

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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FCC PROPAGANDA LISTENING GETS DOWN TO REAL BUSINESS

With Lloyd A. Free, Director of the Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of the Federal Communications Commission flying to England on the Yankee Clipper to set up the new FCC listening post in London to check on European radio propaganda, the United States is taking a big step forward in the matter of defense surveillance. Peter C. Rhodes, former United Press war correspondent, recently appointed to head the Commission's Monitoring Service's London Branch Office, is accompanying Mr. Free on the trip.

Before he left New York, Mr. Free said the monitoring facilities of the British Broadcasting Corporation would be used by the new listening post, with two purposes: to listen to propaganda broadcasts within Continental Europe, from the various governments to their own peoples, and to relay to this government any information in them of value to the United States. The reports will cover medium and long range broadcasts from Europe.

Explaining that the office would be essentially a part of the intelligence service of the government, Mr. Free declared that "We want to know what the propaganda strategy of Europe is." He pointed out that monitoring stations have been in operation in Washington, Puerto Rico and Oregon. They have been supplying information to about nineteen government agencies which also will get reports from the new office.

Urging the expansion of the U. S. listening facilities, the American Communications Association, a CIO union, has submitted to the Senate a plan, several points of which are said to have met with approval by those considering the Bland Bill regarding subversive activities which the Union opposes. The A.C.A. urges:

The transmission of radio messages would be placed under the absolute control of the master of the vessel, with the location of a master switch on the bridge or in the master's office, controlling the power supply to the transmitter.

Limit ship radio transmission to authorized wavelengths. This would prevent a subversive operator from employing for illicit communications wavelengths not regularly heard by the Federal Communications Commission, the Navy, or the Coast Guard.

It is also proposed that all vessels be required to carry three radio operators, to add to the monitoring service. Operators at sea provide the most efficient monitoring service available to the government, since they are required by the FCC to take down and report all unusual signals.

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Ship transmissions on intermediate wavelengths would be prohibited except when vessels are within one day's sailing of the port of destination. This would prevent betrayal of position, which can be determined by listeners, whereas shortwave transmission does not give away the position of the sender.

All "ancient" receivers would be replaced with modern equipment, since many ships still carry receivers of World War vintage, which give off squeals, and these can be heard by snoopers even when the ship is "silent", or not sending.

Ships desiring to contact shore stations, for instance, would simply call stations for which messages are destined and continue sending such messages without waiting for acknowledgment. Later, when the vessel is in a safe zone or in port, messages could be acknowledged in a general "broadcast" and a check-up on delivery would be possible.

A "telltale recorder" would be installed on each ship either in the radio room, in the master's office or the navigating room. On this recorder every signal emitted by the ship's radio would be set down in dots and dashes on a permanent tape such as is already in use in many commercial stations.

Thus every signal sent out by the "Sparks" or the merchant marine, as ship operators are known, would be preserved ineradicably on paper for the perusal of FCC and naval authorities or any one else interested.

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FRANCHISE TAX STILL ON THE FIRE

The idea of a franchise tax for broadcasting stations is still simmering along at the Federal Communications Commission. It was said that the Treasury officials and Congress might substantially differ from the FCC's ideas on this but that both are in touch so that anything the Commission would do will not conflict with the Treasury - that the FCC can conceivably do the spade work for the Treasury. It was stated that there seems to be an agreement in two main particulars - that there be a tax and that it be worked out in cooperation with the Treasury.

It was further pointed out that the idea of some sort of tax to bear the cost of regulation has been the FCC's "own baby" for sometime. In face, Chairman Fly said the FCC had been working on it ever since he came into office.

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PULLIAM HEADS NETWORK AFFILIATES

Representatives of more than 100 independent affiliated network stations perfected a permanent organization in Chicago last week and elected Eugene C. Pulliam, President of WIRE, Indianapolis, president and a slate of officers and directors to serve until the first convention which will be held in Chicago next April. They changed the name from Independent Broadcasters, Inc., to Network Affiliates, Inc. Membership is confined to independently-owned network stations.

Hulbert Taft, WKRC, Cincinnati Times-Star, was elected Vice-President, and William J. Scripps, WWJ, Detroit News, Secretary and Treasurer. Twelve Directors, in groups of three committees, selected from among the affiliates on each of the four networks, were elected, as follows:

NBC-Red affiliates - Ed Crane, KGIR, Butte; W. J. Scripps, WWJ, Detroit; Eugene C. Pulliam, WIRE, Indianapolis. NBC-Blue - Ronald Woodyard, WING, Dayton; Luther L. Hill, KRNT, Des Moines; H. J. Brennen, KQV, Pittsburgh. CBS - Hoyt Wooten, WREC, Memphis; John A. Kennedy, WCHS, Charleston; Edgar Bill, WMBD, Peoria. MBS - Donald Davis, WHB, Kansas City; Hulbert Taft, Jr., WKRC, Cincinnati, and Leonard H. Kapner, WCAE, Pittsburgh.

The group opposes power grants above 50,000 watts, is a trade body, and is reported to favor a reorganization of the National Association of Broadcasters with the networks excluded from full participating memberships.

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CIO HITS FCC FOR FAILURE TO GUARD LABOR

The Federal Communications Commission was accused in Detroit last week by the C.I.O. at its convention of failing to protect the "rights" of labor to use the airways.

A resolution said the FCC inquiry into newspaper control of radio stations had bared discrimination and disclosed the threat of further restrictions by "anti-labor publishers" and called on the Commission for an investigation to determine how far unions had thus far been affected adversely by the reputed unfair device of radio time.

The newspaper radio controlled station hearings will be resumed in Washington on Thursday, November 27th.

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FCC TO SEE N.Y. COLOR TELEVISION DEC. 1

Responding to an invitation recently extended by Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, of the Radio Corporation of America, the Federal Communications Commission will go to New York next Monday (December 1st) to witness a demonstration of the progress the National Broadcasting Company has made in the development of television in color. Asked if the Commissioners would witness the NBC exhibition only, Chairman James L. Fly replied that the Commission would not turn anybody down who had something new to show but this was the only thing in mind for Monday. He said there was no reason to stop off at Philadelphia this time.

Chairman Fly recalled that there is a January 1st date for adjusting flexible television standards if necessary. Synchronization pulse is still a vital problem. It never has been settled to the satisfaction of the industry or the Commission. Mr. Fly remarked that Philco-Hazletine had demonstrated a "synch" pulse which withstood considerable interference. RCA, DuMont, and CBS, it was said, are using two or three different detailed forms of "synch" pulses. The latest report is that they are not very well set or settled in clearing up this problem, the Chairman remarked, so it is not certain that it can be cleared up by January 1st.

Asked if there would be another hearing on television standards, Mr. Fly said he doubted it unless the industry wanted it.

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PROGRAM FILING NOT NECESSARY, FCC RESTATES

To many inquiries about the availability of broadcast scripts, the Commission explains that it does not require broadcasters to file program material with that office and suggests that persons interested communicate with the stations over which broadcasts in question were transmitted. It adds:

"The Commission has imposed no requirement on broadcast stations that copies of the continuities or scripts of programs must be filed with or retained by a broadcast station; likewise, the law does not require that any speeches broadcast over the air be reduced to writing or furnished in manuscript to the station licensee. On the other hand, there is no law or regulation of the Commission which prevents a station from requiring such a script before permitting a person to broadcast over its facilities."

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE STARTS NEW RADIO LISTING

The Chicago Tribune will inaugurate an expanded daily listing of radio programs, virtually doubling the space devoted to such listings. The programs will be set in nonpareil, instead of agate type, and individual programs will occupy full column measure, instead of two-thirds.

Large condensed numerals will be used to denote hourly listings, with lightface type for morning programs and boldface type for evening listings, similar to railroad timetable style. In addition, the listings will be broken up under proper headings to indicate morning, afternoon and evening listings. The radio program guide in the Tribune will be in excess of four columns daily, it was stated. A "Listener's Choice" will also be included.

News broadcasts will be listed in a separate box and short wave listings will be expanded. Considerably more pictorial material will also be used, according to Harry Wolters, Tribune radio editor. The Tribune has revised its method of listing programs, he said, after a careful two-month study, based on reader interest surveys and public suggestions.

Hearst newspapers in six cities, including Chicago, have inaugurated weekly tabloid radio sections, listing programs for a week in advance.

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AMENDMENT TO COMPEL PRICE CONTROL OMITTS RADIO

An amendment restored to the Price Control Bill in the House last Monday provided for licensing of businesses to sell commodities for which price ceilings have been established. The amendment, however, exempted sellers of radio time, newspapers, periodicals and farmers.

Among those whose salaries the bill would freeze are radio telegraph and telephone operators, and radio announcers, directors, managers and officials.

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"The Radio Amateur's Handbook", Nineteenth (1942) Edition, by the Headquarters staff of the ARRL. Published by the American Radio Relay League, Inc., West Hartford, Conn. 552 pages, including 8-page topical index and 96-page catalogue section of amateur radio equipment. Approximately 680 illustrations and over 100 charts and tables. Price, paper bound, \$1.00 in continental U.S.A., \$1.50 elsewhere; buckram bound, \$2.50. Spanish edition, \$1.50.

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FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR MANUFACTURERS OPM COMMITTEE

Full speed ahead was assured last Friday by Sidney J. Weinberg, Chief of the Bureau of Industry Advisory Committee of the Office of Production Management when he announced the formation of the following Radio Industry Advisory Committee:

Benjamin Abrams, Emerson Radio & Phonograph Corp., New York, N. Y.; W. R. G. Baker, General Electric Co., Bridgeport, Conn.; M. T. Balcom, Hygrade Sylvania Corporation, Emporium, Pa.; W. J. Barkley, Collins Radio Company, New York, N.Y.; A. Bloom, General Instrument Corp., Elizabeth, N. J.; H. C. Bonfig, RCA Manufacturing Company, Camden, N.J.; Roy Burlew, Ken-Rad Tube & Lamp Corp., Owensboro, Kentucky; H. W. Clough, Belden Manufacturing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Allen DuMont, Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Passaic, N.J.; P. V. Galvin, Galvin Manufacturing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Larry Gubb, Philco Radio & Television Corp., Philadelphia, Pa.; K. D. Hamilton, Isolantite, Inc., Belleville, N.J.; W. P. Hilliard, Bendix Radio Corporation, Baltimore, Md.; H. J. Hoffman, Westinghouse Electric Co., Bloomfield, N. J.; J. J. Kahn, Standard Transformer Corp., Chicago, Ill.; L. L. Kelsey, Stewart-Warner Corporation, Chicago, Ill.; R. H. Manson, Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Mfg. Co., Rochester, N.Y.; Jack M. Marks, Fada Radio & Electric Co., Long Island City, N.Y.; Victor Mucher, Clarostat Manufacturing Co., Brooklyn, N.Y.; L. F. Muter, Muter Company, Chicago, Ill.

Also, Harold L. Olesen, Weston Electrical Instrument Corp., Newark, N. J.; W. F. Satterthwaite, General Dry Batteries, Inc. Cleveland, Ohio; Ernest Searing, International Resistance Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; S. N. Shure, Shure Brothers, Chicago, Ill.; Ray Sparrow, P. R. Mallory & Co., Indianapolis, Indiana; R. C. Sprague, Sprague Specialities Company, North Adams, Mass.; Arthur E. Thiessen, General Radio Co., Cambridge, Mass.; S. T. Thompson, Zenith Radio Corp., Chicago, Ill.; and A. S. Wells, Wells-Gardner Co., Chicago, Ill.

It was expected that the new committee would meet at an early date at which time subcommittees would be formed - allocations, conservation, simplification, receivers, parts, tubes and kindred divisions.

Going to the rescue of little business and its problems growing out of the defense programs, Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, who has given the problem study for months, has obtained a promise from the Chairman of the Senate Naval Affairs Committee, Senator Walsh of Massachusetts, that the Committee will consider an O'Mahoney Bill for the establishment of an agency before which civilian business - as distinguished from business producing for military purposes - may have open hearings on applications for raw materials.

Lambasting OPM, the Chicago Tribune last week declared:

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"The Senate did an extraordinary thing on Monday. It adopted a resolution calling upon the OPM to make a full report of its administration of the priorities act, and its plans for relieving the hardships priorities have caused to little business all over the country. The resolution was adopted following receipt of reports from two Senate Committees. One Committee, headed by Senator Joseph O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), had found that there is no serious shortage of strategic materials in this country with the exception of tin and nickel. The other Committee, headed by Senator Harry S. Truman (D. Mo.), had found that but 2 per cent of the strategic materials would save the 130,000 small manufacturers who are being crushed by priorities.

"The shortages are not real, with the possible exception of nickel and tin. The public has been pushed around for psychological reasons. The attempt was to give people a feeling that they are sacrificing for the common good.

"The government by declaring that there are shortages when none exist is trying to supply psychological satisfaction to those who are looking for sacrifices to make. To create the illusion hundreds of thousands are thrown out of jobs. Any one who thinks there are shortages should examine the data of the Department of Commerce. The inventories of manufacturers are the largest of all times - substantially larger than in 1937 just before the inventory crisis which started off a severe decline in business and stock prices.

"Now that the Senate has been told by two of its committees that the shortages are phonies, it should follow thru to see that the 108 industries which have been denied copper and the other industries affected by priorities are quickly given relief. Senator O'Mahoney stated the situation well when he said, 'The fundamental wrong, stated in its simplest terms, is that Congress is not functioning. Congress has delegated the whole problem of administering raw materials to the executive officials in the OPM, who are changed from week to week, and whose responsibilities are not the same today as they were yesterday.'"

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An Oregon concern wrote to the Federal Communications Commission about reports of minority stock changes in licensee broadcast corporations. He is informed that all information shown on broadcast applications, including changes in stock, is open to public inspection. However, reports dealing with finances of individual stations are not made a public record. This is because broadcast stations, unlike radio and wire communication services for hire, are not deemed "common carriers" under the Communications Act.

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ACTION BY THE FCC

Applications Granted - Standard Broadcasting Co., Los Angeles, Calif., granted construction permit for new station to operate on 333400 kilocycles with power of 25 watts, for the purpose of transmitting programs to the transmitter of high frequency broadcast station K53IA; General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y., granted construction permit for new experimental television relay broadcast station to operate on Channel No. 8, 162000-168000 kilocycles, special emission for frequency modulation and aural and A5 emission for visual, 50 watts aural power and 60 watts (peak) visual power, for the purpose of transmitting programs from studio to transmitter of television broadcast station WRGB.

Also, KWKW, Southern California Broadcasting Co., Pasadena, Calif., designated for hearing application for modification of construction permit to change frequency to 830 kilocycles and approval of antenna and transmitter site.

Application Denied - Evening News Press, Inc., Port Angeles, Wash., denied petition to reconsider and grant without hearing application now in pending files pursuant to Order No. 79, for new station to operate on 1450 kilocycles, 250 watts, unlimited time, site to be determined.

Applications Received - WKRC, The Cincinnati Times-Star Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, construction permit to change frequency from 550 to 640 kilocycles, increase power from 1 kilowatt night, 5 kilowatts day to 50 kilowatts day and night, install new transmitter, directional antenna for day and night use and move transmitter; KIEM (Resubmitted), Redwood Broadcasting Co., Inc., Eureka, Calif., modification of license to increase power from 500 watts night, 1 kilowatt day to 1 kilowatt day and night (1480 kc.); KGDM; (amended) E. F. Pfeffer, Stockton, Calif., construction permit to change frequency from 1130 to 1140 kilocycles, change hours from daytime to unlimited, requesting increase in power from 1 to 5 kilowatts, new transmitting equipment and directional antenna for night use; KXA, American Radio Telephone Co., Seattle, Wash., construction permit to install new transmitter, directional antenna for day and night use, increase power from 1 to 10 kilowatts, hours from limited to unlimited and move transmitter.

Also, KOB, Albuquerque Broadcasting Co., Albuquerque, N.M., modification of construction permit as modified for new equipment and increase in power, requesting extension of completion date from 12/2/41 to 1/31/41 (1030 kc.); WNBF, Wylie B. Jones Advertising Agency, Binghamton, N. Y., modification of construction permit for installation of new transmitter, directional antenna for night use, change in frequency, increase in power and move, requesting authority to install new transmitter and changes in directional antenna system (1490 kc.).

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 ::: TRADE NOTES :::
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Christmas buyers will get their old credit this year and radios, refrigerators, metal musical instruments and similar merchandise can be bought for 20% down with eighteen months to pay, the Federal Reserve Board announced November 23rd. Curtailment of installment sales is being studied but only items which compete with defense for materials are on the regulated list.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, who as Coordinator between the American Republics, has been endeavoring to strengthen broadcasting relations between the countries, has been made a member of the Economic Defense Board of which Vice-President Wallace is Chairman.

Ground conductivity of the United States is discussed in the Federal Communications Commission's "Standards of Good Engineering Practice Concerning Standard Broadcast Stations", which is obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at a cost of 30 cents a copy.

The American Network, FM's first chain organization, recently expanded its plans to take in three more members who will also be stockholders in the group. These include the St. Louis Star-Times Publishing Co., the Indianapolis Broadcasting Company, Inc., and WCAE, Inc., of Pittsburgh.

The Board of Directors of the American Society of Composers Authors and Publishers last week voted to extend the terms of the present officers of the Society until April 1, 1942, when the next annual election will be held. President Gene Buck and other officers of the Society will continue in office.

A year-end distribution of 37½ cents was announced by the Ken-Rad Tube and Lamp Corporation. The previous payment on this stock was a similar amount distributed on December 20, 1938.

The Federal Communications Commission has had to caution the manufacturer of an inexpensive transmitter who implies that this workable instrument can be operated by anyone and, furthermore, may be used to communicate with amateurs in Europe. The Communications Act requires every person operating a radio transmitter to obtain a license from the Commission. Moreover, amateur radiocommunication with foreign stations has been banned during the emergency.

The Commission tells a Maine theater owner that there is no provision in the Communications Act or Commission regulations to prevent a radio receiver being linked to theater sound equipment for the amplifying of newscasts by a local broadcasting station.

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Philco Corp last week reported consolidated earnings, exclusive of those of its Canadian subsidiary of \$739,939 for the first nine months of 1941, equal to 53½ cents per common share, compared with 53 cents a share in the like period of 1940 if the same number of shares had been outstanding. The 1941 earnings were after provision of \$1,125,000 for Federal and State income taxes and excess profits taxes.

Arthur Kurlan, producer of WOR's new Sunday night defense show, "Keep 'em Rolling" when asked for a general outline on his production plans, came back, according to R. W. Stewart in the New York Times, with a list of items he will not have, to wit:

1. Raymond Massey in a scene from "Abe Lincoln in Illinois".
2. Charles Laughton reading Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address".
3. Lucy Monroe singing "The Star-Spangled Banner".
4. Singers or actors, making speeches about national defense; or defense officials singing or acting.
5. Guests beginning their remarks with "in this time when clouds are gathering on the horizon".
6. An album of American music built around "God Bless America".

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EDUCATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS PROGRAMS NOT MANDATORY

A college president last week wrote to the Federal Communications Commission asking "what per cent of time in each 24 hours or each week a local radio station is to give the educational, cultural, and religious programs without charge?" The Commission replied:

"The Communications Act of 1934 provides that the licensee of a radiobroadcast station is under a duty to serve public interest, convenience, or necessity, and in carrying out this obligation a station licensee is required to provide the listeners with well-rounded programs.

"However there is no provision in the Act or in any rule or regulation of the Commission which requires radio stations to allot free time to any educational, cultural or religious organization, or which requires that they allot a certain percentage of broadcasting time to such programs. The determination as to whether such organizations shall be permitted to utilize the facilities of radio broadcast stations and, if so, how much time, is a matter which under the law is decided in the first instance by the particular licensee of the station."

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WOR'S FM STATION TO BE DEDICATED NOV. 30

New York City's 10,000 watt FM transmitter and said to be the first of its kind in the country will be dedicated officially on November 30 when W71NY, the FM station owned by WOR, commences transmitting on ten times its present power.

A special ceremony at the transmitter, 444 Madison Avenue, will inaugurate the first formal broadcast by the station's new equipment. Mayor LaGuardia, representatives of the Army and Navy, Maj. Edward H. Armstrong, as well as leading technical experts have been invited to the ceremonies at 8:45 P.M., EST.

Following W71NY's dedication ceremonies, the station will join its new voice to that of its big sister WOR for a special program at 9 P.M. when Russell Bennett, eminent composer-conductor, will trace the history of musical development coincidentally with the growth of radio technique, demonstrating various stages of development in musical terms from the beginning of radio to FM.

An added feature of the opening ceremony, as announced by Charles Godwin, manager of W71NY, will be the transmission of a portion of the 8:45 P.M. program by an electric beam of light in place of the land wire that normally carries programs from W71NY's studios at 1440 Broadway to W71NY's transmitter at 444 Madison Ave.

Charles Singer, WOR's supervisor of transmitters, working in cooperation with the station's chief engineer, J. R. Poppele, have been making intensive tests of light beam transmission to determine its effectiveness as an emergency alternative for land wire transmission.

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SO MR. KNUDSEN DIDN'T USE ANY SCRIPT!

Apropos the appearance of Defense Chief William Knudsen last Sunday night on WOR's new "Keep 'Em Rolling", the following conversation was reported:

PRODUCER: I'll have the script for you on Sunday morning, Mr. Knudsen.

MR. KNUDSEN: I never use a script.

PRODUCER: It's the customary procedure, Mr. Knudsen. Mrs. Roosevelt used one, and so did Donald Nelson.

MR. KNUDSEN: I never use a script.

PRODUCER: In the interests of the program, Mr. Knudsen, it will be much easier to time the show if.....

MR. KNUDSEN: No.

And that was why Mr. Knudsen did not use a script last Sunday night.

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