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February 5, 1947

PHILA. RECORD-WCAU SALE ROUSES U.S. TO PROBE PRESS STRIKES

Reverberations of David Stern selling the three month strike-bound Philadelphia Record, the Camden Post and Evening Courier and WCAU, 50,000 watt broadcasting station to Robert McClean, of the Philadelphia Bulletin, quickly reached Washington with the result that the Government will not only look into this unprecedented labor crisis but will investigate other strikes which caused newspapers to close down, including the Kansas City Star, the Los Angeles Herald, and the Gannett papers in Rochester, N.Y.

Representative J. Fred Hartley, Jr. (R), of New Jersey, Chairman of the House Labor Committee saying that "the recent epidemic of strikes by the CIO Guild had presented an unexpected crisis" was the first to get into action on Capitol Hill. He said that leading newspaper publishers and representatives of the American Newspaper Guild had been invited to explain to the Committee the differences between the Guild and the publishers.

Representative Hartley said the decision to hear details of the controversy grew out of the sale of the Philadelphia Record, Broadcasting Station WCAU, and the two Camden, N.J. papers following a long dispute with the Guild.

"This development not only terminates the strike which began on November 7, 1946, against the Philadelphia Record, but apparently throws out of employment 600 members of the Guild and 800 other employees," Representative Hartley said.

Invited to testify, Representative Hartley said, are J. David Stern, former publisher of the Record; Roy Roberts, Managing Editor of the Kansas City Star, "and other leading publishers" in addition to representatives of the Guild.

Almost at the same time that Representative Hartley acted, Attorney General Tom Clark sent telegrams to Messrs. Stern and McLean inviting them to come to Washington. This was construed to mean that the Justice Department wanted to determine whether the Stern-McLean deal is in conflict with the Federal Anti-Trust Laws, as the suspension of the Record leaves Philadelphia, a city of 2,000,000 population with only one morning newspaper.

Still a third Government agency automatically enters the situation as the Federal Communications Commission must pass on the sale of WCAU to the Bulletin and the disposal of the Bulletin's Station WPEN which it must sell if it takes on the more powerful WCAU to comply with the FCC rule prohibiting more than one station in the same area to be operated by the same owner.

Mr. McLean said reassuringly to WCAU employees who were not on strike: "The operation of radio station WCAU is not affected by the sale. It will continue to render service under the

direction of the present management which is in full control of the station."

It is too early to appraise final results but apparently the strikers have met with one of the most stunning defeats in the history of organized labor. How much Mr. Stern may have lost as a result of the clash is not known but it is certain that Mr. McLean, who is also President of the Associated Press, in addition to securing a much desired Sunday morning Philadelphia newspaper franchise, is the biggest winner in having acquired WCAU, one of the most valuable radio properties in the East. It is a clear channel station operating on 1210 kc with ten times the power of WPEN, the Bulletin's station.

It can be assumed that the Bulletin is probably much more satisfied to get Station WCAU than perhaps the Record and the other Camden papers inasmuch as it had tried to secure WCAU at the time Mr. Stern purchased it

Mr. Stern is reported to have sold his newspapers and the broadcasting station at from \$10,000,000 to \$13,000,000. This could well be as last Fall he paid Dr. Leon Levy, brother-in-law of William S. Paley, Chairman of the Columbia Broadcasting System, and Dr. Levy's brother Ike, \$6,000,000 for WCAU alone. Philadelphia has nine standard broadcast stations but only two of them - WCAU and KYW, owned by Westinghouse, - have the maximum 50 KW power. The nearest to that is WIBG with 10,000 watts and two other 5,000 watt stations.

WPEN was acquired by the Philadelphia Bulletin from Arde Bulova in 1945 for \$620,000. It operates on 950 kcs. with 5,000 watts but has no network affiliation. Here again the Bulletin is the gainer in acquiring WCAU which is an old splendidly established CBS outlet and it more or less puts the Bulletin in the big time.

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PAINE, OF ASCAP, NOW CHEVALIER IN FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

John G. Paine, General Manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) was made Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honor. The Award was bestowed by M. Henri Bonnet, French Consul at the Office of the French Cultural Attache, in New York.

This is the second time that Mr. Paine has been decorated by the French Government for his work in the field of international copyright; in 1939 he was elected an Officier d'Academie.

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## FINDS EXTERNAL FM ANTENNAS BEST; CAMPAIGN PROMOTES USE

Feeling that an antenna is a very important adjunct of an FM radio set, William R. Hutchins, Manager of WFMR, New Bedford, has been carrying on a campaign designed to promote the general use of external antennas.

"The FM Question Box", a daily question-and-answer column in The New Bedford Standard-Times frequently plugs the desirability of external antennas for obtaining the best FM reception. Instruction sheets for making a folded-dipole antenna are offered to readers and listeners and copies of these instructions have been sent to almost 200 radio dealers in WFMR's coverage area.

WFMR has found that built-in antennas do not always give satisfactory reception even in areas of 10,000 microvolt signal strengths, and believes that only through general adoption of higher external antennas can FM gain the faithful audience it deserves. For this reason the cheapest effective antenna is being recommended to dealers and purchasers.

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## RADIO ENGINEERS TO DISCUSS TECHNICAL PHASES OF COLOR TV

Color television will also come into the technical discussions of the Spring Meeting of the Radio Manufacturers' Association's Engineering Department to be held at Syracuse, N.Y. April 28-30, when J. P. Wilmer of the Columbia Broadcasting System will describe "Color Television Transmitters Design in the UHF", and C. E. Hallmark, of the Farnsworth Television & Radio Corporation, Fort Wayne, "Television Studio Control Including Camera Dolly Considerations".

The program also includes the following papers:

"Absolute vs. Industrial Standardization" by C. H. Crawford, General Electric Company; "Characteristics and Circuit Applications of a New Low-Power Tetrode" by H. C. M. Longacre, Sylvania Electric Products, Inc.; "Design Consideration in an Automatic Gain Control and Limiting Amplifier" by William Jurek, Langevin Company; "Frequency Modulated Link" by E. Ostlund, Federal Telecommunications Laboratories; "Design Considerations for Commercial Radar Equipment" by Coleman London, Westinghouse Electric Corp.; and "Navigational Computers" by A. C. Omberg, of Bendix Aviation Corp.

Dr. W. R. G. Baker, Director of the RMA Engineering Department, and Vice President of the General Electric Co., Schenectady, N.Y., will be toastmaster at the dinner on Tuesday evening, April 29th. Fred R. Lack, RMA Director and Vice President of Western Electric Co., N.Y., will speak on "Thirty Years in Transmitter Design" at the dinner.

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## WAA TO CUT RED TAPE IN ELECTRONIC SURPLUSES DISPOSAL

War Assets Administration officials, in a conference with Radio Manufacturers' Association representatives, gave assurances of early and large volume releases of electronic surpluses to manufacturer-agents. Disclosing new administrative procedure designed to cut red tape, it was stated that early in February there should be substantial releases of surplus electronics, both components and equipment to manufacturer-agents and that by March there should be large quantities increasingly available.

Deputy Administrator Carey, Col. George H. Moriarity, now in charge of both WAA Aircraft and Electronics, and his successor, H. C. Thomas, new chief of the Electronics Division, participated in the conference last week with Chairman M. F. Balcom of the RMA Surplus Disposal Committee, and Bond Geddes, RMA Executive Vice-President.

The procedure first to be instituted at the Philadelphia warehouses, provides for calling in manufacturer-agents to select surplus directly. Warehouse release, for shipments within ten days, also is being arranged under the new administrative arrangements to reduce records and paper work which have heretofore hampered electronic disposal.

The warehouse selection program by agents will be adopted soon at Camp Holabird, Baltimore; Akron and Decatur, Ill., for the Chicago district agents. Agents will similarly be authorized to select surplus from the inventories of manufacturers whose WAA agency contracts have been cancelled.

RMA representatives told WAA officials that the entire electronics disposal program had been bogged down for practically seven months and that a declining market for such surpluses was indicated for 1947, including reduced prices as well as a contracting market, with increased private manufacture of electronic components in prospect in competition with war surpluses. Possibility of injury to the industry, with reduced employment, was among the RMA representations to WAA. It was emphasized that for months there has only been a "trickle" of electronics surpluses available to the manufacturer-agents.

WAA officials, however, stated that they were sure that the February volume of available surpluses would be substantial and that heavy receipts by manufacturer-agents would begin in March.

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Walter H. Annenberg, editor and publisher of the Philadelphia Inquirer, has given \$35,000 to Temple University for establishment of a new school of radio.

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PRES. TRUMAN TAKES NIGHT OFF FOR RADIO SCRIBES' DINNER

President Truman last Saturday night attended the fourth annual dinner of the Radio Correspondents' Association at the Statler Hotel, and thanked the broadcasters for permitting him to "play hookey" from his official cares.

Flanked by members of his Cabinet, the Supreme Court and military leaders, the President took a night off from reading reports "stacked up to there" and enjoyed himself at the antics of Abbott and Costello, Tom Howard and his "It Pays to Be Ignorant" troupe, radio comedian Henry Morgan, and Paul Whieman's orchestra.

In a room jam-packed with Congressmen, Howard quipped:

"Why, that boy's I.Q. was so low he was voted the most likely to become a Congressman."

President Truman led the laughter that followed.

Entertainment was furnished by the four major networks - American Broadcasting Company, Columbia Broadcasting System, Mutual Broadcasting System, and National Broadcasting Company. So many celebrities were present that there wasn't room for all of them at the head table, including such people as former Governor Harold E. Stassen, of Minnesota; Senator Harry F. Byrd (D), of Virginia, and Carroll Reece, Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Among those at the head table with the President were Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Admiral William D. Leahy, members of the Supreme Court and Cabinet, and some of the Nation's top radio executives and broadcasters, including:

Representative Lea (D), of California, Ranking Minority Member, House Interstate Commerce Committee; Representative Wolverton (R), N.J., Chairman, House Interstate Commerce Committee; Mark Woods, President, American Broadcasting Company; Edgar Kobak, President, Mutual Broadcasting System; Senator Wallace White (R), Maine, Senate Majority Leader; Niles Trammell, President, National Broadcasting Company, Charles R. Denny, Jr., Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Justin Miller, President, National Association of Broadcasters; Edward Noble, Chairman of the Board, Mutual Broadcasting System; Frank Stanton, President, Columbia Broadcasting System; Joseph Ream Vice-President, Columbia Broadcasting System; Leonard Reinsch, Radio advisor to President Truman; Charter Heslep, Washington representative of Mutual Broadcasting System and Chairman of the Dinner Committee and Alfred McCosker, Chairman, Mutual Broadcasting System, and Paul Whiteman.

Additional higher-ups from the radio industry attending the dinner were:

Earl E. Anderson, Vice-President, MBS; E. M. Antrim, MBS; Bill Bailey, Secretary, FM Association; Charles C. Barry, Program Department, MBS; Kenneth H. Berkeley, Manager, WMAL; Carl Burkland,



General Manager, WTOP; Phillips Carlin, Vice-President, MBS; Homer Capehart, Senator from Indiana; H. K. Carpenter, WHK, Cleveland; Martin Codel, Publisher, FM Magazine; R. C. Cosgrove, President, Radio Manufacturers' Association; George Crandall, Press Representative, Columbia Broadcasting System, New York City; FCC Commissioner Clifford J. Durr; E. H. Gammons, Vice-President, CBS; Carl Gebuhr, WTOP; George Gillingham, Press Representative, Federal Communications Commission; Benedict Gimbel, Jr., WIP, Philadelphia; F. P. Guthrie, Assistant Vice-President, RCA Communications.

Also, Robert H. Hinckley, Vice-President, MBS; Roy Hofheinz, President, FM Association; FCC Commissioner Rosel Hyde; FCC Commissioner E. K. Jett; Merle S. Jones, General Manager WOL; H. V. Kaltenborn, Radio commentator; Sen. William F. Knowland, California; Fulton Lewis, Jr., Radio Commentator; Robert M. Menaugh, Supt. House Radio Gallery; Clarence Menser, Vice-President, NBC; Maurice Mitchell, WTOP; J. R. Poppele, WOR, New York; C. Nicholas Priaulx, Vice-President, MBS; Bryson Rash, WMAL; Sen. Clyde M. Reed and Frank Russell, Vice-President, NBC, Washington.

Also, Frank P. Schreiber, General Manager, WGN, Chicago; Oswald Schuette, RCA; John Shepard, 3rd, Yankee Network; James Shouse, Pres., Crosley Broadcasting Co., Cincinnati; Carleton D. Smith, General Manager, NBC, Washington; Theodore Streibert, MBS; Robert Swezey, MBS; Senator Robert A. Taft, Republican Senate Leader; Sol Taishoff, Publisher, Broadcasting; Senator Charles W. Tobey; FCC Commissioner Roy C. Wakefield; FCC Commissioner Paul Walker; Lewis Allen Weiss, Vice-President, Don Lee Network, Hollywood; Senator (Former) Burton K. Wheeler; Frank White, Vice-President, CBS and A. D. Willard, Jr., General Manager, NAB.

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#### FCC TURNS DOWN REQUEST TO LABEL STANDARD BROADCAST "AM"

As had been expected, the Federal Communications Commission failed to comply with the request of Roy Hofheinz, President of the newly formed Frequency Modulation (FM) Association that the Commission delete all references in its rules and forms to "standard" broadcasting and substitute the term "AM". Judge Hofheinz, in his first important official move since becoming president, said that it was misleading to refer to "an inferior service as a standard service".

The FCC communique read:

"The Commission, under date of January 28, advises that, because of many administrative problems involved, it is unable at this time to comply with Mr. Hofheinz's request for deletion from existing rules of all reference to 'standard broadcast' station and substitution of the words 'amplitude modulation' or 'AM'."

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WGBS, MIAMI, ALSO TO JOIN CBS; MAYBE WAGA, ATLANTA, LATER

WGBS, 10,000-watt Fort Industry Company station in Miami, Fla., will join the Columbia network June 15th, the same day WWVA, Fort Industry's 50,000-watter in Wheeling, W. Va., rejoins CBS.

WGBS, which operates on 710 kilocycles, 10,000 watts unlimited time, will replace WQAM as the Columbia station in Miami. Stanton P. Kettler is General Manager of WGBS.

Pending before the FCC is a WGBS application for a power increase to 50,000 watts daytime and 10,000 night, installation of all new equipment, and a change of location to the Hialeah section, Miami.

As announced last December, WWVA will replace WKWK, which operates with 250 watts, as the CBS station in Wheeling. WWVA became a CBS affiliate in 1931, switched to ABC in 1941, and had its original power of 5,000 watts increased to 50,000 in October, 1942, with a frequency of 1170 kc.

WGBS and WWVA are now affiliated with ABC. It is reported that WAGA, Atlanta, another Fort Industry station, may likewise affiliate with CBS when the present contract of WGST, Atlanta, CBS outlet, expires one year hence.

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#### MARK WOODS ELECTED TO METROPOLITAN OPERA BOARD

Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company, over the facilities of which the performances of the Metropolitan Opera are broadcast each Saturday afternoon during the season, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Opera Association.

"I feel that my election to the Board of Directors of the Association", Mr. Woods said, "is a recognition of and a tribute to the vast unseen audience which, throughout the years, has been able to enjoy the best in operatic performances through the magic of radio. In my new relationship with the Opera, I shall strive at all times to consider myself a representative of this large group of opera and music lovers."

The opera performances have been broadcast since December 25, 1931, and since 1939, have been an exclusive feature of the American Broadcasting Company.

Mr. Woods follows in the footsteps of David Sarnoff, President of the Radio Corporation of America, who has been on the Metropolitan Board for a number of years.

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## PRICE AGAIN POINTS TO RADIO, PRESS, FILM CENSORSHIP DANGER

Once more raising his voice against the possibility of Government censorship, Byron Price, who served as wartime censor cautioned the radio, press and film people to be on guard. Mr. Price, now a top executive of the Motion Picture Association of America, speaking to the Harvard Clubs of Southern California, declared that both at home and internationally there are today many restraints, and threats of more restraints, upon all the great media of communication. "In our own land of liberty", he declared, "motion pictures are censored regularly in seven States, radio broadcasters are resisting Government control of programs, and as lately as the NRA days attempts have been made to license newspapers".

Pointing out that the laws against political subversion, libel, slander, blasphemy and pornography can be invoked against any radio station, newspaper or motion picture company which outrages the moral standards of civilized society, Mr. Price said it is "a quite different and un-American approach" when governing bodies set up censor boards, requiring prior approval and issuing licenses.

"These alien outcroppings could spring from only one cause", he continued. "They arise from a fear by public officials and perhaps by a section of the people that publishers, broadcasters, and motion picture producers are incapable of conducting their affairs without damage to the public interest. The situation translates itself into a distrust of the leadership of private enterprise in these particular fields. That distrust lies controller of communications equipment.... behind motion of picture censorship, behind the present restrictions on radio, behind the recurring attacks on the press. . . . Even a few bombastic individuals associated with the press are smugly unconcerned with the censorship troubles of screen and radio."

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## POLES REBUKE BRITISH RADIO

The Polish Government denounced the British Broadcasting Corporation's broadcasts as an incitement to murder in Poland. Gen. Wiktor Grosz, foreign office spokesman, said:

"Our Government cannot but consider that the Polish-language broadcasts coming from London - their whole tone of hatred and provocation - have something to do with inciting people in this country to murder one another.

"We consider that the authors of these broadcasts share responsibility for part of the bloodshed in Poland."

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## COURT RULES TAXI PASSENGER MAY CHOOSE OWN PROGRAM

Believed to be one of the first cases of its kind, Judge Nathan Marigold in the Municipal Court of Washington, D. C. ruled that a taxicab passenger is entitled to a choice of his own radio program - or no program at all - but that the passenger is not justified in assaulting the taxicab driver.

Judge Marigold made these decisions in a case in which Fred M. Armstead, 24, 3606 Rock Creek Church Road, N.W., and Walter Lee Taylor, 24, 1522 O Street, N.W., were accused of assaulting Ben Jacobs, 244 - 12th St., S.E. Armstead was fined \$10, and Taylor was found not guilty.

Jacobs, the cab driver, said he liked hill-billy music and when the men asked him to turn it off, he told them to get another cab. Then the fighting began.

"It is true a hacker must not run the radio for his own amusement at the expense of the passengers", the Judge ruled, "and he must not put the passengers off because they object to his taste in music, hillbilly or otherwise. But just because the passengers became annoyed with the music on the radio, they shouldn't enforce their right to peace and quiet by beating up the driver."

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## UNITED KINGDOM RECEIVING TUBE AND SET IMPORTS

Licenses to import United States radio receiving tubes into Great Britain have been procured from the British Board of Trade by 34 importers. The Federation of Anglo-American Importers, which obtained these licenses, estimates that the total quantity of tubes imported will amount to approximately 100,000 valued at about \$35,000.

The Federation is negotiating with the Board of Trade for the importation into the United Kingdom of radio sets. United States firms, if interested, should inform the Commodities Branch, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, so that an effort may be made to have radios placed on the British Token Import Plan list.

The Federation also reports that there is a great shortage of cathode-ray tubes and better-quality television sets in Great Britain.

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Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Beane, members of the New York Stock Exchange, will sponsor the first commercial television program as part of the exchange's campaign of public education. "Money at Work" is the title of the first showing to be made. The film will be released on February 15 over WCBS-TV at 8:30 P.M. EST.

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## TRANSMITTING EQUIPMENT SALES RISE IN THIRD QUARTER OF 1946

Sales of broadcast transmitting equipment, including FM and television transmitters, rose sharply during the third quarter of 1946, Radio Manufacturers' Association tabulations of reports by member-companies of the Transmitter Division disclosed last week. Other transmitting equipment sales also showed substantial increases in production over each of the first two quarters of the year.

Total transmitter equipment sales for the third quarter almost equalled the combined sales for the first and second quarter of 1946. Out of the \$1,662,933 sales, \$1,159,433 was for AM equipment, \$233,600 for FM equipment, and \$269,900 for television transmitters. Orders received aggregated \$7,533,855 for the third quarter and \$15,227,173 for the year through the third quarter.

Studio equipment sales for the third quarter amounted to \$514,217 for the third quarter, while antenna and miscellaneous equipment brought the total sales of all transmitter equipment to \$2,265,565 for the third quarter and \$3,627,627 for the three quarters. Exports of transmitting equipment added \$624,512 for the quarter and \$1,021,023 for the year.

General communications equipment sales totalled \$655,392 for the third quarter and \$1,483,410 for the year to date. Airborne communications equipment sales during the third quarter amounted to \$708,266 to scheduled carriers and \$512,731 to non-scheduled carriers. Ground equipment sales to scheduled carriers amounted to \$21,949.

Government business accounted for a total of \$33,645,531 for the third quarter and \$79,467,892 for the year for all classes of transmitting and associated equipment.

First reports since the war on transmitting tube sales disclosed sales of \$2,639,533 in power tubes and \$700,554 in cathode ray tubes to make \$6,518,717 in power tubes and \$1,487,077 for cathode ray tubes for the three quarters. Quartz crystal sales for the third quarter were \$247,728.

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## FADA RADIO BUYS FACTORY

A former war plant in Belleville, N. J. has been sold to the Fada Radio and Electric Corporation for \$868,353, it has been announced by Robert W. Allen, District Director of the War Assets Administration. The sale included a one-story building, \$8,353 worth of machinery and a parking area.

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## GALLUP CHARGES RADIO WITH FUDGING LISTENING FIGURES

Flat assertion that radio people are "fudging" in presenting circulation figures was made by George M. Gallup, Opinion Research, Inc., in an interview with an Editor & Publisher representative in San Francisco last week.

"There is nothing in radio to compare with the ABC statement", Dr. Gallup said at Young & Rubicam advertising agency offices here. He is now on a coast trip.

"Newspapers do a more thorough job in providing circulation figures, and give advertisers a much better opportunity to weigh coverage.

"The potential radio coverage is not known. We want that average. The radio industry is in its infancy in research. Radio people are fudging. What we wish to know is the average opportunity to reach people on any one day."

Newspapers give this information in the ABC records, Dr. Gallup said. Radio measurement gives, instead of the average daily circulation provided by ABC, the total number of different persons who were reached during a week, he explained.

"There is still no adequate national radio service. After 17 years, we do not know what the whole industry has. There are no basic facts", Dr. Gallup said. "How many listened last night? How many listened last month?"

He described Hooper Ratings and the Nielsen system as the "most used radio survey systems, but neither covers the entire country."

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## SENATE CLEARS ERICKSON OF SEN. WHEELER'S BOOK CHARGE

The Senate Campaign Investigating Committee has reported to the Senate that it found no evidence linking Leif Erickson of Montana to the publication of a book called "The Plot Against America".

Mr. Erickson defeated former Senator Burton K. Wheeler in last year's Democratic Senatorial primary in Montana, and subsequently was defeated himself for the Senate seat by Senator Ecton, Republican, of Montana. An investigation of the publication of the book was requested by Mr. Wheeler last June.

In its report the Committee condemned the book as "one of the vilest, most contemptible, and obscene pieces of so-called literature ever to be published concerning a man in public office in the United States. The Committee said the book was published by J. E. Kennedy of Missoula, Mont., operating as John E. Kennedy, publishers, Missoula, and that it was written by David George Plotkin of New York, under the pen name of David George Kin.

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## NORWAY'S POWERFUL SHORT-WAVE TRANSMITTER NEARS COMPLETION

Oslo reports that the new Norwegian short-wave transmitter now under construction near Frederikstad may begin operations by June of 1947. The new station will have a power of 100,000 watts, approximately the same strength as the most powerful British transmitter, and is expected to be heard at any point on the globe.

Expressly noted is the fact that the new Fredrikstad transmitter will carry to Antarctica where the Norwegian whaling fleet will be operating and will reach Norwegian ships the world over. Plans for installing loud-speakers in the mess rooms aboard Norwegian vessels are now under consideration, and programs of special interest to Norwegian merchant seamen are being planned.

The new transmitter will represent a total cost of 1,400,000 Norwegian crowns.

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## FOREIGN RIGHTS ON HARRY BUTCHER'S EISENHOWER BOOK AT ISSUE

An echo of the wartime experiences of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was heard last week in the Paris courts, where several European publishing houses fought for the rights to edit Capt. Harry C. Butcher's book, "Three Years With Eisenhower".

A French publishing firm, according to a radiogram to the New York Times, had practically completed printing of the book when police seized the entire edition. They acted on the complaint of a Swiss publisher who claimed to hold all the European rights. The French firm filed suit to get its material released, and when the case came up for trial representatives of several other publishing houses appeared to assert their claims to the rights of publication.

Captain Butcher's book, which treats in detail the facts relating to the death of Admiral Jean F. Darlan, Vichy France's Premier, and to the conflict between Gen. Charles de Gaulle and Gen. Henri Giraud, is considered to have a high market value in France.

The court's judgment will be rendered this week probably.

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The Government of Costa Rica is buying 3,500 radios of United States manufacture to be issued to each of the country's school teachers. The cost of the radios will be deducted from their salaries at the rate of approximately \$2 a month. The teachers have received a pay increase but some still get less than \$25 a month.

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 :::: SCISSORS AND PASTE ::::  
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Television - Pro And Con  
 (Larry Wolters in "Chicago Tribune")

Dr. Lee De Forest, who 40 years ago this month invented the audion tube upon which the radio industry and electronics largely have been built, said the other day: "This year - 1947 - is certain to convince every skeptic, every scoffer, that television has arrived from around that fabled corner." If it does that 1947 will be a memorable year. . . .

Apparently one-half of the companies interested in television a year ago have withdrawn their requests for licenses.

The controversy over whether color television is ready for commercial licensing (still pending before the Federal Communications Commission) caused numerous companies to hold off on setting up stations until this problem is settled. Others may have backed out when they learned how much it will cost to launch a television station and to continue to operate it, with little promise of any immediate returns from advertising. . . .

Currently television is relying chiefly on sports and special events. That's been the bread and butter of television fare to date. It's a solid, but monotonous diet.

Ultimately, the studio show, with drama, music and variety will have to become the backbone of television programming. But how to get suitable plays for television? The major motion picture companies won't release their products to television. For one thing James C. Petrillo won't permit their music to be used on television. Up to now he hasn't been willing to talk about a contract for television at all. . . .

NBC has made a deal with the Dramatists' guild, the professional play writers' organization, to produce for television plays not yet produced on Broadway. . . .

CBS is grappling with the play shortage in another way. It's doing business with authors willing to put the bare points of a play in skeleton form on a sheet of paper. . . .

ABC has specialized in transposing some of its radio shows into television. . . .

Thus, some progress is being made to solve the lesser problems confronting television. The highest hurdles, however, lie ahead. The biggest question - the billion dollar question - is: "Who will pay the bill?"

The problems are great, but so is the promise. Charles R. Denny, Chairman of the FCC, asserted recently: "The American people want television and they need television. . . . Its educational potential is unlimited. It will be the most powerful communication tool of them all."

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McKellar Doesn't Budge Denny; Rayburn Hits At Porter  
(Drew Pearson, Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Though the FCC is sometimes accused of bending before politics, its recent brush with Tennessee solons would make it appear otherwise. Pugnacious Senator McKellar wrote one of the hottest letters of his hot career to FCC Chairman Denny, demanding a Nashville wave length for his friends. "You have made a great mistake", fumed McKellar. "Is it too late to mend? Of course, you know all about Tennessee and we know nothing. Frankly, I resent very much your action in the matter." Senator Stewart also raised Cain, but the FCC stood pat.

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We The Sponsors Of Self-Praising Filibustering Senators  
("Terre Haute Star")

Senator Claude Pepper wants to put the Senate on the radio. His idea is to offer the Capitol Hill variety show to the networks, on the grounds that it would improve debate. Some of his colleagues don't agree.

Senator Charles Tobey (R., N.H.), the cautious New England type, says, "There are some things that I'd hate to have the public listen to."

Senator Theodore F. Green (D., R.I.), also apparently a little suspicious of innovations, says, "The Senate would never do any work."

Well, that's the question - would debate of national issues on a national hookup bring out the statesman or the ham in these distinguished gentlemen? The only way to tell is to try. But if the Senate does get a few weeks with options, it seems to us the thing should be done properly.

First, there's sponsorship. We don't think the networks should have to pay for a sustaining program on the grounds that it's a public service. For they might run into one of those days when the Senators devote most of the session praising their home States or some other Senator or mother's cooking. And where's the public service in that?

So let's have a sponsor. And who shall it be? Who else but the Senators' electors? Tax-paying voters pay the Senate's salaries. So why not let them pay for the broadcasts, too - provided that we, the sponsors, have something to say about how the program is to be run.

There will have to be a time limit on the broadcast and a time limit for each speaker. Since every healthy, normal Senator would be glad to hold the watch on other Senators, so he could get a chance at the microphone himself, this should offer no problem. (Maybe this is even that long-sought cure for the filibuster.)

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 ::: TRADE NOTES :::  
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The twelfth annual report of the Federal Communications Commission will be released for publication next Sunday, February 9th.

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Senator Capehart (R), of Indiana, and Senator Glen Taylor (D), of Idaho, former radio commentator, are members of the new Small Business Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

When President Truman views the Spring maneuvers of the Atlantic Fleet in the Caribbean aboard a battleship, he will be in constant communication with Washington through radiotelephone, radio printers of Naval Communications and straight wireless as when he participated in task force operations off the Virginia capes last Spring.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sparks-Withington Company and Subsidiaries - Six months to December 31: Net profit, \$376,409, equal to 40 cents a share, compared with \$56,221, or 5 cents a share for 1945 period when \$559,964 carry-back tax credit was included in the result.

\*\*\*\*\*

If the Supreme Court determines that it will hear the Lea Act-Petrillo appeal directly, rather than requiring the Government first to go to the Circuit Court of Appeals, it appears unlikely that any decision on the constitutionality of the Lea Act will be announced until April or May.

\*\*\*\*\*

The RCA Victor story that it will enter new markets with the introduction of a gold electro-plated and pocket size personal radio hit a publicity jackpot by being picked up by the Associated Press and carried to all parts of the country.

This receiver, the Solitaire, is only 6-3/8 x 4-5/8 inches in size. The set has a built-in loop antenna, and can be played without opening a door or lifting an antenna panel; has instantaneous program reception at the flick of a switch; simplified battery replacement, as easy as changing batteries in a flashlight; a fine-quality elliptical speaker for tonal reproduction, said a company statement.

\*\*\*\*\*

At the end of 1946, radio licenses in Finland numbered 545,366, an increase of 13,000 over those in 1945, according to the Finnish press.

\*\*\*\*\*

The appointment of Mrs. Florence S. B. Davis as an Assistant Vice President of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation was announced last week. Mrs. Davis, who has been associated with I. T. & T. for more than twenty years, has been a member of the corporation's legal department for fourteen years; more recently in the capacity of foreign law consultant. She is a member of the New York State Bar.

\*\*\*\*\*



Among the Vice-Chairmen of the Department of Commerce Business Advisory Council, elected for 1947, of which Henry Ford, 2nd is a new member, and at a meeting presided over by Secretary Harri-  
man, was James S. Knowlson, Chairman of Stewart Warner, Chicago,  
and former President of the Radio Manufacturers' Association.

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The New York Police Department now has 799 radio equipped cars in service.

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The Fort Industry Company has applied for a permit for Channel No. 2 in Detroit. This is the second for Fort Industry, the other being granted for Station WSPD in Toledo, Ohio.

\* \* \* \* \*

Because of difficulties in shipping, and the need for additional time for preparation of exhibits, its sponsors have announced that the First Radio-Electronic Exposition, heretofore as having been scheduled for December 1946-January 1947, will not open until July 15, 1947. Present plans call for the exhibition to last three weeks.

\* \* \* \* \*

A 15-pound electronic device has been developed by General Electric Company engineers to snatch valuable scientific and operating information from speeding rockets before they crash to destruction. Enclosed in the instrument section of a V-2 rocket launched from the Army Ordnance Proving Ground, White Sands, N. Mex., in recent tests, the telemetering equipment transmitted 28 items of information to the ground each 1/35th of a second.

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The United States has 80% of all the radio stations in the world.

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The introduction of a new RCA 16 mm film projector, specially designed for operation with a television camera and facilitating the use of newsreels, a wide variety of short film subjects, and film commercials for low-cost television programming, was announced by W. W. Watts, Vice-President in charge of the RCA Engineering Products Department.

The new television film projector, RCA Type 16A-TP, is an adaptation of an outstandingly successful RCA 16 mm sound motion picture projector. It has been modified to project motion pictures onto the mosaic of a pickup tube in a television camera where the varying light values of the moving pictures are translated into video signals for transmission.

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Ted Koop, former Assistant Director of Censorship during the war, in his recent book "Weapon of Silence", noted the beginning of a peacetime military censorship on atomic information and the willingness of supposedly free writers and editors seeking clearance in Washington for their articles. "Secrecy begets secrecy, just as censorship feeds upon itself. A nation that will control science is in a mood to control its press and radio", Koop warned.

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