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No. 1809

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January 28, 1948

TOBEY ON WARPATH FOR FM REDRESS; ATTACKS FCC, NBC OFFICIALS

The stinging letter from Senator Charles W. Tobey (R), of New Hampshire, to Wayne Coy, recently appointed Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, coming as it did after Mr. Coy's examination and apparent finishing up of Mr. Coy's case by the Senator when Mr. Coy appeared before the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee last week, came as a complete surprise. Friends of the new Chairman were congratulating Mr. Coy on how well he had undergone his first "bath of fire" of the Committee which controls the destinies of the FCC when the following epistle from Senator Tobey almost exploded in his face:

"In view of the questions raised during the hearing before our committee on January 20, particularly with respect to the charge I made that Commission records in the FM (frequency modulation allocation) hearings and finding were altered, I am interested in knowing what, if anything, the Commission intends to do about the matter.

"I realize that you were not Chairman of the Commission when this alteration of records, or in fact the whole sorry mess of shifting frequency modulation allocations, took place. But I am concerned with what a Government agency, coming under the jurisdiction of this Committee, will do when such a misfeasance of duty is called to its attention. Therefore, I will look forward to hearing from you both with respect to what you intend to do and what finally is done to clear this matter, and to insure that similar action will not be lightly attempted again.

"Also, before the record of the hearing is closed, I would like answers to some further questions which I did not put to you yesterday (Jan. 20) because of the length of the Committee meeting and the necessity of discussing pending legislative business. I shall appreciate answers to these questions at your earliest convenience so that they may be made a part of the public record.

"1. It is a matter of common understanding in radio broadcast circles, and has been referred to in the trade press, that officials of the National Broadcasting Company have been particularly interested in your appointment and confirmation as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and more particularly that its Washington Vice President, Frank Russell, has stated on a number of occasions that Coy is his candidate. Variety, in fact, publicly complimented Russell on this accomplishment. I realize that you cannot be responsible for what others say or do, but I am sure that you must realize that when the largest corporation in the telecommunications field, having paramount interest in what the Commission does and may do about the development of FM and television, is charged with such utterances about a public official, it becomes important that such charges be publicly and vigorously disavowed and repudiated. It is my opinion that a statement from you in this respect would be desirable and healthy in restoring public confidence in the Federal Communications Commission.

"2. In connection with question No. 1, it is noted that the last Chairman, Mr. Denny, is now an influential and highly paid employee of the National Broadcasting Company. It has been stated that Mr. Denny was instrumental in your appointment as Chairman of the Commission, a matter to which you alluded briefly during yesterday's hearing. You suggested that you know Mr. Denny 'fairly well'; it has been reported to me that even since your appointment you have seen Mr. Denny with great frequency and that he is an intimate counselor of yours. In view of the fact that Mr. Denny's departure from the Commission has been followed with a number of charges, made publicly in a hearing before the Commission, it occurs to me that a new appointee to the Commission is not helping himself or public confidence in the agency by intimate conferences with a representative of the largest entity in the radio broadcast field. A discussion of this matter and your feelings about it may prove helpful.

"3. To what extent, if any, will either the counsel, advice, or friendship of Messrs. Denny or Russell affect, alter or modify any decision or actions you take as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission?

"4. I note from the Commission's last annual report that the Commission completed 315 hearings during the last fiscal year but that 734 hearing cases were still pending. At that rate it will require two years for the Commission to clear up pending hearing cases alone. In view of the fact that one of the principal complaints about the Commission is a charge that citizens are prevented from investing funds in radio enterprises and the development of the art is slowed down by Commission bottlenecks, what do you propose to do about this important matter³/₄

"f. Members of the Committee particularly concerned about radio legislation believe that the basic tenet of Title III of the Communications Act dealing with radio broadcast matters lies in the authority the Commission has exercised to review the public interest operation of a licensee. As you know, the large radio broadcast interests believe that the Commission should have no such power; thus in effect granting them a license in perpetuity. What are your views about this situation; do you believe the law should be strengthened to make certain that the people, through their Congress (whose arm you are) retain this power to see that radio stations are operated in the public interest?"

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The Streamline Black and White Taxis Association of Bristol, England, plans to equip 40 taxis with two-way radios, and ultimately to link up about 140 vehicles at an approximate cost of £20,000 (approximately US\$80,500). The equipment will be virtually the same as that used in fighter aircraft during World War II.

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NEW PROBE OF MOVING FM UPSTAIRS SEEN; CAMPAIGN ISSUE HINTED

Unless Senator Charles W. Tobey (R), of New Hampshire, Acting Chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, is pacified, the belief is that the bitter old fight of moving FM from the 50 to the 100 megacycle band may be continued indefinitely. This was indicated in Senator Tobey's sharp examination of Wayne Coy, nominee for Chairman of the Federal Communications Committee, and George E. Sterling for Commissioner, and the caustic letter he wrote to Mr. Coy later.

Also by Representative William Lemke (R), of North Dakota, pressing his resolution (H.J. Res. 78) at this time which has now been broadened to include the 50-mc frequencies in addition to the 100-mc now in use. The Lemke hearing will be held before the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee Tuesday, February 3rd.

When they appeared before the Senate Committee both Mr. Coy and Mr. Sterling agreed with Senator Tobey that there should be a new investigation of the reallocation of FM to the 100-mc. band. There were those who believed the controversy might even creep in as a campaign issue. Senator Tobey, who is acting as Chairman of the Committee during the illness of Senator Wallace White (R), of Maine, both with Chairman Coy and Commissioner Sterling hammered away at the admission of K. A. Norton, upon whose advice the much disputed reallocation was made by the FCC that he, Norton, had made a mistake in the calculations.

"Norton said he didn't have sufficient information, but the Federal Communications Commission hid behind his testimony", Senator Tobey declared, "and made this drastic move which almost crucified FM." Dr. Armstrong testified that a confidential report of a secret hearing admitted the mistake, but that someone altered the public record so that it denied that any mistake had been made.

Turning to Mr. Sterling, Senator Tobey asked, "If you were in the Commission as a member, and a situation like that arose, and you found that records has been changed to conceal something from the public when the law specifically charges that the public interest is paramount, what would you do, would you be indignant about it?"

Mr. Sterling. I certainly would; I think it would call for an investigation and I would prefer charges against the man if the investigation warranted.

Senator Tobey. I am glad to hear you say that. Dr. Armstrong, who is a man of the highest integrity --

Mr. Sterling. I know him and I hope nothing will ever come up that will dissolve the friendship and respect that I have for him.

Senator Tobey: He is one of God's noblemen. He testified that a confidential report of this secret hearing admitted that Mr.

Norton had made a mistake, but that someone altered the public report of the hearing so that nobody would know. Those documents have been in my office and have been examined by Dr. Armstrong and others.

Now if it is established that such a thing took place within the Commission, what steps would you, as a member, take to prevent a recurrence of such a situation?

I am speaking more particularly about altering the records and the concealment. If that were established in the future you would be righteously indignant, would you not?

Mr. Sterling. I would.

Senator Tobey. And you would cry out loud?

Mr. Sterling. I certainly would.

Addressing Mr. Coy, Senator Tobey asked: Now if it is established that such a thing took place within the Commission, what steps would you take to prevent a recurrence of such a situation?

Mr. Coy. It would seem to me that all matters relating to any allocation should be available to the public at all times.

Senator Tobey. You would be absolutely against anybody rigging these things, and you would let the public know what is going on?

Mr. Coy. I would

Senator Tobey. You would be absolutely against altering records, which is pretty near a criminal offense?

Mr. Coy. Absolutely.

Senator Tobey asked Chairman Coy what he thought of the future of frequency modulation.

Mr. Coy. I think that frequency modulation is by all odds the best of the oral broadcasting services that we have, and I believe that in the future it is going to replace in large part, very large part, what we now know as the standard broadcast band.

Senator Tobey. And of course there is a perfectly understandable reason for the prejudice of AM against it because it upset the existing tooling and machines and so forth, isn't that true?

Mr. Coy. That is right, but not all the people on the broadcast band are opposed to it. Probably one-third to one-half of the standard broadcasting stations are either operating FM stations now or have permits or applications for them.

Senator Brewster (R), of Maine, asked Mr. Coy whether he was against stations editorializing.

Mr. Coy. Against the station owner expressing his individual views on political and controversial issues. The stations are not precluded, under that decision, from presenting programs dealing with public and controversial issues; it is the individual station owner whose opinion is not permitted under that decision.

Senator Clyde Reed (R), of Missouri. I am glad you do not apply that to the owners of newspapers.

Mr. Coy. The Commission could hardly do that. We have no jurisdiction there.

The examination of Mr. Coy concluded in a lighter vein when the following exchange took place with regard to higher rates charged by some stations for political broadcasts.

Senator Brian McMahon (D), of Connecticut. The soap opera pays a certain rate, and Senator McFarland or Senator Brewster would have to pay one and a half times as much. Have you given that problem any thought or consideration as to what should be done about that?

* * * * *

Senator Brewster. Would the Chairman consider this a fair question -- as to what rates he would charge General Eisenhower for a broadcast at this time? (Date of hearing January 20th)

Mr. Coy. Are you putting that question to Senator Tobey?

Senator Tobey. Whatever you charge, it would be worth the price, I promise you that. Is there any other answer wanted?

Senator Moore. Are not all these political broadcasts worth more than soap operas?

Senator Tobey. No, I think a soap opera is not worth anything, I think it is a liability to every hearer, but that is only my opinion. Some political addresses are not much better, either, and I make some myself.

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BERKELEY NAMED A WMAL VICE-PRESIDENT

Kenneth H. Berkeley, Manager of the Washington, D. C. Evening Star stations (WMAL, WMAL-TV, WMAL-FM), has been named Vice-President of the stations. Manager of the Star radio interests since WMAL was purchased by the paper, Mr. Berkeley was formerly Manager of both WRC and WMAL under NBC ownership. The announcement of his promotion was made by Samuel H. Kauffmann, President of Evening Star Broadcasting Co., following the annual meeting of the Board held January 17.

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NEXT SUN-POWERED POCKET SETS, FACSIMILE NEWSPAPERS IN COLOR

Pocket receiving sets powered by sunlight, personal sending sets also small enough to be carried about, facsimile newspapers with pictures in full color printed before breakfast on home receivers, globe-girdling color television and major educational advances through its use --

All these and more are going to be enjoyed within the next 25 years, Frank Stanton, President of the Columbia Broadcasting System, said in a talk last Sunday night on CBS' "Family Hour" program.

"Here we can begin to see the expanding role which broadcasting is expected to play in our democracy in the next 25 years", he said.

"New developments in programming, both in radio and television, will certainly stimulate and expand a greater sense of our participation in the affairs of government, and will lift to even greater heights the cultural level of the nation", he said.

For those who might consider his predictions somewhat fantastic, Dr. Stanton observed ". . . All of these ideas are already out of the fantasy stage, and well in sight . . . after all, if I could have accurately predicted 25 years ago what radio would be like today, almost nobody then would have believed it. Who could have guessed that in such a short time, more than 9 out of 10 of all families in the United States would have radio sets in their homes or foreseen the wealth of entertainment and information provided by radio today to every part of the country . . ."

Citing hospital staff plans for televising medical operations by eminent surgeons for special audiences of students and scientists, Mr. Stanton said ". . . indeed, television may well become the most eloquent of all text books right in the school room itself."

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WASHINGTON TRADE BOARD HONORS BURKLAND, CBS

Carl J. Burkland, former General Manager of WTOP, Washington, and newly appointed General Manager of CBS Radio Sales in New York, was awarded a testimonial scroll in a surprise ceremony last week at a general membership meeting of the Washington Board of Trade in a sold-out Constitution Hall. John A. Reilly, President of the Board of Trade, made the presentation.

"You have typified the devoted business and professional leadership the Board of Trade must enlist in its work for the welfare of the Nation's Capital" the scroll read. "It seems most fitting that this testimonial should be awarded to you in Constitution Hall tonight at the largest general meeting in our history, planned under your direction, and with your colleague Arthur Godfrey as the principal participant."

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PRESIDENT SIGNS BILL FOR MORE ADEQUATE "VOICE OF AMERICA"

As had been expected, President Truman signed the Mundt-Smith Bill for an up-to-date and adequate "Voice of America". This act is merely an authorization to proceed. Funds will have to be appropriated later. It is expected that the President and Secretary Marshall will advocate not only a larger range of propaganda work but will permit the radio end of it to use more time and lengthen and improve its broadcasts.

Present American expenditures under the controversial year-to-year basis on which "the Voice" has functioned through a presidential executive order are at a rate of \$12,000,000 a year.

The Act's sponsors said they expected an early request from the State Department for \$5,000,000 to carry the bigger, permanent program through the present fiscal year. For the fiscal year starting July 1 the requested appropriation was expected to be \$50,000,000, less than one-half of the current Russian outlay, the sponsors pointed out.

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CALIFORNIA TELEVISION BEAMS TRAVEL 115 MILES WITHOUT "BOOST"

"When the weather is 'right' we see television in San Diego as clearly as people see it in Los Angeles." This was the consensus of statements made to Harry R. Lubcke, Director of Television of the Don Lee Broadcasting System, who spent the last few days in San Diego checking reception and collecting experience of viewers.

"We are familiar with the phenomenon", Mr. Lubcke declared, "having investigated it scientifically because of its impact on television as a broadcasting service. Although San Diego at 115 miles away is considerably below 'line-of-sight', the television waves are gradually bent around the surface of the earth by a convenient coastal "temperature inversion". That is, warm desert air normally overlays the cool ocean air at elevations above 2,000 feet. This is in the "tropospheric region" of the atmosphere, the region which affects almost all weather; hence the correlation between weather and this long distance television transmission. A "frontal disturbance", namely a rainstorm, destroys the above stratification and the signals from Hollywood drop to an undesirably low value. San Diego lookers claim that they can predict a storm because television reception drops out a few hours before.

Mr. Lubcke found television receivers in restaurants and taverns and even in the Naval Hospital. He was told by Karl F. Kuhle, pioneer receptionist now active in the television installation and service business, that one hundred television receivers are in operation in the San Diego area. Of these, approximately 60 are of commercial manufacture, including at least one or two of each brand now on the market, but slanted toward one particular brand which is on sale in that area and which appears to give the best operation.

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RMA TO GIVE RADIO SET SERVICING A GOING OVER

Adoption of a joint industry program to improve radio set servicing, authorization to continue and expand the RMA "Radio-In-Every Room" merchandising campaign through 1948, and merger of the RMA annual convention and parts trade show in 1949 and subsequent years highlighted the three-day RMA mid-winter conference in Chicago last week.

The Board of Directors approved recommendations of the RMA Service Committee setting up a joint industry plan with combined participation of manufacturers, jobbers, dealers and servicemen, in a move to eliminate or minimize abuses and to improve radio service for the public. Set manufacturers will be urged to advise radio set owners, through advertising and other means, to patronize "authorized" franchised dealers and servicemen whenever their radios are in need of repair. The Service Committee, in its report to the Board of Directors, reiterated RMA opposition to municipal licensing, as ineffective for the public.

The Directors also approved continuation and expansion of a plan tried out in Philadelphia, Jan. 11-13, under the name of "Town Meeting of Radio Technicians", after hearing a report that the Philadelphia experiment had been highly successful. RMA will copyright the name "Town Meeting of Radio Technicians" and the Board approved a recommendation of the RMA Parts Division that similar clinics for radio servicemen be held in five major cities annually. Details of plans for the new "Town Meetings" will be worked out at a meeting of the Radio Parts Industry Coordinating Committee, which initiated and sponsored the Philadelphia experiment, at a meeting Thursday, Jan. 29, at the Lexington Hotel, New York City.

Both plans for raising the standards of radio technicians call for close cooperation with organized servicemen's associations. The "Town Meeting" program will be featured, as in Philadelphia, by the dissemination of the latest technical information on the servicing of television and FM receivers. The Philadelphia meeting indicated that increasing production and sales of television receivers are raising serious problems in some areas due to the shortage of trained technicians to service sets.

The 1949 RMA convention will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Association and an elaborate program and industry banquet are planned. The Directors voted to dispense with a banquet during the 1948 convention, to be held June 14-17, in Chicago, and authorized Convention Chairman Leslie F. Muter to substitute a membership luncheon.

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LAWYERS DISPLEASED WITH WAY RADIO DEPICTS CRIME, THEMSELVES

It appears from an address by Arthur J. Freund of St. Louis, Mo., who is Chairman of the section of criminal law of the American Bar Association which has been reprinted in the Congressional Record (Jan. 13) at the request of Representative Claude I. Bakewell (R), of Missouri, that in addition to being critical of the way motion pictures, radio broadcasting and comic strips are presenting crime, the lawyers are also not happy at the way these mediums are portraying the judges and the lawyers themselves.

"The problem concerns itself, so far as we of the bar view it, (a) with the emphasis placed by the three media upon the depiction of crime and the portrayal of the manner in which crimes of violence are committed, detected, and prosecuted; and (b) the manner in which the lawyer, the judge, and the processes of law are depicted", Mr. Freund declared.

During the course of his address, he said:

"We are deeply gratified that the National Broadcasting Co. has officially recognized the problems we seek to correct. In a code formulated for its future programs, it is provided among other corrective measures, that:

"'Law, justice, and officers of the law should be portrayed without disparagement or ridicule, but with respect.'

"It gives further recognition to our position that:

"'The vivid, living portrayal of crime * * * dramas on the air, has an impact on the juvenile, adolescent or impressionable mentality that cannot be underestimated.'

"As a first corrective functional operation, the National Broadcasting Co. will broadcast its crime programs at hours when children are supposed to be in bed and fast asleep. With this explicit recognition of the harmful effects of these programs by the industry we may expect even better results." * * *

"Jack Gould, radio editor of the New York Times, wrote:

"'Radio programs heard by children again have moved to the forefront of controversial subjects in broadcasting. Several parent-teacher groups in various parts of the country have indicated the "crime shows" and the hair-raising serial "thrillers" as psychological dangers to impressionable youngsters as possible stimulants to juvenile delinquency.' * * *

"As a corollary, consideration can be given by the American Bar Association, through an appropriate group or section, acting alone in the name of the association, or in conjunction with other organizations in the public interest, to appear before the Federal Communications Commission and oppose the renewal of a license of a key radio broadcasting station on the ground that the great volume of its programs devoted to crime portrayals warrants the Commission in refusing to grant the renewal of the license.

"While the Commission, as we understand its public views, has no desire whatever to censor the content of radio-broadcast programs, the law directs the Commission to grant licenses and renewals only if the public interest, necessity and convenience will be served thereby. Such intervention by the American Bar Association would focus national attention on the subject we are considering here today. A denial of license renewal by the Commission on such ground would produce results which no one can now foresee with any clarity or precision."

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OVERTON BILL WOULD REQUIRE YEAR AROUND STANDARD TIME

Senator John H. Overton (D), Louisiana, last week struck at daylight-saving time for Washington with a bill to require Federal agencies and officials to operate on standard time.

Senator Overton said:

"I have introduced this bill to require that the standard time now prevailing throughout the United States shall be used in connection with all business affecting commerce and also affecting all offices and departments of the United States Government, legislative, judicial, and executive. This bill is intended by me as a counterattack against the daylight savings bill for the District of Columbia which was enacted last March. It was not observed by the railroads or other common carriers. It is opposed by the National Association of Broadcasters, and most of the district committees of that association have gone on record in opposition. It has produced much confusion and much trouble.

"We should have a regular standard time prevailing throughout the United States, and that is the purpose I have in offering this bill. I wish to have it appropriately referred, and I should like to have it acted upon as soon as possible.

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For release in Afternoon Newspapers of Friday, January 30, 1948.

SONORA AGREES TO FTC STIPULATION RE NUMBER OF TUBES

The Federal Trade Commission approved a stipulation in which Sonora Radio & Television Corp., Chicago, agrees to cease and desist from representing that any radio receiving set contains designated tubes or is of a designated tube capacity when one or more of the tubes referred to are devices which do not perform the recognized and customary functions of radio receiving set tubes in the detection, amplification and reception of radio signals.

The stipulation recites that advertisements disseminated by the Sonora corporation had listed in the "tube complement" of its radio receiving sets a rectifier, which serves only the auxiliary function of changing alternating current into direct current.

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SENATE GROUP O.K'S COY, FCC HEAD; COY DENIES NBC INFLUENCE

Despite criticism of the Federal Communications Commission by Senator Charles W. Tobey, Acting Chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, during the hearings on the fitness of Wayne Coy to serve as FCC Chairman, and George E. Sterling, as Commissioner, the Committee on Tuesday afternoon (Jan. 27) unanimously approved their nomination. It is expected that this action will be acted upon further by the Senate within the next few days.

Prior to the Senate Committee's action, it read an exchange of letters between Senator Tobey and Chairman Coy in which the Senator asked as to future action of the Commission in certain matters and whether or not it was true that Frank E. Russell, Washington Vice-President of the National Broadcasting Company, had in any way been responsible for his appointment as Chairman. The Senator wrote Coy asking him to reply to charges that "NBC was particularly interested" in his appointment.

Mr. Coy replied:

"I vigorously repudiate any allegation made directly or by implication that I am the candidate of any broadcasting interest, or any communications interests."

He said that he particularly repudiated "any allegation that I am the candidate of the National Broadcasting Company, or its Washington Vice President, Mr. Frank Russell."

Mr. Coy said the public interest would be "first" in the performance of his duties as FCC Chairman. He added that any personal friendships he has with anyone in broadcasting "will in no way influence me in the exercise of my best judgment as to what is in the public interest."

Mr. Coy is FCC Chairman by interim appointment to fill out the unexpired term of Charles R. Denny, former Chairman. The term expires June 30, 1951. The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.

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300-KILOWATT FM SIGNALS AIRED BY RCA DURING TEST BROADCASTS

The most powerful FM signals ever radiated in this country in the new FM channels, measured at over 300 kilowatts of effective power, were successfully employed for the first time during recent test broadcasts conducted by the RCA Engineering Products Department.

The tests were carried out over RCA's experimental FM station, W2SXR, by feeding the output of the new RCA 50-kw FM transmitter, first commercial transmitter of this power to be designed for operation in the 88-108 megacycle band, to a four-section RCA Pylon Antenna, which has an effective power gain of six. The transmitter actually fed 60 kilowatts of power into the antenna, producing a radiated signal with an effective power of 360 kilowatts.

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WHERE INTERFERENCE TO TELEVISION COMES FROM

A great many owners of television receivers are experiencing annoying difficulties with interference to their reception of programs, says the American Radio Relay League. "They have each paid some hundreds of dollars for a piece of radio receiving equipment. Naturally, they become angry when their television screens are marked with disruptive lines or drifting grille patterns, or when the picture is blotted out altogether", the League states.

"It appears to be customary and convenient to blame the amateur radio operators, or 'hams', for the interference. The facts in the matter do not indicate that the amateurs are fundamentally at fault. In the general interference situation confronting the television receiver owner, there are three major points:

"First, in approximately one-half the cases of interference, the fault has been traced to inadequate design and construction of the television receiver.

"Second, while an amateur radio operator's transmitter is indeed often the source of interference in the remaining cases, there are a number of other sources much more prevalent.

"Third, the interference to television receivers from amateurs and from some of the other sources could be materially reduced by a comparatively simple rearrangement of frequencies by the Federal Communications Commission."

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NEW RADIO EDITORS PROGRAM POLL TO BUCK HOOPER AND OTHER RATERS

Starting last week, Variety, the amusement field magazine, in cooperation with Dick Mansfield, freelance researcher, inaugurated, on a continuing basis, a poll of the nation's top radio editors. These editors are to be polled weekly in an attempt to evaluate programs on a qualitative level.

"While it's recognized that the Hoopers and the Nielsons serve their useful purpose to the advertiser", says Variety, "the agency, the network and the station, it's also felt that a Quality Rating Service, based on the choice of the nation's radio editors and critics can better reflect the genuine quality of programs."

The new rating system has a possible high of 30 points. The first week's results in the leading places were:

1. Bing Crosby, 22.1; 2. Amos 'n' Andy, 21.5; 3. Fibber and Molly, 21.0; 4. Lux Radio Theatre, 20.5; 5. Fred Allen, 20.4; 6. Godfrey's Talent Scouts, 19.3; Jack Benny, 18.9 and 8. Duffy's Tavern, 18.5.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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They Speak For Democracy
 ("Washington Post")

The four high school girls to whom Attorney General Clark will today present awards as winners of the "Voice of Democracy" competition are honored visitors in the Capital. They topped some 20,000 contestants in all parts of the country, boys among them although one would never suspect it from the outcome, to win trips to Washington and \$500 scholarships in a contest sponsored by the National Association of Broadcasters, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Radio Manufacturers' Association. The contest as a whole afforded reassurance as to the soundness of democracy in this country at the grass roots. Each contestant made a 5-minute speech, "I Speak For Democracy." They spoke not alone with fervor but with a maturity of outlook and a sense of the significance of their subject that went entirely beyond the conventions of patriotism. We congratulate the winners, Laura Shatto, Hagerstown, Md.; Janet Geister, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Alice Wade Tyree, Lawton, Okla.; and Rose Ellen Mudd, Missoula, Mont., on their triumph - and even more on their understanding of the richness of their heritage.

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Bigger TV Tubes And Better Pictures
 (Martin Codel's "Television Digest and FM Reports")

Next big step by pacemakers in swift march of TV will be larger direct-view screens in table models -- at prices not very much higher than present standardized 10-in. RCA has something brand new in the works, soon to be announced. Philco is reported working on 12-in. DuMont, of course, never went along with industry's 10-in. standard, has specialized in 12, 15 and 20-in. but mainly on high-cost models with very limited production. Whole problem of tube-size is due for radical overhauling soon, with something bound to be done to bridge gap between medium-priced 10-in. and high-priced projection models.

We confess we're hipped on subject of larger direct-view images -- ever since watching DuMont's 12, 15 and 20-in. screens simultaneously alongside 7 and 10-in. as well as projection. In our book, 15-in. or thereabouts, doubtless soon attainable in mass production and at lower price levels, will be to TV market what Pontiac-Buick-Chrysler are to automotive. They certainly provide vastly more satisfactory images than Ford-like 10-in.

Problem of bigger cabinets for bigger tubes, modified circuits, can easily be met. One company (Kent Woodcraft Corp., Brooklyn) is already advertising compact furniture it calls "conversion cabinets", accommodating 15-in. tube, popular with kit builders. But key problem is producing bigger tubes on mechanized basis, and that should be licked reasonably soon. Big tube blank maker Corning Glass Works produces most of the 10-in. blanks, but only hand-blown 12, 15 and 20-in. "bottles" as yet; DuMont is said to have first call on

whole output on these bigger tubes.

There's plenitude of 10-in. blanks, which factories like RCA's at Lancaster, Pa., are equipped to process on mass production basis. But 10-in. is only a preview of the TV parade. Watch for bigger things to come!

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Foresight Not So Good As Hindsight (Bill Gold in "Washington Post")

Those Coronet radio commercials for an Eisenhower article sounded a bit hollow in the days immediately following General Ike's disclaimer of candidacy. One portion went, "Read why the author thinks that if the issue is put to General Eisenhower, he'll accept."

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Why Petrillo Fears Television ("Washington Star")

Representative Landis, Republican, of Indiana, asked Mr. Petrillo to explain why he won't allow musicians to play on television broadcasts.

Mr. Petrillo replied it was because 18,000 musicians in the movie theaters were thrown out of work "overnight" when sound movies were invented, and the union wants some guarantee that same thing will not happen to musicians employed by the radio industry. He added:

"Are we right or wrong? Frankly we don't know. We have asked the industry 'What is the future of television? They tell me, 'Jim, we don't know.' They have the opinion that television will make more work for musicians, but they will give no written guarantee"

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Opposition Seen To Venerable Sen. Capper's Re-Election ("Terre Haute Star")

For years without number Arthur Capper, 82-year-old Senator from Kansas, has been haranguing his colleagues in the national legislature. His topic: Prohibition. His most recent action was introduction of a bill which would have prohibited newspapers, radio and magazines from accepting liquor advertisements.

During most of his lengthy career in the Senate, the Kansan has periodically run for re-election without opposition in his own party. But his term is up next year, and this time it will be different. Whether they think that senility will get the old boy down for the count this time or that Kansans are tired of his ideas, politicians in Capper's state are not lining up for another term for the old prohibitionist.

Andrew Schoepfel, who retired as governor of Kansas a year ago, has entered the fray against Capper, and is attracting formidable support of political leaders. The campaign, unless Capper should withdraw, promises to be one of those historical affrays which leave permanent imprints upon politics of states."

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:::: TRADE NOTES ::::
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Showing the growing importance of radar as an industry and the need for radar aboard commercial vessels since V-J Day, Raytheon, through its marine affiliate, Submarine Signal Co., and its agent, Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co., has sold more than 450 Mariners Pathfinder radars.

The "Standards of Good Engineering Practice Concerning Standard Broadcast Stations" (550-1600 kc), revised to October 30, 1947, are now on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. for \$1.00 a copy.

Part 2 "General Rules and Regulations" revised to June 1, 1946, is also available at the Government Printing Office for 10 cents a copy.

Both of these publications are issued in size 8 x 10 inches to fit three-ring binders.

A. V. Duke has been appointed Assistant Sales Manager for Zenith Radio Corporation. Mr. Duke joined Zenith in 1928 as a member of the accounting department, and in 1931 became Manager of the Order Department for the Sales Division. From 1933 to the outbreak of war in 1941, Mr. Duke was a member of the Export Sales Department.

John H. Norton, Jr., Vice-President in Charge of Stations, of the American Broadcasting Company, stated last week that at the close of 1947, ABC had a total of 265 affiliated stations, 257 of them in actual operation. Mr. Norton said his belief is that in the coming years the number of ABC affiliates will stabilize at about the 265 figure.

The Pakistan Government has purchased from the Radio Corporation of America, broadcasting equipment to establish a radio network reaching all parts of the newly formed State, from the Capital, Karachi, to the cities of Lahore and Dacca, it was announced Tuesday by Meade Brunet, Vice President of RCA and Managing Director of the RCA International Division.

The plan calls for the building of five radio stations, according to Mr. Brunet. Two of these will employ powerful 50-kilowatt short-wave transmitters, two will have 10-kilowatt medium frequency transmitters, and one will be 7½ kilowatt short-wave. Also contracted for are associated antenna systems, power generating plants, test and measuring apparatus, and studio equipment. A novel feature of the installations will be the use of high fidelity FM equipment for relaying programs from the studios to the broadcasting transmitters. Completion date is set by July, 1948.

Crosley Broadcasting Corporation's Cincinnati television outlet changes its call-letters and experimental status Feb. 1, when the station becomes WLWT. For a period of a few weeks thereafter, WLWT will operate at the same power as its predecessor, experimental station W8XCT, and will jump to full power the latter part of Feb.

It was standing room only (in 10 degree weather) as Washington, D.C. housewives turned out en-masse to greet WOL's new series of "Mett Your Neighbor" broadcasts that bowed in on the local scene last week 10:30 A.M. from the Neptune Room in the heart of the downtown shopping area.

All guests at the broadcasts, which are heard on a Monday through Saturday basis are served hot coffee and biscuits through the courtesy of the Washington Flour Company, sponsors of the series.

Philco Corporation has just announced that it is ready to market a new direct-view 23-tube television receiver using a seven-inch cathode ray picture tube to retail for \$199.50 plus excise tax and antenna installation, a price which is far lower than any comparable receiver, it was stated by James H. Carmine, Vice President in charge of distribution.

"This new Philco television receiver, Model 700, represents the latest developments in the television art, and at \$199.50 it is by all odds the greatest buy in the television industry", Mr. Carmine said. "It gives a picture of remarkable brightness and clarity by combining new engineering and design ideas with our highly efficient production facilities, we are able to offer this new television receiver at a far lower price than any other set of comparable quality on the market today. Production of Model 700 has already reached substantial proportions, and shipments to dealers will start in the very near future."

At the same time, Mr. Carmine announced that Philco was bringing out a new television receiver with a 10-inch picture tube. Model 1001, which is priced at \$339.50 plus excise tax and installation.

All classes of broadcast stations now total more than 3,800, having added nearly 300 since the close of the last fiscal year. For nonbroadcast stations, the figure exceeded 120,500, a gain of nearly 8,400 in the six-month period. Slightly more than 60 percent of the nonbroadcast stations were amateur; the remainder were safety, special and miscellaneous radio services.

Commercial radio operators numbered 341,000 as compared with 325,000 previously reported. Another thousand amateur operators were added, swelling their ranks to 81,000.

The crowning event of the BBC's Silver Jubilee was a visit from Their Majesties the King and Queen, accompanied by Princess Margaret. In the absence through illness of Lord Simon of Wythenshawe, the BBC's new Chairman, Their Majesties were received at Broadcasting House by the Dowager Marchioness of Reading, the Vice-Chairman.

A special program had been arranged for the evening, which listeners to the BBC's Home Service and Light Program shared with listeners overseas, and television cameras were set up in Broadcasting House.

Their Majesties and Princess Margaret visited a studio where a section of the BBC Symphony Orchestra was being conducted, watched a broadcast from the Concert Hall and spoke to others concerned with the program and listened to Stuart Hibberd reading the news. After refreshments and presentations in the Council Chamber, they watched a play being broadcast and afterwards spoke to the cast.

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