

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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January 8, 1947

TELEVISION ALMOST OVERSHADOWS BILBO AT CONGRESS OPENING

Next to Senator Bilbo the one big feature of the opening of Congress was the way television came into its own at the White House, on Capitol Hill, and by coaxial cable for onlookers elsewhere in Washington, Philadelphia and New York City.

Just as President Harding's inaugural address was one of the first great news events ever broadcast, President Truman availed himself of television when the new Congress assembled. The day Congress convened, he watched it on a special set installed in the White House. On Monday when President Truman addressed Congress, he himself was televised even to the smile on his face when he joshed the Republicans, said smile reported to have been clearly seen in New York City. It was the first time that any Congressional event had been televised.

The curtain raiser was last Friday when the opening session of Congress was placed on the air for two hours.

In a special televised interview preceding the opening, four members of the House spoke of the televising of the opening session.

Representative Charles A. Halleck of Indiana, new Majority Leader, said:

"I think it is mighty fine that on this occasion the opening proceedings are being carried out to the country in this fashion."

Representative Sam Rayburn of Texas, new Minority Leader, congratulated those "who brought television in and those who are conducting the proceedings under it now."

"It is a great occasion for me, and also for the people out there who will hear and see", he added.

Representative Charles A. Wolverton of New Jersey, new Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee, said:

"This new and unique system for conveying news to the people of this nation I consider one of the most outstanding events that has ever happened in the field of communications."

Representative Clarence J. Brown, of Ohio, Chairman of the House Republican Campaign Committee, said it was "a great day".

Two of the latest in highly sensitive "Image Orthicon" electronic cameras were aimed at the proceedings from various points of vantage. A pre-session interview with House leaders was carried on with two similar cameras in an ante-chamber of the House.

The views were so clear that a bandage could be seen on a finger of the House tally clerk as the voting proceeded.

On Monday when the President addressed Congress, three television sets were placed in the Hotel Statler in the Capital. Said the Washington Post:

"The Chief Executive didn't even bat an eyelash during the reading of his State of the Union speech when a customer at the Statler inquired for pistachio ice cream and got it.

"Three television sets with 12 by 15 inch screens were located strategically about the bustling veranda room. They enabled the customers to sip their drinks, see and hear the President, and take life easy with all the aplomb of listening to an after-dinner speaker.

"The television camera's ubiquitous eye searched out old and new Congressional personalities, some of whom, apparently unaware that they were being watched often held rather curious poses while conversing with colleagues or listening to the President.

"Truman's well-known features appeared with great clarity on the three screens, undisturbed by the 'blips' or 'ghosts' that sometimes haunt televised images.

"In the Veranda Room, many of the customers from time to time would pause with a cocktail half-way to their lips as their attention was caught by something the President was saying.

"The three television sets, first to be installed in Washington on a permanent public basis, will be in operation daily in the room from 2 P.M. until closing. The hotel management hopes within six months to have similar sets installed in all the hotel's 1000 rooms."

The Post also had a cartoon captioned "State of Nation" showing President Truman sitting at his desk in the White House making a wry face as he watched the television screen showing the Republicans taking over the House.

Said the New York Times:

"The pictures from the House chamber were received in New York by means of a coaxial cable and for the most part were of acceptable clarity.

"Clearly visible were the President's smile when he commented on the House's revised seating arrangements in the wake of the Republican election victory and his turning of the pages of the prepared text of his speech."

Both the opening scenes of Congress Friday and President Truman's address Monday were rebroadcast in New York by WNBT of the National Broadcasting Company; WABD, station of the Allen B. DuMont

Laboratories, and WCBS-TV of the Columbia Broadcasting System as well as WPTZ in Philadelphia, and WTTG, Dumont station in Washington.

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CONSTRUCTION TO START ON WOR'S TELEVISION TOWER IN WASHINGTON

A contract for construction of a foundation and towerbase for WOR's television station in Washington, D. C., has been let to Davis, Wick and Rosengarten of Washington, it has been announced by J. R. Poppele, Vice-President in Charge of Engineering of the Bamberger Broadcasting Service. Construction of the towerbase will start shortly. Call letters of the video station will be WWBR.

The 300-foot-tall tower will be erected at 40th and Brandywine Streets. The site is the highest point in the District of Columbia area, 412 feet above sea level. The top of the television antenna will have an overall height of 700 feet above sea level.

The tower, to be constructed by the Lehigh Structural Steel Company from plans prepared by WOR engineers, will hold platforms for short wave, micro wave and television receiving and transmitting equipment. The construction program includes installation of the tower foundation and erection of the tower. Berla and Abel, of Washington, are the architects.

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MISS MARTIN, EX-G.O.P. LEADER, URGED FOR FCC

Said to have the backing of Senator Wallace White, of Maine, Republican Majority Leader, the name of Miss Marion Martin, former Assistant Chairman and Director of the Women's Division for eight years of the Republican National Committee, who resigned recently with such loud repercussions, has been mentioned for the vacancy on the Federal Communications Commission. Miss Martin is also reported to have the backing of Senator Brewster (R), of Maine. Her name was proposed to President Truman by Guy P. Gannett, Portland, Me. broadcaster and publisher.

A native of Kingman, Me., Miss Martin is of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She attended Bradford (Mass.) Academy and Wellesley College and completed her university studies at the University of Maine, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree. Miss Martin attended Northwestern University Summer sessions and studied a year at Yale University Law School. In 1939 Bates College conferred on her the honorary Master of Arts degree.

One of Maine's leading citizens, Miss Martin was elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 1930. After two terms she was elected to the State Senate, where she was a member of the Joint Committee on Legal Affairs, and Chairman of the Joint Committee on State Prisons. She served also on the Committee on Federal Relations and on the Recess Committee on Labor Relations.

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SEN. REED ATTACKS WHITE IN COMMERCE COMMITTEE FIGHT

The boys got pretty rough in the fight over the Chairmanship of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee. Senator Tobey (R), of New Hampshire, who put up quite a scrap for it, pulled off, but Senator Clyde Reed (R), of Kansas, finally attacked Senator White personally. Senator White having been elected Majority Leader is also slated to ascend to the head of the Interstate Commerce Committee through which all radio and communications legislation clears.

Senator Reed was of the opinion that the majority leadership would be sufficient to occupy Senator White and went after the latter viciously. He charged that Mr. White, as Minority Leader in the Seventy-ninth Congress, had attended only four of sixty-seven meetings of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee in the two-year period. He contended that the added responsibilities of the majority leadership would not permit of an improved attendance record.

Mr. Reed also alleged that there had been "manipulation" of seniority to favor some Senators. Rules were broken, he also alleged, by the placing of Senator Owen Brewster, Senator White's Maine colleague, on the Commerce Committee.

Mr. Reed said that Senator White, as Majority Leader, will have even less time for Committee work and "important work of the Senate will suffer through inability of any one man to handle these great responsibilities . . .

"I also challenge manipulation of seniority by the Committee (on committees) to favor some Senators . . . From every source available to me, conversation, letters, telegrams, telephone calls, newspaper articles, there is general dissatisfaction. I regret that the Republican Party in its first Senate majority in 14 years should start its work with this handicap."

There was also a protest because Senator Brewster of Maine was on the Interstate Commerce Committee probably to be headed by Senator White, also from the same State.

After a discussion of nearly three hours the Senate Committee on Committees decided to "spank" Senator Reed for his prolonged one-man revolt. The conference did this by offering the chairmanship of the Civil Service Committee to Reed, quite a comedown in the eyes of the latter. Senator Reed rejected this offer in favor of Senator Langer of North Dakota, and then was informed that he would remain where he was, without any advancement.

Senator Reed did not appear at this meeting. What Mr. Reed did was to cast down an ultimatum. This was that he would appeal the Committee's action to the full Republican conference and, failing a favorable verdict there, would open a fight on the floor of the Senate itself. Available Senators knew of no precedent for such an appeal.

Republican Senators have apparently agreed upon the following Majority party lineup on the Interstate Commerce Committee:

Wallace W. White, Maine (Chairman); Charles W. Tobey, of New Hampshire; Clyde M. Reed, Kansas; Owen Brewster, Maine; Albert W. Hawkes, New Jersey; E. H. Moore, Oklahoma and Homer Capehart, of Indiana.

The Democratic members are: Edwin C. Johnson, Colorado (Ranking Minority Member) Tom Stewart, Tennessee; Ernest W. McFarland, Arizona; Warren G. Magnuson, Washington; Francis J. Myers, Pennsylvania and Brian McMahon, Connecticut.

Under the Reorganization Act, each Minority Senator is permitted to serve on only two Committees.

Representative Wolverton (R), of New Jersey, has, it is reported, been informally agreed upon as Chairman of the House Interstate Commerce Committee which deals with radio and communications in the lower body.

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FCC OKEHS "WIRED RADIO" EXPERIMENT

The Federal Communications Commission granted Herbert L. Spencer of Baltimore, Md., a construction permit for a portable developmental broadcast station at Laurel, Md., to test transmission of broadcast programs over local power lines.

Mr. Spencer, a radio and electronic engineer and Chairman of the Baltimore Section of the Institute of Radio Engineers, plans to demonstrate the practicability of "wired radio", "wired wireless", "carrier current", "power line broadcasting" and "power casting", as it is variously known, as a means of furnishing local program service. Low power (10 watts, with A0, A2 and A3 emission) will be used on frequencies to be assigned from time to time, on a temporary basis, by the Commission's Chief Engineer. The signals, it is claimed, will be confined primarily to the immediate vicinity of the electric power lines and will not interfere with regular radio communication.

Authorization is for experimentation only, with no assurance of any future service grant. The Commission dismissed four other applications by Mr. Spencer for similar stations at Rockville, Gaithersburg and Westminster, Md., with one station in reserve. All these towns are more or less suburbs of Washington, or nearby.

The applicant proposes to use much the same method of transmitting radio waves over wire lines now employed by some 50 educational systems comprising the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. Being well engineered and supervised, the so-called "campus network" does not interfere with licensed radio communication, hence the Commission has not had to regulate college local "wired radio" under rules applicable to low power devices.

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RCA OPPOSES PRESS WIRELESS HANDLING GOVERNMENT MESSAGES

RCA Communications has just filed by Gustav B. Margraf, its attorney, with the Federal Communications its "Proposed Findings" which concerns the application of Press Wireless, Inc. for modification of its licenses in the Fixed Public Press Service to permit the continued handling of Government messages by Press Wireless.

Press Wireless was originally organized to handle press messages only. During the war, Press Wireless was given special temporary authorization to handle Government messages in addition to press messages. The FCC recently advised Press Wireless that these temporary authorizations would not be renewed. Press Wireless thereupon filed application for modification of its regular licenses to include the handling of Government messages on which application a public hearing was held last October.

In its Proposed Findings, RCA reviews the history of the case, the organization of the parties to the case, namely, Press Wireless, RCA Communications, Inc., All America, The Commercial Cable Company and the Mackay Company, and then takes up in detail the history and purpose of organization of Press Wireless. RCA shows by references to the record in the case that the primary and, in fact, the sole purpose from which Press Wireless was organized was the handling of press messages.

After listings from the record the one dozen present stockholders of Press Wireless, including the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, etc., RCA shows that there is no public need for Press Wireless to handle any other than press messages, that RCA alone has adequate reserve capacity to handle all Government traffic now carried by Press Wireless and that the handling of government messages by Press Wireless would operate to impair the speed and efficiency of Press Wireless in handling its press service. RCA also declares that in effect, authorizing Press Wireless to handle Government traffic in order to compensate in part for its losses on press traffic "would be to subsidize its stockholders at the expense of the other carriers".

RCA's Conclusions are as follows:

"1. There is no public need for the use of Press Wireless' telegraph communication channels in the handling of communications (including radiophotos) in the Government classification between the United States and foreign points which cannot be adequately met by cable facilities and the facilities of radio carriers in the fixed public service.

"2. The speed and quality of Press Wireless service in the handling of Government traffic is inferior to that of carriers in the fixed public service.

"3. The handling of Government traffic by Press Wireless will impair that company's speed and efficiency in handling international press communications.

"4. The financial condition of Press Wireless would not be affected significantly by a grant or denial of the applications. The effect of the grant would be to deprive fixed public service carriers of revenues without compensating benefit to the public. The ability of Press Wireless to maintain its operations as a licensee in the fixed public press service is not dependent upon its handling of Government traffic.

"5. No reason has been shown why there should be any departure from the premise upon which the Commission originally licensed Press Wireless and issued frequencies to it, namely, that the public interest would best be served by having at least one international communications carrier devoted exclusively to international communications needs of the press.

"6. The applications of Press Wireless for modification of its licenses in the fixed public press service to permit the handling of communications (including radiophotos) in the Government classification are denied."

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ANNOUNCEMENT "BY AUTHORITY OF THE FCC" NO LONGER REQUIRED

Because the Federal Communications Commission is desirous of relieving broadcasters of non-essentials wherever possible, it takes occasion to point out that the practice of stations opening and closing the broadcast day with the announcement, "This is station ---- operating on a frequency of ---- kilocycles, by authority of the Federal Communications Commission", is not prescribed by statute or rules and regulations.

The custom began April 28, 1927, when the Commission's predecessor, the Federal Radio Commission, issued General Order No. 7 directing all broadcast stations to so announce themselves for the convenience of monitoring stations in checking the then authorized frequency tolerance of one-half kilocycle. However, on November 7, 1931, the Federal Radio Commission repealed this along with some other requirements of the Radio Act of 1927. The Federal Communications Commission, created by the Communications Act of 1934, did not restore this particular provision. But broadcasters continued the traditional phrase, attributing it to the new Commission.

The matter is brought to the attention of broadcasters generally because the Commission is observing that newly authorized FM (frequency modulation) and television stations are falling into the practice. The Commission hopes that this explanation will eliminate a mistaken notion that such announcements are required by the present Commission.

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ALL SET FOR FORMAL LAUNCHING OF FM ASSOCIATION

Various optimistic predictions as to the size of the attendance at the first general meeting of the new FM Association in Washington this week have been made.

The official program follows:

Friday, Jan. 10

9:00 A.M. Registration

10:00 A.M. Opening Meeting, Congressional Room, Hotel Statler.
Welcome Address - Roy Hofheniz, Steering Committee Chairman
"Aims and Objectives of FMA" - Everett L. Dillard
Talk by Prof. E. H. Armstrong (inventor of FM)
"What the Agency and Advertiser Expect of FM" - Hugh D. Lavery, McCann-Erickson, New York
"FM Set Outlook for 1947" - Dr. Ray Manson, President, Stromberg-Carlson Co.
"FM Transmitter Outlook for 1947" - W. R. David, Vice-President, General Electric Co.; representatives of RCA, Graybar Electric Co., Radio Engineering Labs., Westinghouse Electric Corp., and Federal Telephone & Radio Corp. also speaking.
"What Part FM Plays in the RMA 'A Radio in Every Room' Campaign" - Edward G. Taylor, Zenith Radio Corp., Chairman of RMA campaign.
"FM Today" - FCC Chairman Charles R. Denny.
Showing of GE Film, "Listen to FM"

12:30 P.M. - Luncheon, with members of FCC as guests

2:00 P.M. - "FM Needs Promotion" - Preston Pumphrey, Maxon, Inc., New York

2:15 P.M. - Panel on FM Promotion - Lester H. Nafzger, WELD, Columbus, Ohio; Leonard L. Asch, WBCA, Schenectady; Raymond Kohn, Penn-Allen Broadcasting Co., Allentonw, Pa.; W. W. Robertson, KTRN, Wichita Falls, Tex.; Frank E. Shopen, General Manager KOAD-FM Omaha

3:15 P.M. - General invitation to affiliate with FMA

3:30 P.M. - Business Session

1. Committee Reports (Aims and Objectives, Everett L. Dillard, Chairman; Finance, Gordon Gray, Chairman; Membership and Nominations, F. A. Gunther, Chairman).
2. Report of Temporary Secretary, C. M. Jansky, Jr.
3. Report of Temporary Treasurer and Committee on Charter and By-Laws - Leonard H. Marks
4. Election of Board of Directors and Officers
5. Appointment of Permanent Committees by new Chairman

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TELEVISION HITS MEXICO'S ENTERTAINMENT FANCY

"Television in Mexico has caught the people's fancy as has no other 20th Century innovation", said Ralph B. Austrian, President of RKO Television Corporation, who has just returned from a month's visit to Mexico City. "Last October a special demonstration which picked up the famous Mexican Bull Fights from the Plaza del Toros and displayed them on a battery of television receivers several miles away left a huge section of the population gasping in astonishment."

"During the last month while I was in Mexico City", said Mr. Austrian, "I have had dozens of visits and conferences with many interests who are determined to be first with television in Mexico. Plans are underfoot for the establishment of a transmitter in Mexico City and transmitters in four other metropolises. Most of the negotiations are still in the confidential stage but news of the culmination of plans is expected momentarily. Mexico will serve as the link between the United States and the South American countries in the establishment of a Western Hemisphere Network."

"It is expected that television receiving sets will be imported into Mexico at the outset in a knocked down form and assembled and cabined there."

"I expect to return in January for a stay of about two and a half months to continue my research and consultation. I am, of course, arranging for production facilities for RKO Television Corporation. The new RKO Churubusco Motion Picture Studios, the beauty of Mexican locations, the economy of operations provide an excellent opportunity for low cost television film production."

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30 TO 40% BETTER RADIO SET PRODUCTION PREDICTED FOR 1947

An optimistic view of the radio manufacturing situation is taken by Thomas J. Miley, Secretary of the Commerce and Industry Association of New York, who says:

"Output of radios in 1947 is likely to be 30 to 40 per cent greater than in 1946, with competition keen in the small table models. A break in the prices of table models is expected and price reductions may spread to table model combination phonograph-radios. Prices of console sets are expected to hold through most of the year."

"Stocks of finished radios in the hands of manufacturers are relatively low. Parts inventories are unbalanced. The supply of tubes is likely to catch up with demand in the first quarter of 1947. Some dealers report sizable inventories of smaller sets."

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RMA ASKS LOWER RADIO DUTIES TO MAINTAIN U. S. LEADERSHIP

American radio manufacturers have the capacity to lead the world in the design, development and production of radio transmitters, sets, parts and tubes, and are desirous of maintaining that leadership, the Export Committee of the Radio Manufacturers' Association declares in a brief filed with the U. S. Committee for Reciprocity Information in anticipation of reciprocal trade agreement negotiations to be undertaken by the State Department with 18 foreign countries this Spring.

Chairman A. D. Keller, of New York, on behalf of the RMA Export Committee, asked that trade barriers in these countries be withdrawn or reduced "to the point where our manufacturers will have a fair opportunity to compete". The Committee requested that a "most favored nation" clause be included in all agreements.

"Exports have become an important part of the radio industry and large numbers of workers in the United States are dependent for their livelihood upon the continuation of this export business", the Committee said.

Recalling that before the war half of the radio receiving sets in the world were in the United States, the Committee added:

"Because of our large industry and mass production, we in the United States are in a position to appropriate large sums of money for engineering and research and thus have for many years been world leaders in radio engineering and in the development and manufacture of radio transmitters, sets, parts and tubes. Because of the superiority of the American product, many people in foreign countries prefer American made radio equipment. We enjoy a unique position and are desirous of retaining this leadership."

The RMA presentation, which will be followed by a hearing beginning January 13, states that the total value of exports in radio equipment and components by all U.S. radio manufacturers for the first nine months of 1946 was \$32,901,471.

The State Department has announced its intention to negotiate reciprocal trade agreements in the Spring with the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Lebanon (Syro-Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, and the colonies of these nations.

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The Turkish radio has announced that an unnamed British firm had acquired a \$28,000,000 contract to build powerful radio transmitters in Ankara and Istanbul. The stations, which will take two years to complete, will enable Turkey to communicate directly with all parts of the world without using foreign relays.

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POPPELE, TBA PRESIDENT, RECOMMENDS CODE FOR TV BROADCASTERS

J. R. Poppele, President of the Television Broadcasters' Association, Inc., in his report to members of the Association delivered at the Annual Meeting held yesterday morning (January 7) in New York, recommended that the television industry adopt a code to guide broadcasters in their programming at the earliest possible moment.

In his report Mr. Poppele:

1. Recommended immediate adoption of a code
2. Reviewed television activity of 1946
3. Told of the immediate plans of the Association
4. Expressed his views on future operations.

A handsomely inscribed scroll commemorating the 40th anniversary of the invention of the "Audion" by Dr. Lee de Forest, noted inventor and "Father of Radio", was presented to Dr. de Forest at the luncheon session which highlighted the Annual Meeting. Dr. de Forest in accepting the presentation, offered his view on the future of television and electronics.

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INTERNATIONAL DETROLA RELEASES MONTHLY AND ANNUAL SALES REPORT

Consolidated sales of International Detrola Corporation in November, first month of the Company's 1947 fiscal year, were \$5,504,140.10 and net profit after taxes was \$250,317.80 for the month, President C. Russell Feldmann has just disclosed.

"December sales indicate a figure in excess of \$5,000,000.00 also", he added.

Final audit figures for the corporation's fiscal year ended October 31, 1946 showed consolidated sales of \$40,810,028.22 against \$35,244,179.76 in 1945, and net profit of \$1,012,123.92 compared to \$882,324.65 in 1945. The 1946 profit included \$580,000.00 from sale of real estate not used in operations.

Earnings in 1946 equalled 84 cents per share on 1,200,010 shares as compared to 77 cents per share in 1945 on the number of shares outstanding at the time.

The Company's manufacturing operations include nine plants in this country in radio, steel, refrigeration, aircraft, and special machinery, and there are two Canadian manufacturing affiliates.

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ABC'S "AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING" AVAILABLE FOR CO-OP SPONSORSHIP

Inaugurating a new policy in its public service programming, effective Thursday, January 9th, the American Broadcasting Company will make "America's Town Meeting of the Air" available for sponsorship as a network co-operative program, according to a joint announcement by Mark Woods, President of the ABC, and George V. Denny, Jr., President of Town Hall and founder and moderator of America's Town Meeting.

"Under this new policy", Mr. Woods said, "ABC assures listeners that 'America's Town Meeting', will be continued on the air and permits individual advertisers to sponsor a national network program over their local ABC station. Local institutions may now become associated with a public service feature that costs and talents heretofore have forbidden. Present indications are that organizations in themselves engaging in public service activities will be the ones to avail themselves of this opportunity."

"America's Town Meeting", heard on ABC Thursday nights from 8:30 to 9:30 P.M., EST, started on the network on May 30, 1935 and was sponsored by The Readers Digest Association, Inc., from September 7, 1944 through November 29, 1945. Since that time the program has continued to be heard on ABC as a sustaining public service feature.

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BROADCASTERS 1947 BUDGET \$650,000

The 1947 budget for the National Association of Broadcasters, which does not involve any increase in membership dues, was adopted in San Francisco Monday by NAB's Board of Directors. The radio industry association's outlay for the current year will be approximately \$650,000. NAB officials pointed out that this figure runs only slightly higher than the budget for 1946, and falls within "foreseeable income". Satisfaction with these financial arrangements was expressed by both Justin Miller, President of NAB, and the Board itself. Both agreed that this budget will enable NAB to fully discharge its responsibilities to the radio industry.

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NATIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU DEVELOPS NEW ELECTRONIC TUBE

A new electronic tube, in appearance much like an ordinary radio tube, but capable of measuring accurately the rapidly changing accelerations to which various parts of an airplane are subjected in flight, has been developed in the National Standards Bureau's Engineering Mechanics Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Walter Ramberg. The new tube, known as the vacuum-tube acceleration pickup, is also proving useful in such applications as measurement of accelerations in portions of the body of "dummy" pilots and living subjects when subjected to critical acceleration during crash landings or seat-ejections from jet-propelled airplanes.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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More Early Birds Than Radio Ed. Anderson Thought
 ("Variety")

Following up his revelation that radio has early morning listeners, Stan Anderson, Cleveland Press Radio Editor, has consented to serve as judge in WHK's "What I Like To Hear on the Radio Before 8 A.M." contest.

Anderson doubted radio has listeners before 9 A.M. and asked those listening to WHK's early show to call him. His line was jammed for hours.

Wallace White Appraised As Successful But Unspectacular
 ("Look Magazine")

Senator Wallace H. White, Jr., of Maine, is important because he is destined to replace Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky in the post of majority leader.

The honor comes to him largely by virtue of his seniority, and many predict he will find it an empty one. For the amiable and complacent New Englander is almost certain to find himself ground between the upper and nether millstones - pressured from above on policy matters by the Taft-dominated steering committee, while at the same time he is needled from below on matters of strategy and tactics by the aggressive and irrepressible party whip, Senator Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska.

Senator White is popular with his colleagues, however, even if his influence is limited, and this general approval was attested to by his election as minority leader in the last Congress. He has not made himself conspicuous in legislative debate, but makes frequent comments from the floor in a thin, sometimes emotional voice that barely carries to the galleries. Such oratorical triumphs as he has achieved have usually been those connected with good-humored exchanges of repartee with the Democratic leader, Senator Barkley.

In the last Congress he was ranking minority member on the Interstate Commerce Committee and second ranking member on appropriations. In the new Congress he probably will elect to become Chairman of the former group, since it embraces the field of communications, in which he has been vitally interested for many years.

Senator White, now 69, has an unbroken record of thirty years' service in Congress. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1917 and to the Senate in 1930. His current term is due to expire in 1949.

Senator White's record has been successful although unspectacular, and it has been marked by undeviating loyalty to Republican aims and policies.

BBC Bars Television By Hypnotists; Judges Go Into Trance
(United Press)

The British Broadcasting Corporation experimented with a television program featuring a British hypnotist in London but dropped the idea quickly when four of the six judges fell under the hypnotist's spell and went into a trance.

When the judges were shaken into wakefulness they told the hypnotist, Peter Casson, that he was so good they could not consider putting him on a program broadcast to the public.

"We consider it would be too dangerous", they said.

Mr. Casson was auditioned on an internal studio network in television headquarters at Alexandra Palace, in keeping with the policy of trying all programs for audience reaction before passing them on to the public. Mr. Casson fixed his staring eyes on the lens of a television camera and murmured soothingly: "You are going to sleep. You are going to sleep."

Across the hall in another room a studio girl employee switched on the set to see what was happening. She fell asleep. Mr. Casson's television announcer, Miss Gillian Webb, also fell asleep as she watched him perform.

One of the four sleeping judges was snoring gently when Casson finished his audition. All those who fell under the spell were awakened by shaking.

In his audition, Mr. Casson said, he fixed the attention of the audience by talking to them.

"There was a closeup of my face, but it was mainly sound which did it", he explained.

Since the BBC traditionally is a butt of British wit, the wags already are at work. They suggest that Mr. Casson be hired to hypnotize BBC audiences into staying awake.

Why They Bet On Senator White
(Doris Fleenon in "Washington Star")

The case of Senator White provides an instructive lesson in Government as it is actually practiced. Ordinarily a contest for a Committee chairmanship is a political dilemma chiefly but interstate and foreign commerce has immense powers over vast networks of transportation, communications and radio. These industries view with alarm the stern New England Tobey conscience; except for the railroads they are hardly less affrighted by the rather unorthodox Mr. Reed of Kansas.

The lobbyists are the busiest men in the Capital, organizing support behind the veteran Senator White whom they know to be experienced, safe and sane. Far and wide they are sending up one of Mr. Tobey's own Macedonian cries - and it is, according to all reports - being answered in a big way. Hence the betting on Senator White.

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:::: TRADE NOTES ::::
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Contingent upon negotiations of contracts with hotels and other groups concerned, the National Association of Broadcasters' Board decided that Atlantic City, N.J. would be the site for the 1947 annual NAB convention. The week of September 15th was tentatively agreed upon as the time for this yearly membership meeting.

New receivers which feature a twin amplifier-speaker for adjusting the ratio between high and low notes in reception to suit individual taste will be featured in the expanded 1947 radio production program scheduled by Electronic Laboratories, Inc., Indianapolis. These new receivers will be given the brand name "Orthosonic". Production of the currently offered six-tube receiver will continue but the main emphasis will be on eight and twelve tube models.

James L. Fly, former Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and Edward F. McGrady, former Assistant Secretary of Labor, now RCA Vice-President in Charge of labor relations, have been selected by the U. S. Labor Department, along with 24 other specially skilled conciliators, as trouble shooters in labor disputes.

The Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether dance band leaders or the owners of ballrooms where they play must pay the Federal social security taxes of band members.

The ruling will determine in part the validity of contracts by James C. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians (AFL). Ballroom and night club owners engaging AFM musicians are required to sign a standard contract stating that they are the "employers" of the orchestra for the duration of the engagement.

Production of radio receiving tubes in November reached a new peak of 21,623,077, which was just above the October figure and previous high of 21,193,524, the Radio Manufacturers' Association has announced.

Of the November output, 14,063,896 tubes were for new sets and 6,514,681 for replacements. The remainder were for export and government agencies. Total receiving tube production for 11 months in 1946, through November, was 180,743,639.

Station WQQW, 2627 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, joined the District's radio air waves Sunday afternoon with a three-hour inaugural program, reiterating its pledge to emphasize "good music" and to de-emphasize advertising.

During the broadcast station officials announced a contest to determine whether listeners preferred classical to popular music on programs.

A demonstration of television was a feature attraction for the 26th annual New Year's reception for Chicago Tribune and WGN employees and members of their families by Col. Robert R. McCormick. Mrs. McCormick assisted in receiving the more than 2,000 guests.

Gordon E. Riley, of Camden, N.J., General Traffic Manager of the Radio Corporation of America, and former Traffic Manager for the United States Gypsum Company, died in Camden, N.J., Sunday, January 5th, at the age of 48.

Mr. Riley, who had been with the RCA for the last year, was a member of the New York and Chicago Traffic Clubs and the National Industrial Traffic League. He leaves a widow, Zelda, and a daughter.

Magnavox Company - Nine months to November 30: Earnings of \$1,470,770, or \$2.94 each on 500,000 shares outstanding, compared with \$325,793 or 78 cents each on 416,778 shares in similar period of previous year. Sales were \$16,860,543, compared with \$11,326,345, Richard A. O'Connor, President, reported.

Although the Senate refused to seat Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, the Federal Communications Commission last month awarded a new radio station to friends of the Senator.

The new station was given to the Rebel Broadcasting Co. of Jackson, Miss. Drew Pearson reports: "Its officers are: Allen Lacey, who makes Bilbo's office a constant place of call while in Washington, and Charles Russell, a leader of the Mississippi delegation which nearly walked out of the 1944 Democratic convention in Chicago because Franklin D. Roosevelt won the presidential nomination. The company's lawyer is Forrest Jackson, who represented Bilbo last month before the Kilgore Committee."

Five retail and radio industry leaders were named to act as judges for the annual radio contest sponsored by the National Retail Dry Goods' Association. This year's contest is the first of a yearly series planned by the retailers' organization.

This year the retailers at the convention will devote an entire session to the subject "Radio for Retailers".

The first American broadcasters ever accused of treason were denied bail in Boston Monday, January 6th by the Federal Court.

Judge Francis J. W. Ford postponed their arraignment and granted them time to obtain counsel before entering pleas to indictments charging them with wilfully and traitorously aiding the Nazis through broadcasts beamed to the United States from Germany during the war. No date was set for the trial, but it is expected to start in April.

Conviction of treason carries a mandatory death penalty. Chandler, a native of Chicago, and Best, who was born in South Carolina, were indicted December 30th by a Federal Grand Jury in Boston.

The Mutual Network announces Pittsburgh's Annual Stephen Foster Memorial Program for Sunday, January 12th at 3:00 P.M. EST, originating from Station KQV, Pittsburgh, Pa. The program will be carried by 150 stations in 48 States and will consist of a half hour program of Stephen Foster songs.

Ten students of journalism at the University of Tulsa each interviewed ten newspaper readers. One question and the reply was:

Do you rely more upon newspaper or radio for your news?

Newspaper: 41; Radio: 36; Both: 16; News Magazines: 2.

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