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August 20, 1947

FDR HAD SHORT-WAVE SET IN WHITE HOUSE BOMB-PROOF SHELTER

That during the War President Roosevelt had a short-wave set secretly installed in the White House bomb-proof air-raid shelter is revealed by Merriman Smith, United Press White House correspondent, in his book, "Thank You, Mr. President". Behind high board fences to prevent the public from knowing what was going on, a tunnel was first dug across from the White House to the Treasury where the President could use the lower Treasury vault as his air-raid refuge until a shelter could be built under the new East Wing of the White House. It had walls 9 ft. thick, included a small kitchen, two bathrooms, a first aid room, double, air-tight steel doors, and as a final precaution, a powerful short-wave sending and receiving set equipped with generators fed by independent motors. Thus, even if the regular power went dead, President Roosevelt could have kept in communication with the outside world without interruption.

Mr. Smith's book, advertised as a Harper & Brothers' "find", and which quickly reached the list of best sellers of the year, refers to other things of radio interest.

For instance, on the day of President Roosevelt's death at Warm Springs, he was to have attended an old-fashioned Georgia barbecue and the barn in which it was to have been held was also equipped with short-wave radio units for the Secret Service. It was through this transmitter, in fact, that Smith received the first intimation that something had gone wrong with the President on that fatal day. Likewise, Shangri-La, President Roosevelt's hideaway in nearby Maryland, had a communications shack which contained a small switch-board with direct connections to the White House and short-wave radio facilities.

The author gives a vivid picture of the scene at the White House just before President Truman made his famous broadcast threatening to use the army to break the railroad strike.

"His radio speech was written like a hot news story just before edition time" Mr. Smith writes. "Actually, the last draft of the copy he read on the air was completed only four minutes before he sat down in the Oval Room of the White House and started speaking into the microphones of four networks.

"As the President's 'reading copy' was completed sheet at a time, Leonard Reinsch, Mr. Truman's radio advisor, ran over the text with him. At four minutes to ten, the last sheet was rushed to the President in the Oval Room. At ten, he looked at Reinsch who brought down his arm in a sharp gesture to signal the President that he was on the air."

Mr. Smith tells about the wartime innovation on the presidential train, and now a fixed piece of equipment, "the miraculous radio car developed by the Army Signal Corps. Whether rolling or not, the radio car maintains constant communication with the White House through short wave and radio teletype. Thus the President always has at his command instantaneous communication facilities with every other world capital."

The author makes an interesting comparison of the speaking abilities of Mr. Roosevelt and former Prime Minister Churchill:

"Churchill was a great, dramatic showman and actually a better speaker than Mr. Roosevelt. Churchill's speeches during the war contained much finer rhetoric than the Roosevelt speeches, but when it came to radio technique, Churchill could not come close.

"To Mr. Roosevelt, the microphone was as much of a political instrument as a ward leader. He knew how to use radio with quality rarely approached by political contemporaries. His deep resonant voice was an organ upon which he played with the skill of a fine musician."

Mr. Smith gives a very realistic description of the White House press and radio conferences. Speaking of the first of these ordeals, he writes:

"The President was as nervous as a Derby favorite at the barrier. He started three times before the reporters were all in the room. Three hundred press and radio reporters were present. Knowing his habit of speaking rapidly, I asked, 'Will you take it sort of slow for us today?'

"The President said he would; glad to do anything he could to accommodate the reporters."

The author speaks in detail of the secret trip to the Pacific during the war where, before leaving the country, President Roosevelt accepted his renomination in a radio address on the Pacific Coast, then sailed quietly for Hawaii without the public being aware that he was absent from the United States. Mr. Smith writes:

"It was difficult for the three wire service reporters and the one radio 'pool' man - Carleton Smith of N.B.C. - to get information that would stick. * * * *

"Admiral Brown told me that we would have to put a Washington date line on the story and say nothing about the President's real whereabouts. I bucked at that; told him a Washington dateline would be an outright lie and that security or

no security, the United Press could not go along with a project of such ridiculous proportions.

"The President had been seen by thousands of people on the way to the West Coast and I didn't get the point of the Admiral's super secrecy."

Mr. Smith then tells how he got to the President personally on this matter and said: "Mr. President the Navy tells me that we must put a Washington dateline on your speech tonight. You know that would be outright dishonesty and we just can't do it."

"'Oh damn, that's a lot of nonsense,' the President replied. 'I say in the first paragraph of my speech that I am speaking from a West Coast naval base. Why not use that for a dateline?'

"'That is fine, Mr. President. We'll use it.'"

Some of those who attended the White House Correspondents' Dinner in the Spring of 1944 wondered if Bob Hope, the radio comedian had not been a little too rough in a reference which he made to Mrs. Roosevelt.

"I sat by the President that night and Hope will never know how much Mr. Roosevelt enjoyed his gentle - sometimes not so gentle - kidding", Mr. Smith writes.

"Mr. Roosevelt got a terrific kick out of Hope's routine. Once was when Bob told how Churchill wanted another conference with the President.

"'Churchill wants to figure out how to open a second front and still keep Eleanor out of the crossfire'", Hope shouted.

"The President laughed so hard that he groaned."

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WQQW VOTES NOT TO SELL "BLUE BOOK" STATION NOW

More than 100 stockholders of Radio Station WQQW in Washington, D. C., last Monday night (August 18) refused to consider sale of the station -- at least for two weeks.

The owners unanimously resolved, during a three-hour closed meeting at the station, to "explore further the possibilities of continued operation."

Its directors a month ago decided to call the stockholders together to determine what is to become of the "good music station."

The stockholders last night voted to meet again at 8:30 p.m. September 3. More than half of the approximately 180 stockholders were present.

The 1000-watt station modeled along the lines of the FCC's famous "Blue Book" attracted Nation-wide attention when it started last January 5 as a "listener-owned" station with restricted commercials.

Edward Brecher, ex-FCC publicist who was in its Law Department and helped prepare the "Blue Book", was the prime-mover behind WQQW. There was set forth a "bill of rights" for the listener, - promises of good (classical) music and promises of only one commercial each 15 minutes. Of late there have been rumors that the station is as much as \$180,000 in the red and that Drew Pearson had offered \$110,000 for it.

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SHAKELFORD, RCA, SLATED FOR NEXT IRE PRESIDENT

B. E. Shakelford has been nominated for the presidency of the Institute of Radio Engineers for 1948. Dr. Shakelford is manager of the license department of R.C.A. International Division, New York. Election returns will be final October 24, 1947. R. L. Smith-Rose, superintendent of the radio division of the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, England has been nominated for the vice-presidency of the Institute.

Two directors-at-large will be elected for the period 1948-1950 from the following nominees:

B. deF. Bayly, consulting engineer at the University of Toronto, Canada; A. B. Chamberlain, chief engineer of the Columbia Broadcasting system, New York; J. E. Shepherd, research engineer, Sperry Gyroscope Company, Great Neck, L. I., and J. E. Stratton, director of the research laboratory of electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

One regional director will be elected for each designated region from the following nominees, for 1948:

The North Central Atlantic Region:

J.V.L. Hogan, president of Faximile, Inc., New York; F. A. Polkinghorn, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, and H. P. Westman, associate editor of "Electrical

Communication," International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, New York.

The East Central Region:

W. A. Dickinson, Sylvania Products, Emporium, Pa.; P. L. Hoover, professor of electrical engineering, Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, and J. A. Hutcheson, associate director of research, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, East Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Southern Region:

Ben Akerman, chief engineer, WGST, Atlanta; and A. E. Cullum, Jr., consulting radio engineer, Dallas, Texas.

The Canadian Region:

F. S. Howes, associate professor of electrical engineering, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, and F.H.R. Pounsett, chief engineer, Stromberg Carlson, Ltd., Toronto, Canada.

One regional director will be elected for each designated Region from the following nominees, for 1948 and 1949:

The North Atlantic Region:

L. E. Packard, treasurer of Technology Instrument Corporation, Waltham, Mass., and H. J. Reich, professor of electrical engineering at Dunham Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

The Central Atlantic Region:

J. B. Coleman of Haddonfield, N. J.; assistant director of engineering, Radio Corporation of America, Camden, N. J.

The Central Region:

T. A. Hunter, president of the Hunter Manufacturing Company, Iowa City, Iowa, and W. O. Swinyard, chief engineer, Hazeltine Research, Inc., Chicago, Ill.

The Pacific Region:

F. E. Terman, dean of the school of engineering, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

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DREW PEARSON PLANS TO BREAK UP W. VA. PRESS-RADIO MONOPOLIES

Drew Pearson, Washington radio commentator and columnist, plans to establish one or two daily newspapers in West Virginia "to break up some monopolies."

Mr. Pearson named Wheeling as the likely starting point for the venture. Both newspapers there are operated by the Ogden chain, property of the late H. C. Ogden estate.

"I have long contemplated bucking some of the newspaper monopolies, where one company dominates the field with newspapers and radio stations," he declared.

He said the project will be undertaken "with some other people," but declined to name them. Possible second point for establishment of a newspaper would be Parkersburg, he said.

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NATIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU APPOINTS REBER, RADIO PHYSICIST

Grote Reber, 35-year-old radio physicist and engineer, has been appointed to the staff of the National Bureau of Standards.

Reber is to direct several new projects aimed at extending present knowledge of conditions indirectly affecting radio communication. He will investigate the sources of radio noise, both cosmic and solar.

A B.S. graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1933, Reber has done graduate work in physics at the University of Chicago, and is the author of technical papers in the electrical engineering and interstellar static fields.

He is now supervising erection of a German Giant Wurzburg, an extremely large and powerful radar device which will be used to detect solar and cosmic radiations that penetrate the earth's atmosphere.

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BAN ON WASHINGTON, D. C. STREET LOUDSPEAKERS

Clark F. King, assistant corporation counsel in the Criminal Division of Municipal Court in Washington, D. C., announced this week that shop owners with noisy devices have until September 15 to turn off blaring loudspeakers in the vicinity of radio stores and elsewhere.

After that, he will prosecute owners of offending devices, he said, and impose stiff penalties under the application of the code, which provides a maximum of \$300 fine or 90 days in jail, or both.

King estimated he had received about 100 complaints recently about loudspeakers sounding off outside of stores, from people who told him the mechanical noise kept them from (1) sleeping, (2) hearing their own radios, (3) carrying on conversations or (4) walking along sidewalks blocked by impromptu radio-television audiences.

Prosecutions will follow justified police or citizen complaints after September 15, King said, who added that the District has been lenient up to now because there were few complaints until recently, when the racket apparently became worse. The District has been enforcing anti-blast statutes only in cases where the noise has brought complaints.

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PRESS WIRELESS WINS HELP OF REFEREE IN BANKRUPTCY PETITION

Orders were signed last Saturday by Federal Referee Irwin Kurtz permitting Press Wireless, Inc., of 1475 Broadway, to continue in business and enjoining two creditors from proceeding with court actions in a reorganization proceeding under the National Bankruptcy Act filed in Federal Court last Friday. Press Wireless transmits wireless press dispatches between this and foreign countries.

A. Warren Norton, president of the organization, filed a petition on Friday for an arrangement to pay off creditors in full over a period of three years and listing liabilities at \$1,205,946.27 and assets at \$1,832,218.73.

Referee Kurtz' orders enjoin Maguire Industries, Inc., from proceeding with an action brought against Press Wireless in Supreme Court, New York County, to recover \$45,993.80 for goods sold and delivered and stays Woolford Production, Inc., from proceeding with a suit in Municipal Court to collect \$234.

One order not only stays the two specific suits but also any other suit that may be contemplated. The second order continuing Press Wireless in business authorizes it to conduct business in the usual way and pay all new indebtedness as it is incurred.

The concern's largest unsecured creditor is the Ministry of Posts, Telegraph and Telephone, Paris, with a claim of \$164,269 against the organization. Other creditors include

the Chinese Government Radio Administration, The New York Times, The Associated Press, International News Service, The New York Herald Tribune, The United Press and the United States Treasury.

Press Wireless was established in 1929 by a group of newspapers as "a copy boy for the press of the world." In 1936, Press Wireless handled 8,184,549 words of press messages. In 1945 business reached the peak of 63,112,941 words.

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MACKAY RADIO CONTESTS PRESS WIRELESS NON-PRESS SERVICE BID

Intervening in the application of Press Wireless for modification of licenses to handle deferred commercial messages, All America Cables & Radio, Mackay Radio and associated companies state that such a grant for non-press users would be inconsistent with the purposes for which frequencies were allocated to meet the news requirements of the American press and would not be in the public interest.

According to a brief filed with the FCC by James A. Kennedy, attorney for the intervenors, there are ample cable and radio facilities and transmission capacity available in the communications systems of other carriers to serve each of the 15 countries to which Press Wireless proposes to offer a limited commercial service for non-press users and that such service as Press Wireless might provide would be limited in scope and "even assuming foreign agreement to the handling of such service could be obtained, it does not appear that such revenues as Press Wireless might thereby obtain would be sufficient to alleviate in any important respect its present financial difficulties. This is especially so since Applicant is not now offering, as it had originally proposed, to handle commercial deferred and nightletter traffic at less than the standard rates applied by other carriers. Moreover, Press Wireless, having public telegraph offices in only three cities, New York, Washington, D. C. and San Francisco, would not share in the unrouted traffic originated at interior points in the United States by Western Union."

"Moreover, a departure from the principle of allocating 'radio frequencies exclusively for the transmission of news' would be inconsistent with the purposes for which the Press Wireless was created and contrary to the views expressed on behalf of the American Newspaper Publishers Association as recently as two years ago."

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PHILCO EARNS \$2,425,121 IN SECOND QUARTER OF 1947

Net income from operations of Philco Corporation in the second quarter of 1947 totaled \$1,626,974 after all taxes and charges including an inventory reserve of \$1,200,000, and reserve for future research expenditures, and was equivalent, after preferred dividends, to \$1.12 per share of common stock. In addition, there was net non-recurring income of \$798,147 after taxes, or 58 cents per common share, so that total earnings for the quarter amounted to \$2,425,121 or \$1.70 per share after preferred dividends.

In the first quarter of 1947, net income totaled \$1,609,754 after taxes and charges including an inventory reserve of \$1,300,000, and was equivalent to \$1.10 per share of common stock after allowing for preferred dividends. In the second quarter of 1946, when operations were just beginning to recover from reconversion difficulties, net income amounted to \$14,787.

Sales (including excise taxes) of Philco Corporation in the second quarter of 1947 amounted to \$57,754,000 as compared with \$50,187,000 in the first quarter of this year, and \$22,861,000 in the second quarter of 1946.

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ONE TELEPHONE OPERATOR YOU CAN'T TALK BACK TO

For three weeks, the WTOP-CBS Washington, D. C., switchboard queen will be able to talk to thousands of people secure in the knowledge that not one can talk back to her.

For Miss Marie McGrain, veteran switchboard operator, will substitute for "Uncle Bill" Jenkins on the 5:30-7:30 AM "Corn Squeezin'" morning program while Uncle Bill takes a vacation starting August 25.

Deep-voiced Marie, famed for her salty, direct talk, never before has had a program. She has seldom appeared on the air. But her telephone training at switchboards in Washington in the Raleigh Hotel, the old Congressional Apartments and the Union Station (where she was the first woman employee and chief operator for 10 years), gives her plenty of experience in talking to any and every one. And for three glorious weeks they can't talk back!

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PETRILLO BAN IS BLOW TO FM; HOLDS OFF MAKING RECORDS

Opinion in Washington was that James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians in refusing to lift his prohibition against the simultaneous broadcasting of music on AM (standard) and FM (frequency modulation) radio stations had further gummed up the FM situation. Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, predicted serious delay in the development of FM. J. N. Bailey, director of the FM Association, contended that the Petrillo ban constituted a violation of the Taft-Hartley Labor Law and the Lea "Anti-Petrillo" Act. Mr. Bailey declared his intention of calling Petrillo's action to the attention of the Department of Justice.

Simultaneously with the FM edict Mr. Petrillo declared in Chicago that the American Federation of Musicians had decided to set aside for the time being at least its plan to manufacture its own musical recordings for broadcasts. He said: "It looks like we would be brought into court on charges of violating the anti-trust act if we made records. We don't want to fool around with the laws of the country."

The text of Mr. Petrillo's telegram sent from his Chicago headquarters to the presidents of the four networks read:

"Since our meeting of July in Chicago, at which we discussed AM and FM broadcasting, consideration has been given to your request to permit members of the American Federation of Musicians to render service for both AM and FM programs simultaneously.

"The federation holds that FM broadcasting is separate and distinct from AM broadcasting. The Federal Communications Commission licenses each FM station separately, assigns individual call letters and channels, and the station is required to comply with all FCC regulations.

"Many FM stations have no affiliation with either an AM station or a network, and could not possibly enjoy the benefits of AM programs even if the federation were willing to permit this dual service.

"Certainly the FM station with no AM affiliation is just as deserving and should not suffer this competition disadvantage. Neither should the federation be a party to such discrimination.

"We must bear in mind that the number of FM stations will eventually number into the thousands, and the present network facilities could not possibly feed all these stations.

"Locals of the American Federation of Musicians are ready and willing to negotiate wage scales and conditions for FM broadcasting. At the present time there are a number of FM stations employing musicians and it would not be sound policy for the federation to eliminate this employment and potential employment in other stations by agreeing to service both AM and FM simultaneously.

"The Federation does not insist that FM stations employ musicians but if they do need musicians locals will be ready and willing to negotiate contracts. This would give the FM stations the benefit of live music, and also give the public the chance to hear FM, and in return, musicians will have employment opportunities."

Mr. Petrillo predicted that the number of FM stations, now 204, would be increased to 3,000 in eighteen months. There are 1,320 licensed AM stations. Almost 3,000 network and AM station musicians are now drawing annual salaries of almost \$23,000,000, he said. No figures were available on the number of musicians working at FM stations.

At this writing no comment had been forthcoming from the networks but President Miller of NAB declared that Petrillo's action would mean a continuation of the FM stalemate.

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DAWSON IS NEW NAB ASSISTANT INFORMATION DIRECTOR

James Dawson, newspaper and radio news editor, has been named assistant director of information of the National Association of Broadcasters. At present Mr. Dawson is news editor and director of programs at WFBC, Greenville, S. C., a position he has held since release from active duty as a naval reserve officer. His four years in the Navy included three years of duty as a combat intelligence officer in the Pacific, beginning in the Solomons and continuing through the final Third Fleet campaign off the coast of Japan.

Prior to the war, Mr. Dawson operated his own advertising agency, Dawson, Inc., in Greenville, having previously served as managing editor of the Augusta, (Ga.) Chronicle. He began his newspaper career as a member of the Greenville Piedmont editorial staff, and was subsequently associate managing editor of the S. C. Newsview. Mr. Dawson was born in New Bern, North Carolina in 1910 and is the son of James B. Dawson, well-known North Carolina newspaper publisher.

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THEY CAN'T SEEM TO LEARN - "POMPEII" BROADCAST FOOLS PUBLIC

Mount Vesuvius "erupted" so realistically during last Monday night's radio dramatization of "The Last Days of Pompeii" that people called The Washington Star and Station WTOP, CBS outlet in Washington, D. C., to inquire the name of the announcer who "burned with the buildings."

Switchboards at The Star and WTOP became busy just after the lines "Mount Vesuvius has erupted," the "old mountain is on fire," and "the lions are running out," crackled through the ether to District listeners. A woman inquired if it was really "true that Rome was burning."

John Daly, correspondent for CBS News in New York, offered an explanation after stressing that the broadcast was only a play and recalling the excitement when Orson Welles broadcast his drama of the invasion of the earth by men from Mars.

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BENTON OFFERS TO SHARE SHORT WAVES WITH SMALLER NATIONS

Wm. Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, addressing delegates of the International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference at Atlantic City last week offered to relinquish some of the short broadcasting facilities of the United States to enable smaller nations to engage in world-wide communication.

"Frequency-sharing is an innovation in international affairs. At first glance frequency-sharing may seem to entail a loss of sovereignty.

"However, that is not the view of the United States. Frequency-sharing appears to us in the United States to be a means through which high-frequency broadcasting can continue to grow as a world force.

"It may be necessary for some nations now to reduce their operations somewhat. The United States is willing to reduce its transmitters, and we are willing to accept fewer frequencies than we are now using. If other nations will do the same, all of us should be able to obtain a fair and equitable share in the available frequencies.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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Warns Against FTC Moving In On Radio Programs
 (Dorothy Holloway in "Variety")

A strong warning that if the Federal Trade Commission moves against the broadcast of racing results and track info as an unfair trade practice, "a logical extension of this philosophy would give FTC the right to examine the content of every radio program on the air," is contained in a memorandum filed on the q.t. with the agency by Cohn & Marks, counsel for WGAY, Silver Spring, Md. The counter-blast against FTC entry into the radio program field came as the agency mulled the first request in history from a broadcaster who wants the Commission to restrain as "unfair competition" a racing stint on WGAY and a money-give-away aired by WARL, Arlington, Va. WWDC, local indie which dropped similar shows last year, asked for the relief.

The entire broadcast industry has a large stake in the controversy, it is believed, since FTC authority might be used to bulwark that of FCC in the program field. And an increasing number of stations are fighting stiffer competition by resorting to use of race shows, money-give-aways and quiz shows with lottery-like features.

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News Still At Top Of List In Radio
 (Jerry Walker in "Editor & Publisher")

On one side of the desk is Radio Daily's annual symposium on "Radio Programs.... What Will They Be Like?" On the other side is a copy of an inter-department memo at National Broadcasting Co. "To Sydney Eiges from H. M. Beville, Jr., on the subject, Readership Study."

The first, the outlook for radio programming, can be disposed of quickly. "Trends" discerned in a survey of 636 program directors give a decided preference to Music shows. Next, right up there in No. 2 spot, comes News.

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As a matter of cold figures, Radio Daily's special number lists no fewer than 70 shows, of all sorts, built on news, available to broadcasters. . . . More substantial for the purpose of discussion, is the fare in the Eiges-Beville memo, the former being chief of NBC's Press Department and the latter being director of research for that network.

* * * * *

One of the first things the analysis revealed was that readership of radio news varies considerably between large and

small cities. While any average of 46% of the men and 58% of the women readers of newspapers in cities of 1,000,000 or more read the radio news, only 16% of the men and 25% of the women in towns of 25,000 to 50,000 reported having read the radio news.

It should be remembered that 79 of the 106 studies were in cities over 100,000 (and four had no radio listings at all). Not many newspapers in cities of 50,000 or under have local radio columnists, and few have more than three stations to list. Folks there can keep track of their favorite programs by habit or memory.

Phone Calls From Trains By Radio
(Ward Allan Howe in "New York Times")

For the first time in this country, passengers on moving railroad trains can now make telephone calls to and receive calls from any telephone connected with the Bell System as well as with telephones in many foreign countries.

The service was started last week on an experimental basis by the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad on the crack trains of each road between New York and Washington, the Pennsylvania's Congressional and the B. & O.'s Royal Blue. The Congressional leaves Pennsylvania Station here at 4:30 P. M. and the Royal Blue leaves Jersey City at 9:35 A. M., daylight time. The telephone service is available in both directions.

The Pennsylvania plans to extend the service next Friday to include its Potomac northbound from Washington and its Legislator southbound from New York.

Space has been set aside in the lounge car of each train for the telephoning, part of the car having been re-designed to afford privacy to passengers using the service.

Bankers May Use Television
(Noran E. Kersta in "Radio Age")

Television could be a valuable adjunct in banking procedure. Obvious applications would be the instantaneous transmission of signatures from the teller's cage to a central identification file where an endorsement, as it appeared on a screen, could be compared instantly with the original. Also, a television camera directed on the patron could project the scene to a "photograph identification section" for even more foolproof and positive identification.

When television expands, it is logical to prophesy that the ten-year-old youth of the next generation will know more about the world, its industries, its governments and its peoples than his grandfather knew in his entire lifetime.

::: TRADE NOTES :::
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Joseph L. Egan, president of the Western Union, stated to stockholders last week: The Federal Communications Commission's authorization of increases in international cable and radio message rates from the United States to Europe, the British Isles, Central and South America, Cuba and Far Eastern points is expected to provide Western Union with additional annual revenues of approximately \$1,500,000.

Public offering of 75,000 shares of United States Television Manufacturing Corp., \$4 par value 5 per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock was made this week at \$4 per share. Net proceeds are to be used for general corporate purposes as additional working capital.

Barry Gray, WOR's platter-and-chatter artist, was elected chairman of the National Association of Disc Jockeys at its convention in Chicago last week. Another WOR disc jockey, 5-year-old Robin Morgan, was on the dais as Gray presided.

Dr. V. K. Zworykin, Vice President and Technical Consultant of RCA Laboratories, Princeton, N. J., left New York Saturday aboard the Queen Elizabeth to attend important engineering conferences in Belgium, France and Italy. Recognized internationally as an authority on television, Dr. Zworykin will represent the National Academy of Sciences at the Liege (Belgium) Congress, September 8.

Dr. Zworykin will address a conference of the French Society of Electrical Engineers at the Sorbonne, Paris, September 1. As representative of the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Physics, he will attend an international conference of radio engineers at Rome to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the invention of radio by Marconi.

There are an estimated 14,500 FM sets in use in the Washington area, according to a recent survey made by The Washington Post. Until this survey was made, 8000 plus was the best figure available.

The advertising and sales promotional plans of the Home Radio Division of Westinghouse Electric Corp. will support the new radio "for every room in the house" program of the Radio Manufacturers Association. In connection with this campaign RMA is offering to radio retailers a new 35 mm. Kodachrome film entitled "Let's Get Personal" which runs for 12 minutes. The film shows that 93% of American homes now have at least one radio.

The first employee to be awarded an RCA Fellowship is Harry J. Woll, advanced development engineer at the Company's Camden plant. Mr. Woll will devote a year to graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania, working toward the Ph.D. degree. During this period he will give full time to study and research. The Fellowship provides a contribution by RCA of \$1800, in addition to approximately \$600 for tuition, fees, and other expenses.

WPIK, Washington, D. C., began duplicating its sunrise to sunset operations on FM this week, and also offers additional programs on FM only, until 10 p.m. The FM broadcasts will be on 98.3 megacycles.

WCFM, the FM station to be built near the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, has announced that its facilities will be combined with those of the Konsum gasoline station where station manager H. F. Kern now makes his headquarters.

WPIK-FM is Washington's sixth FM station and WCFM will probably be the seventh. This in addition to 12 standard wave stations in the metropolitan area.

Colleges Asked To Find Use for Electronic Surplus.-- Engineering schools throughout the Nation are being asked by War Assets Administration to figure out educational uses for some 100 million dollars worth of surplus electronic equipment with no commercial value.

Aiding WAA in selecting these schools is Dr. S. S. Steinberg, dean of the engineering school, Maryland University, and head of the Engineering Colleges Administrative Counsel.

Results of the studies will be made available to all schools. The materials found of value for educational purposes will go to the Federal Works Agency and will be put up for sale to State educational agencies at 5% of fair value.

Ex-Wave Becomes WGAY, Washington, D. C., Disk Jockey -- An ex-Wave has joined the staff of radio station WGAY and WGAY-FM, Silver Spring, a suburb of Washington, D. C., as an early morning "disk-jockey."

She is Miss Florence Eisen who is heard each weekday morning from 7:30 to 9 o'clock as "Florence -- Girl Disc Jockey."

She came to Washington from Brooklyn with a contingent of Waves during the war. She was assigned to the Navy Department here as a yeoman. After her discharge, she studied dramatics at a Washington drama school and then went to work for WGAY as a typist.

British Bid U.N. Fight Curbs on Radio Sets.-- Great Britain will propose to the United Nations Economic and Social Council that the 1948 international conference on freedom of information investigate any governmental restrictions against private citizens' owning or operating radio sets of their own selection.