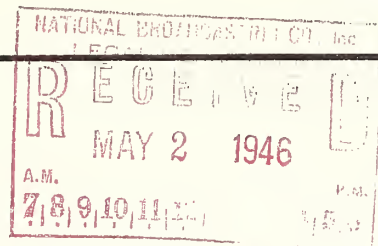


HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

2400 CALIFORNIA STREET

WASHINGTON, D. C.



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No. 1725

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May 1, 1946

WAR RADIO NOTABLES RIDE AGAIN IN BUTCHER-EISENHOWER BOOK

To anyone in the radio and communications industries, reading Capt. Harry C. Butcher's book, "My Three Years With Eisenhower", which has just been placed on sale, is almost like Old Home Week. Captain Butcher who, before the war, was Washington Vice-President of the Columbia Broadcasting System, leaned over backward to extend courtesy and be of assistance to his old friends while he was with General Eisenhower. Some of those who are mentioned in one way or another in the book are Col. William S. Paley, Chairman of CBS, Captain Butcher's former chief; Edward Klauber, former CBS Vice-President, who was among those who urged Mr. Butcher to write the book and who later became Deputy Director of the Office of War Information; Earl Gammons, Director of CBS Washington office; Duke Patrick, radio counsellor; Sol Taishoff, Editor of Broadcasting; Edgar Bill, Station WMBD, of Peoria, Ill., and Bob Trout, CBS commentator.

Also Col. Sosthenes Behn, President, International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation; Senator Homer Capehart, of Indiana; John Cowles, Vice-President of the Cowles Broadcasting Company; Louis Caldwell, counsel for WGN, Chicago; Arthur Godfrey; Gladys Hall, former secretary of Captain Butcher, now in the same capacity with Jess Willard, Assistant to the President of the National Association of Broadcasters; Paul Kesten, Vice Chairman of CBS; Col. Robert R. McCormick, the Chicago Tribune and Station WGN, Chicago; Frank C. Page, Vice-President of I. T. & T.; Paul A. Porter, Former Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission; Rear Admiral Joseph Redman, Chief of Naval Communications; Maj. Gen. F. E. Stoner, of the Army Signal Corps; Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, President of the Radio Corporation of America, Niles Trammell, President of National Broadcasting Company, and Senator Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana

It is doubtful whether any book has ever been launched with such a loud publicity splash as "My Three Years With Eisenhower". It began with the Saturday Evening Post serial (for which the Post paid \$175,000, a new high), followed last week by Simon & Shuster, the wideawake publishers carrying full page advertisements in the New York and Washington papers, 535,000 copies of the book (to sell for \$5 per) were in print before publication, including distribution as the May selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club. All this in addition to the thousands of reviews that are now being published in the newspapers and magazines and broadcast over the air.

That would seem to be about enough publicity for Captain Butcher, or anyone else, for one time, but on top of it all comes the news that the Federal Communications Commission has just granted him a license to operate a new radio station at Santa Barbara,

Calif. where he expects to make his future home. It starts with only 250 watts on 1350 kilocycles but has unlimited time, so with Harry Butcher's name, fame, and know-how, watch that little California station grow!

In his book, Mr. Butcher made it clear that he wasn't taking advantage of his being with Eisenhower to pull any chestnuts out of the fire for CBS, his old employers. He wrote in 1944:

"CBS has had poor luck on broadcasts from Paris to the States. This fact has dispelled all thought that I, as an ex-Columbia, would be pro-Columbia. Oddly enough, Mutual gets the best breaks, the Blue next, then NBC, and poor old Columbia gets all the atmospherics, line breaks, poor switching, and power failures - the majority of which have happened on the American side. Bill Shirer, with all his eggs in one basket, with one broadcast a week, and not permitted by CBS to record his remarks for rebroadcast of his own voice on the air, has been hurting all over - right down to his toes. If CBS would permit him to broadcast from Paris before sunset when transmission conditions are best and record his voice in New York for rendition later in the evening, CBS would have assurance of a broadcastable program and would have a usable program even if Bill's voice is torn asunder by the hell-raising of twilight on the Atlantic when he comes on for his regular Sunday-night period.

"I have kidded CBS and NBC that Mutual and the Blue are young and enterprising and not hidebound by tradition or bias against recordings. This is my favorite theme and I plague all CBS people with my wail. Bill Paley knows it by heart and I think Paul Kesten in New York could repeat it in his sleep. Why the networks didn't buy lines to Mackay Telegraph in New York, so they could receive Mackay transmission from Paris, remains a mystery to me. I sent a message to the tops of all networks, asking them to look into switching. When we sweat our hearts out trying to get communications out of a war area into America we simply cannot understand the attitude of the traffic men in the networks."

A little-known incident which might have wrecked Captain Butcher's history-making diary was when President Roosevelt, unknown to either Butcher or General Eisenhower got the idea of appointing Butcher to succeed Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, who was then in hot water. To the relief of Butcher, the President induced Elmer Davis to stay on but for a long time thereafter, Harry Hopkins kept them all pretty badly worried with the idea that Harry Butcher might still be drafted for the job.

It fell to Frank Page to have the interesting experience of visiting Berlin with General Eisenhower, and later Berchtesgaden with Captain Butcher of which the latter writes:

"While Frank and Corporal Street waited in the car, Quirk (Major Quirk, PRO of Third Army) and I climbed up to the Eagle's Nest, policed by paratroopers of the 101st Division.

"The climb made me dizzy, but, fortunately, Hitler had several rest benches along the way. The last turn of the narrow trail is on a spur of the mountain, from which I could look straight down for what I guessed was 5000 feet, if I had chosen to look, but I took the inside track.* * *

"Inside I found a single paratrooper writing a letter home in the huge dining room. He was seated at a table that had twelve seats at each side and two at each end. The main living room was oval-shaped, with large windows through which the snow-capped peaks of the Bavarian Alps showed majestically in the twilight.

"After seeing the Eagle's Nest, Quirk and I agreed that Hitler was crazy.

"We descended and inspected Hitler's chalet halfway down the mountain, where I collected a few pieces of marble from Hitler's fireplace - one especially for Niles Trammell, to whom I am still indebted for his attempt to supply me with langouste in Africa.* * * Hitler's house had been badly burned, but as it was constructed of brick, stone, and concrete, most of the main structure was still intact."

Captain Butcher, describing the triumphal return of General Eisenhower to Washington, wrote:

"I was in my old home town and I could now enjoy the parade. It was wonderful. The streets of Washington, even without people on them, would have been good to see, but with the thousands of friendly faces - even though they may forget us all in a week - made the drive from the Pentagon to the Capitol one that only few in the history of our country have had the privilege of sharing.

"General Ike was standing, waving like a prize fighter. His friendliness radiated through the crowds and following in the refrain, I could hear numerous comments. 'He waved at me.' 'Isn't he handsome?' 'He's marvelous.'

"Driving past Thirteenth and Pennsylvania Avenue, I waved to the eighth floor of the Earle Building, where I knew the old Columbia gang would be watching out the window, but I could scarcely see them for the trees.

"We saw a sign, 'Welcome Home, Butch.' Mickey turned to me and said:

"Who is this guy Eisenhower?"

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Senator Bilbo (D), of Mississippi, fighting the proposed loan to Great Britain last Wednesday stated that among the American stocks England owned were 434,000 shares of General Motor, 177,000 RCA, and 70,000 A. T. & T.

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PHILCO EARNINGS DROP SHARPLY TO \$2,377,239

Largely as a result of the drastic cancellation of war contracts after V-J Day, sales of Philco Corporation in 1945 declined to \$119,129,378, as compared with \$152,933,250 in 1944, according to the Company's 1945 Annual Report to stockholders.

Net income in 1945 was \$2,377,239 or \$1.73 per share of common stock, after all Federal and State income and excess profits taxes and adjustment of reserves, as against revised net income of \$3,913,494 or \$2.85 per share in 1944. The reduced volume of war work in 1945 and the heavy costs of reconversion were the chief causes of the decline in earnings. Renegotiation has not been concluded for 1945, but the earnings reflect provision therefor, the report states.

Current assets totaled \$54,479,208, current liabilities were \$37,398,436 and working capital amounted to \$17,080,772 at December 31, 1945. The Company's V-loan was reduced to \$20,000,000 during 1945, and a further reduction to \$10,000,000 has since been effected.

"In the final stages of the war, when the radar art was advancing rapidly, the Army and Navy depended on Philco to an increasing degree for technical assistance", John Ballantyne, President, and Mr. Larry E. Gubb, Chairman of the Board, point out in a joint statement. "This work included fundamental research looking to the development of entirely new aircraft radar, television and radio equipments for military use, including new radar systems operating at the highest frequencies yet explored. Philco is one of a limited number of manufacturers chosen to carry on future basic electronic research for the Government and help keep the United States in the vanguard of the new technology, which is of such great importance to the national security program."

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MOVIES FINALLY GET LEW WEISS

Highlights from the radio career of Lewis Allen Weiss, Vice-President and General Manager of the Don Lee Broadcasting System, and Vice Chairman of the Board of Mutual, are being written into the film script of a new Jerry Brandt motion picture production, "Magic In The Air", which goes before the cameras soon. The picture tells the story of radio, from crystal sets to television.

Mr. Weiss, in behalf of Mutual and Don Lee, also accepted an award signed by Secretary of War Patterson and Secretary of Navy Forrestal, and made to these services for "outstanding and distinguished performance rendered servicemen overseas in connection with the Armed Forces Radio Service."

The presentation, made in recognition of Mutual's contribution of big-name radio shows six hours a week for every week of almost five years, or a total of more than 1500 solid hours of entertainment for U.S. servicemen overseas, was made by Lieut. Col. Robert E. Kearney, AFRS commandant in Hollywood.

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RADIO TUBE CEILING INCREASE; NO ADVANCE ON REPLACEMENTS

Increases in manufacturers' ceiling prices for radio receiving tubes and allied special purpose tubes, which are similar to radio tubes but of different construction and use, were announced today (Wednesday, May 1) by the Office of Price Administration.

Although an increase factor was given for tubes sold as replacement parts as well as those sold as original equipment, consumer costs for replacement tubes will not be affected, the agency said.

Two increase factors were given manufacturers of these products by today's action, effective May 2, 1946:

For sales of tubes to resellers for replacement purposes - 20 per cent over March 31, 1942, levels at which maximum prices for these sales were previously frozen.

For all other sales of tubes, including those used as original equipment on radios, - 27.5 per cent over March 31, 1942, levels at which price ceilings were frozen prior to September 1945. At that time, the agency granted manufacturers of tubes used for original equipment an increase of 10.4 per cent. As a result, today's increase, which replaced the one granted in September, actually raises current maximum prices for these sales only 15.5 per cent.

These two increase factors are designed to return to the industry 25 per cent additional revenue over 1941 levels on all its sales, OPA said. This increase is necessary, the agency said, for the industry to recover current factory costs including higher wage rates recently granted.

This increase in manufacturers' maximum prices for replacement tubes will not affect retail prices because under the agency's absorption policy the increases will be absorbed by distributors and retailers. Full absorption will be required pending completion of a study now under way. Available data indicates now that wholesalers can absorb 20 per cent of the manufacturer's dollar-and-cent price increase and retailers can absorb the remaining 80 per cent of the increase without hardship. This is required pending completion of the agency's absorption survey, through a new OPA wholesaler's price list and by leaving retail ceilings unchanged. Therefore, wholesalers are permitted to increase their former prices by 80 per cent of the manufacturer's increases.

The retailers' ceiling price list has been expanded, however, by adding to it recently developed types of radio receiver tubes.

Today's action also permits brand owners, such as large mail order firms, who sell radio tubes under their own brand names, to use the same retail price ceilings as all other sellers at

retail. Many of these sellers were formerly held to March 1942 prices and like other retailers, who customarily bought and sold tubes under the general level of prices, would be placed in a hard-ship position if held to their March 1942 price levels as formerly.

Today's action places sales of radio tubes at all levels under Order Number 619 of the general machinery regulation (Revised Maximum Price Regulation 136). At the same time, the agency is revoking Section 3.3 of Supplementary Regulation 14J, which formerly covered wholesale and retail sales of new standard radio receiving tubes.

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ABC ACQUIRES CALIFORNIA TV SITE; PARACHUTE NEWS COVERAGE

The American Broadcasting Company made two progressive moves last week - one was the staking out of a site for new Hollywood television and FM stations on the summit of Mt. Wilson 5,720 feet high for coverage of the heavily populated region of southern California. The other was going in with the Associated Press on a new exclusive news service known as Paranews to cover hard-to-get stories by being "on the spot".

Paranews is composed of four World War II veterans in California. By means of an always ready plane, Paranews will fly to the scene of the news, a member will parachute to the location and relay reports by "walkie-talkie" to an ABC newscaster in the plane overhead. The on-the-spot coverage will be recorded on wire and flown to the nearest ABC station for rebroadcast to the nation. In addition to the "walkie-talkie" man, a cameraman will also parachute to the spot to bring the picture story to the world, via AP.

A 32-page brochure outlining the progress made by ABC television and forecasting future video activities of the network has just been released.

Based on the theme, "The Show's the Thing", the booklet is prefaced by a statement by Mark Woods, President of ABC, who says - "We're very frank to say that in television we are just beginning to learn. You can tell us things that will help us a great deal. Will you?"

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Despite objection by Walter Winchell to settlement out of court, although his radio and newspaper contracts protect him from financial losses in any libel suit, a libel suit brought against the New York Mirror-King Features columnist by the National Maritime Union has been settled out of court for \$10,000.

Mrs. Roosevelt will appear on Winchell's Cancer Benefit program Sunday night, May 5 (ABC 8 P.M. EST). According to the advance press notice "this will mark the first meeting of the pair."

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PETRILLO SHARPENS HIS AXE FOR TELEVISION

Having told Congress and the broadcasters where to get off and having successfully put the squeeze on the moving picture people, James C. Petrillo, having previously put thumbs down on "live" musicians for television, has again gotten around to television.

This became known yesterday (Tuesday) in an article by Mr. Petrillo in the Union's official publication, the International Musician, which read:

"The introduction and development of television presents the same threat to employment of musicians as did the change from silent to sound movies", Mr. Petrillo wrote. "As television progresses from one stage to another, it is apparent that movies will play a great part in its future and that it is possible to produce the majority of television programs in 'canned' form, thus eliminating all radio employment.

"You all know, through bitter experience, that when Vitaphone and Movietone were installed in the theatres of the United States and Canada we lost the employment of 18,000 musicians almost overnight.

"The American Federation of Musicians is determined to avoid a repetition of that tragic experience, and until we find out exactly where we stand (by that, I mean whether television is to destroy our employment in radio, or whether it is going to put men to work, or other means found whereby our employment opportunities will not be lost), we are not going to render services in the making of television.

"We have been fooled so many times and misled by the employers so many times by their saying that every new invention would help us, that if we permit ourselves to fall in line again with that kind of talk, we deserve the consequences.

"Television is not going to grow at the expense of the musicians. As television grows, the musician is going to grow with it, or we are not going to assist in its development. The sooner our critics - I should say our 'severe' critics - understand that musicians, who have been exploited for years, studied their instruments for a livelihood and not just for the love of it, the better off we will all be."

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David Sarnoff of the Radio Corporation of America, Gerard Swope of General Electric, Mrs. Roosevelt and others are honorary Vice-Chairmen of the Committee for the Nation's Health of which Dr. Channing Frothingham is Chairman. The Committee is backing the National Health (Wagner, Murray-Dingell) Bill.

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McGRADY, OF RCA, PICKED TO HANDLE TOUGH OLD JOHN L. LEWIS

Bert Williams, the old-time blackface comedian, used to sing a song about being invited to capture a bear, the refrain of which was "a great chance for somebody but not me".

A similar chore was assigned this week by Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach to former Assistant Secretary of Labor, Edward F. McGrady, now Vice-President of the Radio Corporation of America. Secretary Schwollenbach appointed Mr. McGrady a Special Conciliator to grapple with John L. Lewis in an effort to secure a settlement of the 29-day bituminous coal strike.

Mr. Schwollenbach explained that he had used Mr. McGrady effectively in the recent tugboat strike which tied New York City in a knot, and later, along with David Sarnoff, President of RCA, in preventing the New York City transit strike, which promised the same results, and now was borrowing Mr. McGrady again for the coal negotiations.

Mr. McGrady, who has frequently been called the nation's labor "trouble shooter No. 1", began his career as a newspaper pressman. He served four years as Assistant Secretary of Labor, 1933-37, and has been Vice-President in charge of labor relations for RCA since that time. During the Second World War he was a special consultant to the Secretary of War.

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MARCH RADIO SET OUTPUT BETTER; STILL HAD TERRIBLE LIMP

March shipments of domestic radios increased to approximately 1 million sets, a 33 percent rise over February shipments of about 750,000 units, John D. Small, Administrator of Civilian Production reports.

"This sharp upward trend carries shipments to 91 percent of the prewar base period (1940-41) rate of 1.1 million units a month. It should be noted, however, that 87 percent of the radios shipped in March were table models; only 4 percent were consoles, and 9 percent automobiles radios.

"During the base period 63 percent of shipments were table models, 13 percent were consoles, and 20 percent were automobile radios. It therefore appears that shipments of table models at present are about 140 percent of prewar levels, console radios about 30 percent of prewar levels, and automobile sets about 45 percent of prewar levels. The low level of shipments of consoles is primarily due to a shortage of cabinets resulting from the tight lumber situation."

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RUSSIAN INTEREST IN RADAR CAUSES WAR SECRETS SCARE

There was quite a scare in Washington this week over the allegation that the State Department was releasing secret electronic items, including radar, for disposal abroad notably to Russia. A sub-committee headed by Senator Eastland (D), of Mississippi, and including Senators Wherry (R), of Nebraska, and McFarland (D), of Arizona, quickly got busy and are now investigating the situation.

The State Department announced that, with the exception of some material jointly developed by the United States and other countries (such as radar), no "classified" equipment in the electronic field had been released for sale or licensing abroad since the termination of the Lend-Lease program. It added that it had no legal authority to prevent the sale or manufacture of "unclassified" material abroad.

The first witnesses heard by the Senate Committee were Ray C. Ellis, General Manager of Raytheon Manufacturing Company, and William Eaton, Washington representative, who were said to have testified that a condition to pending negotiations with Russia for the sale of component radar parts was that the company provide the "know-how", or techniques, of assembly and production. According to the testimony, it was proposed contractually, it was reported, that Russian scientists and engineers be sent to the American plant for instruction.

With training in techniques, it was contended, foreign buyers could assemble "declassified" component parts into a complete working apparatus duplicating a machine or instrument still on our "classified" list. Thus, it was held, buyers could "get around the law" and attain a parity in progress and production with the United States despite present legal safeguards.

There was no substantiation thus far of reports that the State Department, which clears items "declassified" by the War and Navy Departments, had "encouraged" manufacturers of radar and other equipment to sell or license their products to foreign powers or nationals.

The State Department, under existing law, apparently cannot discourage the release to foreign powers or nationals of articles no longer on War and Navy "classified" lists.

"Declassification" of secrets apparently had gone so far beyond the field of electronics that pending legislation seeking to increase protection should be broadened materially.

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NOTED PHYSICIST JOINS ZENITH; V-T PROXIMITY SECRET REVEALED

Dr. Alexander Ellett, who, as head of Division 4 of the National Defense Research Committee since 1940, had directed development of the famous V-T proximity fuse for bombs, rockets, and trench mortars, and other still secret scientific weapons, has joined Zenith Radio Corporation as Director of Research.

At the same time, Commander E. F. McDonald, Jr., President, revealed the secret story of Zenith's part in the development of the V-T proximity fuse for bombs, rockets, and trench mortars, the only research project of the war that shared equal priority with the atomic bomb.

By January, 1945, Zenith had begun full scale production. The design and production techniques were made available to all other manufactures of proximity fuses. The Zenith-designed generator was adopted by all other manufacturers, and at the time of the Jap surrender, all other suppliers of V-T fuses for bomb use, even though they had gone into production with other electrical circuits, had switched to the complete Zenith design.

The fuses could be built to explode the bomb at varying distances from the target, ranging from 10 to 300 feet. They were used in plastering Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and Japan, and were credited with driving the Japs underground, because they made it impossible for anything to live above the surface of the ground, even in fox-holes.

By V-J Day Zenith had manufactured and shipped several hundred thousand fuses. In the last few months of the war, their entire output was shipped to the Pacific by air for the preparation of the invasion of Japan proper.

Dr. Ellett, a veteran of two years in the air service during the first world war, earned his Ph.D. in physics at the Johns Hopkins University in 1922. He joined the faculty of the University of Iowa in 1924, and became Professor of Physics in 1929. His major research activities were in spectroscopy, atomic and molecular beams and nuclear physics. In November, 1940, he was invited by Dr. R. C. Toman, Vice-Chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, to enter governmental research. In 1942, when the Office of Scientific Research and Development was organized under Dr. Vannevar Bush, Dr. Ellett was made Chief of Division 4 of the National Defense Research Committee, of which Dr. James B. Conant, President of Harvard University, was Chairman.

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Critic John Mason Brown evaluates three new books about the war - "My Three Years With Eisenhower", by Capt. Harry C. Butcher, USNR; "Eclipse" by Alan Moorehead; and "Top Secret" by Ralph Ingersoll - on Saturday, May 4 (WABC-CBS, 2:00-2:15 PM, EDT).

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CLEVELAND RADIO EDITOR HOOPER-RATES THE LOCAL STATIONS

Stanley Anderson, radio columnist on Cleveland's largest local-circulation newspaper, the Press, recently conducted a completely independent city-wide listener poll.

"WJW, Cleveland's ABC outlet", Mr. Anderson reported, "chalked up the greatest number of points in The Press 1946 Local Radio Poll. Based upon the number of first, second and third places accumulated, Bill O'Neil's station came up with 44 points.

"WGAR, the CBS affiliate, moved into second place with 29 points, while WHK (Mutual) and WTAM (NBC) tied for third place with 20 points.

"Dialers gave WJW seven out of 19 first places. WGAR, WTAM and WHK tied with four firsts each. Best Program, All Classes, went to WJW for its Clambake, which nosed out WHK's In a Nutshell. Best Performer, All Classes, was WHK's Rance Valentine, who barely shoved out WJW's Howie Lund and Don Bell.

"Ballots indicated that dialers are not unaware of local programs. For instance over 60 shows were named for Best Program honors. More than 40 individuals were named in the Best Performer category."

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SECRECY LIFTED ON HOW SUBMARINES WERE TRAPPED BY SOUND

"Sonar" - super-secret wartime enemy of Nazi U-boats - had its public debut Tuesday at a demonstration arranged jointly by the Navy and the Radio Corporation of America at the Museum of Science and Industry in New York where by means of a model, viewers watched an enemy submarine glide into New York Harbor only to be detected and sent to the bottom by the combined action of sonar underwater sound equipment and a strategically placed mine.

This demonstrated publicly for the first time one of the uses of sonar, the system which, according to Navy figures, accounted for the sinking of nearly 1,000 enemy undersea craft, the damaging of hundreds of others and the frustration of countless attacks.

Other effective uses of sonar (which takes its name from abbreviation of the words Sound-Navigation-And-Ranging) included the detecting and locating of submerged submarines by echo-ranging, the ascertaining of depth, underwater listening and the long-range underwater fixing of positions for rescue work, it was explained. Sonar equipment operates on the principle that sound waves propagated in water are reflected to their source if they strike a solid body in much the same way that sound waves in the air produce an echo when they strike a cliff.

In sonar echo-ranging, sound waves are propagated in the water by equipment installed in a surface vessel or submarine and the echoes reflected by the target are received by the same equipment. Direction of the target is indicated by the position of the sonar projector at the time the echo is received, and distance is determined by the time interval between sending of the signal and reception of the echo. Sonar echo-sounding (depth finding) is accomplished in the same way, but the sound waves are directed vertically down, the target being the bed of the ocean.

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MONTANA JURIST TO OPPOSE SENATOR WHEELER FOR RE-ELECTION

An indication of opposition to the reelection of Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D), of Montana, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee which handles radio matters in the Senate, was announced Tuesday. Leif Erickson, of Helena, former member of the Montana State Supreme Court, it is reported will run against Senator Wheeler in the July primaries. Judge Erickson, a prominent attorney, was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in 1939.

Judge Erickson, born in Wisconsin, is 40 years old. Senator Wheeler, a native of Massachusetts, is 64 years old and is now serving his fourth term in the Senate (1923-1947).

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DAYLIGHT TIME CHANGE CAUSED LITTLE CONFUSION IN CAPITAL

Although the City of Washington itself is not on Daylight Saving Time, the switchover last Sunday seemed to cause very little confusion. WOL, the Cowles station and Mutual outlet, said there was no trouble at all. WTOP, CBS station, reported about 75 telephone inquiries, a relatively low number as radio station inquiries go. WMAL, under ABC-Evening Star control, reported "no reaction to speak of" over the week-end, and WRC, owned by NBC, announced itself as unharrassed with a single qualification. The station was confronted around 9 A.M. by the demands of 25 indignant housewives who wanted to know what had happened to "Honeymoon Lane".

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PRESENT DAY SETS NEARLY OBSOLETE, RADIO SCHOOL HEAD SAYS

I. Keith Tyler, Director of Radio Education at Ohio State University, said at Columbus, Ohio, just ahead of the radio conference to be held there this week, that radio sets now in production are practically obsolete.

After talking with radio engineers from all parts of the country, Mr. Tyler said frequency modulation broadcasting is "just around the corner" and that television is a "wide open field."

"We expect that as soon as the initial demand for small radios is over that radio manufacturers will begin making radios combining all three units (FM, television and standard wave length", Mr. Tyler said.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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The FCC's Radio Set Fishing Expedition
 (Drew Pearson in Bell Syndicate)

Over 300 construction permits for the building of new frequency modulation radio stations have been issued by the Federal Communications Commission in the past few months, with hundreds more applications on file.

Meanwhile, the FCC has made a disturbing study of manufacturers' plans for radio sets this year. This study indicates that although upward of 15 million radio receivers will be produced in 1946, hardly more than 1 in 10 will be equipped to bring in "FM" programs. Several of the major manufacturers are yet to be heard from, but thus far there is nothing to show that they are planning heavy production of "FM" receivers.

With "FM" receivers being held from the market, the audience for this new type of broadcasting will be held down to such a small number that only in a few metropolitan areas will there be a real attraction for advertisers. The result probably will be indefinite delay in the emergency of "FM" broadcasting.

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Censorship Through Blackmail
 ("Chicago Tribune")

Few owners of radio stations will be found willing to risk destruction of their investment by an arbitrary curtailment of their license in order to test the power of the Federal Communications Commission to regulate programs. The regulation, however, is present. One has only to listen to the radio through a 24 hour span to discover to what a large extent it has been made a vehicle for administration propaganda and slanderous attacks upon administration critics, and in what small measure it affords those critics a chance to present the opposite side of the story to the American people.

Radio broadcasters may succeed or fail according to their own methods. They are almost certain to fail if they are coerced into operating under other people's methods, especially those prescribed by people not skilful enough to engage in the business themselves.

Variety of instruction or entertainment is assured by the difference of taste and intellect to be found among station managers. A parallel variety among publishers gives the public a great diversity of books, magazines, and newspapers. The same principle applies to musical programs, in the offerings of lecturers and public speakers. If there is a public desire or demand for information on particular topics or for particular kinds of entertainment, some one meets that desire.

Quite obviously, a station whose competitor broadcasts an exceptionally popular comedian at a particular hour has alternate choices. It can try to develop a comedian of its own who will outdraw the rival, or it can design a program to appeal to the large number of people who are bored to tears by all radio comedians.

The people who get to the top of radio stations and networks are those with the greatest capacity to conduct broadcasting. They will, however, be no more uniform in their ideas than newspaper editors are uniform in their appraisal of news, or than theatrical producers are unanimous in their judgment of what is going to entertain the public.

Broadcasting will have to suffer, perhaps, for a long time as newspapers suffered to establish freedom of the press.* * *

This, of course, is on the assumption that radio broadcasting is to be developed as the communications act intended it to be, a vehicle for communication of public information and entertainment, free from government censorship, and not, as the communications commission has been trying to make it, a propaganda institution for the political party in power.

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Petrillo Thumbs His Nose At Congress
("Washington Post")

With his customary impertinence, Mr. James Caesar Petrillo has, in effect, thumbed his nose at the efforts of Congress to restrict his activities by law. In a bill just signed by President Truman, Congress sought to limit severely certain unsavory practices of Mr. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians in the radio broadcasting industry. But even before the legislation went to the White House, the wily Mr. Petrillo had eluded its grasp by launching forth in another direction. He had his eye on the lush coffers of Hollywood. Mr. Petrillo is no piker. He has asked for a three-fold increase in the number of musicians hired by the eight principal motion picture studios, along with a 100 per cent pay raise for the 10 playing hours a week permitted by the union. And, considering the iron bludgeon he seems to wield over employers and musicians alike, the chances are that his new requests will be met in substantial measure. (Editor's Note: - Which they were)

Congress, of course, asked for this gesture of defiance. Petrillo's sweeping demands appear ridiculous, but no more so than the apoplectic restriction bill passed by Congress. Mr. Petrillo has amply demonstrated the folly of any legislation aimed at one particular union or industry. Recognition in the law of what constitute legitimate practices and responsibilities of every union remains a grave national need, unfortunately largely untouched so far. Aberrations such as the anti-Petrillo bill contribute nothing to an equitable formula. It is a disillusioning commentary on the ways of Congress that its members can become so irate and can generate so much steam over the Musicians' Union, which affects only a relatively small number of persons. But in matters of public utilities, steel, and the present coal strike, with the operation of the Nation's very productive machine at stake, there is scarcely more than a feeble yelp.

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:::: TRADE NOTES ::::
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Gene Buck, past President of ASCAP, acted for Mayor O'Dwyer, in presenting a plaque to Bill (Bojangles) Robinson, famous negro dancer, celebrating his sixtieth year in the show business, in New York Tuesday night. Mr. Robinson expressed his appreciation in a speech which was broadcast from coast to coast by NBC.

Mayor O'Dwyer had proclaimed the occasion "Bill Robinson Day" and many of the best known theatrical people took part in the celebration, including Maude Nugent, who introduced "Rosie O'Grady"; Billy Gould of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" fame; W. C. Handy; Harry Hershfield, Bert Lytell, Brock Pemberton, Lee Shubert and Joe Howard.

Although the war has been over a year, there appears an FCC item in the Second Deficiency Appropriations Bill of \$194,000 "salaries and expenses, national defense", which shows that some of the boys are hanging on as long as they can. The regular annual FCC salaries and expenses are listed at \$363,000.

Southern California Telephone Co. announced in Los Angeles last Sunday that it had begun tests of a radio telephone system which it said would become the world's first commercial application of multi-channel microwaves.

Permanent transmitting and receiving equipment has been installed on a hill on Santa Catalina Island, 21 miles west of Los Angeles Harbor. The system will go into operation in a few weeks, the company said.

A new "armored vacuum" tube in the tip of the phonograph tone arm instantly translates mechanical sound from the record into electronic modulations in "the world's first direct action electronic pick-up" which has just been announced by L. C. Truesdell, General Sales Manager for Radio and Television, Bendix Radio Division of the Bendix Aviation Corporation. He declared the device to be revolutionary in its simplicity and capable of reproducing delicate tones now lost to other than the best studio type reproducers. The new pick-up is ideal for consumer use said Mr. Truesdell, because it resists abuse and is incapable of damaging records, practically abolishing record wear and high replacement costs.

Arthur Godfrey, of Washington, CBS commentator, who became suddenly ill Monday was reported to be recovering in New York. At first, according to Arch McDonald, who took over for Godfrey, it was thought it might be his heart, but later Mr. McDonald said it appeared to be simply exhaustion as a result of overwork.

In addition to his network shows, a total of five hours, six days a week, Mr. Godfrey, who has been broadcasting 11 years, was appearing in the Broadway show "Three to Make Ready" starring Ray Bolger and as McDonald put it, Godfrey was working "about 25 hours a day".

In a joint release by the Swedish American Line and Raytheon Manufacturing Co., of Waltham, Mass., the first fully evaluated results of commercial radar are now available for merchant marine circles to examine. Raytheon Radar installed on the M/S TUNAHOMW was said to be the first privately-sponsored radar installation on a merchant ship.

The ASCAP Board of Directors Tuesday elected for another year the following incumbent officers of the Society:

Deems Taylor, President; Gustave Schirmer, Vice President; Oscar Hammerstein II, Vice-President; George W. Meyer, Secretary, and J. J. Bregman, Treasurer. Ray Henderson was elected Assistant Treasurer, to take the place of Irving Caesar.

Contents of Radio Age for April, an RCA Quarterly, include: "Airborne Television Demonstrated"; "Trade-Mark With a Heritage" by Abraham S. Greenberg; President Honors Sarnoff, Medal for Merit Awarded President of RCA; Television at UN Council, Iconoscope Brings Proceedings to Overflow Crowds, RCA Initiates Rate Reductions, Proposed Tariff Greatly Lowers Message Costs; Freedom to Listen, by General Sarnoff; New Field for Electron Tubes, by L. W. Teegarden, etc.

KHR and the Don Lee Network pulled its radio and television equipment from Wrigley Field and cancelled both its broadcast and television schedules on the Ike Williams-Enrique Bolanos fight for April 30, when an attorney, assertedly representing both fighters, declared legal rights which ostensibly had been covered in the original agreement between top promoters of the event and Jack Dempsey, representing and radio sponsor.

"How Much for How Many?", a study of media costs by Frank Pellegrin, Director of Broadcast Advertising of the National Association of Broadcasters, is now being distributed to broadcasters in pamphlet form.

A survey by the U. S. Department of Agriculture shows that in radio entertainment farmers prefer: 1. News; 2. Religious Music; 3. Old Time Music; 4. Market Reports.

Hundreds of "lightning spies" are being used on a wide scale in Peru to aid in planning protection against direct lightning strokes to transmission systems, by General Electric Company.

Developed in the 1930s by G.E., the "spies" are technically known as magnetic links and are used for making records of the current in lightning flashes.

Data gathered on the behavior of lightning currents at high altitudes will enable engineers to design better transmission lines, electrical apparatus, and protective devices to render them more effective in the presence of lightning.

Lichty in the Chicago Times has a cartoon showing the Chairman of a packing company addressing the Directors, saying:

"After years of research I can now state that we utilize EVERY part of a pig - the squeal will be used on our radio commercial."