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Robert D. Heintz, *Editor*

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June 11, 1947

TAFT SAYS LABOR BILL WOULD HAMSTRING UNIONS BUYING TIME

In the discussion of the labor-management bill conference report in the Senate, there were several references to radio. One was the question of a labor union buying time in a presidential campaign. It came about through the following exchange of Senators Taft (R), of Ohio, Pepper (D), of Florida, and Barkley (D), of Kentucky:

Mr. Pepper. If a national labor union, for example, should believe that it was in the public interest to elect the Democratic Party instead of the Republican Party, or vice versa, would it be forbidden by this proposed act to pay for any radio time, for anybody to make a speech that would express to the people the point of view of that organization?

Mr. Taft. If it contributed its own funds to get somebody to make the speech, I would say they would violate the law.

Mr. Pepper. If they paid for the radio time?

Mr. Taft. If they are simply giving the time, I would say not; I would say that is in the course of their regular business.

Mr. Pepper. I was not assuming that the radio station was owned by the labor organization. Suppose that in the 1948 campaign, Mr. William Green, as president of the American Federation of Labor, should believe it to be in the interest of his membership to go on the radio and support one party or the other in the national election, and should use American Federation of Labor funds to pay for the radio time. Would that be an expenditure which is forbidden to a labor organization under the statute?

Mr. Taft. Yes.

Mr. Barkley. Suppose a certain corporation, for instance, the corporation that makes Bayer aspirin, or Jergens lotion, employs a commentator to talk about various things, winding up with an advertisement of the product, and suppose that the radio commentator from day to day takes advantage of his employment or his sponsorship to make comments which are calculated to influence the opinions of men or women as to political candidates. Would the corporation sponsoring the particular commentator be violating the law?

Mr. Taft. I should have to know the exact facts. If, for instance, apart from commentators and the radio, and taking the case of a paid advertisement, suppose a corporation advertises its products, and that every day for 2 weeks before the election it advertises a candidate. I should say that would be a violation of the law. I would say the same thing probably would be true of a radio broadcast of that kind, under certain circumstances.

Mr. Barkley. In the case of a commentator who is paid to advertise a certain produce, and who in the course of his 15 minutes on the radio may also seek to influence votes, the sponsor may say, either before or after the broadcast, that he is not responsible for what the commentary says; yet he is paying the commentator for his broadcast. Would that still be a violation of law, although the sponsor might excuse himself or attempt to excuse himself by saying

he was not responsible for the opinions expressed by the commentator?

Mr. Taft. I think there are all degrees. It would be for a court to decide. I think as a matter of fact, if that had happened under the old law, there would have been the same question.

Then Senator Magnuson (D), of Washington State chimed in: "Let us consider the teamsters. Suppose they have a weekly radio program, as indeed, they have had for a long time back. Or let us say the AFL has such a radio program. Let us assume I am running for office and they ask me to be a guest on their program. Suppose I talk on the subject of labor and do not advocate my own candidacy. Nevertheless I am on that program. My name is being advertised and I am being heard by many thousands of people. Would that be an unlawful contribution to my candidacy?"

Mr. Taft. If a labor organization is using the funds provided by its members through payment of union dues to put speakers on the radio for Mr. X against Mr. Y, that should be a violation of the law.

Mr. Magnuson. They are not paying me anything. They have asked me to be a guest.

Mr. Taft. I understand but they are paying for the time on the air. Of course, in each case there is a question of fact to be decided. I cannot answer various hypotheses without knowing all the circumstances. But in each case the question is whether or not a union or a corporation is making a contribution or expenditure of funds to elect A as against B. Labor unions are supposed to keep out of politics in the same way that corporations are supposed to keep out of politics.

Mr. Magnuson. Let us take the reverse situation. Suppose the General Electric Co. asked me to be its guest on its Sunday afternoon hour to talk about electrical matters. I am running for office at the time. I am introduced on their program.

Mr. Taft. Oh, I do not think that would be a contribution.

Mr. Magnuson. It would not be.

Mr. Taft. There are many useful things done which do not represent contributions. Many Senators like to obtain publicity, and all sorts of indirect aids are given which cannot properly be said to be political contributions or expenditures.

Senator Taylor (D), of Idaho, came in with a question:

"I think the AFL or the CIO, one or the other, has a news commentator who comments on the news. Could he comment on political candidates favorably or unfavorably?"

Mr. Taft. If the General Motors Corp. had a man speaking on the radio every week to advocate the election of a Republican, or a Democratic presidential candidate, the corporation ought to be punished, and it would be punished under the law. Labor organizations should be subject to the same rule.

Mr. Taylor. That is altogether different. It is a more subtle thing. When a commentator is broadcasting the news every day, he can do a lot more good or harm to a man by coloring his broadcast and presenting it in the guise of a news commentary than he could openly.

Mr. Taft. The Senator is right. It is a question of fact which would have to be raised in every case. Is it a contribution to a candidate or is it not? Possibly a knock is a boost sometimes. That argument might well be made by a person who was taking part in an election.

Mr. Taylor. I should be happy to have him mention my name at any time, in any capacity, good or bad. There will be some very fine definitions required. I am afraid we shall wind up with our radio commentators absolutely hamstrung if they are sponsored by anyone.

With regard to the "featherbedding" clause in the labor bill, Senator Taft said:

"We declined to adopt the provisions which are now in the Petrillo Act. After all, that statute applies to only one industry. Those provisions are now the subject of court procedure. Their constitutionality has been questioned. We thought that probably we had better wait and see what happened, in any event, even though we are in favor of prohibiting all featherbedding practices. However, we did accept one provision which makes it an unlawful-labor practice for a union to accept money for people who do not work."

"It is intended to make it an unfair labor practice for a man to say, 'You must have 10 musicians, and if you insist that there is room for only 6, you must pay for the other 4 anyway.' That is in the nature of an exaction from the employer for services which he does not want, does not need, and is not even willing to accept."

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CBS PRESS CRITICISM GETS QUITE A RISE OUT OF NEWSPAPERS

Early comment of editors indicates there may be a spirited comeback and maybe reprisals on the part of the newspapers in connection with Columbia's new program, "CBS Views the Press", criticizing the manner in which the papers handle the news. Thus far the program is heard only on WCBS in New York (Saturday, 6:15 P.M. EDT.) CBS officials state that at present they do not contemplate making it a network feature. It is thought, nevertheless, that other stations may take it up.

Commenting upon the program, Jack Gould, Radio Editor of the New York Times, said:

"CBS indicated that it does not intend to pussy-foot in its analysis and that it is serious about its new-found role of referee of the news columns.

"Editors, columnists and reporters hereafter will have to bask in the critical spotlight which their trade so often requires that they focus on others. For many, if not most, it will be a new experience.

"Aside from stimulating self-examination by the papers themselves, the coming weeks of 'CBS Views the Press' should afford the Fourth Estate a rare opportunity to demonstrate that it not only can dish it out, as it has in the case of radio for one, but also can take it with good grace and sportsmanship."

Comment of New York newspaper editors interviewed by the Editor & Publisher included:

Richard Clarke, Executive Editor, New York News - "CBS has to strain pretty hard in its critical review of New York papers. The papers could do a better job on radio any week."

Keats Speed, Executive Editor, New York Sun - "Several newspapers follow the Communist line, so why shouldn't a radio station?"

George Cornish, Managing Editor, New York Herald Tribune - "Newspapermen are convinced that criticism is good for politicians, preachers, engineers, actors, industrialists, plumbers, labor leaders and, in fact, all other trades and professions. How then can we complain about taking a sip of our own medicine?"

Ted O. Thackrey, editor, New York Post - "I am utterly in favor of critical comment whatever the source and welcome the new CBS programs which opened with a critical review of New York newspapers. The more the merrier."

John P. Lewis, editor, PM - "The radio is a part of the press, but it doesn't belong to the newspaper club, and has been slapped around every so often by the newspapers for its own shortcomings - and for its own good."

"Now the radio, via CBS is going to do some slapping back. (PM itself came in for a mild bit of dusting off on the first program when Hollenbeck caught us passing on to our readers a bit of phony information which had originated with the Daily News.) It's a healthy thing and PM welcomes it, even in the knowledge that bits of our own hide may be tacked up on the radio tower along with the others."

Previously Mr. Lewis had described the program as "the hottest news in journalism." Lewis told his readers, "Hollenbeck is going to ride herd on the papers, tripping them up on their own misstatements, misinterpretations, deficiencies and bulls of one kind or another."

Don Hollenbeck, the commentator who is doing the radio program joined CBS as a reporter last October after a long career in journalism and a brief period with the Office of War Information in London. He is 40 years old, a native of Lincoln, Nebr., and a graduate of the University of Nebraska.

He began his newspaper career on the Nebraska State Journal, switched to the Omaha Bee-News, then worked for nine years for Hearst Newspapers. In 1937 he came to New York as picture editor of Associated Press; two years later was transferred to the AP bureau

in San Francisco. He returned to New York as picture editor of PM, soon became national affairs editor of that newspaper. Then came OWI, a spell with National Broadcasting Co. abroad as a war correspondent, and CBS.

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MERCHANDISE FM SETS AND YOU'LL SELL 'EM, MERCHANTS TOLD

Points were given to the National Association of Music Merchants in Chicago last week on how to sell FM sets. The speaker was J. N. (Bill) Bailey, Executive Director of the FM Association, who said, in part:

"Not long ago I walked into an electrical appliance shop in Washington. The show room was one large room. Along the wall on one side were radios - FM and AM. In one corner were phonographs. Jammed into that display room were a dozen and one other electric appliances.

"I asked about an FM set. The salesman informed me that I didn't want an FM set, what I wanted was a new radio. Did I want a table model or console? I told him I was interested only in FM. He had a console model on the floor, surrounded by other sets - both AM and FM. He turned on the AM. I still had to insist on FM. He didn't tune it in sharply. You know what happened - it was noisy. I tuned the set - got splendid reception.

"Over in the corner some young people were listening to a jive record on a phonograph that was turned high. Ten feet away a salesman was demonstrating a vacuum cleaner. Over on the other side somebody else was listening to an AM set blaring forth. Some 50 to 75 people were milling about the store, talking. No, I couldn't be interested in FM under those conditions. * * * *

"If you operate one of those appliance stores, for goodness sake give FM the place it deserves. Build a soundproof booth or two. Move in a nice console - or two or three if you like - the kind that mean more money to you. Furnish the booth with home-like surroundings. Let your customers settle down, light a cigarette or cigar, let them get the feel of home. Then demonstrate FM.

"If possible arrange some trick gadgets. Set up an electric shaver and show them what happens on AM, and how FM rejects that interference. But be sure you know what you're doing, because if an FM station's signal is not too strong and your set is not equipped with an antenna, you might get some interference. By late in the Summer or early Fall the transmitter manufacturers will be turning out ten kw transmitters. Those stations on interim low power will be able to step up their output and that will mean better FM signals. "

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PETRILLO TIMING POOR DEFYING CONGRESS WITH LABOR BILL UP

Defying President Roosevelt (in wartime at that) having left a bad taste in the mouth of the Administration, it seemed to be the opinion in official Washington that James C. Petrillo picked a poor time this week to threaten Representative Carroll D. Kearns, Republican, and indirectly to attack Congress. Especially so since Representative Kearns is the Chairman of the House subcommittee which is preparing to investigate Petrillo, since the Labor Bill which has a featherbedding clause in it aimed at Petrillo is now before the President, and the Supreme Court is just due to hand down a decision on the constitutionality of the anti-Petrillo bill. Mr. Kearns' hearings will begin on the first Monday after the Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of the bill (Lea Act) which is directed against Petrillo's practice of insisting upon "stand-by" employees in radio.

Kearns, who at one time was a music teacher by profession and a member of Petrillo's union, had accepted an invitation to conduct the students orchestra July 4 of Dr. Joseph Maddy at Interlochen, Michigan, which Petrillo had ruled off the air.

"I warn you, Congressman Kearns, we are going to drop you right in Maddy's lap if you pick up that baton on July 4 and we are going to expel you from this organization", Mr. Petrillo declared at an AFM convention in Detroit Monday.

Replying to this the Pennsylvania Congressman said that the Petrillo Congressional investigation would take about ten days or two weeks and that if he could complete this work before July 4 he would go to Interlochen, Mich., to conduct the Maddy Orchestra.

"I am interested in what is being done up there", he added. "I will go up if I can get away."

He said that the announcement of Mr. Petrillo in Detroit yesterday was "a little premature".

"I am not worried about the toss, anyhow", Mr. Kearns asserted in reference to Mr. Petrillo's threat.

The Representative formerly taught music, but he became Superintendent of Schools in his home town several years ago. He indicated that the loss of his union card would not worry him.

"Like a lot of others", Mr. Kearns said, "I don't make my living at it." He added that he did not believe that more than 9 or 10 per cent of the AFM members depended on music as their principal source of income."

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TAM CRAVEN TAKES OVER AT WOL COWLES WASHINGTON, D.C. STATION

Gardner Cowles, President of the Cowles Broadcasting Company, owner-operator of Station WOL in Washington, D. C., announced Tuesday that T.A.M. Craven, Vice-President of the Cowles Company in charge of engineering will also head the WOL organization as General Manager, with William Murdock continuing as Commercial Manager, Roy Passman, Program Director, Albert Warner, News and Robert H. Thren, Office Manager.

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"VOICE OF AMERICA" BILL GETS NOWHERE - FILIEUSTER MAYBE

After two days of rough going in the House, and despite another eleventh hour plea by Secretary of State Marshall, the Mundt bill to continue the "Voice of America" broadcasts and educational exchange activities, further consideration was postponed until tomorrow (Thursday, June 12). Although they are not supposed to have "filibusters" in the House, the concerted action against America's "Voice" was in the opinion of one legislator, "A filibuster if I ever saw one".

As the House bogged down in its second attempt to pass the bill, Secretary of State George C. Marshall appealed to the Senate Appropriations Committee to restore \$55,267,388 in House-slashed State Department funds.

He warned that the Communist coup in Hungary and other European developments "emphasize the importance of not whittling down the State Department.

Marshall termed "essential" the House-rejected \$34,201,200 for information and cultural activities. Even while he spoke the Mundt bill, designed to bridge the gap by specifically authorizing the program, ran into its second House snag in five days.

Three quorum calls, while the House was considering the unrelated Reorganization Plan No. 2, delayed calling up the bill until late afternoon. A motion to strike out the enacting clause, rejected at a similar session last Friday, was reoffered by Representative Noah Mason (R), of Illinois. The motion, aimed at killing the bill, was rejected, 119 to 92. But when the House quit at 5:35 P.M. the bill was no nearer passage.

Representative Frances P. Bolton (R), of Ohio, bluntly charged quorum calls and other delaying moves were designed to hold up House passage "until it's too late for the Senate to act."

Leading the opposition fight were Representatives Mason, Clare E. Hoffman (R), of Michigan, William C. Cole (R), of Missouri; Hubert S. Ellis (R), of West Virginia, George H. Bender (R), of Ohio; and Harold Knutson (R), of Minnesota.

A Gallup Poll found sentiment about 50-50 on U.S. broadcasts to Russia.

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KATE SMITH BOILS OVER ON CENSORSHIP; CBS SAYS ONLY ROUTINE

Kate Smith, "the Moon Comes Over the Mountain" soprano, isn't so hot in her judgment as to what is libelous and tactful in news broadcasts copy if the comeback of the Columbia Broadcasting System is correct. Miss Smith said she welcomed leaving Columbia June 23, where she has been 16 years, to escape censorship.

She told the American Brotherhood of Arts in Chicago where she received the 1947 American Brotherhood Arts citation of the National Conference of Christians and Jews that "you don't have freedom of speech on the Columbia System.

"Every day", she declared, "it's 'delete this' or 'cut out that.' Why, they wouldn't even let me talk about Lucky Luciano when he slipped out to Cuba, even though I was only using what was being carried by the news services and the news wires."

CBS quickly countered that the only reason Kate left the network was because General Foods had not renewed her contract. Columbia further stated that Miss Smith's news comments were subject to routine review the same as all others. It declared that, while it respected Miss Smith's abilities as a popular singer, it had been forced to exercise final judgment when she entered the field of news dissemination.

Kate Smith moves to the Mutual Broadcasting System June 23rd where she told her Chicago listeners she was starting a "disk jockey" show on WOR, New York, and would rely exclusively on her own recordings.

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TRUMAN AMUSES CANADIANS WITH TALE OF REINSCH'S LEFT SHOES

President Truman had a fine time at the gala dinner given to him at Ottawa Tuesday night telling about the predicament Leonard Reinsch, his radio secretary, found himself in. It seems in Mr. Reinsch's haste in packing his evening clothes to wear at the formal dinner, he threw in a pair of shoes without looking at them. Leonard found to his embarrassment upon arrival in Ottawa that both were left shoes. Mr. Truman explained to the diners, however, that thanks to the good neighbor Canadians, Reinsch had been able to borrow a right shoe and had been able to attend the dinner afterwards.

Mr. Reinsch, who is General Manager of the Governor Cox stations in Miami, Dayton and Atlanta, recently accompanied President Truman to Mexico and, in fact, goes with him on all speaking trips such as Kansas City last week.

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RADIO TUBE MFG. PLANT FOR SALE

War Assets Administration announced today that efforts are now being made to find a new purchaser for the radio-tube manufacturing plant at Bowling Green, Ky., leased and operated during the war by the General Electric Company.

New disposal activities for the property have been occasioned by the fact that WAA has been notified by the Electra-Voice Corporation, of Chicago, successful bidder for the plant last February, that present conditions are such that it is unable to complete the transaction. Since the war the plant has been kept in operation by the General Electric Company, and Electra-Voice was to take it over July 1, 1947.

Sale of the property to Electra-Voice for \$781,000 was approved February 20, 1947. The property had a reported original cost to the government of \$1,061,481. Because of its economic importance to the city of Bowling Green, as well as its immediate availability for productive use, WAA is making every effort to effect satisfactory disposal of the plant as quickly as possible for use either as an electronic plant or for general manufacturing purposes.

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NO OBJECTION YET MADE TO WAKEFIELD RENOMINATION

The office of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee said as of today (Wednesday, June 11th), no objections had been received regarding the renomination of Commissioner Ray C. Wakefield to the Federal Communications Commission.

Hearings having been held at the time Mr. Wakefield was nominated for his first term, no further hearings are planned at this time.

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GEN. SAMUEL THOMAS NEW V-P, GEN. SUPT. RCA COMMUNICATIONS

Appointment of Samuel M. Thomas as Vice President and General Superintendent of RCA Communications, Inc., was announced last week by Thompson H. Mitchell, Executive Vice President.

Since joining RCA Communications in 1946, Mr. Thomas has been responsible for the engineering and planning phases of the company's modernization program which includes conversion of its world-wide radiotelegraph system from Morse to automatic tape-relay and telegraph printing operations. Mr. Thomas was formerly associated with the Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

Prior to his retirement from the Army with the rank of Brigadier General, Mr. Thomas had served as Chief of Staff to the Commanding General of the Persian Gulf Command, and later was appointed Director of the Communications Division, Office of Military Government, in Berlin.

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FEDERAL RADIO TELLS STRIKERS DOUBLE STANDARDS CONDUCT OUT

In the labor dispute which began May 28th when the Federal Radio & Telephone Corporation laid off 4,000 workers at the Clifton and East Newark plants in New Jersey, E. N. Wendell, Vice-President in charge, told the striking union, Local 447 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, that Federal Radio has reached the limit of its ability to submit to the "double standards of conduct which has applied to its relations with Local 447".

Mr. Wendell continued:

"Federal Telephone and Radio Corporation finds its very existence threatened as a result of flagrant breaches of its contract by Local 447 of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America.

"The circumstances leading up to this state of affairs are typical of those of a great many other industrial organizations which experienced a great expansion during the war and which, in order to maintain full war production at any cost acceded, time after time, to the Union demands which in many cases are apparently insatiable. However, we have reached the limit of our ability to submit to the double standards of conduct which have applied to our relations with Local 447. We cannot continue to operate economically under a system in which one party to a mutually accepted agreement endeavors sincerely to observe the contract while the other party proceeds to disregard its terms.* * * *

"It is my belief that the condition which has come to the surface here at Federal is symptomatic of a nationwide disease which, if unchecked, can quickly sap the industrial strength of our country. Despite this unhealthy state of affairs, it seems to me that the people at Federal and at all other progressive and liberal industrial organizations, should be willing to work together in harmony for their mutual welfare. We may always have differences of opinion concerning what constitutes ideal working conditions, but these differences should be settled in an orderly manner without resorting to slow-downs, disruption of production, picketing and violation of contractual obligations. This country needs a general understanding that our future safety and security depends on our maintaining the world's highest level of industry and production which in turn is based on the efficiency and productivity of the individual.

"This Company has a backlog of orders on hand representing a year and a half of production - with reasonable assurance of at least five years of steady production which eliminates entirely the likelihood of our operations being affected by any general business recession."

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G.E. ADVISES ITS TELEVISION NETWORK MICROWAVE RELAY IS READY

The General Electric Company has a one-way microwave radio relay circuit ready for commercial television operation between New York City and Schenectady, N.Y., and will extend the circuit to Syracuse, N.Y., if these plans are approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

This was revealed in Washington this week at the conference on intercity television relays in testimony before the Federal Communications Commission by C. A. Priest, Manager of the G.E. Transmitter Division at Syracuse which built the microwave relay equipment now ready for operation. The division expects to supply similar units to the industry.

The conference, which had for its purpose consideration of television network programs, was informed by the FCC that 65 commercial television stations are now authorized. Of this number, six are licensed and 59 have received construction permits. Eleven stations are on the air regularly, the others testing preparatory to such service. In addition, nine applications are pending.

Television service to 39 cities in 25 States (including the District of Columbia) is proposed in current grants and applications. California leads all the States with a total of 13 grants or applications, followed by New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania in the order mentioned.

The FCC report listed television licensees construction permittees, and applicants by States and cities.

Mr. Priest told the conference that G-E television station WRGB at Schenectady now has pending before the Commission an application to use this circuit commercially for relaying to the Troy-Albany-Schenectady area television programs available in New York City. The company has been relaying television programs from New York City for the past 7 years on an experimental basis.

The new relay operates in the 2,000 megacycle region. Extremely directional, the microwaves are beamed from a transmitter atop the General Electric Office building at 570 Lexington Avenue, New York City, to a relay station on Beacon Mountain 55 miles north of New York. From there they travel 55 miles to Round Top Mountain where another relay tower transmits them 29 miles to the Helderberg Mountains. Picked up by a third relay tower there, the signals are sent 14 miles to the Schenectady terminus.

Commenting on the possible westward expansion of the television relay to Rochester and beyond, Mr. Priest explained that such a program will bring television programs to the great majority of the residents of upstate New York, and lay an excellent foundation for expansion of this network either by additional channels over the area or extension into new areas.

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FIRST DEMONSTRATION OF U.S. TELEVISION IN EUROPE PLANNED

The first demonstration of an American television system on the Continent of Europe will be conducted by the Radio Corporation of America at the Milan International Fair, scheduled to open on June 14 at Milan, Italy.

Latest mobile television pickup units, studio equipment and receivers are being dispatched to Italy for the event, which will mark the 50th anniversary of Marconi's invention of radio. Arrangements are being made to exhibit other modern radio-electronic services and products, including the RCA electron microscope, sound and theater equipment, FM (frequency modulation) transmitters, police FM equipment, shipboard communications units, air navigation aids and marine radar apparatus.

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PHILCO INTRODUCES ITS FIRST TV RECEIVER; OVER 2,000 SETS SOLD

Philco Corporation has just introduced in the Philadelphia area its first commercial television receiver, a table model set with 10-inch picture tube and many new and exclusive features in a beautiful modern mahogany cabinet, it was announced today (release dated June 12) by John Ballantyne, President.

For the present, sales and installations will be limited to the Philadelphia television area, which will be utilized as a training ground for the Company's sales and service organization, Mr. Ballantyne said. The price of the new Philco receiver, Model 48-1000, is \$395, plus excise tax of \$1.25, and a charge of \$45 is made for installation, service and warranty.

"More than 2,000 of these Philco television receivers were sold to dealers at the first two meetings when they were presented, and installations in customers' homes are proceeding at a rapid rate."

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TEEN-AGERS' RADIO ENDANGERS PLANES; CONFISCATED

When CAA officials appealed to the Federal Communications Commission to investigate the source of radio interference to planes in the Tulsa area, the Broken Arrow, Okla., monitoring station traced the offending transmissions to two homemade radio transmitters being operated illegally in the autos of two Tulsa high school boys. The apparatus was confiscated and the lads were warned that their operations might have had serious consequences.

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::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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Chicago "Trib" Centennial Edition Radioed Around World
("Editor and Publisher")

The front page of the Chicago Tribune Centennial Edition June 10 will be transmitted by radio and direct wire to nearly 50 newspapers in 35 foreign countries.

In order to distribute the Tribune's front page for publication on the same days as in Chicago, a proof of the first edition will be photographed there on the evening of June 9. This will be sent by Photo transmission machines directly to Toronto, Washington, Mexico City and Miami. From Miami it will go by airplane to Havana.

At the same time, copies will be transmitted to New York and to San Francisco. The latter will relay the picture to Honolulu; Sydney, Australia; Tokyo and Osaka in Japan, and Manila. The transmission will be handled by the 6th Army Signal Corps, which will send the picture into Japan.

From New York, the picture will be carried by radio to Rio de Janeiro, Cairo, London, Paris, Berlin, Bombay, Rome, Stockholm, Bern and Euenos Aires. Copenhagen newspapers will receive the transmission from Stockholm

Editors of newspapers who are publishing the Centennial front page have agreed to photograph their pages showing the facsimile. These pictures, in turn, will be airmailed to the Tribune for reproduction within a few days.

At New York and San Francisco, prints will be processed in about 10 minutes and then placed on transmitters that will send them simultaneously to the principal foreign distribution points. Thus, North American newspapers will have the reproductions in their offices for publication in little more than half an hour, while those in other continents having direct radio facilities should receive theirs in about 50 minutes.

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Only Time Can Answer The Television Question
(From the Topeka Capital)

Will television prove a boon or detriment to those who depend upon crowds for making money? That is a question which only time can answer.

Unquestionably, the world series baseball games will become top television fare, as will the Rose Bowl football classics. Heavyweight boxing matches, provided Joe Louis ever finds any one worthy of his gloves, will rank high on the program list. More important, however, will be the daily offerings which prove so lucrative now in other forms.

From the pocketbook viewpoint, Hollywood may be hardest hit. When people can see a show within their own living rooms, why go to the corner movie? This is an argument, however, which may not work out in actual practice. It may be that television will stimulate rather than harm movie receipts. It may be that it will create additional on-the-spot interest in such sports as baseball. No one can be certain until television comes into general use.

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Petrillo Accused Of Using Royalties To Curry Public Favor
("Variety")

James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, apparently is no longer brushing off the lack of love displayed by the public and press toward his organization. He wants to change the unfavorable tone of public reaction to the AFM snarls, which have been given front-page attention in recent years. To do this he is using the proceeds from his victorious battle with the recording companies for a royalty from each record they sell.

Petrillo has impressed various AFM locals with the thought that press and public be told as often and as brightly as possible about the work being done by the AFM to entertain crippled vets at hospitals. This entertainment, using musicians in each local at scale pay, is being underwritten by the record royalty fund. More than \$1,000,000 has been earmarked from the fund for such entertainment, which is covering schools, veterans' hospitals and the like. But for the press, public, and the AFM's aims, the latter is emphasized. Most locals are prepping press books to show the boss how well they are drum-beating the charity.

Move is an abrupt about-face for Petrillo, who has always disdained numerous hints from his aides that he would benefit from a public relations campaign. Now under fire from sundry state legislatures as well as on Capitol Hill in Washington, the AFM prexy finally is making a stab at getting himself a glow in print to offset the attacks.

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Bikini Test Adds To Radio Knowledge
("Relay" - RCA Communications Magazine)

More than 1000 persons watched the atom bomb explode before their eyes on the screen of the Western Union auditorium during a motion picture exhibit of the official bomb tests at Bikini.

Arthur F. Van Dyck of RCA Laboratories, one of the official U. S. observers at "Operations Crossroads", pointed out that everything within a radius of one-quarter of a mile was completely destroyed by the first bomb which was dropped from a plane. The second test, the underwater charge, sent up waves 100 feet high in the immediate vicinity of the explosion. Although these motion pictures were taken from a distance of three miles there were several instances when the screen was completely void of any picture. Mr. Van Dyck explained that the radioactivity flash was so brilliant that the film could not record it.

The main purpose of the Bikini tests was to secure scientific data on the atomic bomb, and the great concentration of radio and electronic equipment assembled there enabled scientists to correlate much information heretofore not known to them.

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Paul Porter, President Truman's former special envoy to Greece, and former FCC head, said at a luncheon-forum of the Liberal Party in New York last week that American foreign policy must strive for the twin objectives of "economic abundance for all, political freedom for all."

A pretty large order. Sounds as if Paul were running for Senator, or something!

Invitations have been issued by Farnsworth Television & Radio Corporation to inspect a display of America's foremost train passenger program distribution systems and electronic railway radio-telephone equipment, which will be available for study at the Railway Supply Manufacturers' Association Exhibit, June 23-28 in the Convention Hall at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

A recent mail count for WGN farm programs revealed that during one month, more than a thousand pieces of mail from 20 States came to the station from its early morning listeners. A similar test conducted by WGN's "Song Title Time" program showed a mail count from 43 States, plus the District of Columbia, Canada and Cuba.

The Federal Works Administration will distribute 13 million dollars worth of electronic equipment - including three radar stations and 118 radar transmitters - to colleges, universities and some secondary schools.

It will be distributed free to institutions having veterans programs, but the schools must pay the shipping costs from Akron, Ohio.

If the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee plans postponing the hearings scheduled for next Tuesday, June 17th, on the White Radio Bill, to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission, there was no evidence of it at the Capitol today (Wed., June 11th).

A trial operation of a three-way FM radio-telephone system by the New York State Police is underway in an area which includes Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Orange, Dutchess, Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Supt. John A. Gaffney said that the New York Telephone Company was installing additional facilities and that the complete state-wide system is expected to be ready for testing within a few months.

The state-wide network will provide communication between each troop headquarters and patrol cars in the troop area, between each zone station and police vehicles in the zones and between the cars themselves.

Deems Taylor, President of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), accompanied by Mrs. Taylor, sails on the Queen Elizabeth today (Wednesday, June 11th). He will attend a congress of the Confederation Internationale des Societes d'Auteurs et Compositeurs which will be held in London from June 23-28th.

What is said to be the lowest-priced console model television receiver made available to the public to date, having a suggested retail price of \$450, is now in production in the RCA's Camden, N.J. plant, and initial shipments are scheduled for this week.

Other RCA Victor models now in quantity production include table models with 7-inch and 10-inch picture tubes, a "5-in-1" complete home entertainment console combining FM, AM and shortwave radio, a Victrola phonograph, and a 52 square inch television screen. Prices of these set range from about \$250 to \$795, exclusive of excise tax and television owner's policy fee.

Colonel McCormick was told by one of his friends that WGN is regularly listened to in the Aleutian Islands.

Gross salaries last year of David Sarnoff, President of the Radio Corporation of America; Niles Trammell, President of the National Broadcasting Company, and Frank M. Folsom, Vice-President in charge of RCA Victor, were \$132,703, \$90,460, and \$75,460, as reported by the Securities and Exchange Commission in Philadelphia.

"Gulf Television News", with Douglas Edwards as newscaster, has been renewed by the Gulf Oil Corporation for its fifth straight 13-week Thursday cycle over CBS Television Station WCBS-TV, effective June 26.

The Washington Post is now listing the complete program of all six broadcasting stations in the metropolitan area in addition to the seven local stations.

The Washington stations are WMAL (ABC), WRC (NBC), WOL (MBS) and WTOP (MBS). To these have now been added WINX, WWDC and WQQW. The Metropolitan area stations are WARL, Arlington, Va., WEAM, Arlington, WPIK, Alexandria, Va.; WGAY, Silver Spring, Md.; WOOK, Silver Spring and WBOC, Bethesda, Md.

Before the war there were only the four Washington, D.C. stations in this entire area - WMAL, WRC, WOL and WTOP. Now there are 13.

United States Television Mfg. Corp. Net income for the March quarter was \$128,404 vs. a deficit of \$27,000 in the same 1946 period.

The Spanish Government has decided to install a 200-kilo-watt radio transmitter on the little island Fernando Po, off the coast of Africa, the New York Times learns, by an unusually reliable source. The informant says the principal purpose of the transmitter is propaganda to Spanish areas in Africa. No news of this decision has been made public.

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