HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

INSURANCE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ISSUED TWICE A WEEK AND CONTAINING THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING THE RULINGS OF THE FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION, RADIO LEGISLATION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE REGULATIONS, CHANGES IN WAVELENGTH, CALL LETTERS AND POWER, PATENTS, EXPORTS, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION RULINGS AND OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST TO BROADCASTERS AND MANUFACTURERS. :: CONFIDENTIAL—NOT FOR PUBLICATION. :: ::



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No. 565



FINEST LISTENING MONTHS ARE AHEAD

by Robert D. Heinl

Static is now decidedly on the decrease and the finest listening months of the year are just ahead. This is a joyful message from E. B. Judson, who is carrying on the work of the late Dr. L. W. Austin at the United States Bureau of Standards. Dr. Austin was probably the world's greatest static expert and under his guidance, the United States has led the world in the study of one of the most baffling elements in modern science. Where other countries have studied static at intervals, the U. S. Bureau of Standards has been measuring the strength of this perplexing atmospheric disturbance continually since 1915.

With the passing of Dr. Austin, his division was taken over by Dr. J. H. Dellinger, who is in general charge of the radio laboratory at the Standards Bureau, and the static research very logically was passed along to Mr. Judson, who for many years was Dr. Austin's assistant.

He is but thirty-three years old, a Washingtonian by birth, a graduate of George Washington University, and served in the Navy during the War.

Preliminary calculations indicate that static during the past Summer was not quite so bad as in 1931. It is usually worse in July and August but last year was worse in June.

The best months of the year, that is the time when there is the least atmospheric disturbance, are October, November, December, January, February and March.

At the Bureau of Standards, they observe static conditions on much longer wave lengths than are used by the receiving sets of the program listener but it is believed the relative results are about the same. Likewise they are able to observe static at considerable distances on the long wave. This has not been exactly determined but Dr. Austin believed that the sounds heard in Washington originated in the mountainous regions of Mexico or from as far away as southwest Texas. The static which disturbs the listener of an ordinary radio set, it is supposed, comes from relatively nearby, something like 50 miles.

On long waves there is a background of continuous rumbling intermingled with clicks and clashes. On the broadcast band static is usually marked simply by sharp clicks.

In the old days when listeners depended upon distant stations for their programs, static interfered much more with the enjoyment of a receiving set than today. This is due largely

to the increase in power of broadcasting stations which now very readily break through ordinary static conditions. Also, the perfection of the receiving set.

With eleven stations in the United States broadcasting on 50,000 kilowatts power, and eight of these super stations under construction, many hundreds of thousands of listeners will have less to worry about. Still, even with the highly perfected receiver of the present day, static does cause trouble because modern sets are more sensitive and while they bring in distant stations, they also bring in an amplified static.

Static, however, has its usefulness. It has already been found to be of considerable service by the United States forest fire-fighters in forecasting forest fires. The relation between weather conditions and forest fires - those originating from natural causes - has been established. This relationship is so definite that the Weather Bureau issues forecasts of forest fire dangers based upon observation into which the presence of static enters.

Static may also prove very valuable in general weather predictions. The Weather Bureau attaches a certain amount of credence to the relation between static and weather conditions. Nevertheless, static is still a very baffling element to scientists, as well as annoying to radio listeners, and for this reason every effort is being made by Government experts to find out as much about it as possible.

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MUZZLED CALIFORNIA CLERGYMAN PILES UP BIG SENATE VOTE

No official returns have been received but it is reported that Rev. Bob Shuler, of Los Angeles, whose broadcasting station was closed down by the Federal Radio Commission because of slander-ous charges said to have been made, polled nearly 100,000 more votes in the California primaries than either William Gibbs McAdoo or Senator Shortridge, Democratic and Republican candidates.

Rev. Shuler announced that he was running on the Prohibition, Republican and Democratic tickets. He won first place on the Prohibition ticket, second on the Democratic, and third on the Republican. The large vote he piled up was credited to his radio following and his campaign manager now declares that Shuler will do a "Henry Field" into the Senate in the November elections. If he does, the chances are that he will endeavor to make it warm for those members of the Radio Commission who ruled him off the air.

Opposing Shuler is Tallent Tubs, a wringing wet, who also knows a thing or two about radio campaigning. Tubs won the Republican nomination by giving Senator Shortridge, present California Senator, a terrific walloping. Tubs, who is opposing William Gibbs McAdoo, intends to use radio freely but apparently is not going to make the mistake of giving his constituents too much talking. For every five minutes' talk, there is to be ten minutes' entertainment. The candidate will draw on the picture studios for his orchestra and talent.

The campaign of Mr. Tubs also calls for State-wide phonograph record broadcasts. These speeches, by proxy, will be heard every night for a month before the election and will cover the entire State of California.

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AMERICANO-MEX STATION MAY INTERFERE

The Mexican high-powered radio broadcasting station XENT, being constructed near the United States border, is expected to commence operation in a few weeks to the detriment of stations in South west United States and with interference to stations elsewhere, according to the Federal Radio Commission.

Station XENT will operate on a frequency of ll15 kilo-cycles and 150,000 watts power. The following additional information was made available:

As the time approaches for the station to operate under Norman Baker, formerly operating Station KTNT, Muscatine, Iowa, before its removal from the air, broadcasters are hopeful that the impending chaos in the Southwest anticipated because of this high-powered station will be averted through an adjustment at the meeting of delegates at Madrid.

American broadcasters attending the international radio conference at Madrid are hopeful that the difficulties may be ironed out. It is hoped that an agreement may be worked out so that stations in Mexico, Cuba, and Canada will not interfere with American stations. The United States has no treaty agreement with Mexico to cover the interference expected from this new station which will operate on an unlimited schedule day and night.

The permit for construction was the largest ever issued by the Mexican Government. Built at a cost of \$225,000, construction is nearly finished. The 300-foot steel towers will withstand 75,000 pounds pressure and have been completed at a cost of \$100,000

HENDERSON DECLARES HIMSELF FINANCIALLY O. K.

W. K. Henderson testified before a Radio Commission Examiner this week that he was financially able to operate Station KWEA, of Shreveport, La. He appeared at a hearing on his application to renew the station's license.

A financial statement placing the net worth of the station at \$425,457 was placed in the record, while Henderson was being questioned. Profits during 1932 up to August 31st, were given as \$30,056.

In addition, Mrs. Will Leonard, of Shreveport, Henderson's sister, said she would help financially if any aid were needed. In response to questions she said she was worth \$250,000.

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WOULD ABOLISH 10-LETTER CODE WORDS

The Tariff Committee of the International Telegraphic Conference voted by 28 to 10 to abolish ten-letter in favor of five-letter code words.

Major William F. Friedman, United States Army code expert, said, however:

"This change should not be considered for serious application yet. The cost of the five-letter word and its method of use have not yet been decided upon and the cost to users may not be radically changed."

To present users has been given the option of using tenletter code words at full rate or five-letter words at a one-third reduction in cost outside of Europe. The Dutch East Indies delegation is proposing to reduce still further the rate for the five-letter word. It is probable that trade names and other combinations hitherto barred in five-letter codes will be permitted. Nevertheless, the general impression exists that the cost, while it will not be doubled by cutting the number of letters in half, will be greatly increased.

The British delegation and a majority of the empire representatives voted against the proposal, while the delegation of the United States, a non-signatory, lent its moral support to the British in the discussion. Germany and Italy led the fight for the alteration which cable and telegraph companies have been pushing for three decades. Formal approval of the decision of the Tariff Committee is a foregone conclusion.

PATTERSON TAKES CHARGE OF NBC OPERATION

Richard C. Patterson, Jr., Commissioner of Correction of New York City for the past five years, handed his resignation to Mayor McKee Tuesday effective tomorrow, and Saturday he will become Executive Vice-President of the National Broadcasting Company.

Commissioner Patterson's action was prompted solely by a desire to return to private business. His resignation was offered and received with regret. He praised Mayor McKee as "efficient and energetic", and the Mayor, in turn, described Mr. Patterson as one of the city's "most capable, efficient and industrious officials."

Mr. Aylesworth, who was at the City Hall when Mr. McKee received the Commissioner's resignation, explained that Mr. Patterson would be "in charge of the operation" of the National Broadcasting Company.

"While I shall retain the active presidency of the National Broadcasting Company", Mr. Aylesworth said, "my new duties as President of the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corporation make it necessary for me to divide my time between the two organizations, and I have asked Vice-President McClelland of the National Broadcasting Company to become Assistant to the President of the National Broadcasting Company. Mc. McClelland has accepted his new responsibilities and will immediately assume his duties as Assistant to the President."

Mr. Patterson's work as Commissioner of Correction has been highly praised and some of the improvements he instituted in the city prison system have been copied elsewhere. He was appointed August 15, 1927, and very soon began important revisions in the operation of the City's penal institutions. He received credit for removing the prison system from the influence of politics. The Prison Association of New York said recently that during Commissioner Patterson's five-year regime, more was expended on city prisons than in the previous 100 years.

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CROSLEY PRODUCES ELECTRIC HEATER AND FAN

The Crosley Temperator, a combination thermostatically controlled electric heater and fan, is the most recent development of the engineering and research staff of The Crosley Radio Corporation. Powel Crosley, Jr., announced that production on this new Crosley electrical appliance for the home was now well under way.

The Temperator provides in one appliance an electric fan and a thermostatically controlled heater. The Temperator is so designed that when the heating unit is in operation, the electric fan rotates at the required speed to assure an immediate and even circulation of warmed air throughout the entire room. Mr. Crosley stated that the first of the new Temperators were now in shipment to Crosley dealers.

NAVY COMPLAINS ABOUT NEW COLUMBIA WASHINGTON STATION

Complaint has been made to the Federal Radio Commission by the Navy Department that the new Columbia Station WJSV being built on the Mount Vernon Highway between Washington, D. C., and Alexandria Va., may seriously interfere with the Naval Research Laboratory transmitters in Anacostia, a suburb of Washington. The Naval Research Laboratory, which is doing some of the Government's most important work in short wave and other phases of wireless communication, is located just across the Potomac River and only about one mile from the new site of WJSV. Likewise the new Columbia station is only about 3 miles away from the giant naval radio towers at Arlington.

The Columbia station is so nearly completed that testing will begin October 10th and regular broadcasts are scheduled to start Thursday, October 20th, at which time it will take over the programs now carried by Station WMAL. If the complaint of the Navy Department should cause the Radio Commission to order Columbia to move the station to another site, it would entail a loss of upwards of \$50,000 which it is said the company has already spent on building a transmitter house, antenna towers, and ground system. This does not take into consideration the 15 year lease on the land.

Although the Federal Radio Commission was reported to have approved the site, it was said that the Navy radio people at Anacostia didn't know anything about it until one day they happened to look over and saw the towers of the new station. It is alleged to be a blunder on the part of the Radio Commission in allowing a commercial station to be erected on this site.

"It will play the devil with us", a Navy official said.

"The new station so close at hand broadcasting with 10,000 watts power will cover our entire spectrum. It would cost an immense sum of money to shiled ourselves from this, if it can be done at all. It would seriously interfere with the radio work the laboratory is doing no matter how much shielding were done."

The Navy Department asserts the service has put millions of dollars into the construction and equipment at the laboratory at Bellevue, where scientific work of a secret character is carried forward. Naval authorities said that before the Radio Commission was set up, the law prescribed that no radio station could be erected within 50 miles of Bellevue.

"While it is true that the Naval Research Laboratory will probably receive a strong signal from WJSV on our broadcasting frequency of 1460 kilocycles, I believe because of the precautions we are taking otherwise, that there will be no serious difficulty", said Harry Butcher, Washington representative of Columbia.

"We are shielding the transmitter in an effort to prevent them from receiving our harmonics", Mr. Butcher continued, "which is the thing they are afraid of. Also we are shielding the leads down from the antenna. In fact, we are doing everything scientifically possible to suppress these harmonics. The Naval Research Laboratory claimed that WJSV at the old location at Mount Vernon Hills, south of Alexandria, bothered them at times but it was not adequately shielded as the new station will be.

"If any harmonics are emitted by WJSV from the new location, they will be of less than one watt voltage which will not be enough to cause any trouble. I do not believe the Radio Commission will cause us to move our transmitter since it has already approved the site and we have spent such a large amount of money."

Before the new WJSV site was chosen, engineers tested for many months in order to determine upon the best location, which required that the station be near enough to adequately cover the National Capital but yet remain in Virginia, in which State it is licensed and for which reason it is allowed to use 10,000 watts power. Stations WRC and WMAL in Washington only broadcast with 500 watts. WBAL, Baltimore, and WJSV with 10,000 watts are two of the highest powered stations in this part of the country.

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RCA FACSIMILE WEATHER MAP TEST

New radio apparatus, designed for the reception in facsimile of weather maps and other information and data of value to ships' officers and passengers, will be tested in actual use during the eastward passage of the SS "President Harding", now enroute to English and continental ports. The United States Lines, the Radiomarine Corporation of America and the United States Weather Bureau will cooperate in this test, in which the new apparatus will be employed to provide the ship's officers with daily weather information of more detailed nature than is obtainable by other means.

One of the most interesting innovations of the new equipment is that it will employ the diversity method of reception.

Antennas fore and aft on the "President Harding" will serve as signal collectors for two separate superheterodyne receivers, the outputs of which will be combined in a common amplifier.

Another feature will be the use of the new RCA "carbon recorder" method of transcribing the facsimile radio signals into a visible image. In this, a metal stylus moves over a sheet of carbon paper and makes the image visible on a sheet of paper. This is very much simpler than the usual laboratory method of facsimile reception and it accommodates itself to the compact design that is common to all marine equipment. The recorder is fed from continuous rolls of paper and carbon tissue, which permits the quickest possible preparation for the reception of a picture.

NEW PUERTO RICAN STATION

Almost at the same time radio communication with that island was cut off by the hurricane, approval of an application for the construction of a new radio station at San Juan, Puerto Rico, was recommended to the Federal Radio Commission in a report of the Chief Examiner, Ellis A. Yost, just made public.

The application was made by Roberto Mendez, of San Juan, who requests an assignment of 1370 kilocycles frequency and 100 watts power, and unlimited time. The people of San Juan, the report stated, are not receiving full time radio broadcasting service and no objectionable interference is expected to result from the operation of the proposed station.

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RAMSAY DOES HIS LITTLE STUNT OVER

by Don Craig, Jr.

There was only one thing which could stop Columbia from carrying Ramsay MacDonald at 4 P.M. one afternoon last week. And it did.

Columbia had been trying for months to land the famous British Premier for a talk to America. A few days before, MacDonald's office called Cesare Searchinger, Columbia's foreign representative, and informed him that MacDonald was going to talk on the BBC at 4 P.M. (our time) and Columbia could have it if it so desired.

Searchinger cabled New York. The New York officials almost broke their necks accepting. Then they sent the order out to the program department - "Cancel everything short of President Hoover, himself!"

The program department set about sending out a matter of fact order to kill all programs between 4 and 4:30. Then the realization came. Hoover was booked to talk from the new Post Office Building here (in Washington) at exactly 4 P.M.

Telephone wires began to burn between Washington and New York. Cables flew back and forth across the Atlantic. But nothing could be done about it. So far as Columbia was concerned, the two most important personages in the world were scheduled for exactly the same instant.

Finally Columbia determined upon a bold move. There was no changing of Hoover's time. And Ramsay could hardly refuse to give way to the President of the United States in an American program. So they radioed a request to London. And when the American audience heard MacDonald the day President Hoover spoke, it was a repetition of his speech half an hour later especially for Columbia.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION

Sept. 26 - WLBC, Donald A. Burton, Muncie, Indiana, J.P. to move transmitter locally; KGGM, New Mexico Broadcasting Co., Albuquerque, N. M., C.P. to change transmitter to different part of same building and changes in equipment; KUJ, KUJ, Inc., Walla Walla, Wash., modification of license to change hours of operation from daytime to unlimited.

The following applications were returned to the applicants: Joseph De Palma, Jeannette, Pa., C.P. for new station on 590 kcs. (violation Rule 120); WPG, WPG Broadcasting Corp., Atlantic City, N. J., modification of license for additional specified hours of operation (Rule 43 - violation Rule 6); Carrington Bros., Eagle Pass, Texas, C.P. for new station on 1210 kc.s (Violation Rule 6); America's Wage Earners Protective Conference, C.P. for new station on 1100 kcs. (Violation Rule 6).

Applications Other Than Broadcasting

WIEG, Knickerbocker Broadcasting Co., portable, license covering C.P. for 2342 kc., 1 w., broadcast pick-up service; W9XAL, First National Television Corp., Kansas City, Mo., license covering C.P. for 2200-2300 kc., 500 w., visual broadcasting station; N10XAF, Larry L. Smith, portable in State of Kentucky, renewal of general experimental license for 2398 kc., 5 w.; W1XF, Chas. Newton Kraus, on police car, E. Providence, R. I., license covering C.P. for 60000-400000 kc., 4 w., general experimental station; KGPA, Seattle Police & Fire Department, Seattle, Wash., C.P. to install new equipment, 2414 kc., 250 w., municipal police station; WHG, Aeronautical Radio, Inc., Columbus, Ohio, C.P. for change in location of transmitter to TWA Hangar, Municipal Airport, aeronautical station.

There were also received 264 applications for amateur licenses.

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DECISIONS OF THE FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION

Applications Granted (Sept. 27, 1932)

WMIL, Arthur Faske, Brooklyn, N. Y., authority to install automatic frequency control; KOCW, Okla. College for Women, Chickasha, Okla., authority to remain silent pending action on application being submitted to install new equipment; WLVA, Lynchburg Broadcasting Corp., Lynchburg, Va., authority to operate simultaneously with Station WBTM at Danville, Va., every P.M. during World Series; WBTM, Piedmont Broadcasting Corp., Danville, Va. authority to operate simultaneously with WLVA at Lynchburg, every P.M. during World Series; WHBD, F. P. Moler, Mt. Orab, Ohio, authority to remain silent for period of 45 days pending filing of application for voluntary assignment of license to the Southern Ohio

Broadcasting Corp. and arrangement of the estate of Clarence J. Hayes, deceased; WGCM, Lake Superior Broadcasting Co., Inc., Marquette, Mich., authority to resume operation October 1st, and to reduce hours of operation temporarily; WESG, W. Neal Parker & Herbert H. Metcalfe, Glens Falls, N. Y., 60 day extension of special authority to suspend operation, which expired Sept. 15th; KGU, Marion A. Mulrony & Advertiser Publishing Co., Ltd., Honolulu, T.H., authority to operate 2½ hours additional on nights of Oct. 1 and November 8 in order to broadcast election returns; KUMA, Albert H. Schermann, Yuma, Ariz., special authorization to operate from 9 P.M. to 12 midnight, MST, Nov. 1 and 8th; WACM, Aroostook Broadcasting Corp., Presque Isle, Maine, special authorization to operate from 2 to 3 P.M., EST, Sept. 28, and subsequent days on which World Series are played; also to operate from 7 P.M. to 12 midnight, November 8th; WNAD, University of Okla., Norma, Okla., authority to operate from 1:45 to 5 P.M., CST, Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and Nov. 19, probided Station KGGF remains silent; KGCX, First State Bank of Vida, Wolf Point, Mont., special authority to operate from 1:30 A.M. to 12 noon, MST, Sept. 28, 29 and 30, 1932.

Also, WIXAK, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., modification of general experimental licenses for additional frequencies of 23100, 25700, 26000, 27100, 34600, 41000, 60000-400000 and above; Press Wireless, Inc.: WJP, Hicksville, N. Y., modification of license for additional frequency of 11640 kc. at Hicksville until Dec. 1 under same conditions as now govern its use at KDG; KDG, modification of license for additional frequencies 19470 kc., for use until Dec. 1, 1932; KHKQJ, Pan American Airways, Inc., NC-664-M, aviation license, frequencies: 333 kc., international air calling frequency to be used only beyond limits of U.S., 500 kc., international calling and distress frequency, 1708 kc., direction-finding; 2870, 3082.5, 5692.5, 8220, 12330, 16440 kc., unlimited, 5405 day only, 12 watts; W9XI, Chicago Federation of Labor, portable and mobile, general experimental license 60000-100000 kc., 30 watts; W6XAP, Airfan Radio Corp., Ltd., Portable — San Diego, Cal., general experimental license, 60000-400000 kc., 6 watts; W9XL, American Radio News Corp., Tinley, Park, Ill., ren. of special experimental license, frequencies 7625, 7640, 9230, 9390, 10090 kc., 500 watts.

Also, <u>KIET</u>, Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co., Portable - for use on San Francisco Bay & Los Angeles Harbor, renewal of license to Oct. 1, 1933 (radio compass calibration) 375 kc., 500 watts; Harvard Seismograph Station, Geological Museum, portable, extension of time to complete 4 geophysical stations; <u>Pan American Airways</u>; 7 Planes - NC-153-H, 154-H, 174-H, 539-V, 9153, 9190, 9193, 490-H, 9745, 155-H, 780-E, 90 day authority to operate radio equipment in 11 aircraft, seven of which have formerly been licensed; <u>Alexander Blair</u>: W4PGB, Portable in Florida, portable amateur license for emergency purposes in case of disastrous storm in southern areas of Florida; <u>W4LS</u>, Red Hill, Fla., amateur station license.

Renewal Of Licenses

The following stations were granted renewal of broadpast licenses for the regular period: WOAX, Trenton, N. J., WODA,
Paterson, N. J.; WWVA, West Va. Broadcasting Corp., Wheeling, W. Va.
renewal of license for auxiliary, on a temporary basis subject to
such action as the Commission may take on licensee's pending
application for renewal; KFWI, Radio Entertainments, Ltd., and
KVOA, Robert M. Riculfi, Tucson, Ariz., temporary renewal of
license, and designated application for hearing.

Ratification Of Acts Of Commissioners

WFDA, Mackay Radio & Telg. Co., aboard "SS Lansing", granted 60 day authority to operate station aboard "SS Lansing", pending receipt of formal application; KFZS, Radiomarine Corp. of America, New York, 60 day authority to operate transmitter aboard Motor Yacht "Mascotte", 200 watts, frequency range 313 to 500 kc., pending receipt of formal application; WKEB, Radiomarine Corp. of America, aboard vessel "Seatrain New York", granted temporary authority (60 day) to operate aboard vessel "Seatrain New York", frequency range 313 kc., to 500 kc., 200 watts, and 17100 to 8200 kc., 100 watts; KOLL, Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co., New Orleans, granted temporary authority to operate aboard vessel "Devalle Ex Claverack" pending receipt of license; WHAS, Courier-Journal Co., and The Louisville Times Co., Louisville, Ky., granted 10 day extension to test equipment; WIBX, WIBX, Inc., Utica, N. Y., denied request to use 950 kc., with 250 watts both day and night from Sept. 24 to Nov. 10 inclusive; KMBC, Midland Broadcasting Co. Kansas City, Mo., authority heretofore granted to move transmitter from Independence, Mo. to Kansas City, Kans., suspended, and application set for hearing, because of protest filed by WIBW, Topeka, Kans.; KGW, Oregonian Publishing Co., Portland, Ore., denied request to direct Station KTAR to operate 2 weeks from Sept. 25 from 12 midnight to 3 A.M.

Miscellaneous

WWAE, Hammond-Calumet Broadcasting Corp., Hammond, Ind., denied authority to operate simultaneously from 7 to 9 P. M. CST, each night during political campaign; KFBI, Farmers& Bankers Life Insurance Co., Abilene, Kans., application for additional time, heretofore set for hearing, was withdrawn at request of applicant without prejudice.

Set For Hearing

RTHS, Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, Hot Springs Nat Park, Ark., requests special authority to change frequency from 1040 to 970 kc., during daytime only, and to operate a maximum of 8 hours during that period from 6 A.M. CST, to local sunset on experimental basis, share with KRLD at night; KRLD, KRLD Radio Corp, Dallas, Tex., requests special authority to increase hours of operation experimentally, from sharing with KTHS to unlimited daytime, and sharing with KTHS at night.

217 new, 42 renewals and 35 modifications granted - amateurs.