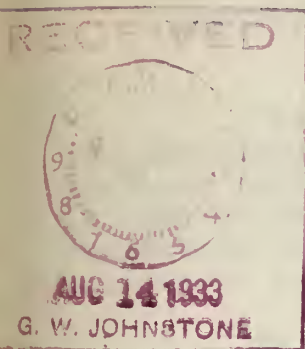


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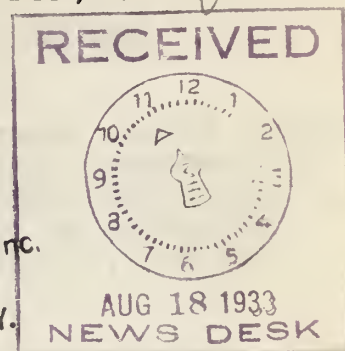
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LAFOUNT OPTIMISTIC WITH REGARD TO FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

"New contracts for the sale of time already signed insure the successful operation of almost all Western radio broadcasting stations during the coming Fall and Winter", Commissioner Harold A. Lafount declared, upon returning to his desk after an extensive inspection trip of broadcasting, police, communication, and all classes of radio stations.

Mr. Lafount sounded a loud note of optimism regarding the financial outlook for radio stations, and expressed gratification over the disposition of licensees to cooperate willingly and anxiously in the work of the N.R.A.

His conclusions are based on visits to 36 cities in 11 Western States by rail, auto and airplane, between July 1 and August 7. Thirty-four of the cities are in the Fifth Radio Zone from which he was appointed. On his trip, Mr. Lafount conferred with 107 broadcasters, 69 licensed operators, 44 program directors, officers of 12 amateur organizations and with 34 individuals who were contemplating filing applications for permits to construct and operate broadcasting stations in the Fifth Zone. He also visited 9 police radio stations, conferred with representatives of Teachers and Parents' Organizations, and numerous listeners; Welfare Organizations, Chambers of Commerce, Commercial Clubs, Breakfast Clubs, and Advertising Agencies.

He held conferences also with several manufacturers and distributors of radio equipment and local officials of radio communication companies. He inspected a number of their transmitting plants.

During the period of unsatisfactory business conditions, Mr. Lafount observed, broadcasters in the Western and Pacific Coast States have suffered financially, although generally speaking they have maintained a high standard of programs. The sacrifices on the part of broadcasters are keenly appreciated by the listening public. He added:

"The general trend, particularly on the part of the smaller stations, has been towards transcriptions, and high class recorded programs, although many stations present 'live talent' programs almost exclusively."

Mr. Lafount denounced price cutting which he said is engaged in by only a few stations he visited and severely criticized the practice of stations selling time on the basis of payment per inquiry. This, he declared, in his personal opinion, to be unethical, and unfair competition and engaging by stations in business other than that of advertising by radio and broadcasting.

Mr. Lafount also commented upon the fact that in a number of States, the smaller stations are organizing State units.

In referring to long sales talks by advertisers, Mr. Lafount said: "It is an exception rather than the rule and many stations will not permit lengthy sales talks."

Mr. Lafount was loud in his praise of the equipment used by Western stations, saying: "It is interesting to note the trend towards improved antennae. Everywhere stations are studying this question with a view to making such changes in antennae as may increase their signals and service areas. Station owners generally are so pleased with the results of their new monitoring equipment that they are now seeking improvements along other lines, and the trend at the moment is towards improved antennae."

Mr. Lafount was likewise very enthusiastic over the work being accomplished by police radio stations. He believes that they are contributing much towards the apprehension of criminals, and in the reduction of crime. This is one of the most important public services that radio can render, he believes.

Mr. Lafount is more enthusiastic than ever before over the American radio system and is convinced it is far superior to that of any other country.

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NAB TO RUSH CODE THROUGH

The National Association of Broadcasters expects to have its code in the hands of General Johnson within the next two weeks. Every effort will be made to expedite its preparation. To this end there will be an important meeting Monday morning (August 14) at the St. Regis Hotel in New York. It will be attended by Alfred J. McCosker, President of the NAB, Frank M. Russell, Vice-President of the National Broadcasting Co. in Washington, Harry C. Butcher, Washington representative of Columbia, G. A. Richards, WJR, Detroit, John Sheppard III, WNAC, Boston, I. I. Buckwalter, WGAL, Lancaster, Pa., Leo Tyson, KHJ, Los Angeles, and Quin Ryan, WGN, Chicago.

"The Code will be worked out in the sunshine", said Mr. Loucks. "There will be no secret meetings. Each zone and class of station is represented on the committee and I imagine this committee will be expanded to include the entire Board inasmuch as the Board will eventually have to pass on it. The idea is to have somebody to speak for all classes of stations."

The New York gathering will have in front of it all the information secured from the recent questionnaires sent out by the National Association of Broadcasters such as hours of work, wages, etc. Likewise, it will have the general rules of the NRA and from this they expect to be able to decide upon the proper procedure.

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MEXICAN FAILURE POSTPONES REALLOCATION

Radio station owners greeted the failure of the North American Radio Conference in Mexico City with sighs of relief. The conference ended on August 9th when the American delegation is supposed to have refused to yield to Mexico's demands for a dozen exclusive channels.

The feeling of relief grows out of the realization that there will be no immediate reallocation of broadcasting stations by the Federal Radio Commission and that all stations are relatively secure on the present assignments, for the time being. They regret the failure of the conference because it allows Mexico and other Latin-American nations to build new stations, undeterred by any international agreement, which must operate on "pre-empted" channels with probable serious interference to stations in this country.

Had an agreement been reached, a widespread reallocation in this country, possibly as drastic as the 1928 shift, in which 95 per cent of the stations were involved, would have been inevitable. The Commission would have been forced to clear certain wave lengths to permit their use in Mexico and Central America, and the realignment would have been necessitated to find other spots for those dislodged American stations.

The American delegation ^{is expected} to arrive in Washington Monday. At the State Department it was said that Mexico's demands for facilities were untenable, since to meet them would have seriously crippled broadcasting in this country. It was indicated, however, that the nations concerned may be able to compose their differences later. Fernandor Coronado, Chairman of the Conference, said: "In the future we hope to reach agreement on broadcasting matters, which was the stumbling block of this gathering."

The official statement from the State Department reads as follows:

"The Department was informed this morning by the Chairman of the Delegation to the North American Radio Conference, which has been meeting in Mexico City during the past four weeks, that the Conference had adjourned yesterday morning, August ninth. A report was unanimously adopted recommending the following:

"1. Allocation and regulations covering use of non-broadcasting frequencies similar to our proposals. The proposal submitted by this Government allocated frequencies to non-broadcasting services, such as mobile, radio beacons, air, for amateurs, etc.

"2. Ten kilocycle separation, fifty cycle tolerance and assignments in multiples of ten for broadcasting stations as now practiced in the United States. This will eliminate the assignment of mid-channel frequencies as at present practiced by Mexico. The

result will be that the interference caused by each powerful Mexican station will now probably affect only one American frequency instead of two, as has been the case with some of the assignments now in force. The agreement to maintain assigned frequencies within a tolerance of plus or minus fifty cycles is in line with the present Federal Radio Commission rule. The enforcement of this provision will be very helpful in eliminating interference.

"3. Use of directional antennae and synchronization where possible to reduce number of broadcasting channels used.

"4. Monitoring by each country of broadcasting stations in all cases to study possibility of reducing interference.

"5. Full exchange of information between governments relating to broadcasting.

"The assignment of broadcasting frequencies to countries was left pending without agreement. Adjournment was on a friendly basis with an expression of expectation to continue cooperation to solve remaining problems."

There is considerable speculation as to whether Mexico and the United States will endeavor to reach an agreement through an exchange of diplomatic notes. Such a procedure was followed in May, 1932, when Canada and the United States agreed on a division of available broadcasting wave lengths. There is also talk of another conference to be held shortly in Washington, attended only by Mexico, Canada and the United States.

In the meantime, it is assumed that XER, Dr. Brinkley's 75,000 watt station just across the border will continue on the air and that Norman T. Baker's 150,000 watt station XENT at Nueva Laredo will be allowed to open up. Both Brinkley and Baker's stations were closed down in the United States on medical complaints. Former Vice-President Curtis, who represented Brinkley in Mexico City during the Conference, is said to have made friends for him down there with an improved feeling towards Brinkley resulting.

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SOCIALIST STATION WANTS MORE POWER

With six out of the ten stations sharing the frequency of 1300 kilocycles using 1000 watts, Station WEVD, memorial station of New York, dedicated to the late Euvene V. Debs, national Socialist leader, has now likewise petitioned the Radio Commission for that privilege. WEVD is at present using 500 watts.

Those using 1000 watts on the frequency are WBBR, Brooklyn, WFAB, New York, WIOD, Miami, Fla., KFH, Wichita, Kans., WOQ, Kansas City, Mo., and KFAS, Los Angeles. WEVD shares time with WHAZ, Troy, and WFAB, New York.

Owing to the fact that other stations on the frequency are allowed 1000 watts, it is figured that the chances of WEVD for securing the increase are good. A hearing will be held on the case in Washington Tuesday, August 15.

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MUSIC PUBLISHERS' CODE TO BE OPPOSED

Opposition loomed up in the pop publishers' ranks last week against the music industry code that is being submitted to the NRA administrators. As soon as the covenant, which was approved at a general meeting of the trade called by the Music Publishers' Protective Association last Tuesday is placed on file in Washington, the opposition group intends to protest against several provisions in the code and ask Gen. Hugh S. Johnson for a hearing.

What this publisher coterie particularly objects to, according to Variety, is the move made by the MPPA to have itself declared by the administration as the one and only recognized association of the industry with full power and authority to assess costs and otherwise administer the provisions of the code. The opposition group will seek to have eliminated from the code that portion which prohibits any publisher from attending club or hotel room openings or closing or similar functions and which puts a strict curb on what the clause here terms "extraordinary expenditures".

"The standard publishers are expected to have their code completed by the end of this week and ready for merger with the pop men's covenant", Variety continues. "If the standard camp fails to get together on a definite set of regulations soon it is the intention of the MPPA to cease waiting and immediately forward the pop music code to Washington.

"Clause dealing with the unfair methods of exploiting material, in addition to prohibiting any form of gratuity, puts a ban on furnishing any sort of special arrangement, the buying of benefit, dance, etc., tickets, advertising in mail order organs or paying the bill for performer puff advertising, the cutting in of orchestra leader or performers on songs and the attending of night spot openings. Under the same clause, no band leader may make a special arrangement for himself without first getting permission from the copyright owners."

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BROADCAST TOWERS DEMAND BEST CARE SAYS U. S. OFFICIAL

Radio transmitting stations could be improved greatly in general appearance and repair bills would be cut down, if all broadcasters were to paint the towers of their stations at frequent intervals, according to Thad H. Brown, Acting Chairman of the Federal Radio Commission and Commissioner in charge of the Division of Field Operations.

Chairman Brown, in discussing ways and means to improve the appearance of radio transmitters, recalled that the Aeronautic branch of the Department of Commerce demands that all radio towers in the immediate vicinity of airports be painted. He added:

"While this is a matter outside the jurisdiction of the Commission, radio stations, as part of their good will campaign, should see to it that their equipment does not produce eyesores in the neighborhoods in which they operate.

"Believing that it is a good investment, the Commission's master monitoring station at Grand Island, Nebraska, is kept scrupulously clean and painted. All the uprights in and near the station are kept freshly painted as well as the walls of the rooms wherein the valuable equipment is located."

Paint experts say that not only will the painting of radio towers add to the distinctive appearance of a station but it will prolong the life of the towers themselves.

"It is difficult to make an accurate estimate", said Dr. Henry A. Gardner, one of the leading paint research experts of the country, "of the losses resulting from weathering away of metals, but the annual loss of steel alone, due to corrosion, has been estimated to be in the neighborhood of five hundred million dollars."

Dr. Gardner says that "a ton of fabricated steel, worth, say \$50.00 is effectively preserved by probably less than three dollars worth of paint."

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TO TRY 2-WAY POLICE RADIO

After more than a year of preliminary work, a request has been made by the Indianapolis Police Department for an experimental license from the Federal Radio Commission to conduct a series of tests from WMDZ, police radio station, to establish a two-way communication between radio cars and headquarters.

Tests will be conducted under the supervision of Capt. Robert L. Batts. Michael F. Morrissey, chief of the Indianapolis police, and Capt. Batts have conferred with engineers in Washington on the feasibility of the project.

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A-K STRIKE MAY SPREAD

A number of employees of the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Company in Philadelphia struck for an increase in wages and recognition of the Union. Officials of the company denied that a "strike" existed at their plants, but admitted that "100 dissatisfied workers" walked out.

The company said the dissatisfaction arose when bulletins were posted, stating the plant would operate under the modified code of the Radio Manufacturers' Association, as approved by the NRA.

It is planned by leaders of the men to extend the strike to the entire 1,500 employees.

The strike is being conducted by organizers of the American Federation of Radio Workers, which organized a similar strike of more than 4,000 employees of the radio and television plants of the Philco Radio Company several weeks ago.

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MCCARGAR SAYS TELEVISION READY BUT NEEDS CAPITAL

Television is technically ready for broadcasting, but its launching on a basis akin to radio will require quite an outlay of capital, J. B. McCargar, President of Television Laboratories, Ltd., stated to the Associated Press in San Francisco, upon his return from the East.

Mr. McCargar said that his company, which has been pioneering in cathode ray tube television development, has arranged for the establishment of laboratories in Philadelphia.

As to the immediate future of television, he said air-picture transmission will tend definitely toward the ultra-short wave channels with its own separate set-up.

Its general inauguration will be on a sectional basis, Mr. McCargar believes, and chain coverage will be practical only after the establishment of relay stations at intervals of about twenty-five to fifty miles.

Recent experiments appear, he said, to have established that the maximum distance of television in the ultra-short waves is about seventy-five miles.

For some time to come, he predicts, television will be on a regional basis, but if business conditions continue to improve, "there is no logical reason why commercial television should not be launched in the near future.

"In its present stage of development, television is much further along from the point of view of home entertainment than radio was when it was introduced", he added.

The Television Laboratories' process was largely the development of Phil T. Farnsworth, Brigham Young University youth, who at 22 had designed his first cathode ray tubes for both transmission and reception with electrical scanning. The last two years Farnsworth has been conducting experiments for a Philadelphia radio set manufacturer.

Pictures and sound can both be broadcast over the same wave channels, making it possible, Mr. McCargar said, to build combined television and radio sets at a reasonable outlay.

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RADIO WHOLESALERS FILE CODE

The Radio Wholesalers' Association and National Federation of Radio Associations have filed a distributive divisions code for the radio industry. A National Executive Committee of the radio industry is to be created and several divisions established for the administration of the code. These are to be the Radio Wholesalers' Association, local associations of distributors, the National Association of Retailers, local associations of retailers, and service companies and local associations of service men.

Each division is to undertake formulation of a labor code, consistent with the general provisions of the proposed master code. Child labor is banned. Maximum hours of labor for distributors' employees (other than outside salesmen) are set at \$40 a week. There is to be no business done on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays, except in emergencies. Minimum rates of wages are fixed on the basis of classification of labor, geographical location and cost of living. In metropolitan areas minimum wages range from \$15 to \$22.50.

Regulations affecting prices, trade practices, advertising, statistics and records, and rules for the administration of the code are formulated in detail.

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DRAFTED FOR RADIO SERVICE

Floyd Gibbons, mile-a-minute radio reporter and veteran war correspondent has again been drafted for wartime service, this time by Gen. Hugh S. Hohnson, commanding the forces in the battle for industrial recovery. Lowell Thomas, Edwin C. Hill and others will be called upon.

Gibbons flew to Washington from Chicago to confer with the head of the National Recovery Administration to get a typical Gibbons "low-down" on the complicated machinery of the organization. He returned to Chicago by air the following day. He plans to give a first-hand picture of the work of the Recovery Administration.

Gibbons is tied up with a network contract sponsored by the Palmer House of Chicago, consisting of a daily running fire comment on the World's Fair. He wired the Speakers' Division as follows:

"I feel greatly honored at your invitation to broadcast the dramatic story of the National Industrial Recovery Act which I have already described as the greatest and most important event in the economic history of the nation. The Palmer House concurs in your request and relinquishes its exclusive control of my radio appearances for the success of the program. Will be glad to fly to Washington and spend day gathering material. Please accept my personal assurance. I am yours to command in this national emergency."

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NEW 500 KW TESTS BEGIN IN FEBRUARY

Enough water to supply the daily wants of more than 6,600 average families will be used each day to cool the giant 100-kilowatt tubes to be installed in the new mammoth 500,000 watt transmitter plant now under construction for the Crosley Radio Corporation station WLW.

Virtual completion of the huge cooling system for what is to be the world's most powerful broadcasting station was announced by Joseph A. Chambers, WLW Technical Supervisor in charge of the construction of the new plant. One million gallons of water will circulate daily through this cooling system.

The new colossus of the air is expected to be completed and ready for test broadcasts late in February.

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D. C. NRA CAMPAIGN LEADERS GIVEN MILITARY TITLES

The District of Columbia's campaign organization to push the President's recovery program has been formed with Thomas P. Littlepage, President of the Chamber of Commerce and well-known radio lawyer as its Committee Chairman and General. There is a Lieut. General next in command to General Littlepage and the three next important committees are headed by Colonels. Col. Claude W. Owen is Chairman of the Publicity Committee which is responsible for sending the NRA message out through the press, the radio, over poster boards and from theater screens.

The sub-committees of these main divisions are headed by majors and these are divided into ranks led by captains.

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DECISIONS OF THE FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION

Applications Granted (August 8, 1933)

WPEW, Commonwealth of Mass., Dept. of Public Safety, Northampton, Mass., modification of C.P. to extend completion date to Aug. 21, 1933; KGST, Aeronautical Radio, Inc., Kansas City, Mo., aviation license, 278 kc., 15 watts; WSDX, Same Co., Chicago, Ill., aviation license 6495 kc., 5 watts; Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.: W2XBY, NC-952-V, and W10XAD, NC-417-H, renewal of special experimental license in exact accordance with existing licenses; KWW, Joseph T. Bauer, near Chichagoff, Alaska, renewal of fixed public point-to-point telg. license in exact accordance with existing license; Aeronautical Radio, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas, C.P., frequencies 3127.5, 3232.5, 3257.5, 3447.5, 3457.5, 3467.5, 3485, 5602.5, 5612.5, 5632.5 kc., unlimited; 3222.5 kc day only, 400 watts power.

August 11 - WODA, WAAM, Wodaam Corp., Patterson, N. J., authority to conduct field intensity tests from new proposed transmitter location during experimental period for 10 days, with portable transmitter 250 w. on 1250 kc.; KGDY, Voice of South Dakota, Inc., Huron, S. Dak., modification of C.P. to extend completion date from Aug. 21 to Nov. 21, 1933; WMSG, Madison Square Garden Broadcast Corp., and WCDA, Italian Educational Broadcasting Co., New York, consent to voluntary assignment of license to Standard Cahill Co., Inc.; KVOR, The Reynolds Radio Co., Inc., Colorado Springs, Colo., consent to voluntary assignment of license to S. H. Patterson; WGNV, Peter Goelet, Chester Township, N. Y., special temporary authority to operate specified hours August 16 and Aug. 17 provided WFAS and WGBB remain silent; WMBH, W. M. Robertson, Joplin, Mo., special temporary authority to operate from 3:30 to 6 P.M. CST, on September 5 and 6.

Also, W1XAZ, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., E. Springfield, Mass., modification of C.P. to extend completion date from Aug. 14 to Oct. 1, 1933; WPFU, City of Portland, Maine, Police Dept., license for police service, 2422 kc., 100 watts; WPDZ, City of Fort Wayne, Ind., Police Dept., license for police service, 2470 kc., 200 watts; W1XAM, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., license to cover test of 68 type TBF transmitters (Spec. Exp.), frequencies allocated by Ex. Ord. to Navy Dept., and under conditions specified by that Dept. 500 watts; W1XAK, Same Co. (W. E. & M. Co.) renewal of special experimental license, 990 kc., 50 KW, unlimited time.

Renewal Of Licenses

WBEN, Buffalo, N. Y. (also auxiliary); WCOC, Meridian, Miss.; WFI, Philadelphia; WJAX, Jacksonville, Fla.; WKBN, Youngstown, Ohio; WLIT, Philadelphia; WOW, Omaha, Neb.; KARK, Little Rock, Ark.; KFAF, Denver; KFYZ, Bismarck, N. Dak.; KMTR, Los Angeles, KPRC, Houston, Tex., KTAB, San Francisco; WCAC, Storrs, Conn.; WMCA and auxiliary, New York; WTAG, and auxiliary, Worcester, Mass.; KFSD, San Diego, Cal.; KGKO, Wichita Falls, Tex.; KHQ, Spokane, Wash.; KSAC, Manhattan, Kans.; KTAR, Phoenix, Ariz.

Miscellaneous

WICC, Bridgeport Broadcasting Station, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn., granted petition to reopen case heard on June 20, 1933, for increase in power, in order to consolidate case with the application of WCAC, Storrs, Conn., for increase in power on the same frequency. WICC and WCAC now divide time on 600 kc.

KOAC, Oregon State Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., granted permission to take depositions of 25 witnesses in re hearing upon application for renewal of license.

KTAR, KTAR Broadcasting Co., Phoenix, Ariz., granted special temporary exp. authority for period beginning September 1, and in no event later than March 1, 1934, permitting operation of said station with 500 watts night in addition to regular power of 500 watts, for the purpose of enabling practical observations to be made to determine whether or not interference will result from such operation. This authorization is made pending final decision of the Commission on the application of KTAR for modification of license to increase night power from 500 watts to 1 KW.

The following application, heretofore set for hearing, was denied because applicant failed to enter appearance within time allowed: WCAC, Connecticut Agr. College, Storrs, Conn., application for modification of license to increase power to 500 watts.

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