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HEINL NEWS SERVICE

Radio — Television — FM — Communications

2400 California Street, N. W.

Washington 8, D. C.

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Founded in 1924

NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO. INC.
LEGAL DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED

APR 29 1948

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April 28, 1948

SEN. TOBEY ORDERS WHOLESALE RADIO-TV PROBE; TO INVESTIGATE RCA

Acting Chairman Tobey (R), of New Hampshire, more or less threw a bomb into the final hearings on Senator Johnson's bill, (S.2231) to break down clear channels, by announcing that hearings would shortly get under way for a probe of radio allocations, regulations and patent ownership, with TV low-band allocations, particularly stressing an intensive investigation of the operations of the Radio Corporation of America.

When reporters asked the reason for the RCA inquiry, Senator Tobey replied: "Collusion and the efforts of large interests to hamstring progress in radio circles."

Senator Tobey touched off the inquiry last Friday by recalling Raymond Guy, NBC Manager of Radio and Allocations Engineering, to the witness stand. With Mr. Guy on the stand, Senator Tobey renewed his charge that the Radio Corporation of America and the National Broadcasting Company had tried to "hamstring" frequency modulation. When Mr. Guy denied certain other allegations which Senator Tobey made, saying that he was unable to answer policy questions, the Senator called for "somebody who knows" but refused offer of written replies.

Prof. Edwin H. Armstrong, FM inventor and close friend of Senator Tobey, took the stand at the Acting Chairman's request to reiterate his own frequent charges - and those of Senator Tobey - that RCA and the Federal Communications Commission impeded FM.

Senator Tobey demanded whether RCA in past has "loaded" market with one type of set and then obsoleted it with another, and whether this procedure isn't being followed with black-and-white as against color video receivers. Mr. Guy denied charge and said "simple adapter" will permit color on monochrome sets.

Long series of questions about RCA patent policies and relations with manufacturers was posed by Senator Tobey but Mr. Guy said he was in no position to answer them.

Senator Tobey demanded also a list of all public officials to whom RCA has "loaned" TV sets and "Terms of the loan" at the hearing last Friday. Earlier he had charged RCA gave six of seven FCC Commissioners free sets, with only Commissioner Robert Jones refusing. It was further admitted on questioning that other FCC staffers had been "loaned" sets.

Senator Tobey's office reports that as yet no definite dates have been set for such an RCA investigation hearing as he proposes.

It is understood that Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, Executive Vice-President of RCA Laboratories, has asked to appear, along with Mr. Guy.

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CLEAR CHANNEL HEARINGS CONCLUDED

In the final round-up of hearings on Senator Johnson's bill (S.2231), to limit power of radio-broadcast stations, Louis G. Caldwell, Washington attorney for the Clear Channel Broadcasting Service, which opposes the measure, told the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee last Friday, that ^{former} Senator Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana, holds interest in radio stations. Mr. Wheeler earlier in the day had appeared as a witness before the Committee favoring legislation to ban so-called super-power radio stations.

(Senator Wheeler termed Mr. Caldwell's statement "pure unadulterated bunkum for the purpose of misrepresentation", the United Press reported, adding that "super power" for a few stations would give them such a competitive advantage that a lot of small stations would be bankrupt.)

Mr. Caldwell said he accepted Mr. Wheeler's statement that he (Wheeler) appeared before the Committee only on his own behalf and that he was not employed by anybody, but added:

"He (Wheeler) is, however, just as much under an obligation as the rest of us to reveal any interests which consciously or unconsciously might affect his viewpoints on the issues."

While in the Senate, Mr. Wheeler sponsored in 1938 a resolution in which the Senate directed the Federal Communications Commission not to authorize power in excess of 50,000 watts for standard radio stations.

Before the Senate Committee now is the Johnson bill which would write the 50,000-watt limitation into the 1934 Radio Act. It would also break up the 24 existing 1-A clear channels.

Mr. Caldwell, in a statement submitted to the Committee, said that Mr. Wheeler, through members of his immediate family" is "interested in the most profitable" of six stations operated by Ed Craney, of Butte, Mont. He said Station KXLY at Spokane, Wash., is managed by one of Wheeler's sons, and another son, along with the Senator, constitute a law partnership with Mr. Craney as one of their clients.

"I am not charging Senator Wheeler with being influenced by these interests", Mr. Caldwell said. He has, however, asserted that stations of this character will be severely damaged or ruined if the Commission permits higher power on clear channels.

"He has also come out unqualifiedly for duplication on clear channels which would open up an even more desirable facility for this Spokane station."

Summarizing the makeup and arguments of the bill's proponents, Mr. Caldwell maintained that they represent "several inconsistent and contradictory schools of thought" and that they want objectives which are "mutually exclusive of each other."

Those appearing the last day (Friday, April 23), in opposition to the bill in addition to Mr. Caldwell were Victor Sholis, secretary, CCBS; Ralph Hardy and Glen A. Wilkenson, KSL, Salt Lake City.

Those appearing in favor of the legislation on the same day were Commander T.A.M. Craven, Cowles Broadcasting Co.; Frank U. Fletcher, WARL, Arlington, Va.; and E. B. Craney, KXLF, Butte, Mont. Also Raymond G. Guy, National Broadcasting Company, and Dr. E. H. Armstrong, inventor of FM, also testified.

Victor Sholis, representing WHAS, Louisville, Ky., clear channel station, charged backers of the bill with dealing in "generalities".

"The record they left behind them is generously larded with the same venerable, generalized warnings that higher power will drive everyone else out of business", he said. "And we are still without a bill of particulars."

Commander T.A.M. Craven, Vice President, Cowles Broadcasting Co., discussing NARBA and Florida interference, said Cuba was not living up to the spirit of treaty. He had also offered a plan to authorize four or five 1-B stations on each of the 1-A channels with directional antennas.

Col. John H. DeWitt, Jr., President of WSM, Nashville, and engineering director of CCBS, said that he felt that Commander Craven's plan for putting four outlets on each of the 1-A channels is "too close to the limit". The 1-B type of service given by WTOP, Washington, and KSTP, Minneapolis, he argued, is not the type of service which is needed.

Touching on the international aspect, Col. DeWitt said that duplication is exactly what Mexico and Cuba want and they will then be authorized to use our channels.

After the report in the lead story of today's issue, the hearing wound up for the time being.

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CALIFORNIANS FETE REP. LEA

Representative Clarence F. Lea (D), of California, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce (Radio) Committee, dean of Far West Congressmen, who is retiring at the end of the current session after a continuous service of 32 years, was the guest of honor at a California Chamber of Commerce dinner Monday Night (April 26) in Washington, D.C.

Some of the State's best-known citizens joined members of the Congressional delegation in honoring Representative and Mrs. Lea.

At 76, Representative Le has the unique record of having been nominated for Congress by both major parties in 14 out of 16 elections.

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WESTINGHOUSE-PHILCO PLAN RADIO-TELEVISION CENTER IN PHILA.

Plans for Establishment of a Westinghouse-Philco Radio and Television Center, to house all radio and television broadcasting activities of the two companies in the Philadelphia area, were revealed today (28) in a joint statement by Walter Evans, President of Westinghouse Radio Stations, Inc., and John Ballantyne, President of Philco Television Broadcasting Corporation.

The respective operations will occupy the present Westinghouse-KYW Building at 1619 Walnut Street, which will be known as the Westinghouse-Philco Radio and Television Center. Alterations to the structure already are under way.

"As a part of the overall plans", the announcement points out, "Philco television station WPTZ, one of the pioneer telecasters of the country, leases the fifth and sixth floors of the Center. This arrangement will provide the additional studio space made necessary by Philco's rapidly expanding television broadcasting operations. Present studio quarters in the Architects Building will be vacated.

"The space which WPTZ will occupy in the new Center was especially designed for television when the building was erected. It is now rough-finished and ready for interior construction and final finishing. The framework is equipped with all anchorages necessary for the most modern studio construction. The entire fifth floor will be devoted to television broadcasting.

"Under the joint occupancy plan, WPTZ also will use the large KYW Auditorium Studio for audience participation shows; and other KYW studios will be made available as needed for television shows, rehearsals and experimentation."

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ARMY DENIES RCA "LEAKED" RADAR DATA

The Army last week denied published reports that the Radio Corporation of America "leaked" radar secrets. It issued a lengthy memorandum "to correct the impressions" given by Columnist Drew Pearson in an article last December and reiterated two weeks ago.

Mr. Pearson charged that RCA "deliberately flouted the Signal Corps' secrecy order by filing for patents in Germany, Japan and the rest of the world" on radar-connected inventions in 1936. Two of the patent applications applied to an impulse generator, and the third to a signalling system.

The Army said in its memorandum that RCA acted on the generator before being advised that the Government planned to screen inventions important to national defense.

"In contradiction of Mr. Pearson's claims", it said, "there is absolutely no evidence that the application for patent on the signalling system was disclosed abroad prior to V-J Day."

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DURR, FCC COMMISSIONER, RESIGNS; REP. McDOWELL SATISFIED

Last week Clifford J. Durr, Federal Communications Commissioner, tendered his resignation to the President as a member of the FCC, closely following the appointment of Mrs. Durr as Chairman of the Northern Virginia Committee for Henry Wallace.

Last Thursday in the House, Representative McDowell (R), of Pennsylvania, brought up the matter by asking that an Associated Press description of a statement made Wednesday (21) by Frank C. Waldrop, an American journalist, on a ruling made by the Federal Communications Commission, be placed in the Congressional Record. Mr. McDowell felt that Mr. Waldrop who, he said, had long been a recognized authority on matters pertaining to free speech in our nation, "speaks for all of those Americans who are concerned over any attempt to abridge the right of expression in America", and and felt that Mr. Waldrop's objections, as follows, to the FCC ruling should be made a part of the permanent Record.

"The Federal Communications Commission yesterday heard itself called 'the principal enemy of free speech now operating within the Government of the United States.'"

"Frank C. Waldrop, Washington Times-Herald editorial writer, applied the description in an appearance before the Commission to protest the 7-year-old FCC ban against radio stations "editorializing" on public questions.

"Waldrop asked for revocation of the ban and 'a general correction of past policies' relating to supervision of broadcasting.

"The law did not appoint you America's nursemaid, school ma'am, or censor", Waldrop said.

"The no-editorializing rule was as staunchly championed by Norman Matthews, Chairman of the UAW-CIO international radio committee. He said the wording of the ban itself - 'truly free radio cannot be used to advocate the cause of the licensee' - stated the case for retention.

Matthews contended that both the letter and the spirit of the rule is frequently violated by radio stations. He said that 'the licensing of broadcasters to editorialize will be a move toward a monopoly of opinion channels in the country.'

Representative McDowell went on further to say, "I noted in today's (22) paper two news items of particular interest. One was that Mrs. Virginia Foster Durr, the wife of Federal Communications Commissioner Clifford Durr, had accepted the chairmanship of the Northern Virginia Committee for Henry Wallace. The second item listed Commissioner Durr's being scheduled to call upon President Truman at the White House this morning. I feel that I express the fervent hope of 95 percent of the American people that Commissioner Durr tendered his resignation to the President of the United States."

On the other hand, a Washington Post editorial handed a bouquet to Mr. Durr, as follows:

"Although the radio industry may not recognize it, the expiration of Clifford J. Durr's term on the Federal Communications Commission at the end of June will deprive it of one of its best friends as well as of one of its severest critics. Mr. Durr has done a great deal to help radio grow up. He has encouraged broadcasters to emancipate themselves from their advertisers. He has fostered a measure of independence on the part of network affiliates. He has fought consistently for freedom of the air - viewing freedom always as the interest of the listener and insisting that radio make itself a medium for the conflict of ideas which is the essence of the democratic process. He has had faith in the tremendous potentialities of radio and an understanding of its great social impact.

"In asking Mr. Durr to accept renomination, President Truman paid tribute to the quality of his service and made amends, at least in part, for certain past failures to reappoint other men who had served his Administration faithfully and well. The request was the more commendable in this case because Mr. Durr has been a vigorous critic of the President's loyalty investigation program. There ought to be room in the Government for rebels of such courage; they relieve the conformity which is too often the curse of bureaucracy. It is a public misfortune that Clifford Durr can no longer afford the luxury of public service."

Commissioner Durr has been slashing out recently against the Federal loyalty tests among Federal employees and even since handing in his resignation spoke last Friday night at a dinner of the Acoustical Society of America here in Washington, denouncing the President's loyalty check program among Federal employees. He also rebuked the House Committee on Un-American Activities for its procedure in the case of Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director of the National Bureau of Standards. One of his statements which had to do with the radio and press was as follows:

"If security requires the suppression of dangerous ideas, what about our broadcast stations and networks, with their continuous access to the ears and minds of the American people? What about our newspapers, with their tremendous power of moulding public opinion?"

There are rumors flying around as to who may be appointed to replace Mr. Durr, the most prominent of which is the name of Brig. Gen. Telford Taylor, former FCC General Counsel, who has just returned to Washington from Germany where he was U. S. chief prosecutor at the war crimes trials at Nuremberg.

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Charles L. Sefrit, business manager of Bellingham (Wash.) Herald, reports this circulation department score sheet five weeks after discontinuance of Seattle radio station logs:

Paid subscribers, 19,950

Cancellations - 12

Protests - 91

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FTC CHARGES VIOLATIONS IN RADIO & TELEVISION COURSE COMPLAINT

Radio Training Association of America, 5620 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif., and its officers are charged in a complaint issued by the Federal Trade Commission with misrepresentation in the sale of correspondence courses in radio and television. The complaint not only charges the respondents with falsely representing the advantages and benefits which purchasers of the courses could expect to receive, but also alleges that use of the word "Association" in the corporate name of their business is deceptive and misleading.

According to the complaint, the respondents represent that one completing their courses is assured of proper preparation and ample training for a successful future career as a technician in the fields of radio and television; that the courses embrace all the practical training necessary for success in these fields; that satisfactory completion of the courses properly equips one with the necessary qualifications to obtain and hold high-salaried positions in the radio and television industry and supplies him with adequate radio shop knowledge for a lucrative future in radio; that they have a modernly equipped radio and television laboratory in Hollywood, in which those students who satisfactorily complete their home study courses can obtain practical training and experience; and that the expenses of this laboratory training, including round trip transportation from the student's home to Hollywood, as well as lodging, are all included in the original tuition fee. Contrary to these representations, the complaint alleges that the true facts are in substance as follows:

The respondents' courses are not sufficient to properly prepare and train one for employment as a technician in the radio and television industry. The best that a student can reasonably expect is to be "somewhat better qualified to enter the trade as an apprentice than one who has not received any practical training or experience or who has not studied the theory of such sciences." The courses do not include any practical training whatever and merely instruct the student in the theory of radio and television. Completion of the courses does not properly equip one with the necessary qualifications to obtain and hold a high-salaried position in the industry, nor does it assure a lucrative career in the radio field. The respondents do not have a radio and television laboratory in Hollywood or elsewhere, nor do they have any means of securing to students practical training or laboratory experience. The student never sees Hollywood unless he does so at his own expense.

The complaint charges that the use of the word "Association" in the corporate name of the business represents that the enterprise is an organization composed of persons engaged, from an educational standpoint, in giving training in the mechanics and science of radio and television engineering and as such has some connection with the radio manufacturing and distributing industry.

The officers of the corporation are Benjamin M. Klekner, Earl L. Kemp, Paul H. Thomsen and I. O'Connor.

Alleging violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act, the complaint allows the respondents 20 days in which to file answer.

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RATE INCREASES GRANTED INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH CARRIERS BY FCC

Because most United States international telegraph carriers urgently require additional revenue, the Federal Communications Commission last week authorized emergency rate increases for outgoing commercial and ordinary press messages, effective today (April 28).

The rate increases on such cable and radiotelegraph messages are expected to bring an additional \$3,188,000 to eight carriers, several of which have been operating at a loss. Further revenues of \$295,000 are anticipated through inbound rate increases which may be secured by the carriers.

The changes in rates for commercial messages originating in the continental United States (exclusive of Alaska) and intended for overseas points (except the United Kingdom and British Commonwealth countries) amount to from 2 to 6 cents per full rate word.

The interim increases are the result of petitions by carriers for supplemental relief to that granted by Commission action of last July. Further hearings held last December and January produced more than 1000 pages of testimony and 200 exhibits evincing need of telegraph carriers for additional income to cover increased expenses. Appearances were made by RCA Communications, Inc.; The Western Union Telegraph Co.; Tropical Radio Telegraph Co.; Globe Wireless, Ltd.; All America Cables and Radio, Inc.; Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co.; The Commercial Cable Co.; Commercial Pacific Cable Co.; Press Wireless, Inc.; United States-Liberia Radio Corp.; and Cable and Wireless (W.I.), Ltd.

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FM ASSOCIATION TO HOLD REGIONAL MEETINGS

Region 4 of the FM Association, which includes Delaware, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia, will hold meetings in Washington May 5 and 6.

A forum-type discussion on programming will be moderated by Theodore Granik, of Mutual's "American Forum of the Air". R. C. Embry, Vice-President and Sales Manager of WITH-FM, Baltimore, will be moderator of a forum discussion on selling FM.

Among speakers scheduled for the FMA meeting will be Everett L. Dillard, FMA President; J. N. (Bill) Bailey, the Association's Executive Director; Bond Geddes, Executive Vice-President of the Radio Manufacturers' Association; E. Cleveland Giddings, Vice-President of Capital Transit Co., Washington and Robert F. Wolfe, President of WPRO-FM, Fremont, Ohio.

The afternoon of May 5th, the delegates will tour the Bendix Radio plant in Baltimore as guests of William Hilliard, General Manager of Bendix Radio.

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For Release: Thursday, April 29, 1948:

SYLVANIA ELECTRIC EARNED \$1,162,737 IN FIRST QUARTER

Consolidated net income of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., for the first quarter of 1948 was \$1,162,737, equal to \$1.06 per share on the 1,006,550 shares of common stock outstanding after deducting dividends of \$1.00 a share on the \$4 cumulative preferred stock. This compares with consolidated net income of \$805,342, equal to 70 cents a share on the common stock for the same quarter a year ago.

Consolidated net sales for the quarter ended March 31, 1948, were \$24,547,529, increase of 4 per cent over the \$23,536,779 of sales for the first quarter of 1947. The demand for Sylvania products continues high, the aggregate volume of production of tungsten and fluorescent lamps, fluorescent lighting fixtures, radio receiving tubes, cathode ray tubes (the television picture tube), radio sets and photoflash lamps being at about the same level as in the fourth quarter of 1947.

Operating results at Colonial Radio Corp., beginning with February, were on a profitable basis, whereas this subsidiary operated at a loss in 1947. In addition to its profit from operations, there is included in Colonial's first quarter earnings a non-recurring net income of approximately \$180,000 arising from a profit on the sale of its assembly plants at Bloomington, Illinois, and Riverside, Calif.

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SMALLER PAPERS LEAN TOWARD RADIO PROGRAM LISTING, ANPA REPORTS

Many smaller newspapers have begun within the last year to charge advertising rates for listing radio programs, it was brought out last week at the 62nd annual convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association.

A wide range of problems in the fields of advertising, radio, circulation and business management were discussed during the sessions.

The new tendency for small newspapers to charge advertising rates for radio programs was described by speakers as a defensive move, resulting from the growing space required for AM and FM listings, and for prospective television listings. No paper that has tried the experiment has reverted to free publication of the programs, it was contended.

Mr. J. B. Hartford of The Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald reported that he discontinued printing radio programs when the radio stations in his area refused to pay advertising rates for them. He said that the net loss of circulation was four subscriptions.

The Committee estimated that thus far about 5 per cent of the approximately 600 ANPA members that have less than 50,000 daily circulation have tried the experiment. They said it is being followed with closest interest by other publishers, however. At the meeting in New York, representatives of fifteen additional newspapers indicated they were considering the move.

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RCA DEVELOPS NEW MINIATURE BROADCAST QUALITY MICROPHONE

A new miniature velocity microphone which is smaller than a pack of cigarettes and has the sensitivity of the finest broadcasting microphones is now in production and will be available shortly, it has been announced by the RCA Engineering Products Department.

One of the smallest broadcast microphones yet developed, the new low-cost RCA "Bantam" velocity microphone (Type KB-2C) is designed for use in radio studios, at remote broadcasts, at conventions, and in clubs. The unit is so small that it will not hide the faces of singers, speakers, and others using it. It fits comfortably in the palm of the hand and weighs only 12 ounces, making it ideal for use at remote pickups.

The diminutive size of the microphone is made possible by designing the magnetic structure as a part of the case. New highly efficient magnetic materials employed in the unit have also contributed to the reduction in size, while retaining an output level comparable to the larger, conventional types of microphones.

The built-in swivel which is part of the case allows the microphone to be tilted forward or backward through an angle of approximately 30 degrees. A switch located under the swivel pivot makes it possible to select bass response for voice or music. The voice position is useful for performers who must work close to the microphone, or in studios with long reverberation periods at the low frequencies.

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INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE CONCLUDES LIQUOR AD HEARINGS

Last Thursday the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee concluded its hearings on Bills S. 265, S.2352 and S.2365 (described in last week's Radio News Service) prohibiting or restricting the advertising of alcoholic beverages, after receiving further testimony in opposition to the bills from about fifty witnesses. Those in favor of the bills, including Senator Capper, and many others, had testified the day before.

The National Editorial Association opposed "as a form of censorship" proposals to curbe or bar liquor newspaper and radio advertising.

"Small town newspapers are not concerned with the small loss of revenue which may be involved", Arthur D. Jenkins, publisher of the Carlyle (Ill.) Union-Banner, told the Senate Commerce Committee. "They are concerned and I tell you they are seriously concerned with the new field of censorship that is being opened up and which will inevitably be extended to other forms of advertising.

Mr. Jenkins identified himself as a legislative adviser to the N.E.A., a national association of newspaper publishers and

editors, and termed the three bills before the Committee "a form of censorship".

Rev. Sam Morris, San Antonio, Tex., radio speaker for the National Temperance and Prohibition Council, coordinating group for the dry forces, and Henry M. Johnson, Louisville, Ky., attorney and past council president, submitted a statement charging that the radio industry had adopted a "discriminatory" and "one-sided" policy "favoring the liquor forces, to the exclusion of the dry forces."

Senator Reed (R), of Kansas, declared that he has "given up all hope" that the hard liquor industry will "ever observe any rule of decency" in its advertising.

"We have been unable to find a single 50,000-watt radio station in all of America which will sell the dry forces so much as one broadcast of choice evening time to counter the pro-drinking appeals that blanket the national day and night", the statement of the Prohibition Council further stated.

The following editorial appeared in the Washington Times-Herald:

"The drys never stop in their efforts to destroy the right of Americans to drink what they please. Their latest maneuver is an attack on press and radio liquor advertising, although liquor manufacture and sale are legal in almost all the States.

"Now before the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee are three bills on the subject. One of these would prohibit liquor ads in newspapers, magazines, radio programs, and all other interstate means of communication. Two would drastically restrict such ads - for example, by limiting each of them to no more than three life-size pictures of the bottle of Old Panther, Northern Discomfort, or whatever beverage was being advertised.

"These are direct attacks on the freedom of the press, as guaranteed by the first amendment to the Constitution. If Congress in a moment of idiocy should pass any one of them, and if the Supreme Court should later declare the statute constitutional, the way would be open to similar government regulation of all other kinds of advertising.

"That would be the beginning of the end of the free press which now safeguards the liberties of Americans - and which enemies of those liberties, from drys to Communists, fear and detest.

"We hope this Senate Committee refused flatly to report out any of these bills. They don't deserve even the polite consideration which the committee has been kind enough (or frightened enough by the dry lobbyists) to give them.

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Bob Hope's definition of Washington, D. C.:

"A small group of buildings surrounded by presidential candidates."

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RMA-NAB ASK RADIO GROUPS TO JOIN RADIO WEEK OBSERVANCE

All organizations and groups concerned either with radio or television broadcasting or the merchandising of radio and television receivers will be invited to participate, both nationally and in local communities, in the observance of National Radio Week November 14-20, a joint sponsoring committee representing the Radio Manufacturers' Association and the National Association of Broadcasters, has announced.

The RMA-NAB Committee, has already received several proposals from other organizations which wish to cooperate in celebrating the 28th anniversary of radio broadcasting, W. B. McGill, Chairman of the joint committee, said.

Invitations to join in the industry promotion program will be sent shortly to organizations representing FM and television broadcasters, national associations of retail and wholesale groups, patriotic organizations, and others closely allied with radio, Mr. McGill added.

National Radio Week activities this year will fall into two major categories, the Joint Committee decided. The first will be a repetition of the "Voice of Democracy" contest for high school students, and the second phase will constitute a climax to the year-round "Radio-in-Every-Room and Radio-for-Everyone" merchandising campaign designed to increase radio audiences by encouraging multiple set ownership in American homes.

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DON LEE PLANS MICROWAVE RELAY, SAN DIEGO TO L.A.

Don Lee Broadcasting System plans to construct a microwave television relay between San Diego and Los Angeles once a grant has been authorized for the former city.

In explaining the plan, which will represent an investment of approximately \$15,000, Harry Lubcke, television director, said that several sites are under consideration, including Mt. Soledad, which would be in line of sight with Don Lee's Los Angeles antenna atop Mt. Lee.

Hearings for San Diego are scheduled for June and once grants have been authorized, it is understood that DLBS hopes to have its relay operative within six months from start of erection.

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Walter Emerson, attorney and legal counsel for Station WENR, was named Secretary-Treasurer of the recently formed Illinois Broadcasters' Association which met in Springfield. Other officers elected at the meeting were Frank R. Mills, WDWS, President; Robert B. Jones, Jr., WIRL, Vice-President; and to serve on the Executive Committee: Arthur Harre, WJJD; Oscar Hirsch, WKRO; Oliver Kellar, WTAX, and Leslie C. Johnson, WHBF.

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::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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The Strangler

(Frank C. Waldrop, Washington Times-Herald)

Everybody who cares about free speech and a free press is bound to find something of interest in some just-finished hearings by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC is considering whether it ought to change a rule it issued on Jan. 16, 1941, forbidding the holder of a broadcasting license to be "an advocate". This rule has literally strangled most of the radio stations of the country as independent-minded institutions.

Webster's New International Dictionary defines an advocate as one who defends, vindicates or espouses any cause by argument.

Let us suppose that in time of war a broadcaster feels moved to advocate the cause of the United States. The FCC has told him that he must not.

Suppose he wants to advocate going to church on Sunday. He is forbid by the FCC to do so, on the pain that it will withdraw his license to do business.

Imagine that a fire or a storm should lay waste this city of Washington. The FCC has already warned the broadcaster that he must not advocate giving humane assistance through the Red Cross.

In the course of that order issued in 1941, the Commission stated that "freedom of speech on the radio must be broad enough to provide full and equal opportunity for the presentation to the public of ALL sides of public issues." But what is its definition of a public issue? Is religion a public issue?

If that 1941 rule means what it says, no broadcaster's license is worth the paper it is written on, for the atheists and the people who differ as between religious concepts certainly do not and in practical fact cannot have equal opportunity on the radio.

Suppose a Mohammedan demands that the National Broadcasting Company let him have time equal to that given to Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen on a Sunday afternoon. What does the FCC say the broadcaster must do?

There are not only atheists in this country and people who quarrel about religion, but there are also people who don't like the Red Cross. Is the broadcast license holder required under that 1941 rule to let everyone of these jump up to his microphone and contradict him, if he advocates that the public go down to the blood banks and help save human life in a time of urgent emergency?

In time of war, where will the FCC draw the line?

The fact is, of course, that neither radio nor other information medium can fairly promise a full and equal opportunity to all sides of public issues. It must juse judgment, in the final analysis, in every day's scheduling of events. It cannot rely on any automatic rule. Yet the FCC has said that radio MUST NOT use judgment, but must give "all sides" of public issues, and that without even explaining what it means by a "public issue" let alone telling how a broadcaster can give "all"sides.

Instead of providing the broadcaster with a clear and unmis-takable rule he can follow with certainty, it has loaded upon him an impossible responsibility and has taken upon itself an equally im-possible one.

Suppose, for instance, the FCC is challenged by a broadcaster with courage and ingenuity. How will it strangle him?

It tells him that he, personally, shall not be an advocate. Very well, suppose he lets someone else advocate his cause? Where does the FCC draw the line, there? Nobody can find out, from the record.

The Commission, therefore, has an opportunity now in revoking this rule of 1941, to lay down a standard that is honest and workable. The rule should be that the license holder, subject to penalties and responsibilities of general law, shall exercise his own judgment as to what he shall broadcast just as the editor of a newspaper exercises his own judgment.

At present the FCC is attempting to qualify itself as a censor of the public mind in the United States. It shows no confidence in the public mind itself.

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Claims Telford Taylor Is Being Called Off
(Drew Pearson, "Washington Post")

A damaging piece of paper has just been found in Germany. It is a memo, written during the war, asking authorization to erect a new crematorium big enough to burn 40 bodies daily at the Auschwitz slave-labor camp run by I. G. Farben.

This evidence is expected to clinch the guilt of I. G. Farben directors for their war guilt in helping to kill thousands of laborers drafted by Hitler from occupied Europe.

But just as this evidence was uncovered, a strange thing happened in Nuernberg. Gen. Telford Taylor, hardworking war-crimes prosecutor (former FCC General Counsel), got instructions to come home. Taylor, at first, demurred, but Washington insisted. Just out of the hospital after an airplane accident, Taylor obeyed orders and is now back in the USA.

Simultaneously, certain highly placed defense chiefs have started a quiet drive to save both the factories and the personnel of I.G. Farben, the Krupps and other big Nazi munitions-makers.

This is probably the most significant development in Germany today.

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Taft Tells Pompeii Not To Worry
(Drew Pearson, "Washington Post")

Ohio's usually solemn Senator Robert A Taft and his wife were listening to a radio program, "CBS Was There", dramatizing ancient times in modern language. This particular program was based on the fall of ancient Pompeii, and the dramatization was grim and gruesome.

The people of Pompeii starved as their city was torn to pieces. As the program closed Senator Taft picked up the phone and called Columbia Broadcasting.

"You can tell the people of Pompeii", he said, "not to worry. The Truman Administration will ask for a \$42,000,000 relief program for them next week, I'm sure."

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TRADE NOTES

Dr. Edwin H. Armstrong, Alpine, N.J., has been granted a construction permit by the Federal Communications Commission for a new experimental television broadcast station; frequencies to be assigned by Commission's Chief Engineer; power 50 KW (operating) Dr. Armstrong was the inventor of FM radio.

Paul Whiteman and Murray B. Grabhorn have been elected Vice-Presidents of the American Broadcasting Company. Mr. Whiteman is ABC's Director of Music. Mr. Grabhorn is manager of the stations owned and operated by ABC including WJZ, the net's key outlet in New York City.

Guy della-Cioppa, for the past two years Assistant to the Chairman of the Board of the Columbia Broadcasting System, has been appointed Associate Director of Network Programs, Hollywood. The number of network productions which originate in Hollywood and the mounting demand for CBS package programs made it essential to further expand network operations on the Coast.

Joe McCaffrey, commentator and newsman, and formerly CBS Washington correspondent, has been appointed to the news staff of Radio Station WOL, Col. Albert L. Warner, Director of News for that station recently announced.

Both sales and earnings of the Bendix Aviation Corporation increased sharply in the first quarter of the company's new fiscal year compared to the similar 1947 period, Malcolm P. Ferguson, President, reported to stockholders in a meeting at South Bend, Indiana, last week.

Consolidated gross sales, royalties and other operating income for the three months ended December 31, 1947, the first quarter of 1948 fiscal year, amounted to \$38,991,753 compared to \$32,332-814 for the similar period last year.

The company's new commercial electronic automatic pilot, introduced shortly after V-J Day, is now being used on planes made by seven leading manufacturers in the United States and Canada, and on 17 principal airlines operating in all parts of the world.

In conjunction with plans of the National Broadcasting Co. to begin television operations on the West Coast in the near future, Assistant Manager George Greaves of NBC radio station KNBC, San Francisco, will visit Washington to study video operations at WNBW. Mr. Greaves will spend a week with WNBW Program Manager John Gaunt looking over the technical and programming phases of WNBW's operations with a view towards applying WNBW's experiences for West Coast programming.

H. R. Baukhage, ABC radio commentator, newspaperman and lecturer, has accepted the chairmanship of the Washington, D. C. committee for the Crusade for Children of American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children.

An agreement on the site and dates of the National Association of Broadcasters' annual conventions of 1949, 1950, and 1951 was signed last week by Howard Lane, WJJD, Chicago, Chairman of the NAB Convention Sites and Policy Committee, with Robert Quain, manager of Chicago's Stevens Hotel.

The agreement fixes the Stevens Hotel as the site, and April 8-13 as the time of the 1949 Convention. It includes also options on the week of April 14-19, 1950, and the week of April 16, 1951, for subsequent conventions.

Robert M. McGredy was appointed Sales Manager of WTOP, in Washington, last week. Mr. McGredy, a member of the WTOP sales staff since April 1, 1946, fills the vacancy created by Richard Linkroom's reappointment as WTOP Program Manager last March.

Dorman Israel, Vice President of Emerson Radio and Phonogram Corp., forecasts that radio will remain the principal daytime form of broadcasting.

"The shirt-pocket or vest-pocket radio, he believes, "is not more than five years away."

The public can expect an increasing variety of sets - including more models with built-in tape or wire recorders and eventually, facsimile newspaper receivers.

The American Broadcasting Company has signed two-year affiliation agreements with four additional stations in its television network. The new ABC television affiliates are: WMAL-TV, Washington, D. C.; WTCN-TV of Minneapolis, Minn.; KFMB-TV, San Diego, Cal.; and WDSU-TV in New Orleans, La.

The Radio Corporation of America has just put out an attractive brochure on "The Magic of making television picture tubes".

Lyman Bryson, CBS Counselor on Public Affairs; Leon Levine, Director of Discussion Broadcasts; George Crothers, Assistant to the Director of Education; and Don Lerch, Director of Agricultural Broadcasts, will represent the Columbia Broadcasting System at the 18th Annual Institute for Education by Radio to be held in Columbus, Ohio, April 29-May 3.

A television set which projects a picture three feet by four feet under normal lighting conditions is now being produced by United States Television Mfg. Corp., it has been made known by Hamilton Hoge, President of UST. The new model uses a special metal screen developed by the company which, with the new UST circuit, is said to mark a great advance in projection television.

The first television "Oscar" has been awarded to Mr. George More O'Ferrall, a senior drama producer at the British Broadcasting Corporation Television Station at Alexandra Palace, London, for his work on "Hamlet", televised by the BBC last December.

The award took the form of a silver medal and was for the most artistic television production of the year. It will be presented annually. The presentation took place at the 21st anniversary dinner of the Television Society, which was founded in 1927 for the furtherance of study and research in television and allied problems.

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