



Founded in 1924

# HEINL NEWS SERVICE

Radio — Television — FM — Communications

2400 California Street, N. W.

Washington 8, D. C.

Robert D. Heinl, Editor

INDEX TO ISSUE OF MARCH 3, 1948

RECEIVED

APR 9 1948

Out Of 641,402 Commercials, FTC Questions Only 9,573.....	1
Television Broadcasters Ask To Be Heard Opposing Lemke Bill.....	2
Record Firm Threatens Petrillo With Taft-Hartley Law.....	2
Capehart Denies Bucking Capone Jukebox Gang - And Losing.....	3
Claridge Hotel, Philco Apply For Atlantic City TV Station.....	4
Sarnoff Cites Television As Most Important New Radio Factor.....	5
New Don Lee Hollywood Studio Dedication Set For May 22nd.....	6
Associated Press Suspends TV News Reel; Lack Of Interest.....	6
Networks Seek To Lift Ban On Stations Editorializing.....	7
Wallace Seminar Tells How To "Work" Newspapers, Radio Stations.....	9
G.E. To Furnish ABC's West Coast Television Transmitters.....	9
Chicago News Bureau Studies Possibilities Of Radio Service.....	10
Radio Circles Stirred By Condon Soviet Spy Charges.....	10
Paper Charges Gen. Taylor, Ex-FCC Counsel, "Pirated" Story.....	11
RCA Opens Direct Broadcast Service To Palestine.....	11
CBS Network Television Conference In New York March 31.....	12
Bendix Out Of Red Nets \$5,248,999.....	12
Presentation Of duPont Awards To Be Broadcast.....	12
Scissors And Paste.....	14
Trade Notes.....	15

March 3, 1948

OUT OF 641,402 COMMERCIALS, FTC QUESTIONS ONLY 9,573

The Federal Trade Commission gives radio commercials a high rating.

This is one place where every word of a commercial is considered. During the 1947 fiscal year the Trade Commission, believe it or not, examined 641,402 radio commercial continuities and only 9,573 broadcast statements were designated for further study as containing representations that might be false or misleading. This compared with 518,061 continuities scrutinized in 1946 of which but 8,399 were questioned.

By way of further comparison during 1947, 412,950 newspaper, magazine and other periodical advertisements were examined. From this material, 18,494 advertisements were designated for further study as containing representations that might be false or misleading.

Analysis of the questioned advertisements, which were assembled into 1,299 cases and given legal review, disclosed that they pertained to 1,366 commodities in the following percentages:

Food (human), 4.7; food (animal), 1.2; drugs, 55.8; cosmetics, 16.9; devices, 2.2; specialty and novelty goods, 1.4; automobile, radio refrigerator, and other equipment, 2; home study courses, 1.1; tobacco products, 2.2; and miscellaneous products, 12.5.

Where the Commission found advertisements to be false or misleading, and the circumstances warranted, the advertisers were extended the privilege of disposing of the matters by executing voluntary stipulations to cease and desist from use of the acts and practices involved.

The Trade Commission issues calls twice yearly for commercial continuities from each individual radio station. National and regional networks respond on a continuous weekly basis; submitting copies of the commercial advertising parts of all programs wherein linked hook-ups are used involving two or more stations.

Producers of electrical transcription recordings each month submit typed copies of the commercial portions of all recordings produced by them for radio broadcast. This material is supplemented by periodic reports from individual stations listing the identities of recorded commercial transcriptions and related data.

As a yardstick of comparison with 1947 the Federal Trade Commission in 1946 received copies of 564,408 commercial radio broadcast continuities and examined 518,061. The continuities received amounted to 1,255,245 typewritten pages and those examined totaled 1,186,724 pages, consisting of 470,980 pages of network script,

697,144 pages of individual station script, and some 18,600 pages of script representing the built-in advertising portions of transcription recording productions destined for radio broadcast through distribution of multiple pressings.

An average of 4,547 pages of radio script was read each working day. From this material 8,399 advertising broadcast statements were marked for further study as containing representations that might be false or misleading.

X X X X X X X X X X

#### TELEVISION BROADCASTERS ASK TO BE HEARD OPPOSING LEMKE BILL

The Television Broadcasters' Association, through its Washington representative, Thad H. Brown, Jr., last Monday (March 1) filed a petition with Representative Charles A. Wolverton (R), of New Jersey, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, seeking an immediate hearing of opponents to House Joint Resolution 78, introduced by Representative Lemke of North Dakota. The bill, if adopted, would assign a portion of the 50 megacycle band, now designated as Television Channel No. 1, to Frequency Modulation.

In his petition, Mr. Brown points out that Representative Wolverton's committee conducted a hearing on the Lemke Bill on February 3 and 4, at which time opportunity to appear was limited solely to the proponents of the bill.

"It had been anticipated that the opponents of the Bill would be permitted to appear on dates immediately successive to those upon which the proponents testified", the petition states. "When developments proved otherwise, it was anticipated that an early and reasonable time for presentation would be designated by the Committee."

The petition points out that television broadcasters are "vitally concerned in the development of a complete record in this matter" and adds that TBA is prepared to "present factual information and opinion on all phases of television and of the allocations problems relating thereto."

X X X X X X X X X X

#### RECORD FIRM THREATENS PETRILLO WITH TAFT-HARTLEY LAW

A music-recording firm in Hollywood last week served notice on James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, to start collective bargaining before March 22. Unless he did so, the Standard Radio Transcription Service would bring legal action under the Taft-Hartley law, said President Jerry King in a letter sent to Mr. Petrillo after Ike Carpenter's orchestra, observing Mr. Petrillo's ban on recordings failed to appear to make transcriptions. Mr. King asserted that Mr. Carpenter was under contract to appear.

X X X X X X X X



CAPEHART DENIES BUCKING CAPONE JUKEBOX GANG - AND LOSING

There was a prompt denial from Senator Homer Capehart (R), of Indiana, who is a manufacturer of jukeboxes, of newspaper charges that he ran afoul of the old Capone mob. The denial came about as a result of the following story which appeared in the Chicago Daily News:

"A United States senator tried to buck the Capone-Guzik juke box setup in Chicago.

"He failed.

"The senator is Homer E. Capehart, Republican, senior senator from Indiana. He is head of the Packard Manufacturing Corp. of Indianapolis, which makes juke boxes.

"Senator Capehart last Oct. 12 went so far as to meet with Dan Palaggi, a partner of Fred Morelli, erstwhile 1st ward Democratic committeeman and juke box boss of the Loop and surrounding territory. The meeting was held in Room 1184 in the Congress Hotel. Ray Cunliffe, president of the Illinois Phonograph Owners Association, was also present. Cunliffe gave Senator Capehart a "token order" at that time. Palaggi gave him some polite conversation.

"On Jan. 17, 1948, Senator Capehart came here to speak at a dinner of the Coin Machine Industries, preceding the coin machine convention. Shortly thereafter the senator announced a change in his sales policy, which eliminated his Chicago branch. His Chicago distributor or factory representative thereupon took the senator's juke boxes and went to Michigan to try his luck.

"The Daily News telephoned Senator Capehart at the juke box factory in Indianapolis.

"'Were you chased out of the Chicago juke box market?' he was asked.

"I would't go so far as to say that', said Senator Capehart. 'We did find it very unprofitable to do business in Chicago. We manufacturers are at the mercy of the music dealers (juke box) associations.'

"'Are they controlled by hoodlums?' the senator was asked.

"'Are you talking to me for publication?' asked Senator Capehart. He was told he was.

"'I'm not going to answer that', said the senator. He continued:

"'The music dealers say they have a right to protect themselves. They want to keep the old machines in a location at a hotel or a restaurant and deny them the right to a new machine.'



"Again he was asked: 'Were you chased out of here, Senator?'

"He laughed.

"'It's not true in that sense', he said. 'We changed our policy Jan. 1. We quit selling to distributors and are selling direct. We still do a small business in Chicago. Let us say we find the Chicago situation very unsatisfactory.'"

A statement issued in Washington last week by Senator Capehart read:

"In reply to published reports that a racket exists in the music business in Chicago:

"'If any person can provide me with documentary evidence that a racket exists in the music business anywhere in America, I will turn that evidence over to proper state and federal authorities for prosecution under available laws, or I will ask Congress to conduct an investigation of the situation.'"

"The Daily News said that Attorney General Clark has been informed of the situation and has 'assigned two aids to get the details of the pushing around the senator's distributors were getting here.'"

X X X X X X X X

#### CLARIDGE HOTEL, PHILCO APPLY FOR ATLANTIC CITY TV STATION

An application for a construction permit covering a new television station to be built in Atlantic City to operate on Channel 8, 180-186 megacycles, has been filed by the Atlantic City Television Broadcasting Company.

"Our company is a new corporation owned jointly by the Claridge Hotel, in Atlantic City, and the Philco Corporation, Philadelphia", John McShain, president, stated.

"We believe that this unusual combination of local and national business interests and experience will prove of great value in bringing television programs of high quality to Atlantic City and neighboring communities.

"Philco has been broadcasting television programs ever since 1932 and has operated Television Station WPTZ in Philadelphia since 1941. We know that the background of research, engineering and programming experience which Philco will contribute to this new enterprise will speed good television service for the entire Southern New Jersey area."

X X X X X X X X

## SARNOFF CITES TELEVISION AS MOST IMPORTANT NEW RADIO FACTOR

Significant progress was made by the Radio Corporation of America in 1947, according to Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff who cited television as the "most important new factor in radio" and said it began in 1947 to "fulfill its promise of becoming a great industry and a vital public service."

His statement, speaking for the RCA Board of Directors, was contained in the annual report covering the activities of the entire organization sent to stockholders, numbering approximately 215,000.

Net earnings of RCA in 1947 amounted to \$18,769,557, equivalent to \$1.12 per share of common stock, it was disclosed. This compares with \$10,985,053 in 1946, when earnings were equivalent to 56 cents per share.

Net profit - after all deductions - was 8% of the gross income in 1947, compared with 4.6% in 1946. Total gross income from all sources amounted to \$314,023,572, representing an increase of \$77,042,802 compared with the total of \$236,980,770 in the first post-war year of 1946. An increase in dividend from 20 cents a share to 30 cents a share, amounting to a total dividend payment on the Common Stock of \$4,157,046, was declared in December and paid on January 27, 1948, to the holders of record as of December 19, 1947.

As of December 31, RCA personnel numbered 40,282,

Other highlights of the report were:

The development of an advanced system of communications known as Ultrafax - a combination of television, radio relay, and photography - capable of handling up to a million words a minute. When fully developed, this system will be able to transmit, in facsimile, the equivalent of forty tons of airmail coast-to-coast in a day.

Delivery of micro-wave radio relay equipment, produced by RCA Victor for Western Union's New York-Pittsburgh-Washington circuit, was completed during 1947 and regular telegraph traffic is being handled over the New York-Philadelphia section with excellent results.

Conversion of RCA's radiotelegraph operation from Morse to the new five-unit code tape relay method progressed to a point where approximately 50 per cent of overseas traffic handled at New York is now transmitted and received by this means. The RCA multiplex system, providing four to eight channels of communications on a single radio frequency, was expanded to a number of foreign centers.

Largely because of increased use of radiophoto service by financial and industrial firms, the number of radiophotos handled in 1947 by RCA was up 15 per cent over 1946.

The fact that 93 per cent of NBC's 1946 network clients renewed their contracts for 1947, was pointed out in the Report as testimony to "the quality of service and the coverage provided by the network."

"Nation-wide polls conducted during 1947 by impartial fact-finding organizations showed that more people listened to NBC programs each week than to those of any other network", the report stated. "At the year-end, 12 of the first 15, and 29 of the first 40 programs in order of popularity were regular weekly NBC presentations."

X X X X X X X X X X

#### NEW DON LEE HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DEDICATION SET FOR MAY 22ND

Formal dedication of the new \$2,500,000 Mutual Don Lee studios in Hollywood will begin Saturday, May 22nd. Stellar talent will participate in an hour-and-a-half program which will be broadcast over all of Mutual's stations throughout the United States with cut-in features from New York and Chicago.

The entire week of May 16th to May 22nd, inclusive, will be used for a build-up series of special air features, according to Lewis Allen Weiss, Chairman of the Mutual Broadcasting System and Vice-President and General Manager of the Don Lee network. The Mutual Board of Directors and their wives are going from the East for the ceremonies.

A Mutual Board meeting will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 19th and 20th in the new Mutual West Coast Board room. Radio industry leaders attending the National Association of Broadcasters' convention in Los Angeles at the same time will have an opportunity to inspect the new building.

Construction is being speeded up on studios 1 and 2 of the new plant and the center section of the building which will house executive and operational offices. When the building is complete in every detail later on in the Summer, the public will be invited to go through it, and there will be uniformed guides to conduct tours.

X X X X X X X X X X

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS SUSPENDS TV NEWS REEL; LACK OF INTEREST

The Associated Press, according to Jack Gould in the New York Times, has temporarily suspended its television newsreel. The action follows, it was said, a lack of interest on the part of commercial video stations and newspaper-owned television outlets in meeting the appreciable costs of such a venture at the present time. Plans for the A.P. newsreel had been announced in November.

X X X X X X X X X X



## NETWORKS SEEK TO LIFT BAN ON STATIONS EDITORIALIZING

The long anticipated hearings of the Federal Communications Commission to consider the possibility of revising the Commission's so-called "Mayflower decision" outlawing editorializing by radio stations which began Monday, proved to be lively and interesting.

The first witnesses were the heads of three major networks who maintained that broadcasting stations had the same right to express themselves editorially as the newspapers.

Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company, and Niles Trammell, President of the National Broadcasting Company, contended that while they never had exercised and did not now contemplate exercising the privilege in question, they nevertheless maintained their right to do so if and whenever, in their own judgment, adoption of such a policy should appear to them to be a wise and advisable extension of their present program services.

Mr. Woods declared that the operation of radio in the public interest placed "a positive duty" on broadcasters to editorialize "vigorously". He admitted that the Mayflower rule stopped a radio station from serving its own partisan ends, but argued that it also stopped it from serving the public's best ends.

Under questioning, particularly by Commissioner Clifford J. Durr, Mr. Woods admitted the FCC could properly restrict or control a station if it were the only outlet in a community and did not abide by a "rule of fair play" in presenting both sides of a controversy.

Mr. Trammell said the present ban "may prevent radio from reaching full stature as a forum for stimulating public thinking." Most responsible stations, he said, would take pains to present both sides of every controversy. He expressed the intention, as had Mr. Stanton for the Columbia Broadcasting System, to give time to opposition argument to the networks' editorials, probably in the form of "letters to the editor" period.

But, he insisted, no Federal agency had the right to require radio stations to conform to such practice.

"No public authority should place restrictions on the freedom of expression of opinion over the radio", Mr. Trammell said.

Frank Stanton, President of CBS, not only agreed with them as to the right of broadcasters to editorialize but announced that for the past year his organization had been preparing, but not broadcasting, editorial programs as a means of testing editorial techniques, with a view to including them in its own program service and offering them to their affiliates if and when permitted to do so.

Mr. Stanton said that Columbia Broadcasting, though previously in agreement with the denial of editorial expression to broadcasters, on the ground of scarcity of facilities then available, now held that with the multiplicity of radio stations, twice as many today as there were newspapers, the right of radio to freedom of editorial expression should be as complete as that of newspapers.

Mr. Woods and Mr. Stanton, under cross-examination, conceded that in any given case of willful and continued denial by a station of its facilities to opposing points of view, the Commission "might" have a right to step in and insist on fair play. But Mr. Trammell argued that no such situation could or would present itself.

Ex-FCC Chairman James L. Fly, credited with having written much of the "Mayflower" ruling while he was Chairman, but who is now engaged in private law practice and appeared in behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union, declared the radio industry should not be allowed to "grind its own ax" over the air.

"The individual broadcaster, in his individual capacity, is free to speak his mind on any subject under the law", Mr. Fly testified.

"He is not free to speak his mind, to the exclusion of others, through the medium of broadcasting and over a station which he operates through temporary and conditional possession of a license."

The wish to editorialize, he said, is largely "an illusion of green pastures on the part of broadcasters - they 'want to be like newspapers',"

"I wonder if they really want to sink to the comparatively impotent level of the daily press", Mr. Fly argues.

Nathan Straus, President of Station WMCA, New York, presented the following plan:

"1, Expression of editorial opinion should be permitted to the extent of fifteen minutes a day. For a station which is on the air eighteen hours, this would amount to 1.4 per cent of the broadcast day. For a daytime station which is on the air only 12 hours, it would amount to 2 percent of the broadcast day.

"2, Expression of editorial opinion should be clearly labeled and announced as such, both at the beginning and at the close of the editorial."

Stations should be required to allocate time, following each editorial period, for "letters from the public", giving opportunity for rebuttal to listeners who disagree with the editorial viewpoint previously expressed, Mr. Straus concluded.

X X X X X X X X X X

## WALLACE SEMINAR TELLS HOW TO "WORK" NEWSPAPERS, RADIO STATIONS

Representative Clyde B. Hoey (D), of North Carolina, had inserted in the Congressional Record (March 2) an article which discusses a "very unusual meeting" held at Chapel Hill, N. C.

"It was called a Wallace seminar", said Representative Hoey. "The meeting was held last Saturday and Sunday. A number of students from other colleges in North Carolina were invited to attend, and they were given instructions as to how to proceed with the Wallace campaign. The students were told:

"Write simple and plain letters to the editors of newspapers in which you say: 'If you want to save the country from war, Wallace seems to be the only man to make President.'

"They were also told to write:

"'Why is your newspaper playing down Wallace news?'" \* \* \* \* \*

"They were told:

"'But don't make your purposes too obvious. People will see your letters and get in touch with you.'

"Another suggestion which was made to these organizers for Wallace was:

"'Get on the radio stations. There are many which give free time, especially to college groups, if you sell them on the idea that it is a public-service feature. Ask for time to hold a forum with candidates of other parties taking part. A good trick is to offer four persons to debate the third-party issue or other issues. You don't bother to explain that all four are pro-Wallace.'" \* \* \* \*

"'Get into organizations and try to get pro-Wallace speakers on the program. Newspapers and radios generally will carry speeches made at civic clubs when they might otherwise refuse them.'"

X X X X X X X X X X X X

## G.E. TO FURNISH ABC'S WEST COAST TELEVISION TRANSMITTERS

Television transmitters for American Broadcasting Company stations in Los Angeles and San Francisco will be made at General Electric's plant at Electronics Park, Syracuse, N. Y.

Both units, five-kilowatt transmitters, will be similar to those being made there for the Chicago Tribune, Station WOR and the Daily News in New York City, and the Yankee Network in Boston, Mr. C. A. Priest, Manager of the Transmitter Division at Electronics Park reports.

X X X X X X X X X X



## CHICAGO NEWS BUREAU STUDIES POSSIBILITIES OF RADIO SERVICE

A survey is now being made by the Chicago News Bureau, owned by the four Chicago daily newspapers, to determine how frequently and what type of Chicago area news is being broadcast by local radio stations; how many local stories during the past year had AM, FM, television and newsreel possibilities; and the cost of CNB service to clients other than newspapers.

The study came following an application for the City News Bureau service by WBKB, Balaban and Katz television station. The Chicago News Bureau survey is taking into consideration the entire radio-television field, making a thorough study as to the need for local news coverage.

There are 17 radio stations in the Chicago area, including seven major outlets. Fourteen applications are pending for FM stations.

Seven channels have been granted for TV stations in Chicago of which WBKB has one. In addition, there are seven major newsreel companies with Chicago bureaus, all watching development of television from the standpoint of competition in the newsreel field.

X X X X X X X X X X

## RADIO CIRCLES STIRRED BY CONDON SOVIET SPY CHARGES

If a Russian spy had suddenly descended upon the National Bureau of Standards, it could not have created more surprise or mystification than the charges hurled at Dr. Edward U. Condon, the Bureau head, of associating with Soviet spies and being "one of the weakest links in our atomic security". The fact that Dr. Condon had been recommended for the position by Henry Wallace and that the dignified old Bureau of Standards was a sort of Supreme Court to the broadcasting industry, made the allegations all the more sensational.

Besides the secret work of the Radio Research Laboratories, it was also revealed that the Bureau was currently conducting research in the field of radio propagation.

Working particularly on radar research in his later years as Associate Director of Research for Westinghouse Electric Corp., 1937 to 1946, he first joined forces with the National Bureau of Standards in 1941 as a member of the group that in 1939 began what later became the Manhattan (Atom Bomb) Project.

Dr. Condon was born March 2, 1902, at Alamogordo, N. Mex., the site of the first experimental atom bomb explosions. He has since become scientific adviser to the Special Senate Committee on Atomic Energy.

X X X X X X X X X

PAPER CHARGES GEN. TAYLOR, EX-FCC COUNSEL, "PIRATED" STORY

Brig. Gen. Telford Taylor, Chief prosecutor at the recent United States Nuernberg war criminals trials and former General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission, clashed with the Chicago Tribune over an interview which Justice Charles F. Wennerstrum of the Iowa Supreme Court, German war crimes judge, gave to the Tribune. General Taylor said the interview was "subversive of the interests and policies of the United States." Judge Wennerstrum had said of Taylor that "the victor in any war is not the best judge of the war crime guilt".

The Tribune said later it had filed a complaint against General Taylor, alleging that "Taylor's subordinates pirated a news dispatch."

The dispatch was from the Tribune's Berlin correspondent, Hal Foust. The complaint was filed with Inspector General Louis A. Craig in Berlin. It declared that Foust's dispatch was taken from the Frankfurt office of Press Wireless on Saturday, February 21.

". . . Taylor personally used the purloined copy as the basis for a smear attack on Judge Charles F. Wennerstrum of the Iowa Supreme Court", the Tribune story said.

The Iowa jurist presided over the trial of German generals which ended at Nuernberg on February 19.

X X X X X X X X X X

RCA OPENS DIRECT BROADCAST SERVICE TO PALESTINE

A direct radio circuit for handling exchange broadcasts of studio and press programs between the United States and Palestine was opened on Monday, March 1, by RCA Communications, Inc., it was announced by H. C. Ingles, President. He said the direct circuit, approved by the Federal Communications Commission, would effect marked improvement in the delivery of programs and would substantially reduce costs to American broadcasters.

Programs originating in Palestine previously were brought to New York through an overseas relay point by the RCA Program Transmission Service, which operates the new circuit and makes broadcasts available to all requesting networks or independent radio stations in this country.

X X X X X X X X X X

The Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics has proposed a \$1,113,000,000 outlay over fifteen years to install devices for automatic control of civil and military air traffic in all weather.

X X X X X X X X X X

## CBS NETWORK TELEVISION CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK MARCH 31

Invitations have been sent to key management executives of the 165 stations on the Columbia Broadcasting System coast-to-coast network by Frank Stanton, President of CBS, for a network television clinic to be held Wednesday, March 31, in New York City.

"This clinic is being held at the request of our stations as voiced by the Columbia Affiliates Advisory Board", Mr. Stanton said. "Both the General and trade press have done an outstanding job in covering the many facets and constantly shifting patterns of television's growth. Yet broadcasters far removed from the present key television centers have trouble in piecing together all the scattered segments of television information to make a comprehensible whole. Many of them find it difficult to 'get the feel' of this new medium. We plan to spread out before them our many years of television experience and we will offer them such guidance as they may desire in shaping their own television plans.

X X X X X X X X X X

## BENDIX OUT OF RED NETS \$5,248,999

Bendix Aviation Corp. and wholly owned domestic subsidiaries, of which one is the Bendix Radio Corporation of Baltimore, reported Monday for the fiscal year ended September 30, consolidated net income, before extraordinary reserve adjustments, of \$5,248,999, equal to \$2.48 a common share.

This, an Associated Press dispatch states, compared with a net operating loss in 1946 of \$12,615,046 which was reduced by a \$9,200,000 estimated Federal tax refund.

Malcolm P. Ferguson, President, said in the annual report to stockholders that Bendix' postwar reconversion program was completed in 1947. This reduced reserve by \$10,811,605, which was taken as extraordinary income, and brought aggregate income to \$16,060,604, equal to \$7.58 a share.

X X X X X X X X X X

## PRESENTATION OF DUPONT AWARDS TO BE BROADCAST

Presentation of the Alfred I. duPont Annual Radio Station and Radio Commentator Awards will be broadcast over ABC and its affiliated stations on Monday, March 8, at 9:30 P.M., EST, from New York. Winners in each of three categories will receive cash prizes of \$1,000.

Appearing with the winners will be Mrs. Alfred I. du Pont, widow of the financier in whose name the awards are given and Mark Woods, President of the American Broadcasting Company.

X X X X X X X X X X



:::  
 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
 :::

Peacetime Censorship Looked Upon With Suspicion  
 ("Variety")

When Congress declared war in April of 1917 and December of 1941, the American people accepted censorship because censorship and war are mates like salt and pepper and because they were assured in both cases that censorship was temporary. \* \* \*

Lately there has been agitation in some circles for peacetime censorship. So far the prospects of its adoption are not too serious, but meantime the proposal by itself has perhaps been tossed off too lightly. Any way it's figured peacetime censorship should shock and frighten the men who run industries, whose stock in trade is information, interpretation and ideas. That includes all publications and all show business, but maybe radio, as a publicly licensed medium, has the greatest cause of all to hate the proposal of censorship.

Broadcasters right this minute are arguing that the Federal Communications Commission ought not to have any "authority" over program content. They can't maintain this position with any consistency or persuasiveness if they remain indifferent at the same time to any setup which would allow a whole indefinite number of Washington brass to exercise an infinitely more detailed authority in deciding what radio can or cannot say on certain subjects.

This peacetime censorship proposal must be examined with the greatest suspicion by all informational media for it is, on the face of it, revolutionary and foreign, and a far cry from traditional American attitudes. We've always been a nation that hated the very word censorship. \* \* \* \* We've prospered by allowing the public as a whole to be the ultimate judges of what's good for the public as a whole.

Peacetime censorship should be opposed by broadcasters. Their self-interest opposes it and they can be indifferent to the loss of private initiative only at considerable peril to their whole position against "interference".

- - - - -

Cautions Against Lopping \$6,000,000 Of "Voice Of America"  
 ("Washington Post")

One would think that by now even the most introspective Congressman would have realized the tremendous importance of an adequate foreign information program. Certainly that was the implication to be drawn from passage of the Smith-Mundt bill to make the program a permanent operation. Yet the House Appropriations Committee apparently still has its head in the sand. It proposed to lop more than six million dollars off the \$34,378,000 asked by the State Department for radio broadcasts and other information activities during fiscal 1949. The committee could scarcely have chosen a worse time for venting its economy penchant. With Russian terror and intimidation creeping westward, with Italy and even France in the balance, and with our supreme effort at stabilization in the Marshall Plan about to be launched, the committee puts a severe crimp in the funds necessary to get our story across.

- - - - -

Radio Cowboy Senator Bows To The Communists  
("Washington Post")

In accepting the number two seat on the Wallace bandwagon, Senator Glen Taylor no doubt is being true to his convictions. It may be said of the Idaho Senator that he has been superficial, glib and even demagogic in his approach to various issues, but at least he has been consistent. His fundamental difference with the Democratic Party which elected him has been on foreign policy. Mr. Taylor hears, sees and speaks no evil about Russia. He is, in a sense, a congenital maverick, and it is possible to see in him the same messianic martyrdom complex that grips Henry Wallace. Thus it is wholly logical from Taylor's standpoint that he should become Wallace's third party running mate.

But to grant Mr. Taylor's sincerity is not to applaud his wisdom. \* \* \* Not that Senator Taylor is any Communist. But there can be no question about the Communist support which he frankly welcomes - support which on the matter of foreign policy can mean only that Senator Taylor is serving Communist purposes.

- - - - -

The Real Thing Puzzled 'Em  
("Long Lines Magazine")

Noise on a television circuit sometimes appears on the video screen as a kind of whitish shimmer. This is called "snow" in the trade, and, among transmission engineers, it is a highly unpopular variety of winter scene.

In tests of the television network set up for the opening of the New York-Boston radio relay system, images of the Boston vista were coming through nicely on the New York receivers. On the afternoon before the inaugural day, however, the whitish shimmer that means trouble suddenly appeared on the screens at Long Lines Headquarters.

At first glance, there was considerable gnashing of teeth. But Boston technicians put their finger on the trouble right away. The "snow" seen in the viewers was the real McCoy - and, like any New England snow, had just started falling without consulting anybody.

- - - - -

Radio Bible Story Halts  
Auto Thief in Act  
("The Christian Science Monitor")

A Louisville, Ky., teen-ager, stepped into a parked automobile which its woman occupant had left for just a second. The radio was turned to "The Greatest Story Ever Told", on ABC.

The teen-ager drove the car off but listened to the program. He brought the car back to the original parking place in a few minutes and told the woman he could not go through with the theft.

X X X X X X X X



TRADE NOTES

The Federal Communications Commission, by Commissioner Jones, on February 25 postponed until further order the hearing in the matter of Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company applications for radiotelegraph circuits between the United States and Finland, Portugal, Surinam and The Netherlands.

Bertram B. Tower has been elected Comptroller of the American Cable & Radio Corporation and its three main operating subsidiaries, All America Cables and Radio, Inc., The Commercial Cable Company, and the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company. Mr. Tower, who has been associated with the ACR System for the past five years, previously held the position of Assistant Comptroller of ACR and the three operating companies.

Stromberg Carlson Company. For 1947: Net profit, \$1084,149, equal to \$3.50 a share, compared with 1946 net of \$802,910, or \$2.57 a share.

Philco Corporation is reported to have tripled its production facilities in Pennsylvania with the addition of 3 large modern plants. They represent a capital investment of \$10,500,000 and at capacity will furnish employment to 8,000 men and women.

Senator Glen Taylor, Wallace's running mate, lifted Wendell Willkie's remark bodily when he said, "I am not leaving the Democratic party, it left me." Willkie made that reply to someone in the audience at the National Press Club in Washington years ago in his first campaign.

The Farnsworth Television & Radio Corporation last week reported a net profit, after taxes, for the first nine months of the company's fiscal year, ended January 31, 1948, of \$230,441. Income for the period included a substantial amount of a non-recurrent nature which was reduced by a loss from operations, which included all costs incurred in initiating the production of television receivers.

For the first nine months of the preceding fiscal year the company showed a net loss of \$337,420 after tax carry-back credits.

The virtual ban on outside visitors was lifted in Key West last Sunday as President Truman welcomed James M. Cox, 1920 standard bearer of the Democratic Party. Mr. Cox, whose running mate 28 years ago was Franklin D. Roosevelt, is a former Governor of Ohio and now owns the Miami Daily News and other newspapers and radio stations in Atlanta, Ga., and Dayton, Ohio.

Charles Robbins has returned to the position he formerly held as Sales Manager of the Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corporation. Mr. Robbins, in business for himself during the last three years, succeeds Leslie H. Graham.

X X X X X X X X X X