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May 18, 1949

SENATE SEEN SURE TO O.K. NEW U.S. RADIO, TV LAB; WORLD'S FINEST

Despite the delay occasioned by the bill having been introduced by Senator Wallace White (R), of Maine, just before the adjournment of the last Congress, it is believed since the measure has been re-introduced by Senator Edwin Johnson (D), of Colorado, Chairman of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee it will not be long now until things really begin taking shape to provide Uncle Sam with the world's finest radio, radar and television laboratory. Senator Johnson's bill, which is the same as Senator White's, provides for an appropriation of \$4,475,000 as a starter for the structure and apparatus to be an addition to the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington.

An identical bill has been introduced in the House by Representative Robert Crosser (D), of Ohio, Chairman of the House Interstate Commerce Committee and has the endorsement of the Federal Works Agency, Federal Communications Commission and National Military Establishment, including its Research and Development Board.

The security of Washington as location for a proposed radio research laboratory was questioned by the Senate Commerce Committee. Senator Brewster (R), of Maine, said the project should be in a low-population area where there is less chance of details about the highly secret work leaking out.

The laboratory tentatively would be set up at the Bureau of Standards, where guided-missile techniques and other factors of electronics would be studied.

Activities of the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory now are scattered among four different buildings at the Bureau of Standards, with some functions carried on at three locations in Virginia, and Maryland. A centralization of these activities is contemplated under the pending plan.

One of the purposes of the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory setup in its present "inadequate" building in 1918, is to provide experimental and theoretical work on radio standards, measurements and radio propagation.

Another announced purpose is radio research and information service to the public and to the Government, including periodic forecasts of conditions affecting radio transmission and reception.

Such information, advisors said, was of particular value to commercial air lines and of "vital importance" to the armed forces and to the development of defense weapons.

Another purpose of the new building, the cost of which will surely soar above \$5,000,000, will be to provide a single structure to take care not only of the present personnel but to the fast growing technical staff which will be enlarged by more than 100 people within the next year or so.

William C. Foster, Acting Secretary of Commerce, stated to the Senate Committee:

"The proposed new laboratory would have a total of 1,700,000 cubic feet distributed as follows: 629,000 for measurement standards research, development, and testing work, with special facilities such as screened rooms, development shops, space on the roof for measurements free from wall reflections, and full development laboratory facilities; 280,000 for all the radio propagation data coordination, centralization, analysis, predictions, publication, and information services; 280,000 for basic research and analysis of propagation phenomena at all frequencies, including work on utilization of frequencies and special frequency allocation studies; 435,000 for experimental propagation research and development, carrying on the work that has been done by other agencies during the war and which made the United States a leader in the field, and 76,000 for administrative activities.

"This laboratory building will require a number of special features which will materially increase the cost of the structure over the average office building of this size. It will be necessary to shield electrostatically approximately one-third of the area of the building above the ground in order to protect the low power measurements from the large fields created by some of the other activities in the building and elsewhere on the Bureau grounds. These rooms would require local temperature and humidity controls in addition to the general air conditioning of the entire building.

"Another special feature of the building is the necessity for a copper roof. Since an antenna transmits not only the direct waves but also a mirror image of this direct wave reflected from the ground beneath, this ground must be of highly conductive material. It will be necessary to cover the copper roof with a protective tile wearing surface because there will be considerable laboratory activity on the roof. This places additional weight on the roof, requiring that the total structure be strengthened all the way to the basement. Because much heavy equipment will be carried to the roof, it will be necessary for the freight elevator to extend an extra floor.

"In the subbasement vaults will be installed with special air-conditioning and temperature-control equipment to house the crystal clocks which are the basis of the national primary standards of frequency.

"On the basis of the present level of construction cost, it is estimated that the radio laboratory building will cost \$4,475,000, of which \$4,115,000 is the cost of construction and installation of utilities and \$360,000 is the cost of equipment. In view of anticipated fluctuations in construction costs, it is difficult to know exactly what the actual cost at the time of construction will be. A limit of cost determined by the prevailing price might prove excessive or inadequate when the construction contract is finally negotiated."

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PEG AGAIN THROWS BRICKBATS AT ELMER, FDR, OTHER OLD FRIENDS

Not heard from lately on his favorite subjects of commentator Elmer Davis, the Federal Communications Commission, and the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, Westbrook Pegler made up for lost time last week. Mr. Pegler in his letter distributed to a large number of newspapers by the King Features Syndicate, wrote, in part:

"The School of Journalism of the University of Missouri invited Elmer Davis, a 'radio news analyst', to lecture the students during journalism week. Such an invitation implies that the person so honored is a man or woman of distinction in some department of journalism.

"To say that Davis, as a reporter, ever rose to the peak of mediocrity except in rare flashes of inspiration would be to burlesque the facts and subject his work to cruel and unnecessary inspection.

"In ancient days he did the 'humorous side' of the World Series for the New York Times and the fact that he did it superbly, for the Times, will convey to knowing journalists a suggestion of the stilted roguishness of an English comedian talking American slang.

"He next appeared as a radio 'analyst' and had a remarkable success which was due almost entirely to the crackle of his vocal cords, and not the virtue of his text.

"Davis spoke in a crackling voice which sounded like a brush fire and in an indifferent way which intimated that he didn't give a darn what anyone thought of the news or of him. It was artful medicine.

"But when this country got into war, Davis became Chief of the Office of War Information, a propaganda bureau of such awful cynicism that the American people were stunned by its effrontery, although a few ethical journalists made token protests for the record.

"The OWI became a hideout for privileged, intellectual, New Deal cowards and Communists. To justify the use of the Communists, explanations came now and again that they were experts of the suavest guile in angling news and songs for the ear of the captive millions back of the Siegfried line.

"Be that as it may, and it was not necessarily so, Davis achieved his only distinction as master of a crew of unconscionable deceivers whose avowed and principal purpose was to manipulate information for the Roosevelt administration which brought the OWI into being for its own purposes.

"The undergraduates of Missouri are too young and short of experience to have known what sort of fellow this was who had the effrontery to speak on 'Reporters and Prophets' and to say that the four 'prime qualities' of a reporter are industry, knowledge, common sense and humility.

"To be sure, industry is admirable and the next two virtues are all right. But humility is no asset to a reporter who has just been told by F. D. Roosevelt to go stand in a corner under a dunce-cap or who has just been handed an iron cross.

"Humility was the trait that all that tireless cult of New Deal corruptioneers most desired in reporters. The fact that they paid off the humble ones in news breaks and mock jobs for their dependents does no honor to Elmer Davis in adjuring the students to gutlessness.

"Actually, the school of journalism makes a mistake in teaching radio broadcasting as a form of journalism. It is a venal and captive means of communication without ethics or principles and the servant of the bureaucrats who happen to rule the Federal Communications Commission at the moment.

"The Commission has been a servant of the Roosevelt and Truman administrations ever since 1933. It has persecuted the few men of character who have tried to be truthful.

"All the while it has been controlled by the relentless power of the invisible government of the Frankfurter cult. Although many newspapers do own radio stations and do broadcast news bulletins, it cannot be said that radio is a legitimate relative of the profession of journalism.

"This incidental cohabitation implies neither degradation of the papers concerned nor uplift of the radio stations.

"All radio men must carry the yellow ticket of the FCC and in the case of Davis, late chief of the OWI, the professional separation from printed journalism is even more dramatic.

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BOOKSELLERS ASSN. PREXY DOESN'T SEE TV AS THREAT TO BOOK SALES

Television is no threat to the book business in the opinion of Robert B. Campbell, Los Angeles, President of the American Booksellers' Association, which met in Washington this week for a three-day convention. Eight hundred booksellers representing 48 States attended.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Campbell pointed out, a recent survey showed that television keeps people at home. While they are waiting for their favorite programs, they're very likely to pick up a book.

"When the movies first came in, they said it would eliminate the book business", Mr. Campbell said. "Then when they got the radio they said it would not only eliminate books, but teachers. If neither of them could do it separately, I don't think a combination of them will. There's no reason why television and the book business can't work together."

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WAYNE COY, FCC HEAD, MENTIONED AS MON WALLGREN "SUCCESSOR"

When President Truman threw up the sponge in the fight with Senator Byrd of Virginia and the Dixiecrats and withdrew the name of his friend Mon C. Wallgren, as Chairman of the National Security Resources Board, there was some talk that he might name Wayne Coy, now the \$10,000-a-year Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. The job for which Wallgren was turned down pays \$14,000 a year, and pending legislation would boost the figure to \$20,000 a year.

For a long time Mr. Coy has been reported as leaving the FCC for something better financially claiming he was not able to support his family on the present salary.

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TRAMMELL SEEKS TO STRENGTHEN CHICAGO AS A TELEVISION CENTER

Niles Trammell, President of the National Broadcasting Company, soft spoken Georgian who came into radio fame by way of Chicago where for years he was head of the NBC works, let it be known this week that plans were under way to make Chicago a television center. Mr. Trammell announced the start of construction of a new television studio in Chicago as the first step by the network in expanding television facilities there.

"Chicago, which has played such an important role in the building of broadcasting in this country, will continue its importance in radio broadcasting and will become increasingly important as a center of television production", Mr. Trammell said. His announcement was interpreted by the New York Times as dispelling rumors that NBC intended to de-emphasize Chicago as a radio and television center.

In a more immediate future, Mr. Trammell revealed that NBC officials were considering the possibility of moving some of the network's radio sustaining programs to Chicago to relieve the excessive pressure on New York studios. The new Chicago television studios and other existing facilities there will ultimately be used to feed television programs east when westbound cables from New York are tied up", he said.

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NEW LIGHTWEIGHT TV PORTABLE TRANSMITTER PLEASES BRITISH

London reports an improved radio-link has been developed to transmit television pictures from the cameras to Alexandra Palace for broadcast. This equipment, which works on the extremely short wavelength of 4-1/2 centimetres, is now being tested, and exceptionally clear pictures free from all interference are at present being received over a distance of seven miles. There seems to be no reason why equally good results should not be possible at ranges of twenty miles, or even further. At these extremely short wavelengths, the aerial can be made to concentrate the radio waves into a very narrow beam, rather as a searchlight does. The transmitting and receiving apparatus is light and easy to carry.

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LYNNE M. LAMM, PIONEER RADIO WRITER, FRIEND OF HOOVER, PASSES

Years ago a newspaper man covering the Commerce Department had to write something on the subject of radio. He said to Lynne M. Lamm, one of the first radio news writers in this country, who died last week:

"I'm going to get a book and try to find out what this radio stuff is all about."

"Why bother with a book", Lamm replied. "If you want to know anything, all you have to do is to ask Terroll."

He referred to W. D. Terrell, first radio inspector in the United States who, along with Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover and a few clerks, were doing the work that the thousands in the Federal Communications Commission are now engaged in. Radio came under control of the Commerce Department through wireless on ships, and for years before there was a Radio Commission or a law, Hoover, Terrell and their little group grappled with the problem of its development.

Mr. Lamm became a close friend and personal adviser of Secretary Hoover and was one of a group of business paper editors who attended the regular "Hoover Dinners" at which the Secretary interpreted the effect of governmental activity on business. These sessions are credited with having been most helpful in Mr. Hoover's progress towards the White House.

And to show that he had not forgotten his old friend, ex-President Hoover wrote to Mr. Lamm only a few weeks ago to express regret at the latter's illness.

Mr. Lamm was also an adviser of ex-Senator Wallace White (R), of Maine, during the framing of the original radio act and the present communication law.

Lamm covered the news of the original Federal Radio Commission, the Chairman of which was Admiral W.H.G. Bullard, who suggested the organization of the Radio Corporation of America to keep certain valuable basic radio patents in the United States. Lamm also attended the memorable dinner given in New York to Marconi, inventor of radio by David Sarnoff and the RCA on Marconi's last visit.

He was also a friend of Averell Harriman, Secretary of Commerce, who gave him a perpetual fishing permit on the great Harriman Bear Mountain Park estate in New York.

Mr. Lamm was invited to join the Taishoff-Codel combination when Broadcasting was organized and for years served as Capitol correspondent for the National Association of Broadcasters' Bulletin.

During World War I, while serving as correspondent for a number of industrial periodicals, he became a close acquaintance of Bernard M. Baruch, then a member and later Director of the War Industries Board.

A native of Philadelphia, Mr. Lamm came to Washington as a young man, subsequently joining The Washington Post. He was in charge of the paper's real estate section for several years.

Mr. Lamm was a member of the Senate and House Press Galleries and of the White House Correspondents' Association. He had been a member of the National Press Club since 1912.

He was graduated from Manor School at Schippen Point, Conn., and attended Friends School in Washington. He was a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist, 1770 Euclid Street, N.W.

In 1913, he married Miss Edna Wakeham of Old Greenwich, Connecticut.

Besides his wife, Mr. Lamm is survived by his mother, Mrs. Dollie M. Lamm, and a son Donald, of the State Department, who was with Ambassador Joseph Grew in Tokyo when war broke with Japan and is now in the U. S. Consular Service stationed at Canberra, Australia.

R.D.H.

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TV WATCHES ITS STEP ABOUT USING ASCAP AFTER JUNE 1

Television listeners will hear little or no music controlled by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers after this week on programs which are kinescoped for delayed showings on stations not connected by coaxial cable.

Since such programs, in many cases, are not shown until two weeks after the original performance, networks are playing safe and not scheduling ASCAP tunes in preparation for the eventuality that the agreement between the groups may expire on June 1, the New York Times explains. Local programs, of course, will continue to use ASCAP music up to the deadline.

Negotiations between the Television Music Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters and ASCAP were broken off on May 6. Meanwhile, representatives of the television networks and ASCAP met this week in Columbia Broadcasting System offices to discuss the negotiation of independent licensing arrangements.

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BELL SYSTEM TO DOUBLE NUMBER OF TV CHANNELS IN 1949

In 1949 the Bell System will double the number of miles of television network channels now available and will bring its network service to 13 additional cities, according to the Long Lines Department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. By the end of this year there will be some 8,200 miles of television channels in operation, spread over a Bell System inter-city network which will then extend 2,850 miles and link 27 cities.

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NAB ADDS BROADCASTING AD BUREAU; MAURICE MITCHELL ITS NEW HEAD

A national Broadcast Advertising Bureau, designed to intensify promotion of broadcasting as a selling medium, was launched in Washington last week.

Director of the BAB will be Maurice B. Mitchell, for the past six months Director of the NAB Department of Broadcast Advertising.

With a budget three times as large as that employed by the old Department, Mr. Mitchell has been authorized to expand personnel and locate quarters in New York immediately.

The Bureau will be organized officially June 1, and at that time will supersede the Department of Broadcast Advertising. The latter has been one of the seven departments of the National Association of Broadcasters.

The new and enlarged Bureau, operating under policy direction of a special Board Committee and NAB management, will be located in New York.

The following general statement of principles was adopted for BAB's guidance:

"The Broadcast Advertising Bureau's purposes are:

- a. To promote the superior advantages of broadcasting as an advertising medium.
- b. To conduct a continuing educational campaign designed to improve the techniques of selling broadcast advertising.
- c. To expand the use of broadcasting as a medium for selling services and merchandise.
- d. To advance the profession of advertising generally as an essential part of our free enterprise economy."

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EX-SEN. WALLACE WHITE REPORTED RECOVERING FROM HEART ATTACK

Stricken last week with a serious heart attack and for several days on the critical list, former Senator Wallace H. White (R), of Maine, co-author of the present Communications Act, was reported by Dr. Paul Dickens as now out of the oxygen tent and steadily recovering.

Senator White, who is 71 years old, and was the dean of radio legislation in the Senate, is at George Washington University Hospital in Washington.

Only last Thursday night he was guest of honor at a dinner given by NAB President Justin Miller at which a plaque was presented to the Senator in recognition of his service to radio.

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Advance Release PMs Thursday, May 19

"SIX MILLION TV SETS BY 1951" - RMA PRESIDENT BALCOM

By 1951 there will be six million television receivers in operation in the United States, President Max F. Balcom of the Radio Manufacturers' Association said today in his annual report to members at the Stevens Hotel.

Speaking at the annual RMA membership luncheon toward the close of the "Silver Anniversary" convention of the Association, Mr. Balcom predicted that two million or more TV sets will be produced this year on top of a previous total industry output of about 1,200,000 television receivers of which nearly one million were manufactured last year.

While noting the recent decline in radio receiver production, Mr. Balcom said he does not share the belief that "radio is doomed".

"Rather, I feel confident that even with an assured and tremendous increase in television in the near future", he added, "radio will continue to provide a service for home entertainment indefinitely, especially so in the areas which, for technical and other reasons, cannot be reached by television in the near future."

The RMA president thanked Chairman Wayne Coy of the Federal Communications Commission for his "clarification of the issues involved in the proposed expansion of television broadcasting and his assurance to the public that TV service on the present VHF channels will not be disturbed and that consequently television receivers bought today will continue to give good service for many years to come.

"We recognize that extension of television service on a national basis to provide a maximum of service, impossible in the present limited lower frequencies, is necessary and we hope it will come in the very near future", Mr. Balcom continued. "However, neither transmitters, tubes, nor receivers for the future UHF, or ultra high frequency bands, in which the normal future extension of television service will appear, are now much beyond the laboratory and experimental stage and not probable for wide commercial or public application for at least several years."

"In addition to television, industry production of FM receivers also has rapidly increased for this new and better type of broadcasting reception. FM has been, of course, out-paced in public acceptance by television, but the future possibilities of FM, enhanced by the public acquaintance of television in which it is now largely used, offer large possibilities, but it is recognized, with difficult problems for our associates in FM broadcasting. There have been substantial price reductions recently both for FM and television receivers, to the benefit of the public and its increasing enjoyment of these two new public services."

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G.E. INTRODUCES ITS LOWEST PRICED TELEVISION SETS

The lowest-priced table television receiver yet made by General Electric with a 12-1/2 inch picture tube, and the first G.E. consolette to use the same size tube, feature additions to the company's television line being made at Electronics Park, Syracuse, New York.

The new table set (Model 821) carries a suggested consumer's price of \$369.95 in the east, as compared with the previous receiver of this kind which listed for \$399.95, according to Walter M. Skillman, Manager of Receiver Division Sales for G. E. The consolette (Model 817) will list in the east for \$399.95, he said. Both sets, in hand-rubbed genuine mahogany veneer cabinets, also will be available in blond cabinets at slightly higher prices. Shipments are being made to distributors.

A feature of the new sets, in addition to price, is the company's "Daylight" picture tube which, Mr. Skillman explained, produces a picture 80 per cent brighter than conventional tubes operating under the same conditions. The consolette also features swivel sleeve roller casters concealed in the cabinet base to enable easy moving of the set about the room for appearance or viewing purposes.

The new receivers have the same chassis, with 17 tubes, one high-voltage tube-type and two selenium rectifiers in addition to the picture tube.

A separate circuit for each of the 12 active television channels insures the best possible reception of each signal merely by rotating the selector to the desired channel, Mr. Skillman said.

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DEMOCRATS COMPLAIN TO FCC RE CBS DEWEY SPEED REFUSAL

Paul E. Fitzpatrick, Democratic State Chairman, this week filed with Wayne Coy, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, a formal complaint against the Columbia Broadcasting System for its refusal to provide the Democratic party of New York State with equal time and facilities to answer an address made over the State CBS network by Governor Dewey on May 2.

CBS held that Governor Dewey spoke in his capacity of chief executive in a report to the people of the State and not as a candidate for office, and therefore time for a reply was not indicated.

Saying that he regarded the Governor's speech as political, Mr. Fitzpatrick declared in a letter to Mr. Coy that the Governor's address contained at least seven statements of a controversial nature and one false statement detrimental to the Democratic party.

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AMOS 'N' ANDY SUED FOR \$300,000 FOR CHANGING TO COLUMBIA

William Morris agency filed Federal suit last week against the radio team of Amos 'n' Andy for a lump sum of \$300,000 or \$1,100 a week for seven years. Agency claims that the two had no right to switch from NBC to CBS at a sale income to themselves of \$2,000,000 since there was a prior contract between Morris and the pair.

Amos 'n' Andy contend that their contract with Morris had expired prior to their new deal with CBS and thus there was no hold on their services legally.

Agency contends that they would have earned \$1,100 a week for the continuation of Amos 'n' Andy services for sponsor Lever Bros. They further claim that the blackface team broke their contract with Lever, sold themselves to CBS who, in turn, arranged for Lever Bros. to sponsor them on the network. Morris requests a decision now on whether they are or are not entitled to the commission which would have come to them under the original manner of agreement between Amos 'n' Andy and Lever.

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CBS PAID ARTHUR GODFREY \$440,514 LAST YEAR

Arthur Godfrey, radio and television star, was paid \$440,514 last year by the Columbia Broadcasting System, reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission disclosed Tuesday. CBS broke down its payments to Godfrey as follows: As a "radio artist" \$258,450 and \$182,064.65 for "program services" and royalties on phonograph records.

The funnyman master of ceremonies topped the list of salaries paid performers by the network. News Commentator Lowell Thomas, however, was a close second with \$420,300. The salary figures showed CBS' President Frank Stanton, was paid \$109,798.

All payments for services included in the report cover income before taxes, SEC noted.

The American Broadcasting Co., whose report also was made available, paid its top performer \$180,229. The sum went to Don McNeill, star of the "Breakfast Club" program. Paul Whiteman, ABC's musical director and vice president, received \$145,316, while Mark Woods, the network's president, was paid \$75,000.

The National Broadcasting Co. and Mutual Broadcasting System reports have not yet been filed with SEC.

Other high-salaried CBS personnel included: John Reed King, announcer-producer, \$95,795; Tom Howard, comedian-writer, \$218,751; Ed Sullivan, commentator and master of ceremonies, \$53,550; Frank Cooper Associates, \$165,275.

ABC paid radio artist F. Allen Russel \$79,350; Commentator H. R. Baukage, \$32,233; Cal Tinney, \$20,800; Margaret Lynch, \$62,549; Allen Funt, \$78,625; and Ed and Pegeen Fitzgerald, \$57,969.

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PHILCO QUARTERLY SALES OFF \$5,655,000

Sales of Philco Corporation in the first quarter of 1949 were \$53,006,000 as compared with \$58,661,000 in the first quarter a year ago, it was announced last Friday by William Balderston, President.

Net income in the first quarter this year was \$915,000 and was equivalent; after preferred dividends, to 49 cents per common share on the 1,678,779 shares outstanding on March 31, 1949.

In the first quarter a year ago, net income totaled \$1,959,000 after tax-paid reserves of \$600,000 for inventory and \$185,000 for future research and development work. This was equivalent to \$1.16 per common share on the 1,607,576 shares outstanding at the end of 1948, after preferred dividends.

"The sharp reduction in earnings in the first quarter of 1949 was the result of reduced television output while production was changed over to our new wide-screen models with expanded viewing area, the heavy costs absorbed in tooling up for and starting production of the entirely new 1949 line of refrigerators and freezers, and the more-than-seasonal decline in the radio business."

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RADIO CENSORSHIP WOULD HIT PRESS, PICTURES, NAB TELLS BALT. COURT

"Any restriction placed upon the medium of radio broadcasting, will, in effect, constitute a restriction on the communication of ideas whether aural, pictorial or printed", and a violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, the National Association of Broadcasters said in a brief filed as amicus curiae with the Court of Appeals of Maryland.

The brief, filed by NAB General Counsel Don Petty, is submitted in connection with an appeal from an order of the Criminal Court of Baltimore City.

The order held appellant radio stations and a news commentator guilty of contempt of court for violating Rule 904 of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City for broadcasting news releases issued by the Baltimore Police Commissioner concerning the apprehension and confession of Eugene James, who was later arraigned and convicted of murder.

The NAB brief concludes that Rule 904 is unconstitutional because it violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution; that the publication of the facts in the cases did not constitute a clear and present danger to the administration of justice; and requested that the judgments and sentences of the lower court be reversed.

The Baltimore cases involve the Maryland Broadcasting Co., Station WITH; James P. Connolly, WITH news editor; Baltimore Broadcasting Corp., WCBM; The Baltimore Radio Show, Inc., WFBR.

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 ::: SCISSORS AND PASTE :::
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Still No Date Set For Consideration Of Carson, FTC Nominee
 (Marquis Childs in "Washington Post")

For 25 years in Washington John Carson nominated for the Federal Trade Commission has worked diligently and often effectively for social reform of a liberal-progressive nature.

He was assistant to the late Senator James Couzens, the Michigan motor millionaire who had surprisingly liberal convictions in view of his great wealth.* * * *

In 1937 he was appointed to the office of Consumers' Counsel of the National Bituminous Coal Commission. His work as defender of the consumer has been highly praised in a private study of the Commission, as yet unpublished.

Immediately upon Carson's nomination a smear campaign was directed against him. His public statements were combed over and remarks taken out of context to show that he held radical views and would be a threat to business on the Trade Commission.

What was not brought out was the fact that Carson is a faithful Roman Catholic. As the record shows, Carson has based his economic views largely on the encyclical of Pope Pius XI, called 'Quadragesimo Anno', and on the interpretations of that encyclical by the Rev. Wilfrid Parsons, S.J., professor of sociology and politics at Catholic University.

In housing, in rural electrification and in other fields where Government assistance is approved, Carson has repeatedly urged the cooperative solution. He has frankly expressed the view that cooperatives are the alternatives to some form of statism - communism or fascism.

In the attack on Carson it was said that he was named as a Republican to the bipartisan Federal Trade Commission. He was named as an independent and not as a Republican, and there are indications that President Truman intends to find such independents for all vacancies that, under the law, must be filled by appointees who are not Democrats.

The tipoff to the opposition came in a revealing remark in a release from the National Association of Manufacturers: "He (Carson) is energetic and would be expected to become very active as a member of the Federal Trade Commission in pushing investigations into business affairs." It just so happens that one of the chief functions of the FTC is to protect the consumer from monopolies and unfair trade practices.

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Kept Durr, Ex-FCC Commish, Pretty Well Sidetracked At Columbus
 ("Variety")

Slight temblor shaking the Columbus Institute ivory tower this year could be traced to remarks of Clifford J. Durr, erstwhile FCC Commissioner and now practicing law in Washington, during the General Session for which he acted as moderator. Possibly skittish about giving Durr too much free rein for expression of his Jeffersonian idealism, the Institute resolved the dilemma by assigning him to

a "safe" topic - the radio campaign against VD, apparently more respectable as parlor conversation this season than the civil liberties problems Durr had on his mind.

Tall, stooped, mild, somewhat Lincolnesque in humor and demeanor, Durr was named a "life member" of the IER last year, and is a popular figure with educators. As one of them pointed out, he was virtually the sole participant of this year's meet who dared kick the IER ostrich in the tail feathers.

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FCC Doesn't Get Excited About Long Distance TV Bounces ("Washington Star")

You may get momentary flashes of a good television show from a Texas station, but you can't get Federal Communications Commission engineers excited about it.

"Pshaw", they'll pshaw, "it is merely reception refracted from the troposphere."

Actually, FCC has had reports of television reception from unheard-of distances, such as the letter from a doctor in Lancaster, Pa., who wanted to know where Station KLEE was telecasting. The station is located in Houston, Tex.

The normal range of television is about 50 miles - or to the horizon.

In scattered instances Washington receivers have picked up clear, but brief, images from stations hundreds of miles away, the FCC's engineers said, but "it is fluke transmission."

The long-distance bounce of signals may result from a cloud formation 1 or 2 miles up which shoves the impulses back to earth again. Then again it could also be "a wave guide trap", in which the signals, instead of being absorbed, bounce back and forth "like they're in a barrel", one engineer explained.

Wartime radar picked up many such freak receptions, when a ship or plane's radar screen would pick up a coast line thousands of miles away.

The FCC is stirred only a little by such reports, particularly when its engineers recall a little radio mixup some time ago. The Civil Aeronautics Administration complained to FCC of interference with safety radio systems in aircraft on the West Coast.

Monitors finally traced the interference to Pottstown, Pa., where a furniture factory was using an electronic device to dry glue.

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Courts Might Whack Giveaways; Public Interest Continues ("Variety")

The Federal Communications Commission proposal to abolish giveaways would have tough sledding in the courts on the basis of lottery law violation, but might well be justified on broad considerations of "public interest", according to an article just published in the Law Journal of Georgetown University.

Written by Leonard Marks, Washington radio attorney and a former Assistant General Counsel of the FCC, the article declares that "ample justification exists" for banning the giveaways on public policy grounds, "despite the absence of formal requirements to meet the strict legal lottery tests."

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TRADE NOTES

A new emergency use was found for radio in the Holland Tunnel explosion in New York. An early fear was that the tube might collapse and allow the water from the North River to pour in.

Quick thinking caused a radio message to be sent to the Fireboat "New Yorker" at the Battery to patrol that part of the river just over the tube and watch for air bubbles on the water's surface which would be the first indication that the tube was leaking.

Fred E. Ahlert, President of the American Society of Composers, and Rodgers and Hammerstein, composers and authors of "South Pacific", New York smash hit, "Oklahoma", etc., will be luncheon guests at the National Press Club in Washington, Thursday, May 24th.

Distributors in Columbus, O., state they have moved 1,667 television sets to dealers in a 19 day period, bringing to 5,391 the total number of sets moved to retail outlets by May 2.

The rapid growth in the number of television sets was between April 13 when 3,724 sets were reported, and the May 2 figure of 5,391 sets.

An estimated 400,000 radio receivers were sold in Australia during 1948. Approximately two-thirds of the number sold were for replacement. Licensed radio receivers in use numbered 1,755,570 on December 31, 1948.

A total of 500 workers have been added to its payroll in the past ninety days by the Tele-tone Radio Corporation, which estimates that an additional 300 to 400 persons will be put on the assembly lines in New York within the next few months.

The Garod Electronics Corp., of Brooklyn, announced Monday a new line of low priced television sets, including a table model with 16-inch tube and 135 square inches of picture for \$349.95.

Other sets representing new lows in the company's line included a 10-inch table model with 61 square inches of pictures for \$199.95 and a 12-1/2 inch set with 91 square inch screen for \$239.95.

The Columbia Broadcasting System's television network was increased to 39 stations last week with the signing of WMBR-TV, Jacksonville, Fla., as a full primary affiliate.

Production of radio receivers in Argentina during 1948 was estimated at 150,000 sets by the Department of Commerce. Approximately 1,600,000 radio receivers are in use.

C. E. Arney, Jr., NAB Secretary-Treasurer, has been appointed Secretary to the 1949 Committee on Radio Broadcasting of the Advisory Council on Federal Reports, the National Association of Broadcasters announced Tuesday (May 17).

The Committee is charged with advising the Bureau of the Budget on reporting procedures, mainly Federal Communications Commis-

sion questionnaires, issued to radio and television stations and to make recommendations towards the simplification, consolidation and improvement of such reporting.

If the Federal Communications Commission approves the sale, the World Publishing Co., publisher of the Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald, will dispose of its radio properties in the near future.

Robert H. Sorz and son, Todd, have made a substantial offer for KOWH and KOAD, it was announced this week. KOWH, originally WAAW, was the first radio station in Omaha. It is a 500-watt day-light operation and is managed by B. C. Corrigan, formerly on the newspaper's advertising staff.

KOAD, an FM outlet with 70,000 watts power, has been on the air nearly two years. It was Nebraska's first frequency modulation station.

The four-and-half-hour broadcast of Wagner's "Tristan Und Isolde", planned for May 28 in London, has been cancelled after a difference over the fee payable to the musicians. A later broadcast of "The Ring" also has been called off, a dispatch to the New York Times states, and, unless an agreement is reached between the British Broadcasting Corporation and the musicians union, other opera broadcasts from Covent Garden may be affected.

Under an agreement reached only last week, each musician was to receive 25 shillings (\$25) for each outside relay. The union asserts the fee is for a period of three hours only, while BBC contends that it is for the whole relay. For the "Tristan" broadcast, the union put in a claim for two fees which BBC viewed as a departure from the agreement and canceled the broadcast.

Dick: Who was that on the phone, Mr. Jones?

Spike: Jimmy Petrillo. He called about our dues.

Dick: But we've already paid our dues.

Spike: I know. He heard us play and he wants to give us our money back.

- CBS' "Spike Jones Show"

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(Continued from Page 14 - "Courts Might Whack Giveaways; Public Interest Continues")

Voluntary industry action won't solve the problem of giveaway programs, Marks believes, noting that the code of the National Association of Broadcasters which discourages the shows is not observed and cannot be enforced. It is up to the FCC, he says, to determine under its responsibility to guard the public interest "Whether or not giveaways shall be added to the already condemned fortune telling, astrological, metaphysical and medical advice programs."

But before the Commission takes action, Marks advises, it should carefully consider the argument that the old time cure-all programs involved an element of fraud while giveaways are at worst bad entertainment, "an attempt to buy the audience", or conducive to family discord. "Cannot similar comments be made about soap operas", he asks, "which admittedly enjoy a wide popularity with women listeners? If soap operas are outlawed, would this be an arbitrary and capricious action?"

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