

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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INDEX TO ISSUE OF OCTOBER 17, 1945

Radio Manufacturers Stymied By Parts Makers 30% Demands.....	1
OPA-Parts Makers Bottleneck May Cut Radio Set Output 50%.....	3
U. S. Court Upholds Station Refusing Religious Groups Time.....	5
CBS Proposes Allocation Change; NBC, ABC, WOR Concur.....	6
Gimbel's-RCA To Show What Intra-Store Television Can Do.....	7
Chairman Porter, Governor Porter, Or Senator Porter?.....	8
Western Union Secures FM License From Major Armstrong.....	8
Celler Bill Seeks To Control Radio Stations' Sales Prices.....	9
BBC Director-General Proposes International Tele Pact.....	9
WMBD Controversial Time Policy Attracts Wide Attention.....	10
It Was Pierre (Not Paul) As Even This Editor Well Knew.....	11
Reconversion Conference Of RMA Canadian-U.S. Associations.....	12
Radio Parts Trade Show Set For May 13-16 In Chicago.....	12
G.E. Has New Radio Noise Filter.....	13
Scissors And Paste.....	14
Trade Notes.....	15

No. 1701

October 17, 1945

RADIO MANUFACTURERS STYMIED BY PARTS MAKERS 30% DEMANDS

by Robert D. Heinl

As the golden tide of postwar business looms, the radio receiving set manufacturers of the country apparently find themselves blocked and completely in the hands of the radio parts manufacturers. As a result, the set manufacturers are said to be facing the most critical situation in their history. This bottleneck, it was explained, will force the larger set manufacturers to go into the manufacture of their own parts which, of course, would cause a material delay and much unemployment for the next few months at a time when reemployment is so vital. A prominent set manufacturer said that already set manufacturers were looking for sites and buying property for parts manufacturing additions.

It is such a serious impasse that no radio set manufacturer has been found willing to be quoted but here, on excellent authority, is the inside story:

All the larger manufacturers of radio receiving sets in the United States are today designed, tooled and ready to go, but thousands and thousands are out of employment for just one reason and that is that all radio manufacturers, including the largest, such as: Philco, RCA, Zenith and GE, are and have been in the past dependent on parts manufacturers. The radio set manufacturers are willing and ready to go ahead with production even though the increased prices just allowed to the radio set manufacturers by the OPA will not adequately permit a profit. The radio set manufacturers generally feel that even though they start producing at a loss, the OPA will rapidly rectify this when it is proven that business is being done at a loss. The radio parts manufacturers, on the other hand, were not satisfied with the figures allowed to them some time ago by the OPA and the OPA has again raised the allowances to the radio parts manufacturers and they are still not satisfied and they refuse to go ahead and produce! The whole radio receiving set industry is stymied and there are no exceptions!

There is said to be only one solution and that is that the larger manufacturers of radio receiving sets will have to immediately start the manufacture of parts, and this is already being done by some of the larger producers. It is obvious, they say, that they must manufacture that which they cannot buy.

The parts manufacturers are reported to be very independent and they are said not to be taking a long-range view. Some of them are said to figure that with the lucrative government profits they have enjoyed for the first eight months of this year they are already into excess profits brackets so why do any gambling until

the new year starts. In the meantime, the thousands and thousands stay out of employment, the merchants are deprived of their profits, and the public gets no new radio sets for which they are waiting.

"Incidentally, we have no radio manufacturers' association capable of protesting this action and lack of interest by the parts manufacturers", one manufacturer declared. "My reason for saying this is that the large, large majority of members of the Radio Manufacturers' Association are not radio receiving set manufacturers but they are parts manufacturers. Therefore, RMA finds itself in an impossible and most embarrassing position."

A list of some of the parts that the radio receiving set manufacturers are dependent upon the parts manufacturers for, are: Speakers, variable condensers, fixed condensers, electrolytic condensers, and transformers.

Our informant, who furnished this list, said:

"The reason that I did not include tubes is that the tube manufacturers are doing a splendid job, and they are the principal exception . . . they are taking their chances and cooperating. In the list I have given you we will take, for instance, variable condensers . . . no manufacturers are making their own variable condensers and there are only four large suppliers of variable condensers in the whole United States. I might say, however, there are some manufacturers of minor parts who are cooperating, but it doesn't round out the picture and the set manufacturers if they are short of any one item are still out of business."

The fact that such a serious situation prevailed within the radio manufacturing industry was revealed when the writer inquired of a manufacturer if it was true, as reported at that time, that 160,000 people were out of employment as a result of OPA's delay in fixing prices. The reply was:

"I think that figure is reasonably correct, but the reason is not the one given. The reason is that we haven't a manufacturing industry. We've got nothing but an assembly industry, where radio manufacturers are at the mercy of the parts manufacturers.

"It is about time the radio manufacturers got together and started to manufacture their own parts, and make a manufacturing industry out of it, not an assembly industry."

Getting back to the 160,000 (some put it as high as 200,000) estimated to have been unemployed, he concluded:

"When you consider that V-J Day was in early August and this condition still exists of the suppliers refusing to turn their wheels and produce, you can realize how the nest eggs in bank balances are being depleted of those employees who have been out of work since that time."

The battle cry of the parts manufacturers appears to be "Give us a 30% increase or greater or we won't build any parts", and the retort of the set manufacturers is "Give us the parts at a reasonable figure or we will make them ourselves."

Apparently the set manufacturers mean business and, if so, and the parts manufacturers do not back down, the next six months may prove to be the most hectic in the history of the radio manufacturing industry.

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OPA-PARTS MAKERS BOTTLENECK MAY CUT RADIO SET OUTPUT 50%

Announcement by the Office of Price Administration of increased prices for both radio set and parts manufacturers is expected in the trade to end the stalemate which has prevailed for the past six weeks. However, production may be limited for some time and is not expected to reach the optimistic forecasts of WPB, made prior to the OPA and parts makers troubles, of 3,500,000 sets by the end of the year. A third of this would seem to be a better guess now.

Set manufacturers generally appear willing to accept the OPA increases of $10\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 per cent on 1941 prices; but some parts manufacturers, particularly makers of wood cabinets, speakers and variable condensers still feel they cannot produce without losing money. Consequently they may remain a bottleneck to reconversion unless OPA grants adjustments after receiving individual "hardship" applications for relief.

The general feeling of both groups of manufacturers is that they have exhausted means of appeals to OPA for industry-wide appeals and that their only recourse now is to make individual applications for higher prices where production cost data can be furnished to justify the increase. Manufacturers feel that appeals to Congress would not bring any change quickly enough to benefit the industry.

However, they expressed appreciation for the way Senator Homer E. Capehart (R), of Indiana, a member of the Interstate Commerce Committee, and himself a former radio manufacturer, took up the cudgel for them. Senator Capehart threw a good scare into the Office of Price Administration by vigorously urging the Senate to adopt a resolution which he and Senator Millard E. Tydings (D), of Maryland, had introduced to thoroughly investigate the price fixing policies of OPA.

Senator Capehart is still far from satisfied with the situation. He said that the price ceilings just set by the OPA were not nearly high enough. He was told that the radio set manufacturers were of the same opinion but that they were going to try out the new prices in hopes of getting relief in individual cases.

"I hope they do", Senator Capehart replied, though from his tone one got the impression that he was far from being convinced that they would get the desired price readjustment.

"You know it seems a terrible thing for OPA - the government itself - to do so much toward blocking reconversion and keeping all these people out of work at a time like this."

In announcing the new radio prices, the OPA, apparently nettled by criticism, took an unprecedented way to defend itself. The new prices were announced in the usual routine press statement but added to this was a lengthy alibi blaming the parts manufacturers for the delay in final factors. It was captioned "Behind Today's Action" and is printed here for the first time in full:

"Despite repeated requests by the Office of Price Administration for the submission of cost data for use in computing the increase factors for radio parts, and despite assurances of representatives of the industry that such cost data would be supplied, cost data were not submitted to OPA as promised, OPA said.

In contrast, cabinet and set manufacturers supplied the required data promptly, and OPA was able to fix legal increase factors without delay, the agency said.

Cabinet manufacturers held their first meeting with OPA on April 19, this year, to discuss a possible survey form. The form was mailed out on May 10, and on July 16, the Industry Advisory Committee was advised of the industry-wide increase factor.

Similarly, set manufacturers, who received their questionnaire after August 10, this year, answered so promptly that within five weeks OPA had complete data from manufacturers of 80 per cent, by dollar volume, of the industry.

When cost data were requested for use in establishing the increase factor for radio tubes in August 1945, adequate data were submitted, and a final increase factor was promptly provided by OPA.

In the case of the eight groups of radio parts for which increase factors are being announced today (October 11), however, the industry was less responsive in providing cost data, except in the case of fixed capacitors.

Because adequate cost data were provided, the increase factor for fixed capacitors provides a ceiling price for capacitors which gives manufacturers their 1941 costs, adjusted to cover increases in basic wage rates and materials prices since, and the capacitor industry's average profits for the peace-time years 1936-1939.

Because parts makers from the Mid-West only supplied the bulk of the cost data on coils, radio power and audio transformers, chokes and vibrators, and speakers and speaker parts, the data submitted were from high-cost producers, not representative of the industry as a whole. Factors for these items, therefore, while

reflecting only one-half of manufacturers' average 1936-39 profits, are expected to yield prices high enough generally to allow producers as a group the full profit margin for 1936-39.

Virtually no cost data was supplied OPA on variable condensers, parts for electric phonographs, fixed and variable resistors, radio parts such as radio hardware, moulded parts, terminals, shields and switches. As a result, for these items, the final increase factors were fixed 4.5 percentage points above the "interim" factors, the amount of 4.5 percentage points being the smallest increase over the "interim" factor authorized for any of the four groups on which cost data was supplied, OPA said.

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U.S. COURT UPHOLDS STATION REFUSING RELIGIOUS GROUPS TIME

In an unanimous nine-page opinion, the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia Friday upheld the right of the William Penn Broadcasting Company to refuse to sell program time on Station WPEN, Philadelphia, to eight religious groups.

The decision, written by Judge John Biggs, Jr., and concurred in by Judges Gerald M. F. McLaughlin and Curtis L. Waller, admitted that while it was "true that for a man to speak or preach, he must have some place from which to do it", it did not follow "that he must seize a particular radio station for his forum."

A radio station, the Court held, might either sell time or give it to religious groups, but that no Federal law was violated when it refused to sell time to any such group.

"A radio broadcasting station", the Court added, "is not a public utility in the sense that it must permit broadcasting to whoever comes to its microphone."

The controversy arose after WPEN was purchased by The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. The new management cancelled all contracts held by religious groups with the previous owner, and announced it planned to donate time for religious programs, not including those of the complainants. In their suit the latter charged abridgment of the rights of free speech and religious worship and breach of contract.

Judge William H. Kirkpatrick of the United States District Court dismissed the suit in April on the ground that the plaintiffs had shown no cause for action, and Judge Biggs, in sustaining him, held that they had proved none of their allegations.

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CBS PROPOSES ALLOCATION CHANGE; NBC, ABC, WOR CONCUR

Increased coverage and a greater degree of equality among FM stations in the northeastern States was proposed on Monday by the Columbia Broadcasting System in a hearing on FM Frequency allocations before the Federal Communications Commission.

Joseph H. Ream, CBS Vice-President, in submitting a proposed revision of the FCC's allocation plan, pointed out that the alternative plan would increase the average coverage of New York City stations from 6,170 square miles to 6,710 square miles, and the average coverage of all stations in the northeastern area from 8,770 sq. mi. to 9,010 sq. mi.

"The total increased coverage of all stations in the area would be approximately 40,000 square miles", Mr. Ream said, "and this is equivalent to providing channels for five additional stations with a coverage of 8,000 square miles each."

The revised plan proposed by CBS was also supported by the National Broadcasting Company, Station WOR, key station of the Mutual Broadcasting System in New York; the American Broadcasting Company, and W. G. H. Finch, radio engineer and inventor.

Under the revised plan proposed by CBS, stations in each metropolitan district will, in most cases, have coverage areas which are more nearly equal. For example, in New York City, ten of the twenty stations will be practically identical in terms of coverage, and the variation of coverage between the extremes will be reduced from 56% to 39%.

"We advocate equality in physical facilities among stations in each market insofar as possible", Mr. Ream declared. "This will avoid the prince-and-pauper result which has existed in present day broadcasting, and will concentrate competition between stations in the field of programming. This should result in bringing the public a better program service."

The alternate plan proposed by CBS was reflected in sixty maps prepared by the CBS General Engineering Department. William B. Lodge, CBS Director of General Engineering, presented a detailed explanation of the plan and outlined the technical aspects of the improvement which the plan would provide.

Marcus Cohn, counsel for the United Broadcasting Corp., subsidiary of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (AFL) which last week applied for four FM stations, filed a protest against the FCC proposed allocations for New York, charging that the five best frequencies had been assigned to present broadcasters whereas newcomers should have an equal opportunity. Chairman Porter said putting all on an equal basis and starting all over again would be tantamount to cancelling some stations' licenses and disapproved of the proposition.

Henry W. Ladner, Assistant General Counsel, appeared for NBC and Frank D. Scott for WOR and WBAM, Bamberger FM stations.

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GIMBEL'S-RCA TO SHOW WHAT INTRA-STORE TELEVISION CAN DO

Arrangements have been completed with the RCA Victor Division of the Radio Corporation of America by Gimbel's-Philadelphia for a demonstration of intra-store television specifically designed to show the power of video as a department store selling medium.

The test demonstration will be opened to the public on Wednesday, October 24, and will run for an extensive period, Arthur C. Kaufmann, Executive Head of Gimbel's, disclosed.

Using the practical theme "Television goes to Work", Gimbel's-Philadelphia hopes to apply a yardstick to the merchandising assistance which television can provide by a dramatic presentation of the store's merchandise, Mr. Kaufmann said, and to measure the pulling power of television in building store traffic in selected selling areas. It was pointed out that the demonstration, at this time, would minimize but not overlook, video as an entertainment medium. It will, however, emphasize its possibilities to increase sales.

Based on the success of this demonstration, Mr. Bernard Gimbel, President of Gimbel Brothers, announced, consideration will be given to the installation of RCA Victor television equipment in Gimbel stores in Pittsburgh, New York, and Milwaukee.

He revealed that negotiations leading to the Philadelphia installation started with Frank M. Folsom, Executive Vice-President in charge of the RCA Victor Division, over a year ago, and were climaxed by an all-day visit of Gimbel directors to RCA Laboratories in Princeton, N. J., for a "behind the scenes" viewing of television and other electronic developments there.

Recalling that Gimbel Brothers was the first department store to install and operate a radio broadcasting station in Philadelphia in 1922, Mr. Gimbel declared that television would be an even greater force than radio in department store merchandising. By means of the RCA television system, he pointed out, customers on various floors can be shown Gimbel merchandise on other floors throughout the store.

"We are satisfied that television is sufficiently developed to enable us to conduct a fair test of its usefulness in store merchandising activities", Mr. Gimbel declared. "That is the purpose of the experiment to be conducted in Philadelphia, and why we are willing to make the investment to conduct this experiment."

In his brief message following Mr. Gimbel, Mr. Folsom at the press conference held for representatives of the radio and consumer merchandise trade publications in New York on Thursday (October 11th), declared that wartime conditions and unavailability of equipment and personnel did not permit carrying out the Gimbel organization's ideas on store television when they were first presented in 1944.

"However", he said, "Bernard Gimbel is one of the most ardent believers in television and he recognizes that television can be profitably applied to store merchandising activities. It is on that basis that Gimbel Brothers are undertaking this extensive experiment in Philadelphia for which RCA Victor is supplying the equipment."

Department stores will benefit from the Gimbel's-Philadelphia television demonstration, it was revealed. Store executives throughout the country, it was announced by Mr. Kaufmann, would be invited to Philadelphia to see at first hand Gimbel's results and experiences so that for the first time they would have actual facts on the practical possibilities of store merchandising through video.

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CHAIRMAN PORTER, GOVERNOR PORTER, OR SENATOR PORTER?

There was no comment from Chairman Paul Porter on the revival of the rumor that he was to leave the Federal Communications Commission soon. This report keeps bobbing up. At first it was that he intended running for United States Senator from Kentucky. However, there will be no vacancy there until 1949, at which time the term of Senator A. B. "Happy" Chandler expires. Even if Senator Chandler should finally decide to accept the position of baseball czar November 1st, Governor Simeon S. Willis, of Kentucky, being a Republican, would appoint a Republican so Paul Porter wouldn't have a chance there.

However, a later rumor was that Mr. Porter would resign from the FCC to run for Governor of Kentucky. The term of Governor Willis expires December, 1947, and the gubernatorial term in Kentucky is for four years. According to that dope, Paul, if elected Governor, would then be slated to try for the next senatorial vacancy.

Still another report was that Mr. Porter might go back to the Columbia Broadcasting System in an executive capacity.

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WESTERN UNION SECURES FM LICENSE FROM MAJOR ARMSTRONG

Western Union Telegraph Co. has further solidified its position in the field of radio transmission, it was disclosed Tuesday in New York by the Associated Press, with announcement of a license agreement to use the FM inventions of Maj. Edwin H. Armstrong.

Company officials said Western Union already uses FM in a large number of its carrier systems and that the new agreement, to run until 1956, makes possible the use of the Armstrong inventions in development of its telegraph radio relay system.

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CELLER BILL SEEKS TO CONTROL RADIO STATIONS' SALES PRICES

In introducing his bill designed to protect radio from over-commercialization, Representative Celler (D), of New York on Monday said:

"A phase of the bill concerns itself with excessive prices paid in the transfer of stations. I know of one case where a station was sold for 1,543 times its net income. Stations with assets of about \$50,000 have been sold for \$500,000. Such uncontrolled prices make it possible for only those of great wealth to operate stations and tend to keep the control of radio in the hands of a select few. It is an unbalanced and unhealthy condition for so vital a medium as radio which has tremendous force in the molding of public opinion and public taste. The bill I have offered, therefore, includes the following:

"No transfer or assignment shall be approved in which the total consideration to be paid for the broadcast property, tangible and intangible, exceeds the fair value of such property: Provided, That such fair value shall not exceed double the depreciated cost value of the tangible broadcast property transferred or assigned."

"Application for renewal licenses are made every three years. Too often the renewals are granted automatically. There should be a reexamination for each renewal application to determine whether the public interest is best being served by its present operators. Each renewal should be subjected to rigid investigation and any citizen who wishes to do so should be allowed to raise his voice in opposition or register his complaint. Furthermore, any person or entity desiring to function on the wavelength involved should have the right to appear and present his case. If he can demonstrate his ability to operate the station to a greater degree in the public interest, renewal of the application to the current licensee should be refused and the privilege granted to the new applicant."

Mr. Celler's explanation of the bill and the text of the bill are reprinted in full on Page A-4661 of the Congressional Record of October 15, 1945.

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BBC DIRECTOR-GENERAL PROPOSES INTERNATIONAL TELE PACT

Looking to the time when television programs will be able to reach into homes across the ocean, William J. Haley, Director-General of the British Broadcasting Company, has proposed that an international agreement be reached upon the bands of frequencies to be allocated to television and upon common television standards.

Mr. Haley's remarks were relayed from London to the luncheon session of the "Television Institute", a two-day discussion program sponsored by Televiser Magazine.

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WMBD CONTROVERSIAL TIME POLICY ATTRACTS WIDE ATTENTION

It is now possible to give the details of the new policy adopted by Edgar L. Bill, President of Station WMBD, of Peoria, Ill. in allotting time for the discussion of controversial issues, in which so many broadcasters have expressed an interest. The complete text of the plan follows:

"Broadcasting is dedicated to freedom of expression, limited only as prescribed by law and by considerations of decency, fairness and good taste.

"In the spirit of freedom of speech and as a part of our public service, WMBD provides time for the presentation of public questions including opposing views on issues of a controversial nature.

"To arrange such broadcasts so that all interests are treated with justice and equality, WMBD is guided by the following policy:

1. WMBD will provide broadcast time free of charge, or will sell time, for the purpose of discussing public questions and controversial issues. The determination of whether such time shall be commercial or sustaining will depend upon circumstances involved in each case.
2. Each request for time for the discussion of controversial issues will be considered by the station management on the basis of the following factors:
 - a. Merit of subject.
 - b. Contribution to the community and public interest.
 - c. Degree of public interest.
 - d. Status of organization and/or individual requesting time with regard to recognized law and policy enforcement agencies and public welfare.
3. Broadcast time for public questions and controversial issues will be allotted with due regard to all the other elements of balanced program scheduling.
4. Commercial programs advertising products or services will not be permitted to include discussion of public issues. Any product or service advertiser desiring to purchase time for this purpose shall be required to buy separate program units and no product or service advertising shall be permitted on such programs.
5. All commercial programs whose continuity promotes sale of a product or a service are considered non-controversial.

5. All commercial programs whose continuity promotes sale of a product or a service are considered non-controversial.
6. Continuity must be submitted to the radio station 48 hours in advance of broadcast time. Such material will be examined with due regard to truthful and factual statements, existing libel laws, standards of good broadcasting, decency and good taste.
7. Only program time of five minutes' length or more is available for discussion of public questions and controversial issues. Program material must be presented in talk or speech form only by an authorized representative of the organization to which program time has been allotted. Such program forms as dramatization, forums, audience participation, quiz, anonymous voices and other practices are not permitted.
8. The one-time national advertised rate will apply to all programs in this classification.
9. All broadcasts of controversial issues and dealing with public questions must be properly identified according to the regulations stipulated in Section 3.409 of the Communications Acts of 1934.

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IT WAS PIERRE (NOT PAUL) AS EVEN THIS EDITOR WELL KNEW

Last week Capt. Pierre H. Boucheron, USNR, for many years a prominent figure in the publicity, advertising and sales fields, returning to the Farnsworth Television & Radio Corporation of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was inadvertently referred to in these columns as "Paul" Boucheron. It was one of those stupid mistakes that happen about once every so often and are so hard to explain.

Captain Boucheron has been appointed Director of Public Relations for Farnsworth by E. A. Nicholas, President of that company.

Before being called to active duty in July 1941, Captain Boucheron was Sales Manager for the company from its inception. He served the U. S. Navy as a communications specialist on several important assignments, first in Greenland, then successively in Washington, D. C., North Africa, and finally in France from which country he recently returned to civilian status after a total of over four years' service, three of which was overseas duty.

Captain Boucheron was awarded the U. S. Navy Commendation Ribbon for the successful completion of his Greenland mission. He also received the rare Ouissam Alaouite Cherifien, degree of commander, from the Sultan of Morocco, and the Cross of Chevalier, Legion of Honor from the French Government.

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RECONVERSION CONFERENCE OF RMA CANADIAN-U.S. ASSOCIATIONS

"Back to work" in civilian radio production was the keynote of a reconversion conference of radio industry leaders of the United States and Canada last Wednesday and Thursday, October 10 and 11, at the Westchester Country Club, Rye, New York. Information was exchanged on many mutual and parallel reconversion problems including government price orders and procedure hampering manufacturers of both countries. President R. C. Cosgrove of the Radio Manufacturers' Association of the United States presided, and the Canadian RMA officers and directors were headed by President R. M. Brophy of Canada.

Necessity for the radio industry to "go to work" and resume civilian radio production and employment was stressed at the meetings. Obstacles and difficulties in government price regulation, requiring manufacturers to sell below cost in many instances, were recited. The Westchester meetings closely followed OPA announcement of both receiving set, parts, tubes and cabinet price increases, which, although substantially increased since September 1, were declared by many manufacturers, and especially several parts groups, to prevent recovery of costs and show volume production.

It appeared to be the consensus of opinion that volume production would be attained slowly and that many hardship appeals would be presented to OPA from its price decisions, by set as well as component manufacturers. Arrangements were made to advise RMA members promptly and in detail of such hardship appeal procedure with OPA.

The Canadian-U.S. industry groups discussed many mutual problems. The Canadian visitors were tendered a dinner Wednesday evening, October 10, and as a memento of international cooperation were presented by the U.S. RMA with a scroll commemorating their second conference. Another joint meeting in Canada in 1946 is planned.

President Brophy of the Canadian RMA told the joint industry conference that the Canadian industry expected to deliver 100,000 new radio sets before Christmas and should be able to meet full demands within a year. He praised the cooperation and recent war production of the two national industries and organizations.

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RADIO PARTS TRADE SHOW SET FOR MAY 13-16 IN CHICAGO

The Board of Directors of the newly formed Radio Parts and Electronic Equipment Shows, Inc., have announced the definite date and tentative plans for the 1946 trade show at Chicago. The sudden ending of the war with Japan necessitated revision of the original plan to hold the 1946 show in October. Realizing the desirability for holding the show at the earliest practical date, May 13th through 16th (Monday through Thursday) has been set. Chicago, the site of many previous radio trade shows was selected

because of its geographically central location and availability of the Hotel Stevens facilities.

The trade show corporation is represented by eight Directors appointed by the four sponsoring organizations, two from each group. These men, all well known among the trade, are:

From Parts Division of Radio Manufacturers' Association: Leslie F. Muter, the Muter Company, Chicago, Illinois; Jerome J. Kahn, Standard Transformer Corporation, Chicago, Illinois.

From National Electronic Distributors' Association: W. O. Schoning, Lukko Sales Corporation, Chicago, Illinois; Sam Poncher, Newark Electric Company, Chicago, Illinois.

From Association of Electronic Parts and Equipment Manufacturers: H. W. Clough, Belden Manufacturing Company, Chicago, Illinois; J. A. Berman, Shure Brothers, Chicago, Illinois.

From Sales Managers Club, Eastern Division: R. P. Almy, Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., Emporium, Pennsylvania, and Charles Golenpaul, Aerovox Corporation, New Bedford, Massachusetts.

As soon as the services of a Show Manager can be obtained, a headquarters office will be established in Chicago.

Exhibitors at the show will be limited to members of the four sponsoring groups. No radio sets will be displayed. Application forms are being prepared and will be mailed to all sponsor members soon.

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G.E. HAS NEW RADIO NOISE FILTER

A tiny gadget developed by General Electric for making better radio reception possible aboard the giant B-29s will be an important factor in bringing better radio reception in the homes, G. W. Frick, G.E. engineer, said Monday at Schenectady.

Known as a radio noise filter, the device is being widely used to eliminate static or buzzing in electrical equipment, such as household appliances.

In the case of the B-29, Mr. Frick explained, the motor which drives the gyro used in the complicated gunfire control was producing such a buzz or hum that it was difficult for the crew's radio operator to pick up distant signals. Application of the filter stopped the disturbance before it reached the radio.

The device has been applied to apparatus such as generators, exciters, amplidynes, inverters and dynamotors.

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::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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Wainwright Gets RCA Message to Wife
(Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright in "This is My Story" King Features)

After the Japs attacked, I rode back to Stotsenburg about 3 o'clock that afternoon for lunch and found an American girl - a Mrs. Necker, wife of the manager of the Radio Corporation of America station at Manila - sitting on my front porch. She had been up to Baguio with friends over the week-end and had driven down to Stotsenburg before the Baguio raid. Her husband was supposed to meet her at Stotsenburg, but the Japs had knocked down one of the railroad bridges on the line leading up from Manila.

She was stuck, one of the first of so many defenseless American women caught in the machinery of war. Tom Dooley quickly found that there would be no train to Manila until the bridge was repaired. So I fixed up a room for Mrs. Necker and got through a call to her husband.

Mr. Necker seemed very grateful and asked me what he could do to repay me.

"Send a message to my wife and tell her I'm okay", I asked him. He did this, and sent other such messages, one of the last of which was a Christmas wire to Mrs. Wainwright just before the RCA station closed down.

Texas Proposes Television Theatre Circuit
("Film Daily")

Interstate Theatres of Dallas, Texas, have announced plans for a television theatre in Galveston.

An 800-seat showplace will be erected, when materials are available, to serve as a test of the circuit's television plans. Five other Galveston sites have been acquired for theatres to be television equipped, it was stated.

CIO and FM
("Washington Times-Herald")

The CIO Political Action Committee is putting on a high pressure campaign to keep control of frequency modulation (FM) radio broadcasting out of the hands of publishers and industrialists who control regular broadcasting through mass ownership of stations.

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::: TRADE NOTES :::
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Saying that friends may prove President Truman's Waterloo, Drew Pearson writes:

"One old friend, Edward McKim, a Nebraska insurance man, got him into trouble. Another insurance friend, George E. Allen, is likely to get him into more."

(Editor's Note: Mr. Allen is a director of the Aviation Corporation which recently bought out Crosley. Also a Director of the I. T. & T.)

Aviation Corp. announced it planned to offer for public sale 236,000 shares of American Airlines if finally ordered by the CAB to dispose of them.

The Federal Communications Commission announced last week a policy of issuing a limited number of experimental licenses for the operation of radar navigational devices.

The Commission emphasized that the authorization will be made only for Experimental Class 2 stations where it is clear that the facilities are to be used to obtain data relative to the needs of a proposed radar navigational service and to collect information which might be useful in formulating regulations governing the operation of radar stations.

A certain Republican Senator sees taking VIPs (as the Army and Navy call them - Very Important Persons) on tours to the war zones, such as the recent party of radio executives to Europe, as really a means that is being taken to get key people of the country under obligations to the present Administration.

A 52 week contract for major boxing bouts to be aired over the full network of Associated Broadcasting Corporation, has been signed by Adam's Hats through the Buchanan Company, Inc., New York.

Columbia Broadcasting System's Affiliates Advisory Board will hold its third meeting of 1946 on October 18th and 19th at CBS headquarters in New York City.

Arthur Rank, Chairman of Odeon Theatres, of England, has stated in his annual statement that television will play an important part in screen entertainment and that Odeon, with other associated companies, is participating in research on the development of large screen video.

The Jap radar was said to have been so poor they couldn't tell whether it was Japanese or enemy planes that were coming in.

FCC Commissioner William H. Wills, former Governor of Vermont, who suffered a heart attack recently, is now able to visit his office each day.

Increased releases of mica from the government stockpile to help industry meet immediate peacetime needs was announced last week by the War Production Board.

In a letter sent to all manufacturers and fabricators using mica, the agency announced that on October 24, it would authorize the Metals Reserve Corporation to release 107,500 pounds of the Government's stockpile to complete manufacturers' orders for which they have no mica on hand.

This stockpile release is in addition to approximately 20,000 pounds freed in the early part of September.

Hon. Lowell B. Mason, of Illinois, was sworn in as a member of the Federal Trade Commission on Monday. He is a Republican, son of the late William E. "Billy" Mason, United States Senator from Illinois, and is one of the two Republican members of the 5-man bipartisan Commission and the first new Commissioner to be sworn in for many years. It was the first induction of a Commissioner in the present Federal Trade Commission Building.

Mr. Mason was nominated by President Truman to fill the unexpired term of Commissioner Charles H. March, Republican, of Minnesota, who died on August 28th.

Rewriting House-approved legislation authorizing President Truman to reorganize the Government, the Senate Judiciary Committee put in provisions that:

1. No change shall be made in the status of 13 agencies. (This still leaves 90 or more that the President can shift about.)

2. Any reorganization plan may be vetoed by either House or Senate, acting alone.

The first of the 13 agencies exempted was the Federal Communications Commission.

First high-speed production-line installation for electronics curing and drying of foamed sponge rubber for automobile and airplane seat cushions, furniture upholstery, mattresses and a host of other post-war products has been placed in production in the Fall River (Mass.) plant of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, according to a joint announcement by Firestone and the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, builders of the equipment.

The new technique which employs high frequency radio waves - just like those of shortwave broadcasting or radar - to generate heat in the work by agitating its molecular structure, and six times as fast as present methods, is equally adaptable to either natural or synthetic rubber, Firestone Chairman John W. Thomas declared.

Copies of the booklet, Council on Radio Journalism, are being mailed by the National Association of Broadcasters to all radio stations in the United States. The Council on Radio Journalism was established by joint action of the Radio News Committee of the NAB and the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism.