

1855



2005

A day in Flint History



1920: First wireless communication station (radio)

Flint's first radio station was WFDF, using the call letters of its founder, Frank D. Fallain. He was operating a wireless communications station in Flint in 1920 when the station received a communication from President Warren G. Harding for Flint Mayor E.W. Atwood. Among the station's milestones were receiving news dispatches directly from the MacMillan arctic expedition in 1921, a free public radio-phone entertainment at First Baptist Church in 1922, a transmission of a concert to a Flint home where the Shake-

speare Club was being entertained, plus dramatic shows that originated locally in 1928. In its early days, WFDF was connected with The Flint Journal, which in 1922 hailed the "greatness and value of this new invention and the progressiveness of the age in which we are living ... wireless telephony has become more than a fad. It is a craze that has touched all classes."

THE FLINT JOURNAL

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Source: Centennial Picture History of Flint