

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

2400 CALIFORNIA STREET

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECEIVED

FEB 15 1945

FRANK E. MULLEN

INDEX TO ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 14, 1945

Despite Rebuffs Petrillo Is Again All Over The Place.....	1
CIO Leader Calls On Labor To Put Petrillo In His Place.....	3
Les Atlass Leads Procession As First WSA Radio Officer.....	5
WPB Restricts New York Radio Dealers Supply Company.....	5
Robert Murray, ASCAP Public Relations Director, Dies.....	6
OPA Sets Prices On Radio And Other Batteries.....	7
Flamm Wins Right To Examine E. J. Noble In WMCA Case.....	7
NAB Puts On New Publicity Man - Position Long Vacant.....	8
Son Of Folsom Of RCA Victor Killed In Navy Plane Crash.....	8
Majestic Radio Forms Recording Co.; Jimmy Walker Pres.....	9
RCA 1945 Notebook Seems To Contain Most Everything.....	9
WDSU, New Orleans, To Be Heard On Political Charge.....	10
Radio Industry 1944 Output Zooms To Four Billion.....	11
Additional Material O.K. At Allocations Hearing.....	11
Scissors And Paste.....	12
Trade Notes.....	14

February 14, 1945

DESPITE REBUFFS PETRILLO IS AGAIN ALL OVER THE PLACE

The story is told of a lady who could always say a good word for a person no matter who he was. Finally someone, having heard most everyone defended asked, "Can you say anything good about the devil?" The lady was stumped for the moment but replied: "Well the devil is always pretty busy!" There are probably a good many broadcasters who would like to apply this analogy to James C. Petrillo, mainspring of the American Federation of Musicians.

However, Mr. Petrillo has received several jolts recently which may have further repercussions. One of these was on Monday last when Representative Monroney (D), of Oklahoma, introduced an anti-"make work" bill which would put a stop to two things which Mr. Petrillo champions - the hiring of musicians as platter turners and the forced hiring of standby musicians.

The Monroney bill provides that "it shall not be within the legitimate objects of such organizations" or their officers to make any contract or engage in any combination, if one of the purposes of such contract is "to induce or require any employer to deal with, to recognize or to employ members of one labor organization instead of members of another labor organization when the latter has been designated exclusive representative of the appropriate labor bargaining.

"To induce or require any employer to employ, or to pay any wages, salary, or other compensation to any person when such person is in fact in excess of the number of persons reasonably required to perform the work in which the employer is engaged."

"No such restrictions or conditions shall be regarded as unreasonable if they are directly and appropriately related to the wages, hours, health, safety or working conditions of the employees, or if they are required in good faith as part of a temporary program to retard technological unemployment by providing an orderly change in the methods of production or distribution or to forestall the imposition by the employer of a speed-up system."

Another setback for Mr. Petrillo was last week when a National Labor Relations Board Trial Examiner recommended that the National Broadcasting Company and Blue Networks be required to bargain collectively with the National Association of Broadcast Engineers, an unaffiliated union. Mr. Petrillo's third setback was when the demands he made that Station WJJD in Chicago employ from 7 to 10 more musicians as record turners were denied by the Regional War Labor Board. Although WJJD is now owned by Marshall Field, full credit for this victory goes to Ralph L. Atlass, previous owner of the station, one of the few men in the broadcasting industry who has had the courage to stand up and fight Petrillo.

Mr. Atlass contended that the men were not needed, would increase the station's payroll in the sum of \$840 a week, or \$43,680 a year, and that there wasn't enough room in the studios to hold that many more men. Furthermore, Mr. Atlass, to prove that musicians were not required for the work, testified that his stenographers were able to do everything that was necessary in addition to carrying on their own work. A WJJD brief stated:

"Miss Whittal, Mr. Atlass' secretary gave a demonstration to the WLB panel when they visited the station by bringing in a turntable and showing how the records were turned. Miss Whittal, without any experience, in five minutes was able to turn records."

The A.F.M. has asked the WLB to reconsider last week's WJJD decision contending that radio stations are not war plants and therefore are in the same category as Montgomery Ward as far as the enforcement powers of the War Labor Board are concerned.

The ruling of the NLRB in Washington with regard to NABET, NBC and the Blue also involved control of the "platter turners". Petrillo has demanded that the records be changed by musicians rather than as they are now by station technicians (NABET). This unaffiliated union has been certified by the NLRB as the bargaining agent for the "platter turners" but the two broadcasting companies have contended that to comply with the certification would cause Mr. Petrillo to call a strike on the networks.

Howard Myers, the examiner, held that the two companies, by refusing to bargain with NABET as the exclusive representative of their employees, had interfered with the workers' lawful self-organizational rights.

"The examiner's report said the companies' defense "is bottomed on the claim that to do so (bargain with NABET) would result in reprisals from Mr. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians.

It added, however, that the Board and the courts on many occasions have "denied the validity of similar urged defenses to charges of unfair labor practices".

Mr. Myers proposed that the companies post notices that they will not interfere with collective bargaining.

Mr. Petrillo charges that the independent union is company-dominated and that the Labor Relations Board has not passed on this aspect of the case.

The National Labor Relations Board itself will now pass on the case. Commenting upon this dispute sometime ago, the New York Times said:

"James Caesar Petrillo not only dictates terms to the big broadcasting companies; he not only ignores the orders of the War Labor Board and the written pleas of the President; but he is able in effect to set aside also the decisions of the National Labor Relations Board. * * *

"NABET was certified by NLRB last November as the bargaining agent for these jobs. But Mr. Petrillo refused to recognize the Board's decision. He told the broadcasting company officials, according to their testimony, that he would order musicians off the air unless the companies refused to renew their contract with the independent technicians' union and hired musicians as 'platter turners' instead. * * *

"The real question is not whether Mr. Petrillo abuses his power but whether the law should place so much irresponsible power in his hands. 'Upon what meat doth this, our Caesar, feed that he is grown so great?' When Congress has answered that question, by examining the special privileges and sweeping legal immunities that it has itself granted to union officials in recent years, it will be ready to bring the Petrillos within bounds. And not until then."

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CIO LEADER CALLS ON LABOR TO PUT PETRILLO IN HIS PLACE

No one ever received a more thorough trouncing than James C. Petrillo did last week from another labor leader - J. Raymond Walsh, economist of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Mr. Petrillo's action in trying to nullify the Vandenberg bill, which would put the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan, back on the air was the thing that particularly aroused the ire of Mr. Walsh who, in a broadcast over WMCA in New York, said:

"In the Michigan case, there is no defense whatever of the Petrillo action. It doesn't help unemployed musicians; there aren't any. It tyrannizes over radio stations and union members and it strikes a blow at musical education, in which the entire community is interested.

"It is anti-social and despotic. The entire labor movement suffers from this disgraceful use of power, and should try to put Mr. Petrillo in his place."

Mr. Walsh characterized Petrillo as a "despot" with "almost unlimited power" and called his move to strip the music camp of its faculty by putting the camp on the unfair list "another of Mr. Petrillo's imperial gestures".

The speaker also denounced Petrillo's exaction of fees from the record manufacturing companies.

"There is no assurance that the money the union receives from the record tax - millions each year - will be used for the relief of unemployed musicians, as he says", he asserted.

Newspapers in the Capital were quick to take note of Mr. Walsh's attack, the Washington Star commenting:

"The fact that a labor official has denounced the tactics employed by James C. Petrillo, President of the American Federation of Musicians, as 'antisocial and despotic' can hardly be entirely lacking in significance.

"Even if other labor leaders were to join forces with Mr. Walsh, the chances are that they alone could not 'put Mr. Petrillo in his place', for he is a law unto himself and can do just about as he pleases. But a concerted labor protest against the Petrillo brand of union leadership might have a beneficial effect on those political figures who are ever-ready to do battle with business monopolists, but who seem curiously incapable of uttering a word of protest against the Petrillos of the country.

"Antisocial conduct remains the same, however, whether practiced by a 'big business' man or a dictatorial labor leader, and if other responsible union officials were to follow the example set by Mr. Walsh the political champions of the little man might find it as expedient to cross swords with Mr. Petrillo as with Wall Street and the corporations. Stranger things have happened."

The Washington Post observed:

"It is amusing to find that J. Raymond Walsh, an economist employed by the CIO, should denounce James C. Petrillo, head of the AFL Federation of Musicians, for putting the Interlochen (Michigan) National Music Camp on the unfair list * * * *

"Congress should not be content with putting limited restrictions on Mr. Petrillo's powers primarily to aid a particular school of music located in the home state of Senator Vandenberg. In fact, this timid control gesture is futile as well as inadequate. For Mr. Petrillo has already cracked down on the offending music school by labeling it 'unfair', without waiting for the House to act on the Vandenberg bill. * * * *

"The minor tyranny exercised over a rebellious music school pales into insignificance by comparison with Mr. Petrillo's major accomplishment of forcing record manufacturers to contribute funds directly to his union, allegedly for the relief of unemployed musicians. The fact that Mr. Petrillo has operated within the law shows very plainly that if the public objects to his methods, the remedy lies in revision of the general labor laws to curb tyrannical union practices wherever found. Efforts to isolate Mr. Petrillo from the hierarchy of labor leaders simply play into the hands of those union spokesmen who would like nothing better than to make a scapegoat of the head of the musicians' union. By this means they could unload their sins upon him and escape the discipline of labor laws with teeth in them."

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Joe Ryan, head of the Cowles' Des Moines Station KRNT News Department is cataloging the names by States of all of the Prisoners of War released from Jap Prison Camps. Since it is impossible to read off the names of the thousands, he is inviting the people interested in individuals to call KRNT.

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LES ATLASS LEADS PROCESSION AS FIRST WSA RADIO OFFICER

His son a Major in the Army, H. Leslie Atlass, Vice-President of the Columbia Broadcasting System in Charge of the Control Division and head of WBBM in Chicago, will soon sail for Europe as the first radio officer accredited to the U. S. Maritime Service. Furnishing his own equipment, Mr. Atlass will blaze an entirely new trail which many others prominent in the broadcasting industry are expected to follow.

The War Shipping Administration is trying out the idea of permitting networks and the larger radio stations to accompany convoys to any of the war theatres for the purpose of making recordings of practically anything they see or hear aboard the ship so long as security regulations are observed. These recordings may later be broadcast.

Radio representatives will hold officer status. When a convoy docks, they will be permitted shore leave during the period of the stopover. Recording equipment cannot be employed during the stopover, in the war zone, however, unless the individual is accredited to the Army or Navy command in charge in the area.

An effort will be made by WSA to assign station representatives to ships named for the cities in which their stations are located, or manned by personnel which includes some men from the listening area. WSA suggests also that some recorded programs could be built around Merchant Ship materials manufactured in the area in which the station is located.

Mr. Atlass will be the first to go to Europe, the round trip including stopovers to occupy about 40 to 45 days. The trips to the Pacific will be upwards of 100 days.

Station WGAR of Cleveland is said to be among the applicants and several others but as yet only the name of Mr. Atlass has been made public.

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WPB RESTRICTS NEW YORK RADIO DEALERS SUPPLY COMPANY

Julius Liebling and Samuel Miller, partners in the Radio Dealers Supply Company, 135 Liberty Street, New York City, have been placed under a War Production Board restrictive order because the company, a wholesale dealer in electronic equipment, last year made illegal disposition of 118 kits containing radio parts, WPB's Compliance Division has reported.

Consent Order C-262, effective February 1 to December 31, 1945, states that the Radio Dealers Supply Co., advertised and sold kits or combinations of radio parts that could be readily assembled

into radio receiving sets. Although these various parts could be used to replace defective or worn-out components of radio receivers, as certified by several purchasers of the kits, WPB maintained that the sale and delivery of all the parts in such combination were in "plain evasion" of General Limitation Order L-265, governing electronic equipment.

Between July 1 and October 31, 1944, the Radio Dealers Supply Co., sold 118 kits, the order says. Thirty of these were not covered by any suppliers' or dealers' certificates, which also constituted a violation of the Order, it added.

The Consent Order prohibits the company from selling or delivering kits or combinations of parts of electronic equipment for assembly into radio receiving sets except to fill military or Government orders, during the restricted period.

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ROBERT MURRAY, ASCAP PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, DIES

Robert L. Murray, 55 years old, Director of Public Relations for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, died suddenly of a heart attack in Montreal, Canada, last Saturday, February 10th.

Mr. Murray was born in Minnesota and received his education in Minneapolis. He left the University of Minnesota to begin his newspaper career on the Minneapolis Tribune, becoming sports editor of that paper in 1910. Mr. Murray left this paper to assume the same position with the News-Tribune in Duluth. After general repertorial work on a Winnipeg newspaper, Mr. Murray became associated with the Hearst publications, with which he remained for eleven years. While employed by the Hearst Boston Herald, Mr. Murray inaugurated the first picture tabloid page, which was the forerunner of the present tabloid newspapers. He left Boston to become Editor of the New York American, and wound up his newspaper career as Managing Editor of the Newark Ledger.

Upon leaving the Ledger, Mr. Murray became associated with Ely Culbertson, for whom he did publicity and promotion work, after which he became Advertising Manager and bridge expert for Auto-Bridge, which position he held until he joined ASCAP on November 1, 1940.

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Lewis M. Clement, Vice President in Charge of Engineering and Research for the Crosley Corporation, writing in the January issue of "Radio-Television Journal", says: "I believe television will be an important force for good in the world through education by adding sight to sound."

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Release for Thursday
afternoon papers, Feb. 15

OPA SETS PRICES ON RADIO AND OTHER BATTERIES

Dollar-and-cent maximum prices for wholesale and retail sales of dry batteries were announced by the Office of Price Administration.

The prices, set in a new maximum price regulation effective February 20, 1945, are based on those prevailing in March 1942, and will cover four general types of batteries: flashlight, radio, hearing-aid and those classified as miscellaneous, such as No. 6 cells, telephone cells, multiple batteries and lantern batteries. Because flashlight batteries are marketed in three principal sizes, known as "penlight", "baby", and "standard", or by Bureau of Standards size designations "AA", "C", and "D", a uniform maximum price is established for each of these types. The regulations covers all dry batteries except military surplus, salvage and scrap batteries that are covered by special orders.

The sizes and specifications of radio and miscellaneous batteries have never been standardized as has been done for flashlight batteries. For that reason, it was not possible to establish prices on the basis of size categories, the agency said. Therefore, these batteries are covered in the new regulation by a detailed list of those offered for sale by each manufacturer, including the model number, description and applicable maximum price.

Some sample retail prices for radio and miscellaneous batteries are:

Radio Batteries: Bond No. 0528, 1 1/2-90 Volt "AB", maximum retail price in east, \$5.95, west \$6.25; Burgess No. F4L, 6 Volt "A"; maximum retail price, east and west coast \$.68; General No. V30F, 45 Volt "B", maximum price in east \$2.19, Pacific Coast \$2.39.

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FLAMM WINS RIGHT TO EXAMINE E. J. NOBLE IN WMCA CASE

Donald Flamm, former owner of Radio Station WMCA, won the right to examine before trial Edward J. Noble in an unanimous decision handed down last Friday by the Appellate Division. Mr. Flamm is seeking \$2,025,000 damages in connection with the sale of the station to Mr. Noble in 1941 for \$850,000.

In his original suit, Mr. Flamm charged that he was "coerced" into making the sale to the former Under-Secretary of Commerce, who was represented to him as a man with such powerful political connections that unless he agreed to the sale he would "lose his license to broadcast and his entire investment."

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NAB PUTS ON NEW PUBLICITY MAN - POSITION LONG VACANT

After allowing the place to remain vacant for almost two years, the National Association of Broadcasters has appointed Harlan "Bruce" Starkey, Chief of its News Bureau to succeed Walt Dennis who resigned in October 1943.

Starting his career as a reporter for the Miami Herald and Tribune, in 1925, Mr. Starkey became active in real estate advertising and promotion during the Florida boom. A native of West Virginia, he later returned to Moundsville as Advertising and Business Manager of the Echo Publishing Company, publishers of a daily, a weekly and a farm paper, where he maintained a part time affiliation with the R. M. Ludwig Advertising Agency, of Wheeling.

This was followed by two years in the advertising and editorial departments of the Wheeling morning and Sunday Register.

Mr. Starkey's debut in radio was with WCHS, Charleston, W. Virginia in 1932, where, as Commercial Manager, his duties embraced most of the operational aspects of radio. For the past ten years he has been active as a free lance writer and publicity counsel in Chicago.

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SON OF FOLSOM OF RCA VICTOR KILLED IN NAVY PLANE CRASH

Lieut. (j.g.) Harry F. Folsom, who was scheduled to return to the South Pacific war theatre, was killed in a plane crash near Jacksonville, Florida, the U. S. Navy informed his father, Frank M. Folsom, Vice President in charge of the RCA Victor Division.

Lieutenant Folsom had spent almost a year in the South Pacific and had been awarded the Navy Air Medal for meritorious achievement during the operations of the United States Naval Forces against the Marshall-Gilbert Islands in December, 1943. He had returned to this country to train another crew, and the group, having practically completed its training was preparing to leave for the Pacific battle zone.

As a pilot of a land-based B-24 (Liberator) bomber under an Army command, Lieutenant Folsom had a distinguished service record. He and his crew had accounted for at least five and probably more Jap planes. He entered the Navy as an enlisted man shortly after Pearl Harbor and in January of 1943 was commissioned an officer. He was 25 years old.

Mr. Folsom's oldest son, Fred, is also a Lieutenant (j.g.). When last heard from, he was assigned to an amphibious group in the South Pacific. Mr. Folsom's three sons-in-law are also in the armed service.

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MAJESTIC RADIO FORMS RECORDING CO.; JIMMY WALKER PRES.

Majestic Records, Inc., now in the process of formation, and a subsidiary of the Majestic Radio & Television Corporation of Chicago, will enter the phonograph recording industry. Former Mayor James J. Walker, of New York City, will be its President. Eugene A. Tracey, head of Majestic Radio & Television Corp., at a meeting of the Executive Board in New York City, stated that the new organization is in line with Majestic's plans for expansion into fields allied with radio, television and the entertainment world.

The new company will have its recording studios and offices in New York City and a manufacturing plant in Newark, N. J.

To form Majestic Records, Inc., the parent company contracted to purchase three established concerns in the recording field - Transcriptions, Inc., New York City; the Classic Record Company of New York, producers and distributors of "Hit Records", and the New Jersey Plastics, Inc., Newark, New Jersey.

The three companies were headed by Eli Oberstein of New York, who has been in the recording industry since 1924 and who joins the new company in an executive capacity. Mr. Oberstein said that today, even while the business is at its all-time peak, surveys recently made show the demand for records still exceeds the supply by a ratio of about five to one.

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RCA 1945 NOTEBOOK SEEMS TO CONTAIN MOST EVERYTHING

Packed full of useful facts and figures is the vestpocket 1945 Calendar-Notebook just published by the Department of Information of the Radio Corporation of America. It would seem almost impossible to cram so much knowledge into such a little volume.

There is a short description of each of the RCA divisions and subsidiaries, such as RCA Victor Company, RCA Laboratories and NBC. There is a double page map of world-wide radiotelegraph system of R.C.A. Communications. There is also a map showing how the East and West may be linked up in the first American television network.

Facts are given about television, FM, marine radio, stand-ard broadcasting, radiophotos, facsimile, short-wave reception, various types of radio sets and electron tubes, U. S. Broadcasting stations and FM stations are listed. Likewise, tables on weights and measures, metric conversion, time differences between U. S. cities, useful conversion ratios and metric equivalents.

The little book also includes space for special appointments, addresses, and telephone numbers. Space is likewise provided for a 1945 diary and calendar.

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WDSU, NEW ORLEANS, TO BE HEARD ON POLITICAL CHARGE

The Federal Communications Commission has called a hearing to be held Wednesday, March 21st, to determine whether or not Station WDSU in New Orleans violated the Communications Act in the senatorial primary race in Louisiana during the last campaign. In that connection the Commission has issued the following order:

It appearing, that a complaint has been received alleging that prior to the recent Democratic Primary Election in the State of Louisiana held on September 12, 1944, that E. A. Stephens, Fred Weber and H. G. Wall, doing business as Stephens Broadcasting Company, licensees of Station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, refused to afford equal opportunities in the use of the facilities of said station to all candidates for the nomination as the candidate of the Democratic Party for the office of United States Senator from Louisiana, and more particularly, that until late in the campaign they refused to afford to one John H. Overton, a candidate for such office, equal opportunities in the use of the facilities of said station between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. as were afforded to one E. A. Stephens, one of the licensees of Station WDSU and himself a candidate for such office; and

It further appearing, from the program logs maintained by said licensees of said station in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.404 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations that during the period from July 1 to September 12, 1944, the facilities of Station WDSU between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. were used for the purpose of broadcasts by, or on behalf of the candidacy of, said E. A. Stephens for nomination as the Democratic Party's candidate for said office; and

It further appearing, that at no time during the period from July 1, 1944 until late in the campaign were the facilities of Station WDSU made available between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. for broadcasts by, or on behalf of the candidacy of, the said John H. Overton for said nomination for said office, despite the repeated requests for the use of such facilities for such purpose which were in fact made by or on behalf of the said John H. Overton;

Now, Therefore, It is hereby ordered, this 13th day of February, 1945, that a hearing be held on the 21st day of March, 1945 at 10:30 A.M. for the purpose of determining whether E. A. Stephens, Fred Weber, and H. G. Wall, doing business as Stephens Broadcasting Company, licensees of Station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, have violated Section 315 of the Communications Act."

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Earle C. Anthony, of Los Angeles, operator of KFI, has announced, according to the Associated Press, that: "Direct-wire reports, commonly known as 'spot news', will be supplemented by programs featuring analysis of the news. Commentators expressing personal opinions and interpretations will be discontinued."

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RADIO INDUSTRY 1944 OUTPUT ZOOMS TO FOUR BILLION

Citing the tremendous contributions made to the war program by America's radio industry, R. C. Cosgrove, President of the Radio Manufacturers' Association and Vice President and General Manager, Manufacturing Division, The Crosley Corporation, Cincinnati, declared on a nation-wide radio program last week that the radio industry has produced more than four billion dollars' worth of equipment during 1944, as compared with a peace-time volume of radio products amounting to \$325,000,000.

Mr. Cosgrove appeared as guest speaker on the Mutual network radio program "Your America", presented by the Union Pacific Railroad Company, as the representative of the nation's radio industry and of the Radio Manufacturers' Association which he heads.

"In this country alone", Mr. Cosgrove said, "we produce more radio and radar equipment than our Allies and the Axis combined. In the United States, we have more than 60,000,000 home receivers, or more than half of all of the radios in the world. Forty per cent of all the broadcasting stations in the world are in our own country.

"How free of government interference and how great a public contribution the industry has been able to make is best indicated by comparison with other countries where most of the broadcasting is completely government-controlled or government-operated. In certain countries, such as England, one must pay a license fee to own a radio.

"After the war, this great industry will bring out finer radios and other electronics equipment because of the advancements and knowledge gained through our war experiences. The engineering departments of the leading companies in the radio industry have been enlarged greatly and the numbers of persons trained in the arts and sciences of radio have multiplied probably five-fold."

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ADDITIONAL MATERIAL O.K. AT ALLOCATIONS HEARING

That plenty of leeway will be given to those appearing at the Allocations Hearing Wednesday, February 28th, was indicated in a statement issued by the Federal Communications Commission Tuesday:

"The Commission has received inquiries whether the oral argument to be held in the above matter will be confined to matters already in the record or whether additional material may be introduced into the record at the time of the oral argument.

"In order that the Commission may have the fullest evidence before making a final decision, persons appearing at the oral argument may submit in the form of exhibits or testimony any additional relevant material that has been developed since the close of the hearing on November 2, 1944. Any such testimony or exhibits will be subject to cross-examination within the Commission's discretion if request therefor is made."

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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List Radio News Better for Reader's Sake, Editor Advises
 (Robert V. Brown in "Editor & Publisher")

This week, being in a spot without an evening paper, but with a morning paper and a radio, we looked up some "news" broadcasts to catch the latest developments. We heard two broadcasts in succession that provided the moral for this talk.

Looking for some hot bulletins from the Russian front or the Pacific, our first "news" period was to be provided by J. Raymond Walsh on WMCA, New York. Mr. Walsh is Director of Research for the CIO. We were looking for "news" and what we got was 15 minutes of comment on the press of this country, its international relations through foreign correspondents and the merits of Kent Cooper's plan for free exchange of news. Mr. Walsh's program was listed in the daily press as a "news" period and after listening to his "opinions" we tried another station.

This time we heard Johannes Steel on WHN, also listed in the papers as "news". It turned out to be another 15 minutes of "opinion" not news, but at least it involved Mr. Steel's opinion on various news developments.

Our point is this: we think newspapers can do their readers a service by properly indicating what is to be a straight news report and what is to be one man's comment on the news. Similarly, we believe opinion on the air should be labeled properly as such before and after each broadcast. Most commentators are introduced in this way already.

Sylvania Survey To Determine Post-War Receiver Types
 ("Sylvania News")

Through a nation-wide survey of personal interviews and an intensive advertising campaign, Sylvania is formulating a true cross-section picture of the anticipated consumption by the American public of television, radio, combination, and F.M. sets in the post-war period.

Sylvania's aim in conducting this survey is to be of service to radio wholesalers and retailers in guiding them in the types of sets stocked, and in a quantity necessary to fill their sales demands. By the same reasoning the survey is directed at preventing over-stocking and the natural loss incurred thereby.

Aside from acting as a direct aid to radio dealers and distributors, Sylvania's survey should be an indicative barometer to all branches of the radio industry. The survey is conducted impartially by a nationally known market research organization as a Sylvania service to interested parties.

Hails Anti-Petrillo Bill To Curb Make-Work
("New York Times")

Representative Monroney of Oklahoma has had the courage and clear-sightedness to introduce a bill that seeks not merely to curbe Mr. Petrillo personally but to curb some of the anti-social practices in which the latter has been one of the chief offenders. Mr. Monroney's bill would first of all make it illegal for any union to try to force an employer to hire its own members for a task when another union had already been designated by the National Labor Relations Board as the exclusive bargaining agent for that task. This would curbe the present effort of Mr. Petrillo to take over the "platter turners" on the radio. Its general effect would be to uphold the authority of the NLRB.

Here at least is a measure that would strike at the evil of make-work practices, practices which are still tolerated in spite of a national labor shortage, and at a time when every misuse or waste of labor postpones the day of victory in war.

Radio Gets Beecham's Goat
("Life ")

Though he views life, as a rule, with amused intellectual detachment, Sir Thomas Beecham, the British conductor, can be roused to a towering fury on two subjects. One of them is music over the radio; the other is music in the movies. The former, he firmly believes, "can never achieve or reproduce the tonal perfection one hears at the actual performance. . . . Because, before it reaches the ear, it is required to run the gamut of knobs and levers and electrical gadgets and wired circuits handled by men who, almost invariably, are mechanics rather than artists.

RCA Trying Out New Type of Television Transmitter
(Gen. David Sarnoff in "Radio Age")

When peace comes it will find, as it has at the end of every war, new inventions awaiting to be applied to every-day life, to bring new services of safety and comfort, entertainment and education. * * *

For example, a 300-megacycle television transmitter, the first of its kind developed to use 5-kilowatts of power for television broadcasting. Primarily, the development of a special electron tube and associated circuits made it possible. Its full use must await the end of the war; caged in a great wire-mesh at RCA Laboratories the engineers are studying the transmitter's performance and perfecting it for the future. Field tests are scheduled early in 1945 in the New York area.

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::: TRADE NOTES :::
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A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Radio Manufacturers' Association to consider military radio-radar production has been called for Wednesday, February 21st in New York City. Disposal of current war surpluses and contract terminations and other matters also will be considered.

Another matter for consideration will be further curtailment of RMA meetings, in compliance with the recent Government orders restricting conventions and industry gatherings.

The NBC 1945 studio passes have just been issued.

Philadelphia broadcasters are conferring with the publishers in that city over the unsatisfactory printing of radio programs. If the situation doesn't improve the publishers have threatened to get out their own radio guide for listeners.

Another fight to extend the libel law to radio broadcasts and to broaden its application to include malicious remarks against persons easily identified by race, color or creed was made in the New York State Assembly at Albany last Friday, with the introduction of a bill by Irwin Steingut, minority leader in the Assembly.

Mr. Steingut introduced a similar bill last year that met with wide opposition, particularly from the broadcasting companies, who contended it would expose them to ill-founded court actions. The companies said that hardly a program could be scheduled, no matter how innocent its purpose, without someone taking offense.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Queen Wilhelmina of The Netherlands will discuss "Women of the United Nations" over the Columbia network Saturday, February 17th, under the auspices of the Association of Women Directors of the National Association of Broadcasters (WABC-CSB, 3:30-3:45 P.M., EWT).

Mrs. Roosevelt will speak from New York City, where the association will be holding an all-day meeting. Queen Wilhelmina will speak from London, and her broadcast will be heard by the gathering.

The meeting inaugurates a series of conferences under the direction of NAB to be held in communities throughout the country during the next three months, to prepare American women to understand their returning servicemen's "enlarged horizons".

An underwriting group headed by Blair & Co., Inc., will offer to the public 150,000 shares of \$1 par value common stock of the Sentinel Radio Corporation. The stock will be priced at \$7.25 a share. Upon completion of this financing, there will be outstanding 320,000 common shares, the sole capital obligation of the corporation. In addition, the company has outstanding bank loans of \$900,000 under a VT credit agreement. Net sales in the year ended March 31, 1944, totaled \$13,428,939, and net profit was \$316,965.

Sentinel Radio was incorporated in 1931 and since May, 1942, has been engaged exclusively in the production of war equipment.

Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, Chief Engineer of RCA Victor Division of Radio Corporation of America, has written an article on the achievements of radio during 1944 for the American Year Book. Among the subjects covered in the article are domestic broadcasting, police and aviation radio, international communications, and electronics.

The Radio Manufacturers' Association advises that bills have been introduced in the California and Oregon legislatures to regulate radio and electronic installation and servicing. The measures provide license fees for repairmen.

A special 60-week, three-part course in the operation of television studio and transmitter equipment will be open to technical employees of the Columbia Broadcasting System. The course started Monday, February 12th and will be given by the Division of General Education and College of Engineering of New York University, under direction of Dr. Peter Goldmark, CBS Director of Engineering Research and Development Department, and Robert Serrell, member of CBS' television engineering operations, assisted by Mason Escher, technical staffer representing the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Station WTMJ, operated by the Milwaukee Journal will eliminate "middle commercials" on all news broadcasts effective February 18th. Advertising messages thereafter will be limited to the opening and closing of the perio.

"The action was taken", the company said, "in line with the growing sentiment that advertising messages should not be imposed upon the listener in the midst of news of such momentous happenings as are occurring daily."

The three-story Protex Building at 61-71 Bishop Street, Jersey City, N.J., has been leased by the Defense Supplies Corporation, a subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, for use by the Radio Corporation of America in the production of war goods. The radio concern now occupies 108,000 square feet in the United Wallpaper plant in Jersey City.

Civilian radio sales increased 33-1/3 percent in 1944 over the previous year, even under wartime restrictions, according to complete 1944 excise tax returns from the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The federal excise tax collections on radio sets, components, phonographs, etc., during 1944, the second full year of war production, totaled \$4,147,905.91, compared with excise taxes of \$3,110,850.48 in 1943.

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will participate in the Sixth Annual Music Festival over Station WNYC Thursday evening, February 15, from 9:00 to 9:30.

Charlie Tobias, popular song writer, will act as master of ceremonies. He will head a cast which will include William C. Handy, writer of "St. Louis Blues" and Peter de Rose of "Deep Purple" fame; Alex Kramer and Joan Whitney, composers of "It's Love, Love, Love"; and other composers will do many of their own songs. The Festival will continue until February 22nd.

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