

JUL 7 1944

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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No. 1636

June 28, 1944

PRESS LOSES HEAVY HITTING FRIEND WHEN CRAVEN QUILTS FCC

When T.A.M. Craven kisses the boys good-bye within the next day or two - June 30th to be exact - the newspapers will lose the best friend they ever had at the Federal Communications Commission and the one who, aided by Commissioner Norman S. Case, probably saved them from getting the axe. If it hadn't been for the courageous fight Tam Craven put up - which in the opinion of this writer might have cost him his reappointment had he sought it - the newspapers would be in a far different position than they are at present. And judging from the admission made by Chairman James L. Fly to the House investigators, even now the newspapers are on none too solid ground notwithstanding the fact the election is just around the corner. Mr. Fly tried to dodge the issue but finally admitted the question of policy with regard to licensing of newspaper-owned stations still remained unsettled and undecided.

Commissioner Craven fought Chairman Fly - and it is believed indirectly President Roosevelt - to a standstill, and maybe that accounts for the best offer for his services coming from the Cowles Brothers, pioneer newspaper publishers, who duplicated this great success in the magazine field and now are developing their radio properties extensively. The Cowles brothers, in outbidding others for whom Gardner Cowles, Jr. recently said he thought was "about the best technical man in the industry" may also have taken that way of showing their appreciation for the service Commissioner Craven has rendered to the press in particular and the broadcasting industry in general.

For let it be remembered that the fight Tam Craven put up for the newspapers was not the only time he kicked over the traces. Here are some other instances:

1. Regulation of Chain Broadcasting

Opposed new chain broadcasting rules on grounds that the Commission (a) exceeded its authority; (b) assumed jurisdiction of the Department of Justice and the courts; (c) rules were impractical; (d) creates monopoly instead of fostering competition; (e) disorganizes radio broadcasting; (f) destroys the American concept of a "free radio".

2. Television

Opposed original stoppage of television operation on commercial basis on grounds that: (a) Commission interfered with scientific progress; (b) Regimented research to accord with Commission's inexperienced concept of technical development; (c) exceeded authority and jurisdiction.

3. A. T. & T.

Opposed Formal Rate Investigations during the war, because it involved time and expense. Also opposed Commission attempts to establish new concepts of regulatory processes. Suggested rate reductions secured by negotiation between the Commission and company officials.

4. Judicial Procedure

Opposed Commission's judicial hearing procedure on grounds that:
 (a) it violated the due process guarantee in Bill of Rights;
 (b) it was unsound mixture of prosecuting and judicial procedures.

5. Investigation Methods

Opposed present method of investigating complaints and of making preliminary inquiries on grounds that it was: (a) Unamerican;
 (b) backdoor censorship; (c) wasteful of public funds.

6. Abuse of Licensing Power

Opposed using Commission's licensing power in a manner which forces licensees to be subservient to the whims of the Commission. Believes the present Commission's rule of radio constitutes Government control of a medium of free speech and is contrary to American principles of democracy.

7. States Rights

In Kansas Telephone Exchange case, the Commission minority was supported by the Court decision.

No announcement has been made as to the exact duties of Commander Craven in his new work. Gardner Cowles, Jr. recently said there had been a great deal of wild speculation and gross exaggeration of their radio plans. It was learned on excellent authority, however, that the Cowles' interests expect to acquire at least one more important station in the East and when the location of that station has been made known, it is believed another good reason will be seen why they acquired the services of such a man as Tam Craven at this particular time.

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RADIO TUBES ARE ALSO SCARCE IN BRAZIL

Radio tubes have been scarce in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, since the beginning of 1944, the U. S. Commerce Department advises. Until then stocks built up in 1941 and 1942 adequately met the demand. Substitutions and rewirings have only slightly relieved the growing shortage, which threatens to paralyze communications. Prices of tubes have increased as much as 500 to 700 percent since 1940. The number of radio tubes consumed and the number of radios assembled in the years 1939 to 1943 are given in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>New Radios Assembled</u>	<u>Tubes Consumed in New Radios Assembled</u>	<u>Tubes Consumed in Replacement</u>
1939	30,000	150,000	80,000
1940	32,000	160,000	95,000
1941	41,286	206,430	101,752
1942	30,254	151,270	102,508
1943	11,700	58,500	85,943

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TAM CRAVEN DECORATED WITH ORDER OF THE PINK SARONG

There will no doubt be the usual cut and dried resolution to Commander T.A.M. Craven from his FCC colleagues when he leaves the Commission Friday, telling him what a great fellow he is and how much they regret his departure (notwithstanding the fact he had kicked most of them all over the place and had made an all-time record for dissenting from their views). That, of course, is a foregone conclusion.

However, the real send-off to him was given in response to the following invitation:

The Malay Club presents

T.A.M. Craven

Retiring Member of the FCC

in

Farewell to Arms

Saturday, June 24, 1944, at 9 P.M.

A Last Supper
preceded and followed by convivial
spirits (cane, neutral and blended),
will be tendered the Commissioner
vaguely between 11 P.M. and midnight.

RSVP - Louis G. Caldwell, Caretaker
2900 Cleveland Avenue, N.W.
Washington 8, D. C.

Exactly what the Malay Club is seems to be a well-guarded secret except that, located a few blocks from the Shoreham, it is one of the most picturesque and interesting little clubs in the Capital. And on this particular occasion, those high in official life, and flight radio and communications officials and their wives turned out in full force.

Of course when Louis Caldwell, former Chief Counsel for the Federal Communications Commission and at present attorney for WGN, Chicago, and others, has anything to do with the skits, they are always clever. The "Last Supper" was no exception. Mr. Caldwell acted as Chairman, Reed Rollo, as Secretary, and Miss Gladys Hall, of CBS, Washington, who was one of the big hits of the show (because she was so little) as "The Malay Club Shore Patrol". Assisting was a large cast of club members. One of the first laughs came when the Secretary read the following communication:

"Gentlemen:

"On recommendation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff adopted by order of the Board of War Communications, the Federal Communications Commission feels that it has exclusive jurisdiction over the subject-matter of the Last Supper. I decline to state my reasons since they involve considerations of national defense and military security.

J. Lawrence Fly, Chairman

Case and Craven, dissenting."

When the Secretary asked:

"What does one do at a last supper?", the reply was:

"O, you break bread and you drink whiskey. If there isn't enough to go around, why, you have a miracle or take rum. I started out with a fish course. How about some mackerel in the moonlight, Mr. Secretary?

Secretary: I regret to say that the supply was exhausted at the expense of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Chairman: Members of the Malay Club, since we have no fish, what will you have for your Last Supper?

Chorus: We - want - Craven!

Chairman: Go slow, boys and girls, he's fifty years old and a grandfather. He might be a little tough. How'll you have him?

Shore Patrol: I'd like him raw, sir. He's so handsome.

Chairman: Wait a minute, wait a minute. What has this man Craven done to justify being the piece of resistance at this Last Supper?

Secretary: Mr. Chairman, I've looked him up in Who's Who in Langley, Va. His social standing is excellent in the community. He's a member of the Federal Communications Commission.

Chairman: Can you prove that? What's that large volume?

Secretary: Those are the dissenting opinions of Commissioner T.A.M. Craven, according to the last edition of the Commission's minutes. For an engineer, he's a great lawyer. Freedom of speech; due process of law, public interest, convenience and necessity, and all that sort of thing.

Chairman: That may all very well be, but what has that to do with a Last Supper for the Commissioner?

Secretary: You don't understand. The Commissioner is saying "Farewell to Arms".

Chairman: There's nothing unusual about that, is there? Every sailor says farewell to arms every so often, here and there, doesn't he?

Secretary: But this is farewell to all the arms at the Commission.

Chairman: You mean he's going to do leg work instead?

Secretary: No, he's just going to Look -- that magazine run by the Cowles boys out in Des Moines, Ia.

In conclusion the skit ended by the Chairman proclaiming:

"We, the members of the Malay Club, do solemnly proclaim this Last Supper for Commissioner Tunis Algiers Morocco Craven. Commissioner Craven, it is seven years since the President of the United States attempted to pack the Supreme Court and pack the Federal Communications Commission. Now the packing is coming undone and you are leaving. In the name of the Malay Club, I pronounce you an honorary member, and bestow upon you its sacred Order of the Pink Sarong in recognition of your services. You will readily observe the close relationship of the Order with the Farewell to Arms you are about to declare. Cherish this emblem. You are going to have the devil of a time in the next seven years doing as good a job as you have in the last seven, but we know you'll do it."

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RADIO MANUFACTURERS BLUE PRINT RECONVERSION PLAN

An initial specific "blueprint" for future industry reconversion is being prepared for official and also industry consideration in a few weeks, following the meeting in Washington last Thursday between officials of the WPB Radio and Radar Division and a special committee of the Radio Manufacturers' Association. Included will be tentative plans for reconversion to civilian production and also for limited production of transmitters, AM and also FM and television.

Any reconversion action will not be effective before 1945. No authorizations for civilian production, except replacement tubes, are in prospect this year. The RMA committee was again told that

the present war program will require all industry facilities during the remainder of this year, and war contracts will be, and are now being, redistributed to keep all companies in utmost war production through 1944.

No agreements or decisions on any reconversion policies were reached in the discussions of the RMA committee with WPB, and no formal recommendations on reconversion plans were submitted by the RMA committee. The many and varied suggestions and opinions from RMA members, received from a questionnaire of the committee, were discussed. These developed a preponderant opinion for using dollar volume of individual manufacturer's sales in 1941 as a base for any future allocations of set production and against use of the number of employees, tubes or other factors for computing allocations. The consensus of RMA opinion also was that there should be no restrictions on models or types of sets in any allocations and no "Victory" set, with manufacturers left free to determine their own models.

Appointment by OPA of a separate industry advisory committee of set manufacturers is planned in a few weeks. OPA is planning development of a standard uniform formula for price ceilings on future civilian sets, a formula applicable to each individual company's costs.

RMA committees last week also began discussions with several government agencies of immediate problems of disposal of surplus materials, conferences being held by the special RMA Industry Reconversion Committee and also the RMA Tube Executive Committee headed by Max F. Balcom, of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., Chairman, with officials of the Defense Supplies Corporation and also WPB. Involved is an immediate war surplus, due to overbuying, of tubes, some of which may be diverted to civilian replacements.

Surplus tubes and parts which are officially declared as "war" surplus are being handled by the Defense Supplies Corp., while immediate surpluses resulting from contract terminations, until officially declared as "war" surplus are being handled by the Army and Navy and other procurement agencies, assisted by the WPB Radio and Radar Division. Surplus radio sets are to be handled by the Treasury Department and surplus equipment abroad is to be handled by FEA.

A tentative Administration bill, drafted by the Surplus War Property Administrator, W. L. Clayton, was introduced in Congress last Saturday. The legislation is being handled by the Senate Military Committee and there are several similar bills before House Committees, all deferred until after the Congressional recess. The tentative Administration bill includes the following provisions: to afford former owners opportunity to reacquire property taken over by the government, to encourage beneficial trade relations with foreign nations and to develop foreign markets, to dispose of surplus property as promptly as feasible without fostering monopoly or unduly disturbing the national economy, to realize the highest obtainable rate for the government, to afford smaller business concerns and agricultural enterprises generally an opportunity to acquire surplus property on equal terms with larger competitors, and to discourage sales to speculators.

TELEVISION TAKES ITS PLACE ALONGSIDE RADIO AT CHICAGO

Following carefully laid plans, a battery of film cameras recorded scenes at the Republican Convention this week in Chicago for the television audiences of New York, Philadelphia, Albany and Schenectady. Supplying these large and important areas with this visual service would be considered a progressive step in itself, but with Governor Dewey of New York an outstanding presidential possibility, the pioneering move becomes of far greater importance.

Beginning at noon Monday, planes began carrying films to LaGuardia Field in New York, and from there to the projection room of NBC's studio in Radio City. WNBT, located on the Empire State tower in New York, acted as the basic transmitter feeding WPTZ, Philadelphia, by means of a radio relay link in South Jersey, and WRGB, Schenectady, by direct signal into that transmitter, 129 miles away.

Preceding the telecasting of special motion pictures which were shot by four crews in the Chicago Stadium was the premiere of "The Republican Party on Parade". This reel traced the history of the Republican Party, its conventions and its candidates from 1860 to the present. Following a quick sight-seeing "tour" through Chicago, the picture moved on to the personalities of the G.O.P.

A complete television record is being made of the Convention beginning with Governor Dwight H. Green's welcoming address, Governor Warren's keynote speech, former President Hoover's talk and so on. The television films are being produced by RKO-Pathe under the general supervision of C. L. Menser, NBC Vice President in Charge of Programs.

The New York Times has this to say about television at Chicago:

"For the first time the conventions at which the two great parties are to nominate their respective candidates are to be brought into the home - alas, at second-hand twenty-four hours later in the form of motion pictures transmitted by local television stations. Instantaneous, direct transmission is possible by television but the facilities are not available. Nevertheless, cameras will sweep the hall and the platform and present close-ups of fervid orators, and microphones will simultaneously pick up words of damnation and praise. It is too bad that the war has prevented television from expanding, so that only the fortunate possessors of pre-war receiving sets may cock both eyes and ears at the proceedings.

"The end is not yet. If we can disembody ourselves to the extent of transmitting our voices and our visible selves by wire or the ether, why shouldn't we smell and feel electrically all the way from New York to San Francisco? After all, the telephone was just a crazy notion only seventy years ago.

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"And when the great decision is at last reached we shall all shake hands electrically with the successful candidate. What a handshake from fifty million, who will say: 'What a grip! Nothing flabby about that man!'"

The magnetic wire recorder, which has been responsible for some eye-witness broadcasts of World War II, also played a part in coverage of the Republican convention. This machine had been placed at the disposal of NBC by the Armour Research Foundation. The machine is said to be as simple to operate as a portable radio set. Vocal tones are recorded on a moving tape or wire, and when the wire or tape is reversed, the words and sounds recorded on it are reproduced.

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CIVILIAN RADIO SUPPLIES INCREASE UNLIKELY SOON

Unlike some other war production industries, the radio industry faces increased requirements for the last half of 1944, members of the Electronics Distributors Industry Advisory Committee were told by War Production Board representatives at a meeting last week. As a result, any marked increase in radio and electronic equipment supplies for civilians is unlikely in the near future, WPB representatives said.

Committee members expressed the opinion that the present method of radio receiving set tube distribution was operating reasonably well in view of the fact that military requirements are keeping civilian supplies below demand and that the demand for replacement tubes is higher than in peacetime because no new radio sets have been made since April, 1942. Under the present tube distribution system, which has been in effect since January, tubes are interchanged among manufacturers so that each manufacturer has a stock of all types. The manufacturers then supply each distributor with tubes on a pro-rata system based on the distributors' purchases by tube type in 1941.

Wesley L. Smith, chief of the Components Recovery Section of the Radio and Radar Division, explained to the Committee the operation of the section in channeling idle and excess stocks of electronic components in the hands of contractors or producers back into the war production stream. He urged that prospective sellers or purchasers of stocks named on List B of Priorities Regulation 13, governing sales from inventory of idle and excess materials, be explicit in listing the stocks on the required form WPB-1161. Stocks of electronic equipment not required by the armed services or their contractors later are made available for civilian use under the terms of Priorities Regulation 13, Mr. Smith said.

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LIGHTNING STRIKES GENE McDONALD IN TWO MAGAZINES AT ONCE

It is doubtful if anybody in the radio industry ever received a bigger puff than E. F. McDonald, Jr., President of the Zenith Radio Corporation of Chicago, did in being written up in two national magazines at the same time. It was a ricochet. The original article appears in Forbes magazine for June 15th and is captioned "Gene McDonald Pioneers Again - This time it's in the development of hearing devices to aid the deaf." William F. McDermott is the writer and a large handsome photograph of Commander McDonald adorns the outside cover. (In the absence of Clark Gable, Hollywood scouts please take notice.)

The same article condensed is reprinted in the July Reader's Digest with its poor little circulation of 10,900,000 (9,018,000 in the United States and the rest foreign). This time the article is captioned, "Irrepressible Gene McDonald - All his life this man has astonished people by the use he has made of new experiences."

A portion of the article follows:

"Eugene F. McDonald likes to lean back in his comfortable chair, chat a little about the picturesque mementos of his cruises and explorations which crowd his Chicago office, show off his collection of notorious gangsters' guns, and poke a little fun at the tradition that the way to succeed is to plug away at one thing. Gene McDonald has been an explorer and a carefree yachtsman, has built a big business and hunted tropic isles for buried treasure, has contributed many important inventions to the science of radio, and has been a spectacular adventurer.

"It is characteristic of him that he once absent-mindedly drove his car off Lookout Mountain. It is equally characteristic that he turned the accident to good account. It made him deaf in one ear; that is why he became interested in hearing devices. He recently startled the country by perfecting a new one and putting it on the market at a sensationally low price.

"All his gay and busy 54 years, McDonald has been having new experiences and making use of them. He grew up in Syracuse, New York. The Franklin automobile, famous in its day as the only air-cooled American car, was made in Syracuse. McDonald's first job was as a \$6-a-week Franklin mechanic. He soon advanced to a sales managership. At that time automobiles were sold only for cash. This struck McDonald as preposterous, so in 1910 he left his job and set up the first auto finance corporation with a time-payment plan - then a revolutionary idea. Business skyrocketed, and Gene prospered. Then in 1917 he went off to war, serving in Naval Intelligence on sabotage cases and attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.

"Not long after he returned to civilian life, he wandered into a garage one day and noticed all the mechanics gathered around a radio. He listened with them to a broadcast from KDKA, Pittsburgh,

and immediately began to think of the commercial possibilities of this new thing. Deciding that this was the field for him, he promptly sought out two young men who had turned their kitchen into a laboratory and were making a radio receiving set a day, as well as running an amateur short-wave station '9ZN'.

"How about a partner with cash?" Gene asked them. They agreed. McDonald put up the money and the three men formed a corporation, named Zenith after the ZN call letters. Soon Zenith was turning out receiver sets in quantity. Today a \$33,000,000 corporation which employs more than 5,000 people - all in war work now - it is one of the largest radio manufacturing firms in the world. Before the war it had 20,000 dealers in 97 countries.

"McDonald is prouder of the company's contributions to radio than he is of its financial success. For he and his men have produced a steady series of radio 'firsts' - the first all-metal chassis, the first commercially-produced portable, the first short-wave home receiver, the first radio to operate on a moving train, the first 10-tube commercial set, the first foot control for auto radios, and the first workable automatic tuning 'push-button' system.

"In 1923 McDonald helped found the National Association of Broadcasters, and became its first president. * * * *

"Later Gene smashed the Government's one-man czardom over radio. He told the then Secretary of Commerce, Herbert Hoover, that he felt the rule of radio by the Secretary was unsound. Hoover welcomed a test case. Zenith began broadcasting on a Canadian wavelength; the Government brought legal action and lost, and as a result a new law setting up a Commission was passed.

"Use of short-wave has always been one of McDonald's chief interests. As far back as 1925 he was determined to persuade the Navy to use short-wave for long-range communication. The brass hats weren't much impressed. That year, McDonald commanded the SS PEARY, bound for the Arctic with the MacMillan-National Geographic research expedition.

"The PEARY stopped at Godhavn, Disco Island, a Danish possession, and asked to refuel. 'Sorry', said the official in charge, 'but I must have authority from the Danish Minister in Washington.'

"I'll get it', said McDonald. He opened up his short-wave set, soon made contact with a 'ham' in Washington, and asked him to run over to the Danish Ministry to get consent to coal the ship. Within an hour the approval had come through.

"His jaunt to the Arctic had other results. Back in Chicago, McDonald began to receive letters from the Greenlanders to whom he had given radios, begging for more batteries or some method of generating power for their machines. McDonald thought about the severe Arctic winds. He wondered if they might have power possibilities.

"He investigated and found that two Iowa farm boys were manufacturing a device whereby a little windmill drove a second-hand Ford generator, and thus charged batteries. McDonald went out to Iowa to see the boys, purchased 51% of their stock, ordered 50,000 chargers, and cut the retail price from \$40 to \$15. The Wincharger Corp. today employs 1,600 people and has supplied more than half a million windchargers to farmers, lumber-jacks, miners and frontiersmen, and recently to our military outposts in such places as the Aleutians. The two Iowa boys are still with McDonald.

"After five years of experimenting, Zenith's engineers came out late in 1943 with their new hearing aid, which has a four-position tone control, a crystal microphone, automatic adjustment, miniature radio tubes, and an improved circuit which extends the life of the batteries."

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BETTER DRY FARM RADIO BATTERY SEEN BY FALL

The reasons for the dry cell battery industry's present inability to supply as many farm radio batteries as are needed by civilians have been outlined in a letter addressed by Stanley B. Adams, Consumers Durable Goods Division, War Production Board, to hardware merchants and other dealers in farm radio batteries, WPB said this week. Mr. Adams added that, while this is the situation as it exists now, it is expected that production will have improved by fall.

"Within the past year, dry cell batteries have become one of the most urgent and critical products in our war production program", Mr. Adams said in the letter. "Military requirements exceed production of batteries by an estimated 30 percent. To meet the most urgent needs for the types of batteries used in war equipment, such as 'walkie-talkies', bouys, submarine detectors, direction finders, 'bazookas', field telephones, and more than fifty other items used in direct military operations, it has been necessary to expand the dry cell battery industry to more than three times its peacetime size.

"The needs of our boys overseas are supplied by the same manufacturers who are capable of producing farm radio batteries", Mr. Adams explained. "Substantial increases in farm radio batteries within the next two or three critical months would seriously affect our military program. What we are attempting to do at present is to hold what production of farm radio batteries we now have.

"We realize that the present production of farm radio batteries is not sufficient to meet the minimum essential needs of civilians. We realize, too, that people who are unable, for lack of batteries, to tune in on important radio messages, may be handicapped in their efforts to participate in vital war programs. Therefore, along with our expansion program in military batteries, WPB is taking steps to expand the production of farm radio batteries where it will not affect military production. You may wonder what is holding up production. It is not material or machines, but workers."

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NEW RCA TIME SAVER REVOLUTIONIZES PENICILLIN PRODUCTION

Impelled by recurring demands from American fighting fronts and homefront sickrooms for increased production of the drug penicillin, the Radio Corporation of America Laboratories, and E. R. Squibb & Sons, manufacturing chemists, have developed an electronic system that in 30 minutes completes an operation which requires 24 hours by the conventional system in the bulk-reduction of purified penicillin solution - a time-consuming step in production.

Tests showed that in one day's operation a single RCA electronic apparatus had a potential capacity of concentrating penicillin solutions containing approximately 2,000,000,000 Oxford units. The speed of operation is about 48 times as fast as it is in one of the conventional "freeze-drying" machines. The number of units concentrated in 24 hours in an RCA electronic apparatus corresponds to approximately 20,000 ampuls, each containing 100,000 units - an amount sufficient to treat 4,000 patients requiring 500,000 units each.

The advantages in using radio heat, aside from speeding the process, included:

1. Reduction in operating costs, equivalent to the saving of one ton of dry ice a day, or approximately \$65 every 24 hours.
2. Reduction in maintenance costs through elimination of complicated freezing apparatus and high vacuum pumps.
3. Smoother flow of production, with less chance of shut-downs and other delays due to refrigeration and mechanical difficulties.
4. Reduction in floor space requirements by nearly 10 times, as the RCA equipment takes up about the space of an up-ended office desk.

In addition, the radio frequency equipment represents a large saving in initial investment, as compared with the installations required for concentration by freeze-drying, with single units of the RCA equipment tested at Squibb destined to be sold at about \$6,000 which is several hundred per cent less than some of the present installations in use by the Nation's eighteen producers of penicillin.

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During the tornado which caused the loss of more than 100 lives in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland, the tall modern steel radio tower of Station WCAE near Pittsburgh crashed. It was broken into two almost equal parts.

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BETTER MICA IN RADIO TUBES MAY BRING HIGHER PRICES

The WPB Raw Mica Fabricating Industry Advisory Committee met twice recently in Washington to discuss possible revisions to Conservation Order M-101 and mica consumption and stocks reported by fabricators, the War Production Board reported last Saturday.

Members of the United Kingdom Radio Components Mission attending an afternoon session discussed with United States representatives methods of obtaining and conserving better qualities of mica, manufacture of block mica into film and standards to be established.

In urging the increased use of #6 mica, R. V. Stovall, of WPB Mica Section, said: "In the recent past, some radio tube manufacturers experienced difficulty in using poorer grades of stained and lower quality mica. Now that the better qualities of grade #6 are in plentiful supply, the radio tube manufacturers may have the advantage of using this mica. However, better quality block mica still brings higher prices and the resultant finished tube parts may be higher priced."

WPB further suggests that condenser manufacturers call attention of their customers to the desirability of using capacitors of low-quality mica in place of paper capacitors. Reversion to such capacitors by prime contractors and the armed services is contemplated. Only one-third of available mica-capacitor facilities are being utilized at present, although the overall demand will increase, WPB said.

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SCHUETTES JUNIOR CELEBRATE THEIR ELDERS' SILVER WEDDING

"The Junior Schuettes and the Askeaton Flowers would like to have you come to a Silver Wedding Anniversary, Saturday, June 24, 1944. Don't tell Mom!"

Thus were friends summoned to Askeaton, the country place in Washington of Oswald F. Schuette of the Radio Corporation of America and Mrs. Schuette for a happy occasion. On some pretext, Mrs. Schuette had been persuaded to visit their adopted daughter, Mrs. Carl A. Castellan in Wilmington, Delaware, and returned home just in time to find a hundred or more friends awaiting her.

The Junior Schuettes - Anne, Patrice, Pat, Jimmy and Billy put on the entire show and did an excellent job of it. Absent only was Ensign Oswald F. Schuette, Jr., U.S.N., formerly of RCA Laboratories, who has been accorded high scholastic honors and later served as an instructor at Yale University.

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REPUBLICANS GO TO BAT FOR FREE RADIO AND NEW RADIO LAW

Surely the Republicans couldn't have gone down the line any stronger for the broadcasters and the newspapers than in their platform declaration that:

"In times like these, when whole peoples have found themselves shackled by Governments which denied the truth, or, worse, dealt in half-truths or withheld the facts from the public, it is imperative to the maintenance of a free America that the press and radio be free and that full and complete information be available to Americans. There must be no censorship except to the extent required by war necessity.

"We insistently condemn any tendency to regard the press or the radio as instruments of the Administration and the use of Government publicity agencies for partisan ends. We need a new radio law which will define, in clear and unmistakable language, the role of the Federal Communications Commission.

"All channels of news must be kept open with equality of access to information at the source. If agreement can be achieved with foreign nations to establish the same principles, it will be a valuable contribution to future peace.

"Vital facts must not be withheld.

"We want no more Pearl Harbor reports."

Governor Warren of California, in his keynote speech Monday, also charged the Administration with threatening free radio and free press.

An indication of how radio more and more is streamlining national conventions and the engineers with which candidates seek the widest radio coverage is the fact that if Governor Dewey is nominated today (Wednesda7) and there is time, he will fly from Albany to Chicago so that he can broadcast his speech of acceptance tonight when the largest possible radio audience can be reached.

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OPA SWOOPS DOWN ON N.Y. RADIO SET BLACK MARKET

Daniel P. Woolley, Regional OPA Administrator in New York City is starting to clean up the radio set black market there which has been "assembling ersatz radio sets from surplus parts in the hands of dealers and manufacturers."

Nine concerns, which, according to Mr. Woolley, have done an aggregate annual business of \$1,000,000, are charged with not placing ceiling price or manufacturers' identification tags on the radios they sold. Some of the sets marketed at \$78.50, according to Mr. Woolley, are comparable to sets that have ceiling prices of \$29.

Mr. Woolley added that a common practice of some of the defendants was to buy auto radio sets normally retailing for \$15 to \$20 and convert them into household sets, selling them for as much as \$165.

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 ::: TRADE NOTES :::
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Lewis Allen Weiss, Vice-President and General Manager of Don Lee Broadcasting System, introduced Louis B. Mayer, head of M-G-M when the latter spoke on a Mutual stations closed circuit address to exhibitors recently. Mr. Mayer endorsed theatre use of radio as an advertising medium.

Palmer Hoyt, formerly of the Office of War Information, publisher of the Portland Oregonian, operator of Station KGW, has been re-elected President of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' Assn.

Half the fund has been collected for a two-year \$1,000,000 candy industry advertising campaign to be put on by the National Confectioners' Association. It will begin July 8th.

One million "Type X" crystals - for installation in Army Signal Corps equipment - have been completed in record time by employees of RCA Victor's crystal manufacturing department at Camden, N.J. The accomplishment was celebrated in a ceremony carried over the plant's internal broadcasting system when the millionth crystal, in a gold-plated container, was presented to Col. Eugene V. Elder, Commanding officer of the Philadelphia Signal Corps Procurement District.

To meet the tremendous commitments to both the Army and the Navy for radio crystals, RCA's crystal manufacturing department stepped up production 2000 percent since Pearl Harbor.

Lucy Monroe, radio and famous singer of the "Star Spangled Banner", has been appointed Director of Civic Affairs of the Blue Network. Miss Monroe will act as ambassadress of good-will for the Blue, representing the network at meetings, rallies and other events in which radio is playing a vital part.

Frank E. Mullen, Vice-President and General Manager of the National Broadcasting Company, will be among those to lecture in the New York University Summer Radio Workshop which begins July 8th.

Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding contributions to the war effort were presented 4 P.M. Friday, June 23, to Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, Inc. and The Commercial Cable Company, affiliates of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, by Maj. Gen. Harry C. Ingles, Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army Signal Corps, at the System Headquarters, 67 Broad Street.

The awards were accepted by Haraden Pratt, Vice President and Chief Engineer of Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, Inc., and Forest L. Henderson, Vice President of The Commercial Cable Company.

Addressing the Capital Negro Press Club of Washington, D.C., Marshall Field said: "Who is covering the negro side of the invasion? There are a good many well established negro magazines. Radio programs directed primarily to negro audiences have mainly a religious and musical content. The shortage of Negro news on the radio is not made up in Negro programs."