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No. 1707

November 28, 1945

TV NO PIPEDREAM, SAYS BBC HEAD; HAD 20-25000 PREWAR SETS

According to W. J. Haley, Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation, there are some people who call themselves realists (when they are merely being short-sighted) who believe that television is a pipedream.

"But we firmly believe that television is only in its toddling steps", Mr. Haley declared in a broadcast from London by the BBC's North American Service.

"One day it will stride out, not only across countries and States, but also, we hope, across oceans. After the things which the radio scientists have achieved in the past six years, who dares to say that anything is ultimately impossible?"

So far as known here, Mr. Haley revealed for the first time the actual number of television sets the British had in use prior to the outbreak of hostilities.

"As you know, we had a public television service in operation here in London before the war. We thought it a pretty good service, and were proud of it. In all, there were about 20,000 to 25,000 receivers; that meant probably well over 100,000 viewers."

The 20,000 to 25,000 figure was somewhat higher than attributed to Col. Sir Ian Fraser of the BBC when he was in the United States sometime ago. When someone asked how many television sets had been sold in England in the four years of their operation before the war, he was quoted as replying: "I regret to say - under 15,000."

In addition to Alexandra Palace, the BBC has just announced that six other television stations will be opened in the provinces and all will send out the same program. At this stage no method of increasing the 40 mile radius from any station has been found, but it is estimated that when the seven stations are in operation, 75 per cent of the population of the country will be able to see the programs. It is reported that negotiations are shortly to be opened to explore the possibilities of motion picture theatres showing televised scenes of important national events.

Excerpts of Mr. Haley's broadcasts follow:

"First and foremost, our transmitting apparatus at Alexandra Palace is undamaged. Through the war years it was used for war purposes. We have got to do a certain amount of reconversion on it. But it came through all enemy action unharmed. We hope in a very few weeks to be making our first test transmissions from it

once more. We will follow these up before the end of the year by transmissions for the benefit of the radio industry. Upon the satisfactory nature of these tests, and upon the speed with which we can get our technicians, our programme staffs, and our other television experts back from the Services, will depend the date in 1946 when we can start our service again.

"We shall start it in London, but there is an obligation upon us to extend it step by step to the remainder of England, Scotland, and Wales as fast as the various circumstances allow. If at some stage in our geographical progress we discover that a new and perfected system has become a practical proposition, then we will run the two systems in parallel, side by side. The owners of sets capable of receiving the present system will be given a guarantee of so many years' service.

"But with either the existing or a still-to-be-discovered system the steady geographical march of television will go on. Here, again, we will depend on the flow of men and materials and the priorities that can be established for the necessary labor. But the BBC today looks forward with zest to a period of active television endeavor. We are going to start where we left off. But we are not going to stay there.

"The day when it is possible for peoples not merely to listen to other peoples but also to look in on them will see one of the greatest steps forward in international understanding. Think of the effect it will have when here in England the daily American scene with its high lights, its fascinations, and its excitements, and, above all, its more serious occasions, becomes a spectacle capable of being seen in the ordinary British home.

"The exchange of programmes in sound radio has helped powerfully towards a greater and closer understanding of each other's way of thinking and way of life. Add vision to sound, make the picture complete, get the nations exchanging their daily scenes, and after that the world will never be quite the same place again. My own firm belief is that thereafter it will be a better place. We know what we have learned in the way of understanding from having three million American soldiers living side by side with us.

"It is only thirty-six years ago that the first aeroplane flew the English Channel. We do not believe it will be that many years before television makes the same hop. And while the Atlantic seems a much wider proposition -- well, probably the first aeroplane pioneers felt the same way about it."

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The first popular-priced home radio received was said by Westinghouse to have been put on the market by that company in June 1921. It was the six-by-six-by-seven inch Aeriola, Jr., a crystal set with a range of 12 to 15 miles. It sold for \$25.00.

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BELIEVED ANTI-PETRILLO BILL "HASN'T CHANCE IN MILLION"

It is the belief in well-informed circles that the bill recently introduced by Rep. Clarence F. Lea (D), of California, which would make certain demands on broadcasters by James C. Petrillo, President of the American Federation of Labor, a felony, "hasn't one chance in a million".

The reason given was that members of Congress were always thinking in terms of re-election and that while many of them "hated Petrillo's guts" (as indeed many among the labor rank and file seem to), they would not vote for the Lea, or any other anti-labor bill, for fear that it might react on them in their re-election. They'd "sock Petrillo in a minute" but with the American Federation of Labor behind him, members of Congress would watch their step, it was explained. In other words, labor is still in the saddle in Congress as it apparently is elsewhere.

Representative Lea, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, said his bill proposed the addition of three new sections to the penal provisions of the Federal Communications Act. These provisions would penalize certain coercive practices which compel the hiring of a greater number of employees than wanted by a broadcaster or the exaction of a tribute against the broadcaster for the use of certain materials, including transcriptions or chemical or electrical reproductions, and the use of such coercive methods to prevent non-compensated members from participating in a non-commercial educational or cultural program.

"These demands by Petrillo in behalf of the Association of Musicians are not within the legitimate rights of any organization", Representative Lea declared. "Carrying as they do threats of reprisals if not complied with, they are on the moral level of rackets and extortion. A self respecting government cannot afford to permit such practices to prevail. The objective of this legislation is to prevent them.

"Compliance of these demands for tribute without the performance of services has cost the broadcasters millions of dollars in the last few years. A demand is now pending which requires that where a station simultaneously broadcasts musical programs through two outlets it shall employ two sets of musicians for such simultaneous broadcast. In such cases the extra set of musicians would perform no useful service whatever to the broadcasting station."

The Lea Anti-Petrillo Bill (HR-4737) is now in the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Even if acted upon favorably there, it seems very doubtful if the House itself will pass it.

Stating that there was one angle which had not been brought out in the Petrillo FM controversey, an official said:

"That is that 99-9/10% of all the FM sets that were built were combination FM and AM. There are practically no strictly FM sets, except a handful that GE built and they didn't sell. In other words, FM does not give a service to an additional audience because the audience that owns the AM set can only listen to AM or FM at one time. It isn't as though FM had an entirely separate audience."

With regard to FM stations closing down to get ready for the new frequencies or to make repairs, our informant continued:

"I understand that the Petrillo ruling is the true cause of this but so as not to lose their place in the air and their wave lengths these companies are saying that they have shut down for alterations for the new frequencies. That, of course, is just an alibi to hold their frequencies because they could make the alterations and change to the new frequencies and be off the air only two or three days. In view of the fact that new tubes are not ready for the new frequencies and will not be for the next six months, that means that these stations, if they persist in the same alibi of alterations, will be off the air at least six months.

"It is a dangerous blow to FM but it is exactly what the chains wanted to accomplish. I am afraid that the chains have Petrillo playing into their hands and Petrillo is not on very sound ground in this case because it is not a double service in the sense that it widens the audience as everybody that owns an FM also has AM in the same receiver. It is only a question of whether they listen to their AM or FM band for better service. If there were thousands of FM sets on the market that did not have the AM band Petrillo would be on much more firm ground but such is not the case. There was only a handful of FM sets that have ever been sold."

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PAUL ELLISON, SYLVANIA, IS NATIONAL ADVERTISERS' CHAIRMAN

Paul S. Ellison, Director of Advertising and Sales Promotion of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., was elected Chairman of the Board of the Association of National Advertisers at their annual meeting in New York last week. Mr. Ellison succeeded Charles C. Carr, Director of Public Relations of the Aluminum Company of America.

Another important action taken at the meeting was a vote to establish a Radio Council to keep members advised of developments in radio, to study Government regulations, network policies, and to assist members with their radio problems.

The Radio Council, which will operate under the guidance of the Executive Committee of ANA, will serve as an industry guide to problems heretofore handled individually by advertisers. It will be headed, the ANA stated, by "a competent radio specialist", who, according to D. B. Stetler, of Standard Brands, Chairman of the ANA Radio Committee, has not yet been chosen but will be the best man the ANA can secure.

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WARNER WITH RECORDER KILLS OLD STALL, "I WAS MISQUOTED"

Col. Albert L. Warner, head of the WOL-Cowles Washington Radio News Bureau, by using wire recorders to cover all spot news, is dealing a death blow to Capitol Hill's most famous alibi, "I was misquoted." If a Representative or Senator's foot slips in debate, he can get it corrected, changed or even deleted in the Congressional Record, but there isn't much he can do about his recorded remarks which, of course, are afterwards broadcast.

On the occasion of Prime Minister Clement Atlee's address before a joint meeting of Congress, Colonel Warner took the wire recorder to the House Radio Gallery and immediately following the Prime Minister's speech, sought reactions from Congressional leaders. Appearing with him were Senators Warren R. Austin of Vermont; Lister Hill of Alabama; and Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin; Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts; Representatives James Wadsworth of New York; and Thomas F. Gordon of Illinois. Their comments were played back on the evening edition of General Electric's "Voice of Washington". Thus listeners for the first time in a newscast heard the actual voiced reactions of their leaders.

Another use for the recorder has been found almost daily on "District Assignment". This is another show Warner has created for WOL audiences and is heard at 5 o'clock daily under the direction of Lou Brott. Mr. Brott's definite assignment from the WOL News Bureau is complete coverage of all District affairs. Because of the unique situation of District dwellers' problems, like suffrage, increased wages for Government employees, trolley strikes, etc., these matters are all of first importance. Mr. Brott takes a wire recorder to District Committee hearings, to trolley strike meetings, for the sole purpose of getting on-the-spot statements from civic leaders.

Typical sample arose when the District of Columbia was threatened with milk famine, with milk rationing imminent. Mr. Brott immediately contacted John F. Gismond, Milk Director for the OPA and J. B. Derrick, President of the Maryland-Virginia Milk Producers' Association, and with the wire recorder waiting in the OPA offices was able to record first, authentic information Washington audiences had concerning reasons behind threatened shortage.

Colonel Warner is convinced that wire recorders, with their ability to cover any news events with amazing rapidity offered radio news editors a completely new field for news presentations.

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ATLAS CORP. MAY INJECT NEW LIFE INTO VERSLUIS NETWORK

It remains to be seen whether Floyd Odum, President of the Atlas Corporation, will enter radio via the Associated Broadcasting Corporation of Grand Rapids, Mich., a network which made its debut a few months ago. Mr. Odum has loaned Leonard Versluis \$150,000 with an option later to apply that sum and other cash to the purchase of a substantial majority of its shares.

Upon completion of an analysis and appraisal of the broadcasting chain's prospects, Atlass will decide whether there will be an opportunity to operate it as a fifth nationwide network, Mr. Odum said.

Founded in December, 1943, the network made up of independent stations which had no chain affiliation, has been expanding steadily, and now has twenty-two units in its chain, including WMCA in New York City. Among other principal cities served are San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago, Minneapolis, Detroit, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Washington, D. C.

In the beginning a prominent station owner observed Associated Broadcasting had about as little a chance to succeed as any network he had seen start. However, if the Atlas Corporation backs it or takes over, the fifth national network may assume a new importance.

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DuMONT APPROVES NEW FCC TV SETUP

Dr. Allen B. DuMont, President of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, was one of the first to be heard from in connection with the Federal Communications Commission's change of television channel allocations. He said:

"The Federal Communications Commission has handled a difficult problem with courage and intelligence in its announcement of television channel allocations to 140 principal communities. This is the first of several important steps which will soon speed television's development as a full-blown industry.

"We can now proceed with the manufacture of television receivers as soon as suppliers of components are released from the uneconomic restrictions imposed on them by the Office of Price Administration and components are thus made available. Our factory will begin filling back orders for television transmitters as soon as the broadcasters who have requested transmitters are assigned channels by the FCC. We are confident that the Commission will begin assigning channels to applicants within a few weeks.

"Shortly after the first of the year, our organization expects to have the new television studios of WABD in the main John Wanamaker New York store completed and to link this station with our new Washington, D. C., outlet atop the Hotel Harrington. We are already conducting experimental broadcasts from our Washington station."

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ROUGH GOING SEEN FOR COMMENTATORS' GAG LEGISLATION

Although there will be a tremendous amount of talk by a noisy Congressional minority (you could almost count them on the fingers of your right hand just as in the same way you could nearly count the few commentators at which the legislation is aimed), the general opinion is that the bill introduced by Representative John S. Wood (D), of Georgia, will have slight chance of enactment in its present form either by the House or Senate, or if by any miracle it did pass, President Truman would never sign it.

The reason is, of course, that it would be the most forward step this country has ever taken in the direction of censorship. And that is exactly the objection voiced against the bill by one of the first persons in the country to oppose it - CIO President Philip Murray, who said:

"The CIO * * * is unalterably opposed to attempts to censor or gag radio broadcasts", Mr. Murray declared in a letter to Chairman Lea of the House Interstate Commerce Committee, to which the measure has been referred.

Commenting upon the bill, Jack Gould, Radio Editor of the New York Times, said:

"For reasons by no means adequately explained, the House Committee on Un-American Activities has decided to concern itself with radio commentators. * * *

"Quite properly, the radio industry has taken umbrage at this course of events. Indeed, it would be difficult to imagine how the reconstituted committee could have started off less auspiciously or afforded its critics more legitimate reason for viewing its aims with a skeptical eye. * * *

"In the last analysis, what an individual or a Congressional Committee thinks of a commentator can only be a matter of opinion or taste. The true danger lies in the effort, no matter how plausibly presented, which might result in jeopardizing a commentator's freedom of expression. The commentator who proves most disturbing to the committee may very well be the commentator whom the committee should be most interested in protecting and not in threatening by use of innuendo in publicity handouts. The prospect of a Federal agency winning power to crack down on a commentator is far more to be feared than anything the commentator might say."

The Wood anti-commentators bill would compel radio stations to:

1. "Clearly separate and distinguish programs consisting of news items" from those involving the commentator's personal opinion "or propaganda".

2. Identify by full and proper announcements every person engaged "in broadcasting opinions and propaganda"; maintain "for public inspection" a statement setting forth the name, place of birth, nationality and political affiliation of its news commentators.

3. File with the Federal Communications Commission a set of rules to govern "opinionated" broadcasts.

4. Maintain in every State within a radius of 500 miles of the station a legal agent against whom action can be brought in local courts by any person who feels he has been injured by a broadcast. Under present law, a broadcaster may be sued only in the Federal district in which the program originated.

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PHILCO SHOWS \$1,846,965 PROFIT IN YEAR'S FIRST 9 MONTHS

Net income of Philco Corporation in the first nine months of 1945 totaled \$1,846,965 or \$1.35 per share, after estimated Federal and State income and excess profits taxes and after provision for adjustment and renegotiation of war contracts. These earnings compare with \$2,898,425 or \$2.11 per share in the first nine months of last year.

In the third quarter of 1945, net income amounted to \$202,342 or 15 cents per share, as compared to \$990,714 or 72 cents per share in the corresponding period last year.

"Sales in the third quarter were 45% below those of the second quarter, due to the large-scale cancellation of war production contracts following V-J Day", John Ballantyne, President of Philco, said. "Resumption of civilian production has been somewhat slower than anticipated, largely as a result of delays in obtaining deliveries from suppliers and sub-contractors. Present indications are that the third quarter marked the low point in our reconversion program, and production of civilian radio receivers and refrigerators is now increasing at an encouraging rate."

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MARK WOODS ELECTED TO CAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company, has been elected a member of the Board of Governors of the Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting, Inc.

One of radio's youngest top executives, 44-year old Mark Woods is at the same time one of radio's pioneers, having been engaged in the broadcasting business nearly half his lifetime, and brings to CAB a comprehensive radio background.

CAB was founded in 1929 and is directed by a tripartite Board of Governors which represents the advertiser, the advertising agency and the medium of radio.

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MAGUIRE TURNED OUT \$3,500,000 RADAR JAMMING DEVICES

Maguire Industries, Inc., company officials disclosed, produced, among many other items, some \$3,500,000 worth of the hitherto secret radar-jamming devices revealed in Washington by the Army, Navy and Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Probably the most dramatic job was a Navy order for fifty big radar-jamming transmitters. Because of the Company's record of performance on other contracts, it was given to Maguire in December 1943, by the Bureau of Ships. Five Navy officers were assigned to expedite it. Work went forward day and night with Navy Officers joining the office workers on the night assembly lines. The fifty transmitters were completed ahead of schedule and on "D" day in June 1944, facilitated the invasion of Europe by effectively blacking out the German radar stations on the French coast.

These transmitters were completed at the Maguire Plant in Greenwich, Conn., where a wide-band airborne panorama receiver, designed for the detection of high-frequency activity over a greater range than was previously possible, also was produced. At the Bridgeport Plant, large quantities of Butterfly type variable condensers and test equipment for high-frequency apparatus were produced.

Wavemeters for the microwave used in radar and other devices were also designed and produced.

"Experience of our engineers with the high-frequency counter-measure equipment", says Russell Maguire, President, "is now proving of great value in our peacetime radio production. Some of our railroad radio equipment, for instance, operates in the same frequency range as the early radar."

Under the countermeasures development program of District 15 of the National Defense Research Committee, which is part of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, the Maguire Plant filled contracts for the Radio Research Laboratories at Harvard, the NDRC, Radiation Laboratory at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Army and the Navy and also important sub-contracts for other companies.

Vice President Raymond Koontz of the Maguire Industries, Inc., with the organization since 1936, has been named General Manager of all the company's operating divisions.

In his new capacity, Mr. Koontz will supervise all manufacturing operations of the company and its subsidiaries, Columbia Machine Works, Inc., of Brooklyn, and the Radiart Corp. of Cleveland. Other major operations of the company are at Chicago and Mt. Carmel, Ill., Bridgeport, Greenwich and Stamford, Conn.

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WHY NOT USE BOTH OLD AND NEW FM BANDS, JANSKY ASKS

Emphasizing the fact that though it was believed there were enough FM frequencies for all comers, actually a great shortage is in sight, C. M. Jansky, Jr., of Washington, noted radio engineer, has suggested that both the old and the newly created FM bands be used. "Most sets will have both bands anyway", Dr. Jansky declared. He also made a strong plea to take space for FM from the television band.

Explaining the FM situation at the annual meeting of the Inland Daily Press Association at Chicago, Dr. Jansky said, in part:

"Unfortunately, the great demand is not for FM stations scattered across the country. This is because the population of the United States is not uniformly distributed."

"Even a cursory examination of the new FM allocation structure in the light of the more than 500 applications for new FM stations shows that not enough FM channels have been assigned to meet the demand, at least in the East. Indications are that a similar situation will soon exist in other parts of the country. An AP dispatch in the New York Times for October 13, 1945, carried the following statement:

"Paul Porter, FCC Chairman, believes 2,000 to 3,000 FM stations will be built within a few years * * * *

"When FM first came in radio circles felt there would be stations enough for everybody. In laying out the system, however, it was discovered that FM would face a shortage of channels just as AM does.

"In some areas the struggle for channels will be intense."

"The entire radio spectrum is crowded. If FM is to have more space then some other service must have less. If the creation of a freely competitive broadcast industry by the expansion of the FM band is of prime public importance, then from what service must space be taken? The answer is television."

"I have no intention of disparaging television which may well have a great future as a broadcasting medium when the many and complex economic and engineering problems involved in establishing this industry have been completely solved. Much time, effort and money has been expended in television development in recent years. However, the necessity of expanding the FM band if we are to have enough channels requires turning the spotlight upon the obstacles to this expansion that their true nature may be evaluated. * * * *

"With adequate space assigned to it the future of FM is not a matter of speculation. It is a certainty.

"With respect to television, opinion is sharply divided. The art of television is technically far more complicated than that of sound broadcasting. The cost of transmitters and receivers is far greater. The cost of producing high quality programs as indicated by testimony before the FCC reaches almost fantastic proportions. Some prominent in the industry, while expressing firm belief in television's future, nevertheless insist that it can never be developed into a worth-while service in the frequency bands now assigned it. Only recently, Paul W. Kesten, Executive Vice President of the Columbia Broadcasting System, one of the nations two largest radio networks, expressed this view in his testimony before the FCC on the proposed FCC television rules and regulations. He stated.

"I would not be sincere if I did not add that any testimony I have offered on the proposed requirements in the lower frequencies has been presented with the troubled conviction that it is, or soon will be, irrelevant -- as though, at this hearing, we were all speaking the lines and rehearsing the parts for a play that will never really open, or will close down almost as soon as it opens.

"I have in mind, of course, the future use of the higher television frequencies -- which will ring the curtain down abruptly on the stage we are setting here. * * * I can't avoid the feeling that a combination of events and circumstances are playing a curious trick upon us all -- that they are making us plan here and now for a future that is, at this moment, largely of the past -- that they are making us lay the foundation for a structure that should never be built.'

"In conclusion, briefly this is the situation which confronts us. To be truly free the opportunity to secure a broadcasting station license must, within reason, be open to all. This requirement can only be met by the assignment of more channels to FM. As a practical matter, if more channels are assigned FM they must be taken from the space at present assigned to television. Determination of the proper division of this portion of the radio spectrum between FM and television is a matter of broad public policy. Therefore, in the final analysis it is the public acting through its properly constituted government agency, the Federal Communications Commission, which must determine whether or not through the medium of FM the opportunity is created to develop a broadcasting medium which can be as free of restriction and regulation as are the speakers' platform and the American press today.

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Reprints are now available of "Television Is Ready To Go", a statement made before the Federal Communications Commission October 11th by Niles Trammell, President of the National Broadcasting Company.

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ARMY-NAVY GAME MAY BE "KICK-OFF" OF LONG DISTANCE TELE

The first use of coaxial cable for transmission of television programs from Washington, D. C. to New York City is scheduled to begin early in January, with New York's three television stations operated by the National Broadcasting Company, Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., and the Columbia Broadcasting System sharing its use twice weekly, it was announced by the American Telephone & Telegraph Company. A portion of the circuit, linking New York and Philadelphia is now available, and will be used by NBC when it telecasts the Army and Navy football game from the Philadelphia Municipal Stadium next Saturday, December 1st.

Describing the Army-Navy game transmission as "a preview of long distance television by cable", Keith S. McHugh, Vice-President of A. T. & T. said the experiment was the forerunner of regularly scheduled intercity television which will begin early in January over the coaxial circuit between Washington and New York.

Cooperating with A. T. & T. in arranging plans for use of the Washington circuit are John F. Royal, Vice President in Charge of Television at NBC; Leonard F. Cramer, Executive Vice-President of DuMont, and Col. L. W. Lowman, Vice-President in Charge of Television at CBS. Others interested in television, including film producers and theatre operators, may also make use of the cable installation for intercity use, when they have their facilities available.

Television station WNBT in New York (NBC) will utilize three television cameras to pick up the Army-Navy game for the relay via cable from Philadelphia. Included will be the new RCA Image Orthicon, as well as the longest focal-length lens ever used for television - a 40-inch lens to be mounted on one of the regular orthicon cameras. Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. built a special bed-plate and mounting for the lens. It has a 20-inch back focus and lens speed of f 5.6.

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MARCH OF THE MEGACYCLES

As the new year opens, it is interesting to take stock of the continuous upping of radio frequencies, O. H. Caldwell, Editor of Electronic Industries, observes. In the early days, relatively long waves were thought best. But here is a rough outline of the advances toward uhf since the close of World War I:

1920	1000 kc = 1 mc
1925	3000 kc = 3 mc
1930	30,000 kc = 30 mc
1935	300,000 kc = 300 mc
1940	3×10^6 kc = 3000 mc
1945	30×10^6 kc = 30,000 mc
1950?	300×10^6 kc = 300,000 mc

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TEN BATTLE-STAR HERO ESCAPING UNHURT RETURNS TO RADIO

Lieut. George Crossland and Claude Davies have been appointed Assistant Managers of the Capehart Sales Division, Farnsworth Television and Radio Corporation. Both had previously been with Farnsworth.

Lieutenant Crossland saw and participated in some of the Navy's major Pacific battles and is entitled to wear ten battle stars. His first assignment with the Navy was in the Bureau of Ordnance, Washington, D. C. He was on duty on the Cruiser U.S.S. BIRMINGHAM during some three years, a record for length of service on one ship. This ship first saw action during the invasion of Sicily, and after the completion of that campaign was transferred to the Pacific where she became a battle-scarred veteran, suffering three major damages. The first damage occurred off Bougainville, Solomon Islands, when the ship was hit by two torpedoes and a bomb in a night air attack. The second impairment was sustained while attempting to save the carrier U.S.S. PRINCETON, the latter blowing up in the midst of rescue operations. The third major casualty happened at Okinawa when a Japanese suicide plane carrying a 500 pound bomb hit the ship. These three disasters accounted for approximately 800 casualties, with one of the highest percentages of fatalities aboard any ship in the Navy.

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PARTS MANUFACTURERS FIND WAY TO JACK UP OPA PRICES

Not being able to get around OPA ceilings any other way but determined to secure higher prices from radio set makers, radio set manufacturers are reported to have acquired a new technique. It is to make a slight change in a standard part or redesign it and then apply for a price on it as a "new model", describing it as something which the company has heretofore not made and thus secure authorization from the OPA to sell it at a much higher figure - maybe double the price of the original article.

OPA is alleged to be approving applications such as these of individual parts manufacturers but up to now refusing to give out the names of the applicants on the ground that the information is confidential and cannot be divulged. Set manufacturers are understood to be well aware of the situation and are now endeavoring to pry off the lid to see just what the higher priced "new models" are and who is making them.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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"Note Kids' Interest In Television", Mark Woods Advises
("Billboard")

"As I see the future", states Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company, in "Billboard", "the story of radio will become the story of television. And television can't miss. I've seen it from its beginning."

He adds that "video will, in the next 25 years, grow into the greatest instrument for entertainment, education and intelligence the world has experienced."

"For effective evidence", he continues, "try watching the effect of television on youngsters. The kids come back time and again. They're interested in anything they see on the television screen... Those half pints are the audiences of the future."

Allen, Well Known to Radio, Called Truman's "Harry Hopkins"
(From "Truman's Troubles", by John Chamberlain in Life, Nov. 26)

People were going around muttering about the lack of "broad-gauge advisers". They seemed to resent one person in particular, an insurance executive named George E. Allen.

George Allen is a roly-poly fellow from Mississippi who knows how to tell a good story. During the 1944 campaign George Allen traveled on the Truman vice-presidential train as an "arranger" for the Democratic National Committee, of which he is now secretary. When Truman became President, Allen began to pop up in the White House. The story around Washington is that Allen is Truman's "Harry Hopkins", a fellow who stands ready to amuse the President or to do any odd jobs for him that may require an out-of-channel touch. Allen has just completed a report on the Liquidation of war agencies.

George Allen may be an able man, but the wolves who are out to eat Truman alive will not admit it. They argue that Allen's advice seldom stems from detailed thought on problems of government. When Truman makes a mistake in asking one man to the White House while ignoring another, the faux pas is rightly or wrongly attributed to Allen.

What? \$10 Radios For F. W. Woolworth!
(Danton Walker in "Washington Times-Herald")

Frank Folsom, RCA-Victor executive denies that RCA Victor will merchandise a \$10 radio through Woolworth's.

Sinclair Lewis Would Improve On Babbit's Radio Methods
(Sinclair Lewis discussing his new book "Cass Timberlane" with
S. J. Wolf in the "New York Times")

"Neon lights and the radio have made Judge Timberlane's Grand Republic a gayer place. Barbershop quartets have gone out of business, and the best music in the world is performed in parlors and sitting rooms. Presidents, Prime Ministers, generals, Benny Goodman and Pee Wee Russel are visitors.

"Unfortunately, Babbit, who still lives in Zenith, had to get into the new industry. He saw a method of competing with the Fuller brush man and he's selling everything over the air. If he only did this in a businesslike way I would not get sore. But when he drags in Percy Bysshe Shelley as an incentive to buy a cake of soap or a can of beans it irritates me. Nor am I going to use a certain brand of tooth paste because a girl with a cracked voice sings a song telling me to. Perhaps I might if we had television."

Reconverting U.S. \$250,000,000 Short-Wave System
("Variety")

America's \$250,000,000 shortwave set-up, orphan of the radio industry grown to robust proportions during the war, may wind up as a separate Government agency attached directly to the President's executive office, and responsible solely to the Chief Executive rather than to the Department of State.

Although the inner track seems to be held by the State Dept., now in temporary control of the operations centered in the \$250,000,000 worth of shortwave transmitters, a quiet but powerful move is under way to shift responsibility for those operations directly to the White House. The new agency would run only the short-wave phases of the work done during the war by the overseas branch of OWI and by the Office of Inter-American Affairs (OIAA).

The new presidential agency would continue leasing those short-wave transmitters owned by private corporations and used during the war by the two Government agencies. Furthermore, the radio industry itself would be represented in the management of the new agency.

Brooklyn Television "Ham" Builds His Own Set
(T. R. Kennedy, Jr. in "New York Times")

If one happens to pass a small radio repair store at Jamaica Avenue and 148th Street in Queens, one is apt to see a crowd peering in the window at a television receiver in operation. Occasionally a huge, bulky figure of a man appears from behind scenes in the shop, adjusts a knob on the receiver and hurries away - and therein lies this story of a unique individualist in the local world of video.

The man in the window is William Bundy Still, the 30-year-old electronically minded son of the great Negro composer, William Grant Still, who almost single-handedly is building his own television transmitter and already has won an experimental license, W2XJT, to enable him to offer New Yorkers the best in Queens video.

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::: TRADE NOTES :::

Radio receivers and radio transmitters, along with many articles of supplies and food mounting to \$1,750,000 worth of surplus were ground into the earth by bulldozers or burned by American Army men in New Guinea, a correspondent of the Melbourne Herald reported.

Deems Taylor, President, and Gene Buck, past President of the American Society of Composers, Representative Sol Bloom, of New York, former Mayor Jimmie Walker and Eddie Cantor were among the honorary pall-bearers at the funeral of Gus Edwards, veteran song writer, in New York Monday.

Twenty-two more companies were admitted to RMA membership by the Association's Board of Directors at its recent meeting in New York, bringing the total membership to a new high of 273 member companies.

Galvin Mfg. Corp. of Chicago, makers of Motorola will increase its stated capital from \$1,080,000 to \$2,160,000 and split stock on a 2-for-1 basis.

With 191 stations affiliated with its coast-to-coast network this year, one station less than at the close of 1944, in the aggregate, the American Broadcasting Company has materially improved its coverage and position on the radio receiver dial, a current press release states.

Irrespective of changes in station affiliates in the same marketing area during the past year, ABC has added seven new stations to the network while dropping affiliations with eight. In addition, in at least half of the ten markets in which changes of stations affiliated with the network have been made, ABC has bettered its coverage and improved its position on the dial of the consumer's radio set.

ASCAP members are working on a memorial broadcast for Jerome Kern which is expected to be one of the finest programs of its kind ever given.

When President Truman spoke in Central Park a short time ago, what was believed to be the largest amplifying system in history made his voice heard by 1,000,000 persons, according to police estimates. The audience was seated in Sheep's Meadow, opposite Sixty-fifth Street near West Drive but the amplifying system made the President's voice audible throughout the Park from Ninety-ninth to Seventh-second Streets, and from Fifth Avenue to Central Park West, Morris Novik, Director of Station WNYC, said.

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