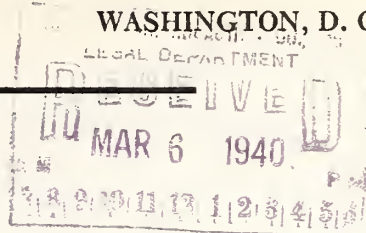


HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

2400 CALIFORNIA STREET

WASHINGTON, D. C.



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"CONFUSCIUS SAY" JOKES TOO MUCH FOR FCC

The Federal Communications Commission was compelled to inform a complaining listener this week that it has no authority to order a broadcasting station to stop putting "Confuscius Say" jokes on the air. A Pittsburgh listener had complained.

This complaint was but one sample of a variety of inquiries and protests that come in a day's mail to the FCC.

A New York man complains that a local station declined to give him time on the air to broadcast a particular speech. Under the Communications Act, broadcast station licensees are not deemed to be common carriers and they may therefore, with the exception of certain broadcasts by legally qualified candidates for public office, refuse to accept material offered.

Another New Yorker inquires whether it will be permissible to broadcast a particular program. The Commission does not have authority to censor programs, and it is not the policy of the Commission to render such advance opinions. It is the duty of each station to determine whether the broadcasting of a certain program will be in the public interest and in accordance with the law.

A Shickshinny, Pa., woman charges that a certain station broadcast two musical compositions similar to those composed by herself. This is a matter of private concern between the woman and the station, and the Commission has no jurisdiction.

Several letters imply that the Commission has "ruled" various persons off the air. The Commission has entered no order denying any individual the right to broadcast, nor would it have authority under its statute to do so.

A McGuffy, Ohio, firm inquires if it can use telegraph facilities in connection with the proposed gift of a carload of onions to the holder of a lucky number. Though the Communications Act prohibits broadcast of "any advertisement of or information concerning any lottery, gift enterprise, or similar scheme, offering prizes dependent in whole or in part upon lot or chance", the Act does not contain a similar prohibition with respect to the use of wire facilities of common carriers engaged in communication service.

A Purdin, Mo., letter inquires as to the cost of construction permit and license for a broadcast station, also for radio operator. The Commission makes no charge for these authorities. Likewise, the Commission advises a London, Ohio, inquirer

that no Federal license is required to cover the ownership of radio receivers in the United States.

A Jerome, Ariz., writer asks the Commission to recommend a radio receiver. The Commission does not maintain facilities for the testing of radio receiving equipment and is not in a position to advise with respect to the relative merits of receivers of different manufacture.

Regarding Government station assignments, an inquirer is advised that the Commission merely assigns blocks of frequencies, as well as certain call letters, to the Government departments, and that these facilities are in turn allocated various activities at the discretion of the department having jurisdiction.

A New York corporation is advised that although vessels of Philippine registry fly the United States flag, they are registered in the Philippines, and their radio equipment is licensed by the Philippine authorities. Various sections of the Communications Act exclude the Commission from jurisdiction in those islands.

Bethany College makes application for modified license for amateur station WSPME with a view to making it a memorial to Amos Dolbear in recognition of his radio pioneering and work at that college.

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FUND OF \$150,000 SOUGHT TO PUSH DITTER BILL

A solicitation campaign to raise \$150,000 to promote the Ditter bill to amend the Communications Act was inaugurated this week by the National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government. Sumner Gerard, Treasurer, in letters distributed throughout the broadcasting industry asked for contributions from \$10 up.

"Your active cooperation is needed in support of the Ditter Bill amending the Federal Communications Act to guarantee free speech on the air and protect your business in radio", the letter stated.

"Intolerable uncertainty, as you know, surrounds the entire industry. The requirement of yearly renewal of radio station licenses places the station owner at the mercy of the FCC and jeopardizes the investment of every station stockholder. This is one of the conditions which the Ditter Bill will remedy.

"Another and more serious menace to future stability of radio, which the Ditter Bill is designed to remove, is the Executive control established under the Communications Act of 1934. By authority of Section 603, the President, after declaring an emergency, may censor, control, dismantle or take over and operate as a government monopoly any radio station or all the radio stations

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in the country. Mr. Roosevelt declared such emergency on September 8, 1939. We are hearing radio programs today by sufferance, when it should be our right.

"What would it not mean to you and to all radio stations, to advertisers using radio, and to the general public, to have this invisible but potentially absolute censorship removed? The public has a right in a democracy to hear all sides of any question freely discussed, uninfluenced by government. Radio should be given the same protection and security as is enjoyed by our free press. Newspapers operate in an atmosphere of security because they know that the constitutional guarantees of free speech have been explicitly applied. The Ditter Bill would establish the same condition for radio. . . .

"Strongly entrenched forces that we do not need to name will work in Washington to oppose this bill. Bureaucratic and political control over enterprise, once established, clings to its power and resists legislation that would curbe it.

"We are confident that if the program that we have outlined is carried through on an effective nation-wide scale by press releases, radio talks, direct mail efforts, etc., public opinion will crystallize on this issue. Once the public understands how important it is to surround radio with the protection the Bill of Rights guarantees to free speech, public opinion will compel enactment of this legislation.

"To carry forward this year's general work of the Committee in support of Constitutional Government and free enterprise, including the cost of special work on the radio issue, our Committee needs a fund of \$150,000. In addition to the very heavy expenditures already made on radio in reaching 967,000 individuals, we should have \$50,000 for use in a special, nation-wide educational campaign to develop public opinion supporting security and free speech for radio.

"We are asking you and others directly interested in the radio industry to help supply this amount. The gods help those who help themselves. Will you fight with us to protect your own and your stockholder's vital interests? We are directing this request to station owners, radio advertisers, advertising agencies, and radio sets and parts manufacturers.

"To meet our budget we must have, aside from the support received in thousands of small contributions, some in more substantial amounts. We need checks for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 and a few for larger amounts."

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UNSETTLED CONDITIONS CITED IN LICENSE RENEWALS

The Federal Communications Commission this week granted renewal of radio telegraph licenses of R.C.A. Communications, Inc., and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., Inc., for inactive circuits on the ground that present world conditions would make it unwise to delete them.

R.C.A. Communications stations involved were KQR, KKW and KET, while Mackay stations were WDY, WKS, WIV, WIN, WIB, WML, and WAH.

The Mackay applications were designated for hearing due to the inactivity of certain authorized primary points of communication, namely, Berlin, Germany; Madrid, Spain, and Paris, France.

"The Commission finds that because of unsettled conditions existing in Europe, public interest, convenience and necessity would not be served by the deletion at the present time of Berlin, Madrid and Paris, as authorized points of communication", the FCC stated, "and ordered that the temporary authority contained in licenses of Stations WDY and WIB to communicate with Berlin, Germany, WIV WAH and WKS to communicate with Madrid, Spain, and WIN and WML to communicate with Paris, France, be retained in the licenses, subject to certain conditions and limitations."

R.C.A. Communications applications for renewal of licenses were designated for hearing due to the inactivity of certain authorized primary points of communication, namely, Melbourne and Sydney, Australia.

"Under the unsettled conditions existing throughout the world, the Commission finds that public interest, convenience and necessity would not be served by the deletion at the present time of Melbourne and Sydney, as authorized points of communication, and ordered that the temporary authority contained in the licenses of these stations be retained in the licenses subject to certain conditions and limitations", the FCC stated.

Because the Polish republic is no longer in existence, the FCC on the same date formally dismissed without prejudice a long-standing application of Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, Inc. for modification of its fixed public service licenses of point-to-point telegraph stations WKS, WJH, WIV, and WAH, at Brentwood, N.Y. to add Warsaw, Poland, as a primary point of communication.

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RADIO EDUCATIONAL AIDS LISTED BY U. S. AGENCY

A new national depository and library of scientific aids to education - the Educational Radio Script Exchange, serving a rapidly growing development of local school and civic groups actively interested in educational radio - this week published its first complete printed list of services for furthering the cause of American education.

The Script Exchange, created by the Federal Radio Education Committee in October, 1936, to serve as a clearing house for Educational Radio Scripts and other information, lists in its new publication the four major services of the exchange. These are: (1) Radio Scripts; (2) Production Aids; (3) Information and Idea Exchange; and (4) Recordings.

U. S. Commissioner of Education John W. Studebaker in his capacity as Federal Radio Education Committee Chairman, said:

"Since its establishment three years ago, the Script Exchange has filled requests for more than 250,000 copies of scripts received from about 12,000 groups in all parts of the country. The steadily expanding service of the Exchange has been made possible through the cooperation of several hundred local educational and civic organizations, Government agencies, and radio stations. These sources have contributed approximately 3,000 educational scripts to the files of the Exchange during the past three years."

Five hundred and thirteen programs selected by a special script-reviewing committee on the basis of quality, and on the kinds of requests for program material which are constantly pouring into the Exchange, are listed in the new Fourth Edition Catalog. Through the Exchange's Circulating Library these scripts are now available to qualified groups actively interested in educational radio. Scripts may be borrowed for a period not exceeding four weeks. There is no charge for this service.

Coincident with the publication of the new catalog, the Script Exchange reports that to date, 4,304 organizations have used series of scripts from the Exchange. This figure does not include thousands of additional groups which have received individual scripts, production aids, and general information. It covers only those organizations which have received at least one complete series of scripts. Data compiled during the survey shows that the scripts were used for production on the air; over sound systems, for mock-broadcasts, in radio work-shops, and as aids to social studies.

The Federal Radio Education Committee was set up by the Federal Communications Commission on December 18, 1935, to serve a two-fold purpose: (1) To work for the elimination of controversy and misunderstanding between educators and broadcasters, and (2) to help promote active cooperative efforts between the two groups.

The Fourth Edition Catalog is one of a series of publications designed to promote more effective local broadcasting and educational and civic organizations. (Copies may be obtained at 10 cents each through the Educational Radio Script Exchange, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.)

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TROOPS LIKE FEW TALKS, MORE VARIETY, BBC FINDS

Inaugurating a full 12-hour broadcasting program service for His Majesty's soldiers, sailors, and airmen on active service at home and abroad, the British Broadcasting Corporation has discovered by a survey that the fighting forces want few talks and much variety entertainment.

The BBC conducted a systematic inquiry into what kind of programs are most likely to satisfy those for whom this service is intended, the Radio Times said. All kinds of evidence has already been received from officers and men of the Navy, Army and Air Force. The Director-General of the BBC has himself visited France to try to ascertain at first hand the likes and dislikes of the British Expeditionary Force and the Royal Air Force in France in particular.

On the basis of this survey, the BBC made various general assumptions, the Radio Times continued. "One is that most active service listening will be group listening. That is to say, the picture that the program planners have in mind is of at least half-a-dozen men grouped round one loud-speaker rather than of a single listener sitting in solitary concentration by his own fire-side. A second safe assumption, arising out of the first, is that light programs will always be more acceptable, the kind of programs that do not suffer unduly by interruption, either by conversation or by the call of duty - indeed, the kind of programs that may even be enhanced by communal enjoyment and a running exchange of comment.

"Thus the BBC offers to this special audience of listeners plenty of Variety entertainment, both from the studio and from theatres; of dance-band programs (from France as well as from Britain); of theatre-organ broadcasts, both from St. George's Hall and from cinemas where leading artists play; and outside broadcasts from theatres of excerpts from musical shows and revues.

"There will be radio thrillers, community singing, students' songs, and all possible kinds of sports broadcasts as they come along. One particular sports broadcast of special interest should awaken the eager anticipation of the Canadian troops; this is the recording for half-an-hour every Sunday evening of a commentary from Canada on the best of the previous day's ice hockey games.

"Talks will be few. They will include two weekly talks on sport, on Thursdays and Saturdays, when well-known sportsmen will be broadcasting. On Tuesdays that very human speaker John Hilton will talk about activities on the home front. Also on Tuesdays, every other week, there will be a fortnightly report, a kind of news-letter, from the Navy and Air Force, to keep the Army informed of what the other two Services are doing and how they are faring. Finally, there is 'Close Up', a feature that will cover all news of the world of entertainment.

"In response to an already considerable demand there will be simple and entertainingly-devised lessons in French twice a week.

"Each day's broadcast will open with a summary of the programs to be heard during the day, and will close with a similar summary for the following day."

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RULE ON DISK ANNOUNCEMENTS MODIFIED

The Federal Communications Commission last week amended Section 3.93(e) of the Standard Broadcast Rules, effective immediately, to read as follows:

"(e) The identifying announcement shall accurately describe the type of mechanical record used, i.e., where an electrical transcription is used it shall be announced as a 'transcription' or an 'electrical transcription', or as 'transcribed' or 'electrically transcribed', and where a phonograph record is used it shall be announced as a 'record'."

It will be noted that this amendment modifies the amendment to this rule adopted January 4, 1940, so as to permit the use of the word "transcribed" or "electrically transcribed" in announcing the use of electrical transcriptions. However, no change has been made in the provision with respect to the announcement of phonograph records.

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RADIO FOURTH IN ADVERTISING MEDIA

Printer's Ink last week carried an estimate of the total volume of advertising in the United States for the year 1939 at \$1,602,000,000. This figure is divided between the various media as follows:

Newspaper	\$525,000,000
Magazine	150,000,000
Direct Mail	300,000,000
Radio	170,000,000
Out Door	50,000,000
Business Publications	50,000,000
Farm Publications	17,000,000
Miscellaneous	340,000,000

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TRADE NOTES

Walter Guthrie, son of F. P. Guthrie, District Communications Manager of R.C.A. Communications, Inc., and The Radiomarine Corporation of America in Washington, has just been elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.

Telephone operating subsidiaries of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation in nine foreign countries continued their gains during January with an aggregate net increase of 6,955 telephones for the month compared with 6,646 gained in January, 1939; 5,776 in 1938; 4,125 in 1937, and 3,493 in 1936. These companies gained 73,521 telephones last year. They operate 844,338 telephones in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, Rumania and Shanghai, China.

The Washington Evening Star on Sunday began publishing a full page of radio programs for the week. The Evening Star, which has a Sunday morning edition, owns Station WMAL.

Gross billings for time on the Columbia Network - prior to deductions for agency commissions and time discounts to sponsors - totaled \$3,330,627 during February, 1940. The February figure brings the two-month cumulative total for 1940 to \$6,919,616.

Radio listeners have given almost a third of contributions of \$465,061 made so far toward the \$1,000,000 goal the Metropolitan Opera Fund, according to Mr. George A. Sloan, Chairman of the campaign committee. Mr. Sloan disclosed that \$153,000 of the total had been contributed by the radio audience and that more than half the sum had come in gifts of \$1,000 or more.

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ASCAP RAPS NAB FOR BUCK'S ARREST

The Board of Directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers asserted Monday that the arrest of Gene Buck, President of the Society, in Phoenix, Ariz., February 22, was part of a campaign of "intimidation and terrorization" by the National Association of Broadcasters.

The Board issued a statement in New York with copies of a resolution condemning the arrest of Mr. Buck on extortion charges and praising Governor Ayres of Montana for refusal to sign extradition papers. It said radio executives had fought for eight years to break ASCAP's collection power for royalties for compowers whose work makes up 70 percent of radio entertainment.

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REPRINTS OF I. T. & T. LECTURES ARE ISSUED

The International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation has prepared reprints of the following lectures and articles prepared by members of the I. T. & T. and its associated companies, according to W. H. Capen, Assistant General Technical Director:

Experimental Researches on the Propagation of Electro-Magnetic Waves in Dielectric (Cylindrical) Guides	By A. G. Clavier and V. Altovsky
High Frequency Transmission Line Networks	By A. Alford
Ultra-Short Wave Oscillators	By D. H. Black
A New Hard Valve Relaxation Oscillator	By D. H. Black
Commercial Radio Telephone Links on Ultra- Short Waves	By E. H. Ullrich and A. J. Devaud
Voice-Operated Level Control System for Telephone Networks	By A. H. Reeves
The Eiffel Tower Television Transmitter	By S. Mallein and G. Rabateau
Theoretical Relationships of Dielectric Guides (Cylindrical) and Coaxial Cables	By A. G. Clavier
Calculation of Triode Constants	By J. H. Fremlin
An Impulse Measuring Set	By A. S. Grand and D. H. MacNee
Automatic Ticketing of Long Distance Telephone Connections	By W. Hatton
Methods and Apparatus for Measuring Phase Distortion	By M. Levy
General Aspects of Telephone and Telegraph Communications in Europe	By E. M. Deloraine

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BRITISH BOTHERED BY SECRET PROPAGANDA STATION

British Post Office engineers are investigating a secret radio station, calling itself the "New British Broadcasting Station", which has been broadcasting anti-British propaganda. They believe it is a low-power station operating from somewhere in a "distant part of the Continent". The station addressed its broadcast "to every Britisher who loves his country". It attacked the British Government and made an appeal to abandon the war because Britain "never can destroy German unity, which is established in the hearts of its people".

Listeners said the announcer was "almost certainly British", but experts doubted that the station was a mobile pirate outfit. They said it was more likely that some foreign country was using an unauthorized wavelength.

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TOMPKINS HEADS BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.

Merritt E. Tompkins, President of Associated Music Publishers, Inc., and former Vice-President and General Manager of G. Schirmer, Inc., has been selected to head the newly organized Broadcast Music, Inc., an enterprise started by the broadcasters to fight the license fees asked by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Mr. Tompkins, as General Manager of the new publishing organization, explained that it would deal not only with individual writers and composers, but also with publishing houses, transcription companies, groups, and associations here and abroad, and with every one who has music available for public performance.

The new organization, which will welcome the works of young and unknown composers, has begun to build up a catalogue of music, which it expects to release on April 1. It also intends to draw on standard and classical works, many of which have been neglected.

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NEW WOR FM TRANSMITTER BEGINS OPERATIONS

Through the medium of the "frequency modulation" method of radio transmission developed by Maj. Edwin H. Armstrong, WOR's new 1000-watt FM station, W2XOR, this week began offering noise-free, high-quality programs to listeners in the metropolitan area.

W2XOR is the third FM station operating on a daily schedule in New York City. Programs of the Mutual Broadcasting System will be relayed from 12 noon until 12 midnight, EST, for the present, with an increased number of hours of daily service planned in the near future. The new station is heard on a channel of 43.4 megacycles.

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CBS NETWORK PAYS TRIBUTE TO WJSV ON POWER BOOST

The story of WJSV, Columbia's station for the nation's capital - a story interwoven with America's history in this tumultuous age - was unfolded in a special broadcast for coast-to-coast audiences over CBS network on Tuesday (today). This program paid tribute to the Washington station as a part of the observance of "WJSV Week", celebrating its increase in power from 10,000 to 50,000 watts.

How Harry C. Butcher, CBS Vice President, introduced the term "fireside chat" as a choice bit of Americana describing the President's intimate radio talks to the country, is depicted in one of the episodes.

The District of Columbia's Board of Commissioners has officially proclaimed March 4 to 9 as "WJSV Week". Special eight-page supplements to observe the occasion have been issued by the Washington Post and Washington News.

Shift from the present 10,000 to 50,000-watt WJSV transmitter takes place officially Thursday, March 7, with A. D. Willard, General Manager of WJSV, at the switch. The newly-completed \$300,000 transmitter in Wheaton, Maryland, on the outskirts of Washington, has three 340-foot towers.

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G.E. DEVELOPS NEW TYPE TELEVISION ANTENNA

A semi-cubical or V-shaped television transmitting antenna which promises improved clarity and detail of pictures has been developed by General Electric engineers and installed in the Company's new station W2XB, in the Helderbergs.

The half-cub-shaped equipment somewhat resembles two large V's mounted one above the other, and is made up of four radiating elements each about nine inches in diameter and seven feet long. Constructed of aluminum, the elements taper at the ends pointing to the apex of the V and are mounted atop a 60-foot pole adjacent to the transmitting station.

The antenna is non-directional in effect and has been found in tests to result in a stronger picture signal than was obtained from previous types of antennas.

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CBS KEY STATION SILENT 6½ HOURS

Station WABC, New York City, key outlet of the Columbia Broadcasting System, set a new record in modern radio for enforced silence Monday when its transmitter was put off the air for six and a half hours by a power failure caused by a storm. Since the break affected only the station and did not extend to the network, the losses in unfulfilled contracts with sponsors were estimated to have been limited to about \$7,000, according to the N.Y. Times.

Ten thousand telephone calls clogged the switchboard at CBS headquarters, mainly from housewives, anxious to learn why favorite daytime programs, especially dramatic serials, could not be tuned in, a representative of the station said.

Station WOR, local outlet of the Mutual Broadcasting System, offered the use of its auxiliary transmitter to WABC, but before the necessary preparations could be completed, the crippled station had resumed operations under its own power.

The only other metropolitan broadcasting station to be affected by the storm was WINS, operated by Hearst Radio, Inc., which was mute for nine minutes beginning at 10:30 A.M., when its transmitter at Carlstadt, N.J., went dead.

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