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January 22, 1947

## VEHICLE RADIO BOOMS; 1000 LICENSES FOR 12,000 VEHICLES

The fastest growing operation of the Federal Communications Commission is the vehicle two-way telephone via radio tryout. To date the Commission reports that 1,000 experimental authorizations have been issued involving 12,000 taxicabs, trucks and private cars.

The taxicab people were among the first to recognize the value of radio telephone implementation. There have been more than 200 such grants involving nearly 3,000 taxicabs in cities from Boston, Mass., to San Diego, Calif., and applications are on hand for nearly 2,000 additional units to cover some 135 cities in 40 States. The largest grant of this nature was to a fleet of 1,600 cabs in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The taxicab industry, with about \$4,000,000 invested has gone so far as to claim that by saving "dead" mileage and increasing speed and efficiency of service, radio may bring about reduction in fares. A case in point is experimentation at High Point, N.C., where four radio-equipped taxis in a 10-day period traveled 5,200 miles, carried 1,700 fares and secured \$1,400 revenue, while six other cabs without radio traveled 6,000 miles, carried 1,200 fares and grossed only \$900 in the same period.

The trucking industry is interested in radio as an aid for dispatching and controlling the movement of vehicles, speeding repair crews, etc. However, there have been only three such experimental grants to date, mostly for intercity service. One grant involves use of 100 units, but the other two have less than three apiece. There is a pending trucking application for 100 more units.

The Commission has paved the way for mobile radiotelephone use generally by establishing experimental Urban and Highway services. For developmental work, 24 frequencies in the 152-162 megacycle band have been allocated to the Urban service, and 40 frequencies in the 30-44 megacycle band to the Highway service.

The need to conserve frequencies makes test programs necessary for general mobile two-way radiotelephone service for vehicles on the land, on the sea, and in the air. Grants are for bona fide experimentation without promise of regular service and with investment or other expenditure at the risk of participants. Soon there will be a general hearing at which time results of present experimentation will be analyzed and all persons interested will have a say in formulating rules and regulations permitting the inauguration of regular service.

Present testing is of a practical nature because it involves actual service by communications common carrier companies to the public in connecting persons in vehicles with wire lines; also service by associations on a common carrier or cooperative basis; and specialized service by individual users in certain categories.

Grants to firms, organizations and individuals experimenting with their own vehicles include such enterprises as hauling ready-mixed concrete, picking up and delivering merchandise, armored car delivery of cash and valuables, railway express trucks, fuel trucks, highway passenger buses, ambulances, doctors' vehicles, river and coastal boats, and even aircraft.

At the same time, telephone companies are testing radio-telephone service to individuals and groups on a common carrier basis at regular charges. Radiotelephone equipment in vehicles is able to communicate with telephone exchanges which connect with the regular wire lines. Telephone facilities in 60 cities have been granted or have made applications for such links with private cars, buses, and boats. Altogether, about 4,000 pieces of mobile equipment are operating in this category. The time may not be far distant when there will be telephone booths on trains and passenger planes for radiotelephone communication.

The Southwestern Bell Telephone Company at St. Louis was the first to try out mobile telephones on a large scale. The first overseas call from a moving auto was made from St. Louis to Honolulu (4,600 miles) on July 16, 1946. The New York Telephone Company handled 100 calls on its first day of urban mobile service, one of which was to Paris. In many cities radiotelephone-equipped autos are being used by press and radio news reporters.

Microwave relay circuits and wire lines implement radio-telephone service over intercity highways. Radio relay telephone service was first tested between New York and Philadelphia. Today highway systems are in operation or are being installed between New York and Washington; New York and Buffalo (via Albany); Chicago and St. Louis; and Los Angeles and San Diego.

Baltimore is the proving ground for mobile facsimile service by the Western Union Telegraph Company. Vehicles so equipped move about the city picking out of the air and delivering telegrams sent from New York, Chicago and Washington. Replies can be sent by the same means. This mobile service is in lieu of neighborhood telegraph offices.

Other testers of mobile radiotelephone equipment include the New York Central Railroad, which is using 36 mobile units for traffic control at its New York yards and 24 units on tugboats operating in New York Bay; also the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, which employs it for police purposes at one terminal. The Baltimore Transit Company utilizes 50 units in connection with its street car system.

The Boston Public Works Department finds radiotelephony useful for emergency service. The District of Columbia has a radio-telephone hook-up with mobile equipment, including prison vans. One Atlanta department store had contact with 50 delivery trucks. A bottled gas company in Miami is using 10 units, the sales manager of a manufacturing company radiotelephones his salesmen, and a Maryland doctor's auto is similarly in touch with his office for hurry calls.

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NO RADIO LOBBYISTS HAVE REGISTERED - YET

Although twenty pages of the Congressional Record (January 3) are devoted to the registration lists of Washington lobbyists, who they represent, and how much they receive, etc., as yet no one has signed up from the radio industry.

The nearest to it was Frank W. Wozencraft, formerly counsel for RCA Communications, who is now law partner of former FCC Commissioner Governor Norman Case. Mr. Wozencraft is representative of the Independent Bankers' Association in the 12th Federal Reserve District, Portland, Ore.

The registrations to date number 211 with the Townsend National Recovery Plan represented by 33 lobbying agents having the largest number. Organized labor has registered 51 lobbyists thus far and industrial and business organizations such as the National Association of Manufacturers, National Association of Real Estate Boards and so on 56.

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EMERSON RADIO SALES \$23,088,881; CLEARS \$1,340,356

Net income of the Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries was \$1,340,356, equal to \$3.85 a share on 400,000 capital shares, the annual report for the fiscal year ended on October 31 last has just disclosed. This was the highest ever attained being 66 per cent above the largest earnings reported in any previous year, according to Benjamin Abrams, President. It compares with \$806,696, or \$2.01 a share for the year ended with October, 1945.

During the year Emerson acquired two additional companies - Plastimold Corporation of Attleboro, Mass., and Jefferson-Travis, Inc., New York City.

"Plastimold is an outstanding producer of molded radio cabinets and gives Emerson an assured source of supply of one of the principal components in the production of radio sets", Mr. Abrams said. "The addition of Jefferson-Travis gives us access to the important and growing field of two-way radio communications.

"It is expected that the line of marine transmitting and receiving equipment now made will be expanded to include a wider range of radio telephone models, as well as radio direction finders, and will be augmented in the future by the introduction of similar equipment designed for automobiles, trucks and light aircraft, thus further broadening our operations in the electronic field", Mr. Abrams added.

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## REQUEST GRANTED FOR EARLIER TOUR WLW STOCK COMPANY

Thousands of Midwesterners, many of whom have never seen a radio program, will comprise the audiences for 12 full-scale radio dramas, when WLW's stock company goes on the road next month for its third annual tour, which will open earlier this year in order to answer more requests for visits.

On the itinerary are communities in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and West Virginia. Beginning February 21, the touring WLW thespians will visit high school actors on the evening of their school plays, broadcasting an original radio drama from the stage after the scholastic production.

One feature of each broadcast will be the participation of a high school performer, selected from the school play cast by WLW's dramatic director. The broadcasts will be heard each Friday night at 11:30 P.M., EST, over WLW.

Traveling with the Director will be a cast of from 8 to 10 actors, as well as a sound man and an engineer.

Since its inception in 1945, the stock company tour has steadily increased the number of performances from an original four in the first year. This season, in addition to the regular visits to scholastic plays, the company will attend the State Drama Festival in Morgentown, W. Va., of Thespians, national high school dramatic society. In June, Director Charles Lammers of WLW will attend the National Thespian meeting in Bloomington, Ind.

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## RCA PRODUCES NEW COIN OPERATED RADIO SET

The entrance of RCA Victor Division of the Radio Corporation of America into the field of coin-operated radio sets was revealed this week with the announcement that an RCA set embodying many new and unusual features will be introduced at the Coin Machine Show in Chicago, February 3 to 5 inclusive.

The new instrument was virtually "blueprinted" by leading coin machine operators and institution managers themselves, RCA said, its many special features being based on the results of a survey undertaken by the company to determine what new or improved features were most desired. Institutions expected to make use of the new sets include hotels, motels, tourist camps, hospitals, country clubs, and Summer resorts.

Superior performance, appearance, and flexibility of operation, as well as design and construction on features which provide maximum protection for the operator, are incorporated in this initial RCA coin-operated set.

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BMI WINS PRAISE AT PRESS CLUB DINNER TO PRES. TRUMAN

It is a surprising thing to those who attend presidential dinners to note when everyone is striving to put his best foot forward how frequently inferior talent manages to creep in. The first question asked about town the next day is, "How was the show?"

In the case of the National Press Club dinner (guests at which were confined to club members) to President Truman, the answer to that was loudly in the affirmative. All the customers from the President down seemed to be well satisfied.

All of which was complimentary to Broadcast Music, Inc., which through John Elmer, a member of the Board of Trustees and General Manager of WCBM, Baltimore, Md., and M. E. Tompkins, Vice-President and General Manager of BMI, made its debut in presenting entertainment for a banquet attended by the President of the United States. The following performers appeared in addition to the U.S. Navy Band Orchestra under the direction of Lt. Charles Brendler:

Miss Jane Davis, Accompanied by the Candlelight Trio; Ben Grauer, Master of Ceremonies; Miss Dorothy Kirsten, Metropolitan Opera Soprano; Ed Gardner, and his "Duffy's Tavern"; Marais & Miranda Folk Songs; Jan August, Pianologues with Ensemble; Ben Beri, Novelty Comedian and The Debonairs, Modern Rhythms.

Seated on either side of President Truman were Paul Wooton of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, retiring NPC President, and Warren Francis, of the Los Angeles Times, incoming President. Among those present connected with the broadcasting and communications industry were:

K. H. Berkeley, Manager, WMAL, Washington; Louis G. Caldwell, Counsel, WGN, Chicago; Senator Homer E. Capehart, from Indiana; Martin Codel, Editor, FM Magazine; Roland C. Davies, Telecommunications Letter; Willard D. Egolf, formerly of NAB; John Elmer, General Manager Station WCBM, Baltimore, Md.; Ben S. Fisher, Radio Counsellor; E. H. Gammons, Vice-President, Columbia Broadcasting System, Washington; Bond P. Geddes, Vice-President, Radio Manufacturers' Association; Earl Godwin, Radio Commentator; Theodore Granik, American Forum of the Air; F. P. Guthrie, Assistant Vice-President, RCA Communications, Washington.

Also Claude A. Mahoney, Radio Commentator; Joseph L. Miller, formerly NAB; Neville Miller, former President of NAB; Edgar Morris, Washington Zenith representative; Frank M. Russell, Washington Vice-President, National Broadcasting Company; Sol Taishoff, Editor, Broadcasting magazine; Eugene Thomas, Sales Manager, WOR, New York; Senator Wallace H. White, Jr., from Maine; Carleton D. Smith, General Manager, WRC, Washington.

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## BATTLE OF ATLANTA FURNISHES EXCITEMENT FOR BROADCASTERS

There hasn't been a dull moment for the broadcasters of Atlanta since the governorship fight started. Station WSB of the Atlanta Journal of which Leonard Reinsch, President Truman's radio advisor is in charge, and WAGA, of the Fort Industry, of which Commander George B. Storer is President, found themselves in the thick of it.

The following telegram describing the most exciting day has been received from Jean Hendrix, enterprising press representative of WSB:

"WSB coverage of today's Gobernatorial conflict as follows: When Governor Arnall arrived at Capitol this (January 17) morning he found Representative Jimmy Dykes at the desk Arnall set up in rotunda yesterday. WSB was present for direct exclusive statement from Arnall and Dykes, amidst boos and hisses from Arnall supporters.

"Arnall left for his law offices in Candler Building where WSB again broadcast exclusive speech on 'Does Your Vote Count'? He urged the people of Georgia to voice their disapproval of the 'Dictatorship in the Capitol' and demand recognition of the man they elected Governor.

"Earlier this morning when WSB attempted to set up broadcasting facilities in the reception room of the Executive offices, they were told that the facilities were needed for one of Talmadge's assistants. No other space was provided for WSB so it was impossible to broadcast Talmadge press conference.

"Immediately following conference WSB broadcast a complete recapitulation of questions asked and Talmadge's answers. While the Atlanta Journal is strenuously opposing Talmadge, WSB is carrying both sides of the controversy as public service. WSB will broadcast direct from Senate Monday morning when Lieutenant Governor Elect M. E. Thompson is Sworn In."

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## HESLEP, MBS, BACK FROM PANAMA; HEADS RADIO DINNER COMMITTEE

Charter Heslep, Washington, D. C. representative of the Mutual Broadcasting System, was among the radio executives who went to Panama aboard the "USS WISCONSIN" on the Naval Reserve cruise to get a first hand idea of what Navy peacetime life was like. Other similar cruises are planned by the Navy.

Mr. Heslep returned to Washington in time to actively resume his duties as Chairman of the Dinner Committee of the Radio Correspondents' Association which will be held at the Statler Saturday night, February 1st.

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## TELEVISION TO BE MAJOR AD MEDIUM BY 1948, SAYS RCA EXECUTIVE

Television will be a major advertising medium by 1948, J. David Cathcart, RCA Victor Home Instrument Advertising Manager told members of the Washington, D.C. Advertising Club at a luncheon meeting Tuesday (Jan. 21). Mr. Cathcart traced the growth of the medium's audience and predicted its future expansion: "In seasoned areas television will have full-scale professional calibre programming as a yardstick.

"Production willing, television will be an economically sound investment for the advertiser - and strictly on the basis of augmented business - in the areas where the television market has been developed, by 1948. Many new products will be born out of the power of television advertising, just as they were from radio", Mr. Cathcart said. "Already many of the country's principal national advertisers are using the medium on regular schedules."

He described the development of television market areas as being far speedier than the growth of radio audiences, traced the growth of television network facilities and operations, and summarized early reactions to the rebirth of the medium as a result of placing of postwar television receivers on sale.

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## RADAR TO BE USED TO CLEAR WASHINGTON AIRPORT CONGESTION

Million-dollar, 200-mile radar units being installed at the National Airport and Andrews Field, Md., by the Army Air Forces will eventually be used by the Civil Aeronautics Administration to control air traffic over the congested Washington area.

The units consist of a microwave early warning system (MEW) which can plot position and direction of aircraft up to 200 miles away, and a height finder showing their altitude.

The MEW radar units will have five scopes connected to the CAA traffic control center at the National Airport, as well as scopes manned by the AAF. Two other remote scopes will be used by the CAA Weather Service, as they show location of certain weather conditions such as thunderstorms.

Controllers at the field, contacting aircraft with the MEW and the height finder radar scope, can provide navigational data to the pilots and guide them away from hazards such as mountains, while the planes are still over 100 miles from Washington.

Another device, now being installed at the National Airport and known as ground-controlled approach radar, or GCA, will spot the planes at a distance of about 30 miles and guide them in the actual landings. At Andrews Field, they will be controlled by the traffic control radar unit from a 40-mile range.

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## FCC FAILS TO REVEAL DON LEE CHARGES; MAY DO SO LATER

Don Lee officials were still in the dark as to exactly what charges would be made against them, if any, by the Federal Communications Commission at the conclusion of the hearings conducted by Commissioner Rosel Hyde in Los Angeles last week. Commissioner Hyde reserved the right for the FCC to make specific charges after considering the testimony.

Lewis Allen Weiss, Don Lee, Vice-President and General Manager, declared that the Don Lee network had never dropped a station for failure to clear time or cooperate nor has it coerced an affiliate into accepting a program.

Melvin Marshall, former Manager of KYOS, Merced, Cal., endeavored to show "pressure" in correspondence between the network and station. FCC sought appearance of Thomas S. Lee, network president, but Dr. J. M. Lacey, his physician, said he could not appear because of a chronic spine condition.

Mr. Weiss said he was personally responsible for the network's operations and discussed problems of the network, affiliates and advertisers in the 41-station hookup. He said Don Lee affiliates found their affiliation profitable often raising rates. He voiced opposition to the 36-day requirement for notice.

Statements in a letter from C. O. Chatterton, KWLK, Longview, Wash., referring to a misunderstanding over option time, were misinterpreted, Mr. Weiss said, since the letter dwelt mainly with other subjects and the option complaint was far removed from the event to which it referred.

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## ADAMS NAMED FCC ASSISTANT TO GENERAL COUNSEL LAST WEEK

David C. Adams, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., has been promoted from Chief Rate Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission to Assistant to the General Counsel, succeeding Walter I. James, who resigned to enter private practice.

Since he joined the Commission in 1941, Mr. Adams has specialized in common carrier legal work. He formerly headed the International Telegraph Section of the Law Department, was a member of a committee of the Board of War Communications, and handled many cases affecting international communication services and rates.

At the conclusion of the war Mr. Adams, 33 years of age, returned to the Commission as Chief of the Internal Services Section; later became Chief of the International Section, Common Carrier Division, and, on June 7 last, was made Chief Rate Counsel. Mr. Adams was one of the United States delegation to the Moscow Five Power Telecommunications Conference held in 1946, and also acted as one of the United States observers at the London meeting of the CCIT in November 1946.

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## CBS PUTS ON COLOR TV SHOW FOR FCC CHAIRMAN DENNY

High performance capabilities of the ultra-high frequency standards the Columbia Broadcasting System has proposed as a basis for commercial television operation were demonstrated last Friday to Chairman Charles R. Denny and Commissioner Ray C. Wakefield, of the Federal Communications Commission, in an extensive series of color television demonstrations, climaxed by reception of a CBS color television broadcast in Tarrytown, N.Y., 25 miles from the transmitter in New York City.

The trip made by Commissioners Denny and Wakefield, who were accompanied by Harry M. Plotkin, the Commission's Assistant General Counsel, and Curtis B. Plummer, Chief Television Engineer of the FCC, duplicated that made by the four other members of the Commission last December. Chairman Denny missed that demonstration because of illness, and Commissioner Wakefield was in California.

Friday's demonstration, which included a trip through the CBS laboratories at the network's New York City headquarters, covered much of the data on which CBS witnesses testified at last month's hearings before the FCC in Washington, on the CBS petition for immediate adoption of commercial standards of color television. These hearings will be continued in New York City the week of January 27, with CBS broadcasting color television into the courtroom at the Federal Court House on Foley Square where the hearings will be held.

The importance of contrast range in producing high quality pictures, so strongly stressed by Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, inventor of the CBS color system, at the Washington hearing, was shown in Friday's demonstrations. Two simulated color television pictures were shown side by side. Interposed between one of the pictures and an observer was a neutral density filter. When the room was darkened, both pictures appeared to be of the same brightness. However, when the room was illuminated at normal brightness, the picture without the neutral density filter washed out and was difficult to see, whereas the picture with the neutral density filter maintained its contrast and could be comfortably viewed. Dr. Goldmark explained that it is because of this effect that color television pictures can be shown in a well-lighted room and still be viewed easily.

In their trip through the CBS laboratory, the Commissioners also witnessed a demonstration showing the high color fidelity possible under the CBS proposed color television standards, and saw in operation the CBS uhf color television image orthicon equipment for remote pickup now under test.

Dr. Goldmark also showed the present state of development of the special tube which he and his staff are developing, which gives promise of providing a simple solution for producing color television pictures with a single receiver tube under Columbia's sequential standards. The new tube, Dr. Goldmark said, represents "a very promising approach toward a simple, single, fully electronic receiving tube which can be utilized either for projection or for direct viewing."



SENATOR WHITE DEFENDED; BEST MAN IN CONGRESS ON RADIO

There was a strong defense of Senator Wallace White, Jr. by his colleague, Representative Margaret Chase Smith (R), of Maine. Mrs. Smith spoke of him as a man of great current interest and snowed, by quoting from Maine newspapers, how he was regarded in his own country, where proverbially a prophet is usually without honor.

Said the Journal in Lewiston, Me., the Senator's home town:

"Senator Reed, of Kansas, is hollering 'oligarchy', charging that Senators White, of Maine, Taft, of Ohio, and Vandenberg, of Michigan, are running the show. Several Senators have objected to one having more than one important job.

"White is the best qualified of the upper Chamber to head the Commerce Committee. He is the outstanding authority in Congress on communications. He is coauthor of the present radio law. At the personal insistence of President Roosevelt early in his first term, White accepted chairmanship of the American delegation to the International Communications Conference at Cairo. This was at the time that the Democrats had swept into Washington. This was a good assignment, but F.D.R. realized White's especial fitness to head the delegation. White demurred but the President made it a question of duty and White went."

The Sunday Telegram and Press Herald of Portland, commented:

"When White was assigned as Chairman of the Committee, in the face of bitter opposition by Senator Clyde M. Reed (Republican, Kansas), he completed a parallel in family history that matches the political parallels of the Cabot Lodges, of Massachusetts, and the Hales of Maine - for his grandfather, Senator William Pierce Frye, held that chairmanship, as well as the presidency of the Senate, when he died in 1911 after 50 years of public service, 40 years of it in Washington.

"In a certain sense he also is right back where he started 45 years ago, when, as a raw recruit on the political scene, he left Bowdoin College to become a junior clerk for that same committee, and secretary to the President of the Senate, his grandfather.

"Ever since the early days of that clerkship White's fervent wish was to duplicate the distinguished career of the grandfather he admired so well, and every step he has taken since has been with that end in mind.

"Senator Frye, for 40 years a powerful figure in Congress, both in the House and the Senate, and thrice president pro tempore of the Senate, was an impressive deity to look up to and emulate - but step by step, practically in Frye's very footprints, White has made his way."

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## ALFALFA CLUB BECKONS TO RADIO FOR SOME OF ITS GUESTS

"Come to the Land of Alfalfa,  
Come where the clocks never chime,  
Come where ill humor is only a rumor  
And sadness is labeled a crime.  
Come where the nights are all gladness  
And sorrows and care are taboo.  
Come to the land of Alfalfa;  
Good fellowship's waiting for you."

This is part of the welcome extended to guests of the famous Alfalfa Club which held its thirty-fourth anniversary dinner in Washington last Saturday night. The Alfalfa Club, it should be explained, was named for the plant which admits no obstacle in its search for moisture. Senator Harry Floyd Byrd (D), of Virginia, was elected President of the Alfalfa Club for the coming year.

Veteran members of Alfalfa are Gene Buck, former President of ASCAP, who as a rule provides the professional portion of the exceptionally fine entertainment for which Alfalfa (modeled after the Gridiron Club) is noted, and Frank C. Page, Vice-President of I. T. & T.

Other guests from the radio and communications industries included:

Charles R. Denny, Jr., Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission; Kenneth H. Berkeley, Manager Station WMAL, Washington; Senator Homer E. Capehart of Indiana; D. Worth Clark, former Senator from Idaho, and Counsel-at-Law; John William Guider, Radio Counsellor; Ray Henle, Radio Correspondents' Gallery; John Marshall Littlepage, Radio Counsellor; Thomas P. Littlepage, Jr., Radio Counsellor; Eugene Meyer, owner of the Washington Post and Station WINX; Edgar Morris, Washington Zenith Representative, and Duke M. Patrick, Radio Counsellor.

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## BRITISH CABLE-WIRELESS, LTD. HEAD "HAULS DOWN HIS FLAG"

When Cable and Wireless, Ltd., in London, passed to government ownership New Year's eve, Sir Edward Wilshaw, Chairman and Managing Director of the organization, sent the following farewell message to employees around the world:

"Tomorrow at midnight I haul down my flag and the government takes over command. I salute our very great company and each one of you personally. Good-bye and good luck."

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## LEMKE REINTRODUCES RESOLUTION TO RESTORE FM TO 50 MC.

Representative Lemke (R), of North Dakota, last Tuesday (21st) reintroduced his resolution (H.J. Res. 78) relating to re-assignment of a section of the 50-megacycle band of radio frequencies for frequency modulation (FM).

A holdover from the 79th Congress, Mr. Lemke's resolution to restore FM to the 50 mc. band was referred to the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce where it is expected it will have more consideration than in the last Congress due to the fact that Mr. Lemke's party, Republican, is now in control.

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## NEW WIRE RECORDER DISPLAYED IN CHICAGO

A wire recorder combined with a home radio-phonograph - the first of its kind in actual production - is being shown for the first time at the American Furniture Mart in Chicago amid the predictions of radio experts that it will revolutionize the recording and broadcast industries.

The radio-phonograph-recorder is now in production by Lear, Inc., headed by William Lear of Santa Monica, Calif., designer of radio and airplane equipment. The new machine is based on the basic designs made in Chicago at the Armour Research Foundation during the war, but it has been greatly improved, according to Mr. Lear.

The new instrument - which radio men say is the most versatile home musical reproduction machine ever built - is being produced in a twenty-two-tube console model made to retail for about \$500, and it will be available in this area in March or April, according to present plans.

The recorder uses a spool of stainless steel wire as have early models of the wire recorder, but new improvements have made it, Mr. Lear told dealers, "the most permanent method of recording known to man." Even heat of 400 degrees Fahrenheit do not affect the recording in the wire.

The recorder will record and play back instantly sound taken from a microphone attached to the set, from records playing on the phonograph, or from the broadcast being picked up on the radio, or it will combine any or all of the three.

Wire spools come in fifteen, thirty and sixty-minute sizes and are usable indefinitely. Transcriptions for broadcast by radio stations may be shipped on small spools instead of the presently used large discs. The wire recordings have the additional advantage of being unbreakable.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
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Washington, D.C.'s "Blue Book" Station  
("Time")

Sick and tired of conventional radio, some 125 Washingtonians put up \$100,000 for a "station for intelligent listeners" hired FCC analyst Edward Brecher (who helped put together the FCC's famed "Blue Book") to run the show. Last week Station WQQW began broadcasting according to its owners' lights:

No plug-uglies or singing commercials, only four one-minute commercials an hour (says Manager Brecher: "We believe that a listener is entitled to a program after every commercial").

No patent-medicine ads unless approved by the station's medical advisory committee.

No soap operas, instead, a weekday Woman's Magazine of the Air, containing news and features about women and shopping and housekeeping information.

No children's blood-and-thunder hour.

Added attractions: good "music to listen to - not just to eat to, to talk to, or to shave to"; a chapter a day read from a current best-seller. A medical research program, written by a practicing bacteriologist and a scientific review are scheduled for once a week. Every Sunday morning The Meaning of Religion will bring talks by Washington clergymen.\* \* \*

WQQW airs 75 minutes of news a day - and no editorializing.\* \* \*

Would advertisers help foot the bills? Said Manager Brecher: "If we get the listenership we expect, they'll be glad to." And the audience was even greater than expectations within two days WQQW had some 350 letters, 150 postcards, countless phone calls, including businessmen, physicians, editors, writers, economists, Government employees, housewives.

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RCA's Global Tape Relaying System

(T. H. Mitchell, Executive Vice-President, RCA Communications, in Relay Magazine)

During the past year we have witnessed the first steps in the gradual change-over in our operations from the manual methods long used by telegraph carriers, to a modern, mechanized system of providing an international communications service embracing a world-wide tape relay system.

RCA Communications, Inc. is once again leading the way. In keeping with the new advances in the arts of transportation and communications, a modernization program was initiated early in 1945. We were convinced that fast, low-rate service must be made available and readily accessible in all parts of the world if we were to successfully meet the competition of the airmail and telephone services. Our ability to meet these changes would be evidence of new growth and new strength.

It is gratifying to report that we have made excellent progress thus far. During my visit to our Pacific installations, and more recently on the European continent, I was greatly impressed with the enthusiastic interest everywhere in our modernization program. Officials of foreign administrations were keenly interested in our tape relay method of operation, and they were anxious to obtain first hand knowledge of its future possibilities.

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Talmadge Had Radio Technique  
(Drew Pearson)

Like Hitler, elected by a minority of the voters, Governor Talmadge also had a great radio technique. A total of 125 Georgia newspapers were against him; seven for, but his radio technique won out.

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Gallup Poll Doesn't Expect Much Price Drop In Radio Sets  
(Gallup Poll)

"Do you think that prices on the following items will be higher, lower, or about the same six months from now?"

	Higher or About Same	Lower	No Op.
Food	46%	48%	6%
Rent	83	13	4
Clothing	55	38	7
Automobiles	70	19	11
Manufactured Goods -			
Radios, refrigerators	65	30	5
Real Estate	56	37	7

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Bell Microwave Link Makes Television History  
("Long Lines")

One of the longest microwave television circuits ever provided by the Bell System carried the action of three home games on Army's 1946 football schedule.

It was on a warm Saturday afternoon - October 5 - when the first pictures of a West Point game flashed from Michie Stadium to the top of nearby Crows Nest Mountain and from there leaped forty-five miles to New York City. That NBC broadcast, together with a CBS broadcast the same day from Columbia University's Baker Field, marked the first commercial microwave television transmission by the Bell System.

The West Point broadcast also was the first two-link job ever done commercially by the Bell System.

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::: TRADE NOTES :::  
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Wayne Coy, Vice-President of WINX (Washington Post station) is among a newspaper group which has just left Washington on an Army plane for a month's inspection trip to the Pacific bases and the occupation zone of Japan and Korea.

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Bruce Dennis, Director of WGN, Chicago, Public Relations, who is a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserve on inactive duty, spoke last week before a conference of executive officers and public information officers from the 28th Naval Air Training Commands at Glenview Naval Air Station. Commander Dennis outlined a radio campaign for recruiting former Navy enlisted men in the Naval Reserve air training program.

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The American Broadcasting Company will add its 237th affiliate on March 1st when radio station WGFG, 1000 watts, of Kalamazoo, Mich., joins the network as a member of the Northeast Group.

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WNAX, Cowles station in Yankton, S. D., newscaster, Jim Corbett hit the air just five minutes after a fire in Sioux City that destroyed \$150,000 worth of merchandise belonging to his sponsor in the Commerce Building was under control.

WNAX newsmen, including Corbett, were strictly on their toes, arriving at the scene of the fire six minutes after the alarm was turned in, battled their way into the smoke filled building to cover every detail and be able to give first-hand reports direct from the WNAX newsroom.

The fifth floor, where the heaviest damages occurred, was used as a warehouse for the K & K Company, sponsors of Corbett and his Five State, Five Star Round up News.

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Senator Capper (R), of Kansas, reintroduced his bill (S. 265) to prohibit transportation in interstate commerce of advertisements either by the printed word or radio of alcoholic beverages.

"I have introduced this bill in each Congress for several years as it is my firm belief the proposed legislation is necessary for the proper regulation of such advertising in the separate States" said the Senator.

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Improvements in the Washington Fire Department during the year included setting up of a communications detail which maintains constant contact between firegrounds and fire alarm headquarters during all multiple alarms of fire.

All chiefs' cars are now equipped with two-way radios, as are two outlying engine companies and a suburban truck company.

The Department hopes to equip all apparatus with radios in the near future.



The thanks of the Community Chest Federation and Station WRC in Washington go to contributors to the WRC Doll House who gave a record number of toys, in excess of twenty-two thousand, for Christmas distribution to the needy children of Washington. Bill Herson and the Doll House staff also accepted contributions in cash amounting to \$1,559.07 which was given to agencies of the Community Chest. Almost seventeen thousand toys were distributed by the 46 agencies of the Community Chest, while 2,683 dolls and toys went individually to 926 children of 233 underprivileged families. Two thousand dolls and toys in slightly used condition were given to the Salvation Army.

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R. C. Cosgrove, President of the Radio Manufacturers' Association, will speak Friday, January 24th, before the Radio Luncheon Group of the American Marketing Association, on the subject of "Trends in AM, FM and Television". The luncheon will be in the Hotel Sheraton, New York City.

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The D. L. & W. has installed the Federal Telephone & Radio Corporation Carrier Telephone System over its lines between Hoboken, N.J. and Scranton, Pa., and will provide an additional telephone circuit between these two points, thus expediting the heavy communications traffic of the railroad.

In addition, FTR has five other railroad companies using its Carrier Telephone and Telegraph equipment, including Speech-Plus-Duplex units, which permit commercial speech and telegraph signals to be transmitted simultaneously over the same wire. This type of equipment is also used widely by oil and pipe line companies, refineries, power companies and independent telephone companies.

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Admiral Richard E. Byrd, as he flies over the frozen wastes of unexplored regions of the Antarctic on his present expedition, will record his observations on a wire recorder, especially equipped for airplane use and loaned by the General Electric Company.

"The wire recorder will be a tremendous help in being able to fully record as we see things", Dr. Siple explained. "On our flights in previous expeditions we took notes, which later had to be expended upon and transcribed when we returned. It was an easy matter to forget things which we had neglected to make a pencil note of."

Parts of these recordings, which are not confidential and considered of public interest, will be given to General Electric on the return of the expedition for broadcasting over WGY.

"We may be able to give you a broadcast, which actually originated right over the South Pole" was Admiral Byrd's parting promise.

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Contents of January issue of The International Review:  
"Denmark"; "The Story of the Marine Division of Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company" - Its services to merchant shipping range from shore-to-ship radiotelegraph stations to the design, installation, and worldwide service of marine radio equipment, and "New Duties For Dielectrics" - An I. T. & T. research unit develops new dielectrics to keep pace with advancing electronics and telecommunications needs.

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