

HOWARD R. ESTES AND SON, HOWARD P. ESTES Initiated drive for "Ham" license plates (Eccentric Staff Photo)

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Zany License Plates Have Local Origin

If you should see an automobile bearing a Michigan license plate lettered WSELR, or something similar on both front and rear bumpers, don't be surprised. It just means that a "ham" radio operator owns the ear, and the odd combination of letters are merely his station's call letters. A group of Birmingham residents, spearheaded by former showed 1,600 of the plates have State Representative lioward R. showed 1,600 of the plates have State Representative lioward R. it was through the efforts of this group that a legislative bill, co-authored by Eates and Representative lioward of the group of the plates and the state of the service of the service was during the 1988 Royal Oak, was adopted in Lansing to make it possible for ham operators to get their call-letters on the plates.

tors to get their call-ietters on the plates.

ACTIALLY the issuance of these licenses is a civil defense measure. It is aimed at easy recognition of holders of Federal Commission licenses for operating transmitting stations. All "hams" applying for these operate with defense establishments and state police and military forces in times of emergency. The whole thing starfed a little over a year ago when Estes son, township, returned from studying industrial electronics in Milwaukee, Wis.

WISCONSIN LAW allows "hams" to use their call letters on their license plates. During his stay there, the younger Eates had acquired such plates, since he, too, where the control of the

state.

LEG-WORK in the campaign to organize the operators to back the project was over the "Buzzards to the project was over the "Buzzards to the project was over the "Buzzards the project was over the operating, and the project was to the project with Michigan "hams" do their operating, through the state police, the state Director of civil defense, and informed the secretary of state's office of the impending move.

In general, the proposal met with wholehearted support. But, the project without reaching the floor of the house of representatives.

ESTES KNEW he had five supports the project without the project was the project without reaching the floor of the house of representatives.

ESTES KNEW he had five sup-porters of the bill on the nine-man committee, but for some time all five of the men never were at the same meeting of the committee. The bill finally was reported out of committee and passed with little opposition in either the house or senate.

"Hams" apply directly to the secretary of state's office and pay \$2 more than the cost of a regular license plate. Estes states that Michigan is the 18th state to provide such license plates and that his last check

Two Enlist In Army During February

James W. Knight, 1881 Muer.
Troy township, and Charles F.
Williams, 2196 Wycliffe, West
Bloomfield township, enlisted in
the U. S. Army during February,
according to M'Sgt. Paul J. Smith,
Army and Air Force Recruiting.
Both were sent to Fort Knox,
Ky, for basic training, Knight will
then be sent to Vint Hill Parms
in Maryland for training in the
Army security agency.

* Smile a Minute . . .

EVENINGS

UNTIL

NINE

"Tis a hard world," said Timothy, as he quit his task for the day.
"It is that!" said Michael, "and I think so the more every time I put me pick in it."



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