



Founded in 1924

# HEINL NEWS SERVICE

Radio — Television — FM — Communications

2400 California Street, N. W.

Washington 8, D. C.

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June 25, 1947

## FCC GETS ANOTHER POLITICIAN; INDUSTRY APATHETIC, AS USUAL

(Editorial by Robert D. Heinl)

Again the White House, by withdrawing the nomination of FCC Commissioner Ray C. Wakefield (R), of California, has wished another politician on the Federal Communications Commission and the broadcasting and communications industries by naming Representative Robert F. Jones (R), of Ohio, with no experience in these fields, to the Republican vacancy on the Communications Commission. And standing silently by the industries directly affected and the National Association of Broadcasters with its highly paid president and its constantly increasing staff are, as usual, allowing the Administration to get away with it.

Could anyone imagine the President making a comparable appointment in the labor field without consulting the CIO and the A. F. of L. or in the industrial field without getting a nod from the Chamber of Commerce of the United States? In the FCC appointments, the White House doesn't pay any more attention to the NAB group than if they didn't exist.

Yet the broadcasters, the most powerful group in the world, are never consulted with regard to appointments on the Federal Communications Commission which holds their very existence in its hands.

Furthermore, there have been few who have ever served on the Commission who have had the slightest technical qualifications. That such outstanding Commissioners as T.A.M. Craven, E. K. Jett, E. M. Webster, and the dean of them all, the late Admiral Bullard of the old Radio Commission were appointed, has been a lucky break for the industry not due to its own feeble efforts.

From the beginning, the broadcasters and the NAB have been afraid to speak above a whisper, yet they have the most powerful voice in the world. If only a few independent stations or even one network dared to speak out, far from losing their licenses as they seem to fear, thereafter not only would the White House stop, look and listen, but the blast would dump the apple-cart on Capitol Hill. In fact, a single fearless station such as WGN, in Chicago, with Col. Robert R. McCormick directing the attack, could almost do the job alone.

Another group which the broadcasters have evidently overlooked who could command considerable more respect from the President and Congress than the industry is now getting is the Radio Correspondents' Galleries. If this organization of commentators were ever turned loose, properly backed by their employers, they could create consternation at the White House and on Capitol Hill.



The very fact that four nominations have been withdrawn by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman for the FCC (such a withdrawal being a thing normally that rarely occurs) all Republicans and all for political reasons, show how Democratic Presidents defer to the will of even the Republicans in Congress.

The Commissioners who had their renominations yanked from the Senate were Thad Brown, George Henry Payne, Norman S. Case and Ray C. Wakefield. Did anyone ever hear of a presidential nomination being withdrawn - or made - out of deference to the broadcasting or communications industries or as a result of any effort on the part of the NAB?

According to Drew Pearson in his last Sunday night broadcast over ABC, the reason President Truman withdrew the nomination of Commissioner Wakefield was that Wakefield had voted against giving a broadcasting station license to Robert Eartley, a nephew of Speaker Sam Rayburn, at Houston, Texas, and a former employee of the FCC. Mr. Pearson said that Rayburn was furious and had high-pressured the President into calling back the Wakefield nomination and naming Representative Jones (R), of Ohio, instead, despite the fact that Jones was the man who caused the axe to descend upon the Reclamation Bureau appropriations which, according to Pearson, may cause Truman to lose the vote of the West in the forthcoming presidential campaign.

Of President Truman's sudden about-face with regard to Mr. Wakefield, the Washington Post had this to say:

"The President's withdrawal of his own nomination of Commissioner Wakefield for reappointment to the Federal Communications Commission is a mystery that demands explanation. The nomination was sent to the Senate some six weeks ago. It was indorsed alike by the Democratic Senator and the Republican Senator from California, Mr. Wakefield's home State. It was referred to an Interstate and Foreign Commerce Subcommittee which, judging from every available indication, was prepared to report it favorably. However, before any hearings had been held by the subcommittee and in the absence of any open opposition, the President suddenly withdrew the nomination and substituted the name of Representative Robert F. Jones of Ohio. This change of mind, unprecedented so far as we know, is the more astonishing since it was made without any prior notification to Mr. Wakefield himself or to the Senators from California and without any expressed reason.

"Commissioner Wakefield's record during his first term on the FCC thoroughly entitled him to reappointment. Indeed, on the grounds of merit and general qualification, he seems immeasurably superior to Representative Jones. In addition to his seven years of direct experience with national communications problems as a member of the FCC, Mr. Wakefield had admirable training for this regulatory post as Chairman of the California Utilities Commission. Mr. Jones has no comparable background. An Ohio county prosecuting attorney, he has been in Congress since 1939 with a record dis-

tinguished only by the consistency of its conservatism and opposition to nearly every major measure desired by the Administration.

"In the absence of explanation, it is difficult to escape the suspicion that it was Mr. Jones' nuisance value that won him preferment over Mr. Wakefield. Opposition seems the normal avenue to advancement nowadays. But the FCC is far too important an agency to be made a mere repository for the removal of obstructionists from Congress. If President Truman does not want this construction to be put upon his choice of Mr. Jones, then he owes it to himself to offer a more satisfactory explanation. In any case, as a matter of common courtesy, he owes an explanation to Mr. Wakefield whom he has subjected to extreme embarrassment. And, above all, he owes an explanation to a public perplexed by what appears to be thoroughly capricious conduct."

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#### RADIO STATIONS USED TO PROBE FOR OIL NOW NUMBER OVER 500

Little known to the general public is the utilization of radio to probe for new sources of oil. More than 500 "Geological Radio Stations" devoted to this purpose are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. A single "station" authorization can include various mobile and portable units.

These stations are modern "divining rods" which investigate the underlying strata of the earth for nature's faults which may serve as oil traps. Any disarrangement of rock layers might hide an untapped supply. Even in water depths, sea-going oilmen equipped with radio sound out salt domes that were pushed up from the deep ages ago.

In one method the presence of hidden oil is indicated by signals and impulses obtained by seismic instruments and transmitted by radio from the various pickup points to a centrally located recording truck or boat within a distance of 15 miles. At the same time, geological radio stations are used for communication purposes by crews so engaged in isolated places.

In 1935 there were only 131 such stations. The growing use of radio for this purpose is due to the drain on readily available oil deposits and the necessity of seeking new fields. Since the war, radar has come into the picture to the extent that the Commission recently authorized a geophysical exploration company to experiment with radar (in the 2900-3246 megacycle band).

It is possible, too, that geological radio stations may some day be employed to ferret out new mineral and metal deposits. In anticipation of such development, the Commission, in connection with its recent service frequency allocations, increased from nine to 49 the number of radio channels allocated to this service.

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E. ANTHONY & SONS TO TAKE EMPLOYEES' DISPUTE TO HIGH COURT

Following a decision by the U. S. Court of Appeals Monday ordering Massachusetts newspapers of E. Anthony & Sons, the president of which is Basil Brewer, who also operates WNEH in New Bedford and WOGB in West Yarmouth, to reinstate employees dismissed for union activity, counsel for the papers said the case would be carried to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Seven employees of the company's newspapers in New Bedford and Hyannis were discharged after they had been questioned about union activity. They were members of the Newspaper and Radio Workers Protective Association of Southern Massachusetts.

This organization was formed principally by the General Manager and the Circulation Director of the Anthony Company. These two men were subsequently fired and convicted of plotting to engage in a business competing and conflicting with the interests of their employer.

The Anthony company objected to the Association formed, but admitted it was technically a "company union". It was tainted, however, the company said, by being formed by an "unconscionable breach of trust by two supposedly loyal executives."

For this reason, the company said, the employees involved could not seek protection under the National Labor Relations Act. The company charged the NLRB had no right to interfere and the management had the right to dismiss employees for joining an "illegal" labor union.

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SALTZMAN, SON OF EX-FRC CHAIRMAN, UP FOR ASST. SEC. OF STATE

Charles E. Saltzman, 44 years old, Vice-President of the New York Stock Exchange, and son of the late, Gen. Charles McK. Saltzman, former Chairman of the old Federal Radio Commission, was nominated last week to be an Assistant Secretary of State. He will succeed Maj. Gen. John H. Hildring, retired, Assistant Secretary of State in charge of affairs of occupied areas, who is resigning for personal reasons effective September 1. However, Mr. Saltzman will enter the State Department on July 15 as a special assistant to Secretary of State Marshall and will work with General Hildring to familiarize himself with the duties of the office.

Mr. Saltzman was a Brigadier General in World War II. He went overseas in 1942 as Deputy Chief of Staff to Gen. Mark W. Clark and won the Distinguished Service Medal. He returned to the New York Stock Exchange early in 1946.

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EX-FCC CHAIRMEN, FLY, PORTER, IN OPPOSITION IN ATLANTA CASE

Former FCC Chairman J. L. Fly, in one of the few radio cases in which he has appeared in his private capacity as a lawyer, and former FCC Chairman Paul Porter, in his first suit since leaving the Commission, will face each other tomorrow (Thursday, June 26) in the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia at Atlanta. The case to be argued is whether or not the Columbia Broadcasting System and the Fort Industry stations, of which George B. Storer is the President, violated anti-trust laws and FCC rules by conspiring to shift WGST, CBS Atlanta affiliate to WAGA, Fort Industry's Atlanta outlet.

Mr. Fly will represent the Fort Industry Stations and Mr. Porter CBS, of which he was formerly counsel in Washington.

FCC's rules governing network contracts, designed to prevent monopoly, were conceived, argued, adopted and enforced during the Fly regime. They were rigidly enforced during the ensuing Porter regime.

Last Monday Judge E. Marvin Underwood, of the District Court, granted a temporary order directing CBS and WAGA not to make any affiliation commitments until the court can hear argument on the WGST petition for a temporary injunction.

WGST charged that CBS had entered into a conspiracy in restraint of trade by agreeing with the Storer group to change its Atlanta outlet from WGST to WAGA Dec. 15 next when the present two-year contract expires.

Specifically WGST alleged that the Sherman Act and Clayton Act, as well as the Federal Communications Act and Declaratory Judgment Act were violated. The State has a \$1,500,000 investment in WGST, it argued, with annual net exceeding \$200,000 for several years. CBS affiliation was described as "the most vital single factor in the high earning capacity of WGST for 17 years."

Audience would be drastically cut and revenue curtailed, with WGST reduced to insignificant status with loss on its investment if the affiliation were lost, WGST contended.

The station claimed illegal agreement or understanding in restraint of trade occurred when CBS allegedly approached the Storer management last Autumn to obtain affiliation of WWVA, Wheeling, 50 kw station. WGST claimed the Storer group agreed to a CBS affiliation for WWVA if WGBS, Miami, and WAGA, Atlanta, also were given CBS contracts. CBS granted such an option, WGST alleges.

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## ASCAP CHARGED WITH WORLD CONSPIRACY

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) was accused of illegally engaging in a world-wide cartel and conspiracy to monopolize music-performing rights in a suit filed in Federal court in New York Monday by the Anti-trust Division of the Department of Justice.

At almost the same time in London, where a convention of Authors and Composers Societies is now being held, ASCAP resigned its membership.

One of the principal purposes of the Government's suit, according to John F. Sonnett, Chief of the Anti-trust Division, is to obtain "a directive from the court requiring ASCAP to withdraw from membership in illegal foreign societies like the confederation."

The Government alleges that ASCAP has joined with similar organizations in principal foreign countries to cross-license each other exclusively, thus barring other groups or individuals from access to the musical compositions controlled. The cross-licensing has been done, the complaint charges, through the International Confederation of Authors and Composers Societies, which has headquarters in Paris and is composed of ASCAP and twenty-five foreign societies.

Attorney General Tom Clark said the Justice Department had found that thousands of businesses, such as radio stations, theatres, hotels, dance halls and restaurants, had been prevented from getting music from abroad except through ASCAP, and that the cartel arrangements had hindered American composers and authors not members of ASCAP from reaching the foreign markets.

Besides a court order directing ASCAP's withdrawal from the International Confederation, the Government asks that ASCAP be enjoined from accepting music rights in the United States from any foreign society unless the foreign society also makes its music available to other United States societies. It also asks for the cancellation of existing agreements.

"Last Fall the International Confederation held its meeting in Washington", Deems Taylor, President of ASCAP, was quoted as saying in a London dispatch to the New York Times. "At that time the State Department gave us the privilege, never accorded to any other international organization, of holding meetings in the Coolidge Auditorium of the Library of Congress.

"At that time the State Department was immensely interested, as was the United States Government, in having the meeting in Washington because the gathering helped international relations.

"We were just as much a monopoly then as the Justice Department claims we are now.

"I wonder what State Department officials are thinking today about the action of the Justice Department?"

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## PETRILLO STILL MUST FACE BRAND NEW GOING OVER BY CONGRESS

Although James C. Petrillo almost fell over himself bowing low before the Supreme Court following the anti-Petrillo jolt the court gave him, it is still not expected to save Petrillo from facing a brand new investigation by the House Labor Subcommittee tentatively set for next Monday, June 30th, in addition to the forthcoming trial ordered by the high court.

Representative Nixon (R), of California, a subcommittee member, told the Associated Press:

"We've done a considerable amount of groundwork on the case and have plenty of questions to fire at him about his union's policies and practices.

"We want to ask him about featherbedding, about making an employer hire more musicians than he needs; about his famous welfare fund and how it is being used.

"We are interested in whether he has adopted practices that have had the effect of discouraging the use of new inventions, as in the television and frequency modulation fields."

Although summoned to the Capitol many times, Mr. Petrillo has only appeared once in recent years when he testified before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee. It may be only a coincidence but the man who was most instrumental in dragging him to Washington on that occasion bit the dust in the next election - ex-Senator D. Worth Clark (D), of Idaho. Whether or not there will be any reprisals this trip, one thing is certain, Petrillo will put on one of the best shows of his life with plenty of brickbats aimed at the National Association of Broadcasters.

With regard to the Supreme Court upholding the Lea Act, which was passed by the House 222 to 43 and the Senate 47 to 3, the New York Times said, in part:

"The vast powers enjoyed by James C. Petrillo of the musicians' union have been in large part the result of one-sided Federal law. Mr. Petrillo has thrived on a policy of forcing broadcasters and others to employ more musicians than they needed. It has been an outrageous instance of feather-bedding. Mr. Petrillo contributed further to the indignation against him by behaving like a dictator; not only in fixing the exorbitant terms on which his own members would work but also in restricting the performance of amateurs.

\* \* \* \* \*

"If it has done nothing else, the Supreme Court has established an employer's right to court review of his decision on how many men he needs to hire. This is an important principle, and the decision has its implications on legality of the provision in the Taft-Hartley law. It has an immediate bearing in the Petrillo field for opening FM broadcasting to live musicians, where Mr. Petrillo has been insisting successfully that if a program produced for standard



broadcast is to go out over FM, a complete stand-by second orchestra must be hired, even if it never blows a note. The result, to the public's loss, has been no live music on FM. Under the Taft-Hartley law Mr. Petrillo may also find his musicians contributing to the new art of television, which he has chosen to regard as premature. Perhaps we are gradually getting him cut down legally to size, in the public interest."

Said the Washington Times-Herald:

"The Associated Press quotes Petrillo as saying:

"The Supreme Court has spoken. This is my country, and the Supreme Court makes the final rulings on its laws. No one will ever say that Jim Petrillo fought his country or the Supreme Court. I thought that I had the law on my side, and I made the best fight I knew how. The Supreme Court has spoken, and I bow to its dictates."

"Let's admit that Petrillo may have been talking in this instance mainly to help himself in his forthcoming trial. \* \* \*

"Nevertheless, Petrillo on the occasion of this Supreme Court defeat did make the patriotic and sportsmanlike remarks quoted above.

"He did not fly off the handle, rage publicly against the high court, mumble about general strikes and labor-management civil wars, or in any other way lose his poise. Whatever his secret feelings may have been, he talked for the record like a true American who considers his first duty to be to his country.

"Congress has overridden President Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley labor-curb bill, and that bill is now law.

"It also happens that not all of the labor chiefs involved in this reduction of their power are reacting as patriotically as Petrillo did to his Supreme Court reversal. We are hearing a great deal of violent talk, some of it downright disloyal, from some of these men."

The Washington Daily News (Scripps-Howard) spoke as follows:

"The union leaders who are breathing fire and threatening defiance of the new Taft-Hartley Act would do well to pause, think and ask themselves whether it is not time to change the tactics that brought about the inevitable passage of this law.

"If they want a timely example of the lack of wisdom in those tactics, there is James C. Petrillo, boss of the musicians' union. He is an outstanding symbol of arrogance, of dictatorial methods, of restrictive practices, of abuse of power. Eminent labor lawyers advised him to defy a law intended to curb his activities. The Supreme Court, they said, would never let Congress do that to him.

"But the Supreme Court spoke for itself, Mr. Petrillo now must face trial, and the authority of Congress is sustained. That's thought food for the union attorneys who - just as the Liberty League's 58 famous lawyers did with the Wagnet Act in 1935 - are taking it upon themselves to declare the Taft-Hartley Act unconstitutional."

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#### HOUSE VOTE FAVORS "VOICE OF AMERICA"; STILL SHY OF FUNDS

By a vote of 272 to 97 the House Tuesday authorized the State Department to continue its foreign information service, while in the Senate the Appropriations Committee recommended a total of 13 million dollars for the purpose.

The overwhelming House vote on passage of the Mundt bill came after three weeks of delaying tactics on the part of a group of die-hard Republican opponents.

In the expectation that the Senate will not have time to act on the Mundt measure before the end of this session, the full Senate Appropriations Committee requested a suspension of the rules so that the appropriations measure can carry legislative authority for the overseas information service.

It is predicted the House will be forced to agree to a Senate appropriation of \$13,000,000, which would sharply limit the department's Office of Information but permit curtailed "voice" broadcasts aimed principally at Russia.

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#### RUSSIA CLAIMS 5,500,000 RADIOS; NUMBER SHORT-WAVE SETS UNKNOWN

A Moscow broadcast heard by the Associated Press in London last Sunday said that more than 5,500,000 Russians had radios in their homes. The broadcast said the figure was more than before the war, but gave no comparative figure. Total population of Russia is slightly under 197,000,000.

The United States had 60,000,000 radio sets in use last year, according to the 1947 World Almanac. The total population is 139,621,431.

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John Cowles, Vice-President of the Cowles Broadcasting Company and publisher of the Minneapolis Star Journal and Tribune is a passenger on the Pan American Airways Clipper which is now making the first commercial flight around the world.

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## RADIO STATIONS EMPLOY 34,831 PERSONS; EMPLOYMENT UP 18%

As a result of its new form for the reporting of broadcast employment, the Federal Communications Commission states that the seven networks and 924 standard broadcast stations employed 34,831 persons in the first week of February 1947, an increase of 18 percent above the 29,405 employees of 9 networks and 876 stations in October 1945. The February 1947 employees included 30,100 full-time staff employees and 4,731 non-staffprogram employees.

Such data was summarized from reports by stations and networks to the Commission. The schedule "Employees and Their Compensation" was substantially revised after its last use in 1945, both as to items of information required, and as to definitions and procedures to be followed. This revision permitted for the first time the compilation of substantially complete and homogeneous information with respect to the number, hours, and compensation of all classes of staff employees, and the number and compensation of non-staff employees. This report form is the only comprehensive source of information on broadcast employees. Because of the substantial changes made in the report form, detailed comparisons between the 1947 data and those for earlier years are not possible. As indications of trends, however, such general comparisons are probably not misleading.

Excluding executive, supervisory, and non-staff personnel, the 24,513 broadcast employees reported in February 1947 were scheduled to receive an average of about \$61.00 weekly, as against average compensation (in some cases including overtime and other non-scheduled payments) of about \$58.00 to the comparable 26,151 employees reported in 1945. Similar comparisons may be made for non-supervisory staff employees in the several departments of stations by the use of previously published tabulations for 1945. In 1947, the total of 30,100 staff employees were scheduled to receive an average of about \$71.50 weekly, while the 4,731 non-staff program employees averaged about \$51.50 weekly.

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## TO RE-DRAFT ANTI-RADIO AND PRESS LIQUOR ADVERTISING BILL

Senators Reed (R), of Kansas, and Edwin C. Johnson (D), of Colorado have been appointed a subcommittee to re-draft a bill by Senator Capper (R), of Kansas, which would prohibit periodical and radio liquor advertising from crossing State lines in any form. Chairman White, (R), of Maine, told reporters that Constitutional questions, including possible infringement on freedom of the press, had been cited in Committee discussion of the Capper measure.

Senator White said "considerable interest" had been evidenced in behalf of the bill in thousands of telegrams and letters received by Senators, but declined to say whether the measure will find a place on the Republican policy committee's list of priority legislation for action in this session of Congress.

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## DEMOCRATIC STATE CHAIRMAN ADMITS HELPING GET RADIO PERMITS

Pleas W. Greenlee, Democratic State Chairman of Indiana, told the Associated Press in Indianapolis last Friday, he "naturally was interested in helping Democrats" in efforts to get radio station permits.

Greenlee's statement came in answer to accusations made in Washington by Senator William E. Jenner, Republican, Indiana, that the Democratic chieftain "exerted political pressure" in favor of "a group of Hoosier Democratic politicians" seeking a license for the Tri-State Broadcasting Corporation of Evansville.

Tri-State's president is John K. Jennings of Evansville, former WPA Administrator for Indiana, and a stockholder is Frank M. McHale of Indianapolis, Democratic National Committeeman for Indiana.

A May 9 letter from Greenlee to Democratic National headquarters, made public last Friday by Greenlee, did not mention Tri-State, but did say "something should be done to see that the Universal Broadcasting Company is given a station in Indiana."

"It may be only incidental", Jenner's statement said, "that the (Federal Communications) Commission recently denied an application of a group of prominent citizens of southern Indiana who sought a license for a station to be known as WJPS in Evansville. It may be coincidence, too, that several of the applicants . . . are Republicans."

He added, however, that the FCC has granted a petition to review the entire record of this proceedings.

Greenlee commented: "We need no help from Jenner in running the Democratic Party. Bill Jenner is having troubles enough in the Republican Party."

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## RCA TELEVISION CAMERA REDUCES STUDIO LIGHT NEEDS 90 PERCENT

A studio type image orthicon television camera, requiring only one-tenth the amount of light needed with present day iconoscope cameras, has been developed by the RCA Engineering Products Department, it was announced by W. W. Watts, Vice-President in charge of the Department.

Producing pictures with excellent half-tone shading and with lower noise level than the field type image orthicon, the new unit is expected to revolutionize television studio operation.

Eliminating the need for expensive and uncomfortable studio lighting, and its attendant oversize air-conditioning plants and eye straining glare, the new RCA camera produces brilliant, sharply defined pictures at light levels of 100 to 200 foot candles. It will function at light levels down to 25 foot candles.

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# RUSSIAN TWITS "VOICE OF AMERICA"

Describing the "Voice of America" as a good voice with a bad reception, Leonard Utyesov, Director of the State Jazz Band of the Russian Federated Republics, a dancer and comedian, in a recent performance in Moscow, according to Walter Cronkite of the United Press, pretended to take the role of announcer for the "Voice of America", saying:

"Our microphone is now in the house of an ordinary American of Russian extraction."

(Utyesov and his partner taking the part of an American, tramp hard, marking time, for sound effects.)

Utyesov: "You can imagine the large size of the flat of this American if we have to walk so far to the center of one of his rooms."

(To American): "May I place my microphone in one of your rooms?"

American: "Sure, all my eight rooms are at your disposal."

Utyesov: "Where are you working?"

American: "At present I'm not working anywhere - I'm unemployed."

Utyesov: "But how do you live? Have you any money?"

American: "Every unemployed man in the United States has at least a few dollars."

Utyesov: "Ring your dollars. Show you have them."

(The American searches his pockets fruitlessly.)

Utyesov (sotto voice): "Okay, we'll do the ringing."

(He makes a clanking sound).

Utyesov: "This is easy. Every unemployed man can ring a few dollars when he wants to."

This is the end of the skit, but Utyesov goes on: "This is a false voice, but then the United States is a young country and it is well known that voices change when one is growing up. It is also a country of great research in problems of hybridization. They take an old British conservative and crossbreed him with an American reactionary - and the result is half fascist and half fascist."

This gets loud applause.

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## BBC TO INSTALL FIRST FM TRANSMITTER

A 25-kilowatt frequency-modulation transmitter is to be supplied to the British Broadcasting Corp. by Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co. for use in England. This will be the first FM transmitter to be put into regular service by the corporation, and will embody several improvements made possible through experimental work since the end of the war.

According to reports received by the American Embassy in London, the BBC's plan has been outlined to the Radio Industry Council, and the industry has been asked to make arrangements for sets to be available to receive the new FM transmissions in due time. The BBC expects that it will take about 2 years before a regular service can be provided. It will not replace the present service on the medium and long-wave lengths.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
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New TV Wire Rate Estimated 9½ Times Higher Than For Radio  
 (Drew Pearson, in "Washington Post")

Today stations are on the air in half a dozen cities, providing regular television service, but the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. has now dropped a bombshell by posting with the FCC rates it will charge for television service. They are so high they would never permit television to compete commercially with the standard broadcasting of today.

Therefore, unless telecasters can devise some other way to operate in network fashion, there is no telling how long network television will be held up. Expense of individual production is so great that single stations cannot provide a decent service operating independently. The answer may be movie films - but that has not yet been fully explored.

At a recent session with the FCC, Paramount Pictures Engineer Paul Railbourn glumly estimated that intercity movement of television programs would cost nine and one-half times - at the A. T. & T. rates - what it costs to send regular standard broadcast network programs over the wires between stations. Other unhappy telecasters made even more gloomy estimates.

The costs proposed by A. T. & T. are "out of the question" remarked David Smith of Philco. Directing his remarks toward two high A. T. & T. officials present, Smith attacked the cost proposals and declared that nobody has "a God-given right to this monopoly."

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Avers Congress Wouldn't Go Off Half-Cocked If Broadcast

(Extract from an article by Jack H. Pollack in Pageant magazine for July, 1947, reprinted in the Congressional Record June 11th by Senator Claude Pepper, D, of Florida.)

Adolph Sabath, of Illinois, whose 41 years of service make him the dean of the House of Representatives, puts it this way: "Broadcasting Congress would raise the level of debate. Members restrain themselves from reckless remarks and not go off half-cocked." And Mr. Bilbo, of Mississippi, expresses his own feeling: "If people back home heard everything we said in the Senate, I wouldn't get reelected - and neither would some of my high-falutin' colleagues."

Were Congress on the air, you probably would no longer hear Nebraska's Kenneth Wherry try to slug Oregon's Wayne Morse on the Senate floor. Pennsylvania's Representative Robert Rich might think twice before offering his solution for handling the atomic bomb: "Hide it so no one could get it." If Massachusetts housewives were listening to him, Representative Charles Gifford might pause before charging that women Congressmen are "dangerous".

In a recent exchange on the Senate floor between Brewster, of Maine, and Tobey, of New Hampshire, Brewster irritably declined to continue because "it would be like arguing the right of way with a skunk." This unparliamentary remark does not appear in the permanent Congressional Record because on reflection, Brewster



deleted it. Had he been facing a microphone at the time, however, chances are he never would have made it. \* \* \* \*

North Carolina's Clyde Hoey says, "Broadcasting us would only increase conversation. We need more action - less talk." Rhode Island's Theodore Green adds, "If the Senate were broadcast, it would never do any work."

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New Service By Radio Is Used On Ocean Planes  
( "New York Times" )

Aboard American Airlines Flagship Boston, over North Atlantic, June 17 - you are now reading the first commercial public correspondence message ever transmitted by plane to ground radio telegraph from an airliner over the Atlantic under the American flag. The service is available to all passengers on board. We are at 9,000 feet and estimating our arrival at Shannon at 0800 G.  
Larsen, Capt.

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Addressed to the City Editor of the New York Times, the above message was received at 4:15 P.M. daylight time yesterday from Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company through its station at Amagansett, L.I. The company announced that the service, approved by the Federal Communications Commission, would be available to all ocean air passengers at the same rate as ship-to-shore radio messages.

Inquiry at the Mackay office in New York revealed the fact that the company handled eighteen messages between the Flagship Boston and the company's ground station on this first trip after commencement of the service and several messages were handled on each succeeding flight.

The Pan American Airways Clipper, which left yesterday for the first round-the-world commercial passenger flight, is equipped for similar service through the Radio Corporation of America.

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Anti-Labor Bill War Chest Provided \$400,000 For Radio Time  
(Leonard Lyons in "Washington Post")

The AFL's radio and newspaper campaign against the Taft-Hartley bill cost over \$800,000. The six-week radio series, including spot-announcements, cost \$400,000, and the newspaper advertising campaign about \$480,000.

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Many Fire Departments Added Short-Wave Radio in 1946  
( "Fire Engineering" )

It is reported that fire departments in eleven cities installed radio equipment in 1946. They were: Lansing, Michigan; Massillon, Ohio; Madison, Wisconsin; Keokuk, Iowa; Monroe, Louisiana; Long Beach, California; Fort Worth, Texas; Cleveland Heights, Ohio; Highland Park, Illinois; Hobbs, New Mexico, and Birmingham, Alabama. In addition many municipalities broadened their use of fire department radio.

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:::: TRADE NOTES ::::  
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Donald Nelson, President, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has been added to the speakers' list at the National Association of Broadcasters' freedom of expression conference in Washington on June 26th. The conference will be attended by leading representatives of the broadcasting, newspaper, magazine and book publishing fields.

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Mrs. Virginia Durr, wife of FCC Commissioner C. J. Durr, and sister of Mrs. Hugo L. Black, wife of Supreme Court Justice Black, was listed in the report of the Committee on Un-American Activities as a Vice-President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare which sponsored the appearance of Henry Wallace in Washington last week.

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Washington, D. C. would have Daylight Saving Time every Summer if Senator J. Howard McGrath (D), of Rhode Island, gets his way.

Senator McGrath, who helped put in daylight time this year, introduced a Senate Bill last Friday to make Daylight Saving Time an annual event. The bill, which was sent to the Senate District Committee, would authorize the Commissioners each year to establish Daylight Saving Time from the last Sunday of April to the last Sunday of September.

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Radio, St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo., has been granted a construction permit for new station by the Federal Communications Commission, on 690 kc., 1 KW, daytime only; engineering conditions.

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Success in the first demonstration of an American television system on the Continent of Europe is reported by Meade Brunet, Vice-President of the Radio Corporation of America and Managing Director of the RCA International Division.

Mr. Brunet said the demonstration, which employed the latest type of RCA television equipment, included a pick up of the complete program of three classic ballets at the celebrated La Scala Opera in Milan, Italy. The RCA television system is being exhibited during the Milan International Fair, which this year commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the invention of radio by Marconi.

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E. Anthony & Sons, Inc., of New Bedford, Mass., have been granted construction permits by the Federal Communications Commission for new Experimental Class 2 (Relay Press) radiocommunication facilities consisting of one land station at its newspaper office and, initially, one mobile unit for use by its newspaper reporters. Frequency 152.75 mc. is assigned on temporary basis in connection with the testing and development of radio systems and equipment for transmitting news for publication or communications pertaining to news-gathering. The proposed operation is similar to that authorized for the Boston Herald-Traveler last January.



Three thousand WLW Mailbag Club members are expected to attend the all-day annual picnic of the club, set for Saturday, July 19 in Sharon Woods, near Cincinnati.

Three top WLW programs will originate from the picnic and most of the station's performers will attend the event. Since 1928 the picnic has grown in importance to become the focal point of the year's Mailbag Club activities.

The Mailbag Club, which has its own monthly publication "Post-Mark", lists some 10,000 members in the WLW listening area, as well as in other portions of the United States and in several other countries.

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Instruction in facsimile newspaper production, including a "short course" for editors claimed to be "the first of its kind in the world", will be inaugurated next Fall at the University of Miami.

Courses will be given in cooperation with the Miami Herald of which John S. Knight, publisher of the Chicago Daily News is also publisher, which is preparing to go into regular facsimile publication.

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Television today broadcasts to regions in which lives nearly 25,000,000 people in eight metropolitan markets, Dan Halpin, RCA Victor Television Receiver Sales Manager, told members of the Electric Institute in Washington, D. C. this week. He estimated that by 1948, television broadcast service will be extended to cover the area in which 10,000,000 additional people live. The stations going on the air between 1948 and mid-1949 will bring television service to, conservatively, 15 additional cities, he added.

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According to a survey recently conducted by ABC's Central Division publicity department in Chicago, midwestern radio editors request to be furnished with story material for their columns of the following types and in the following order : news-angle, human interest, humorous, technical, and holiday. One-fourth of the editors who replied to the survey requested "guest columns" which might be used during vacation periods, periods of illness, etc.

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Three more Statler hotels are to be equipped with "Radaranges", by the Raytheon Mfg. Co. They are the Statlers in Washington, D.C., Buffalo and Cleveland.

The Boston Statler was the first hotel in the world to install "Radaranges" in its kitchen. This new electronic cooking device makes it possible for the hotel to prepare thick lamb chops, with new peas and Hawaiian pineapple, in 55 seconds; the same dish prepared by conventional methods requires 25 minutes. "Radarange" cooks a sirloin steak, medium, in 50 seconds; bakes lobster in two minutes, a large potato in one and a half minutes, chocolate fudge cake in 22 seconds.

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Hampson Gary, former United States Minister to Egypt, and former member of the Federal Communications Commission, entertained at dinner Tuesday evening in Washington at the La Salle du Bois, for Pinkney Tuck, our Ambassador to Egypt, who is in Washington on leave. Mr. Tuck and Mr. Gary have been friends for many years.

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