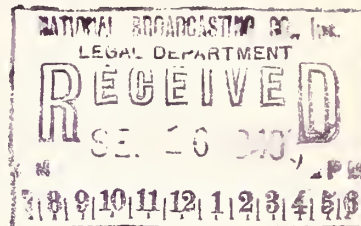


HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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WASHINGTON, D. C.



INDEX TO ISSUE OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1940

777 Of 862 Stations Affected In North American Shakeup.....	2
FCC Moves Down To Memphis.....	5
Baltimore Station Up To 50 KW.....	5
Roosevelt Brothers On Opposite Sides Of Musical Fence.....	6
Facsimile Stations Number Sixteen.....	7
Omaha-Denver Cables Provide More Network Facilities.....	8
New Westinghouse Radio Manufacturing Head.....	8
Radiosonde Service Expanded.....	9
Nazi Hatred For Roosevelt Told By Commentator.....	9
Trade Notes.....	11
New FM Applications Increase Steadily.....	12
FCC Attorneys Approved.....	12

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777 OF 862 STATIONS AFFECTED IN NORTH AMERICAN SHAKEUP

In conformity with provisions of the North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement, the Federal Communications Commission has filed with the State Department its proposed reallocation of frequencies in the standard broadcast band, to go into effect simultaneously with the pact March 29, 1941. The signatory governments are exchanging their respective tentative assignments for final check before making them operative.

Changes necessitated by the Havana agreement will affect 777 of the 862 radio stations now operating in the standard broadcast band (550 to 1600 kilocycles) in the United States. In shifting the United States frequencies the Commission plans but minimum alteration in the present broadcast service.

Here, in general, is how the domestic shift will be accomplished:

Stations now operating on channels of from 550 to 720 kilocycles will retain their present assignments.

Stations operating between 740 and 780 kilocycles will move up 10 kilocycles (which is the engineering equivalent to one channel).

Stations using from 790 to 870 kilocycles will move up 20 kilocycles (two channels).

Stations between 880 and 1450 kilocycles will generally advance 30 kilocycles (three channels).

Clear channel stations will shift from 1460-1490 kilocycles to 1500-1530 kilocycles.

Local stations now on 1500 kilocycles will move down one channel - to 1490 kilocycles.

The chief noticeable difference to the average listener will be that his favorite station above 730 kilocycles will occupy a slightly different place on his receiver dial - usually higher. Receivers with push-button tuning will have to have these controls readjusted for all stations higher on the dial than WLW or WGN. This can be done at any time after March 29th next. It will take only a few minutes to make the necessary readjustments. Otherwise, the general tuning-in process will be no different than at present. The extent of the broadcast band remains the same and station service is unchanged.

However, the correlated shifting of the frequencies of some 100 broadcast stations in Canada, and of numerous stations in Mexico and Cuba will serve to eliminate in considerable measure the long-complained of interference from these sources, and thereby improve broadcast reception in the North American continent generally. Interference from Mexican and Cuban stations has been particularly objectionable to the rural listeners.

For one thing, certain obnoxious broadcast stations on the Mexican border are to be eliminated. These stations are largely run by persons denied the use of frequencies in the United States. They have featured the types of programs which caused them to be eliminated from the United States scene. The Havana pact contains no provision for the continued operation of these high-powered stations just across the border.

The United States broadcaster, on his part, does not have to replace present transmission and other expensive equipment. His chief concern will be to change the quartz crystals which control a station's operating frequency. Though this is a small item, it will take some time to obtain the 2000 or more needed crystals from the comparatively few manufacturers who grind and calibrate them to order.

In carrying out the agreement, the Commission has made every effort "to preserve the broadcast structure in the United States so that minimum interference in frequency assignments would be required." Of course, blanket shifts were not possible in every instance, and certain stations had to be considered individually in their relation to the new set-up as a whole. When a considerable change in frequency was found imperative, the Commission's engineers have striven to provide a new assignment with less potential interference than exists on the present frequency, or the licensee is afforded opportunity to increase his power to maintain substantially his present service area. In making such general re-allocations, however, it is necessary for the Commission to amend its rules governing standard broadcast stations in some technical particulars.

By far the largest portion of the 777 stations which have to shift will be those stations which will move up 30 kilocycles. A breakdown of the effect of the change on the 862 standard broadcast stations follows:

<u>Change</u>	<u>Number of Stations Affected</u>
No change	85
Move up 10 kilocycles	20
Move up 20 kilocycles	26
Move up 30 kilocycles	614
Move up 40 kilocycles	25
Move down 10 kilocycles	64
Irregular shifts	28

Any broadcaster has until October 15th to register his views if he takes exception to his individual assignment.

The practical effect of the agreement is to establish principles paralleling the allocation and engineering standards put into effect by the Commission in 1939. In fact, the existing plan was drafted to meet the changes proposed in the then impending agreement. In preparation for reallocation, the Commission set all outstanding standard broadcast authorizations to expire October 1. This date is now extended to be coincident with the effective date of the Havana pact - March 29th next.

The treaty itself does not specify the changes which must be made in the operating frequencies of broadcast stations in the United States. Nor does it designate the operating assignment of individual stations. However, the assignment of certain classes of stations in Canada, Cuba, and Mexico very nearly controls the assignments in the United States.

It was particularly necessary to provide five clear channels for Mexico which, prior to the agreement, had no frequencies reserved for high power stations in the standard broadcast band. So, some changes in the allocation structure previously set up by the Commission was necessary.

Two clear channels were obtained by taking United States stations on the present 1010 kilocycle regional channel and the present 1180 kilocycle clear channel and reassigning these stations to different frequencies. Three additional channels were secured by shifting the frequencies of stations commencing with the 740 kilocycle clear channel to other channels - 10, 20 and 30, and in some cases 40, kilocycles above the channel now occupied. In this manner a clear channel is provided at 740 kilocycles, another at 800 kilocycles, and still another at 900 kilocycles. Thus, five channels are made available for use by Mexican stations. Canada provided an additional clear channel for Cuba.

Under the reassignments, the United States still retains six local channels. Its number of regional channels has been reduced from 42 to 41. On the other hand, its number of clear channels has increased from 44 to 59, and it can use 15 additional clear channels under certain restrictions set out in the treaty.

The compact is a mutual arrangement to allocate frequencies for the best public service in the countries involved and typifies the high spirit of cooperation among the participating nations. Under the arrangement, lists of proposed station assignments of these countries are exchanged in advance of the effective date of the agreement. This is done in order that any remaining technical problems may be worked out before actual operations begin.

Of particular concern to the United States listener is the indication that the domestic assignments as worked out by the Commission's engineers will mean a very material lessening of the interference which stations in this country now suffer from broadcasts emanating principally in Mexico and Cuba.

The North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement was reached at Havana on December 13, 1937. It was ratified by the four countries concerned. Formal filing by the fourth of these (Mexico) on March 29, 1940, confirmed the agreement and makes it operative one year from that date. Previously there was no real compact with respect to sharing of frequencies by the principal countries of this continent for the best mutual advantage.

The Commission stresses that the agreement should not, in any sense, be interpreted as creating any vested rights to broadcasters in the new frequencies thus established. That broadcast channels are public domain for use in the public interest, convenience and necessity is attested by statute and rule requirement that licenses are for limited terms and broadcasters are re-licensed at stated intervals only upon showing of proper public service.

The Commission entered an order further extending standard broadcast station authorizations expiring October 1, 1940, for an additional period ending March 29, 1941. This order, in connection with the North American reallocations, applies to all standard broadcasting station licensees and extends the expiration date of all such licenses for which applications for renewal have been filed. If an application for renewal for regular operation covering the period beyond August 1, 1940, has been filed, it will not be necessary to refile such application under the provisions of the Commission's order.

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FCC MOVES DOWN TO MEMPHIS

A nice little joy-ride is ahead of the Federal Communications when it holds a hearing October 28th at Memphis, Tenn., to look into the needs of radio-telephone communication on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.

The hearing is pursuant to action of the Commission on May 14th last in announcing suspension of action on all pending applications involving coastal radio stations in that area pending such hearing. The designated place of hearing is to meet the convenience of some 15 shipping companies, as well as other interested parties.

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BALTIMORE STATION UP TO 50 KW

The power of WBAL in Baltimore has been increased from 10 to 50 kilowatts and hereafter will operate on an unlimited time basis. Station WTIC at Hartford, which has been sharing time with Station WBAL on 1060 kc., will also be unlimited but will use the 1040 channel.

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ROOSEVELT BROTHERS ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF MUSICAL FENCE

A newspaper report tells of Franklin Roosevelt, Jr., having recently written the music for a new song, the words of which were written by someone else, which has been submitted to Broadcast Music, Inc.

In a release to all broadcasters sent out this week by the American Society of Composers, the information is given out that Elliott Roosevelt had declared his faith in ASCAP by signing a new contract to use their music effective as of January 1, 1941.

The letter sent out by John G. Paine, General Manager of ASCAP, follows:

"The early bird catches the worm! That's just as true today as it ever was. It's the boys who are self-starters who bring home the bacon.

"Elliott Roosevelt, of the Texas State Network, and Harry Maizlish, of KFWB, Los Angeles, are two outstanding go-getters who are on the job, while so many others are still asleep at the switch.

"They've signed the new contracts with ASCAP and are now lining up additional sponsors. Many others who have signed will also have a flying head start for the new year.

"ASCAP's responsibility to the public is our primary consideration. The public will get its music through these stations, and the great number of non-profit stations to whom we give licenses gratis. The public is smart. It knows that it can dial in and dial out -- and that a twist of the wrist will bring it the music it wants.

"New Year's Day is rapidly approaching. May we suggest that it is not too soon to start thinking about what you are going to use for music, and what you are going to use for profits beginning January 1st? And we don't mean promises of music and promises of profits.

"Meantime, I'd like to suggest that you refer to my letter of June 18th, in which we announced reductions involving substantial savings to most stations, plus clearance at the source.

"We will be pleased to work out your contract with you and to give you every cooperation to make 1941 your banner year."

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FACSIMILE STATIONS NUMBER SIXTEEN

According to a new listing published by the Federal Communications Commission, there are at present sixteen facsimile broadcast stations in the United States. They are as follows:

		<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Power</u>
Bamberger Broadcasting Service, Inc. New York, New York	W2XUP	25250 kc	100 w.
A. H. Belo Corporation, Dallas, Texas	W5XGR	25250	100 w.
The Cincinnati Times-Star Co., Cincinnati, Ohio	W8XVC	25175	100 w.
Courier-Journal and Louisville Times Company, N.E. of Eastwood, Kentucky	W9XWT	25250	500 w.
The Crosley Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio	W8XUJ	25025	1 KW
William G. H. Finch, New York, New York	W2XBF	43740	1 KW
The National Life and Accident Insurance Company, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee	W4XIH	25250	1 KW
The Pulitzer Publishing Company, St. Louis, Missouri	W9XZY	25100	100 w.
Radio Pictures, Inc., Long Island City, New York	W2XR	43580	500 w.
Sparks-Withington Company, Jackson, Michigan	W8XUF	43900	100 w.
Star-Times Publishing Company, St. Louis, Missouri	W9XSP	25250	100 w.
Symons Broadcasting Co., Spokane, Washington	W7XSW	25150	100 w.
United Broadcasting Company, Cleveland, Ohio	W8XE	43620	100 w.
WBEN, Incorporated, Buffalo, New York	W8XA	43700	100 w.
WBNS, Incorporated, Columbus, Ohio	W8XUM	25200	100 w.
WOKO, Inc., Albany, New York	W2XWE	25050	500 w.

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OMAHA-DENVER CABLES PROVIDES MORE NETWORK FACILITIES

Another link to relieve transcontinental telephone congestion and radio network program transmission is in prospect as a result of the Federal Communications Commission approving a joint application by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for authority to install twin all-weather cables between Omaha, Nebr., and Denver, Colo., a distance of 660 miles.

This is the largest single project of its kind which has yet been approved by the Commission. Its estimated cost is \$7,635,000, of which amount \$4,825,000 will be for outside plant equipment and \$2,783,000 for carrier and associated equipment.

The dual Omaha-Denver cables will be plowed underground simultaneously except in metropolitan districts where they will be placed in underground conduit. This will protect the system against storms. Open-wire connections in this area are subject to ice accumulation, which has caused 19 serious interruptions to the existing out-door Omaha-Denver line in the last 12 years. The method of "plowing in" two cables at once has been but recently developed by the Bell System.

The proposed cable route would pass through Cheyenne, Wyo. It is understood that plans are being made for an extension from Cheyenne to Salt Lake City, Utah, and later to the Pacific Coast to further reinforce the transcontinental system.

It is proposed to install a large number of type K carrier systems on the Omaha-Denver link as the need arises. Each K system will provide 12 carrier channels on each two pairs of conductors. One pair in one of the cables will provide transmission in one direction, while the second pair in the second cable will afford transmission in the opposite direction. This system will operate on a frequency range of from approximately 12,000 to 60,000 cycles. These 12 channels may be employed for handling that many ordinary message telephone circuits, or for as many as 144 telegraph circuits. In operation each type K system would be likely to carry some telephone and some telegraph circuits. For radio network program transmission, two or three adjacent carrier channels may be combined to give a single high-quality program channel.

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NEW WESTINGHOUSE RADIO MANUFACTURING HEAD

L. O. Myhre has been appointed Manager of Manufacturing in the Radio Division of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, it has been announced by Walter Evans, Manager of the Division. Mr. Myhre goes to Baltimore to assume his new duties from Long Island City, N.Y., where he was Manager of Engineering and Manufacturing for the Westinghouse X-Ray Company.

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RADIOSONDE SERVICE EXPANDED

Since the audio-modulation type radio-sonde was originally developed by the Navy Department, it has been expanded to include 35 land and 10 shipboard stations, using more than 1,000 radiosondes per month, the National Bureau of Standards reports. The experiments by the Weather Bureau, Navy Department, and Coast Guard during 1938-39 showed the value of this method of radio sounding.

Despite the wide-spread dispersion of the stations in use, only about 4 percent of the radiosondes were in any degree damaged in shipment, and 95 percent of the soundings gave satisfactory records. An analysis of over 5,000 soundings shows that over 90 percent reached heights of 10 kilometers (6.21 miles) and 70 percent reached heights of 15 kilometers (9.32 miles). Laboratory and flight data on the performance of the radiosonde show that the pressure measurements are accurate within 5 millibars, the temperature measurements within 0.75°C down to -50°C , and the humidity measurements within 5-percent relative humidity when discounting the lag in response of the hair hygrometer.

Since the radiosonde was first used important improvements have been developed, such as the simplification of the transmitter, thermal insulation of the battery, refinement of the transmitter and temperature element, so that they can be manufactured to sufficiently close tolerances to eliminate the need for individual calibration, and use of an electric hygrometer for measuring relative humidity. The new instrument is already in service at nine Navy Department stations and has proved to be superior in performance to the older type.

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NAZI HATRED FOR ROOSEVELT TOLD BY COMMENTATOR

At press and radio conferences in Berlin, there were frequent attacks on President Roosevelt, according to Warren Irvin, a radio commentator of the British Broadcasting Company. Before going to London, Mr. Irvin spent eight months in Germany as Berlin commentator for an American radio chain.

"Indeed, I question whether the Nazis' hatred of Mr. Churchill is more intense than their hatred of the President", Mr. Irvin writes in "London Calling". "Some of them even admitted to me, at the time the 'phoney' Polish documents were handed out in Berlin last March, that the object was to embarrass the President and try to defeat him in the coming election campaign."

Mr. Irvin gave this interesting sidelight on Lord
Haw Haw:

"A familiar figure at the Berlin Radio Station was Joyce, known to you as Lord Haw-Haw - because, contrary to the general impression, Joyce doesn't speak from Bremen, he speaks from Berlin. Many of the programs announced as from Hamburg, Stuttgart and other points come actually from Berlin. Indeed, I've often suspected that some of the Nazi 'front programs' you may have heard, with their machine-guns, cannon, and other warlike trappings, are actually produced in the Berlin studio. The Nazis are perfectly capable of such tricks and are past-masters in the art of faking.

"But to get back to Joyce. Though he is the real Lord Haw-Haw, as everyone in Britain is now aware, he has understudies who play the role occasionally. One of them is Edward Dietze, the son of a German father and English mother. In the Berlin Radio Station one night, just after the London papers had disclosed Haw-Haw's identity, I heard Joyce say to Dietze: 'I think you'd better be Lord Haw-Haw tonight.'

"Near the speaking booths from which we used to talk is a small waiting room, a room which British tourists in Berlin may want to visit when the present war is over. Because on the wall of the waiting room hang caricatures of nearly all the Nazi speakers and there, among the rest, is Joyce as Lord Haw-Haw.

"For us, as Americans in Berlin, working conditions were anything but pleasant. One had constantly to be on one's guard against Nazi trickery. They were forever trying to palm off fictitious stories on us. A favorite device was to send German newspapermen around to whisper such stories to us 'confidentially' - but we soon caught on to this trick, and the Nazis met with little success. . . .

"While the correspondents were not subject to censorship, we (the radio commentators) were subject to three. The Nazis won't like my telling you this. It is supposed to be a deep, dark secret; because the Nazis are very anxious to make the world believe that there is no such thing as censorship of news coming from Berlin.

"The newspaper correspondents who 'play the game' are sure of being rewarded; but those who don't are almost equally sure of being disciplined. If the story of a foreign correspondent offends the Nazi powers-that-be, he may find that when next a party is taken on a trip to the front, there will be no room for him.

"Should this gentle hint prove insufficient, he may find that important stories are being handed out to his competitors some two or three hours before they get to him; and if this has no effect, the chances are either that he will be expelled from the country, or, when next he leaves on holiday, be refused a visa to return.

"With Americans, the latter method is favored. The Nazis don't like to expel American correspondents; such expulsions are given too much publicity. Besides, if they did so too often, the American Government might conceivably retaliate by ousting Nazi correspondents from the United States. And, as everyone knows, Nazi correspondents generally have other work to do besides gathering news."

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TRADE NOTES

First under the wire for special authority to broadcast election returns is Station WBAL, Baltimore. To do this Station WBAL asks to be allowed to operate simultaneously on the same wavelength with Station KTHS at Hot Springs, Ark., from 9 P.M., EST Tuesday, November 5, to 6 A.M., November 6.

Station KXOK, St. Louis, Missouri, will join the National Broadcasting Company January 1, 1941, replacing Station KWK, in St. Louis. At the same time NBC will add its 200th affiliate when Station KFRU, Columbia, Mo., joins the Blue Network.

The application of R. B. Eaton of Des Moines for a new television station has been designated for a hearing by the Federal Communications Commission.

In a canvass of 1,058 newspapers made by Editor & Publisher, 19.10 percent are for Roosevelt, 59.47 percent for Willkie and 21.43 percent neutral. Translated into circulation, 5,332,905 are for Roosevelt, 16,387,145 for Willkie and 6,198,821 neutral.

D. B. Van Houten, Manager of the Office Services Division of the General Service Department of the National Broadcasting Company has been named Acting Personnel Manager.

William Gerald Martin, formerly Executive Assistant Manager, has been appointed Manager of the Guest Relations Division, succeeding Charles Thurman, resigned.

George W. Klingman has jointed the WOR Engineering Department. In addition to his duties handling FM operation at WOR's New York Frequency Modulation station, he will also serve in the newly formed Research Division of WOR Engineering Department.

R.C.A. Communications, Inc., at Rocky Point, N. Y., has been granted authority by the Federal Communications Commission to operate an experimental station on the frequency 6950 kilocycles with 40 kilowatt maximum power, to communicate with amateur station WLYA at Orono, Maine, for the purpose of exchanging information incidental to receiving tests being carried out by the University of Maine on photo radiosynchronizing of related emissions.

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NEW FM APPLICATIONS INCREASE STEADILY

Filing of applications continues steadily for the many new FM stations that hope to begin operation around January 1, 1941, under the new commercial status which has been granted to this noise-free, natural-sounding method of broadcasting by the Federal Communications Commission, beginning on that date.

A total of 36 such applications now await action by the FCC, and the first licenses of the new variety are expected to be issued from Washington shortly.

The majority of the applications continue to be for higher powered stations in the 50,000-watt class, planned to cover large areas of population. Among more recent ones filed are the following:

St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo. - 44.3 megacycles
 The A. S. Abell Co., Baltimore Md. (Baltimore Sun) - 44.3 meg.
 National Broadcasting Co., Chicago, Ill - 43.3 megacycles
 WDRC, Hartford, Conn. - 43.1 megacycles
 WJR, Detroit, Mich. - 43.7 megacycles
 Worcester Telegram Publishing Co., Worcester, Mass. - 43.1 meg.
 General Electric Co. - Schenectady, N.Y. - 43.9 megacycles

Other representative applications sent in to Washington during recent weeks include:

WHFC, Cicero, Ill - 47.5 megacycles
 Echo Park Evangelistic Association, Los Angeles, Calif. -
 45.5 megacycles
 American Broadcasting Co., Lexington, Ky. - 44.1 megacycles
 Don Lee Broadcasting System, Los Angeles, Calif - 43.5 meg.
 Pulitzer Publishing Co., St. Louis, Mo. - 43.5 megacycles
 Standard Broadcasting Co., Los Angeles, Calif. - 45.1 meg.
 Capitol Broadcasting Co., Inc., Schenectady, N.Y. - 43.5 meg.
 Walker & Downing Radio Corp., Pittsburgh, Pa. - 43.5 meg.

At least 100 more groups are known to be planning FM activity and, according to FM Broadcasters, Inc., at present are engaged in completing the necessary application forms which must be submitted to the government before a construction permit is approved and issued.

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FCC ATTORNEYS APPROVED

Applications for the following attorneys to practice before the Federal Communications Commission were approved by the Commission: Charles J. Bloch, Macon, Ga.; Kenneth W. Gemmill, New York City; Fred M. Glass, Washington, D. C., and V. W. Thomas, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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