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No. 1793

## SMALL AUDIENCE GREET'S PETRILLO'S FREE WASHINGTON CONCERT

Attendance was very disappointing at the grand free concert given to the citizens of Washington, D. C. by James C. Petrillo and Local 161, the Washington Musicians Union. It took place at the Watergate in Washington on the banks of the Potomac River in a beautiful setting at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial. Preparations had been made for a capacity audience but the comparatively few who attended were almost lost in the gloom of empty seats.

Costs of the concert at the Watergate, which is operated by the Government, were met from the much talked of recording royalty relief fund of the American Federation of Musicians derived from the manufacture and sale of recordings and radio transcriptions, which are now being used by Mr. Petrillo to further the cause of music throughout the country and to give work to unemployed and disabled musicians.

The Washington local musicians union's share was \$16,000. Some of it has been spent by sending dance orchestras to city playgrounds and smaller groups of musicians to the Veterans Administration hospitals. The Watergate concert was to be the big final splurge. A payroll of \$1,572 was distributed for the concert among the instrumentalists comprising a 64-piece band organized for the event. Each player received \$24 - \$12 for the concert at symphony rates and \$12 for going through the program twice at a rehearsal.

Seats were available for 5,550 persons with standing room for several thousand more but Edward Kelly, Assistant Superintendent of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in charge of Watergate told this writer that only 1,200 attended Mr. Petrillo's concert.

Commenting upon the poor turnout, George Kennedy wrote in the Washington Evening Star:

"About \$1,500 worth of music was given away last night at the Water Gate with few takers. The donors were James C. Petrillo, of the American Federation of Musicians and the Washington Musicians' Union.

"The listeners, scattered among the seats for thousands on the banks of the Potomac, apparently included a large proportion of fellow union members and the families of the performers.

"Paul J. Schwartz, President of Local 161, explained after the concert that none of the money that came from the national union could be used for promotion of the concert, and that his local had no funds.

"'If people knew what we were giving away tonight', he said, 'there would be more here.'

"Leon Brusiloff, local theatre leader who conducted the improvised Water Gate orchestra said that, if the experiment ever is repeated, it would be well to let some organization sell tickets for charitable purposes.

"'They could keep all the money and they would bring a bigger crowd here", Brusiloff said."

Music critic Paul Hume expressed this opinion in the Washington Post:

"We doubt seriously that the cause of music was furthered in any way by the concert, since the selections were of the genre heard regularly over the average radio program; popular in nature, and less than featherweight. But we do highly approve of the generous use made of the fund both here and in other cities."

"The audience was small, a circumstance traceable directly to inadequate publicity, there having been no admission fee", Glen Dillard Gunn wrote in the Washington Times-Herald. "Evidently the local union has much to learn about concert promotion."

Mr. Gunn was undoubtedly correct but inquiry into this angle brought the response that there was a clause in the Petrillo fund allowance that no money was to be spent for advertising or promotion.

"When we first planned this, we got together a committee of the leading people in music in the Capital", Mr. Schwartz was quoted as saying. "They suggested a program for a symphony orchestra. The national office had to pass on it. They asked, 'What's in this for the dance band boys?' So we decided to give a concert with the kind of music most people like.' It's too bad we didn't have the money to let them know about it."

Unquestionably the newspapers and broadcasting stations would have given advance notice of the event if they had been kept informed, but one of the local music critics remarked to the writer, "Union musicians don't do anything without being paid and wouldn't even take the trouble of trying to secure a little free publicity for themselves because no funds had been provided for that purpose.

"Also the local union musicians were not any too happy about the way the musicians and soloists to be paid were selected. The main committee composed of critics and other musical people met only twice in the beginning but after that the thing was run by a little clique who evidently favored their own people instead of the needy and disabled musicians for which the fund was supposedly intended. If the needy had secured the work, they could have at least paid their union back dues. Instead, prosperous musicians and soloists were chosen. This part of it was even more secret than the advance publicity."

The critic above mentioned expressed the opinion that it would have been better for Mr. Petrillo to have given the needy



and disabled union musicians the money outright.

The Petrillo broadcast recording relief fund now reported to be in the millions is administered exclusively by the AFM union. Some of the money is being distributed to the local unions and used for such purposes as subsidizing symphonic music and public concerts. The declared purpose is to develop the use of "live music" and provide employment for musicians. However, such welfare funds become subject to the new Taft-Hartley law when current contracts expire January 1st. The law stipulates that such payments must be held in trust for the purpose of paying only for medical or hospital care, pensions, compensation for injuries resulting from occupational activity, unemployment benefits, life insurance, etc.

Faced with this, Petrillo and his associates are reported to have almost decided to advise disk companies that their members will not make records after December 31st. Definite action will depend upon a musicians union meeting to be held in Chicago October 15th.

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#### COL. McCORMICK CALLS FCC "COMMISSARS'" THREAT TO FREE RADIO

One of the very few broadcasters who dares to say exactly what he thinks of the Federal Communications Commission is Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune and operator of Station WGN. Describing threats to American freedoms at a luncheon of the Constitution Day Committee celebrating the 160th anniversary of the nation's basic law in Chicago, he declared the sources of danger were: An oversized, aristocratic army, the Federal Communications Commission, the Postmaster General, the Department of Justice, certain members of Congress and a group of crackpot professors.

In his reference to the Federal Communications Commission and broadcasting, Colonel McCormick said:

"No one has alleged that freedom of speech, as guaranteed in the 1st amendment, has been affected by speech over instruments. No one has questioned the right to speak freely over the telephone or into the phonograph.

"The interference with freedom of speech over the air is not based upon the large audience reached. Indeed at the time the 1st amendment was adopted, speaking trumpets were in use and halls were designed for their acoustical effects.

"No, the interference with freedom of speech over the air is based, as one might have expected, on the doctrine of communism, accepted in principle by Congress and administered, as is communism, for the benefit of the single party system.

"When broadcasting became known, far-seeing, speculative, or scientifically-minded men bought broadcasting instruments as



centuries ago men bought printing presses or, perhaps a better precedent, as men settled on the public domain. Some less far-sighted men bought out the first users. Others, oblivious of the rights of the owners, infringed upon their wave lengths. Confusion resulted.

"The matter should have been left to the courts to construe under the common law, but Congress chose communism on the theory that the people who did buy transmitting instruments and devoted their time and money to broadcasting had no rights to the airways, and that those who did not devote a cent or a minute to broadcasting had all the rights, and that a commission of commissars should administer them.

"It is as though commissars should take and distribute the farmers' grain which, by the way, is also in the wind.

"The communist form of government has not prevented the limitation of program production to four chains, as compared with thousands of newspapers and scores of magazines. As a matter of fact, time has shown that there are more wave lengths than there are organizations able to produce acceptable programs. That political influence is feared by chains and stations alike is attested by the fact that there is no excess to which administration supporters may not go and do go, while chains and stations refuse to accept the most parliamentary of anti-administration speakers, even when they are sponsored and the time paid for, and that free time on the air must be given for administration political speakers and withheld from anti-administration political speeches. This is the price we pay for putting communism into our form of government and denying freedom of speech to the radio."

Charging censorship in the movies, Colonel McCormick said:

"How viciously it can be administered", he said, "we recently have learned when the movies were forced to support Communism, in particular to put on that utterly false play, 'Mission to Moscow'.

"As you know, the well-censored New York stage is predominantly anti-American."

"Subversive influences", he said, "have called for paper allocation. Such allocation would put in the hands of the commissars powers similar to those exercised by radio commissars.

"Paper would be allocated to administration supporters and withheld from administration opponents."

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The Federal Communications Commission last week adopted an Order which reinstated and extended, or simply extended, as the case might be, all Temporary Limited Radiotelegraph Second Class Operator Licenses which have expired or would otherwise expire before July 1, 1948. The purpose of this Commission action is to enable holders of this class of license to help meet the existing shortage of licensed radiotelegraph operations.

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## NAB TO BE UNDER NEW CODE FEB. 1; DENNY DEFENDS PRESS STORY

Although there may still be a stormy road ahead and plenty of hot discussions, everything now seems to be all set for the new code adopted by the National Association of Broadcasters' Convention at Atlantic City to be in operation February 1st. The final work of the NAB Board of Directors last week was to order the Code as adopted by the convention mailed to the entire membership asking for any further criticism or suggestions which must be in hand not later than November 1st.

Then the controversial features of the Code will be revised for final action to be taken by the Board. President Justin Miller will keep in touch with Chairman Charles R. Denny, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission with regard to any new developments.

And the mention of Chairman Denny brings to mind one of the most unusual incidents from a newspaper standpoint that happened during the convention. It came about through a small-sized sensation being created by Jack Gould, Radio Editor of the New York Times quoting Chairman Denny as saying code compliance might be a proper subject for FCC inquiry in acting upon station license renewals. It was generally thought seeing what a storm this had kicked up that Mr. Denny, following the grand old Washington custom, might hedge and charge that he had been misquoted.

However, the FCC Chairman not only stood by his guns but in a way this writer has never seen in his long years of experience, Denny stood by the reporter. Furthermore, he accorded the additional consideration to Mr. Gould of having George O. Gillingham, FCC's star press-man, immediately send the explanation out as an addition to his set speech which had previously been sent to press and radio.

Addressing the great convention at Atlantic City and digressing from his prepared speech, Chairman Denny referred to the newspaper story as follows:

"The discussion seems to have gotten away from the point whether the proposed code is good or bad. Instead, there is a lot of speculation about what I did or didn't say in response to a question from Jack Gould of the New York Times. Let's read Jack's article:

"Jack asked me what I thought of the code. Now I quote from the article: 'Charles R. Denny, Jr., Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, said he had not read the code, and, accordingly was not prepared to express an opinion on its contents.'

"Then Jack asked, 'Suppose they adopt a code and then a few stations don't live up to it?'

"Now I quote again from his article: 'At the same time he expressed the opinion that it would be an appropriate subject of



"inquiry" by the F.C.C. if a station sought a renewal of its license, yet had not adhered to the minimum standards adopted by the industry as a whole.' 'I think we ought to at least ask about it', Mr. Denny remarked.'

"The article is correct. Every word of it and every comma of it. Jack is a good reporter.

"The Commission is not going to tell you what kind of a code you should adopt. That is your problem. Personally, I believe that some corrective action is needed in your industry and a good sound code would be a forward step."

The new Code was endorsed not only by Niles Trammell, President of the National Broadcasting Company, who was first under the wire and made a real fight for it, but by the heads of all four networks.

Mr. Trammell said:

"It is my hope and feeling that this new code will rid our industry of many of the abuses for which broadcasters have been criticized and will enable us to further improve our service to both the listener and advertiser."

Dr. Frank Stanton, President of the Columbia Broadcasting System, said: "CBS fully endorses the standards of practice adopted by NAB and pledges its unqualified support of this forward step in the improvement of radio programs throughout the country. It is heartening to see this general industry-wide acceptance of the proposal outlined by William S. Paley, Chairman of the Board of CBS, at the NAB convention last October."

"We believe that the new code of standards will be a blueprint for the further improvement of American radio, he concluded.

Mark Woods, ABC president, said: "We have always been in favor of a code. We are studying in detail the ramifications of the present code, and we will consult with our affiliated stations and make a detailed report on our position at a later time."

Edgar Kobak, President of the Mutual Broadcasting System, said, "The industry is making progress."

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TAM CRAVEN RE-ELECTED N.A.B. DIRECTOR; HAS UNIQUE RECORD

Commander T.A.M. Craven, of Washington, who was re-elected a Director of the medium size station division of the National Association of Broadcasters at Atlantic City, has in addition to his personal popularity a record unique among broadcasters because (a) basically he is one of the best known radio engineers in the country; (b) he served with distinction first as Chief Engineer of the

Federal Communications Commission and later as a member of the Commission itself; (c) is now Vice-President of the Cowles Broadcasting Company and (d) is also General Manager of WOL, the Cowles station in Washington.

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## WASHINGTON SOON TO HAVE AS MANY TELEVISION STATIONS AS NYC

Washington, itself destined to be one of the video capitals of the world, on or about October 1st will add its third television station and then will have the same number of television stations as are now operating in New York City. Furthermore, a fourth Washington station now under construction will begin telecasting next Spring.

The National Capital's newest station which will make its bow within the next few weeks will be WMAL-TV, owned and operated by the Washington Evening Star. The fourth Washington station, scheduled to start early in 1948, will be WOIC, owned and operated by the Bamberger Service, Inc., in New York City.

The two stations now operating in Washington / <sup>are</sup> WNBW, of the National Broadcasting Company and WTTG, operated by A. B. Dumont and managed by Leslie Arries. The three New York City stations are WCBW, Columbia Broadcasting System, WNBT, National Broadcasting Company and WABD, Dumont.

WMAL-TV's transmitter in Washington will be at the American University in the northwest section of the city about a mile above the Washington Cathedral. Studios will be downtown in the Commonwealth Building on K Street, a half a block west of the Statler. In the same building is RCA Communications, office of F. P. Guthrie, Assistant Vice-President, and next door Station WOL skippered by Commander T.A.M. Craven. This will bring together a group of old friends as Kenneth Berkeley, General Manager of WMAL and WMAL-TV, is also a veteran in the business and was associated with Mr. Guthrie for years in the development of WRC.

Mr. Berkeley has just announced that effective October 1st, Burke Crotty, for more than eight years Director of Special Events for NBC television in New York, will take over as Director of Television for WMAL-TV, in Washington. Mr. Crotty, who is 36 years old, has quite a record in radio and television, having produced the first Army and Navy game, first television coverage of Republican Convention and the Louis-Conn fight, etc.

WMAL TV will telecast on Channel 7 (174 to 180 megacucles) using a new 5-kilowatt RCA transmitter - the first unit to be built for the higher commercial frequencies.

Plans also call for the installation of a two-section RCA Pylon antenna for the Star's FM station, WMAL-FM. The Super Turnstile will be mounted atop the Pylon. By using RCA's recently



announced duplexing system, it will be possible to broadcast FM and television picture and sound simultaneously from the same antenna system.

Mr. Berkeley has already signed up the Washington Redskin pro football games. Likewise those of Georgetown and George Washington. WMAL-TV will also be used to train American University students who are signed up for the college's new radio-video curriculum, under the direction of WMAL's Special Events Director. The University is committed to produce around 52 hours of television programs a year.

News came only this week that the Bamberger Broadcasting Service had concluded a contract with RCA for the purchase of a 5 KW television transmitter for delivery to its Washington, D. C. television station WOIC, and a contract with the General Electric Company for a similar transmitter for WOR-TV, which will also be the fourth station in New York City.

WOIC's new transmitter, RCA Type TT-5A, is scheduled for delivery in March, 1948, and will be installed on the highest point in Washington, at 40th and Brandywine Streets, about a mile north of the Washington Cathedral, where the elevation is 412 feet above sea level. An RCA 6-bay Super Turnstile television transmitting antenna mounted on a 300 foot tower, used in conjunction with the TT-5A will give the transmitter an effective output power of approximately 35-thousand watts, providing a signal which will cover a 40 mile radius. It will operate in channel 9, which is in the 182-192 megacycle band.

The RCA TT-5A has already been delivered to WNBW in Washington; KSD, St. Louis, WFIL, Philadelphia; WTMJ, Milwaukee; WLW, Cincinnati; WBZ, Boston; and KOB, Albuquerque. Further deliveries of the RCA transmitter are being made at the rate of three a month.

Cities to receive the TT-5A in addition to the ones mentioned above, include New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Toledo, Newark, Buffalo, Dallas, Detroit, and St. Paul.

J. R. Poppele, Vice-President of WOR, New York and President of the Television Broadcasters' Association, is likewise in charge of the construction of WOIC, the Bamberger station in Washington, which is expected to represent an expenditure of approximately a half a million dollars. NBC's WNBW has cost about the same.

Mr. Poppele in a speech in Philadelphia last week predicted that by next June there would be 500,000 television sets in operation throughout the country.

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## PETRILLO SIGNS SCHOOL MUSIC AGREEMENT - INTERLOCHEN EXCLUDED

James C. Petrillo, President of the American Federation of Musicians, last Monday in Chicago signed a "code of ethics" with two educational institutions for performances not in rivalry with the Musicians Union. However, the National Music Camp of Dr. Joseph E. Maddy at Interlochen, whose broadcasts Petrillo put his foot down on five years ago and which indirectly was the cause of Petrillo signing on the dotted line this week, was not included.

Mr. Petrillo, in discussing the code to which Luther A. Richman, President of the Music Educators National Conference, and Harold C. Hunt, President of the American School Administrators, were also a party, declared that it did not cover Dr. Maddy's camp because the camp "is a commercial institution".

The signers of the code agreed, however, that Dr. Maddy's camp might receive a hearing. They were told that the camp was sanctioned by the University of Michigan.

Dr. Maddy said at the University of Michigan, where he is a professor in the Music Department, that of the 1,160 young people who enrolled in the camp last Summer 550 were University of Michigan students receiving credit for their studies. Their teachers were paid by the University and the library, which is used by the entire camp, was established by the University, he added.

He said he would probably seek a hearing before the committee of the three signatory organizations.

Mr. Richman said the agreement will bring "greater understanding between the amateur and professional musician which should result in greater leeway for the amateur. On the other hand, it will mean less leeway for music schools which have over-stepped the boundary between music education and the entertainment field."

United States Attorney Otto Kerner, Jr., said in Chicago last Sunday night that the Government's Lea Act prosecution of James C. Petrillo, soon will be reopened.

Mr. Kerner said an amended criminal information against Petrillo is being prepared by the Attorney General's office in Washington.

The amendment will make minor changes in the original information to conform to the June 23 Supreme Court decision holding the Lea Act constitution, Mr. Kerner continued.

The original information accused Petrillo of violating the so-called Petrillo law in support of a demand that the station hire three more record librarians. WAAF said the librarians were not needed.

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## MONTHLY RADIO SET OUTPUT INCREASES; TV FROM 10 TO 12,000

Radio and television receiver production in August began to move upwards toward an expected heavy output in the Fall months as manufacturers produced a total of 1,265,835 sets of all types for the month, the Radio Manufacturers' Association reports.

The August output brings to 11,031,935 the number of receivers manufactured by member-companies in eight months of 1947 and registers the first increase in monthly production since the peak was reached last April.

Television receiver production in August showed a gain over July and established a new record for the year, reaching 12,283 sets as against 10,007 for the five-week period in July. The previous monthly record was set in June when 11,484 television sets were produced.

August's television output was as follows: radio table models, 7,984; direct viewing radio consoles, 2,181; projection-type radio consoles, 92; direct viewing radio-phonograph combinations, 2,008, and 18 projection-type radio-phonograph combinations.

FM-AM receivers produced by RMA member-companies in August totalled 72,014 as compared with 70,649 in the July period.

RMA member-companies also manufactured in August 273,380 automobile radios, 149,150 portable radios and 26,080 table model battery sets.

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## AUTO VISITORS' RADIO CURBS RELAXED BETWEEN CANADA AND U.S.

Interim arrangements have been made by the Federal Communications Commission between this country and the Dominion of Canada under which mobile radio transmitting equipment licensed by either Government can enter either country provided that the transmitter is sealed by customs officials to prevent its operation in the country visited.

After sealing the equipment at the border and noting that fact on a permit, the vehicle will be allowed to proceed. On leaving the visited country, the seal will be removed by the customs officer at the port of exit. The permit holder is warned, however, that should the seal be found to have been broken or removed, the vehicle will be subject to seizure.

The laws of both the United States and Canada prohibit alien operation of transmitting stations. Heretofore, Canadian visitors to the United States carrying such equipment in their cars have been warned at the border that to use the same in this country would be a violation of our laws. In the case of Canada, visitors from the United States were required to remove such equipment before entering its territory.

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BENTON REPORTED FINALLY OUT AT STATE DEPARTMENT

William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State in charge of information and cultural affairs, and storm center of the "Voice of America", has finally submitted his resignation to President Truman, according to latest Washington reports.

Secretary Benton has been a subject for controversy ever since he was appointed two years ago. He was hardest hit when his "Voice of America" program struck a snag in Congress which last June axed the appropriations. It was said that had Benton been removed at that time the "Voice of America" would have fared much better.

Mr. Benton was a former partner of ex-Price Administrator Chester Bowles of the advertising agency of Benton and Bowles.

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NEW MOVIE THEATRE OWNERS' ASSN. TO KEEP TAB ON TELEVISION

A new group, Theatre Owners of America, formed from the Motion Picture Theatre Owners' Association, and the American Theatres Association meeting in Washington, D. C. last week created among other committees a group to map ways to combat television and to fight the license tax imposed on theatres by the American Society of Composers.

Paul Raibourn, Paramount Pictures Vice-President in Charge of Television, told a subcommittee which set up a standing committee to keep tab on television developments, that Paramount has developed a "quick-freeze" system of putting television on movie film.

He predicted that within a year there would be enough television sets to give half the Nation's population access to the new form of entertainment.

Calling for a fight "all along the line", Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century Fox President, told the exhibitors, who represent some 10,000 theatres with 85 per cent of the Nation's movie seats, that Hollywood faces "its greatest crisis and challenge".

Mr. Skouras charged that American critics had "ridiculed" the industry's "creative minds". They also "smeared the private lives of our people" and made fun of "the eccentricities of the producers."

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## NBC TO TEST RADIO IN DIRECTING TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS

The Federal Communications Commission last week granted the National Broadcasting Company an experimental license to be used for testing radio direction in producing television plays at its New York studio. Stage directors, equipped with lightweight receivers, will receive instructions from the control booth.

Heretofore this communication has been available only through the use of headsets and connecting long cords plugged into various outlets about the stage. These trailing wires not only impeded the movements of the directors but became entangled in other equipment. They often became disconnected inadvertently and disrupted contact and production. Since the proposed radio system will be experimented within a shielded television studio, it is not expected to cause outside interference. It will use Industrial, Scientific and Medical frequencies which are available for assignment to low-power radio communication. Use of this band for such a purpose will tend to reduce the demand for other frequencies for convenience communication.

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## NEW METHOD OF PREDICTING SUNSPOTS AIDS RADIO FORECASTS

The prediction of solar activity, which greatly affects radio communication and is evidenced by spots on the sun, has been advanced through the application of a new statistical method, by A. G. McNish and Virginia Lincoln of the National Bureau of Standards. The new technic, depending on available sunspot data for a number of previous 11-year cycles, has a sounder scientific basis than former methods of prediction. Moreover, it is expected to be applicable to a wide variety of cyclical phenomena, such as long-term weather variations and climatic changes.\* \* \*

The sunspot number is obtained by counting the number of sunspot groups, multiplying by 10, and adding to the result the number of individual sunspots in each group. This statistical convention was adopted at the Zurich Observatory in the middle of the nineteenth century, and since that time has been standard all over the world.

Daily "soundings" of the ionosphere are taken all over the world by an international network of 58 ionosphere stations, 14 of which are operated or supported by the Bureau. These daily soundings measure the critical frequency (the limiting frequency for reflections back to the earth), absorption of radio energy (an indication of the power required to transmit a given frequency over a particular distance), and the heights of the various layers (determined through the use of radar-like echo equipment). The sunspot predictions are correlated with this information to provide the working data used at the Bureau in predicting radio propagation characteristics.

(Continued at bottom of page 16)

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
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Trammell Credited With Leading Fight For Code  
 (Jack Gould in "New York Times")

The convention of the National Association of Broadcasters demonstrated the extraordinary difficulties that lie ahead in curbing excessive commercialism on the air.

Irrespective of the details of a code of standards, over which there is bound to be controversy for many days to come, the broadcasters divided into two broad groups.

The first group comprised broadcasters admittedly led by the older and more economically secure network affiliates, who have come to the realization that listener irritation over too many "plugs" is real and demands a prompt remedy.

The second group is dominated by independent outlets, many of them forced to contend with extremely competitive local conditions, which regard the one-minute "spot" commercial as almost a way of life. These stations constitute the real barrier to any reform movement.

Most active in the pro-code faction here undoubtedly was Niles Trammell, NBC President who at Atlantic City occupied the role held by William S. Paley, CBS Board Chairman, at the NAB convention a year ago in Chicago.

It was Mr. Trammell who provided leadership in the true sense of the word. Not only was he wholeheartedly in favor of a code but he crusaded for it among convention delegates with a fervor rarely seen at NAB gatherings.

Other stations noted that Mr. Trammell could afford to take such a stand because his network is the most prosperous. That, of course, is undeniably true, but it does not detract from the fact that Mr. Trammell also seemed most aware of the urgency of the problem presented by commercials.

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Newspaper vs. Radio News  
 ("Editor and Publisher")

Alan Barth of the Washington Newspaper Guild writing in the Guild Reporter, says, among other things: "And we might as well face it: radio is now the primary news source for most Americans. . . . What's the source of that statement? It is probably the now-ancient (1945) poll conducted in Denver and much publicized by press critics.

If he had wanted to, Barth could have quoted the more recent Iowa poll (June 1947) which reveals that Iowans think newspapers are more fair than radio in news presentation and they rely more on newspapers than radio informing their opinions. There have been other polls disproving the Denver findings. But they didn't fit into Barth's argument.



Maj. Armstrong, Father of FM, Sees Cheery Future  
(Sonia Stein in "Washington Post")

Despite the fact FM broadcasting suffered another setback this week when under Petrillo's orders the Washington and Rochester locals of the American Federation of Musicians banned the broadcasting of live music from either of the two origination points of the Continental FM network, the father of FM broadcasting thinks the musical hitch is trivial compared to other obstacles FM has weathered.

Addressing members of the National Association of Broadcasters in Atlantic City following a demonstration of FM broadcasting beamed from station to station over long distances, Maj. Edwin Armstrong, discoverer of the staticless, high fidelity system of broadcasting, cited some of the serious obstacles already overcome. He mentioned the Radio Corporation of America as one of the early hindrances, since the company had been given "an exclusive preview of the FM invention (in 1934) and turned down the opportunity of making it available to the American public."

In an informal session afterward, Armstrong said this was one of the few cases where instead of the inventor not getting the profits of his invention, the public was denied the benefits of it for 10 years.

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Television Has Hollywood Reaching For An Aspirin

(Kaspar Monahan, Scripps-Howard, from Hollywood in "Washington Daily News")

Television has Hollywood badly worried. Its worries get down to the most basic of all problems in Hollywood - who's going to pick up the check? What sort of shows will there be?

Television is chiefly presenting "remote" bills, such as prizefights, baseball and football games. To a lesser degree it is bringing "live" shows into the homes - those produced in radio and television studios.

As an example of the latter, the Don Lee station in Los Angeles every morning televises the radio feature "Queen for a Day".

Stuart Phelps - show producer and official for the television station told me the late Mr. Lee put a fortune in this pioneer television set-up.

"Up to now it hasn't made a quarter, but better days are ahead for us", he said.

Television, once it takes hold, will be able to pay its own way. But there are many problems to be ironed out, of which these are uppermost:

Will sports promoters fear losses in patronage and demand a huge "take" from television? Will movie producers ever consent to the televising of their costly films? Wouldn't television kill the movie in a one-shot performance?

Will owners of television sets see the shows free or will they pay for the privilege? If so, how?

Will radio suffer? How much will it be changed?

Nobody I met in Hollywood could answer these questions. Everybody was speculating, theorizing, guessing - and reaching for an aspirin.

TRADE NOTES

Philco is offering formal licenses to all set manufacturers to use, subject to royalties, its patents and inventions in the radio receiver, electrical phonograph, and television receiver fields, John Ballantyne, its president said today. Approximately 700 Philco patents and inventions are thus being made available to the rest of the industry.

New advances in large screen television with pictures six by eight feet will be shown tomorrow night (Thursday, September 25th) in Washington by the RCA Victor Division of the Radio Corporation of America.

Artificial crystals, the Bell Telephone Laboratories in New York announced this week, may soon be produced in quantities almost large enough to supplant most natural quartz, a product hitherto indispensable in long-distance telephone and radio work. The artificial crystals resemble huge clusters of rock candy, or ice cubes, as they "grow" in the laboratory in large glass tanks.

Sylvania is this month introducing its new 7-inch Oscilloscope (Type 132) to be used in radio servicing and which has industrial and laboratory applications. It will also be used in receiver alignment, audio circuit analysis, filter and vibrator waveform checking and transmitter monitoring. The price is \$124.50.

Raytheon Manufacturing Company and Subsidiaries - Year to May 31: Net profit, \$920,235, or 47 cents a common share, contrasted with net loss in previous year of \$333,102; net sales, \$66,414,310, compared with \$105,886,829. On Aug. 1, 1947, backlog of Government business totaled \$36,900,000, of which \$23,600,000 represented production and \$13,300,000 represented development contracts.

Representative John David Lodge (R), of Connecticut, a brother of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge (R), sailed on the "Queen Elizabeth" for Europe last week along with Representatives Frances P. Bolton (R), of Ohio; Donald L. Jackson (R), of California; Chester E. Merrow (R), of New Hampshire and Olin E. Teague (D), of Texas.

They will study political trends and the effectiveness of the cultural and information program of the State Department. After reaching Europe the group will split up and some will include stops in North Africa and the Middle East in their itinerary.

Asked what he thought of the State Department's Voice of America broadcasts to foreign countries, Representative Lodge commented: "The Voice of America has been speaking with a frog in its throat. If we could clear its throat it would be more effective."

L. F. Randolph, of the RCA Equipment Tube Sales organization, died last week after an illness of several weeks. Widely known and respected in the trade, Mr. Randolph had been with RCA for seventeen years, coming to the company from the E. T. Cunningham Co. when that organization merged with RCA Radiotron in 1930.



A new vacuum tube design for use on high voltages at altitudes up to 60,000 feet has been announced by Amperex Electronic Corporation, Brooklyn. The development work was sponsored by the Air Material Command of the U. S. Army Air Forces and the tube is especially important in control circuits of guided missiles.

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To meet the unusual requirements of Great Lakes navigation, a special X-band (3 cm.) Mariners Pathfinder radar has been designed by Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Waltham, Mass.

This new model provides what is said to be a previously unattainable degree of "definition", presenting in truest possible detail a chart of the surrounding area. It permits two navigational buoys only 200 feet apart to be seen as separate distinct indications at distances greater than one mile. With the best previous equipment, these buoys would have to be separated nearly 400 feet to be observed with equal distinctness.

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The U. S. Air Force plane completed a history-making trans-Atlantic flight piloted by radio this week opened new vistas of push-button aviation. The Douglas C-54 Skymaster completed the 2,400-mile hop from Stephenville, Newfoundland, to England, guided entirely by wireless.

From take-off until the four-engined craft landed and braked itself to a stop on the runway at Brize Norton airfield, 40 miles west of London, no human hand touched the controls. Officials emphasized that the craft was not a drone controlled by a "mother" plane.

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Mr. and Mrs. Julian S. Myrick of East Hampton, Long Island, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Cynthia Southall, to Assistant Secretary of State Charles E. Saltzman, son of the late Maj. Gen. Saltzman, former Chairman of the old Federal Radio Commission.

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#### New Method Of Predicting Sunspots Aids Radio Forecasts (continued)

Groups now using the service include airline companies, steamship lines and the merchant marine, television and radio schools, American and foreign universities, radio and telegraph companies, manufacturers of communication equipment, consulting radio engineers, press wireless and telegraph services, radio magazines, broadcasting companies both here and overseas, industrial electrical firms, navigation instrument companies, research laboratories, electric power companies, and geophysical exploration organizations.

Full details of the new method for predicting sunspots may be found in the Technical News Bulletin of the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, September 1947 issue.

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