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January 1, 1947

PEOPLE MUST BE TOLD TRUTH SAYS JOE MARTIN DEDICATORY WFMR

An idea where Representative Joseph Martin, Jr., Republican of Massachusetts, stated to be the next Speaker of the House of Representatives stands with regard to radio or any other kind of censorship may be gathered from his message dedicating Basil Brewer's frequency modulation station at New Bedford, Mass.

"This is the first FM station to be opened in New England since before the War" Representative Martin declared from Washington.

"It is the latest vehicle for keeping the people informed, and it can't be too often emphasized that a free people, in order to remain free, must be kept informed - must be told the truth."

Governor Tobin of Massachusetts spoke from his home and Mr. Brewer, publisher of the New Bedford Standard-Times, responded to the various greetings on behalf of E. Anthony and Sons, Inc., owners of WFMR and WNBH, New Bedford.

Messages were read from U. S. Senators David I. Walsh and Leverett Saltonstall, Congressman Charles L. Gifford of Massachusetts, Charles R. Denny, FCC chairman; Major Edwin H. Armstrong FM inventor; Mark Woods, president of American Broadcasting Company, and numerous other notables.

In his acknowledgment Mr. Brewer, as did Representative Martin, also emphasized the importance of safeguarding free speech, saying in part:

"Only in America has radio become so uniformly popular and available that every star of song and screen is received as a well-known household friend.

"In America, dedicated to no ism, Fascism or Communism or otherwise, the greatest discovery of mankind has been made--that in liberty only is there power, greatness and happiness; that in the momentary strength of despotism there is, in the end, only despair and death.

"From our freedom springs our faith in things of this earth and the world to come.

"Freedom of speech, radio and the press? Yes. Freedom of religion? Yes.

"Freedom from fear? No. Rather freedom TO fear--the just consequences of our mistakes and the wrongdoing.

"Freedom from WANT? No. But freedom to work, to create, to risk today to gain tomorrow; this under a Government which is ourselves.

"And above all we have that freedom and responsibility to defend our liberty from its enemies, within and without, including those malingering maggots who try to take advantage of our freedoms to destroy our liberties and to establish themselves here as heads of an alien dictatorship."

Directly referring to WFMR Mr. Brewer said:

"We dedicate here today something new in radio, so far as this section is concerned, and new, comparatively, in the country. It was an American, Major Edwin H. Armstrong, who invented and developed this new thing in radio, Frequency Modulation.

"A typical representative of American free enterprise, a successful, busy man, Major Armstrong, professor of electrical engineering at Columbia University, devoted his full time, energies and business enterprises, without charge, to winning the war.

"Charles R. Denny, Chairman of the FCC, who sent us a kind message is a very important man in radio. He just has been appointed by President Truman to be chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, from which stems the blessing which is WFMR's, its license to exist and its opportunity to serve you now and in the years to come. It was most gracious of Mr. Denny to assist us in making our bow."

WFMR is now broadcasting programs from studios in The Standard-Times Building.

"The equipment is performing admirably," William R. Hutchins, station manager, reported. "We still are experimenting, however, and changes will be made as improvements occur.

"WFMR received one of the first FM transmitters to be manufactured by RCA since the end of the war. The 250-watt unit was shipped here 'in pieces,'" Mr. Hutchins said. Station engineers assembled the transmitter and installed it. The 35-foot antenna atop the First National Bank Building was constructed from a design by Otto F. A. Arnold, station engineering consultant.

Has 15-Mile Radius

"The antenna is performing as predicted," Mr. Hutchins stated, "and it radiates the equivalent of 650 watts power. Increase over the 250-watt transmitter is a result of the antenna design."

Reception area of WFMR covers approximately a 15-mile radius from New Bedford,

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KIMBALL IS NEW V-P IN CHARGE OF COLONIAL RADIO

Louis S. Kimball, general manager fluorescent fixture division, Sylvania Electric Products Inc., has been elected vice president in charge of operations of Colonial Radio Corporation, it was announced. Allen H. Gardner, president of Colonial, which is a wholly-owned Sylvania Electric subsidiary said that Mr. Kimball will make his headquarters at the main office of Colonial, Buffalo, New York. Colonial, a leading manufacturer of private-brand radio receiving sets, also has plants at Bloomington, Illinois and Riverside, California.

Mr. Kimball came with Sylvania in 1942 as manager of the fluorescent fixture plant at Ipswich, Massachusetts; was put in charge of manufacturing for the fixture division in 1944; and was made general manager of the fixture division in October 1945. Previous to his employment with Sylvania, Kimball was General Sales Manager of the New England Frigidaire Division of General Motors, with which company he was associated for sixteen years. He is a graduate of Dartmouth, Class of '25.

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GENE McDONALD DUCKS CHICAGO MAYORALITY DRAFT

"That was their idea - not mine. I have no political aspirations."

Thus Gene McDonald, president of the Zenith Radio Corporation, countered when sounded out by Republican leaders to learn if he would consider making the race for Mayor of Chicago against the Democratic candidate Martin Kennelly.

Commander McDonald also came into the news last week through an experience much closer to his regular business - one which made him realize the great value of the auto-telephones in emergencies. It was while he was enroute from his factory to his home in Chicago.

McDonald's new two-way frequency modulation telephone had just been installed in his car, and he was driving with it for the first time. Half way home, on Fullerton Avenue, he saw the body of a child wriggling in the middle of the car tracks, having just been hit by another automobile. He saw that two or three people were running toward the boy, so McDonald picked up his receiver, was connected with the police, and asked for a police car with a stretcher.

Not over three minutes elapsed before a squad car was there and the boy picked up out of the road, placed on a stretcher, and started for a hospital.

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MACKAY CALLS PRESS WIRELESS GOVERNMENT BID "NEBULOUS"

All America Cables and Radio Inc., The Commercial Cable Company and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company - operating subsidiaries of the American Cable and Radio Corporation - have filed with the Commission their proposed findings involving the application of Press Wireless, Inc. for a continuation on a regular basis of special temporary war time authorizations to handle "government" traffic. In May 1946 the Commission ordered a cancellation of such temporary authorizations after finding upon investigation that the need growing out of war time requirements to have Press Wireless engage in non-press communication, no longer prevailed. In asking that the application be denied the AC&R Companies through James A. Kennedy, Vice-President and General Attorney, emphasized the status of Press Wireless as a specialized press carrier which was formed when many of the nation's newspapers and news agencies sought assignments in the newly opened short-wave radio bands.

Pointing out that Press Wireless proposes to continue to function solely for the benefit of the press, and intends to devote such revenue as it can acquire from non-press traffic to further reducing rates for press communication, the AC&R Companies urged that it would be unsound and not in the public interest to have service for one special group of telegraph users subsidized by users of other telegraph services.

Countering the Press Wireless contention that the Commission, in cancelling its war time non-press authorizations, did not solicit or consider the views of foreign government agencies but limited its consideration to opinions expressed by United States Government Departments, the AC&R Companies pointed out that half of the "foreign government" messages handled by Press Wireless in the first six months of 1946 were transmitted over its Russian circuit, but that the Russian Government, when advised by Press Wireless of the Commission's action terminating its authorizations to handle government traffic, expressed no interest in the matter.

The evidence establishes, according to the AC&R Companies, that the State, War and Navy Departments no longer have need for the Press Wireless facilities which have not been used since February 1946 by the War Department and normally are not used by the Navy Department.

During pre-war years it was emphasized, the volume of government traffic in relation to all traffic handled by the American carriers is an insignificant part of the total, ranging during 1936 to 1939 from 2.6% to 3.8% of all traffic. Government messages are entitled to priority in transmission and it was pointed out that it may seriously be doubted whether Press Wireless could accord to government traffic the priority to which it is entitled. In peace time the great bulk of government traffic has no urgency at all, and

its right to preference over news and other traffic is highly questionable, according to views expressed by the American Newspaper Publishers Association. It was urged that if government traffic was to receive priority over press traffic in the hands of Press Wireless, with or without an increase in the volume of such traffic to be handled by that Company, news filed by press agencies would no longer have the right of way presently enjoyed on Press Wireless facilities.

Proposals by Press Wireless to offer reduced rates and a deferred type of service for government traffic were found by the AC&R findings "to be of no apparent advantage to government users, unlikely of adoption by foreign communications agencies operating with Press Wireless, and too nebulous to warrant serious consideration."

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"G-D" FM TOWER TO ALMOST TOP WASHINGTON MONUMENT

More details are at hand regarding KWGD, the new FM station of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat (See our issue of December 18). E. Lansing Ray, publisher of the paper, states that work on the frequency modulation station which is to cost \$121,500 and be located across the street from the present printing plant will begin within the next few weeks.

Mr. Ray also took occasion to deny rumors that the Globe-Democrat was for sale in calling attention to the new FM station which is only a part of the paper's 1947 expansion plan.

KWGD will be the first exclusive frequency modulation station in St. Louis and will become a landmark through the erection of a 525 foot tower, which is almost as high as the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C. (555 feet).

The building will be air-conditioned, and provision for later installation of television and facsimile will be included.

The plans call for four studios, one master and three secondary control rooms and offices for operational and maintenance personnel on the main floor. The second floor will be used by the business and management department of KWGD. Later it is planned to add a fifth "theatre studio" with seats for an audience of 400.

General Electric equipment (B-T 4A transmitter and GE antenna)* is to be installed.

KWGD will be operated with 53 kw radiated power on Channel 225 (92.9 mc), Mr. Ray said.

Promotion will include one column a day in the Globe-Democrat - and more when sufficient newsprint becomes available - and a full page in newspapers in the contemplated coverage area. Billboards also are to be used.

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FT. INDUSTRY ZANESVILLE SALE FORESHADOWS DETROIT OUTLET

The sale of Station WHIZ in Zanesville, Ohio, by the Ft. Industry Co. if approved by the FCC, apparently paves the way for the company headed by Commander George B. Storer and J. Harold Ryan to acquire a Detroit outlet. WHIZ has been sold to O. B. Littick, vice-president of the Zanesville Time-Signal and Ernest B. Graham, Zanesville attorney, for \$275,000.

The deal follows an agreement made by Mr. Storer when he contracted for acquisition of WJBK Detroit for \$550,000. This transaction, awaiting FCC approval, would give Fort Industry its eighth station, but with the sale of WHIZ the number of outlets would remain at seven. The transaction, it is understood, was completed by Smith Davis, president of the Smith Davis Co., newspaper and radio financiers. Transfer papers will be filed with the FCC by Horace L. Lohnes, Washington attorney, this week.

WHIZ is an NBC outlet, operating on 1240 kc with 250 w. Other Fort Industry stations are WSPD Toledo, WWA Wheeling, WGBS Miami, WAGA Atlanta, WMMN Fairmont, W. Va., and WLOK Lima, Ohio.

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WIRELESS CURRENT TO AUTOS ON RUSSIAN ROADS REPORTED

Start of construction "the world's first high frequency motor road" - on which cars drawing current from a cable under the concrete can run 125 miles an hour - was reported from Moscow by Tass in an Associated Press dispatch.

The Russian News Agency said the idea was that of Prof. Georgi Babat, Stalin Prize winner, and that construction would cost less than that of a trolley line.

This is how the road works, Tass said:

"A cable charged with high frequency electric current, laid under an ordinary motor road, will generate an electro-magnetic field within a range of 10 to 13 feet.

"Motor cars will be equipped with special receivers of high frequency current, rectifiers and condensers through which the current will pass into an ordinary motor installed on the car.

"This motor, together with the condenser and other devices, weighs only two-fifths as much as the ordinary four-cylinder internal combustion engine."

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NEW RADIO RECEIVER FOUND; METAL STRIP TINY AS A PIN

The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore announced last week the accidental discovery of what it termed an entirely new method of radio reception, in which broadcast waves are picked up through a tiny strip of frigid metal without use of tubes, electric current, antenna or condensers.

The university said programs had been heard clearly through a piece of columbium nitride smaller than a common pin and made super-conductive by lowering its temperature to about 435 degrees below zero (fahrenheit).

Sources close to the university and the experiment which led up to the discovery said that in its present state of development, there was not much chance standard home radio sets would be replaced by the strip of metal, because of the great expense involved in refrigerating equipment.

However, these unofficial sources, who declined to be quoted by name, said the discovery may open the way to a revolutionizing of transocean and other long-distance radio sending and receiving because of the treated metal's great potentialities for sensitivity to wave impulses.

The discovery came about by accident recently, the university said, during a course of experiments being carried out by Dr. Donald H. Andrews, Johns Hopkins professor of chemistry, and Dr. Chester Clark of the university staff.

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TRANSPARENT CABINET SHOWS HOW NEW TELEVISION WORKS

Two table model television receivers having 22 tubes including a 10-inch direct view picture tube will be included in the display of the Farnsworth Television & Radio Corporation at the January Furniture Market in Chicago. The receivers are pre-production models of the Farnsworth video sets soon to be marketed in Chicago and other cities having television stations.

One of the television sets to be shown is housed in a transparent lucite cabinet which permits observers to see the compactness of the chassis.

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WHITE NEW REPUBLICAN BOSS - COMMERCE GROUP HEAD IN DOUBT

Despite the protests of Senator Charles W. Tobey (R) of New Hampshire who insisted a pre-session conference election such as was held by Senate leaders in Washington Monday violated party rules, Senator Wallace White (R), radio and communications authority of Congress, was elected majority leader of the Senate and will succeed Senator Barkley (D) when the Republicans take over later in the week. Whether or not Senator White will also head the Interstate Commerce Committee has still not been decided. This committee controls radio communications and transportation.

At the start of the conference Monday Senator Tobey made his unavailing effort to delay the meeting until the Eightieth Congress convenes. Tobey argued the group cannot organize for the new Congress until Republican Senators-elect are actually sworn into the Senate.

Senator Vandenberg (R) of Mich., retiring chairman of the conference, overruled Tobey's point of order.

Later, with Millikin in the chair, Tobey raised a point of order against dual membership of any Senator on both the steering group and the Republican committee on committees. Millikin overruled this point.

Senator Clyde M. Reed (R) of Kans., who has threatened a fight on Senator White serving in the dual role of Senator Majority Leader and Interstate Commerce Committee chairman, told the conference committee assignments should be delayed until every Republican Senator has a chance to study the findings of the new Committee on Committees.

Reed is himself a candidate for the Interstate Commerce chairmanship. White has seniority claim to the chairmanship and told newsmen he intends to serve both as leader and chairman if elected.

It was learned that Senator Reed may be called before the new Committee on Committees today (Tuesday-31) to state his case. One possible compromise would make Reed chairman of the important land transportation subcommittee of the Interstate Commerce Committee.

Following Monday's conference, Reed said that post wouldn't satisfy him. If denied the Interstate Commerce chairmanship, Reed threatened to assert seniority claim to chairmanship of the Public Lands Committee. That post has already tentatively been assigned to Senator Butler.

Backstage of the Interstate Commerce Committee row was an almost open lobby fight. Railroad shipping interests were reported to be supporting Reed for the job. Radio and some other transportation groups reputedly favor White.

The tangle may become even more complicated if Senator Tobey, opposed by all of these interests, enters the race himself. He is also said to seek the chairmanship of the Interstate Commerce Committee. Also Mr. Tobey is in line for chairman of the Senate Banking Committee.

The Monday conference named a new eight-man Republican Committee on Committees headed by Senator Edward V. Robertson of Wyoming to consider the assignment tentatively made by the present Senate's GOP Committee on Committees. Its members are: Senators

Taft (Ohio), Brooks (Illinois), Hugh Butler (Nebr.), Harlan J. Bushfield (S. Dak.), Homer E. Capehart (Ind.), Forrest C. Donnell (Mo.), and William F. Knowland (Calif.).

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CONFIDENT HIGH COURT WILL OVER-RULE PETRILLO

Representative Lea (D., Calif.), said that if the Supreme Court knocks out the so-called "anti-Petrillo" Act, which he sponsored, he will urge new legislation on the relations between radio stations and their musician employes.

He said, however, that he was confident the high court will disagree with the Chicago Federal Court which held that the Lea Act is unconstitutional class legislation.

The appeal was taken directly to the Supreme Court, according to Assistant United States District Attorney Leroy Krein, who filed the Government's appeal, because Judge LaBuy's decision held that the Lea Act, which Mr. Petrillo was charged with violating, was unconstitutional. The act prohibits employment of more persons in radio broadcasting stations than are necessary to do the work required.

The criminal information against Mr. Petrillo charged him with "wilfully" coercing the licensee of Station WAAF here into employing persons not needed to perform actual services.

In its appeal notice the Government stated that the Lea Act was the result of repeated Congressional investigations from 1942 to 1945.

"It represented the deliberate judgment of Congress as to the existence of an evil affecting the broadcasting system of the nation and as to the best method of remedying such evil," stated the government appeal.

"The very fact that the decision here nullifies an act which Congress deemed necessary for the welfare of the nation in itself establishes the substantiality of the constitutional questions involved."

The government charges that Judge LaBuy erred in holding that the Lea Act was indefinite in its definitions and stated that its wording was not as indefinite as that of other statutes which have been sustained by the Supreme Court.

"The information involved did not charge the defendant refrained from work, but attempted to coerce the licensee by causing others to discontinue their working," the government contended.

Stating that Judge LaBuy misinterpreted the act as it pertained to the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution, the government appeal stated:

"The fact that a man may not be forced against his will to perform labor for another does not mean he has an absolute right to agree with others to refrain from working for a particular employer with the avowed purpose of requiring that very same employer to employ him under different conditions."

The government's contention was that the act did not prohibit picketing as Judge LaBuy held, but that it "prohibited coercion by means of picketing."

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WOMAN DIES AT WWDC; LISTENERS UNAWARE AS PROGRAM CONTINUES

Announcer Mike Hunnicutt at Station WWDC at Connecticut & K Sts., about a block from the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C., kept his early morning program "Rise and Shine" going Monday despite the fact that the body of a dead woman lay in the next room. Police were called but the listening audience was unaware of the tragedy.

It was Hunnicutt who discovered the body in the Washington radio station at about 6:30 a.m. He believed then she was dead. He was assured of the fact when police arrived 40 minutes later.

Police identified the woman as Mrs. Elza Kettler, 35.

They said she had died of natural causes following a "drinking bout" with a cab driver companion, Frank Ealey and John H. Brown, WWDC announcer.

Brown, known to the all-night listening audience of WWDC as Jack Ridge, was reported to have been discharged as a result of the episode.

Hunnicutt was on the air from 6 to 9:30 a.m. During this time detectives and uniformed police milled through the station and the woman's body, shrouded in white sheets, was carried to an ambulance on a stretcher.

Hunnicutt's is a cheer-up and get-up program of snappy tunes and wise patter. He ad libs throughout except for commercials.

WWDC officials said the events might have shaken a less veteran performer than Hunnicutt, whose light chatter before the microphone gave no hint of the tragedy.

Norman Reed, WWDC program director, said he tuned in Hunnicutt's show shortly after 7 a.m.

"Mike seemed the same as usual to me," said Reed. "I didn't know anything about the dead woman until I got to work."

Three other men were working with Hunnicutt on the early morning show. They were Leonard Friendly, organist; Ray Morgan, news announcer, and Charles Schrider, announcer.

"I thought she was dead," said Hunnicutt. "She looked so funny. She was slumped in the chair. Her head sagged against the wash basin and both arms dangled at her sides.

"I guess it was about 7 o'clock when I called the police. They got there about 10 minutes later."

The story of what happened, according to police, was this: Ridge stepped into a cab in which Mrs. Kettler was riding with Ealey. He invited the couple to inspect the radio station. There they had some drinks, Ridge "passed out," and Mrs. Kettler went to the rest room, became ill and died.

In announcing that Ridge had been discharged, the station said he was being fired solely because he had violated the strict regulation against visiting the station during closed hours.

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A new line folder on RCA Victor television receivers, in which the four initial models are described and illustrated in detail, was sent to the trade by J. David Cathcart, Advertising Manager of the RCA Victor Home Instrument Department.

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CHANDLER, BEST, 1ST U.S. BROADCASTERS INDICTED FOR TREASON

In what is believed to be the first case of American broadcasters indicted in the United States for treason two expatriate U.S. newspapermen--Robert Henry Best, 51, and Douglas Chandler, 56--were indicted Monday (30) in Boston by a Federal grand jury on charges of treasonously selling out to the Nazis by serving as their radio mouthpieces during the war.

Judge Francis J. W. Ford directed that Best and Chandler be brought to Boston at the earliest possible date from Washington for arraignment.

The tall, gray-haired Chandler was charged with attempting to undermine American support of the war and to "weaken and destroy confidence in the Administration" through shortwave broadcasts under the pseudonym "Paul Revere."

Best, a well-known prewar character in Vienna cafes, was accused of serving as news editor in the German propaganda division handling broadcasts beamed to the United States.

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KQW SAN JOSE WHICH BROADCAST ATHEIST STILL IN QUANDRY

Although a preponderance of listeners protested when Station KQW of San Jose, California, broadcast an address by Robert Harold Scott, the atheist, several weeks ago the station officials are still in somewhat of a quandry over the matter. Fred Ruegg, KQW program director was quoted as saying:

"We have not yet made up our minds. We have not actually decided yet what to do," executives of Station KQW advised when asked if Scott would be permitted a second session at the microphone on a Sunday morning." Mr. Ruegg explained that the FCC ruling had been, in effect, that time should be sold to an atheist to enable him to give his views as long as the station gave time to churches. He said churches were still on the KQW log.

KQW's indecision was not ended by a poll of listener reaction to Scott's lone broadcast of Nov. 17. A tally of 5000 letters showed 76% opposed to permitting air time for a message on atheism, 24% upholding Scott's plea for the right to air his views. Of the 24% only a few subscribed to atheism.

Background of the case contains five years of fighting for atheism. During this period KQW, KPO and KFRC were asked for time by Scott, who then petitioned the FCC to revoke the licenses of the stations. After the FCC ruling, KQW permitted one broadcast, which was later assailed by Rev. Hugh Donohue in the Monitor, a Catholic diocese weekly publication.

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RADIO PRODUCTION ON UPGRADE; CABINETS & PARTS STILL LAG

Civilian Production Administration has just reported shipments of civilian radios in October 1946 increased to 1.8 million units from 50,000 in November 1945 and were 68 percent above the 1940-41 average monthly rate of 1.1 million sets. In spite of substantial cancellations of military orders during the latter part of 1945, remaining contracts absorbed the major portion of the industry's production during that period.

Second and third quarter shipments during 1946 consisted mainly of smaller sets as manufacturers were unable to obtain parts for the larger types. A shortage of cabinets, tubes, gang condensers, transformers and fractional horsepower motors prevented an even greater increase in production.

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COOKING WITH RADAR

By its action of December 26th in making the frequency of 2450 megacycles available for immediate use of diathermy and industrial heating equipment, the Federal Communications Commission recognizes the public and commercial benefits which may be expected from harnessing electronics to medical, household and commercial use.

For example, in a hearing which preceded this step, the Raytheon Manufacturing Company testified that its new "radarange", by using the magnetron tube developed in connection with radar for war purposes, can pre-cook food in seconds as compared with minutes by older methods. It demonstrated that, by such means, frankfurters, say, can be grilled in 8 to 10 seconds, gingerbread and biscuits baked in 29 seconds, and hamburgers with onions made ready in 35 seconds. In addition, frozen food can be prepared immediately without thawing.

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NEWS DAILY NEWSPAPERS STRONGER DESPITE RADIO

American newspapers are in a stronger position today than ever before despite 15 years of prophecy that radio spelled their doom, Erwin D. Canham, editor of the Christian Science Monitor and vice-president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, told members of the Florida Press Association meeting in Miami recently.

His words of cheer were coupled with words of caution. He warned the editors that to maintain this position they must strive continually for more factual reporting, news coverage that will build public confidence -- with an eye ever on the changing times.

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... SCISSORS AND PASTE ...

Standby Band Hasn't Played In 5 Mos., Gets 15% Increase
("Variety")

James C. Petrillo in his newest drive for wage increases for musicians in theatres got one for an orchestra in Chicago which hasn't struck a note in over five months. Band that currently isn't working, yet got a raise, is at the Chicago Civic theatre, which now shows the picture "Henry V." Civic, which has been housing stage attractions up to this time, formerly had a house orchestra of six. When "Henry" came in orchestra was upped to eight. All musicians are on half pay while on standby and last week the group got a 15% hike.

United Artists Co., which rented theatre for "Henry V," kicks in \$563 each week for not one note of music.

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"Real" Republicans for FCC, ICC, Etc.
(Robert C. Albright in "Washington Post")

Carroll Reece, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, said at the recent meeting of Republican leaders in Washington, the President ought not only to name "real Republicans" to bi-partisan Federal agencies created by Congress, but as vacancies occur might "in his discretion," give Republicans actual control of such agencies. He mentioned such "legislative" agencies as the ICC, the FCC and the Federal Trade Commission. Reece said he wouldn't propose a bill to that end but thought Republican control of both Houses should be reflected in bi-partisan agencies actually set up by Congress.

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What Hooper Is And What It Isn't
(Jack Gould in "New York Times")

Actually, if a half-hour variety program called X has a rating, say, of 10, it means simply that out of a total of 100 homes called on the telephone by the Hooper staff while the program was on the air a total of ten reported that they were listening to X.

The other ninety homes originally involved fall into three main classifications. The first group is those homes which did not answer the phone. The second group is those answering the phone but not listening to the radio. The third group is those listening to programs other than X, for which, of course, ratings also are determined simultaneously. The final figure of 10 represents, therefore, the percentage of the original 100 homes which could listen, not an adjusted percentage of those who actually were.

For a half-hour program the Hooper staff makes a total of 1,380 calls in the thirty-three cities. In all, the Hooper organization makes 5,155,000 telephone calls a year to determine national ratings.

When a Hooper emissary calls a home, these are the questions which she asks: (1) Were you listening to the radio just now? (2) To what program, please? (3) Over what station? Asked only of listeners is one of the following supplementary questions: (A) What is advertised? (B) How many men, women and children are listening? (C) What is the occupation of the head of your household, please?

In effect, a Hooper rating is an index of one program's popularity as compared with another, an index limited to the metropolitan areas of thirty-three cities where the four networks may be heard simultaneously.

But Mr. Hooper is the first to acknowledge that his system is important not only for what it is but for what it is not. Primarily a rating does not tell how many listeners tune in a given program nor, being limited to telephone subscribers only, is it designed as a scientific poll of national taste in the Gallup manner.

In radio circles he is called "Hoop."

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Bricker's Flop At Gridiron Dinner
(Doris Fleeon in "Washington Star")

Mr. Bricker created real excitement as the Washington grapevine swiftly filled in every detail of his Gridiron dinner flop. It has been the topic of adverse notice on a Nation-wide radio hookup and will unquestionably cost him plenty, if not, indeed, the nomination.

The principal indictment is that he affronted good taste and sportsmanship by personally taunting President Truman about the Democratic defeat and Mr. Truman's failure to make an appearance in the campaign. He also derided the President for losing his own State of Missouri. A long finale of platitudes about the glories of the Republican Party did not make the dish any more palatable.

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Predicts Morgan Will Lead 1947 Poll Popularity Gains
("Look")

Henry Morgan's wit is effortless--and sharp. For 14 years he's ridiculed everything radio holds sacred. And now it's paying off in his first coast-to-coast show. ABC, Wednesday. It's funny and fresh. For these reasons, LOOK predicts that 31-year-old Morgan will lead the radio field in popularity poll gains in 1947. Typical of the brash irreverence on all his shows is this recent "plug" for his sponsor's product: "This razor will save you shaving time. But what can you do with two minutes? If you really want to save shaving time, grow a beard."

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Newspapers Also Want Credit In Curbing Lewis
("Editor & Publisher")

The Radio industry is being told it alone is responsible for Lewis' calling off the recent coal strike. And it is not supposed to be anything radio did or accomplished but merely the threat of what it might do. The argument goes like this: Truman was going to broadcast to the people about the strike after refusing to compromise with

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TRADE NOTES

When membership of the National Association of Broadcasters' Music Advisory Committee was published last week, the names of three committee members were omitted from the list: Judge A. L. Ashby, NBC; Julius Brauner, CBS; and Louis G. Caldwell, MBS.

Although general legislative matters were the main object of a call on President Truman by Senator Wallace White (R) of Maine, it is believed the latter may have taken the opportunity to put in a plug for Commodore E. M. Webster, wartime head of communications of the U.S. Coast Guard, to fill the vacancy on the Federal Communications Commission created by the resignation of Paul Porter.

Senator White has boosted Commander Webster several times before for FCC Commissioner but now that the Republicans are in the saddle on the Hill the Senator's recommendation may carry considerably more weight.

Rep. John E. Rankin, Democrat of Mississippi, a member of the House Committee on un-American Activities said:

"The committee will intensify its drive and its efforts to remove from the Federal payroll every Communist and every other subversive individual. It will also give its attention to the Communists in the moving picture industry, the radio and other methods of communication."

Drew Pearson predicts that large radio models will be scarce at least until June.

John G. Sittig, president of the First Colony Corporation, was appointed chairman of the board of the Electronic Corporation of America to succeed Samuel J. Novick, who is assuming presidency of the radio and radio equipment manufacturing firm. Garrard Mountjoy, former president of the corporation, announced that he will devote his full time as consulting engineer to the radio industry.

A simple electronic device comprising only a handful of equipment gave promise here in Waltham, Mass., according to T. R. Kennedy, Jr., of the New York Times, of completely banishing for all time the highly objectionable needle scratch from new and old phonograph records, and of eliminating most of the noise in radio reception and broadcasting.

The inventor is Hermon Scott, president of the Technology Instruments Corporation of Waltham, who has been working to perfect the system for several years and only recently completed it for public demonstration. Mr. Scott, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said he had been working on the general idea of noise reduction in phonograph reproduction for more than fifteen years.

The device will soon be employed in at least two American

radio-receiver phonograph machines. One is that of the Fisher Radio Company in New York, the other being the Scott Radio Laboratories of Chicago.

In answer to a question, "Will there be wide unemployment in 1947?" Victor Riesel writing in Look Magazine replied:

"Unemployment will be uneven. Jobs will be plentiful in the construction field but toward the year's end they will fall off in retail fields, textiles, Federal services, radio production and other luxury fields."

Dr. R. G. E. Hutter of Sylvania's Research Laboratories in Flushing, Long Island, has arrived at formulas that will make possible improvements in the control of distortion in television tubes.

Once again, newspaper circulations in U. S. reached a new all-time high in 1946, with a gain of 4.81% for morning and evening dailies and a 9.43% increase for Sunday papers over last year's record peak.

Morning papers led the daily field with an increase of 7.14% and evening papers showed a gain of 2.58%, according to the annual cross-section survey made by Editor & Publisher of publishers' statements to the Audit Bureau of Circulations for the six-month period ending Sept. 30, 1946, as compared with 1945.

If automobile or truck radios are subject to static, the tires may need a dose of powder! B. B. Settle, of the Dodge division of Chrysler Corporation, is informing dealers how they can suppress troublesome static electricity generated by tire friction.

Automotive engineers discovered recently that tire friction sometimes builds up enough static electricity to cause a static noise in the radio. Mr. Settle advises that the noisy condition usually can be eliminated by using a new tire static suppression powder. The powder, which is injected into the inner tubes with a special tool, is acetylene black. The powder collects the static electricity and then dissipates it.

The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled Monday (30) that the use of sound trucks on public streets in Trenton was "tantamount to compulsion" and that freedom of expression did not contain the right "to compel others to listen."

The two-to-one decision upheld a Trenton antinoise ordinance which had been challenged by Charles Kovacs, who was fined \$50 in connection with a strike at the Trenton Times newspapers.

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Lewis; the union leader saw the President meant business so he called off the strike and Truman cancelled his broadcast.

This is typical of the blue sky claims that radio salesmen have been mouthing for years.

The "public pressure" which Mr. Lewis noticed was aroused in the only way it could be aroused--through the factual recital day by day of the drastic economic results of the mine shutdowns, the closed plants, the curtailed transportation, etc. as reported in the newspaper columns and over the air.