



# HEINL NEWS SERVICE

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Robert D. Heinl, *Editor*

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No. 1836

Wm 8 p

August 4, 1948

## BALT. PRESS, RADIO GAG DOOMED BY DEADLY ANTI-CENSOR WHACK

Although one newspaper, the Baltimore American and the Baltimore News-Post, Hearst publications operating Station WBAL again toed the mark in the Baltimore press and radio gag threat in a murder which occurred last Saturday night, the Baltimore Sun-papers (Station WMAR) shot the works. In the meantime, the anti-censorship forces have been receiving help from all over the country. In the meantime, the anti-censorship forces have been receiving help from all over the country - the National Association of Broadcasters, the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, the American Civil Liberties Union, with James L. Fly, former FCC Chairman as No. 1 defender, the Washington Newspaper Guild, and the latest group to come to the rescue is the Maryland Press Association.

Consensus of opinion in the Baltimore-Washington area is that the whole thing will have proven to be a tempest in a teapot and when the case gets to the Supreme Court, as it surely will, the Baltimore press and radio gag will be thoroughly beaten and probably never heard of again.

At the moment, however, the pot is boiling angrily and the fresh outbreak this week-end is causing all kinds of excitement.

The News-Post, on the advice of a Baltimore judge, deleted key sections of a front-page crime story.

Victim of the Baltimore Supreme Court rules this time was the News-Post which sought judicial light on its right to publish certain statements made by the accused fiance, Duncan Livingston, Jr. in connection with the strangling of his sweetheart, Shirley Will. Livingston also had attempted to kill himself.

The Baltimore Evening Sun, risking contempt of court citation under Baltimore's rigid press censorship rules, printed those facts the News-Post had explained in parentheses could not be printed.

Early editions of both Baltimore papers printed all the details their newsmen and photographers could gather on the assumption the crime was committed outside of Baltimore.

Then the critically wounded man was reported to have given police a second statement, disclosing that he had strangled his girl friend "on Erdman Ave. and Sinclair Lane" in Baltimore. That brought the crime under jurisdiction of Baltimore police and the Baltimore Supreme Bench's so-called "gag rule" of censorship.

Editors of the News-Post sought opinion of Associate Justice John T. Tucker, Baltimore Supreme Court, who, they said, "informally" interpreted his court's rules on crime news censorship. He ruled out as "unprintable" the reports of a confession, police statements in the case and on-the-scene pictures showing the death car and other items which might be used in court trial.

Admittedly frustrated, editors of the News-Post resorted to deleting the censored portions of their story, inserting in their stead:

("Publication of what the man said is barred under the rule of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore governing the publication of news in criminal cases.")

The News-Post editors said they yanked out early edition pictures showing the death car, and one of a policeman examining the wounded man's necktie and revolver. They were permitted to continue to run a picture of the dead girl "because it was obtained from her family and without cooperation of the police."

The Baltimore Evening Sun continued to print its picture of the death car.

Later, an editor of the News-Post, declared: "The Sun played it smart by playing dumb. They didn't seek any judge's opinion. That's why they continued to print the full story."

The interest of the Civil Liberties Union and the calling of Mr. Fly as counsel was to protest the previous contempt citations against five Baltimore radio stations which grew out of the Eugene H. James case involving the murders of Marsha Brill and Carol Bardwell - as representing "an abridgment of freedom of speech and press."

The five radio stations and a Baltimore newscaster were cited for broadcasts, not yet disclosed in detail, allegedly in violation of a Baltimore court rule prohibiting disclosure of statements an accused makes after his arrest, and restricting other crime news. James reportedly confessed murdering Marsha Brill in Baltimore July 6, and killing the Bardwell girl in Washington June 27. Cited were Stations WITH, WBAL, WCBM, and WFBR of Baltimore; WSID, Essex, Md., and James Connolly, news editor of WITH.

"The radio stations are violating no provision of the Federal Communications Act", an FCC spokesman said last week by way of advance turn-down to any possible suggestion by the State of Maryland or the Supreme Branch of Baltimore Courts that the Federal Government aid enforcement of press gag rules of the "Free State".

The way is still open for the State or the complaining judges (two of them signed the contempt citation) to appear before FCC when the station licenses come up for renewal and object on the theory that the broadcasters have not operated "in the public interest" because they aired the forbidden material. That opportunity is afforded anyone with a complaint whether it be valid, superficial, or imagined, it was pointed out.

Date for the hearing for the radio stations has been set down for October 1st.

The court rules, established by the Baltimore Supreme Bench in 1939, forbid broadcast or publication of statements an



accused man makes after his arrest. It is also deemed improper to comment on a prisoner's conduct to tell what evidence the police have discovered or to discuss the accused man's past criminal record. The prisoner's picture, taken while in custody, may not be printed without his consent, under the court rules.

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## PRESENT TV SETS CALLED "OBSOLETE"; ZENITH TO MAKE FALL DEBUT

"Zenith Radio Corporation will begin making deliveries this Fall of television receivers that will be new, novel and different", Commander E. F. McDonald, Jr., President, told stockholders at their annual meeting last week in Chicago.

"Every television receiver on the market today is obsolete. What the public does not understand is that only a handful of frequencies are now in use. There are only 12 television channels in the entire United States for television broadcast. In contrast", Commander McDonald said, "on AM broadcasting there are 105 channels and on FM broadcasting there are 100 channels. In other words, radio has 205 channels, whereas present television has only 12. A meeting has been called by the FCC for September to consider opening the upper television bands which can add 50 or 60 channels to present television and make television a national service."

It is generally conceded that a national service cannot be built on the present 12 channels. Present television receivers that have been and are being sold to the public do not and will not receive the new channels. Therefore, any television sets that have been purchased to date will be obsolete.

"Zenith has been conducting extensive research since 1931 on television. Production of television receivers was begun in 1937. Since that time we have built hundreds of sets that have been used for experimental testing and development purposes. All new Zenith models will have provisions for phonevision and the new television channels can be added when they are available."

Mr. McDonald also said that phonevision is a solution, in Zenith's opinion, of the economic problems that exist in television broadcasting. "We have been saying for years what those in the television broadcasting field now realize - that television is still economically unsound. Phonevision will solve this problem by permitting first run movies in the home. The public is now thoroughly dissatisfied with present programming. Advertisers don't have the money to support the kind of television programs the public desire. With phonevision, consumer acceptance will make it possible to sell television receivers by the millions. It will only be necessary for the owner of a television set equipped with phonevision to pick up the phone and to see in his home a full length, new feature movie for about a dollar, which will be billed on the regular telephone bill at the end of the month."

It is felt at this time that Zenith will need additional facilities to accommodate mass production of television receivers.



Commander McDonald also pointed out that after a complete survey of the television patent picture by Zenith engineers and patent counsel which indicated that the controlling basic television patents other than Zenith are Farnsworth patents, arrangements were completed and paid up rights were purchased to all television, radio and record changer patents and developments of the Farnsworth Corporation now existing or that may be developed, through 1954.

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### MITCHELL SOON OUT AT CBS, LANDS IN CLOVER IN NAB

It isn't often that things work out that way, but when it looked darkest for Maurice B. Mitchell at the possibility of losing out as General Manager of WTOP, CBS station in Washington, that he should land on both feet in one of the best radio jobs in the country.

Mr. Mitchell was last week appointed Director of the National Association of Broadcasters' Department of Broadcast Advertising, a place he will surely make hum. He succeeds Frank E. Pellegrin, who resigned to take over operation of KSTL in St. Louis.

Mr. Mitchell as 32 is one of the youngest station managers in the country. He was boosted to the top spot at WTOP six months ago when Carl Burkland, then Manager, was named General Sales Manager of CBS Radio Sales in New York. At the time Mr. Mitchell had just completed seven days as a salesman for Radio Sales in New York when he was brought back to Washington to replace Mr. Burkland.

With the purchase of control of WTOP by the Washington Post, now awaiting FCC approval, John S. Hayes, General Manager of the Post's WINX, will become WTOP Manager. Mr. Mitchell had been importuned by CBS to return to New York headquarters in a television sales capacity.

Before assuming the managership, Mr. Mitchell had served two years (1946-1948) as WTOP Sales Manager and the year previous to that as press and sales promotion manager of the station.

During the war Mr. Mitchell served in the Army's Armored Command as an expert in tank-infantry communications. He received a spinal injury and was mustered out.

His experience before the war was mostly on newspapers. Some of the positions he held were national sales and sales promotion manager for the Rochester Times-Union; Advertising Manager of the Gannett newspaper in Ogdensburg, N.Y.; head of the Gouverneur, N.Y. Tribune Press, for which he received a New York Press Association award for the best written weekly and a national NEA award for advertising excellence.

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## NO REQUESTS FOR MACKAY PORTUGAL CIRCUITS, RCA CONTENTS

RCA Communications, Inc., through its attorneys David C. Adams, Howard R. Hawkins, Gustav B. Margraf and Richard W. Cutler, has filed with the Federal Communications Commission its Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions, covering application of the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, Inc., to parallel the existing circuits of RCA to Portugal, Surinam and The Netherlands.

In addition to its Proposed Findings, RCA submitted a brief of legal citations largely directed to the point that instead of increasing competition by paralleling RCA's circuits, Mackay and its affiliated companies have violated the provisions of Section 314 of the Communications Act by eliminating competition between cable and radio companies. A similar charge against Mackay was recently made by the American Communication Association in a brief filed with the Commission, and the Commission has set this phase of the matter down for a separate hearing to begin on October 18.

RCA's conclusions in the Portugal and Surinam case are as follows:

1. Mackay has the burden of proof of showing that a grant of its applications would serve public interest, convenience or necessity. No such showing has been made in this proceeding. Existing facilities for serving each of the points in issue are more than adequate to meet public need, and no users have requested establishment of the circuits by Mackay. The service proposed by Mackay would not be superior to the service at present available, and in various respects it would be inferior to the service now provided by RCA. Moreover, with reference to the proposed circuit with Portugal, Mackay's operation would tend to degrade the efficiency of service now rendered by RCA. There has been no complaint from the public regarding the adequacy or efficiency of the existing service. Mackay would offer no more comprehensive service than is now available with the points in issue. Thus, there is no evidence that a grant of the applications would benefit the public.

2. Establishment and operation by Mackay of the proposed circuits would not generate new traffic, but would redistribute existing traffic among the carriers in a way which would injure the United States communication system as a whole, and thus diminish its ability to serve the public. If the applications are granted, Mackay's operating expenses would be increased and it would have to place additional plant in service. The expenses and investment of the other carriers, however, would not be reduced as a result of granting these applications, and consequently such a grant would place an unnecessary economic burden upon the United States communication system and upon the public, without any resulting improvement in service or reduction in rates.

3. Moreover, a grant of the applications will result in a substantial diversion of outbound traffic to Mackay from its cable affiliates, Commercial and All America. If these cable carriers continued to send to Portugal and The Netherlands their traffic which



is to be diverted to Mackay, they would obtain a larger participation in the tolls from this traffic than Mackay will obtain. The diversion will thus cause AC&R to suffer a substantial loss in revenue and the amount lost will accrue to the foreign administrations involved. However, because of this diversion of outbound cable traffic to Mackay, the foreign administrations in Portugal and The Netherlands will be required, by contractual arrangements with AC&R to divert inbound radio traffic from RCA to Mackay. This will offset the loss to AC&R, but it will not offset any of the loss to the United States communication system as a whole. A grant of the applications will therefore have two inevitable economic effects; it will impose an additional financial burden upon the United States communication system for handling the same volume of traffic; and it will divert substantial revenues from United States carriers to foreign carriers. Under these circumstances, a grant of the applications would be opposed to public interest, convenience or necessity.

4. So far as the individual carriers are concerned, a grant of the applications would result in substantial economic injury to Commercial, All America, RCA, and Western Union. There is no evidence, however, that such a grant will necessarily be financially advantageous either to AC&R or to Mackay. The inevitable result of the grant will be the withdrawal, in whole or in part, of AC&R's cable components from service with the points in issue. With respect to the financial effects on AC&R, it is clear that the operating revenues of its cable components will be reduced, without any consequent reductions in their costs or investment; and it is also clear that the operating expenses and investment of AC&R's radio component will be increased. With respect to Mackay, the record shows that as the number of its circuits and the volume of its traffic have increased, its cost per word of traffic handled has also increased. It is reasonable to believe that operation by Mackay of three additional duplicate circuits will result in a continuation of this trend. All of these considerations confirm the conclusion that the grant of the applications would be opposed to public interest, convenience or necessity.

5. This conclusion is fortified by consideration of the precarious economic condition of the international telegraph industry. In the light of this condition, action by the Commission which would place additional burdens on the industry and result in a diversion of revenues to foreign systems would increase the likelihood that further rate increases will be required. The public should not be forced to pay more for the same service merely to improve the competitive position of one of the carriers in the field.

6. There is now active competition in international telegraph operations, both on a world-wide basis, and for traffic with the points in issue. In addition, while the total volume of international telegraph traffic is declining, the international telegraph industry as a whole must compete with an expanding air mail and radio-telephone service for public patronage. If the present applications are granted, Mackay would receive a substantial portion of its outbound traffic, not on the basis of competition, but as an outright gift from its cable affiliates; and in the case of Portugal, and The Netherlands, it would obtain a substantial portion of its inbound traffic, not by competing with other carriers, but as a



necessary consequence of the gift to it of outbound cable traffic. Because of these facts, it would be extremely difficult for an independent radio carrier such as RCA to compete with Mackay, which is operated as part of a cable-radio combination. In the light of all of the foregoing, a grant of the applications would not increase competition in any way which would be beneficial to the public.

7. If the applications are granted, Mackay's operation of its radio stations for communicating with Portugal, Surinam, and The Netherlands would be under the control of persons engaged directly and indirectly in the business of transmitting and receiving for hire messages by cable between the United States and foreign countries. The effect of these operations, under such cable control, will be substantially to lessen competition within the meaning of Section 314 of the Communications Act. The operations proposed in the applications herein would thus violate Section 314. The Commission must conclude that for this further reason, a grant of the applications would be opposed to public interest, convenience and necessity.

8. The foregoing considerations apply equally to Mackay's operation of direct circuits with Portugal, Surinam, and The Netherlands, and to its operation of a circuit with The Netherlands via a relay station at Tangier. For all of the reasons set forth above, public interest, convenience and necessity would not be served by a grant of Mackay's applications to communicate directly with Portugal, Surinam and The Netherlands, or by a grant of its application to communicate with The Netherlands via Tangier, and all of such applications should be denied.

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#### WJZ-TV DEBUT TO RECREATE FAMOUS PALACE VAUDEVILLE THEATRE

A big feature of the opening of the New York WJZ-television station next Tuesday, August 10, will sponsor a jubilant resurrection for a night of Broadway's famous old "big time" Palace Vaudeville Theatre.

In a gala all-star television show, Station WJZ-TV will bring to the stage of the historic playhouse many of the greatest names in show business, most of whom "played the Palace" in vaudeville's heyday, including Ray Bolger as emcee, James Barton, Buck and Bubbles, Carlton Emmy, Beatrice Lillie, Ella Logan, Mary Raye and Naldi, Pat Rooney, Sr., Willie West and McGinty, and Paul White-man. As a crowning piece of nostalgia, the pit orchestra that night will be led by Jules Lenzburg, who conducted in that same spot during the quarter of a century when vaudeville at the Palace as at the peak of its popularity.

Prepared in conjunction with the Mayor's Committee for the Commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of the City of New York, the station's first evening on the air will include a parade and dancing party on Broadway and a vaudeville show at the Palace Theatre, which for the one night will dispense with motion pictures and recapture its old glory in the world of variety.

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## "IVORY TOWER MUST MAKE WAY FOR RADIO TOWER" - EDUCATORS TOLD

Wayne Coy, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Hoosier ex-New Dealer, told the Second Annual Conference on Radio in Education at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, to speed up and energize classroom work "with your own broadcasting station". "And use the station to share your specialized knowledge", the FCC Chairman declared, "your teaching skill with the thousands and the millions beyond your campus. End your isolation from the main stream of the life of your community and your nation. That is the way to leadership in modern America for education and educators.

"This is the road to that greater equality in education that has ever been one of America's brightest dreams. A radio-minded public and a radio-minded generation of students await the radio-minded educator.

"An increasing number of colleges are now offering radio courses and holding conferences on radio techniques. While this is all to the good, I would like to see more aggressive action toward establishment of educational stations. Otherwise, I think that many of you will find yourselves hanging your clothes on a hickory stick but never being able to get in the swim. The building of a radio station rates your No. 1 priority.

"The Ordinance of 1787 governing the Northwest Territory out of which Indiana was created, one of the most enlightened acts of its kind ever written, provided that schools and the means of education should be forever encouraged. We would not be true to the high hopes of these founders if we did not encourage this new means of education.

"I realize that it is presumptuous to suggest a new task to the nation's educators who are already struggling so magnificently with their Gargantuan post-war burden. However, we all know the truth of the old saying: 'If you want something done, ask a busy man.'

"Also, I would be derelict in my duty if I did not warn you that the FM radio channels now reserved cannot be held in idleness indefinitely. At the risk of being tedious I must plead that the professor not become absent-minded regarding radio.

"Education's pedestrian pace is an anachronism in a super-sonic age. We should have State-wide, regional and nation-wide educational networks. We should have far-flung radio colleges with the faculties composed of the cream of our teaching staffs.

"Radio, fully and competently used, should put American education 25 years ahead of its present timetable.

"I also wish to offer my assurance that the Federal Communications Commission will do everything in its power to help you take educational broadcasting out of the dream stage and make it an actuality.

"We are living in a time of danger. We are today confronted with a new penalty for mass ignorance, for bumbling and fumbling. That penalty is extermination. The atom bomb is the death's head at our table.

"We can take small comfort from Professor Toynbee's reminder that 21 other civilizations have in turn preceded us into oblivion. We can take small comfort from his speculation that in the event of



an atomic war, the only survivors will be the African Pygmies or the higher insects. And while we go about our daily tasks hoping against hope that the bomb won't go off, we are confronted by the other horn of our dilemma -- the use of atomic energy for peacetime purposes.

"All this staggering responsibility falls upon a people that in the simpler days of the gasoline engine and the electric dynamo could not educate effectively enough to save our economy from the worst industrial depression in history. This burden falls upon a people that could not educate effectively enough to organize for peace and thereby save the world from the most devastating war in history.

"Preparing this nation for peace or war makes new demands on the boldness, imagination and vision of the American educator. May the mighty mechanism of radio broadcasting be employed to make our education more effective in the future.

"May American education with the help of radio at length come into its own."

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#### DECCA PHONOGRAPH RECORDS FIRM FACES SUIT AS MONOPOLY

The Government filed a civil anti-trust action Tuesday (August 3) in Federal District Court against the American and British makers of Decca phonograph records.

In Washington, Attorney General Clark said the action charges Decca Records, Inc., American maker, and Decca Records Co., Ltd., British manufacturer, "with engaging in a conspiracy and cartel agreement restraining the sale and distribution of commercial phonograph records in violation of the anti-trust laws."

Milton Rackmil, Executive Vice-President of Decca, said in New York the company would have no comment until the Government formally notifies Decca of the action.

The Government's complaint charged American Decca conspired to divide world markets with British Decca and electrical and musical industries. The latter, a British corporation, was named co-conspirator but not a defendant. American Decca formerly was affiliated with British Decca by stock ownership, the complaint stated, but this relationship was ended in 1943.

Assistant Attorney General Hubert A. Bergson, in charge of anti-trust cases, said in Washington that as a result of conspiracy alleged in the case the export of American records to Europe and South America had been seriously restrained.

"The British companies have also been excluded from selling their records in the United States except under conditions designed to prevent them from competing with the American company", he added.

"There is today a great public demand for phonograph records. In 1947 the sales at retail in the United States alone amounted to more than 190 million dollars."

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TV BOOMS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS, FOLSOM, RCA VICTOR EXECUTIVE, SAYS

Television has boomed beyond the expectations of even the most optimistic leaders in the industry, according to Frank M. Folsom, Executive Vice President of the Radio Corporation of America, with the result that by the end of this year the industry should produce more than 850,000 receivers and more than 60 television broadcasting stations expect to be in operation. Currently, about 500,000 television sets are in the hands of the public and 31 television stations are on the air.

Speaking at the Western Radio and Appliance Trade Dinner (tonight, Aug. 4) held in connection with Western Summer Market Week, Mr. Folsom predicted that, with the public's enthusiastic acceptance of television, the industry in 1949 can be expected to turn out 1,600,000 receivers, representing a potential retail business of more than \$400,000,000 -- and this, he said, is a conservative estimate.

Present plans call for the opening of two television stations in San Francisco this Fall and a third before the year is over, Mr. Folsom, who is in charge of the RCA Victor Division, told the 1,000 radio and appliance distributors and dealers attending the dinner. He disclosed that an RCA Victor survey indicated that this city (San Francisco) in 1949 can expect a television receiver business with a retail dollar volume of more than \$10,000,000.

The foundation of television's success, Mr. Folsom said, is service to the public such as the coverage of the national political conventions recently concluded in Philadelphia, providing viewers in their homes and public places a better view of the proceedings than could be had by delegates in Convention Hall. About 10 million people "sat in" on these conventions by television, he said, giving the medium its greatest impetus to date.

"Proud as we are of the business stature television has attained", he said, "we're even prouder of the many excellent ways in which it has served and will continue to serve humanity.

"We can envision for it major roles in education, religious teaching, industry, and in the military field. The war speeded developments in military uses of television, and before it ended, the medium was finding important applications in drone planes and guided missiles.

"Television", Mr. Folsom declared, "will more than ever contribute to our country's present and future welfare.

"In the field of education, television promises to be a long-sought method for the teaching of medicine and surgery", the RCA Victor executive stated.

"Organizations interested in adult education have also found television an effective tool. By familiarizing hundreds of

thousands of members of the television audience with what goes on in the other fellow's church, it can greatly strengthen inter-religious understanding."

"Our culture and knowledge have been advanced through television visits to museums, art centers, and the theatre, opera, and ballat", Mr. Folsom declared. "The 'personal theatres' of television have made confinement much more bearable to men in veterans' hospitals and to other shut-ins."

Asserting that the press reaction to television is another important indication of its present stature and future prospects, Mr. Folsom pointed out that major newspapers in virtually all television areas have already devoted special sections of many pages to the subject, while trade publications have given unstinted recognition to the increasingly excellent program material being telecast.

"The entire nation will be watching television in San Francisco with close attention", Mr. Folsom said, "because here we will learn much about the operation of the service in a mountainous region, and many interesting new developments will result from tests made here."

"Complete coast-to-coast television networks are expected to be in operation by the end of 1952, but even before that time, regional links will connect San Francisco with its municipal neighbors", he said. "With the West and the East linked by networks, national advertisers, no longer restricted to individual local programs or shows on film, will present even finer talent in programs too costly for individual station showings."

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#### GILLINGHAM, FCC INFORMATION DIRECTOR, TO GET NEW ASSISTANT

Alec Kritini, of the Navy Department Public Information Section, has been named Assistant Information Director of the Federal Communications Commission to succeed Lee Farran, who has resigned. Mr. Kritini is slated to assume his duties under Information Director George O. Gillingham, on August 30th.

Mr. Kritini was born in Rome, Italy, but has lived in the United States since he was eighteen months old. His father was a commander in the Imperialist Russian Navy, and the family fled to the United States during the Russian revolution.

Serving with the Air Transport Command during the last war, Mr. Kritini was twice wounded in enemy bombing raids in Africa and Italy. Later he was an Information Specialist with the Office of Price Administration.

Mr. Farran, left last Monday on a trip through the South enroute to the Southwest. He had been with the Commission since February 1946.

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## TV SET OUTPUT HITS NEW PEAK, SAYS RMA

Television receiver production in June hit a new high, the Radio Manufacturers' Association reported Monday, and brought the total TV set output by RMA members since the war to 463,943. June's production was 64,353.

RMA member-companies turned out 100,000 more television receivers during the first half of 1948 than they did during the entire year of 1947. The 1948 half year total is 274,896 as compared with 178,571 in 1947. The 1948 second quarter output was 160,869 with an average weekly production of 12,375. This represented an increase of 36 percent over the first quarter's output. Only 28,060 TV sets were made in the second quarter of 1947.

Radio receiver production in June continued at a seasonal low level but exceeded May's total because the June report covered five weeks as compared with four in May. June's radio production totalled 1,049,517, of which 90,414 were FM-AM sets.

RMA manufacturers produced 695,313 FM-AM sets during the first half of 1948 as against 445,563 in the comparable period of 1947. However, FM-AM sets manufactured during the second quarter of 1948 fell 41 percent below the first quarter total, the respective figures being 257,484 and 437,829.

RMA members reported 1,182,262 auto sets and 1,207,754 portables for the half year.

Following is a month-by-month table on television and radio set production for the first half of 1948:

	TV	FM-AM	AM	All Sets
January	30,001	136,015	1,173,240	1,339,256
February	35,889	140,629	1,203,087	1,379,605
March	52,137	161,185	1,420,113	1,633,435
April	46,339	90,635	1,045,499	1,182,473
May	50,177	76,435	970,168	1,096,780
June	64,353	90,414	959,103	1,113,870
Total	278,896	695,313	6,771,210	7,745,419

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## TOBEY TO HEAD RADIO PROBE COMMITTEE

Sen. Wallace H. White, Jr., (Republican of Maine) resigned last week as Chairman of the Senate Commerce Subcommittee which is conducting the communications inquiry.

Senator White's appointment of Senator Charles W. Tobey, (Republican of New Hampshire) to succeed him on the subcommittee chair, lent weight to opinions that inquiry might assume proportions of vigorous probe. Senator White, Chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee has been in frail health and is retiring from Congress. Senator Tobey is noted for spectacular and aggressive investigations. FCC's FM and video allocations as well as clear channels are prime considerations.

The vacancy created by the resignation was filled by Senator White's appointment of Sen. Albert W. Hawkes, (Republican of New Jersey) to subcommittee. The third member is Senator Ernest W. McFarland (Democrat of Arizona). The members of the subcommittee reportedly will meet this week to consider an agenda.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::  
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"Telescriber" Makes Big Hit On WSPD-TV Premiere  
("Variety")

Hit of WSPD-TV's opening-night show last Wednesday (July 21) was a "telescriber", invented by the Fort Industry station's staff, which permits writing or drawings to be done "live" on the tele screen without showing the artist's hand or pen or any shadows from either.

Lines or letters appear as if from nowhere and form themselves before the viewers' eyes. Opening-night telelookers were mystified, many thinking it was done with film. Gadget was designed by production director Steve Marvin, art director, Jerry Peacock and floor manager Al Ruhfel, and has many uses. It's possible, for instance, to move the paper on which the drawing or writing is appearing, up, down or sideways, smoothly while the telescriber is on the air.

Marvin is planning to use it for a weekly cartoon show, for live commercials, for the station's nightly "coming attractions" segment, and elsewhere. Name "telescriber" is being copyrighted and the gadget itself is to be patented.

When television bowed in at Toledo last Wednesday (21) most of the spectators saw the show from outside the windows of furniture and appliance stores. WSPD-TV, first video station in Toledo and third in Ohio, operated by the Fort Industry Co., will be on the air nightly Monday through Friday, starting at 6:30 P.M. Station has no network commitments.

There are approximately 500 receiving sets in the Toledo area, but it's estimated this number will be increased to about 6,000 by next July 1.

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News Stories Sent Quickly By Chinese  
("Editor & Publisher")

One of the most unusual aspects of foreign correspondence in China, according to Don Starr, who has returned to the Chicago Tribune home office after two years in the Orient, is the efficiency with which China's communications system relays correspondents' stories to the United States.

"I could step into a radio station anywhere, even in Manchuria and Mongolia, show my press card, and leave a story written in English", said Starr. "Usually no word would be spoken, for I couldn't understand their language and they couldn't understand mine, but the stories always arrived at the Tribune office in Chicago - collect."

During his two-year post-war study of China Starr covered virtually all sectors of that country with emphasis on the northern area.

"Contrary to the impression in many quarters", says Starr, "the major difficulties about reporting China do not stem from the government. It isn't dangerous to oppose the government there, and it isn't dangerous to write about the government. The difficulties

rest not in any barriers to reporting the facts, but in the problem of learning and understanding the facts to begin with.

"Correspondents are uncensored except at the source. If the Chinese don't feel like answering any questions, they just don't answer. They've been doing that for a couple of thousand years. When they do answer, it is still difficult to ascertain the exact truth of the situation, even if you know the language, because of the nuances and idiomatic expressions."

As an example of this problem, Starr recalled his inability at one locality to confirm reports that 20,000 persons had been killed. He finally discovered that being "killed" in the Chinese language didn't necessarily mean "killed dead". The victims in this instance had been "killed" in Chinese only, not in English. They weren't dead.

While a correspondent traveling in China almost always can get where he wants to go, he cannot always get there when he wants to, says Starr.

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You Can't Top A Refrigerator  
(Hal Block in "Variety")

Who in Hooper's name ever thought we'd see the day when all the work and wit that go to make up the Fred Allen programs would be surpassed by a refrigerator, a set of dishes, some silverware and a Persian Lamb jacket? But that is exactly what has happened and it's very easy to explain. Who can laugh when they're listening for a phone call?

It all started with "Truth or Consequences". I don't know whether Duz does everything but it sure started something. They weren't just content with playfully bashing people's heads in sending hapless youths around the world by pogo stick, and slyly pushing contestants into a cement mixer. They had to start a Hush contest. Now everything in radio is hush but the contests. On "Quick As A Flash", they gave away as much as \$20,000; on "Stop the Music" they gave away bonds, furs, trailers, houses; on CBS' Saturday night musical quiz show the first week they gave away \$1,000 in travelers' checks, a trip to Paris and a Kaiser-Frazer car. On "Bride and Groom" they give away everything but the details of the honeymoon. One sponsor had to cancel his program at the end of the first week. Unwittingly he gave away his factory.

On "Take It Or Leave It", which was the first giveaway show, they had to up the ante considerably. No one would even give his right name for \$65. The stream of prizes keeps mounting. In a popularity contest in a certain kindergarten, Santa Claus ran a poor third to Ralph Edwards and Bert Parks.

It's gotten so that these contests have loused up our daily life.

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TRADE NOTES

Justin Miller, President of the National Association of Broadcasters, has accepted appointment by Secretary of State George C. Marshall as a member of the National Citizens' Committee for United Nations Day, October 24, 1948, and as Chairman of the subcommittee on Radio and Television. The purpose of the Committee, it explained, will be to enlist the support and cooperation of "people generally and cities, towns, civic organizations, the press, the radio, and other media groups."

Supporting court action contending ASCAP is practicing monopoly, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners last week agreed to participate in any appeal to a higher court as a friend of the court.

Judge Vincent L. Leibel recently ruled against ASCAP in New York on action of 164 operators of movie houses in that city.

Robert Poole, Executive Secretary of PCCITO, said that his organization "is dedicated to relieving our membership and all independent exhibitors from the monopolistic practices of ASCAP."

Scott Radio Laboratories, Inc. - Year to May 31: Net loss, \$418,915, contrasted with a profit of \$178,663, or 45¢ a share for the previous fiscal year.

Radio stations in Maryland and the District of Columbia organized last Friday into a Chesapeake Associated Press Radio Association to promote better news coverage throughout the area.

William C. Hardy, Manager of WFMD, Frederick, was elected Chairman of the new association. Ben Strouse, Executive Vice President and General Manager of WWDC, Washington, and R. J. (Jake) Embry, Vice President of WITH, Baltimore, were elected Vice Chairmen. Max Fullerton, AP Chief of Bureau in Baltimore, was named Secretary.

More than 200 dealers attended the opening of the new radio showrooms, service department and warehouse of the New York distributing division of Admiral Corporation at 625 West fifty-fourth Street, Martin L. Scher, Sales Manager reported Monday. Concurrently, first displays were revealed of their new two-tone arm record changer which is furnished as a standard part of console model combination radio-phonographs. Both 33-1/3 RPM long play records and standard 78 RPM records may be played, he said.

Slow speed records, similar to those used in high fidelity radio broadcasts, were played on demonstrator models.

Also shown were an AM-FM table model radio-phonograph with a plastic cabinet at \$89.95; two new additions to television receivers, the consolette with a 10-inch tube in period design at \$299.95 and a table model television set with a 7-inch tube at \$169.95.

WAVE-TV, Louisville, Ky., has become a television affiliate of the American Broadcasting Company. The addition of WAVE-TV brings the total of ABC video outlets to 15, which includes five owned and operated stations scheduled to go on the air this year. The Louisville TV station is the 10th affiliate to join the ABCweb.



In anticipation of the forthcoming elections and campaign activities, news coverage of WOL and Mutual in Washington will be expanded starting August 1, according to a joint announcement.

Arthur S. Feldman has been named as Director of News Operations for the enlarged WOL and Mutual News and Sports events activities; Hollis Seavey, Coordinator of Mutual programs in Washington, has been named as Director of Special Events for WOL and Mutual.

Albert L. Warner, continuing as Chief Washington correspondent for WOL-Mutual, will now be able to devote more of his time to actual air work and will be heard on an expanded news schedule of Washington and Coast-to-Coast broadcasts. Mr. Warner, in addition to his news broadcasts, is moderator of Mutual's "Opinion-Aire" and "Meet The Press" programs.

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Net income of the Radio Corporation of America and subsidiaries for the six months to June 30, amounted to \$10,850,288, a rise of \$2,024,376 over the \$8,825,912 reported for the comparable 1947 period. Earnings on the common stock amounted to 66.8 cents and 52.2 cents a share in the respective periods.

For the second quarter, net income was \$5,085,790, compared with \$4,145,847 in the same period last year.

Gross income in the first half of 1948 was \$176,079,713, compared with \$154,333,872 in the 1947 period, and in the second quarter of this year the company had a gross income of \$88,026,415, a rise of \$10,252,639 over the \$77,773,776 in 1947 second quarter.

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In a report to Congress last Tuesday the Federal Trade Commission charged two major electrical equipment companies - the General Electric Co., and Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. - with involvement in an international cartel. Both companies were cited for taking the initiative "in forming and attempting to form international cartels to include British, German and other companies through 1930 negotiations allegedly conducted by GE and Westinghouse representatives with British, German and Swiss electrical manufacturers. The patent agreements had the effect of eliminating direct foreign competition in the United States, the Commission reported. The alleged agreement also prevented other American manufacturers from obtaining the right to use important foreign patents and trade secrets, FTC charged.

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The American Cable & Radio Corporation announced Monday that the action taken by the American Communications Association (CIO) against Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company to obtain an injunction to compel it to bargain with the plaintiff union and also to recover \$1,000,000 damages alleged to have been incurred by the union as a result of the failure of the Company to bargain with it, had been voluntarily withdrawn by the union without prejudice after an appearance before Judge William Bondy of the United States District Court of the Southern District of New York on July 26th.

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Appointment of a new staff director of the National Association of Broadcasters, to assist in formulating international policy in problems involving allocation of international channels and frequencies was forecast Monday by Justin Miller, NAB President, in a luncheon address to the NAB 1st District meeting in Boston. The appointment would be made by the President's office, primarily to assist the NAB President and Executive Vice-President, A.D. Willard, Jr., in their long-standing work with international problems.