. Mr. Linch, one of the visiting consultants, was appointed as MG Specialist in radio education in September 1947. Under his guidance educational radio has rapidly expanded in scope.

Military Government has placed emphasis on the establishment of friendly relations between the radio stations in the US Zone and (Continued next page)
educational radio programs. The Institute for Educational Film in Munich publishes a journal called "Films, Slides, Radio" ("Film, Bild, Funk") and the directors of educational radio stations have laid the groundwork for a zone-wide radio education journal. First copies are expected to come off the press early in 1949.

Regular conferences of educators and other professional people directly concerned with school radio programs have been a vital factor in the development of educational radio in the US-Occupied Area. Initially, these gatherings were merely for staffs of the various radio stations. However, after the first meeting which was held in February 1947, it was felt that these conferences should widen their scope. As a result, the later conferences were attended by German educators, government officials, MG education officers, visiting education consultants, as well as the educational radio staffs of the stations.

A WORKSHOP conference in this field of education, first of its kind to be held in Germany, was held in Nuremberg last August. It was attended by ministry of education representatives of the four states and Berlin, principals and teachers from several schools, and staff members of the school education departments of the radio stations. Besides, two visiting experts on radio education from the United States, nine observers from the British and French Zones were present.

Problems in educational broadcasting and in utilization of the radio programs were studied in various subcommittees. Themes for discussion were "Teaching with Radio Programs," "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Radio Program Use," "The Role of Related Media as a Supplement to Education by Radio" and "Training Teachers to Use Radio and Related Media Effectively."

Each working group tried to find practical solutions to these problems and at the end of the conference, several concrete recommendations were made: that teacher training institutions should establish obligatory courses for all teacher trainees in radio education and related media; that every radio station offering these broadcasts should maintain a separate section with its own separate staff, programming material, production facilities and budget; that each radio education department should encourage the forming of student committees which would help plan and produce programs, and finally, that every German radio education department should cooperate closely with foreign radio stations in exchanging educational program recordings.

RADIO Stuttgart broadcast the first educational program of the US-Occupied Area on Dec. 12, 1945. Scripts for this station’s broadcasts are specifically prepared to cover subject matter in the school curriculum and they reach approximately 60,000 school children in Wuerttemberg-Baden.

The next station to establish an educational radio department was Radio Frankfurt, which put its first broadcast on the air on Oct. 21, 1946. The station recognized from the beginning that close cooperation between the Hesse Ministry of Education, the Hesse teachers and the station was necessary.

To achieve better contact with the school audience, Radio Frankfurt, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, sponsored the forming of an advisory committee in July 1947, consisting of representatives of all the schools in Hesse. This committee is a contact between the station, the Ministry of Culture and the listening audience. Among other tasks, it collects suggestions for broadcasts from listeners and individual school teachers. It also gives advice to the individual teachers on how best to use the broadcasts in their work.

Lately the education staff of Radio Frankfurt has felt that still closer
contact with the schools was desirable. Therefore, in the past few months the station has established direct liaison with the schools themselves, sending staff members on regular tours to schools to observe how the broadcasts are handled.

The RADIO station in the American Sector of Berlin (RIAS) started its educational radio broadcasts on Sept. 7, 1947. RIAS approached its programs from a different angle. Each educational broadcast is introduced by a RIAS speaker called Jack who begins with a little talk designed to make the listeners interested. RIAS programs are planned with the assistance of the schools and the Berlin education officials.

From the beginning attempts were made to keep in close contact with school children. Each individual broadcast is presented to a different school class for preview before it is put on the air. This custom was introduced to give the school children an interest in the production and presentation of the broadcast.

To create still more interest, RIAS requested each school in 1947 to select several pupils to become liaison students. In January 1948 all liaison students were called to a meeting, from which was developed the RIAS Schulfunk Parliament. The parliament has given invaluable suggestions to script writers and to stations for improving school broadcasts in general.

Radio Munich was not able to establish a radio education department until July 1947. Between January 1946 and the summer of 1947, it included topics of educational interest in its Radio Program for Youth (Jugendfunk). A group of about 20 Bavarian teachers has been very helpful in the development of the program of Radio Munich, assisting the radio education department in carrying out its tasks. The station has recognized the value of their services by submitting to the teachers, for recommendation, its future program.

The current program contains a series of broadcasts on geography and history which is coordinated with the curriculum of the Bavarian schools. Many teachers have written to the station expressing their approval and appreciation of the idea. In order to support the Bavarian schools in their participation of the program, Radio Munich decided to rent, for a period of six months beginning October 1948, 50 radio sets per month for use in Bavarian schools.

Early in January 1948, the education department of Radio Munich prepared a script for use in the Cleveland station describing the present conditions in German schools. In return, the schools in Cleveland made a