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No. 1772

FEARED WASHINGTON TALL RADIO TOWER OPPOSITION MAY SPREAD

Although local in character, the sharp dispute over placing television and radio towers in the residential sections of Washington, D. C. assumes much more importance because of the possibility that if restrictions are imposed in the Capital, it may be only a question of time until a similar curb is advocated for other parts of the country.

Both the National Broadcasting Company and the Bamberger Broadcasting Service of New York experienced considerable opposition in securing approval for television sites in the residential sections. The former tower is now being erected at Wardman Park just across from the Shoreham Hotel, and the latter about a half a mile north of the National Cathedral. Both are in the northwest section of the city.

However, the row had died down insofar as these towers were concerned when week before last (April 9), Representative Sid Simpson (R), of Illinois, introduced a bill which would prohibit the erection of any type of radio tower in any residential part of the District of Columbia. It would prohibit the putting up of towers in any other district to a height greater than any limit of the zoning laws if the radius of the height would (1) include any home, playground, recreational facility or school (2) tend to create a safety hazard, and (3) adversely affect the development of adjacent residential property, property values or the beauty of the Capital.

It was at a hearing of the House District Judiciary Subcommittee on the Simpson bill at the Capitol last week that the latest protests against radio towers were made. Another session is scheduled for today (Wednesday, April 23) on Capitol Hill.

The fear expressed by those favoring the towers is that if the Simpson bill should be passed, it might become a model for other cities throughout the country.

At the hearing on the Simpson bill last week, radio and television industry spokesmen explained that the towers have to be on high ground to serve Washington and if the bill were passed it would hold up television in the Capital.

Among those who protested location of the towers in residential areas were Leverett A. Meadows, President of the Manor Park Citizens Association; John H. Connaughton of the Petworth Citizens Association, William J. Bartle of the Federation of Citizens Associations, and D. B. Guynn of the Friendship Citizens Association.

Also testifying were three persons who live near the television site of Bamberger at 40th and Brandywine Streets, N.W. They were Edward M. Brown, 4008 Chesapeake St., N.W.; Mrs. Josephine M.

Perna, 4000 Brandywine Street, N.W., and Mrs. Ida R. Rossi, 4000 Chesapeake St., N.W. They protested against the tower as a threat to safety of residents and as an air traffic hazard.

Opposing the bill were Don Petty, General Counsel for the National Association of Broadcasters, and Worthington C. Lent, Consulting Engineer and spokesman for the four television tower permit holders in Washington.

Mr. Petty said the bill would "delay seriously" development of television and FM radio broadcasting in the District.

Mr. Lent said builders of towers in residential areas make them doubly strong for safety.

Representative Joseph P. O'Hara (R), of Minnesota, Subcommittee Chairman, asked what would happen if a plane hit such a tower. Mr. Lent said he had never known it to happen.

What kind of accident was the main concern of the three persons who live near the Brandywine Street tower site.

Mr. Brown said the proposed tower was 135 feet from his kitchen door. He said it would take only one plane to hit the tower to "give us a lot of grief".

W. Curtis Plummer, Chief of FCC's Television Engineering Division, told the Committee that from "the technical point of view" height requirement for TV transmitters was essential. He explained that a video transmitter, to be most effective should be located in the densest population area. He indicated, that to move transmitters to the fringe of the city, as suggested by the citizen groups, would move many video sets into "shadow areas", since best reception is in "line of sight" from the transmitter.

Mr. Petty presented the following letter from the NAB:

"The proposed legislation will delay seriously the development of these broadcast services without any compensating benefit to the public.

"This bill would take away from the government of the District of Columbia discretion in determining the paramount interest of the public in relation to radio broadcast services.

"Under existing laws the public is fully protected. The FCC determines the location of towers and transmitters in the light of the public and technical requirements; the CAA in the light of safety requirements relating to the public in connection with air transportation; and the District Government in the light of good and safe city planning.

"It must be recognized that legislation passed by Congress is given wide publicity and is closely examined by State and local governments. It often serves as a pattern for legislation by those

governments. Today zoning is one of the principal subject matters being considered by State and local governments. Therefore, great care should be exercised to avoid setting an improper pattern.

"The pattern which would be established by the proposed legislation will be followed in areas throughout the country. And if it is, FM, Television and Facsimile will be greatly retarded in their growth and service to the public."

The 350-foot NBC television tower at Wardman Park is so located that if it fell to the South, it would crash down onto a row of apartment houses, and if to the north, onto the Wardman Park Hotel. If an airplane should hit this tower and explode, it was pointed out it could easily set either the apartment house or Wardman Park Hotel, or both, on fire.

What is expected to be the highest tower in the world will be erected by the Cowles Brothers, KRNT-FM station, at Des Moines, Iowa - 1,530 feet, which will be within a few feet as high as the Eiffel Tower in Paris (984 feet), with the Washington Monument (555 feet) piled on top of it.

Some of the other high radio towers which the FCC has authorized recently, or proposes to grant, are for the stations of the Unity Broadcasting Corporation (International Ladies Garment Workers Union), New York, 800 feet; American Broadcasting Company, New York, 760 feet; WMCA, New York, 650 feet; and Fort Industry Company, Detroit, Mich., 500 feet.

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NEW AP RADIO CHARGE FORMULA; TRUMAN TELEVISED AT LUNCHEON

The Board of Directors of the Associated Press at their annual meeting in New York City revealed that they were giving "continuous consideration to the various problems arising from use of Associated Press news for voice broadcasting."

It was announced that a radio assessment formula is being worked out after years of study in a highly technical field, and that the Board has approved the incorporation of the radio service, originally operated through a subsidiary, into the AP.

President Truman was televised Monday for audiences in both New York and Washington areas as he addressed the luncheon of The Associated Press in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

The National Broadcasting Company, the Columbia Broadcasting System and the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, which arranged a joint telecast, transmitted the program over stations in New York and in Washington.

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N.Y. STATE HIGH COURT AWARDS FLAMM \$107,508 WMCA INTEREST

The New York State Court of Appeals at Albany, reversing the lower court ruled unanimously last Monday, April 21, that \$107,508.33 in interest must be added to the \$350,000 damages awarded Donald Flamm last June in his suit against Edward J. Noble for fraud and duress in connection with the alleged forced sale of Radio Station WMCA in 1941.

The interest is for the period between January 17, 1941, the date of the wrong, and the date of the award, according to the court.

The trial term denied Mr. Flamm's motion to add interest to the \$350,000 verdict rendered in his favor after trial before a jury. The Appellate Division, by a vote of three to two, upheld the trial term, but granted Mr. Flamm permission to bring to the Court of Appeals the certified question as to whether interest in the amount stated should be added.

Chief Judge John T. Loughran, who wrote the high court opinion, said Mr. Flamm was entitled to the interest in question as a matter of law. The decision will be sent by the clerk of the Appeals Court to the special term, where it will be substituted for the original decision there.

The contract to sell Radio Station WMCA was signed December 2, 1940, and the transfer was made on January 17, 1941. Mr. Noble paid Mr. Flamm \$850,000, as stipulated in the contract. The jury, in awarding Mr. Flamm \$350,000 damages, found that the true value of the station was \$1,200,000 at the time of transfer.

When Mr. Flamm's lawyers sought to obtain an abstract of the minutes in the lower court, they discovered that the clerk had not added interest to the minutes. The lawyers then made a motion that interest be added, which motion was denied by the trial term court.

Mr. Noble's lawyers argued that Mr. Flamm's original complaint did not contain a specific demand for interest; that he did not request that his right to interest be declared by the jury, and that he did not give notice of his motion for recovery of interest until after expiration of the term at which the case was tried.

"Nothing turns on any such omission", Judge Loughran wrote, "in cases where, under Section 480 of the Civil Practice Act, the addition of interest is a matter of right. On the analogy of that practice, the plaintiff, we think, should be held to be none the worse for his failure sooner to bring forward the issue that we now decide in his favor.

"The orders should be reversed, the question certified should be answered in the affirmative and the motion granted, with costs to the plaintiff in all courts."

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EDGAR MORRIS, ZENITH DISTRIBUTOR, IS NEW C. OF C. USA DIRECTOR

Radio will be represented on the new Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States by Edgar Morris, Zenith distributor of Washington, D. C. Although the Third Regional District, which includes Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina and the District of Columbia, had not been represented by anyone from Washington in the past ten years, Mr. Morris, as had been expected, won hands down.

Having just completed the successful direction of the Cherry Blossom Festival, Mr. Morris, who is the "Grover Whalen of Washington", was in the midst of preparations to receive President Miguel Aleman in the Capital next week, when informed of the new honor which had been accorded to him by the National Chamber of Commerce. As Chairman of the Welcoming Committee, Mr. Morris, along with President Truman, will greet President Aleman at the airport when the latter arrives from Mexico next Tuesday afternoon, April 29th.

Among those on the Committees appointed for this auspicious occasion are Carl J. Burkland, Merle S. Jones, Kenneth Berkeley and Carleton D. Smith, General Managers respectively of the Washington radio stations WTOP-CBS, WOL-MBS, WMAL-ABC, and WRC-NBC.

One of the Capital's outstanding successful business men, Edgar Morris has held virtually every office in the Washington Board of Trade, up to and including the presidency in 1936. Since that time he has been Chairman of the Greater National Capital Committee - one of the largest and most successful convention and tourist bureaus in the United States.

Mr. Morris has also served as a Director of the Southern Gas Association, President of the Kiwanis Club of Washington, a Trustee of American University, Chairman of the United States Jury Commission, a member of the Tax Advisory Committee for the District of Columbia and the Citizens' Efficiency Committee for the District of Columbia. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Public Welfare of the District of Columbia; he is likewise Vice-President of the Security Finance Corporation, a Director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and a member of the Advisory Board of the American Security and Trust Company.

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INTERNATIONAL COAST GUARD RADIO-NAVIGATION CONFERENCE

The United States Coast Guard will participate in the International Meeting on Marine Radio Aids to Navigation to be held here and in New London, Conn., for two weeks, beginning next Monday. Delegates from fifty-seven maritime nations have been invited to the meeting.

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ENGINEERS PLAN TO TELEVISION MOTION PICTURES TO THEATRES

That the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will embark on a program to put television into the theatres within two years was reported in a dispatch from Chicago. Paul J. Larsen, of Washington, Chairman of the Television Committee, said:

"I feel that the industry has to become involved in theatre presentation of televised programs because for the first time television presents competition to the motion picture industry. We cannot afford to let such an industry grow without protecting ourselves and our investment. The Federal Communications Commission has already been asked for two frequencies for theatre television."

Under the proposed plan feature, pictures would be made and sent to central distributing broadcasting stations in all cities. From those stations, the picture would be televised by a directed beam to each individual theatre. Mr. Larsen said no private set would be able to pick up these programs because they would be directed beams using parabolic antennae.

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MAY PUT WINCHELL RADIO LIBEL SUIT UP TO SUPREME COURT

Having lost in the New York State Court of Appeals at Albany last Monday, April 21st, it is believed Walter Winchell, radio commentator, will now take his case to the United States Supreme Court.

Holding that a broadcast of defamatory remarks read from a script constitute libel, rather than slander, the Court of Appeals ruled unanimously that George W. Hartmann, former Columbia University professor and Chairman of the "Peace Now" movement, had a cause of action against Winchell.

Upholding the lower courts, the Court of Appeals, in a decision, answered affirmatively these questions:

"Does the utterance of defamatory remarks, read from a script into a radio microphone and broadcast, constitute publication of libel?"

"Does the further amended complaint (in the case) state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action?"

Mr. Hartmann, described in the court record as a Professor of Educational Psychology, asked \$50,000 damages for alleged libel by Mr. Winchell in connection with broadcast remarks about the "Peace Now" movement. He said the broadcast prevented him from practicing his vocation and that he suffered "a \$7,000 loss in earnings".

Mr. Hartmann was the Socialist candidate for Lieutenant-Governor in 1938 and that party's candidate for Mayor of New York City in 1941.

Judge Thomas D. Thacher, who wrote the prevailing opinion of the high court, said that the words of the broadcast were "defamatory", but that they did not defame Mr. Hartmann in his professional character and were not slanderous per se.

Lawyers for Mr. Winchell contended that the old rule of law, that a man was a libeller if he read a libel on another to himself and then read it out, did not apply to radio broadcasting because the persons who heard a broadcast did not know that the spoken words were being read from a writing.

Quoting from an earlier case that "what gives the sting to the writing is its permanence in form", Judge Thacher added:

"This thing is true whether or not the writing is seen. Visibility of the writing is without significance and we hold that the defendant's defamatory utterance was libel, not slander."

Judge Thacher said that the court did not reach the much-discussed question as to whether "broadcasting defamatory matter which has not been reduced to writing should be held to be libelous because of the potentially harmful and widespread effects of such defamation."

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U. S.-CANADIAN RMA CONFERENCE OPENS AT SEASIDE RESORT

Radio manufacturers of the United States and Canada will begin discussion of mutual problems and interests tomorrow (Thursday, April 24) as Directors of the Radio Manufacturers' Associations of the two countries open their fourth joint industry conference at Absecon, N. J.

The American manufacturers will be hosts to the Canadians at a two-day meeting which will be highlighted Thursday night at a reception by U. S. RMA President R. C. Cosgrove, of Cincinnati, and a dinner at the Seaview Country Club.

The Canadian RMA Board of Directors will meet tomorrow afternoon with S. L. Capell, of the Philco Corporation of Canada, Ltd., their president, presiding.

The U. S. RMA Board of Directors will meet Friday morning and the Canadians will be their guests. A luncheon will conclude the conference.

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TELEVISION SALES REPORTED BRISK IN WASHINGTON "T" WEEK

High consumer interest in television was again demonstrated in Washington, D. C. as "T" (for television)-Week came to a close with many retailers reporting complete sell-out of their entire initial stock of RCA Victor receivers and an accumulation of orders, according to Irving Dalo, Sales Manager of the Radio and Television Department of Southern Wholesalers, Inc., local RCA Victor distributors.

Beginning with a heavy advertising campaign in the Sunday, April 13, newspapers and elaborate window displays by the 65 franchised RCA Victor outlets in Washington, the week was highlighted by numerous promotions. Almost all of the dealers had television receivers displayed in their windows with many in operation, attracting crowds running into the hundreds at individual locations during the afternoon broadcasts.

The RCA Victor television dealers joined to sponsor the telecast of the opening big league game on Monday, the 14th, between the Washington Senators and the New York Yankees over WTTE. When this game was rained out, a substitute film was used and the dealers sponsored the Friday game between the Senators and the New York Yankees. Many of the retailers used radio commercials announcing the campaign and all had demonstration sets in the stores.

The initial allotments to the franchised dealers allowed for each to have at least two television receivers for demonstration purposes plus a quantity for immediate sale. Despite the rain on the opening day, 25 percent of the receivers in stock were sold on that day, according to Dalo. By mid-week half of the receivers were sold.

Dealers' reactions to the new medium were enthusiastic. R. R. Waln, Manager of Woodward & Lothrop's Pentagon Building store in Arlington, Va., said, "I am completely sold on television and its sales possibilities. Undoubtedly improved programming will increase the sale of these instruments even more." Max Montague of Star Radio reported that his organization had sold out its initial stocks during "T"-Week and that a backlog of customers was already forming. Stanley Rosenzweig, of Sun Radio said hundreds had packed his store during broadcast time to see the instruments and that "from these early indications, it is easy to see that television is here to stay - and to give the radio business an additional lift."

Charles Hoge of Campbell's Music Shop reported customer reaction to be "very favorable to the quality of picture shown on the RCA Victor television receivers" and stressed the importance of continued daytime programs for the demonstrations of the instruments to prospects. One of the largest crowds gathered in front of the National Furniture Company's corner window which featured the baseball theme and highlighted a television receiver.

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WASHINGTON STATIONS' PLANS VARY FOR DAYLIGHT TIME SUNDAY

Washington broadcasting stations are again trying to make the best of a bad situation when the time of the National Capital will be out of step with that of many other cities.

CBS-WTOP will record on magnetic wire the network shows they normally carry and play them back at the time the listeners are most accustomed to hearing them. MBS-WOL will also record the majority of Mutual's offerings. Both stations will sandwich in the local shows at whatever time seems best.

WMAL will record all ABC network shows. WRC, the NBC affiliate, will not use recordings, but will present all network shows and some local shows an hour earlier than normal.

Even with the attempts made by some of the stations to give Washington the New York and Hollywood originated shows at the time they expect them, there will be some poor "opposite programming." The careful check which stations try to make against having similar shows on two stations at the same time goes up in smoke every Summer.

Daylight-saving time, which will become effective next Sunday A.M., will be somewhat less generally observed in other sections of the country than last year.

A virtually completed survey by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York, released yesterday, indicates that a number of communities in Florida, Louisiana, Ohio and West Virginia which advanced their clocks an hour through the Summer months last year will remain on standard time this year.

Otherwise, the report shows, the status of "Summer time" remains about the same as in 1946. Thirty States - most of them in the East, Middle West and Southwest - will remain on Standard Time, the survey indicates.

In New York, Daylight Time will remain in effect until September 28. The same period has been selected by most major cities in the State, as well as throughout Long Island and Westchester and in New Jersey and Connecticut.

Reviewing legislation that would enable whole States or communities within States or communities to make the time change, the survey found that such bills are pending in the California and Minnesota legislatures.

Legislation approved in Maryland authorizes the counties of Arundel, Baltimore, Montgomery and Prince George to push the clock ahead. In Rhode Island, where the time shift has been observed generally for many years, daylight-saving was made official by an act approved last April.

State-wide official observance is set for Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, with Maine going along on an unofficial basis.

In local-option States the number of larger communities so far reporting to the Association for observance of the change were: Delaware, four (including Wilmington); Illinois, fifteen (including Chicago); Maryland, two (Annapolis and Baltimore); Missouri, six (including St. Louis); Pennsylvania, twelve (including Philadelphia and Pittsburgh); Tennessee, three (Knoxville, year-round); Vermont, eight, and Virginia, one.

The Senate has passed a bill to give Washington, D. C. (District of Columbia) local option in the adoption of daylight time. The bill is expected to be brought before the House for approval next Monday, April 28th, a day after daylight-saving time goes into effect in other parts of the country. Hearings then have to be held before the Commissioners decide whether the District is to have daylight time or not.

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FRED ALLEN, OTHERS, REPORTED CUT OFF OF AIR FOR RIBBING NBC

Dispatches from New York and Hollywood this week told of alleged momentarily cutting off of Fred Allen, and later Bob Hope and Red Skelton, when their scripts poked fun at the National Broadcasting Company. The first instance was last Sunday night, April 20th, in New York City when the NBC said the program of Fred Allen was cut off the air "for about 25 seconds" because the radio comedian refused to make certain changes in his script.

Allen, according to the Associated Press, afterward assailed the broadcasting network for its action and said it was the result "of a new rule that says you can't kid radio on the air".

NBC explained the cut-off with the statement that "we asked that changes be made in the script. And the changes were not made. Therefore, the program was off the air for about 25 seconds at the beginning."

An AP follow-up from New York said the next day:

"The National Broadcasting Co. is going to be billed for the time Fred Allen was cut off the air in his Sunday night comedy program.

"A representative of J. Walter Thompson, advertising agency for Allen's sponsor, said today:

"We buy and pay for half an hour's time from NBC for this program. And that's what we expect to get. Allen was cut off the air for about 35 seconds. So NBC is going to get a bill for the time we didn't get. And, oddly enough, on that Sunday night spot, it's a nice little chunk of dough."

"Allen's script told of a "vice president in charge of program ends" who noted the time saved when programs ran overtime - such as Allen's program did the preceding Sunday.

"Allen went on to say - but the radio audience did not hear it - that 'when the vice president saves up enough seconds, minutes and hours to make two weeks, he uses the two weeks of our time for his vacation.'"

An A.P. dispatch from Hollywood today (Wednesday, April 23rd), read:

"Two top-flight radio comedians, Bob Hope and Red Skelton, were momentarily cut off the air by NBC tonight (April 22) when they attempted to comment on the case of Fred Allen, silenced briefly Sunday night when his script poked fun at the network.

"Hope was off the air for several seconds. Listeners said he referred to Las Vegas, Nev., noted for its wide-open gambling as 'the only place where you can get tanned and faded at the same time', and then remarked, 'Of course, Fred Allen. . .'

"It was here that his program was interrupted.

"Listeners said Skelton was shut off when he remarked something to the effect that 'Maybe we'll say something to offend NBC.' He was off about 10 seconds.

"A spokesman for NBC said the comedians were cut off because 'part of their scripts were objectionable to the network.'"

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NEW YORK APARTMENT HOUSE OWNERS STILL BLOCK TV ANTENNA

The Television Broadcasters' Association, Inc. last Friday released full details of its Interim Plan for television antenna installations, which had been submitted to the New York City Real Estate Board a month ago and which, it informally learned, had not won the approval of the Board.

The TEA Interim Plan was devised by a sub-committee as a temporary expedient until a master antenna system, capable of feeding all receivers in any apartment house, could be fully developed, tested and approved by the Television Broadcasters' Association.

The Television Broadcasters' Association had advised the realtors that the interim plan would permit thousands of New York families living in apartment houses to enjoy a television service until the master system could be installed.

It was pointed out that at least three companies were working on master antenna systems, but that they would not be ready for demonstration immediately.

The TBA Plan was held to be an excellent temporary expedient and realtors were urged to accept it. Under its terms, the landlord agrees to permit the installation of as many conventional dipoles as he feels can be properly erected on an apartment house building, without impairing the appearances of the building or creating radiation between antennas, which would adversely affect images being received by television set owners on the premises.

The TBA Plan, as submitted, requires a television set owner in an apartment house to permit other owners of receivers to attach lead-ins on one or more of the dipoles erected on the building, provided that images received on previously installed receivers attached to the same dipole were not degraded either visually or aurally.

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TELEVISION FACILITIES HELPS PHILADELPHIA GET G.O.P. CONVENTION

In addition to a \$200,000 certified check, one of the things which helped Philadelphia secure the Republican National Convention to be held during the week of June 20, 1948, was television facilities which Chicago, the next highest bidder, was not able to offer.

Philadelphians held forth the promise of television broadcasts to 13 Eastern Seaboard States with 163 electoral votes.

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NOW CLAIMED ERROR, NOT SABOTAGE, DEFLECTED U.S. BROADCASTS

A mistakenly set control switch -not sabotage - was responsible for beaming United States broadcasts intended for the Soviet Union to South America, an Army investigation indicated recently, according to a dispatch from Germany.

An informed source said that William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, had been notified of investigation results in an official report. Mr. Benton charged ten days ago that the Russia-bound programs had been sabotaged by intentional reversal of the control switch at the powerful Munich relay station.

The Army investigation proved that German Communist engineers, once employed at the 100,000-watt transmitter, had been dismissed before the broadcasts had started. They have not been seen there since, the investigation showed.

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"Within 10 years, television will have created 4,500,000 new jobs." So predicted Dr. Paul Douglass, President of American University in Washington, D. C. in a luncheon speech recently before members of the Washington Soroptimist Club.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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U.S. Reported Watching Zenith-RCA Patent Fight
 ("Syracuse Herald-American")

The Department of Justice revealed in Washington that it has assumed the role of "unofficial observer" in an epochal legal battle which has shaped up between Radio Corporation of America and Zenith Radio Corporation, headed by Com. Eugene F. McDonald, Jr.

The battle, regarded as one of the most far-reaching developments in radio history, has stemmed from a legal challenge by Zenith to force R.C.A. to throw open to the public domain a big segment of the vast radio patent holdings controlled by R.C.A. for 20 years.

Spokesmen for the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice disclosed that the department is "closely watching" the suit, having once itself tried unsuccessfully to bring a case on the radio patents issue into court. One spokesman hinted that the department might even file a brief in the case.

The legal wrangle will enter a hearing phase soon in Federal District Court in Wilmington, Del., where Zenith filed its original challenge last Dec. 15, charging that 103 of R.C.A.'s big pool of patents do not apply any longer to Zenith's sets and asking a declaratory judgment that R.C.A.'s patents are invalid. * * * *

McDonald's legal army, it has been revealed, will include former U. S. Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, widely known for his anti-trust position during his many years on Capitol Hill. Another Zenith lawyer in the case is Samuel E. Darby, who was once Assistant U. S. Attorney General.

Goes Mrs. Eugene Meyer One Better
 ("Variety")

The kick-radio-in-the-pants boys appear to be out in full force these days. Take, for example, Philip Wylie's column in last Saturday's (12) N.Y. Post, in which he took up the cudgels on behalf of his fellow hate-radio tribesmen with what was perhaps the most completely off-base blast of the year. Inspired by the recent crack of Mrs. Eugene Meyer, wife of the Washington publisher, who called American radio "vulgar", Wylie went her one better, with a categorical condemnation of the whole medium. Said Wylie: "Radio is as brash as a peanut vendor in a lecture hall; it's as cheap as a popcorn hawker at the opera; it's a beep at vespers and a burp in an anthem."

Perhaps of all the accusations tossed radio's way, this one of vulgarity which Wylie so vehemently supports, shapes up as the one with the least foundation. As a matter of fact, radio has been hemmed in by hidebound restrictions that have been dictated by plain common sense, even more so than films, newspapers and the stage. Radio's very accessibility to old and young, to the illiterate and unthinking, to the bigot and the prude, obviously has created a self-imposed censorship more restrictive than that imposed by a more selective clientele.

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Radio Will Yield More If You Mark Your Program Each Day
(Larry Wolters in "Chicago Tribune")

It's the open season again for griping and sniping at radio. One book after another rolls off the press calling radio, at the very least, a bore; at the worst, a complete failure. * * *

The charges are invariably the same: There are too many soap operas on the air, not enough discussion programs, too little good music. But do these critics really search out the better things in radio? * * *

Every person who expects to get the most out of radio ought to develop a listening technique. If you turn on the radio only when you can't think of anything else to do, you aren't likely to bump into such stimulating programs, for instance, as Information Please, the Telephone Hour's Great Artists series, Invitation to Learning, or Your Right to Say It.

Radio can be the theater, a concert hall, a ballroom, a popular university, or a church of your own choosing, if you know how to use it properly. To make the most of it you need to know what's on the air, on what station, and when. First thing any intelligent listener does is to take his newspaper, refer to the program guide, and check off the programs that sound interesting for that day.

This is one suggestion on a list prepared by Margaret Cuthbert, Director of Programs for women and children at NBC.

FCC SEEN FORGOTTEN IN PEABODY AWARDS
Jack Gould in "N.Y. Times")

The special award - to Mr. Crosby of The New York Herald Tribune - is one in which all may concur, particularly his fellow-colleagues in the critical circle. If anything, the accompanying citation was probably on the conservative side.

Since with Mr. Crosby's award the group has set the precedent of recognizing contributions to radio outside the realm of programs, it does seem strange that the Peabody Committee should have ignored perhaps the most important single contribution to radio in 1946. That was made by the Federal Communications Commission in bringing out into the open the whole question of balance in program fare and, more particularly, the responsibilities of the broadcaster, vis-a-vis the advertiser. The FCC would seem to rate just a wee citation.

Headline Written After Radio Check
("Editor and Publisher")

On the morning of April 7, the St. Petersburg Times left it to readers to write the banner on the telephone strike situation.

"Negotiations Still On at Press Time, So . . ." read the overline leading into:

PHONE STRIKE ON
PHONE STRIKE OFF

To the left of each line was a box for checking, with instructions: "Tune in WTSP This Morning, Then Check."

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::: TRADE NOTES :::

Taking in more territory, James Petrillo, President of the American Federation of Musicians, has banned recordings of the First International Festival of School Music in New York because the singers are not professional musicians.

Dr. Irvin Cooper, President of the Committee in charge of the festival, which will open Thursday, said that he has been notified the recordings cannot be made because it is a "commercial proposition."

When told of the report that Paul Porter, soon expected to return to private law practice specializing in radio, also intended to write a book, someone who knows him pretty well remarked, "A joke-book maybe!"

The Management of RCA Communications, Inc. announces "with regret" the temporary suspension of publication of its house organ "Relay".

"This action is necessitated by reasons of economy, and it is hoped that as and when conditions improve, publication may be resumed", the announcement concludes.

Admiral Corporation and Subsidiaries - March quarter: Net earnings, \$511,461, equal to 57 cents a share, compared with \$5,507 earned in 1946 period; sales, \$9,852,132 against \$4,670,813.

Frank T. Mansfield, Director of Sales Research for Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., New York City, has been appointed Chairman of the RMA Industry Statistics Committee succeeding the late Fred D. Williams of the Philco Corporation.

Tele-tone Radio Corporation, manufacturer of table model radios, has acquired a second plant at 540-550 West 58th Street, S.W. Gross, President stated in New York City over the week-end, Mr. Gross reporting that the company's sales for the first quarter were double those of the final three months of 1946.

John M. Otter, Sales Manager of the Radio Division, has been promoted to General Sales Manager of Philco Corporation. Mr. Otter has been a member of the Philco organization since 1926.

In 1937 he was appointed Manager of the Detroit office, and was then made General Manager of the Chicago branch of Philco Distributors, Inc. Two years later he was named Sales Manager for the Middle West.

Part I of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules entitled "Rules Relating to Organization and Practice and Procedure", is now available in printed form, and may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, at a cost of 30 cents per copy.

Ownership changes for both of Spartanburg's, North Carolina, radio stations are proposed in a deal involving more than \$500,000, according to Walter J. Brown, Spartanburg radio executive. Mr. Brown said that former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, is among stockholders in a new company which would become owner of one of the stations. Applications for transfers in ownership of stations WSPA and WORD are being filed with the Federal Communications Commission and approval of the requests is expected in early Summer.

Hugh Baillie, President and General Manager of The United Press, reported in New York Tuesday that the number of clients served by that news agency had reached a record total of 2,689 newspapers and radio stations. This figure, he said, excluded such special clients as magazines, radio commentators, steamships and executive offices.

Gregory Alexandresco Franzell, concert pianist, age 50, composer and musical director, who was also known professionally as Gregoire Alexandresco, died Tuesday in New York.

Entering the radio field, Mr. Franzell was musical director of the WMCA musical forum and for the first Dorsey perfume hour on WJZ. He had also been musical director for radio station WINS and soloist on the La Palina program on the Columbia System.

Televising virtually the complete schedule of major league baseball games to be played in Philadelphia this season, Philco television station WPTZ is ready to man its cameras, microphones and controls all seven days during weeks when both the Phillies and Athletics play home games.

The baseball television broadcasts are sponsored on alternate days by The Atlantic Refining Company, and by the Philadelphia division of Philco Distributors, Inc.

Recently, R. B. Hurley, Chief Engineer of Station WALA, Mobile, Alabama, wrote in to the RCA Tube Department at Harrison, N.J., to boast of an RCA 891-R Modulator Tube that had been in service for 22,464½ hours.

Not to be outdone, L. H. Nafzger, Chief Engineer of Station WBNS, Columbus, Ohio, snapped back in an indignant letter, saying:

"I read the obituary of an 891-R which was only in the prime of life, and referred to as 'Old Faithful'. Why, this tube didn't even have long pants on compared to our energetic youngster of 50,154 hours, still able to work 20 hours daily, seven days a week."

For the first time in the history of radio broadcasting, a penguin has broadcast coast-to-coast over WOL-Mutual as wire-recorded by WOL news reporter Macon Reed, Jr.

The penguins were brought back from the South Polar regions by Admiral Byrd on his recent expedition and turned over to the Washington zoo in Rock Creek Park

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