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No. 1810

February 4, 1948

## SOME HOPEFUL, OTHERS SUSPICIOUS, OF PETRILLO'S "NEW LOOK"

The "new look" of James C. Petrillo in agreeing to relinquish his ban against network programs on AM and FM facilities, authorizing new "live" shows on the 29-station Continental FM network, and extending present network contracts for another 60 days, was apparently accepted at its face value and with jubilation by many broadcasters but in certain quarters high network officials still had their fingers crossed. With the standard broadcast station network wage scales of musicians, music for television, and other shaky controversial bridges still to be crossed and the same old wily Petrillo to be dealt with, finally his latest concessions were taken by some of the perspiring and badly overworked network and the radio negotiators with a large grain of salt.

Quite a few jubilant hats went up in the air when word was received, twenty-four hours after Mr. Petrillo had authorized duplication of musical programs over both AM and FM stations, authorizing the Continental FM to resume the presentation of new "live" musical programs. The appearance of musicians on new programs carried solely over an FM network had been banned by the union since last Fall,

Mr. Petrillo said that removal of the ban on new musical programs meant that the Continental network now would negotiate on wages with the Federation's local units in Washington and Rochester, N.Y., the two cities from which the chain's "live" musical shows originate.

Everett L. Dillard, head of the Continental network and President of the FM Association, said that the action by Mr. Petrillo meant that "the FM music situation is now cleaned up."

Suggesting that maybe the war is not yet entirely over, the New York Times in an editorial, "Petrillo's About Face", said:

"Thanks to James C. Petrillo's belated if none the less welcome decision to permit duplication of musical programs over both FM and standard stations, frequency modulation radio now is in a position to assume its rightful place as the superior form of sound broadcasting.

"The advantages of FM over present radio have been unanimously underscored by engineers in both industry and government. To the listener the invention of Major Edwin H. Armstrong brings a fidelity of reception and a freedom from static which truly rank among science's modern wonders. A concurrent blessing of the FM system is that it will enable many new operators to try their hand at enriching and diversifying the program fare available on the airwaves.

"But it was impossible to expect widespread acceptance of FM so long as it could not broadcast the nationally popular programs, as indeed it could not for the last two years because of Mr. Petrillo's whim. The removal of the union's arbitrary ban on the development of the FM industry rights an economic wrong which never should have occurred in the first place. FM radio well is entitled to the prosperous future which lies ahead of it.

"As is his enigmatic habit, Mr. Petrillo chose not to explain his about-face on the FM question. Similarly, he did not elaborate on his conciliatory gestures in averting a threatened network strike and in agreeing not to use the networks as a lever to force local stations to hire more members of his American Federation of Musicians. Always the realist, Mr. Petrillo apparently recognized that his practices of the last spelled only trouble under the new legislation passed by Congress.

Representative Ralph Church (R), of Illinois, extended his remarks in the Congressional Record to include an editorial captioned "Caesar" from the Chicago Tribune which asserted that Petrillo "surpassed John L. Lewis in meglomania. Quoth the Tribune:

"It can't be said that James C. Petrillo is totally indifferent to collective bargaining. He deals with the employers of his musicians on a take-it-or-leave-it basis, but he is willing to sit down across the table with parties whom he considers equal to himself in importance and power. The only party that so qualifies, in Mr. Petrillo's mind, is the United States Government. In Washington he has just offered to dicker with Congress.

"His lawyer has suggested that Petrillo will lift his ban on recordings if Congress will permit him to resume his shake-down of recording companies for a so-called union benefit fund, of which he has sole control. Contributions to such a fund are prohibited by the Taft-Hartley Act.

"As a union czar, Mr. Petrillo has taken the position that he can shut down a whole industry, furnishing employment to thousands of people and products which millions of people want to buy. Having done this, he offers to dicker on the conditions on which his criminal interference with interstate commerce will be stopped. He has even found a Member of Congress, Representative Kearns, of Pennsylvania, to write Petrillo's provisions into a bill to be introduced in the House.

"John L. Lewis never exhibited such megalomania as this. Some day very soon the ceiling is going to fall on Mr. Petrillo, and the rejoicing will be great."

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## FACSIMILE BROADCAST STANDARDS HEARING SET FOR MARCH 15

To finally thresh out the question as to whether there shall be dual sizes of the pictures and other important matters, the Federal Communications Commission will hold a hearing Monday, March 15th, for the purpose of obtaining further information regarding facsimile broadcasting. The notice reads in part:

"Facsimile broadcasting has been permitted in the FM broadcast band (88 to 108 mc.) under certain conditions specified in Section 3.266 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, adopted September 12, 1945, and in addition frequencies have been allocated for use of facsimile broadcasting in the 470 to 500 mc. band. The Commission has deferred promulgation of transmission standards and rules concerning facsimile broadcasting until such time as data should become available to permit the promulgation of standards and rules upon full and sufficient information which would enable the Commission to determine that facsimile broadcasting on a regular basis would serve the public interest. Intermittent facsimile broadcasting has been conducted recently by several stations under experimental authorizations in the FM broadcast band, and sufficient data may now be available to provide information necessary for further consideration of this matter.

Alden Products Company, Finch Telecommunications, Inc., Radio Inventions, Inc., and Faximile, Inc. have requested the Commission to promulgate, with certain exceptions, certain facsimile transmission standards proposed by the Radio Technical Planning Board. The standards proposed would provide for the use of both 8.2 inch and 4.1 inch width recorders operating at the same linear rate of 105 lines per inch. It is desirable that the Commission be fully informed as to the status of facsimile broadcasting, and more particularly as to the matters set forth below, prior to reaching a determination that transmission standards should be promulgated for this service.

Among other things the FCC will seek to obtain full information concerning existing or proposed methods or systems of facsimile broadcasting; the present and expected availability of facsimile transmitting and receiving equipment; any technical data obtained in experimental operations conducted in facsimile broadcasting; any non-technical data obtained in experimental operations conducted in facsimile broadcasting, or otherwise available, including public demand for the service, public needs and desires in facsimile programs, appropriate uses for the service, commercial feasibility of the service, and public preference with regard to recorder widths, speed of transmission and degree of definition; the plans or proposals of interested persons which look toward the establishment of facsimile broadcasting on a commercial basis, and the development and status of multiplex facsimile with aural FM broadcasting.

Also to obtain full information concerning experimental facsimile development, conducted or planned, in the 470 to 500 mc. band; transmission standards for facsimile broadcasting proposed by



any interested persons; to determine what effect, if any, the authorization of facsimile broadcasting on a simplex basis in the 88 to 108 mc. band would have upon the development of aural FM broadcasting; to determine whether transmission standards for facsimile broadcasting should be proposed at the present time, and, if so, whether such standards should provide for use of a single width recorder, or more than one width recorders, and what width or widths should be used, and to determine, in the light of the evidence adduced on the foregoing issues, what rules, if any, should be promulgated concerning facsimile broadcasting.

Notice of appearance at the hearing must be filed before March 1.

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### TESTS BEGIN ON DON LEE'S NEW \$2,500,000 HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

As walls and ceilings of two huge pilot studios near completion this week, Don Lee sound engineers have begun tests prior to the installation of the ten-ton giant master control panel which will direct operations at the network's new \$2,500,000 Hollywood studios.

Said to be the largest sound stages ever built for radio, the four main studios will each be able to accommodate productions as elaborate as a 100-piece symphony orchestra playing before an audience of some 350 people. Both walls and ceilings are to be treated with alternate strips of soft sound-absorbing material and hardwood convex polyclindrical diffusers which will deflect sound waves in order to maintain true tonal quality throughout any type of broadcast.

Installation of the \$300,000 master control panel is scheduled to start February 2, when control room walls and wiring will be in position to receive the equipment. Don Lee technicians expect to have this master control installed at the same time that the pilot studios are completed so that immediate testing and operation can be accomplished.

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### VOICE OF AMERICA TO EASTERN RUSSIA

The "Voice of America" has inaugurated a 30-minute Russian-language program of news and features beamed at Vladivostok and the Soviet Maritime provinces of Eastern Siberia, the Department of State announces. The program originates in the New York studios of the Voice of America and is relayed through the Honolulu and Manila transmitters, reaching the listening area at 9 P.M. Vladivostok time.

The addition of this program brings the State Department's radio broadcasts to the Soviet Union to two hours a day in four separate transmissions. Three of them are beamed to Moscow and Western Russia.

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## MARTIN GIVES WOMEN BROADCASTERS SHIVERS ABOUT AIR SABOTAGE

Speaker Joe Martin, Jr., who would be the next Chief Executive if anything happened to President Truman, sounded at least one serious note at the windup of the meeting of the American Women Broadcasters in Washington last week. He declared that if a powerful campaign which is now being secretly waged to destroy confidence in Congress, saboteurs could execute a sudden coup through the press and radio and take over the government.

Several resolutions were passed at the meeting of the women, presided over by Ruth Crane, WMAL, Acting President. Mrs. Crane, who has served as Acting President of AWB since the resignation of Frances Farmer Wilder of New York in August of last year, was ratified as President to serve out the two-year term of office which concludes in the Spring of 1949. Miss Gertrude Grover, WHCU, Ithaca, N. Y., was appointed First Vice President to complete the term of office originally filled by Mrs. Crane.

"For years", Speaker Martin declared, "there has been a very powerful, highly sustained, well-financed and cleverly managed campaign of sabotage in some of the press, over some radio microphones, and on some public rostrums, to destroy the confidence of the people in the Congress as an institution."

Should that be accomplished, he asserted, it would be simple for the saboteurs to carry on a campaign of destruction against the Executive Department, launch a sudden coup and "take over the government".

Mr. Martin urged the women broadcasters to combat the "sinister forces which 'cook up' these canards" distort the facts, and "feed them out for the very specific purpose of discrediting the Congress in the opinion of the people."

The New York Times didn't take quite so serious a view of Speaker Martin's dire prophecy saying:

"There may be several thousand conspirators in our population who would like to do this, but somehow it does not seem likely that they will succeed. For more than a century and a half there has been a campaign on to destroy the confidence of the people in Congress. Usually it has been conducted by the party that happened to be out of power. Sometimes it has been aided and abetted by the way some members of Congress behaved. It will reach its quadrennial peak this Fall, at which time there will also be some criticism of the incumbent Executive.

"But Congress as an institution is not in danger any more than is the Executive as an institution. We all know the sort of attack to which Mr. Martin was alluding. It has a different doctrinal background from similar onslaughts of bygone years, but it is not a bit more venomous. The best answer the present Congress can make

to it is to get on with its work and try not to play politics too hard. We don't believe there will be any 'coup', except in the normal way at the polling places."

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### FCC GRANTS 8 NEW TELEVISION STATION LICENSES

Construction permits were issued by the Federal Communications Commission last week for eight new commercial television stations in different parts of the United States as follows:

Birmingham Broadcasting Co., Inc., Birmingham, Ala., 66-72 mcs. (Channel No. 4); visual power 14.5 KW; Aural 7.7 KW; antenna 500 ft.; Miami Valley Broadcasting Corp., Dayton, Ohio, 210-216 mcs. (Channel No. 13); Visual power 24 KW; aural 25.2 KW; antenna 570 ft.; WFBM, Inc., Indianapolis, Ind., 82-88 mcs. (Channel No. 6); Visual power 28.2 KW; aural 18.1 KW; antenna 400 ft.; Jefferson Standard Broadcasting Co., Charlotte, N. C., 60-66 mc.; (Channel No. 3); visual power 15.2 KW; aural 8 KW; 1160 ft.

Also, the Kansas City Star Co., Kansas City, Mo., 66-72 mc; (Channel No. 4); visual power 17 KW; aural 14 KW; antenna 745 ft.; Radio Station WOW, Inc., Omaha, Neb., 82-88 mc; (Channel No. 6); visual power 16.2 KW; aural 8.5 KW; antenna 590 ft.; W. Albert Lee, Houston, Texas., 54-60 mc; (Channel No. 2); visual power 16 KW; aural 8.5 KW, antenna 500 ft., and Times-Picayune Publishing Co., New Orleans, La., 174-180 mc. (Channel No. 7); visual power 21.5 KW; aural 18 KW; antenna 575 ft.

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### RADIO RECEIVING TUBE SALES TOTALLED NEARLY 2,000,000 IN 1947

Almost 200 million radio receiving tubes were sold in 1947 by its member companies the Radio Manufacturers' Association reported this week. Receiving tube sales in December totalled 16,511,408 and brought total sales for the year to 199,533,827. This was slightly below the 205,217,174 tubes sold by manufacturers in 1946.

Of the year's total, 131,986,468 were sold for new sets; 43,530,058 for replacements; 23,184,172 for export, and 833,129 to government agencies.

A breakdown of the December report shows 11,693,163 tubes sold for new sets; 3,083,947 for replacements; 1,671,220 for export, and 63,078 to government agencies.

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## CONGRESS TOLD LEMKE FM PROPOSAL WOULD CORRECT "FCC BLUNDER"

Major Edwin H. Armstrong, inventor of FM, occupied the witness stand for the entire first day of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee hearing (Tuesday, Feb. 3) on the farm radio resolution of Representative William Lemke (R), of North Dakota, which would direct the FCC to return a portion of the 50 mc. band to FM but allow those stations which were boosted up to the 88-108 mc. band to remain where they are.

"Now what this Bill undertakes to do is to correct a blunder of major proportions made by the Federal Communications Commission in 1944 when the Commission, following the recommendations of its own engineering staff, disregarded the judgment of the members of the Radio Technical Planning Board and of the best qualified experts on the problems of radio wave propagation, and moved FM broadcasting from the 50-megacycle to the 100-megacycle band.

"The events which have transpired since that action was taken by the Commission have confirmed the judgment of the men who advised against the move, and have uncovered the errors of the Commission's engineers whose advice brought it about. The question has been settled beyond all doubt, with the admission of error by the principal witness for the Commission, K. A. Norton, when, under cross-examination in a recent FCC proceeding, such admission was forced from him."

"The confidential report contained a statement of fact which, to anyone who undertakes radio propagation, meant that the interference predicted by Mr. Norton would not be felt in the United States. The public report, when it was issued, deleted that statement of fact and substituted therefor a statement to the effect that no error had been committed by Mr. Norton. I have no hesitation in characterizing this alteration of the public report as thoroughly dishonest."

"As a result of the Commission's error, the work of five years in building up FM broadcasting has been largely destroyed, the efficiency of the system has been reduced, and its introduction to the public generally has been further retarded by a period of from two to three years. At this moment FM has just about gotten on its feet after surmounting the worst of the many obstacles that have been put in its path.

"This delay, added to others caused by various unwise actions of the Commission, has resulted in a situation which may be summed up briefly as follows.

"Here is an invention of major importance to the people of the United States. It was made public, and presented to the industry as a whole, over twelve years ago. In spite of the best efforts of the men who tried to develop it, less than two percent of our people are enjoying its advantages. That is a situation without a precedent

in the history of radio invention. I believe it likewise to be without a parallel in the history of American business enterprise."

Speaking of other delays encountered by FM, Dr. Armstrong said:

"I have no hesitation in repeating what I said before the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce on December 6, 1943, when the Chairman (Senator Wheeler) asked me whether I thought the industry engaged in AM broadcasting, and specifically the Radio Corporation of America, were blocking the development of FM. I then said:

"\*\*\*\* I would like to answer that question this way: That if at the June 1936 hearing, that is, the hearing before the Commission which resulted in that very narrow allocation to FM, the Radio Corporation of America as the recognized leader in the industry, had said one thing, and that is, that what Armstrong is saying as to the capabilities of FM is true, then we would never have had any of this trouble about allocations. I am quite sure the Commission would have had nothing left to do except to allocate a substantial band to FM."

Major Armstrong said for the first time it has become possible to give rural listeners a service far superior to that enjoyed by the city dwellers. Representative Lemke said he had received hundreds of letters from farmers seeking FM service.

Major Armstrong said in conclusion:

"It is my understanding that the Commission is considering a proposal to permit the existing low band FM stations to remain in operation for a certain period of time. This will give a measure of relief and will be most important in enabling a demonstration of the economy of relaying by these means programs to stations located in the small communities.

"The proposal would not, however, permit additional stations on the low band to be put up in parts of the country which are predominantly rural in character and which stand to benefit more than any other area from the economies of this method of getting static-free high fidelity programs around the country.

"I strongly endorse this Bill requiring the setting aside of a section of the band in the vicinity of 50 megacycles to be held for FM broadcasting so that the inventors and engineers in the art can demonstrate its ability to render service to the people of the country, the exact manner of its use to be ultimately determined by conference between the Commission and the radio industry. No one is wise enough to forecast exactly how this will ultimately work out. In view of the long series of blunders and mistakes that have been made, no one ought to try.

"But what is perfectly apparent at the present time is that the low band high power station fills a vital need for the economical distribution of programs over wide areas. Until such time as some other system of distribution can furnish as good or a better service provision ought to be made in the spectrum so that the public can get



the benefit of what is now available. FM has already been kept from them too long."

J. E. Brown of the Zenith Radio Corporation of Chicago said a summation of the present situation in FM broadcasting brought about as a result of the change from 50 to 100 mc. shows an established service and industry uprooted and thrown into confusion resulting in great delay in its progress. The technical reasons advanced by the FCC for the move have never been accepted by the experts of the industry. The reason given for changing FM cannot possibly be valid in view of the assignment of television to the band from which FM was removed.

"The ultimate broadcasting service to the public on 100 mc. is now known to be inferior to that which could be provided on the 50 mc. band", Mr. Brown continued. "FM on 100 mc. is forever hampered in giving service to rural populations. "There is in many parts of the country a demand for FM stations far in excess of the frequencies available. The Commission has not allocated sufficient frequencies to this new service. It must be apparent to the Commission that if there is today at this early stage of FM broadcasting a shortage of facilities, that in a short time the situation will become unbearable and more frequencies must be given to FM.

"It is only logical that additional frequencies should be in the vicinity of 50 mc. so that a real FM service can be given to the public. The addition of frequencies for FM in the vicinity of 50 mc. would merely mean an added band for FM broadcasting. This added band would not in any way disturb or change the present FM band on 100 mc. It would simply add badly needed frequencies for FM broadcasting which will have to be done ultimately in any event and it would add them at a place in the radio spectrum which is capable of giving good long-distance FM transmission. It would mean that FM broadcasting would take place on two bands instead of one and from the very practical standpoint of the radio receiver manufacturer, this is precisely what will have to happen when the Federal Communications Commission allocates any additional frequencies to FM broadcasting. The important point is that the additional frequencies be allocated in the vicinity of 50 mc. in the interest of best public service. I believe that House Joint Resolution 78 is technically sound and in the best interest of the public."

John R. Howland, also of Zenith, addressing the House Committee, said:

"There is a final chapter being written which makes the situation urgent. I have pointed out that the effect of existing FCC regulations has been to limit FM stations to coverage of local regions. I have pointed out that local AM broadcasters are being forced by the crowding of their channels to migrate to the new art - hundreds of business men who will save their enterprises and increase their coverage by following the indicated path and who have neither experience nor concern with the broader potentialities of the new service. The final step will occur, possibly, at the next international conferences on frequency assignments when it is to be



expected that America will have local channels taken away and given to Cuba and Mexico.

"The pioneers of FM will then be locked in the barn with the refugees from the less profitable AM assignments and the keys will be thrown away. Stripped of the possibility of broad coverage they can fight out the question of survival among themselves and a monopoly of service to the farmer will be securely in the hands of the chain-programmed clear channel stations which have not been able in twenty-five years to find a way to deliver static-free radio programs to almost half the nation.

"Since there is no adequate remedy at law to force a review of the actions of the FCC and to force them to recognize the real needs of this new permanent addition to America's broadcast service, we turn to you to place the facts fully in your hands.

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#### FCC PROBE PROPOSED IN HOUSE; LICENSEES FEAR COMMISSION

If Representative Wigglesworth (R), of Massachusetts has anything to say about it, there will be a thorough Congressional investigation of the activities of the Federal Communications Commission. Discussing the bill carrying FCC funds for the fiscal year 1949, Mr. Wigglesworth said:

"The testimony of the Federal Communications Commission gives little indication of fundamental improvement in the operations of this agency.

"Transfers of stations, with Commission approval, for considerations far in excess of cost or replacement value continue.

"Action or inaction in respect to assignment of frequencies, including the so-called Bulova stations, the New York News case, the Cur-Nan Co. case, and certain stations in Kentucky, suggests continuance of operation on the basis of political favoritism.

"The testimony of Commissioner Durr in respect to his altercation with the FBI, including his statement as to Communist ownership of stations, in which he apparently regards Communist applicants in much the same light as Catholic, Protestant or Jewish applicants; and in which he indicates that he does not know that Communists advocate the overthrow of this Government, is startling.

"Fear of the Commission by radio licensees still in manifest.

"Mr. Chairman, freedom of the air, to the end that the people may have both sides of important questions, fully and fairly presented, is imperative to our form of government. It is vital that the FCC operate as an impartial quasi-judicial agency rather than as the political puppet of any administration that happens to be in the White House.

"I do not know what has become of the resolution to investigate this agency which was filed during the last session. If the Committee on Foreign and Interstate Commerce is not in a position to conduct an investigation, it should be conducted without further delay by a select committee.

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## NETS ACCUSED OF NOT GIVING IMPARTIAL MARSHALL PLAN FACTS

Rep. Schwabe (R), of Missouri, based upon a survey just made, accuses the radio chains of failing in their duty to furnish a "fair and equitable presentation of facts and arguments both for and against the Marshall plan."

The Missourian disclosed that he had received data from three networks in answer to letters requesting that they detail the amount of radio time given to speakers favoring and opposing the plan.

"The results were amazing", Rep. Schwabe said to Willard Edwards of the Chicago Tribune. "Taking the network's own figures, the ratio of radio arguments for the plan, compared with opposing views, since State Secretary Marshall first proposed it last June, has been 6 to 1.

"All the networks claim that they furnish a 'balanced presentation' on subjects of great public interest. The fact is that the people depending upon radio news reporters, commentators, and programs for information on the Marshall plan have been given a sadly distorted and one-sided picture."

"Representative Schwabe said he began his inquiry after he noted the discrepancy between radio views on the Marshall plan and the sentiment of the people in his district. A poll of his constituents, in which 5,000 replies were received, showed 3 to 1 against the proposal, he said, and 6 to 1 against if it involved price controls and rationing.

"Replies were submitted by CBS, MBS and ABC. Niles Trammel President of NBC, replied that the information requested was 'so voluminous and will require so much research that it is not possible to supply actual data very quickly,'

"'How a network can achieve a balanced presentation of information on a subject without regularly compiling such relevant data is a mystery to me', commented Rep. Schwabe.

"'The conclusion is inescapable', Rep. Schwabe commented, 'that the American people have been permitted to hear only one side of the proposal during most of the time they are listening to the radio.'"

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## SEN. BURT WHEELER MAY HEAD AFL ANTI-TAFT-HARTLEY DRIVE

Former Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D), of Montana, has been offered the \$20,000 a year job by the American Federation of Labor to direct its effort to prevent the re-election to Congress of Taft-Hartley Act supporters. Before leaving Washington for Miami, where the AFL Executive Committee is now in session, Senator Wheeler was quoted as saying that he would have to find out more about the



requirements of the position and whether or not he would be able to give full time to it in view of the demands of his private law practice.

William Green, President of AFL, said the appointment of Senator Wheeler as head of Labor's League for Political Education had been approved by the AFL Executive Council and would be placed before the 30-man Administrative Committee of the League meeting in Miami today (Feb. 4).

Among Senator Wheeler's present clients is the Zenith Radio Corporation of Chicago in its pending patent suit against the Radio Corporation of America.

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### FCC EXPLAINS FM BROADCAST STATION LICENSE APPLICATIONS

In connection with the issuance of licenses to cover construction permits for FM broadcast stations, the Federal Communications Commission makes the following explanatory statement:

License applications may not be filed until (1) construction has been completed in exact accordance with the terms of the construction permit, and (2) equipment tests have been completed (Section 3.216 of the Commission's Rules) or interim operation has been conducted with the equipment authorized in the construction permit. After the application for license has been filed showing that the station is in satisfactory operating condition, program tests may be conducted in accordance with Section 3.217 of the rules.

License applications will not be granted unless an approved frequency and modulation monitor is installed. During equipment tests or interim operation, a frequency measurement of the station's transmissions should be made with an external standard of known accuracy and the monitor reading compared with the frequency thus measured. A commercial frequency measuring service may be available or the standard frequency transmissions of Station WWV may be used where suitable auxiliary equipment required for such measurements is available. If neither of these methods of checking frequency is feasible, the application for license may request that the item be waived. While the item may be waived in some cases, the station is not relieved of the responsibility of maintaining the operating frequency within the prescribed tolerance.

With respect to the field intensity measurements required of Class B FM stations by Section 3.216(c) of the rules, the Commission has received inquiries concerning the time within which such measurements must be submitted. As indicated by a footnote to the rule, this material "shall be submitted within one year after the license has been issued or within such extension of time as the Commission may for good cause grant." The Commission does not desire to impose an undue burden on FM licensees.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
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Sports Promoter Still Hasn't Found If TV Is Good Or Bad  
(Leo Fischer in Chicago Herald-American)

Entrance of Television Station WBKB, Chicago, into the Chicago field of fight promotion reveals that this newest form of entertainment is running into tough problems so far as sport is concerned.

Regular professional bouts will be staged in the high school auditorium at Michigan City for video purposes, according to Capt. William C. Eddy, Director of WBKB. Admission will be charged "live" audiences for what the television customers will see for nix, with the station sharing in profits and losses.

"Since WBKB was established, we have carried more than 700 sport events", explained Capt. Eddy. "We have helped attendance at some and definitely have hurt it at others. Boxing promoters are convinced we keep many paying customers away. I'm inclined to agree with them.

"We've tried various ways of meeting this situation. At one show we agreed to reimburse the promoter for every empty seat. We hit zero weather and there was scarcely anyone in the house. It cost us plenty.

"This new venture is strictly an experiment. We're doing it to insure a supply of boxing telecasts. If it works out, I don't know what it may lead to. Maybe we'll expand our promotion program into other fields."

Could it be that some day we'll have basketball leagues, baseball games, track meets, etc., strictly for television purposes? Who knows? The box-office is the most sensitive portion of a promoter and he will rid himself quickly of anything that causes it pain.

Television still is too new to decide the argument pro or con. According to Capt. Eddy, approximately 13,000 sets are operating in the Chicago area with a maximum "looking" audience of some 250,000.

It is reasonable to suspect, for example, that more people enjoyed Tuesday night's pro basketball games in the comfort and warmth of a living room or tavern than the 4,000 who braved zero blasts to go to the Stadium.

How many television fans decide later to see for themselves what's going on will determine, largely whether basketball, football, boxing and other sport sponsors will continue to give away large chunks of what they're trying to sell.

Decision of WBKB to promote its own boxing shows may indicate the trend.

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Trying To Keep Petrillo Off The Front Page - A Large Order  
(Danton Walker in "Washington Times-Herald")

Petrillo's lawyers - the firm in which F.D.R. Jr. is a senior partner - have taken charge of his public relations and are trying to keep his name off the front pages and squelch unfavorable publicity.

Jones, FCC, Ex-Congressman, Still Beats Old Political Tom-Tom  
(Jerry Klutz in "Washington Post")

This is a story of the transformation of Robert F. Jones from legislator to bureaucrat:

Up until last September, Jones was a GOP House member from Ohio and a member of its powerful Appropriations Committee. In that job, he was a sharp and effective critic of Federal agencies and their employees.

Then Jones took a \$5,000 annual cut in salary to become a member of the Federal Communications Commission. The transformation soon began to take place, and he watched the work of FCC employees. The other night he made a speech to the Radio Bar Association. Jones had this to say:

"I want to pay tribute to the staff of the Commission. They are the hardest working group I have seen. As a matter of fact, they spend so many hours around the place I would not blame their wives if they divorced them, and I'm surprised their families recognize them.

"The Commissioners, my colleagues, work hard and long hours. Although we don't always agree, I'm glad they're not the kind of men who are disagreeable because we don't agree. Frankly, I had misgivings before I came; but I'm glad to say they were unfounded."

The Commissioner made his speech in good taste and good humor. He kidded himself for making the change from legislator to "bureaucrat". FCC employees can be sure of this - that they have a powerful friend in Commissioner Jones.

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Testimony Judge LaBuy Apparently Overlooked  
("Chicago Daily News")

Rep. Hartley's declaration that the Department of Justice had been lax in prosecuting James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, may be based on dissatisfaction with the conduct of the department as a whole. We doubt that it is based on familiarity with the record in the case in which Judge LaBuy held Petrillo innocent of violation of the Lea Act.

Judge LaBuy adopted an unusual line of logic to support his decision. He stated that he believed that the three extra musicians Petrillo sought to force radio station WAAF to hire were not needed by the station. But, he contended, there was no evidence to show that Petrillo had been told that the station did not need them.

Transcript of the evidence shows that Attorney Harry Schulman, of the law firm representing Station WAAF, testified as to telephone conversations he had with Petrillo while trying - unsuccessfully - to arrange a conference between him and representatives of the station.

Schulman said that he told Petrillo he considered Petrillo's demands manifestly unfair.

"He was informed", Schulman testified, "that the additional employees asked for, three in number, could not be used and that the defendant's demands for six musicians was manifestly unfair."

Judge LaBuy, apparently, chose to disregard this testimony in reaching his decision.

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::: TRADE NOTES :::  
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The Federal Communications Commission has announced a proposal to change the tentative allocation plan for Class B FM stations by transferring Channel No. 273 from Washington, Pa. to Pittsburgh, Pa., effective March 2, 1948, unless prior to that date it receives protest showing grounds why this action should not be taken.

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Edwin M. Martin of Fort Wayne, Ind., Vice-President and Secretary of the Farnsworth Television and Radio Corporation of Fort Wayne, was elected last week as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Bosch Corporation. He fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Frank J. Garvey of Lowell, Mass.

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In Poland there are almost 100,000 central radio receivers in parks, office buildings, and other public places. In addition to Poland's 445,519 licensed radios, it is estimated that there are approximately 100,000 unlicensed ones in use.

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With Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company, in attendance, a series of meetings between officials of the network and its affiliated stations have been scheduled. The first will be in Atlanta, Ga., Monday, Feb. 16.

The New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey stations will gather in New York City Wednesday, February 25.

The third meeting on Wednesday, March 10, will be in Chicago. The last will be in San Francisco or Los Angeles at the time of the NAB convention sometime in May.

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A list of outstanding broadcasts in the public interest presented by the Mutual Broadcasting System in a report for 1947. It comprises 80 multigraphed pages and carries a foreword by Edgar Kobak, Chairman.

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Price reductions up to 25 per cent on radios were announced this week by Philco Corporation at the company's first New York showing of its 1948 radio lines.

A new three-way portable model priced at \$29.95 less batteries led the price reductions. The lowest priced portable last year listed for \$39.95. Model 1286, a console FM-AM radio-phonograph combination in a mahogany Georgian cabinet will list for \$299.50. Last year's model which it replaces retailed for \$329.50. A straight AM console combination, which in 1947 retailed for \$179.95, has been reduced to \$169.95, in the 1948 model. The 1948 price range, exclusive of portable models, runs from \$119.95 for a straight AM console to \$369.50 for the top model in the line, an FM-AM radio-phonograph combination.



Manufacturers, designers and users of electronic equipment, formerly limited to the use of conventional receiving tubes in the electronic circuits of vital production machinery and control devices, are now offered new group of small electron tubes specifically developed by the RCA Tube Department for industrial applications.

Designated the RCA "Special Red" line, the new tubes are for highly critical industrial and commercial applications where extreme dependability, long-life, stability, uniformity, and resistance to vibration and impact are essential.

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Police Dispatcher James McAuliffe, of Washington, D. C., in a conversation with a Maryland police substation, recently said "I don't believe D.C. license tags go above 200,000." (He was referring to registration numbers.)

There was a pause.

"To All Cars", said McAuliff, a few seconds later: "I have just been informed by 15 cars that District license tags do go above 200,000. O.K. to all of you, and thank you."

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A candy-by-radio service enabling passengers aboard ships on the high seas to send gift sweets to friends, relatives and associates in any part of the United States was introduced as a supplement to the Radiomarine Gift Service, which handles ship-to-shore orders of fruit and flowers. The candy service is being inaugurated through an arrangement with Huyler's and Louis Sherry, Inc., New York confectioners.

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Contents for Radio Age for January includes:

"Radio Review and a 1948 Preview" by Brig. General David Sarnoff; "Trend Is To 'Miniatures'" by L. W. Teegarden; "Styling Sells Sets" by H. M. Rundle; "FM Radio For Police"; "Large Screen Television"; "Radiophoto Standards"; "Television For Harbor Pilots"; "Recording Sound On Wire"; "Electron Microscope Improved"; "Television Finds Its Public" by Dan Halpin; "Navy's Use of Television" and "Adventures in Marketing" by Frank M. Folsom, Vice-President, RCA Victor.

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A "BBC Television Newsreel" is the latest development in British television. This is a special newsreel for television viewers only, lasting about fifteen minutes and at present shown three times a week. Subjects are treated in greater length than in the commercial newsreels, and include topical film items from abroad such as those already received by exchange arrangements from the NBC of the U.S.A. In time it is hoped to give world coverage, and arrangements are already being concluded by the BBC with a number of film and television companies abroad.

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