

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

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April 5, 1947

UP-TO-THE-MINUTE DIRECTORIES: Supplement No. 50 herewith, our second Quarterly Directory of FM Licensees, Grantees and Applicants, consolidates all the data in Supplement No. 47, 47-A, et seq, which can now be discarded. It also includes this week's unusually light grants -- only 4 conditionals, 6 STAs. This 6-part Directory brings your FM records up-to-date in handy form; it also will be supplemented by the pink addenda reports based on current FCC actions, which are sent you weekly. Extra copies are available to subscribers at \$1 each. Note: Our AM Directory is in the works, will be handled in much the same manner as our FM Directory, with weekly addenda reports designed to keep you up-to-the-minute on AM licensees, CP holders, applicants (by States, frequencies, call letters); looks now like it will run about 96 pages when it rolls off press in early May.

FM-ONLY TABLE MODEL: That oft-talked-about FM-only table model receiver is at last taking shape, looks like it should cost about \$39 to manufacture. To our non-technical ear it sounded fine when demonstrated this week at offices of promoters (Electronics Inc., Bowen Bldg., Washington), headed by radio attorney Bill Koplovitz of Dempsey & Koplovitz. It's a more refined job than shown at FMA convention last January (Vol. 3, No. 2), contains some nifty features, is called "Minuette."

Plan is to bring together manufacturer (Airadio Inc., Stamford, Conn.) and FM broadcasters, who may want to arrange own distribution in their territories, perhaps even taking dealerships themselves. Set is 7-tube, AC-DC, with 5-inch speaker, Armstrong circuit. It can be used as complete receiver, or as FM tuner (attachment to AM audio output provided). It is said to have clear reception between stations separated by only one channel, high sensitivity to signals as low as 30 uv. Power cord acts as antenna for high intensity signals, but outside aerial is recommended for weaker signals. No drift is present after warm-up period (about 5 minutes).

TV's CHICKEN-EGG MARKETS: RCA isn't waiting for completion of NBC's new Washington TV station WNBW (due for tests in May or early June) before launching next in its series of T-Days. Capital's T-Day breaks Sunday, April 13, with big spreads in local newspapers, launching week of special events highlighted by telecast of season's baseball opener (Yankees vs. Senators). DuMont's WTTG will provide signals, incidentally is negotiating to sign all Washington club's games as regular feature; DuMont already has Yankee home games signed.

Something like 700 RCA sets (table models 630-TS, 621-TS) are being routed into Washington market, which already has an estimated 200 sets in homes mostly of radio folk or VIPs like FCC top-kicks, high politicians, etc. GE expects about 50 of its model 801 (Vol. 3, No. 11) to be on view at its capital dealers during week. DuMont so far has made no special plans to capitalize on promotion.

RCA-promoted T-Days have clicked quite well in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, St. Louis, and have created far greater demand for receivers than can yet be filled. It's a chicken-first-then-eggs plan -- to have sets follow stations, to

promote and sell intensively for first week in those cities opening up new TV outlets. We're conducting survey now to find out construction and opening date plans of the 50-odd TV construction permittees (Supplement No. 18-B) and hope to report to you soon. Right now we don't look for many new ones on air this summer, but prospects look good for at least dozen more outlets before year ends.

Meanwhile, we've had reports on 4 more manufacturers who say they're definitely planning TV set production this year. You can add these to the 25 or so we reported in Vol. 3, No. 7 and 13: Howard Radio, Chicago, table model and console, both with 10-inch tube, latter with AM-FM-phono; John Meck Industries, Plymouth, Ind., table and console, with AM-FM-phono, planned production 25,000 units this year; Pilot, table model with 10-inch tube, console with 15x20-inch screen and AM-FM-phono; Race Television Corp., So. Hackensack, N.J., large-screen console for clubs, taverns, etc., cost \$1,650 up. None of others could tell prices as yet.

\$10 MILLION THEATRE TV GATE: Maybe it's only Broadway big-talk, but "Variety" this week plays up "Sock Boxoffice In Theatre Video," forecasts \$10,000,000 "gates" at Madison Square Garden when TV rights can be sold. It quotes Garden Corp.'s president John Reed Kilpatrick as seeing earnings of that much even when actual boxoffice is "mere" \$1,000,000 -- the rest to come from people going into movie houses all over country (coaxial cable to make this possible by end of 1948) to watch big events as they occur. Gen. Kilpatrick also apparently isn't any more afraid of TV inroads on boxoffice than N.Y. baseball clubs, who've all sold rights, is quoted as saying TV will stimulate interest in sports, make new converts (especially ladies, who seem to love today's prizefight telecasts). This attitude apparently isn't shared by Ringling-Barnum & Bailey Circus, who so far have declined permission to WCBS-TV which holds Garden video rights for Ford Motor Co.

As viewed from Washington vantage point, trouble with big-money story is that acceptable theatre-screen TV seems long way from ready, channels haven't even been applied for, movie moguls with exception of Paramount seem even more indifferent to TV than newspapers were to radio in early days, have even gone along meekly with Petrillo ban on video's use of films with music however old. Society of Motion Picture Engineers, however, has Paul J. Larsen watching things at FCC; former president of SMPTE, he's now employed as scientist at Johns Hopkins Labs in suburban Silver Spring, Md.

RCA'S BRIGHTER TV SCREEN: Not to be outdone by Philco, whose bright and contrasty large-screen TV receiver (Vol. 3, No. 7) is due on market in 30 to 60 days, RCA at New York IRE meeting Wednesday demonstrated new 15x20-in screen (about newspaper page size) that boosts brightness of projection-type pictures "2½ times" over earlier models -- comparing very favorably in brightness with direct-view tubes. In fact, said TV design chief Antony Wright, "we are not aware of any commercial projection type of receiver which will produce a brighter or clearer picture." Screen is understood to use same directive principle as Philco's, will go into big RCA console models due out later this year. Added is anti-halation lens, which permits good contrast no matter how bright the picture.

HAMS' INTERFERING WITH TV: There's interference in TV reception, too, aside from what you'd naturally expect from street-cars, diathermy machines and suchlike. Reports that TV set owners are getting it from nearby "ham" transmitters are true enough, but engineers don't think it's serious. FCC has received several letters about WCBS-TV's Channel No. 2 -- from Bridgeport, Conn., and southern New Jersey. Second harmonic of amateur 28-29.7 mc band (56-59.4 mc) falls within TV 54-60 mc band, thus can play hob with video reception. But difficulty can be overcome by (1) asking "hams" to suppress harmonic to as near zero as possible, (2) ordering them to shut down during best telecast hours. Latter is within power of FCC under rules. TV engineers look for similar interference from diathermy equipment when units come on market in recently authorized 27.3 mc band.

WHITHER PRESS, WHITHER RADIO? Some eloquent statistics on comparative status and trends in the newspaper and radio fields; you can interpret them as you wish:

(1) There were 1,763 daily newspapers in U.S. at beginning of 1947, up 14 from preceding year, as against 2,461 in 1916, according to 1947 Editor & Publisher Yearbook. (2) Fewer than 10,000 weekly newspapers remain, as against more than 16,000 in 1910, says report of [Hutchins] Commission on Freedom of the Press, released last week. (3) Approximately 1,600 AM broadcasting stations are licensed or authorized, according to our own current compilations for our forthcoming AM Directory (Vol. 3, No. 9, 11), as against 1,004 at beginning of 1946, 943 in 1945, 733 when Federal Radio Commission was set up in 1927, only 30 in 1922. (4) Pending before FCC are nearly 900 applications for additional AM stations, also to be listed in our AM Directory. (5) There are about 750 FM licensees or grantees, plus nearly 300 pending new station applications (Supplement No. 50 herewith).

And, of the AM stations, about one-third are owned in whole or part by newspapers, slightly more in FM.

COURTS, CONGRESS & BLUE BOOK: Blue Book issue may at last get court test NAB, some radio attorneys and FCC itself would like. It may get more than that -- airing in Congress, where resolution (H. Res. 165) by influential Chairman Wolverton of House Interstate Commerce Committee calls for committee probe that inevitably would embrace censorship and free speech issues raised by Blue Book foes. Current events lend hope for former, heighten prospect for latter -- though we're still bearish on investigations constantly bruited by drum-beating industry elements who can't seem to get into their noggins that today's Congressional climate, echoing unusual rash of criticism of radio, simply isn't conducive to legislation favorable to radio.

Court test looks like it will come in appeal of Bay State Beacon Inc., Brockton, Mass., AM applicant proposed for denial on grounds of alleged poor programming promises under Blue Book procedure. Commission held its proposed program structure, setting up less than 5% for sustaining time, and all of that religious, was "relatively inflexible and less well designed [than those of successful applicant, Plymouth County Broadcasting Co.] to meet community needs." Beacon's attorneys, oft-appealing Segal, Smith & Hennessey, who won precedent-setting Ashbacher case, indicated they would challenge FCC's jurisdiction in program matters, go to court if necessary.

Wolverton resolution went to Rules Committee, is understood to have been introduced to forestall select committee investigation (usually fishing, punitive and headline-hunting expeditions) which Rep. Clarence Brown (R, Ohio) and Rep. Wigglesworth (R, Mass.) were preparing to push. In remarks on introducing bill, the New Jersey Congressman said there were "considerable complaints" about FCC policies and procedures but that inquiry "was not intended as witch hunt." Meanwhile, WBAL court case (Vol. 3, No. 8), which some regard as testing Blue Book, is due for hearing soon; FCC asked for dismissal Friday on grounds WBAL hasn't been injured yet.

FM INDEPENDENT PAYS ITS WAY: Best success story we've had from starveling FM broadcasters since Houston's KOPY-FM last summer reported selling \$3,000-plus worth of time monthly (Vol. 2, No. 34) comes from FM-only Class A station KRCC, of Contra Costa Broadcasting Co., Richmond, Cal. (pop. 23,000), owned by same interests as Daily Independent (circ. 26,500), in San Francisco Bay area. It got on air last Feb. 2, operates 3-10 p.m. daily under STA for 250 watts on 50-ft. pole pending new 275-ft. tower. Secretary Warren Brown Jr. reports it now has 40 sponsors (including Standard Oil, big Breuner furniture chain, Golden Glow beer, auto dealers, bank, mortuary). Best of all, it has been "in black from operating standpoint from day it opened."

More and more sponsorship reports are coming in of late, auguring good prospects for FM as advertising medium. Rates usually aren't very high (pending more sets and more "circulation") but advertisers are receptive. Washington's

WASH-FM, for example, now has 21 accounts, has 25% of its 6-hour day sold out; KOZY, Kansas City, under same ownership, has 20% of its programs now sponsored. Indicating advertising agency interest in medium is speech of McCann-Erickson's Hugh D. Lavery before Washington ad club last week. It's full of good stuff for FM commercial hopefuls. Write FMA's Bill Bailey, Denrike Bldg., Washington, for copy.

CLEAR CHANNELS AND FM: When clear channel hearings resume June 2 for probable "home stretch," Clear Channel Broadcasting Service's Col. Jack DeWitt is going to present FM coverage findings that may not sit well with FMers. Preliminary results, CCBS officials say, indicate a much more restricted coverage than is claimed for Maj. Armstrong's system -- due to shadow effects and other technical limitations. CCBS emphasis on FM grows out of CBS proposals to maintain AM status quo. CBS contended FM will eventually dominate (Vol. 2, No. 17) -- which idea the high power clear channel operators don't like even though most of them are in for FM. It also stems from FCC Chairman Denny's remarks about FM covering "every inch of every state from the Atlantic Ocean west to the middle of the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas...and the Pacific Coast states," made at NAB convention last October (Vol. 2, No. 43); clear channels regard rural coverage as their natural function. After clear channel hearings are concluded, CCBS director Victor Sholis takes over general managership of WHAS, Louisville, succeeding Lee Coulson, resigning because of ill health.

SIGHT AND SOUND

FM receivers are being tested as soon as they arrive at FCC labs, but not all have been received yet. Until then, Commission isn't making any move to change FM allocations due to interference (Vol. 3, No. 13). Staff discussions of problem took place this week, to make certain any change doesn't toss FM from the frying pan into fire.

Death of CPA doesn't mean end of VHP-1 limitations on non-housing construction (Vol. 2, No. 13). Program, with its bars to commercial construction, continues under Housing Expediter Frank Crendon. One of last CPA reports this week showed almost 2,000 "stop-orders" against VHP-1 violators. But, both industry and government circles agree construction limitations are being honored more in the breach than in the observance.

Boon to TV camera work is seen if "Zoomar" lens proves out. Developed by Dr. Frank G. Back, lens was demonstrated to TV engineers in New York this week, elicited enthusiastic comment on possibilities for sports and spot news coverage as well as in studio. Principle is same as zoom shot in motion pictures, permits change from long shot to closeup or vice versa without moving camera.

FM Primer which trade papers have been reporting planned by FMA is very very tentative. In fact, FMA has made no commitments, nor has it any plans at present along these lines. Martin Deane Wickett, ex-WTOP, Washington, is working up book, but he's doing it on spec solely.

In new jobs: John J. Wild, ex-GE video equipment sales, is now sales manager of Potter Instrument Co. Flushing, N. Y., electronic control equipment. . . . Bill Barlow, ex-WLW and WINS publicity chief, joins Bill Bailey, former WLW colleague, to handle FMA publicity.

Circular polarization's developer, Carl E. Smith, WHK, Cleveland (Vol. 2, No. 45), is author of *Applied Mathematics for Radio and Communications Engineers*, just off presses of McGraw-Hill Book Co. (\$3.50).

Paper on large-screen color TV will be delivered by RCA's Dr. Vladimir Zworykin before Franklin Institute in Philadelphia April 30. Whether he will demonstrate talk is not certain yet.

Latest of usually apperceptive CBS surveys, first such post-war, says 35,900,000 U. S. homes (93%) now have radio sets in use, an all-time peak; that 1 out of every 3 U. S. families has more than one radio; that 20.5% of U. S. families bought a new radio in 1946; that 8,500,000 home sets were bought in 1946 for \$330,000,000. RMA 1946 production figures (Vol. 3, No. 4), quite accurate, reported more than 15,000,000 sets—but not all were marketed last year and many were for export.

Big 548-page 1947 *Broadcasting Yearbook* is off the presses, somewhat belated because of printer problems, reports all U. S. stations and networks did dollar volume of \$325,890,000 during 1946, up 7.2% from 1945. AM-FM-TV directories in *Yearbook* cover up to Jan. 1, 1947. *Radio Daily's* 1947 Radio Annual is also out, with similarly belated station directories.

Only 11,700 TV sets were produced in January and February (Vol. 3, No. 12), with March RMA figures not yet available; only 160,000 sets planned for production by big RCA this year (Vol. 2, No. 50)—but NBC's TV sales manager Reynolds B. Kraft told Chicago's TV-promoting Edison Electric Institute Wednesday that total 1947 video sets will mount to 400,000.

FCC's video engineering dept. lost 2 aides this week: Bill Boehse, handling applications since his return from military service last year, reassigned to Technical Information Division; Miss Eva M. Judy, staff secretary, resigned to join George C. Davis, engineering consultant. No replacement has yet been announced for Boehse; Miss Judy's successor is Miss Agnes B. Carr.

Class A layaway plan until July 1 of this year officially went into effect April 3 when Commission made final its proposal to reserve Channels 297, 298, 299 and 300 (Vol. 3, No. 4). Comr. Jett repeated dissent.

Raytheon's broadcast equipment manufacturing division, now in Chicago, is being moved to home plant at Waltham, Mass., where company (though not a TV manufacturer as yet) holds CP for TV channel No. 2 (Supplement 18-B).

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April 12, 1947

TV SET PRODUCTION: TV set makers are going to have to hump themselves if they expect to reach even the 400,000 figure promised by NBC's Reynolds B. Kraft last week (Vol. 3, No. 14). First quarter reports from RMA show only 18,329 sets so far, with March accounting for 6,639, up only 400 over February's production. Breakdown for first 3 months of 1947 are as follows: table models, 15,498; consoles, 2,817. Of the consoles, 248 were TV-only projection sets, 21 direct-view receivers with phonographs, 35 projection sets with phonographs. Converters amounted to 14 during the same period. March production fell back slightly in table models (5,346 vs 5,362 month before), showed jump in consoles (1,289 vs 881).

NO ONE LOSES IN FM PLAN: No one denies that FCC's proposed new FM allocation plan (Supplement No. 51 herewith) is a pretty sweeping shuffle of FM channels. But, significantly, not one city loses even one channel. In fact, a number of cities which required hearings because of channel scarcities, now have enough to go around.

So sure is FCC that no serious objections will be raised to proposed assignments, it will permit stations now on the air to change to new proposed frequencies even before changes are made permanent. Hearings on proposals will be held before en banc Commission May 8 and 9. Deadline for appearances is May 1.

Reaction of FMers to new plan is summed up in these words by one engineer (not FCC): If there was an interference problem, Commission sure took care of it. FM has done in one year what it took AM 25 years to accomplish -- proper separation. Another FM technician put it this way: Commission has helped the situation greatly. The proposed allocations are a big improvement. It's a good job.

Essence of Commission's plan is this: Class B stations in same area will be separated by at least 4 channels (800 kc). Where necessary, Class A stations will be separated from nearby Class B stations by at least 2 channels (400 kc). The old Class A plan (assigning the highest 20 frequencies in FM band on a mileage separation basis) is out. New Class A channels, as well as new Class B channels, are enumerated in Supplement No. 51-A herewith.

Commission threw all 80 commercial FM channels into one pot (lowest 20 are still reserved for non-commercial educational use) and interlaced them throughout the country on a 4-channel, minimum separation basis. Previously, FCC had worked on a "block" basis, assigning groups of channels to same areas. New plan means listeners will find FM signals (including Class A's) all along dial of a receiver, not just in one small portion.

Only drawback, which Commission admits, is that in some instances Class B station signal will be blanketed by Class A signal in locations close to lesser-powered outlet. FCC feels, it said, that listener will still be able to receive signals from other Class B stations in his area -- more than 2 channels removed from Class A wavelength.

Class A stations will be allocated as are Class B in new plan. Engineering for both will be similar. FCC feels allocation change won't restrict Class A

growth. Plan does not affect CLASS A reservation plan, except that new frequencies are set aside. Class B reservation plan also remains in effect.

Stations now on the air -- licensed or operating under STAs -- will, if plan is finalized, have to change frequencies (except in instances where their channel remains assigned to same city). Cost of change shouldn't be too great, Commission engineers said, since it will be mainly change of crystals and monitors. Most antennas are broad-band, they pointed out, thus won't require much revamping.

Channel scarce cities, involved in hearings, which now will have exactly enough channels for all applicants are: Springfield, Mass.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Atlanta, Ga.; Mansfield, O.; San Diego, Cal.; Providence, R.I.; Dayton-Springfield, O.; Wilmington, Del. Cities still tight are: Boston, Baltimore (one added, still not enough), New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Bridgeport.

PRECEDENTS FOR FM-TV OVERLAPS: FCC quit fiddling around this week and sawed off biggest chunk of FM application backlog in months -- 36 conditionals, 1 CP (Supplement No. 50-A herewith). More notable than number of grants, however, was fact that Commission made an exploratory dent in that knotty cord of hardwood -- the overlap cases. Grants were accompanied by FCC expression of overlap policy (Comr. Durr excepted) very much in line with multiple owners' logic (Vol. 3, Nos. 5 and 9) which asked individual, rather than blanket, consideration. Examination of grants shows Commission's thinking. For example, grant in Binghamton, N.Y., to Gannett interests involved quite substantial ownership and 1,000 uv/m overlap. But applications of Taft family in Seattle and Everett, Wash., were a little too strong for FCC taste; 1,000 uv/m contour of Everett falls entirely within 1,000 uv/m of Seattle. They were set for hearing, as was maze of Steinmans' Pennsylvania overlaps. Further contributing to number of grants this week, and more to come, is the way delinquent program analyses have come in after FCC's strong letter threatening dismissal (Vol. 3, No. 11). TV's only overlap question, Crosley in Dayton, was also resolved this week with grant of following facilities: Channel No. 5 (76-82 mc); visual power, 50 kw; aural, 25 kw; antenna, 506 ft.

NOT PHOTOGRAPHY FOR TV: Another step in bringing to TV audiences spot news in a hurry was demonstrated Tuesday by ABC in Philadelphia. Development, by Eastman Kodak, is special process that permits film to be developed at rate of 45 seconds per frame (compared to normal 40 minutes). Speed is accomplished by raising development solutions to 125 degrees F, and using specially treated heat-resistant film. Project is outgrowth of Kodak's wartime high speed processing equipment and is still considered experimental. Newsmen saw 16 mm film on TV sets telecast over Philco's WPTZ about 1 hour after shots had been made from plane over Atlantic City. Potentials for large-screen, theater TV were apparent.

FM's YEAR--1948: Best summation of RMA-FMA meeting Tuesday on FM set production for this year (2,665,949) was pithy comment of WINX's Wayne Coy, "It isn't as good as I had hoped for, but it's better than I feared." All sides agreed meeting cleared air, set up working relation between FM broadcasters and set makers (committees will meet again latter May or early June), indicated 1948 would be FM's year. FMers generally expressed satisfaction with results.

The 2,665,949 figure was based on poll of 72 RMA members (including all major set manufacturers) and breaks down as follows: table models -- 43,000 to sell for less than \$50, 810,720 to sell for more than \$50; consoles -- 1,595,729 with phonographs, 70,500 without phonographs. FM-only sets -- 146,000.

A more conservative estimate, preferred by RMA committee, was based on a 23% increment each month over preceding month -- taking increases from October 1946 through February 1947 as a guide. This would mean a total of 2,100,000 FM sets for 1947, which works out to 425,000 in December (35% of total production). At the December rate, that would mean 5,100,000 sets-with-FM for 1948 -- a sizeable chunk! RMA President Cosgrove, (Crosley v.p.) whose company is due to break FM promotion soon, pointed out that ratio of FM production to total set production

would be even higher than the 35% figure -- up to 54% of total sets if auto radios, portables, battery-operated sets, and receivers made for export were deducted from the overall total. Conservative-minded RMA put 1947 FM output at 1,800,000 to 2,100,000 -- production difficulties, labor problems being what they are today.

What impressed FMers most were manufacturers' troubles with components -- condensers, mainly, and wood for cabinets. Seen as significant, also, were these factors: While total set production is decreasing (1,564,171 for January, 1,379,966 for February, 1,358,399 for March) FM set production is increasing (51,318 for January, 53,594 for February, 67,364 for March.) Also, even though only some 2,000,000-plus FM sets would be produced in 1947, they would naturally be shipped into FM markets and thus amount to more per market than if they had to be scattered over the whole country.

Differences of opinion were expressed on these points: (1) Manufacturers strongly objected to "If your set doesn't have FM, it's obviously obsolete" type of FM promotion. They claimed it a dangerous trend, alienating dealers who still have AM sets to sell, unfair to sections of country with only AM service. FMA conferrees assured set-makers Association's official promotion was more on positive side, was keyed to milder "Be sure your radio has FM" idea. (2) FMers strongly resented implications that low-power, interim operation of FM stations meant bad reception. RMA had implied that fewer sets meant fewer dissatisfied listeners for the present. FMA's Dillard (WASH, Washington), pointed out that some stations would still be operating with 250 watts, 1 kw, or 3 kw even when they were on full power. (3) FMers very definitely objected to references to poor programming as excuse for lack of sets. Both sides agreed cheap FM sets were not the answer.

* * * *

Total FM production for first 3 months of 1947 was 172,276 (out of overall set total of 4,302,536). Table models amounted to 21,401 -- with 4,982 having record players. Consoles totaled 150,875, all of which included phonographs except 7,057. FM consoles with phonographs were about half the number of equivalent AM-only sets in that line. March FM output breaks down as follows: table models, 8,429 (half of them with phonographs); consoles, 58,935 (2,685 without phonographs).

AVIATION INTERFERENCE, TV DIVISION: No sooner had problem of FM's interference with aviation landing system been adjusted (Vol. 3, No. 13), than TV becomes whipping boy of the airmen. Recent reports indicate airplane receivers (designed for high gain on weak signals) were being fouled up with interference from second harmonic of TV transmitters on Channels 2 and 3. TV engineers aren't worrying too much about problem, feel stations can suppress harmonic pretty well; careful spotting of TV antennas should help too. Further, new air radio equipment will overcome problem.

New York FM stations, reassigned because of interference with landing system at LaGuardia Airport, probably won't have to change over, now that new FM allocation plan is out. New channels for city were chosen to avoid interference with ILS.

NO POST-WAR FM LICENSES YET: We've been waiting about a year and a half to see the first post-war FM licensee, but most grantees are still a long ways from being licensed, even though 200 (including pre-war) are on the air. Very few are anywhere near the powers specified in their CPs. Further, VHP-1 is still in existence and is still a major factor in delaying construction, although CPA did make an exception last week to KEEN, San Jose, and KXOB Sacramento. Thus, the very heavy influx of requests for, and grants of, extensions of completion dates will no doubt continue; 32 were granted in past two weeks alone.

Nevertheless, 10 CP holders have filed applications for licenses. They are: KPFM, Portland, Ore.; WPRO, Fremont, O.; KOCS-FM, Ontario, Cal.; KRCS-FM, Seattle, Wash.; WINC-FM, Winchester, Va.; WIBW-FM, Topeka, Kan.; WFAH, Alliance, O.; KRJM, Santa Maria, Cal.; KWLK-FM, Longview, Wash.; WFBL-FM, Syracuse, N.Y. Some of these have been before the FCC for months. Delay in licensing, says Commission, is partially due to allocation uncertainty, partially to huge FCC work load. Chances are that ranks of applicants for licenses will grow pretty slowly in view

of RMA's 1947 transmitter production estimate given out this week. RMA sees 710 units out by end of the year -- 90 of 250 watts, 230 of 1 kw, 205 of 3 kw, 185 of 10 kw. However, RMA qualifies figures on 3 and 10 kw deliveries by saying they'll consist largely of 250 watt or 1 kw basic units, with amplifiers and rectifiers necessary for full power scheduled for late 1948. Further, there's no glut of multi-bay antennas either -- just as important as high-powered transmitters to achieve full power.

PLAY BALL—ON TV: Scratch a baseball fan and you find a TV fan. If he isn't, just show him one video home run and he's yours. Take the Washington Senators' own Clark Griffith. A year ago we asked him about TV. Said he, "Baseball on television? Can't see it." Well, just tune in Monday in Washington or New York and watch President Truman throw out the first ball at Griffith Stadium. From then on, if you're in a TV town, you've got a season ticket.

Season's opening finds following lineup: New York -- WNBT, Giants; WABD, Yankees; WCBS-TV, Dodgers. Washington -- WTTG, Senators. Chicago -- WBKB, Cubs. KSD-TV, St. Louis and WDDT, Detroit can be expected to carry local games before season's end. KTLA, Los Angeles, carried coast league opening April 1, plans coverage of both LA teams (Angels and Stars).

SIGHT AND SOUND

Future of Continental Network (Vol. 3, No. 12) will be discussed at Albany next week during FMA regional meeting. Thing has been growing by leaps and bounds. This Wednesday's AAF show was carried by these stations: W2XMN and W2XEA, New York area, by landline from WASH, Washington, the originating station; WBCA, Schenectady, by radio relay from New York; WIBX, Utica, by radio relay from Schenectady; WSYR-FM, Rochester, by radio relay from Utica; WBEN-FM, Buffalo, by land line from Rochester; WWHG, Hornell, N. Y., by radio relay from Rochester; WDRC-FM, Hartford, by radio relay from New York.

Two additional FM sets are expected to go into production within 30 days, Bendix's J. T. Dalton announced this week, but no details were given. Production of FM sets has doubled and the company is now working two shifts each on its FM assembly lines. Bendix's received FM shot-in-arm when answers to its questionnaire to FM stations came in.

Confirmation of Carl Haverlin for BMI presidency means NAB's Justin Miller, who has been acting BMI head, will probably become chairman of the board of directors. Sydney M. Kaye, BMI executive v.p. and general counsel (who's been carrying the BMI operating load), will probably become vice chairman. Haverlin, MBS v.p. in charge of station relations, was one of BMI's founders, member of board since 1940.

Consultants Paul de Mars and Thomas Wright on FM coverage and FCC's Edward Allen on "bursts" are included in 96-paper session May 5-7 when IRE and International Scientific Radio Union hold joint meeting in New Interior Department Auditorium, Washington.

Threatened radio writers strike, set for May 18, can really get serious if musicians, performers and technicians respect picket lines. Radio Writers Guild, which says it represents 85% of key city writers, wants union shop, licensing agreements instead of outright sale for scripts, etc.

Clinic on FM for distributors and dealers is scheduled by Kansas City Electrical Association April 29. All distributors plan to display FM sets and technical equipment for servicemen. Later, KC association plans similar meeting on fax and TV.

WOKO case, as far as WOKO is concerned, is over; FCC told it to close up shop by Aug. 31. But Van Curler Broadcasting Corp., which anticipated WOKO denial, filed for its facilities and has been through hearing, must wait until June 1 for others to file in competition and again be heard with them. Interesting sidelights are opinions of Comrs. Jett and Durr. Former feels purged WOKO corporate setup should be allowed to compete with Van Curler; latter says Van Curler should be acted on now upon its merits.

Chapters on Theater TV and TV Rights are most informative—for TVers—in "Here Is Television" by New York consultant and director Thomas Hutchinson (Hastings House, \$4), just out. Trouble with most books on TV today is they all follow same general pattern — what is video, how does it work, what's its future? Still best for those in the field are Capt. Bill Eddy's "Television, the Eyes of Tomorrow," and Judy Dupuy's "Television Show Business."

"Stratovision" is trademark for Westinghouse's new FM receiver antenna, now being delivered. Antenna features swivel mounting bracket adaptable to flat or peaked roofs or walls, aluminum mast and elements, retails at \$9.95. Design resulted from field tests of 30 models of 3 basic types.

GE's transmitter assembly lines begin moving into company's \$25,000,000 Syracuse Electronics Park Monday, full production being expected in new location by May 30. Company also said FM and TV production will be among earliest to stem from new 155-acre plant.

TV film developments—both 8 mm and 16 mm—are scheduled for top billing at April 21-25 convention of Society of Motion Picture Engineers at Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Signs of the FM-TV times: With RCA's Washington T-Day breaking this weekend, (Vol. 3, No. 14), 2 local set dealers are plugging TV for all its worth—over FM station WASH (Commercial Radio Equipment Co.).

CBC has backtracked on its proposal to make private Canadian broadcasters replace AM facilities with FM on 3-year notice after 1955 (Vol. 3, No. 2); current CBC-CAB battle is over former's proposal to limit FM to 20 kw-500 ft.

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OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
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ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

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April 19, 1947

'TV CARAVAN' BIGGEST PROMOTION YET: Biggest local advertisers on TV, when it really gets going commercially, will surely be department stores. They've already evinced considerable interest in sight-sound, viz., last year's intra-store demonstrations at Gimbels-Philadelphia and Wanamakers-New York; also fact that 2 big stores (Maison Blanche-New Orleans and William H. Block-Indianapolis) hold permits to build their own TV stations.

Hence decision of huge Allied Stores Corp. store chain to send out Sam Cuff and Lou Sposa, ex-DuMont manager-production team, on cross country junket with TV demonstration equipment, calling it "Television Caravan," is not particularly surprising. Imposing is tour's list of "sponsors" who will televise their wares and services: B.V.D, Hoover, Hickok, Koroseal, Sherwin-Williams, U.S. Rubber, Westinghouse, plus the magazines House Beautiful, Charm and Pic. RCA is setting up equipment, which costs some \$100,000, will be carried along with crew of 10 in 6-car "circus" caravan, the cars built specially by Chevrolet.

"Television Caravan" will stop in Allied stores in 22 cities, set up store studio with off-the-line receivers throughout stores, in windows, etc.; then staff will produce local live shows, run off films, etc. It's all a camera chain job, no off-the-air shows since only one city on itinerary as yet has TV station. Allied wants to "educate store personnel" in medium; RCA wants to excite interest in equipment, perhaps impel more TV station applications (and grab off transmitter, receiver business) since all cities visited still have channels available. [For full itinerary, see item on page 4.]

CRACKDOWN ON PROCRASTINATORS: Squatters, sit-downers, tail-riders, hip-pocket broadcasters -- that's what the more zealous FMers are now calling the brethren who deliberately employ every stalling artifice to delay getting on the air. Also mindful of stalling tactics, FCC attorneys and engineers are considering recommendations to full Commission to do something about them. But first they want to be sure inactive grantees' excuses aren't bona fide -- that they really aren't meeting construction difficulties, equipment delays, CAA obstacles -- the usual excuses.

FMA's ebullient President Roy Hofheinz, at Albany meeting Monday, lashed out at laggards, called them tail-riders waiting to climb bandwagon after others risk financial necks to put FM over. He suggested FCC give grantees 30-60 days to get on air, revoke grants if it finds they're simply sitting on frequency. He coined phrase "hip-pocket broadcasters."

Commission engineers already are prodding recalcitrants to apply for STAs, armed with returns to questionnaire sent out with CPs, and say they're getting good results, as witness the 160 STAs reported in our latest FM Directory (Supplement Nos. 50, 50A, 50B). FCC policy was made clear by FCC Chairman Denny's statement at FMA organization meeting (Vol. 3, No. 2) -- that Commission didn't propose to let anyone squat silently on frequency once granted. Thinking for future includes possibility (1) that completion dates should be extended on request for only 3 or 4 months instead of 6 months as now, (2) that completion dates should be extended on request only until next October or November, then review whole situation, get tough.

5 FM 'WINNERS' IN NEW YORK RACE: You haven't heard the end of Tuesday's proposed decisions on New York area FM cases, in which FCC's choices of 5 winners in field of 17 are made known. Happy indeed were the victorious "quintuplets" -- but as one attorney remarked: "The stakes are too high, particularly for the 4 rejected AMers who see the FM handwriting on the wall, to think there won't be a fight over this." Next step is filing of legal exceptions, then oral arguments, then final decision, then courts if anyone wants to appeal.

FCC's choices were: WMCA Inc.; ABC (WJZ); Unity (ILGWU); North Jersey (WPAT); New York News. Proposed for denials were: WBNX, WEVD, WLIB (N.Y. Post), WBYN (Newark News), present AMers; and Frequency Broadcasting Corp. (Thos. Murray, nfgr); Bernard Fein (radio engineer); Peoples Radio Foundation (Communist-tinged); Metropolitan Broadcasting (Ohrbach Stores); National Maritime Union; Amalgamated Broadcasting (Clothing Workers Union); Radio Projects Inc. (Newhouse newspapers); Methodist Church. For further data on these applications, see FM Directory (Supplement No. 50).

Just about every criterion the FCC employs was applied in 29-page decision -- programming, experience, finances, staffing. Comrs. Walker (ill) and Webster (new) didn't participate. There were lots of dissents: Jett favoring WLIB instead of Unity, concurring on other 4; Durr favoring Amalgamated instead of N.Y. News; Denny concurring on ABC, WMCA and WPAT but favoring WLIB and another to New Jersey in lieu of Unity and N.Y. News.

There's still chance for rejectees to go after the 5 New York channels "frozen" until July 1 under reservation plan (Vol. 2, No. 29) inasmuch as veterans don't seem to be rushing for them. Also, there's a possible discrepancy in the decision, which legalists will surely make most of, in fact that old wartime CP of WAAW, Newark, held by Bremer Broadcasting Corp., expired March 1. According to FCC records, application for extension wasn't received until March 13. Rules provide expired CPs be surrendered, and FCC is manifesting increasing impatience with those who merely squat on channels (see story in this issue). So another channel may be thrown in hat, and Bremer required to compete for it with everyone else.

Comr. Durr's stern "Blue Book conscience" showed strong recrudescence this week, too, when he issued his dissent in proposed decision on Chicago FM (Vol. 3, No. 11). He said he feels 3 more besides WAIT should be denied (WMAQ, WAAF, WGES) because of overcommercialization, etc. He sharply admonishes his confreres: "It is pertinent to ask whether the statements which the Commission itself has made as to the part it proposes to play in the improvement of broadcast program services are likewise to remain in the realm of unfulfilled promises."

N.Y. DECISION BRINGS TVs TO 64: Four TV grants proposed Tuesday for New York area complete channel quota there, assure it total of 7 stations, bring TV box-score for U.S. to date to: 6 commercial licensees now operating regularly in 4 cities; 4 CP holders operating more or less regularly under STAs in 4 cities; 50 CPs outstanding in 35 cities, plus this week's 3 more to New York and 1 to Newark; 9 applications pending, of which 5 are stymied by Paramount-DuMont stock ownership (Vol. 3, No. 1, 3) and 2 stymied pending decision on Don Lee's AM renewal case.

Accordingly, we have revised our TV Directory, bringing it up to date here-with as Supplement No. 18-C. You can discard Supplement No. 18-B.

New York "proposed decision" is virtually final, though may be fought by counsel for rejected Debs Memorial Foundation (WEVD) who have 20 days to file exceptions. Grants went to ABC (WJZ), Bamberger (WOR), New York Daily News, Bremer of Newark (WAAT). Comr. Durr voted for Debs Memorial instead of Patterson-McCormick Daily News, citing American Jewish Congress' charges of newspaper's editorial bias; but majority felt such charges didn't belong in case. AJC fuss actually had effect of holding up grants unusual length of time (hearings started last June), irked most bystanders including FCC members, probably militated in favor of Daily News (which also won FM grant). Formal grounds for denying WEVD were given as (1) its financing arrangements with newspaper Jewish Daily Forward, and (2) alleged overcommercialization and lack of over-all program balance.

THEY LIKE FM REALLOCATION: Reaction to FCC's proposed FM channel reallocation (Vol. 3, No. 15) continues very favorable. CP-holders, particularly those with STAs, are being urged by Commission engineers to request channel nearest their present one if present one is not included in new plan. This is in line with policy of treating assignments as if new plan were already in effect. So far, FCC has received no complaints that plan necessitates costly reconstruction. CPS being granted now, however, are not being assigned channels, pending finality of reallocation.

FCC has also decided to hold off decisions (until new plan is final) on hearings occasioned by channel scarcity, where new plan would provide enough to go around. Of course, by time reallocation is officially in effect, more applicants may file in those cities. And reserved channels will probably be available after June 30, too. It can become complicated, what with proposed decisions and oral arguments occurring about same time. Ordinary grants, however, continue at high rate: 17 conditionals, 5 CPS this week (Supplement No 50-B herewith). FCC's "get tough" policy regarding program analyses, by the way, is really in effect. Recent applications from Huntsville, Ala. and Martinsville, Va. were shot back because program analysis data was omitted.

PROPOSED TV ANTENNA BANS: Dangerous precedents for TV are seen in this week's New York and Washington activities relating to receiving antenna and transmitting towers. In New York, Real Estate Board turned down TBA plan to permit erection of 4 or 5 dipoles on apartment house roofs, usable by 25-30 families, claiming unsightliness, hazard, landlord liability -- even though TBA scheme would absolve landlords by signed agreements. Long-range TBA plan envisages master antenna system (not yet ready); meanwhile, association will fight turndown. In Washington, Congress subcommittee held hearings on H.R. 2984, introduced by Rep. Simpson (Ill.), to forbid TV (and FM) towers in residential areas. Citizen groups are backing the bill, claiming towers are eyesores, hazardous, lower property values. Consulting engineer Worthington Lent, for 4 local TV grantees, explained technical problem; appearing in opposition also were FCC's Plummer, CAA's Lee, TBA's Poppele, NAB's Petty. Not only are existing projects involved, including 3 sites already chosen, but bad example for other cities is feared if bill gets anywhere (doubtful).

AM-FM TABLE MODEL FOR \$50? Next wrinkle in much-demanded FM table sets may be an AM-FM model to sell for \$50 retail. Gerald Mayer, of Washington law firm of Mayer, Bannerman & Rigby, representing radio parts manufacturers (also associated with Radio Consultants, Inc.), reports he is acting for a newly organized distributing company in interesting private brand manufacturers in such a set. He will reveal no more for present. Meanwhile, Washington Attorney Bill Koplovitz, whose Electronics Inc. is backing an FM-only receiver (Vol. 3, No. 14), reports orders so far from more than 50 broadcasters. But he's not signing contracts until total production needed is ascertained. Airadio, Stamford, Conn., which will manufacture under trade name "Minnette," showed model at Albany FMA meeting Monday, reported it was now setting up production line.

NETWORKS VIA RELAYS NEXT IN FM: Keynote of FMA's first regional meeting (at Albany Monday) was that FM's next major step is networking. And Maj. Armstrong and FMA's Everett Dillard, mainsprings of Continental Network (Vol. 3, No. 12, 13), agree that radio relay, which AM cannot utilize, is the answer. It's cheap (only about \$200 for equipment); dependable (WBCA, Schenectady, has been picking up Armstrong's Alpine signals 130 miles away for 4 years without single failure), simple (Dillard said whole idea for Continental Network took only 10 days from germination to completion). Continuation of cooperative network is now under study, and WBCA's Leonard Asch (elected regional chairman) also announced incorporation soon of Liberty Network Inc. (Vol. 3, No. 13).

Keen interest in FM was manifested by big attendance at Albany (185 registrants). Relay demonstration, Yonkers-to-Alpine-to-Schenectady, where signal was rebroadcast and received at Albany meeting, was genuinely inspiring. Tone and

clarity of reception was top flight (REL tuner used with Altec-Lansing big speaker). Other highlights of meeting: Zenith's H. C. Bonfig, whose company made one-third of all FM sets in 1946 (year's total reported by RMA, 184,485), said FM consoles will dominate market rest of this year at least, which means stress should be laid on high quality market. Even a business recession, he said, while meaning tighter buying, might work to advantage of FM in that it would offer the plus-value needed to attract had-to-sell purchasers. And Jack Gould, New York Times' radio editor, called FM "broadcasting's second generation," said second generation is always more progressive than first.

SIGHT AND SOUND

This is itinerary of "TV Caravan" (described in story on page 1), with stores and stopover dates: Reading, Pa., Pomeroy's, May 20-24; Easton, Pa., Laubach's, May 27-29; Jamaica, N. Y., Gertz, June 3-7; Boston, Jordan Marsh, June 10-14; Syracuse, Dey Bros., June 18-21; Paterson, N. J., Quackenbush, June 25-28; Harrisburg, Pomeroy's, July 1-3; Grand Rapids, Mich., Herpolsheimers, July 8-12; Columbus, Morehouse Martens, July 16-19; Cincinnati, Rollman's, July 22-24; Tampa, Maas Bros., July 31-Aug. 2; Lake Charles, La., Mullers, Aug. 7-9; San Antonio, Joske's, Aug. 13-16; Dallas, Titcher-Goettinger, Aug. 19-22; Waterloo, Ia., Black's, Aug. 28-30; St. Paul, Golden Rule, Sept. 2-5; Boise, Idaho, Anderson's, Sept. 11-13; Seattle, Bon Marche, Sept. 17-20; Spokane, Anderson's, Sept. 23-26; Great Falls, Mont., The Paris, Sept. 29-Oct. 1; Minneapolis, Donaldson's, Oct. 8-11; Akron, Polsky's, Oct. 15-18.

Into new jobs: Ex-Secy of State Jimmy Byrnes joins old-line Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson, very active in radio (Duke Patrick, Karl Smith, Lester Cohen); Lawrence Phillips, executive v.p. of USO Camp Shows, ex-president of Valspar Corp., joins DuMont as management consultant; Wayne Coy, assistant publisher, *Washington Post*, and an NAB board member, drops newspaper duties to devote full time to its WINX and WINX-FM; Ken Stowman, Manager Roger Clipp's aide at WFIL and WFIL-FM (*Philadelphia Inquirer*), takes over fulltime duties as its television director, says construction of TV station starts this summer; Virgil E. Trouant, upped to manager, broadcast and industrial section, RCA Engineering Products Dept., Camden.

Subpoena for Petrillo, issued this week by House Labor Committee, has no date since Committee chairman Fred A. Hartley Jr. (Rep., N. J.) doesn't want music czar until after Supreme Court rules on Lea Act (Vol. 3, No. 10). Subpoena was issued, it's said, to keep James Caesar in this country (he was reported getting ready to take boat trip). Meanwhile, some relaxation of duplication ban is occurring—Elliott Sanger, WQXR-WQXQ, New York, reporting this week he was duplicating live music without payment of second fee. It's also reported Tom Tinsley's WITH-FM, Baltimore, is carrying live AM musical programs with no extra levy.

All-day FCC meetings begin April 28 to pass on Processing Line 2 AM cases before May 1 deadline. Commission feels all will be decided (either granted or set for hearings) by May 1. Line 1 cases—those involving less complex engineering study—are expected to be cleared by June, although May 1 will see FCC action on cases filed as of mid-January. Commission staff is braced for avalanche of amendments—by applicants seeking to avoid hearings—and also expects number of new applications by local groups who missed out filing before Feb. 7 cutoff date.

Highest powered FM in land is now KSTP-FM, St. Paul, which this week got FCC okay for 545 kw. Highest previously was WMC-FM, Memphis, with 515 kw (Vol. 3, No. 9). St. Paul station previously had 320 kw.

Proposed new FM allocations (Supplement No. 51) look like they'll render obsolete our sets of FM Channel Maps (Supplement No. 21A) published just a year ago, because they're so expensive and demand limited, we don't propose to reissue these maps. We still have supply of old sets (60 channel maps, 16x10 inches, plus 10 blanks) which we'll furnish you at about cost of handling and mailing—\$1.50 per set.

Philco's agency, Hutchins Advertising Co., calls us to task — quite justifiably — for our inadvertent failure to include WPTZ's schedule of Phillies and Athletics home games ("by far the largest continuous schedule of ball games of any TV station") in our item last week about TV's baseball coverage. What's more, WPTZ has the games sponsored—on alternate days by Atlantic Refining Co. and Philco Distributors, Inc.

Results of Washington's T-day (Vol. 3, No. 14): RCA 500-plus sets sold; GE, whose Model No. 801 has already gone up in price to \$625 (from \$549.50), most of local quota of 100 sets ordered; DuMont, half dozen sets sold. RCA will do repeat in Washington when NBC's WNBW goes on air in early June.

TV set census by cities was prime interest at New York Television Institute (sponsored by *Televiser Magazine*) this week. WBKB's Bill Eddy reported 2,071 in Chicago; WPTZ's Ernest Walling, 4,000 in Philadelphia; WWDT's Harry Bannister, 2,000 in Detroit. They were only speakers to report on number of sets in their areas. Attendants at 2-day meet heard generally optimistic reports on status and future of TV, were warned (by RCA's Joseph B. Elliott, RKO's Ralph Austrian, Caples Co.'s David P. Lewis) programs must improve or TV will never really click.

How record business bolsters CBS income level (Vol. 3, No. 13), is further disclosed in 1947 first-quarter income statement. For 13 weeks ending March 29, gross income was \$26,334,922, net income after taxes \$1,498,151. This compares with \$23,276,004 and \$1,462,229 during same period 1946. Of 1947 net income, \$934,595 (54c per share) was realized from broadcasting operations, \$563,556 (33c per share) from record manufacturing. These compare with \$1,214,075 (71c per share) from broadcasting, \$248,154 (14c per share) from record manufacturing, during same 1946 period. So, actually, broadcasting net income was down considerably.

GE's Russ David, FM transmitter sales, reported at FMA Albany meeting Monday his company has already shipped 122 FM transmitters—52 of 250 watts, 15 of 1 kw, 55 of 3 kw. This summer first 10 kw's will be delivered, but new customers must wait 4-6 months. Still a major project, he said, is 50 kw; first GE model is due in about 2 months, regular shipments in late 1947, early 1948. Studio equipment (microphones, speech input, turntables) is 3-4 months away.

Ringling-Barnum & Bailey Circus bowed to TV, authorized April 19 telecast by WCBS-TV from Madison Square Garden as part of Ford sports sponsorship.

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April 26, 1947

AM DIRECTORY NEARLY READY: Report on our AM Directory: It's almost ready for the printer, should be in mails to subscribers within next 10 days, will be up-to-the minute as of May 1 on (1) all U.S., Canadian, Mexican, Cuban and other North American standard broadcasting stations, listed separately by States, Frequencies, Call Letters; (2) all pending applications for new or changed AM facilities, also separately listed by States and frequencies. Subscribers will get weekly addenda sheets, reporting additions and changes, as part of this added service -- which will cost them nothing extra. But extra copies of the AM Directory, about 100 pages punched for loose-leaf binding, will cost them \$10 each. The AM Directory and addenda service are available only to regular subscribers.

PROBING THE MOVIE MOGULS: Movie industry's technicians think it's time their big bosses wake up to TV, get into video swim now against day when (1) home TV on vast scale offers competition to boxoffice, (2) TV transmission to theaters is practicable and feasible. Society of Motion Picture Engineers, at Chicago convention this week, instructed its TV chairman Paul J. Larsen to make plans with top level movie executives for an industry-wide TV committee. Radio Engineer Larsen, also appointed IRE video committee chairman this week, expects okay from Eric Johnston's Motion Picture Producers Assn after its May 9 board meeting, also from Donald Nelson's Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Now a Johns Hopkins researcher at its Silver Spring, Md. labs, Larsen has been watching TV from vantage point of nearby Washington, is prime mover in demand on FCC for theater TV channels (Vol. 3, No. 6). He thinks complete theater TV (spot news, sports, possibly even transmission of feature films) can be demonstrated in 2 years, be on national commercial basis in 5-10 years. He's one of few "voices in wilderness" (Paramount's Paul Raibourn, RKO's Ralph Austrian, 20th Century's Earl Sponable are others) trying to persuade movie moguls they're overlooking good bet in TV. Moviemen note: RCA is demonstrating to newsmen its large-screen theater type color TV for first time at Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, next Wednesday.

NETWORK TV VIA COAX AND/OR RELAYS: AT&T is naturally cagey about making promises for its coaxial, and TV radio relays over long distances are still in development stage -- but it's pretty certain that several more TV cities will be linked by coaxial by time of Republican National Convention in Philadelphia, June 20, 1948. That and the Democratic presidential nominating convention (time and place not yet selected) should afford greatest of all possible telecast events from point of view of public interest. There wasn't anything of kind at both conventions in Chicago in 1944 (due to war stoppage of TV) but NBC's video coverage via radio relay from GOP (Willkie) convention in Philadelphia in 1940 is recalled as landmark of TV history.

Fact that Philadelphia is on New York-to-Washington coaxial, thus assuring TV network pickups, actually helped influence selection of that city by GOP. It may likewise influence Democrats -- though they're talking Chicago which has one

TV station now, should have several by then, but probably won't have any coax link with East (though possibly GE-Globe Wireless relay will be in operation in time).

As Eastern seaboard coaxial stands now, Richmond-Charlotte extensions are operating in telephone service, can easily be equalized for TV -- but there's only one Richmond station projected as yet, none in Charlotte. Pittsburgh extension should be ready by mid-1948 to serve its stations. Boston is not on coaxial but is due to be linked by radio relay, AT&T tests scheduled to start this spring having been halted by strike; it should have TV network service by summer of 1948.

As for other extensions, AT&T long lines manager L. G. Woodford told TBA convention last fall that southern transcontinental route through Washington, Atlanta, Dallas, El Paso and on to Los Angeles should be ready by end of 1947, as well as an extension from Charlotte to Miami. On other hand, it looks like "end of 1948" before these routes can be linked up with such cities as Cleveland, Cincinnati, Toledo, Dayton, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis -- all with existing or projected video outlets, listed in our TV Directory (Supplement No. 18-C).

Mere fact of coaxial's existence does not insure network service -- for TV programs via coaxial have been tested with success (but some loss in definition) only on 500-mile New York-Washington loop-backs thus far. There's a serious equalization problem for any greater distances. Right now it looks like there are definite distance limitations to TV transmission not encountered in using coaxial for much narrower-band telephone relays. What these limitations are, the AT&T people say they frankly won't know until tests over longer hauls can be made.

* * * *

Meanwhile, TVers aren't overlooking radio relay possibilities for networks which they know will work over short distances (viz, New York-Schenectady). Only this week, moving to modernize its New York-Philadelphia relay, on which it has been working long time, Philco filed 5 applications with FCC for a 2-way, simultaneous, microwave system. Links will include New York City; Mt. Rose, N.J., 50 miles from New York; Philadelphia, 37 miles from Mt. Rose. Philco's plans call for transmitter at Empire State Bldg., New York, for southbound traffic; 2 transmitters at Mt. Rose, for two-way; one a Wyndmoor, Pa., where its WPTZ transmitter is located, for northbound; one at WPTZ studios in Philadelphia proper, for northbound. Frequencies asked are 1300-1320 and 1380-1400 mc -- which are in proposed 1000-13000 allocations not expected to be finalized until after International Telecommunications Conference in Atlantic City May 15. At present, Philco's New York-Philadelphia relay is one-way, picks up NBC's WNBT at Mt. Rose, retransmitting to Wyndmoor.

PUBLISHERS LOOK OVER FAX: Facsimile demonstrations by both Finch and Hogan aroused keen interest among newspaper publishers attending this week's ANPA convention in New York City -- heightened, no doubt, by widely publicized demonstrations conducted recently by Jack Knight's Miami Herald (Vol. 3, No. 11), seen by estimated 50,000 persons. Nor was interest lessened by news that Philadelphia Inquirer's WFIL-FM will use same Miami equipment (Hogan) for 5-day promotion starting April 28, is laying out \$40,000 for equipment for regular service starting in September.

Reaction of publishers, as gauged by our correspondent, ranged from non-committal to enthusiastic. They were told fax is out of lab, ready for newsrooms; that small newspapers with FM can start service for \$8,000-\$10,000, that equipment in fair quantities will be ready by fall. "NPFS Facsimile Digest," issued by Newspaper Publishers' Faximile Service, 155 Perry St., New York, in format very much like this newsletter, is being distributed to give latest dope on Hogan system, including costs; Finch literature may be obtained from Finch Facsimile, 10 E. 40th St., New York City.

Meanwhile, ex-FCC Comr. T. A. M. Craven, now directing Cowles radio interests out of Washington, withdrew WOL's fax application, said he prefers waiting. And RTPB Facsimile Panel (No. 7) after meeting last week, reported it is practically ready to recommend standards to full board, which in turn will submit them to FCC.

NEXT TV SETS, NEXT 'T' CITY: To the nearly 30 radio manufacturers who reported, in response to our questionnaires, that they're definitely planning TV set production this year (Vol. 3, Nos. 7, 13, 14), you can add Hallicrafters, Majestic, and a new company called Colonial Television Corp. (about which we know little yet except that it isn't connected with Sylvania's subsidiary, Colonial Radio Corp., Buffalo). Hallicrafters tells us its sets will be consoles with AM-FM-phono and possibly wire recorder -- no other information. Majestic says its first model will be console, with 6½x8½-inch image -- that's all. Colonial firm is located at 225-18 Merrick Road, Laurelton, L.I., N.Y., states in not-very-informative leaflet that its "Vision Master," retailing at \$199 with apparently no installation or servicing charge, is "lowest price set now available." Where it's available, we don't know, but we'll find out and report soon.

And you can look for announcement any day now of limited production of new Crosley TV receivers, presumably to be marketed first in Cincinnati area where company-built experimental video station in Carew Tower (in words of Jimmy Shouse) "has been completely tested with entirely satisfactory results." Thus Cincinnati may be next addition to "T" cities (Supplement 18-C). Crosley will have 3 outlets -- in Cincinnati, big transmitter to be located atop Clifton Hill; Columbus, new site to be chosen in lieu of AIU Tower first designated, now deemed structurally unsound; Dayton, several sites under option.

NEW YORK FM NOT SETTLED YET: Seems pretty certain that FCC's proposed New York FM decision, picking 5 out of 17 applicants (Vol. 3, No. 16), is going to rehearing, possibly litigation. Commission lawyers this week were looking into affairs of WAAW, Newark (Bremer), and results may have bearing on whether FCC will grant extension of its completion date despite fact its request came in after 1942-granted CP had expired. Even if extension is granted laggard WAAW, these lawyers foresee trouble ahead -- since any one of the 12 rejectees can (and somebody probably will) cite Ashbacker decision as basis for rehearing for additional available channel. Another out for denied New Yorkers (besides exceptions, and only WEEVD has so far indicated it would file exceptions) is for them to ask for the 4 reserved channels due to be released July 1. That's what Chicago's WAIT has done; losing out in that city's FM grants (Vol. 3, No. 11), WAIT was granted permission to amend application for reserved channel, though ordinarily denied applicants must wait year before re-applying. So far, only 3 others have asked for reserved channels -- CBS's WTOP for Washington, AM CP-holder WPGH for Pittsburgh, AM CP-holder WLOA for Braddock, Pa.

PROBLEM OF BIG CITY CLASS A's: How many Class A (community-type) FM stations can be placed in and around a metropolitan area -- Los Angeles, for example? That's what FCC seeks to determine in designating, but not yet scheduling, first Class A hearing yet, involving 15 applicants from Los Angeles metropolitan area (Supplement No. 50). They must not only sell themselves but also need for FM service in their communities. For instance: if 2 stations can go into Glendale, that might preclude any for San Fernando. Or, there might be overlap as between contiguous San Pedro and Alhambra. And then, there's the question whether Class A stations should be permitted at all in central cities of a metropolitan district, such as Hollywood and San Pedro, in the light of Sec. 3.203(b) of proposed FM rules changes (Supplement No. 51-A).

OUTLOOK FOR MORE TV OUTLETS: In the 5 weeks since FCC decided color TV issue (Vol. 3, No. 12), not a single new application for TV station has been filed -- but radio lawyers and equipment manufacturers assure us several will be filed soon. They say certain well-heeled interests are simply biding their time because there seems to be no rush for the remaining and (except in a few bigger cities) still plentiful channels. Also, probably, because of growing fears of business recession.

Biggest question-mark in TV is CBS, whose color plans were rejected, leaving it with one black-and-white station -- WCBS-TV, New York. Big network has maintained discreet silence since FCC's decision, has shown no signs of soreheadness,

indicated no future plans. But it's hard to believe it will concentrate its TV on New York only. It's our guess -- but a guess only, since company policy is to say nothing yet -- that CBS will soon apply for more monochrome outlets, though it's shut out of key Washington, Los Angeles areas by reason of exhaustion of channels. It might buy in those cities, however.

Only withdrawee who has definitely told us he intends re-filing is Frank Katzentine, WKAT, Miami Beach, but we also hear there will soon be one also for one of Chicago's 3 remaining channels. In Miami the other day, too, we were informed by Edward Claughton, financial man who is angeling city's only TV grant thus far -- to Southern Radio & Television Equipment Co. (Vol. 3, No. 11) -- that he's so intrigued by TV he is contemplating filing also for Jacksonville, Atlanta, New Orleans, Houston. These cities are "naturals" since they are in line of projected coaxial cables. Mr. Claughton scotched rumors he's selling stock, but admitted Miami TV project is part of subdivision and auditorium development he is currently promoting. He has no interest in AM, he says, and contemplates none -- though Robert G. Venn, ex-manager of Miami's WGBS, who "sold" him on TV and will manage project, is identified with new local grant. Mr. Claughton was once an Atlanta banker, went through wringer during 1933 crash, has reestablished himself firmly in Florida, now enjoys considerable means and excellent reputation among wide circle of loyal business and social friends, many of whom we've contacted. His wife owns and operates string of movie houses, which he said whetted his interest in TV.

SIGHT AND SOUND

Corrections to Television Directory (Supplement No. 18-C): King-Trendle, Detroit, Mich., change visual power to 32.1 kw, aural power to 16.7 kw, antenna height to 485 ft; Crosley, Cincinnati, O., change visual power to 22 kw, aural power to 11 kw, antenna height to 717 ft.

Off for Milan, Italy, with TV camera chain plus micro-wave relay apparatus, to be demonstrated June 14-30 at historic Milan Fair on occasion of 50th anniversary of founding of Marconi Co., are RCA's exhibition manager, Dick Hooper and staff of 5 (Chet Davis, John Rowe, Joe Jenkins chosen so far). They fly over May 28, return in early August to catch up with RCA-Allied Stores "TV Caravan" (Vol. 3, No. 16).

International Ladies Garment Workers Union is still working on interesting a manufacturer in quantity order for AM-FM or FM-only table models, which it wants to make available cheaply to its big membership, but says "nothing to report yet." However, this week it signed order for five 10 kw, one 1 kw FM transmitters with RCA (cost \$250,000) for stations granted its locals in Chattanooga (to be ready by Labor Day, first one), St. Louis, Los Angeles, New York, and the ones it also hopes to get in Boston, Philadelphia. ILGWU radio consultant is Morris Novik (ex-WNYC) and engineer is Paul deMars of Wilmotte firm.

Opposition on part of AM broadcasters also in FM, who wanted to work through state broadcasters' association (NAB affiliate), almost aborted establishment of North Carolina FM Assn formed at Wilson, N. C. Monday. But there were enough staunch FMers (21 signed as charter members) to get organization underway. WGTN's Allen Wanamaker Wilson, was chosen president; WBT-FM's Keith Byerly, Charlotte, v.p.; WBBB-FM's E. Z. Jones, Burlington, secy-treas. Meeting heard FMA's Bill Bailey urge crackdown on "hip pocket FM broadcasters" (Vol. 3, No. 16).

Paul Porter's report on his mission to Greece is being finished this week, and then he'll announce he's joining Thurman Arnold law firm -- which means he's through with public office.

Get-tough policy on "wilful misrepresentations" showed again this week as FCC ordered Boston's WORL (1,000-D on 950 kc) off air as of Aug. 31 (like WOKO, Albany) for alleged fiscal shenanigans of Owners H. A. Lafount (ex-radio commissioner) and Sanford and George Cohen (attorneys), Comr. Jett dissenting. They've exhausted court appeals, so decision is final. Application for sale of station to Bitner interests was denied, but FCC said it would entertain applications for WORL's facilities beginning June 1.

"Beginning of agency recognition for the manifold advantages of staticless and true fidelity FM over the narrow limits imposed by AM broadcasting," is the way Owner Ira A. Hirschmann looks at Ruthrauff & Ryan's placement on his WABF, New York, of contract for series of Sari Biro piano recitals (live) for Baldwin Piano Co. Little by little, agencies and national accounts are evincing more interest in FM, indicating they will use medium as soon as it proves "set population."

Lea Act's constitutionality is scheduled to be argued before Supreme Court May 5; Justice Dept. this week asked Court to uphold anti-Petrillo law, found unconstitutional in Chicago District Court last December (Vol. 2, No. 49), referring to high court's ruling in John L. Lewis case.

Eitel-McCullough Inc., San Bruno, Cal., claims to have placed first high-band 50 kw FM station on air; its Radio Diablo's KSBR, San Bruno, 97.7 mc, started Wednesday, with 50 kw input giving turnstile antenna an ERP of 200 kw.

Fair comment and sensible, from *Washington Post*: "No one can question the right, or even the duty, of radio to scrutinize the content of programs for good taste. . . . We are inclined to agree with Mr. [Fred] Allen, however, that suppression by a network of light criticism of itself is a sign of immaturity."

Teamwork among New York TV rivals is again manifested in plans for telecasting Mexican President Aleman's airport arrival (Tuesday) and speech before joint session of Congress (Thursday), both to be covered in pool pickup by NBC, CBS, DuMont.

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May 3, 1947

AM 'FREEZE' ENDS, 1,712 STATIONS: This week, FCC wound up all of its Line 2 AM cases (those involving complex engineering). In addition, it completed disposal of some 200 of its 350 Line 1 cases (relatively simple applications). Thus, end of Feb. 7-May 1 "freeze" period found United States and its possessions with 1,712 licensed or authorized AM broadcasting stations -- nearly 200 more than our 1,520 count of Jan. 1, 1947 and an approximate 70% increase since the official 1,004 count of Jan. 1, 1946. This crowded week alone, hell-bent to catch up, Commission granted 57 CPs for new AM stations, 45 changes in facilities, set scores of cases for hearing.

Our new AM Directory, dated May 1, thus goes to the printer this week (will be mailed to you in about 7 days) with all these grants included, listing all stations in North America by states and frequencies, all still pending U.S. applications by states and frequencies. Our log of 1,712 U.S. stations compares with 1,561 in the last directory printed in the trade. It also includes the 128 stations in Canada, 240 in Mexico, 87 in Cuba, and those in Newfoundland, The Bahamas, Bermuda, Haiti, Dominican Republic.

Pleased as punch over meeting deadline, breaking up log-jam, Chairman Denny said broadcast routine should be normal henceforth, foresaw few actions next week as Commission prepared for May 15 opening of International Telecommunications Conference at Atlantic City. Only fly in ointment is plethora of hearings yet to come. These spell additional complications as doors open for new applications, amendments, petitions for reconsideration. But biggest enigma among broadcasting fraternity -- whose older timers view with manifest but helpless alarm the huge increase in stations, crowding of wavelengths, advent of new competition -- is just how much more traffic the standard band can bear.

TV READY FOR THE THEATER, TOO: Watching television images being projected onto a small theater-size screen -- and in color, at that -- one cannot refrain from reflecting on what must be the state of mind prevailing among the higher levels of the motion picture industry, executive and financial. Whether it's smug complacency, lack of comprehension, preoccupation with other problems, or simply a rejection of what they'd prefer not to see and hear, they seem to have a blind spot for TV. Even their technicians, aware as some of them are to TV's potential (Vol. 3, No. 17), apparently are only whispering in the wilderness.

For theater TV, let alone home TV, plainly forecasts another revolutionary "threat" to the movies. Anyone who saw RCA's demonstrations this week at Franklin Institute in Philadelphia could see that.

What we saw RCA scientists disclose there, color TV on a 10x7½ foot theater screen, was not very important per se -- it's too far in advance of itself by RCA's own admission. Indeed, color TV for theaters isn't any nearer than it is for the home, an issue settled by Federal fiat only a few weeks ago (Vol. 3, No. 12). The significance of the demonstration, to this observer at least, lay in the fact that theater TV in black and white is ready -- and in Gen. Sarnoff's assertion

that, if an order for monochrome equipment were placed now, delivery could be made within a year.

But Gen. Sarnoff added his regrets over the "lack of enthusiasm on the part of the movie people." Only Warner Brothers, he said, has thus far worked with RCA on theater TV. In his view, the movie people simply aren't alert to TV, even though it was the sound engineer who saved their industry once before, even though TV for home or theater will encourage new art forms, develop more creative talent, provide more healthy competition.

RCA itself, said Sarnoff, owns no theaters, plans none, does not contemplate that TV will replace theaters any more than radio did, has and will have no exclusive arrangement with anyone. When equipment is ready, it will be available to any theater that wants it -- to pick out of the air (or off wires) and project on its screen news events as they occur, sports contests, even feature films. He foresaw networks of 1,000 to 5,000 theaters "fed" from a central source.

The color TV images were about as good (or bad) as early Technicolor -- nothing to get excited about yet but promising great things within perhaps 5 or 6 years. Red-blue-green combinations were fuzzy, though colors were rich. Electronic system permits color transmissions to be received also in black and white so that, as in the case of home receivers, there is no question of obsolescence (Vol. 2, No. 44). Indeed, the same color pictures -- Kodachrome slides and films covering skiing, skating, horse racing, hand-painting -- were much more enjoyable on the 10-inch screen of an ordinary black-and-white receiver operating simultaneously alongside the big screen. Only when a Looney Tune cartoon film was run off was the color consistently effective.

Projection apparatus used looked much like an oversize movie theater projector, operated by dial controls. Transmitter in the same auditorium was like an ordinary radio setup. Transmission was via short cable, though same could be done over the air and apparatus can be adjusted for full-size theater screen. Pickup equipment remains to be developed, uhf color propagation studies conducted.

Occasion was preview for newsmen of an illustrated paper on all-electronic color TV which Dr. Zworykin was to present before Franklin Institute Wednesday night (copies available from RCA). IRE and movie folk saw same demonstration next day. Expressed attitude among latter was: "Let's wait and see."

NOBODY KICKING ABOUT FM PLAN: There's little or no opposition to proposed new FM reallocation plan (Supplement No. 51), so far as we can discern -- but whether it will be ordered into effect without hearing was still undecided at week's end. Only 2 petitions have been filed for oral argument, set for May 8-9 -- from 3 Baltimore applicants who want additional channel assigned so all can get grants; from Richard Field Lewis Jr., WINC-FM, Winchester, Va., seeking assurance Class B rural stations will not have another rural on same channel less than 400 miles away.

As for plan itself, about dozen minor changes have been made in specific channels and locations and it may be promulgated pretty much as announced. More than 100 operating FMers have already applied for new channel assignments in accordance with the plan.

Other FM highlights of week: (1) Commission's "get tough" attitude (Vol. 3, No. 17) spilled over into FM in dismissing application of Pryor Dillard, Raymondsville, Tex., for not submitting program analysis after "repeated requests." (2) It dismissed WOKO application for Albany FM, having ordered AM license revoked as of Aug. 31. (3) It granted extension of 1942 CP to Bremer, Newark (WAAW), even though request came in fortnight after CP expired, after ascertaining bona fide CAA troubles and delivery delays. Some of rejected New York applicants (Vol 3, No. 17) can still attack decision on legal ground Bremer channel was open at time decision was rendered. (4) Once denied on overlap grounds (Vol. 2, No. 44), Liberty Broadcasting Co. got its grant in Pittsburgh, 11 others got conditionals (Supplement No. 50-D herewith).

TV AND FAX IN PHILADELPHIA: Philadelphia comes up with first to ask for TV station since color decision of March 18 -- the re-application this week of Gimbels (WIP and WIP-FM) after having dropped last year. Manager Ben Gimbel filed just in time to preclude expected grant-without-hearing of city's sole remaining channel to Daily News Television Co. Inc., recently formed with Harron-Kelly-WIBG backing (Vol. 3, No. 9) whose application is in FCC engineering dept. awaiting certain amendments. So it looks like hearing ahead, with these 2 (and any other possible late comers) fighting it out.

Gimbels seeks Channel No. 12 (204-210 mc), with 33.1 kw visual, 34.86 kw aural power, 555-ft antenna, transmitter in Gimbel Bldg. It proposes to spend \$360,238 on plant, \$25,000 per month on operation. (Higher cost-of-living note: In its earlier application, Gimbels proposed to spend \$211,250 on plant, \$3,000-\$12,000 per month on operation.)

Meanwhile, city's other 2 TV grantees, Bulletin's WPEN and Inquirer's WFIL, both with FM adjuncts, leaped into facsimile. Bulletin displayed Alden 18-inch machine in operation in Gimbel window all this week, faxing newspapers, photos, etc. before big crowds. Inquirer begins similar promotion next week. Bulletin's TV plans are stymied pending radio-newspaper dispositions (Vol. 3, No. 5, 6). Inquirer is awaiting RCA equipment, meanwhile setting up studio, hopes to get going this summer. WFIL's new video chieftain, Kenneth Stowman, is chairman of newly formed Television Assn. of Philadelphia, which agency-advertiser-utility interests are boosting as in Chicago.

Next TV grant probably will go to Sarkes Tarzian, Bloomington, Ind. (Supplement No. 18-C); application now being scrutinized by FCC lawyers is unopposed. There's still lots of talk about additional applications, 2 now appearing in prospect for Chicago's 3 remaining channels. Note: For TV channels by cities see page 8 of TV Rules (Supplement No. 17).

TECHNICAL HONEYMOON'S OVER: Easy-going days of FM regulation, on the technical side, are about over. FCC engineers and fieldmen, who up to now have been overlooking bad operating techniques while the infant service was feeling its way, think it's time to tighten up, say they now intend doing so. Proper operation, they say, is to FM's advantage, too, for public must not be disappointed after all it has heard about FM's superiority. In fact, Chief Engineer George E. Sterling has letter from a major manufacturer, expressing disappointment with present technical operations, advancing that as reason for not going into high-fidelity receiver production. Some faults, besides the obvious ones created by weak signals permitted under STAs: overmodulation, hum on carrier, extraneous modulation (noise from needle scratch on recordings, rumble of turntable motor, etc.). To make sure technicians are up to date on modern techniques, FCC is revising operator's examination, hopes to ensure higher calibre operators in all services -- AM, FM, TV especially.

LAST WORD ON THE 'BLOOPER': Yes, that "bloop" devised by Pug Marquardt of WIBW, Topeka, tiny gadget attachable to an AM receiver to convert it to FM (Vol. 3, No. 11), is pretty much as disclosed, with diagram, by Frank Shopen of KOAD, Omaha (Vol. 3, No. 13). Nothing we've published in recent months has created quite so much interest, and many subscribers wrote us for copies of the diagram. So we asked Marquardt to remark on Shopen's comments. Here's his reply:

"The diagram of Frank's bloop is very similar to ours. Of course, we use only one tube....and have several improvements. [But] the limitations pointed out by Frank hold true, in most cases. We have found that a special 300 ohm folded doublet antenna is a must when trying to use the bloop successfully....I made no claims of having invented anything, but stated we have taken an old principle and adopted it for use to receive FM on any AM receiver....I [still] feel the bloop can be used to good advantage by a lone STA operator to immediately increase his FM audience. It would naturally be antiquated as soon as FM sets become plentiful."

Approved FM equipment was listed by FCC in order released Friday (too late for textual publication but we'll send you copy if you want it), amending Sec. 16, 17 and 18 of FM Standards (Supplement No. 9). Transmitters approved were: Collins' 250w and 1 kw (final), 3 and 10 kw (tentative); Federal's 1, 3, 10, 20, 50 kw (tentative); Gates 250w and 1 kw (final); GE's 250w (final), 1, 3, 10, 50 kw (tentative); Iiarvey's 250w (final); RCA's exciter, 250w, 1 kw (final), 3 and 10 kw (tentative); REL's 250w and 1 kw (tentative); Raytheon's 250w, 1 and 3 kw (tentative); WE's 250w, 1, 3, 10, 25, 50 kw (2 models of each, tentative); Westinghouse's exciter and 1 kw (final), 3, 10 and 50 kw (tentative). Frequency and modulation monitors approved: Doolittle, GE, REL.

Taking issue with RMA's statement several weeks ago that 3 and 10 kw FM transmitters won't be fully available until the end of 1948 (Vol. 3, No. 15), Federal's Norman Wunderlich told us this week he can deliver 1, 3 and 10 kw units "so fast it would make your head swim." That goes for 2-bay to 12-bay antennas, too, as well as for speech input equipment and transmission lines, he said. Federal has a couple of 10 kw transmitters already operating — WELD, Columbus, Ohio, and WEW-FM, St. Louis. Federal also has made up its mind to drop out of domestic field for its radio and TV receivers, and concentrate (through IT&T) on the export market.

NBC's capable Phil Merryman, who rose from station engineer to manager of planning and development, quits network next week to go into consultant partnership with H. V. Anderson, New Orleans consulting engineer with a Washington association with Chambers & Garrison. Merryman will head New York office, site not yet found, will specialize in station planning and policy, has NBC as first client. Firm will be known as Anderson & Merryman.

Petrillo's ban on FM duplication of AM music programs, among other activities, is expected to be subject of inquiry by Rep. Carroll D. Kearns' House Labor subcommittee when music czar appears before it "second Monday after Supreme Court hands down Lea Act decision." Rep. Kearns (R-Pa.), himself an AFM member, said Petrillo hearing will be exploratory—"to get all the facts." AFM inquiry is part of Committee's look-see into question of union leadership.

All the publicity pother about Senator White's bill on broadcasting, which he may introduce this month, narrows down to this: that bill in not investigatory, deals about 70% with procedural matters, follows closely previously proposed legislation along lines of 1943 Wheeler-White bill (S-814, 78th Congress). Veteran Maine GOP majority leader isn't out to "get" anyone.

Proposed reduction in TV's 480-920 mc experimental band drew only one objection — from RCA-NBC. TBA attorneys indicated they intend conferring with FCC engineers to try to ameliorate TV's 50 mc loss. Proposals also clip 5 mc from fax, add 50 mc for industrial, scientific and diathermy equipment. New allocations, which may be made final before month is up, propose 470-475 mc for fax, 475-500 to be divided among fax, TV, developmental on an individual area basis, 500-890 for TV, 890-940 mc for industry devices.

Next big FMA regional confab is scheduled May 28 at Cincinnati's Hotel Gibson — for FM broadcasters from Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia. Second meeting with RMA committee on FM production (Vol. 3, No. 15), is planned for May 21 at Statler Hotel, Washington.

Radio's Little Ironies: Sad, isn't it, that ownership of both stations ordered to turn in their licenses next Aug. 31 for misrepresentations to FCC — WOKO, Albany, and WORL, Boston — should be identified with ex-radio commissioners, who certainly should have known better? Funny, too, that everyone got a laugh out of Fred Allen cut-off episode, which NBC deftly turned into a swell publicity gag — everyone, that is, except the blundering v.p. involved and the industry trade journal that editorially saw something sinister in Allen's flouting of "authority and discipline"? And, contemplating the bleeding heart of New York Timesman Jack Gould, the prophecies of doom by FCC Comr. Cliff Durr, the industry-can-do-no-wrong outpourings of NAB and its spokesmen — it does seem curious how well radio gets along, holds faithful audiences, still does good business at old and new stands.

Latest top-flight TV advertisers to be signed: Nash-Kelvinator Corp., presenting Alma Kitchell demonstrating kitchen equipment Wednesday, starting May 7, 8:30-8:45 p.m., on hookup of WNBT, New York; WPTZ, Philadelphia; WTTG, Washington; WRGB, Schenectady. And 35-week series of original dramatics, "Kraft Television Theater," starting May 7 on WNBT for Kraft Foods Co., 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Nash agency is Geyer, Newell & Ganger; for Kraft, J. Walter Thompson Co.

Detroit Tigers have agreed to allow Detroit News' WWDT to telecast games twice a week during home stands, starting in June. And St. Louis Cardinals and Browns have both signed with KSD-TV for all home games, Purity Bakeries sponsoring. Now every city with TV outlet has baseball video schedules (Vol. 3, No. 15, 16), save Washington whose Senators' management allowed opener to be carried, none since.

RCA delivered first 5 kw TV transmitter this week to NBC's WNBW, Washington, which ought to be ready for tests within month. Camden plant's W. W. Watts said production line is now operating to produce several transmitters monthly. Technical description is available on request from RCA Victor Division, Camden, N. J.

Raytheon got 4 experimental grants this week, in 3700-4200 mc band, to link Los Angeles-San Francisco in microwave relay net of stations at Mt. Pinos, Mt. Hamilton, San Gordino Mountain, San Benito. Big Waltham (Mass.) company, also holder of CP for TV in that city, is also testing New York-Boston and New York-Chicago microwave chains — looking to development for FM and TV as well as other communications.

WFIL's Roger Clipp, who is in TV up to his ears (*Philadelphia Inquirer's* RCA equipment due for delivery this summer, construction in Widener Bldg. starting immediately thereafter), calculates TV will cut heavily into AM's evening listenership, may even force AM night rates down, but won't hurt daytime AM. On TV's part, he told Philadelphia Poor Richard Club recently, it must tailor its rates to budgets of local advertisers.

Although still in very preliminary stages, FCC's streamlining of broadcast applications asks for detailed breakdown of proposed program structure for all services but TV. Tentative TV program query just lists 3 questions, all general.

Straws in the wind: Electronics Inc., Bowen Bldg., Washington, D. C., advertising in trade press to FMers to invite inquiries about its distribution plan for new FM-only table model set, wholesale price \$39 (Vol. 3, No. 14).

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May 10, 1947

AM DIRECTORY NO. 1 ON ITS WAY: Your subscription copy of our AM Directory No. 1 is about to go into the mails, should reach you in a few days. It's the only thing of its kind available -- complete to AM freeze end May 1. It comprises 100 pages, lists 1,712 existing or authorized stations in the United States alone (as compared with 1,561 in 1947 Broadcasting Yearbook, 1,373 in Radio Daily Annual). It includes separate listings by states, frequencies and call letters of all AM stations in the North American countries party to NARBA (U.S., Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Newfoundland, Haiti, Bahamas, Bermuda, Dominican Republic). It also contains listings by states and frequencies of all pending U.S. applications for new stations (694) or for changed facilities of existing stations (200) -- the only such lists ever compiled for publication. The Directory will be kept current with weekly addenda sheets, also designed for loose-leaf binding, so that subscribers can know at any time the exact status of AM stations in any given community on any given frequency at any time. This is a service to subscribers only; they may obtain extra copies of AM Directory No. 1 at \$10.00 each.

NOT-SO-QUIET SUMMER FOR FCC: Having unburdened itself of heaviest workload in its history (Vol. 3, No. 18), FCC looked forward to relatively quiet, routine summer when, lo, it was stuck with another major hearing issue -- problem of daytime sky-wave interference. So even though 3 commissioners -- Denny, Jett, Webster -- must perforce spend most of their time at International Telecommunications Conference in Atlantic City from May 15 until probably mid-September, there will be hearing June 2 on that subject. Otherwise, no major hearings requiring full Commission are contemplated. Even clear channel hearings, first set to resume June 2, are postponed until after mid-October due to illness of Counsel Louis G. Caldwell.

Daytime-only grants on clear channels, exceedingly numerous of late, have big AM boys worried. Clear Channel Broadcasting Service's Jack DeWitt (soon returning to WSM, Nashville, as president) claims he can substantiate existence of daytime skywave interference, even though Commission's standards don't admit there's any such thing. FCC said Friday it won't grant any more daytimers on any Class I-A or I-B channels until issue is resolved, gave parties in interest until May 26 to file appearances, promised quick decision.

Vice Chairman Walker and Comrs. Durr, Wakefield and Hyde will handle summer routine. Chairman Denny and Jett will return from Atlantic City from time to time to participate in meetings. Webster, expert on international and safety communications, will stick to world conference job almost entirely.

FM PLAN JUST ABOUT WRAPPED UP: Only minor legal snarls prevent finalization of FM reallocation plan (Vol. 3, No. 18) after FCC called off' en banc hearing. Pending final action, we are listing, in Supplement No. 50-E herewith, all changes which have been made in the proposed allocation. These, incorporated in Supplement No. 51, give you the picture of channels as they stand today. FCC engineers are now drafting reassignment of channels to licensees and CP holders to bring them in line with new plan. They estimate only some 10% will retain present channels.

AMs STILL DOMINANT IN FM: Cross-checking final galley proofs of our new AM Directory with our FM Directory (Supplement No. 50 to 50-E), we find AMers still the big guns of FM. Of 1,712 AMs listed, 726 (43%) are in for FM. They comprise 69% of the 1,048 FM grants and applications. Thus, only 322 FMs are without AM affiliations, though many of these "independents" are applying for AM. When we compared AMs and FMs back in October (Vol. 2, No. 42), AMs and AM applicants held 65% of FM.

Sparsely-populated western states and new CP-holders are the major holdouts. For example, not one New Mexico AM, not even 50 kw KOB, Albuquerque (though it holds TV grant), has applied for FM. Only one of Nevada's 10 has applied, 2 of Arizona's 24. But 51 of Texas' 127 AMs (largest number in any state) are in there. As for the hesitant CP-holders, we've noticed their reluctance doesn't persist for long. Generally, after they've been on the air a few months, they join the FM bandwagon, particularly if their competition is already aboard.

CROSLEY'S \$375 TV SET READY: Next brand-name receiver to hit market will be Crosley's table model, with 10-inch tube. It will retail at \$375 plus installation and warranty -- same as RCA's 630-TS, most numerous model yet produced. Crosley reports production starts May 15, planned at rate of 1,000 per month for remainder of year. Dealers in all cities having TV service will get small quotas. Crosley console set with AM-FM-shortwave-phono added, to sell at \$800, is due in September.

Meanwhile, Stromberg-Carlson, Farnsworth, Stewart-Warner and Majestic have been showing distributors their TV models, soon to be ready for shipment. And small Remington Radio Corp., White Plains, N.Y., announced a \$995 ensemble consisting of master unit housing TV-FM, plus 2 matching units -- one for AM, other for automatic phonograph. TV-FM unit can be bought separately for \$795. Remington will concentrate distribution of its 50-per-week production in New York area. United States Television Corp., marketing higher priced (up to \$2,495) projection-screen models chiefly to taverns, etc., announced it's about ready to market 10-inch tube model, including AM-FM-phono, to sell at \$895.

TIMETABLE FOR NEW TV STATIONS: What's the prospect for more TV stations in more cities this year? Only fair, it would seem. A scant dozen among the 54 holders of CPs for new stations (Supplement No. 18-C) tell us they expect to be on the air, with test patterns at least, within the next 7 or 8 months. But we'll settle for a half dozen, besides the 4 already operating with temporary equipment under STAs (KTLA, Los Angeles; WTTG, Washington; WWDT, Detroit; KSD-TV, St. Louis).

Primary reason given for delay -- unavailability of equipment -- won't be valid very much longer, for transmitters are now on production line. RCA said last week it is now producing several transmitters monthly, and DuMont and GE say they can deliver. Up against actuality of being required to utilize their assigned frequency or give up their CPs, several grantees are almost certain (by this time next year) to feel that FCC ax. Before then, FCC expects many more eager applicants.

Next station to go on the air will be NBC's WNBW, Washington, whose transmitter in Wardman Park Hotel should be ready for tests by June 1. In same city, Washington Star's WTVW began construction of transmitter building a few weeks ago, expects to be telecasting in September. Likewise, in nearby Richmond, Havens & Martin's WTVR is already under construction, should be ready by fall.

Philadelphia Inquirer's WFIL-TV has been promised summer delivery of equipment, is building studio and transmitter in Widener Bldg., expects to get going before year's end. Westinghouse says "sometime this fall" for its WBZ-TV, Boston. Crosley's experimental W8XCT, Cincinnati, is already operating on test from Carew Tower, can and probably will be transposed into commercial WLWT within next few months. Scripps-Howard's WEWS, Cleveland, looks for "opening in October, if all goes well."

Chicago Tribune's WGNA reports construction will start this summer, be completed this fall. Milwaukee Journal says its WTMJ-TV should have transmitter on

hand by October, get on air by Christmas. Fort Worth Star-Telegram's KCPN is having "site troubles," but Harold Hough says "we hope to be testing on the air by fall." W. L. Gleeson says "late fall" for his KARO, Riverside, Cal., with its exceptionally well located transmitter site on Cucamonga Peak in San Bernardino County. And Earle Anthony's KFI-TV reports its Mt. Wilson building available, negotiations under way for a sound stage in Hollywood for studio, present plans calling for test operation last of this year or first part of 1948.

Also, the Baltimore Sun has already started on construction of transmitter house and studio, says it will get going by December or January next "if RCA is able to deliver our transmitting equipment."

All of the others responding give no prospective starting dates, due to equipment delays, construction difficulties or other reasons. At FCC they reckon that about 20 grantees seem to be content to proceed at "walk gait," using various artifices for stalling and as excuses for extensions of completion dates.

As for equipment, RCA has most orders so far reported. From best available sources, we learn that RCA has firm orders for all the foregoing stations, except for Richmond, Cleveland and Riverside, Cal. outlets (DuMont); Crosley Cincinnati station (company built); Chicago Tribune station (order not yet placed). In addition, RCA has orders for all of NBC's 4 projected stations, 2 of ABC's 5 projected stations, and for the TV outlets to be built by WBAL, Baltimore; WTCN, Minneapolis; KSTP, St. Paul; KDYL, Salt Lake City; KOB, Albuquerque, N.M.; KRLD, Dallas; KLAC, Los Angeles.

THE PARAMOUNT-DUMONT TV STORY: It doesn't look now as though there's going to be any "forced sale" of Paramount's big stockholdings in DuMont (Vol. 2, No. 51), simply because FCC has decreed there is enough Paramount control over DuMont, so that they should not get more than limit of 5 TV stations between them (Vol. 3, No. 3, 4, 5). Rather, movie company will probably allow May 18 "divorce deadline" to pass (60 days after color TV decision), hold onto its DuMont stock (at least until better market offers itself), let FCC drop its pending applications for new TV outlets in Boston, Detroit, Dallas. Likewise, DuMont's Cincinnati and Cleveland applications would go by default.

There have been flurries of interest in depressed DuMont stock on part of certain financial groups, but nothing came of them. Though DuMont lost \$1,472,270 in 1946, its manufacturing prospects for this year look good, as reported to stockholders last week. This, plus lack of good offer, seems to impel close-mouthed Paramount to hang on rather than be forced to sell in low market. Paramount already has TV stations in Chicago, Los Angeles; DuMont has them in New York, Washington, with CP for Pittsburgh (Supplement No. 18-C). That's all they're entitled to, FCC ruled -- this despite Commission's manifest eagerness to get TV going as quickly and in as many cities as possible.

If Paramount-DuMont applications are dropped, only ones left will be Don Lee's for Los Angeles, San Francisco (held up pending hearing decision on another matter involving Don Lee); and Philadelphia's 2 seeking city's sole remaining channel -- Daily News Television Inc. and Gimbels (Vol. 3, No. 18). This week Commission granted one of Indianapolis' 5 channels to Sarkes Tarzian for community station in Bloomington, Ind. (Vol. 3, No. 11). He got Channel No. 10 (192-198 mc) with 1 kw visual and aural power, 215 ft. antenna height. Tarzian says he expects to build station for only \$38,270.

EDUCATIONAL FM--TRYING HARD: "No advertising," is the rule in Government publications -- but U. S. Office of Education's School Life for May devotes back page to nicely illustrated ad puffing FM that compares with best any commercial advertiser has done. Its key line is, "Nobody ever does anything about the weather. But FM does." Then, after extolling FM advantages, it addresses this appeal to Mr. Educator: "Are you prepared to take advantage of this new tool? Perhaps you plan to buy new equipment as it becomes available. Be sure your new receiving set per-

mits you to hear FM." For all their enthusiasm, however, the educators are still able to show only this boxscore on the business end of FM: 6 licenses, 29 CPs, 15 applications pending (Supplement No. 50).

GE, meanwhile, is still pushing its tailor-made FM 2½ watter for campus use (Vol. 3, No. 13). It claims useful (5-6 mile) coverage, low initial cost (\$4,000-\$5,000), simplicity of power increase if desired. Question such minute power raises in FCC engineering quarters, which must yet approve idea of such low power, is whether coverage is adequate, warrants occupancy of a channel. GE will seek to clinch argument when FCC entourage, including Comrs. Durr, Wakefield and Hyde, arrive May 20 in Syracuse where Syracuse U station WJIV has been operating for some weeks. Announcement of new transmitter has precipitated flood of inquiries.

SIGHT AND SOUND

Network-AFM deal for wage increases for some 300 staff musicians at 4 New York key stations was announced this week, retroactive to Feb. 2. Staff musicians on sustaining and commercials get raise from \$126-\$165 to \$151-\$191; rehearsal rate on individual program goes up from \$6 to \$7.50; half-hour broadcast rate goes up from \$14 to \$18, one-hour from \$18 to \$23. Local 802 dropped demand for vacations.

Constitutionality of Lea Act, argued before Supreme Court Monday, should be known before end of high court's mid-June term. Government stressed monopoly aspect of musician's union and power of Petrillo; AFM attorneys said anti-Petrillo law denied free speech, imposed involuntary servitude, was too vague and general. Justices interrupted arguments frequently with pointed questions on meaning of "coercive" and other provisions of the Act.

Looks like a buyers' market in radio, all right. Witness rash of price slashes, and slowdowns that caused some 4,000 factory layoffs in New York, Chicago areas alone. Even small sets aren't moving fast. Which leads FM enthusiasts to say FM offers best new sales appeal. Stromberg-Carlson reports that by mid-summer all its table models as well as consoles will be FM-equipped. Majestic's new line includes 6 sets with FM. Production bottleneck in some plants is still wood; Zenith and Freed, for example, are said to have thousands of chassis stacked up waiting for cabinets.

NBC cut off Bob Hope for 5 seconds Tuesday, then issued a press release reaffirming "clearcut policy banning cross-reference to programs on other networks." Hope was about to call attention to Sinatra program on CBS. Episode, like l'affaire Allen (Vol. 3, No. 18), got lots of publicity, but this time NBC wouldn't admit "mistake" which President Trammell told RCA stockholders' meeting was made in cutting off Fred Allen.

Out of closed appropriations subcommittee hearings, presided over by arch FCC critic Rep. Wigglesworth (R-Mass.), came word this week that Chairman Denny did "masterful" job in pleading for \$7,300,000 budget, held goodwill of committeeman, got few kickbacks. But in light of GOP economy drive, it's almost certain budget will be slashed. FCC itself will have to wield ax after final figure is determined; scuttlebutt has it Economics Division probable heaviest loser.

Keith Kiggins, ex-ABC v.p., has organized Keith Kiggins & Co., 527 Lexington Ave., New York City, consultants on management, financing, appraising and industrial problems of radio. He's also a principal in grant last week of new fulltime 5 kw on 1330 kc in Erie, Pa.

Radio Consultants Inc., Washington, has scheduled second clinic on problems of FM management and operation in Washingtons Hotel Statler June 26-28.

Notable about this week's 3 STAs (which now total 169) is the power they're achieving. WEW-FM, St. Louis (42.6 kw) and WLVA-FM, Lynchburg, Va. (3.7 kw) go on with full CP power. Except for KSBK, San Bruno, Cal. (Vol. 3, No. 17), former is probably highest-powered high-band station going. WMRC-FM, Greenville, S. C., will start with 10 kw transmitter and 4-bay antenna. In race for highest ultimate power, KSTP-FM, St. Paul, again loses lead—this time to WBRC-FM, Birmingham, which this week was granted modification hiking output to 560 kw with 625 ft. antenna.

Big question in Philadelphia FM is what happens now that Commission has approved sale of WDAS to theaterman William Goldman. Since Goldman was not licensee of WDAS when FM hearing was held last September, change of ownership poses question whether FCC can grant WDAS application for FM if station is one of those found qualified in hearing decision still awaited. The several alternatives include (1) reopening record in order to put Goldman's qualifications in record, or (2) straight denial of WDAS application on grounds new owner was not among those seeking 4 available channels. Goldman has petition at Commission asking for grant or reopening of hearing record so he can enter his qualifications.

In applying to rejoin TBA, which it quit in 1945 because of association's opposition to color TV system, CBS indicated this week its intention of working with budding industry on black-and-white. Network has laid off some 40 technicians, however, is planning chief attention on news and sports events.

No very great enthusiasm for FM was evinced at NAB's District No. 2 meeting in New York early this week. Scant 50 attended FM panel first day—although NAB reported 125 registrants—and heard NAB's Bob Bartley on FM's status today, WBCA's Leonard Asch on FM rate structures, WABF's Ira Hirschmann on need for AMers to exert leadership in FM, WQXQ's John Hogan on FM programming. Question period drew a complete blank.

If you want names of chief engineers of most of the FM stations listed in our FM Directory (Supplement No. 50), we call your attention to list published in May issue of Tele-Tech (Caldwell-Clements Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York), based on its own survey.

GE has promoted Philip G. Caldwell, heretofore handling TV equipment, to manager of transmitter sales. James D. McLean, former manager of GE transmitter sales, has joined Philco's WPTZ, Philadelphia, as commercial manager.

Maj. Gen. Henry C. Ingles, recently retired Army chief signal officer (succeeded by Maj. Gen. Spencer Akin), has been named president of RCA Institutes Inc., training school subsidiary of RCA.

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May 17, 1947

THE LATEST ON FM TUNERS: You hear all sorts of talk these days about imminent availability of FM tuners, adapters, converters, etc. -- and we've been able to verify: (1) That Airadio's "Combinette" (previously called "Minuette"), table model that can be used for FM-only or as tuner attachable to an AM set (Vol. 3, No. 14, 16), is now in production. Sales are being handled by Electronics Inc., Bowen Bldg., Washington, D.C. Set costs \$34.55, plus 10% tax, f.o.b. Stamford, Conn., with deliveries promised 60-90 days. For most part, FMers are arranging distribution through local dealers or new companies they themselves are setting up. (2) That Engineer Pug Marquardt's "blooper" (Vol. 3, No. 11, 13, 18) may shortly be manufactured under auspices of WIBW, Topeka, Kansas, with thought of selling it directly to STA holders for their own distribution. Final price hasn't been determined, but hope is to sell it in quantity to FM promoters at between \$4 and \$6. It is a little attachment to AM sets enabling them to tune in nearby FM under certain conditions. (3) That Pilot Radio, reportedly preparing to market a \$25 tuner, has "investigated the technical and commercial possibilities of a tuner [but has] made no definite decisions in this matter," quoting executive v.p. E. L. Hall's response to our inquiry.

WHERE ARE THEY PUTTING THE AMs? Mulling over our newly issued AM Directory to find out just what that 70% increase in total stations during past 16 months amounts to, we've compiled some rather vital statistics. For example, how clear are the clear channels?

If you will study Part II of the Directory (log of stations by frequencies), you will note that only WOAI, San Antonio, has a frequency (1200 kc) all to itself. But then if you look at Part V (log of applicants by frequencies), you will see that even its space is being eyed by 5 applicants for limited or daytime stations. Looking over some of the other so-called clears:

670 kc (WMAQ, Chicago) has a 1 kw daytime grant (WLAQ) in Rome, Ga., a potential station in Cuba, plus 4 applications pending; 700 kc (WLW, Cincinnati) has a similar grant in St. Paul, 2 applicants; 720 kc (WGN, Chicago) has same situation in Richmond, Va., plus 3 applicants; 760 kc (WJR, Detroit) has KGU, Honolulu, plus grants in Clanton, Ala. and Tarboro, N.C., plus 2 applicants.

As for the most occupied channels, the locals run pretty close: 1340 kc has 163 stations on it, 58 applications; 1450 kc has 163 and 49; 1400 kc has 165 and 40; 1490 kc has 168 and 44.

Texas has most stations licensed or authorized (126, gain of 60 in 16 months); most applicants for new stations (69); most applicants for single city (Houston's 7). Next is California, with 116 stations, 65 applicants; then Pennsylvania, 86 and 34; New York, 83 and 19; North Carolina, 76 and 16. Vermont is tail-ender with only 6 stations, 1 applicant. Rhode Island has 8 and 3. Among states showing heaviest percentage gains were Arizona, which jumped from 10 to 24 stations; Colorado, 14 to 28.

Perhaps most striking is what has happened in specific communities, some

rather obscure. There were no stations 16 months ago in Havre, Mont. (pop. 6,427) and Odessa, Tex. (pop. 9,573); now they have 3 and 4 respectively. Great Falls, Mont. (pop. 29,928) and Durham, N.C. (pop. 69,683) both burgeoned from 1 to 5. Formerly one-station towns, these now get 4: Gadsden, Ala. (pop. 36,975); Fort Smith, Ark. (pop. 36,584); Utica, N.Y. (pop. 197,128). Altoona, Pa. (pop. 114,094). These are but a few cases that can be cited by those who view with alarm "uneconomic" grants by FCC, and prophesy inevitable mortalities.

On the other hand, Detroit proper had 6 stations on Jan. 1, 1946, has 6 now -- but 5 applicants are knocking on the door. Cleveland had 4, now has 7 plus 3 applications. Baltimore had 5, now has 6 and 5 more want in. And consider these big-city "clusters" of stations: Havana, 30; Mexico City, 29; New York City area, 25; Los Angeles area, 18.

NOTE -- Extra copies of AM Directory No. 1 are available, to subscribers only, at \$10 each. You get your addenda supplement (AM Directory No. 1-A) with this week's newsletter; extra copies of these weekly addenda will be mailed to subscribers at \$1 each. Binders are available at \$2.10.

GO-AHEAD FOR NEW YORK TVs: No opposition from rejected WEVD, so New York's 4 TV grants (Vol. 3, No. 16) were finalized this week -- leaving no more channels available there. As expected, FCC also ordered hearing, date not yet fixed, on applications of Daily News Television Inc. (WIBG) and Gimbels (WIP) for Philadelphia's sole remaining channel (Vol. 2, No. 18). It also granted 90-day extension from May 18 of 3 Paramount, 2 DuMont pending applications (Vol. 3, No. 19).

Your file copy of our TV Directory (Supplement No. 18-C) should now include these assignments for New York area grantees: In Newark, N.J., Bremer Broadcasting Corp., Channel No. 13, 17 kw visual power, 8.3 kw aural power, 575 ft. antenna height. In New York City, American Broadcasting Co., Channel No. 7, 16.5 kw visual, 8.25 kw aural, 485 ft. antenna; Bamberger Broadcasting Service Inc., Channel No. 9, 30.25 kw visual, 24.5 kw aural, 600 ft. antenna; News Syndicate Co. Inc., Channel No. 11, 16.3 kw visual, 8.17 kw aural, 575 ft. antenna. New York News, incidentally, plans antenna atop its big building on E. 42nd St., Clifford Denton manager.

PUTTING IT ON THE LINE: The where and wherefore of coaxials, microwave relays, or both, to link cities for TV networking, should be resolved at an engineering conference scheduled by FCC June 9. As FCC notice puts it, purpose is "to formulate a schedule which will set forth the expected installation dates of common carrier facilities for the relaying of television programs between cities."

FCC lists 64 licenses or grantees in 36 cities (it's 65 now, with last week's grant; see Vol. 3, No. 19). These common carriers, experimenters in microwave relay, are expected to report: AT&T, GE, Philco, Raytheon, Western Union. TV licensees and CP holders are asked to tell (1) their immediate inter-city needs, (2) when they expect to get on air. New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington and San Francisco, says Commission notice, "might be assumed as initial program origination points, and cities having 3 or more television broadcast stations might be assumed to require at least 3 or more network programs available simultaneously." Information is also needed, it says, so that allocations between 1,000 and 13,000 mc (Vol. 3, No. 6) can be made after current International Telecommunications Conference adjourns.

Meanwhile, hard on heels of Philco request for intercity TV relays (Vol. 3, No. 17), GE this week asked permission to transform its New York-Schenectady experimental links into a TV net. System starts in New York City, jumps 40 miles to Mt. Beacon, N.Y., then 45 miles to Round Top Mountain near Cairo, N.Y., then 20 miles to New Scotland, N.Y., site of WRGB transmitter. At present GE picks up New York's WNBT at Hillsdale, N.Y., about 85 miles away, then relays to New Scotland.

Possibly in intercity class, though now it's considered a remote relay, is Capt. Bill Eddy's recently announced WBKB link from South Bend to Chicago. This

jumps from South Bend to New Carlisle, Ind., 10 miles; to Michigan City, Ind., 15 miles; to Chicago, 26 miles -- and thus will permit telecasts of Notre Dame games; may be extended for Indianapolis Speedway races. WBKB also is considering linking with Champaign, Ill., 85 miles, for U of Illinois games; Lafayette, Ind., 75 miles, for Purdue games. Other developmental microwave links for TV are: AT&T, New York-Boston and New York-Philadelphia; GE, New York-Chicago; Raytheon, New York-Boston and New York-Chicago; Philco, Philadelphia-New York.

FM AND A FRIENDLY MR. PETRILLO: When ABC's Mark Woods says he thinks James Caesar Petrillo will soon come to a "satisfactory agreement" on duplication of AM programs via FM, you can feel pretty well assured that something's astir. As far as we can discern, it's this: Petrillo has been persuaded (in informal talks with Mark Woods and others in radio with whom he has maintained friendly relations) that FM draws its listeners away from AM, hence does not enlarge audience, hence does not depreciate employment opportunities for his musicians. Mark Woods told reporters on the Coast last week that the AM czar was open to reason -- and, indeed, that's what we hear from other quarters, too.

Everything awaits Supreme Court's decision on Lea Bill, of course; also outcome of current labor legislation on Capitol Hill, which likewise outlaws Petrillo's type of "made work." If Lea Act is declared unconstitutional (as many attorneys think it will), Petrillo will be most amenable to parleys on AM-FM duplication -- at least, so he has indicated.

But not with NAB. To NAB's requests for further talks on whole music situation, he has not even deigned to reply. But to overtures on behalf of FM, he has been quite friendly -- particularly when informed FMA and NAB are separate and distinct organizations. He makes no bones about his dislike of NAB, which he blames (not entirely justly) for the drastic Lea Act. So, though promotion of FM is FMA's primary raison d'etre, don't be surprised to find Petrillo discussing AM-FM duplication with FMA soon after Supreme Court decision.

CUTTING INTO THE FM BACKLOG: That aged grandpappy of all FM hearings, the Boston cases, finally came to focus when FCC issued proposed decision Wednesday to grant all but Northern Corp. (WMEX). Seven grantees are listed in Supplement No. 50-F herewith. WMEX counsel indicated appeal, auguring more delays -- probably beyond July 1 when 2 more "reserved" channels are available. FCC made up mind full year and 6 weeks after FM enthusiast Comr. Durr opened hearing in Boston, and after 2 of original 10 applicants got cold feet. Among factors contributing to delay were: (1) Durr's decision to bow out of case; his secretary is understood to be related to a WMEX principal. (2) FCC only recently decided what to do about overlap; Yankee had one (Vol. 3, No. 15). (3) One-to-a-customer rule had to undergo breakdown (Vol. 2, No. 52).

Finalization of FM reallocation plan (Vol. 3, No. 19), which may come next week, should precipitate flock of decisions, since some 60 applications are tied up in cities which will then have enough channels to go around (Vol. 3, No. 15). Then, backlog will consist mostly of new applications which will need only about 3-week "incubation" period before being granted. Holding up reallocation is determination of what ratios should be established between desired and undesired signals for 400 and 600 mc separation. Experiments next week with WINX-FM, Washington, and WGAY-FM, Silver Spring, Md., should give some answers. Also holding the thing up is difficulty of getting the Commission together nowadays.

REPORT ON TV RECEIVERS: Latest from the TV manufacturers: Philco's hush-hush receivers (Vol. 3, No. 7) will be unveiled very soon now; its distributors will get first showing at Atlantic City meeting, June 17-19. Stromberg-Carlson's 2 models, one a TV-only consolette, the other a combination TV-FM-AM phono, won't get to dealers before early fall, prices still undetermined, says President Ray Manson; they will be shown, along with company's full line of radios, all with 2-band FM,

at National Assn. of Music Merchants show in Chicago June 2-5. Raytheon's subsidiary, Belmont, now plans limited production, starting next month, of \$250 model, to be marketed first in New York, Philadelphia, Washington. And that new \$375 Crosley table model (Vol. 3, No. 19), called the 307-TA and looking very much like RCA's 630-TS, is actually being produced by RCA Camden, according to trade reports which RCA won't confirm or deny.

No one has yet come forth with really cheap TV, and prospects aren't good yet. This week RCA showed what it calls "most versatile instrument" it ever produced -- its Model 641-TV, which combines in one console TV, FM, AM, shortwave, automatic phono. It has 19-inch tube, uses new automatic brilliance control for uniform brightness. "Suggested retail price" is \$795, not counting installation, which compares with GE's projected No. 802 (Vol. 3, No. 11). RCA also plans other super-doooper models this year. U.S. Television Corp., in high price field with projection-screen sets, has cut price of \$2,540 model to \$2,275, but hikes installation fee from \$85 to \$100; it also has new \$1,995 and \$895 models with TV-FM-AM phono. Telicon Corp., also appealing mostly to taverns, clubs, etc., prices its new Town Club model with big screen at \$1,995.

SIGHT AND SOUND

Confusion of FM dial numbering bothers oldtime FM operator Lester Nafzger of WELD, Columbus, O. He urges that problem (megacycle or channel-number designation), which is about as old as FM itself, be resolved by universal use of channel numbers. He finds fractions involved in megacycle designations unnecessarily confusing to layman. Also, he suggests that listeners' job of tuning FM sets be eased by building tuning indicator into all sets until push-buttons are common. RMA expects to get industry unanimity on this question of marking dials with channels or frequencies at June 10-12 convention at Chicago.

In light of WOKO precedent, chances are slim WORL, Boston, will win new lease on life—but Attorney Ben Fisher this week filed exceptions to FCC's decision ordering it off air Aug. 31 for alleged misrepresentations. Since FCC will doubtless stick to decision, court appeal is certain, assuring present ownership perhaps another year's grace. Meanwhile, 2 applicants seek its facilities (AM Directory No. 1), several more are known to be planning to apply.

A really tough code for broadcasters is in prospect, judging from temper of this week's meetings of NAB committee on standards in New York—but it won't be ready for submission to NAB board (which meets in Washington May 21) until October convention. NBC's Ken Dyke heads subcommittee rewriting drafts, which must again be okayed by full standards committee (MBS's Robert D. Swezey, chairman) before action by NAB hierarchy.

"Upstairs" TV took a cut this week, when the Commission finalized its 470-960 mc allocations (Vol. 3, No. 18). TV's experimental band was reduced from 480-920 mc to 500-890 mc, although another 25 mc band (475-500 mc) is made available on a share basis with fax and developmental broadcasting. New allocations included 915 mc for industrial and diathermy equipment.

Biggest contract in radio history (\$5,200,000 time sale) was closed Thursday by ABC, covering 4-sponsor hookup for "Paul Whiteman Club," daily Mondays through Fridays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., starting June 30. Joint sponsors are National Biscuit, Camels, Southern Cotton Oil Co., Nestle's Milk Products.

Nathan H. David has withdrawn from partnership, is setting up own offices, leaving Washington law firm's name Courtney, Krieger & Jorgensen. All are former FCC counsel. Change your file copy of Attorney Directory (Supplement No. 11A) accordingly.

To have chapters in every city with TV outlets—Washington, Philadelphia, Detroit, St. Louis, Chicago next—is aim of American Television Society, which last week elected as new officers: Don McClure, N. W. Ayer & Son, president; Bert Taylor, DuMont, v.p.; Dian Dincin, Pictorial Research Inc., secy; Archibald Braunfield, treasurer. Directors are: George Shupert, Paramount, retiring president; Charles Alicoate, Charles J. Durban, Jack Levine, Paul Mowrey, Ed Sobol, Edward Stasheff.

Not broadcasters, but users of FM nevertheless, operators and imminent operators of mobile radio equipment are earmarking huge sums for equipment says FCC. Cab operators alone plan to lay out some \$15,000,000. Telephone companies already expect to buy \$10,500,000 worth. Since all these mobile operators are still experimental, although FCC has permitted some to charge for service, they'll be out in force to protect investment during hearings on commercial rules starting Sept. 8.

NBC's Washington TV station, WNBW, should be on the air in next few days. This week it got STA to begin commercial operation anytime after May 23; it is shooting for grand opening early in June. NBC got its first post war FM going this week—an STA to WRC-FM, Washington.

Next NAB study of FM operations will be on KOZY, Kansas City. In the hands of members are first two—about WBCA, Schenectady, and WSYR-FM, Syracuse. Meaty and valuable studies will be continued from time to time as FM picture changes.

FCC has set July 7 for resumption of clear channel hearings—but CCBS still has hopes it can get deferment until mid-October due to doctor's orders that Counsel Louis G. Caldwell take it easy all summer.

GE is making available its new Technicolor film, "Naturally It's FM," recounting advantages of FM over ordinary type of broadcasting. It will be shown at FMA's district meeting in Cincinnati, May 28.

Philadelphia bolstered its bid this week for 1948 Democratic national convention by citing accessibility to TV, which was factor in getting it GOP convention starting June 20, 1948 (Vol. 3, No. 17). Democrats must decide.

FMA-RMA meeting on FM set production, scheduled for May 21, has been postponed until sometime in June. Some RMA committeemen couldn't make it for next week.

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May 24, 1947

SOARING FM SET PRODUCTION: Maybe turning point in FM set production has come -- for April total of 112,256 is best yet by far. Best previous month was March's 67,264. But the figure still doesn't bulk large against April total for all makes and kinds of radios, 1,759,723, surprisingly large in view of cut-price activity of last month or so, attributed mainly to slowdown of purchases.

April FM production broke down as follows: console AM-FM combinations with phonograph, 92,804, up from 56,150 in March, indicating trade predictions that all consoles with include FM are fast coming to pass; table AM-FM models, 13,088, up from 4,215 due probably to accelerated production of these by Zenith, Pilot, Emerson; AM-FM consoles without phono, 4,033; table combinations with phono, 2,331. Cumulative post-war FM output to date now totals 284,432. (For recapitulation of previous months, see Vol. 3, No. 15).

MORE RADIO IN THE HEMISPHERE: Flux in AM stations and assignments is by no means limited to U. S. Among NARBA signatories, Canada, Mexico, Newfoundland have reported 19 changes since May 1; these are included in Supplement 1-B, herewith, to our AM Directory. The growth in the other NARBA countries hasn't been so much in number of stations as in increases of powers. Some of the countries, particularly Cuba, have been hard to keep track of because of sudden changes belatedly reported. In fact, one NARBA expert says that if he publicized some of shenanigans going on he'd probably lose his job. Apparently, those things are left in delicate hands of the State Department's diplomats.

As is inevitable, some errors have cropped up among the 8,000 plus items of our AM Directory No. 1. When they turn up, we'll correct them for you; those discovered to date are listed in Supplement 1-B, which, incidentally, brings total count of U.S. stations to 1724.

WHERE ARE THE TV SETS? We've been asked by several advertising agencies to report on where TV set production is going -- to tell them, if possible, how many video receivers there are in each of the 8 communities now enjoying telecasting service. Since the set manufacturers, though reporting monthly production figures confidentially to RMA auditors, won't disclose how they're channeling distribution, we did next best thing: we asked an authority in each city to give us his best estimate as to latest local TV "set population." Theirs, at least, would be educated guesses. Here's what we found out:

New York City area, 30,000, according to estimate by NBC research dept., which ought to know inasmuch as parent RCA is biggest manufacturer of all. Philadelphia, about 4,000, according to E. B. Loveman, Philco v.p. in charge of its WPTZ. Schenectady area, at least 550, possibly 600 in view of known recent sales of 350 new TV sets, says G. Emerson Markham, manager of GE's WRGB. Chicago, 2,350 as of April 25, according to Chicago Electric Assn., which keeps close tab week by week. Washington, about 1,400 to date, according to DuMont's WTTG manager, Leslie G. Arries. Detroit, about 2,000, according to Detroit News' Harry Bannister and

Dick Love, who have checked boom sales even while WWJ-TV was merely running test patterns. St. Louis, about 600 up to mid-April, with KSD-TV's baseball telecasts increasing sales steadily, reports Post-Dispatch's Bob Coe. Los Angeles, about 3,000 home installations, 300 in bars and restaurants, according to Klaus Landsberg, West Coast director for Paramount's Television Productions Inc. (KTLA).

These add up to 44,200 -- jibing pretty well with estimated pre-war sets still in use (10,000) plus RMA's calculated post-war production through April (32,691). April TV production figure, incidentally, was 7,026 -- best month yet.

TV's FLYING START IN DETROIT: Always one to do things in a big way, Detroit News plans elaborate fanfare opening June 3 week for its WWJ-TV (changed from WWDT), formalizes end of test and start of commercial operations with imposing list of sponsors, plans exceptionally long regular schedule of operation -- 2:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Ebullient Bill Scripps, who as a kid pioneered with WWJ, reports tieups with local and nearby sports stadia, is already televising Detroit Tiger home games, plans U of Michigan gridcasts from Ann Arbor this autumn. Among sponsors using Detroit's first TV station are Ford, Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, U.S. Rubber, Bulova, J. L. Hudson Co. Dept. Store, Detroit Edison, Grinnell Norge, Industrial National Bank, Goebels beer. Revenues already assure inevitable commercial success of project, enthusiastic staffers assert.

That's latest of TV entrepreneurs to report, adding cheery news to roundup on TV station timetable we recently published (Vol. 3, No. 19). This week, also, we've heard from: (1) NBC Washington, that its WNBW has actually begun tests, will be formally inaugurated in matter of weeks; (2) Bamberger, New York (WOR), that it has budgeted \$1,000,000 for installation and first year's operation of its New York TV station, about half that for its Washington outlet, both now on drafting board, equipment not yet ordered; (3) Scripps-Howard, Cleveland, that construction of DuMont transmitter on State Road, Parma, and studios at 1816 E. 13th St., is now under way, tests hoped for by October or November; (4) Los Angeles Times, that RCA equipment is ordered, transmitter-studio buildings in drafting stage, actual construction planned in July, tests by early 1948; (5) Milwaukee Journal, that WTMJ-TV closed circuit demonstrations up to May 15 had played to 455,000 persons, aroused intense public interest, giving staff valuable experience.

No new applications to report -- yet; but counsel tell us of several being prepared, not ready to release for fear of exciting quick competitive applications. We'll report them as fast as we can. Meanwhile, our TV Directory (Supplement No. 18-C) is latest listing, except that Bloomington, Ind. application is now a grant (Vol. 3, No. 19), and Gimbel's WIP is additional applicant for Philadelphia's single remaining channel (Vol. 3, No. 18).

THE LAWMAKERS LOOK AT RADIO: Now you'll be hearing and reading lots about White-Wolverton bill to modernize radio regulation, spell out FCC procedures and authority more clearly -- Senator White's S. 1333 and Rep. Wolverton's H.R. 3535 going into Congress hoppers Friday. Prospects of passage, especially with FCC's sparkplug Chairman Denny away most of summer at International Telecommunications Conference in Atlantic City, are another matter. Except for high position of bills' sponsors (each being chairman of Interstate Commerce Committee of his respective house), radio legislation would seem to have little chance this session. But Wolverton, at least, has moved toward hearings by immediately appointing GOP members of subcommittee headed by Rep. Howell, Illinois; Democratic members will be named next week.

It's too early to appraise long (41-page) and technical bill, which really is veteran Senator White's. He said it is result of consultations with FCC, broadcasters and other experts, plus 7 years of Congressional investigations and studies. One section requires FCC to keep hands off business management and program content of stations. Another virtually writes into law FCC's chain regulations. Another lifts present limits on station ownership by single entities, but adds proviso

networks will inevitably oppose -- that no one "shall own or control or be the licensee of broadcast stations in any single band which in the aggregate provide a primary service....for more than 25 per centum of the population of the continental United States...." Much of bill has to do with Commission and appellate procedure. It's described as "fairly conservative" by at least one lawyer who had hand in its framing; NAB and most other radio attorneys said they had not yet studied it. If you want a copy, we'll get it for you.

* * * * *

Not much secret about motive behind Wisconsin GOP Senator McCarthy's bill (S. 1309) to prohibit Congressmen and Senators or their wives from owning or having financial interest in broadcasting stations. Though he may disclaim personal reasons, fact is that ex-Senator Bob LaFollette, whom he defeated, has long held 25% interest in WEMP, Milwaukee; and that GOP Rep. O'Konski, of Mercer, Wis., has just filed for AM-FM outlets in Mercer and Merrill. During campaign, Senator McCarthy pledged such a bill. It hasn't got much chance, for solons like lucrative investments no less than the other fellow. O'Konski said he saw nothing illegal or dishonest about applying; so did Ohio's Senator Bricker, who's one of group seeking outlet in Cleveland.

Among sitting lawmakers, these have corporate or family radio holdings: Senator Taft, Ohio (WKRC, Cincinnati); Senator Capper, Kansas (WIBW, Topeka, and KCKN, Kansas City); Senator Knowland, California (KLX, Oakland); Senator Robertson, Wyoming (a principal in Montana Network, seeking 1560 kc in Butte); Rep. Ellsworth, Oregon (KRNR, Roseburg); Rep. Rogers, Florida (WFTL, Fort Lauderdale); Rep. Lyndon Johnson, Texas (KTBC, Austin). Observe that all but last 2 are Republicans.

Among ex-politicos, there are quite a few more: Former Senator Worth Clark, Idaho, 10% stockholder in KJBS, San Francisco; former Senator Wheeler, Montana, interested through family in Crane stations in Montana, Washington, Oregon; ex-Sen., ex-Gov. Elmer Benson, Minnesota, seeking 3 FM stations in that state; ex-Rep. Wene, New Jersey, who controls WTNJ, Trenton, and WSNJ, Bridgeton; ex-Gov. Rivers, Georgia, owner of 3 small stations there; ex-Lt. Gov. Noe, Louisiana, owner of 2 stations in Louisiana, 1 in Pine Bluff, Ark.; ex-Gov. Kerr, Oklahoma, principal in recent Peoria, Ill. grant and Tulsa application; ex-Gov. Murphy, New Hampshire, owner of station in Manchester; ex-Gov. Landon, Kansas, seeking stations in Independence and Fort Leavenworth, also in Englewood, Colo. There are others, too.

NAB HIERARCHY MEETS AND ACTS: Petrillo and FM -- these were only passingly discussed at NAB's quarterly board meeting Wednesday-Thursday. Nor was there anything new reported by Standards Committee (Vol. 3, No. 20) or by Mutual's Ed Kobak on Broadcast Advisory Committee (Vol. 3, No. 11), both concerned with proposed codes of practice. Next moves in musician situation await Supreme Court decision on Lea Bill. Even Blue Book got little or no attention, beyond issuance to directors of NAB's newly published Little Blue Book (with "bleached" cover) containing compendium of President Miller's legal and policy contentions but including tribute by Miller to FCC and Chairman Denny for doing tremendous task well -- "within proper scope of its authority."

This is what NAB board did: (1) revised bylaws to make networks associate instead of active members, which requires membership referendum, reduces fees to about \$5,000 each in lieu of nearly \$65,000 present 3 members contribute; (2) admitted ABC as associate member; (3) agreed networks won't have directors unless an M&O station manager should be chosen at district election; (4) recommended BMB Study No. 2 be postponed to 1949, instead of 1948 as planned, BMB President Hugh Feltis being present to report 120 subscribers now, predict 1,000 when study is ready to be made; (5) appropriated \$15,000 for another U of Denver-National Opinion Research Center poll on what public thinks about radio; (6) authorized 4 station representatives to sit with AFRA-Industry Committee; (7) approved Sept. 15-18 dates for next convention in Atlantic City; (8) approved more than 100 new station members, bringing total membership to nearly 1,300.

ANDREA, GE, PHILCO SHOW TVs: TV sets unveiled this week: 3 models by Andrea, one a table unit with AM-FM priced at \$695, the other 2 consoles at \$795 and \$995, latter with phono, all with 12-inch tubes, all scheduled for July delivery to dealers: GE's No. 802 console (Vol. 3, No. 11), including AM-FM-phono, 10-inch tube, which Paul Chamberlain, manager of receiver sales, said is now in production and will sell at between \$750 and \$800, starting in June -- with July production planned of projection model with 18x24-inch screen; Philco's still "very secret" sets (Vol. 3, No. 7), given private showing to Philadelphia dealers Thursday, all pledged to refrain from publicity -- this as preliminary to showings June 17-19 to distributors at Atlantic City.

SIGHT AND SOUND

It wasn't likely FCC Chairman Denny, who heads U. S. delegation to International Telecommunications Conference now in session in Atlantic City, would resign before that assignment was finished—and it looks as though conference will last beyond September. And to our query on repeated rumors and published reports he intends quitting Commission, he wired us Thursday: "No truth to report I have plans to leave Commission after conference."

April was best month yet for TV set production, 7,026—broken down by RMA auditors as follows: table models, 3,971, down from March's 5,346 (Vol. 3, No. 15); consoles, 2,329, which includes 87 projection-screen models; console combinations with AM-FM-phono, 726, including 40 projection models. RMA also lists 860 "converters" but nature of these is undisclosed.

New York FM decision, as expected, has really turned out to be a lawyers' field day (Vol. 3, No. 17). Virtually every angle, and there are a lot of them, is being exhausted by most of the 12 proposed denyees. Examples: Division of channels between New York and New Jersey; qualifications of ABC and WPAT; belated grant of extension to CP-holder WAAW, Newark, imminent availability of 4 reserved channels, etc. Looks like one of the sweetest skilletts of fish FCC has ever been expected to uncook.

Renomination of FCC Comr. Wakefield for 7-year term went to Senate Wednesday, approved by both California Senators Knowland (Rep.) and Downey (Dem.)—so there won't be any opposition to confirmation. He's acting chairman of Commission while Chairman Denny is at Atlantic City conference, Vice Chairman Walker home ill (though due back for part-time work next week). Comr. Durr also was out this week, with back injury, but is due to return next week.

Daily radio column in New York Times started Monday, devoted to notes about programs, stars, trade news—first by that newspaper in dozen years, bellwether of re-emergence of radio editors' columns in more and more newspapers. Looks like Times' WQXR, which it calls "longhair station" because it specializes in quality music and programs, will achieve \$1,000,000 gross for 1947, reports Variety.

Tallest man-made structure in world, tower of KRNT-FM, Des Moines (Vol. 3, No. 10), got FCC go-ahead this week when station was granted modification of CP. Guyed tower, 1530 ft. high, will rise from 160 acre plot. Cowles v.p. T. A. M. Craven says he still doesn't know exactly what it will look like, since architects have yet to submit complete plans. Tower is for FM, ultimately for TV and FX, but not AM, he says.

FM-AM table model production should soon get welcome boost from RCA, which will give first showing of 4 models as part of extensive receiver display at National Assn. of Music Merchants convention in Chicago, June 2-5.

Air safety being such a hot subject, the proposal to reallocate the solid block 960-1600 mc for air navigation shapes up as a pretty tough proposition for TV people to buck in Monday's hearing. Proposal by Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics, would move proposed TV pickup band 1295-1425 mc to 1750-1880 mc. We know of 4 companies (RCA, Philco Federal, GE) which have been developing equipment for the lower band. Philco, at least, is planning to object. RCA, which has 1295-1425 mc equipment already 90% developed, is willing to move out if air safety demands; it would, however, like to use low band equipment until air aids are developed (some 2-3 years, RCA estimates). RCA's big objection to RTCA's proposal is that it's too restrictive to allow use of company's own navigation aid, Teleran. Another angle, kind of fuzzy, is whether RTCA intends STL's for TV on 1880-2100 mc; present allocation proposals don't.

Interference with TV is subject of FCC engineering conference June 10-11 to discuss fixed and mobile operation in 72-76 mc band, amateur operation in 50-54 mc band, channel-sharing, mobile non-governmental operation in 42-88 mc, receiver selectivity, harmonic suppression. Statements from interested parties are called for by June 2. On previous day, Commission holds inter-city TV network conference (Vol. 3, No. 20).

On air commercially only few months, Paramount's Los Angeles TV outlet KTLA (Klaus Landsberg, director) has already had 16 sponsors: Tupman Motors Inc. and Elgin Watch Co., thru J. Walter Thompson; Sears Roebuck, thru The Mayers Co.; Pep Boys, thru Weinberg Agency; Botany Worsted Mills, thru Silverstein-Goldsmith Inc.; Leroy's Jewelers, thru Glen Gordon Adv. Agency; Acme Beer, thru Brisacher, Van Norden & Staff; Douglas Aircraft, General Electric Supply Corp., RCA Dealers, Stewart-Warner, American Television Laboratories, Barker Bros., Music City, Price Brothers, Richards Radio.

CBS officially rejoined TBA Friday, represented by Lawrence W. Lowman and Leonard H. Hole. Meanwhile, TBA was congratulating itself on breaking anti-antenna front of New York real estate interests—City Investing Co. having accepted TBA interim plan for its 14 apartment houses Monday. TBA now hopes other realtors will see light.

Scrumptious, is the word for NAB's new 4-story Washington quarters (former Canadian Embassy Annex, 1771 N St., NW., phone DEcatur 9300)—as befits trade association with \$650,000 budget and representing \$425,000,000 industry. It was dedicated with housewarming Tuesday.

New TV sales manager in GE's transmitter division is A. F. Wild, who reports to Phil Caldwell, division manager recently upped from that job.

Tulsa U's newly opened FM station KWGS is gift of 50 kw KVOO's W. G. Skelly.

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May 31, 1947

CLEARs SEEK LEGAL SHOWDOWN: Clear channel stations aren't overlooking a bet in current drive to protect dominant positions on their frequencies. Not only have they succeeded in getting FCC to set hearing June 4 on daytime skywave (Vol. 3, No. 19), but they're throwing the lawbooks at Commission in efforts to get daytimers on clears cut down in power or eliminated altogether. Reargument in U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington is set for June 11 in 2 bellwether cases -- appeals by WJR, Detroit (760 kc), on whose frequency are daytime grantees WKLF, Clanton, Ala., and WCPS, Tarboro, N. C. (now on air); also by WCKY, Cincinnati (1530 kc), which got stay order against 10 kc daytime grant to WJMJ-CP, Philadelphia. WJR also got stay orders, so FCC temporarily assigned WCPS to 570 kc.

Essence of litigation is meaning of "objectionable interference" provisions of AM standards. Rule says clears must be protected from such interference within their primary groundwave areas. Clears contend (1) there is daytime skywave interference, and (2) this substantially modifies their licenses without hearing -- contrary to due process. Question for courts to decide is whether, if there is daytime skywave, interference is "objectionable." Heretofore, courts have shied away from Commission technical edicts. Other cases pending in court involve: WSM, Nashville (650 kc) and daytimers WSVS, Crewe, Va., and WJSW, Altoona, Pa., both now operating; WLW, Cincinnati (700 kc) and KYDS-CP, St. Paul; WGN, Chicago (720 kc) and WFFV-CP, Richmond, Va.; WHAS, Louisville (840 kc) and KOAG-CP, Stillwater, Okla. (10 kw). For lists of all frequencies with present occupants, grantees and applicants, see our AM Directory No. 1 and addenda to date.

KEEPING AM LOGS UP-TO-DATE: We hope you'll pardon us for doing a bit of boasting this fair-weather Thursday -- with FCC holding no meeting this week and news running light as we go to press on eve of long Memorial Day week-end. It's about our AM Directory No. 1, mailed to you May 12. So far, we've found a gratifyingly small incidence of error, considering amount of detail (some 8,000 items) that went into it, let alone fact we frequently had to correct errors at FCC sources. That's not to say there are no errors; as a matter of fact, we published corrections in last week's addenda and again this week (AM Directory 1-B and 1-C).

We've had lots of congratulatory letters and calls from subscribers, also some pertinent suggestions. One good one we're glad to pass on to you; it's how we ourselves are keeping our desk copy of the Directory up-to-the-minute and handy for quick reference. In view of lack of space between lines, you can remove staples, cut pages apart, insert white sheets between pages to write in weekly additions, changes, etc. opposite to particular State or Frequency listings. This takes some doing, but it's worth the effort if you have need for the data handily and quickly.

ON TRAIL OF FM LAGGARDS: It's a tough job to track down those so-called "hip-pocket" FM broadcasters (Vol. 3, No 16), but FCC is getting rougher on those suspected of dilly-dallying. Principal form Commission action is taking is in slicing down extensions of time requested to complete construction. CP holders asking for 6 months frequently get 3. So far 112 FM grantees have gotten extensions; none has

ever been denied. FCC was never specifically asked to deny any until last week, when 2 New York applicants jumped WAAW, Newark (Vol. 3, No. 21).

Commission doesn't expect most grantees to fulfill specifications of CPs immediately, but it points to the 171 STAs as satisfactory evidence of good faith. Further, FCC believes that a low-power STA operator (whose signal is often disappointing) has much more incentive to complete construction in order to improve signal. As regards new grants, few applications can be worked up for FCC action pending proposed reallocation (Vol. 3, Nos. 19, 20). That fact and the holiday resulted in no grants this week, hence no FM Supplement.

COUNTING UP THE FM SETS: Now that so many FM stations are publishing rate cards and selling time, advertising agencies want to know where the FM sets are, by markets. But the simple fact is no one knows exactly -- except a few live-wire FMers in a handful of communities who actually have canvassed local distributors. Their figures are usually eyed askance as self-serving (like those radio censuses of broadcasting's early days).

So we asked key manufacturers if they would tell us their postwar distribution by cities. Only 3 agree to divulge this obvious trade secret -- and these only after we had pledged not to publish individual figures, only totals. All 3 are major producers, one in mass field, one in class field, one a big but relatively late comer in mass field. Their grand total of sets with FM (all models) was 75,704 up to April 1, 1947; this is only 21.4% of known postwar FM set production up to that date (353,661) as reported by RMA. (Through May 1, incidentally, the figure is 465,917, thanks to April's record production of 112,256, detailed in (Vol. 3, No. 21.)

So, for whatever these figures are worth, here's at least part of the FM set distribution up to April 1 in these major centers: New York City area, 13,814; Chicago, 11,977; Los Angeles, 6,284; Philadelphia, 6,553; Boston, 3,936; Detroit, 5,265; San Francisco-Oakland, 3,451; Pittsburgh, 3,840; Cleveland, 3,957; St. Louis, 4,080; Minneapolis-St. Paul, 3,111; Washington, 2,307; Baltimore, 2,627; Cincinnati, 1,863; Atlanta, 2,639. Understand, now, these aren't full figures, nor are they probably even 21.4% (maybe more, maybe less) but they're the only figures we can get -- except for the old FMBI's additional figures on pre-war FM (low-band) set distribution, which totaled 395,000, broken down thus: New York, 120,000; Chicago, 80,000; Boston, 35,000; Detroit, 25,000; Milwaukee, 21,000; Philadelphia, 20,000; remainder scattered (Vol. 3, No. 1).

REACTIONS TO RADIO BILLS: One aspect of White-Wolverton bills (Vol. 3, No. 21) not discerned at last week's first quick reading is this: Proviso limiting ownership of single entities to stations covering not more than 25% of country's population would automatically supersede present FCC limitations on TV station ownership (5), FM ownership (6).

General reactions to bills may be summed up by smiles at FCC, where cocky officials feel it generally endorses current policies; frowns at NAB, where brass are obviously disappointed, call bill "dangerous and full of ambiguities," say they keenly regret lack of clearcut prohibitions on FCC's powers to look into programming, etc. Said Judge Miller: "Broadcasters will not be satisfied with White-Wolverton bill as now written." He indicated NAB will seek tightened regulations at hearings; NAB legislative committee has been called to Washington, June 5.

Hearing dates for separate Senate and House subcommittees haven't been set, are expected to be fixed next week for sometime this session -- though Miller suggests no hearings until FCC Chairman Denny, Comrs. Jett and Webster are through with International Telecommunications Conference, possibly in mid-September. Senator White himself heads Senate subcommittee, which includes: Tobey, N.H.; Moore, Okla.; Johnson, Colo.; McFarland, Ariz., latter 2 Democrats. House subcommittee comprises Reps. Howell, Ill., chairman; Hall, N.Y.; O'Hara, Minn.; Dolliver, Iowa; Scott, Pa.; Harris, Ark.; Harless, Ariz.; one more to be named, latter 3 Democrats.

THE IDLERS AND THE TOILERS: There's something curious, not to say suspicious, about some of the CPs for TV issued by FCC (Supplement No. 18-C), held by grantees who apparently neither toil nor spin in video field. Several presented nice "paper cases," got CPs, yet haven't done a thing about ordering equipment or otherwise preparing to get going. The Commission pretty well knows who they are, can readily get checkups through its field offices, might get some interesting dope too from equipment manufacturers whose agents really could tell them the score. It's our guess a few of them won't hold their CPs very long after scrutiny.

Meanwhile, no more new TV applications, though quite a few still promised -- 2 we know of being prepared for major newspaper publishers. Fact that engineers from 4 non-applicant stations (William Clancy, WTIC, Hartford; Robert A. Fox, WGAR, Cleveland; Lester L. Gilbert, WNBF, Binghamton, N.Y.; L. L. Caudle Jr., WSOC, Charlotte, N.C.) attended TV engineering clinic at RCA Camden last week, would seem to indicate that those stations (WTIC and WGAR are former applicants who withdrew) are at least contemplating filing. Thirty others at clinic were all from networks and other TV grantee firms, who spent 5 days at classes and demonstrations on practice and theory, came away with 200-page book of texts for later use as reference.

ONSLAUGHTS ON TV BANDS: As if it didn't have enough of a job just getting going, TV now must dig in to fend off onslaughts from several sectors. At FCC hearing this week, air navigation interests bid for entire 960-1600 mc band (which includes 1295-1425 mc for TV pickup and relay), urged that pickup-relay be moved to 1750-1880 mc. This was strongly opposed by TBA and Philco's Dave Smith, who cited Philco's pickup-relay equipment developments on 1295-1425, told about plans for Philadelphia-New York system (Vol. 3, No. 17), reaffirmed low cost of radio relay links compared to expected coaxial cable charges (Vol. 3, No. 6), stated that many TV broadcasters, CP holders, applicants had expressed interest in Philco equipment.

Next comes engineering conference June 10-11 on TV interference (Vol. 3, No. 21), with fixed and mobile services, hams and aero interests again proposing TV bear brunt of shifts. It's even been suggested TV relinquish Channel No. 2 (54-60 mc) in favor of fixed-mobile; argument is that this would end co-channel and adjacent channel interference on No. 2 (Vol. 2, No. 47), would eliminate TV receiver interference from hams (Vol. 3, No. 14), also TV's interference with aero radio systems. But that's only a suggestion -- one of many FCC engineers must consider, and one that present occupant (CBS-TV New York) and others assigned to No. 2 (Baltimore Sun; Raytheon, Waltham, Mass.; Fort Industry Co., Detroit; KDYL, Salt Lake City) might not like at all. Another suggestion is that TV give up Channel 1 (44-50 mc), so far assigned to only KPRO, Riverside, Cal. That would preclude need for sharing, but would not eliminate other interference. Deleting any TV channels is "the last thing we want to do," said one FCC official.

And compounding the onslaughts on TV, FCC two weeks ago finalized reduction of experimental uhf video band from 480-920 mc to 500-890 mc (Vol. 3, No. 20).

PROGRESS IN INTERCITY TV: Not much publicity was given it, but some rather significant dope on AT&T's coaxial cable installations was revealed by Bell System's W. E. Bloecker at recent Cincinnati IRE meeting. It may furnish basis for AT&T's presentation at FCC June 9 inter-city TV relay conference (Vol. 3, No. 20), at which projected rates for TV use of coaxial may also be disclosed. Said Mr. Bloecker: Not only are 4,000 out of projected 12,000 miles of the cable already installed, but New York-Los Angeles southern route will be ready for phone service early in 1948, mid-continent route (New York-Chicago-St. Louis) by end of next year. He added: "Television service if required can probably be made available on most of these routes some time after the opening of telephone service, the date depending to some extent upon the demand." All 12,000 miles of coaxial should be completed by 1950, as should a New York-Chicago microwave relay system. Radio relay is also due to link New York-Boston this year; New York-Philadelphia is under construction. And under development is a coaxial system that, with closer repeater spacing, will permit 7 mc video transmission (present New York-Washington line permits 2.8 mc).

HAVING TROUBLE WITH CAA? Those irksome, time-consuming bouts with Civilian Aeronautics Authority, which almost everyone planning antenna sites has experienced, may be obviated soon -- for FCC and CAA are now working out codification of standards on what constitute air hazards. Lawyers Plotkin and Boyle, of respective agencies, have been working on it last 3 weeks, plan code that will let you know specifically what conditions to meet regarding antenna sites, tower heights. They frankly admit they want to cut out guesswork, hasten approvals. Procedure will remain same, though there's some talk that paper work within CAA may be shifted to airways group in lieu of air hazards section (whose Wm. J. McKenzie has been responsible for approvals up to now).

POPULAR GRIPES ABOUT TV: If anyone should know what public expects of TV, it's the dealer -- some 800 of whom in New York area have been canvassed by "The Televiser" Magazine with interesting results. Main gripe is price. Half the dealers said \$200-\$300 table model would be preferable to \$250-\$400 present range, though public will spend \$500 if set also contains AM-FM-phone; such models now run \$800-\$2,500.

What impels most TV set purchases is sports. Otherwise, public doesn't think much of most of today's programs, kicks about their paucity, especially deplores lack of daytime shows. Among other obstacles to selling sets cited: refusal of some apartment house owners to permit antennas; cost of antenna and receiver installations (\$45 up, with year's service warranty); inability to get immediate delivery; small size of screens; fear of obsolescence; color.

SIGHT AND SOUND

FM networking was top subject at Cincinnati FMA Region 2 meeting this week. C. M. Jansky told more than 150 that only in radio relay was FM's high fidelity characteristics possible today. Everett Dillard told FMers to get in touch with him re extension of Continental Network to midwest. FCC's Vernon Wilkinson reported requests for extensions of completion dates were being "carefully, very carefully, scrutinized," suggested more varied programming (instead of recorded, longhair music). David G. Taft, WCTS, Cincinnati, was elected regional chairman; Paul E. Wagner, WCSI, Columbus, secretary. State chairmen elected: Robert F. Wolfe, WFRO-FM, Fremont, Ohio; Foster Fudge, *Crawfordsville Journal-Review*, Indiana; E. J. Hodel, WCFC, Beckley, West Virginia.

Philadelphia's big newspaper-radio story (Vol. 3, No. 5, 6) is entering final phases. The *Bulletin* (purchaser of WCAU, *Record, Camden Courier-Post*) has now disposed of Camden newspapers and WPEN, latter sold this week for reported \$750,000 to Phillip Klein, former local ad agency man, and Al Syk, drug chain owner. Next step is FCC authority to sell WPEN, so *Bulletin* can take over WCAU.

NBC's Washington TV outlet WNBW is telecasting New York NBC programs several evenings a week—they began last Saturday—but the formal opening won't be till after mid-June. Capital TV fans are already reorienting their antennas.

Gulf Oil's TV renewal for 13 weeks on WCBS-TV of news telecasts has interesting twist. It's going to include a few minutes of Washington news now and then, will have Washington coaxial pickups by *Washington Star* cameras (newspaper holds CP, has some equipment, construction just starting) and DuMont's WTTG.

Fantastic role of TV, in event of atomic war, with government officials keeping in touch with one another's underground installations via video, got big news play this week when AP carried story from FCC hearing quoting TBA Attorney Thad H. Brown Jr., son of the late radio commissioner, member of law firm of Roberts & McInnis.

WOW, Omaha doesn't have a video CP, isn't even an applicant, but is going ahead full steam with TV. Owning 2 image orthicons, it has been conducting closed circuit demonstrations in conjunction with local Creighton U, this week applied for experimental portable relay grant so it can use newly acquired 100 watt RCA relay equipment. Budget of \$33,000 is for staff training and program experiments against day it will apply for full-fledged commercial TV (for which it once applied, but withdrew at height of color TV controversy).

If FM can cure many radio ills, high-powered FM can cure even more. Take this neat bit of showmanship by WTCN-FM, Minneapolis, which radiates some 25 kw: It installed a Philco AM-FM console on a street car and took a number of guests, including members of the Minnesota Assn. of Professional Engineers, on a tour. At no time, says station, was there static, fading or lack of full limiting. This was true even through tunnels and between high buildings. Further, AM was at no time considered satisfactory.

FM reservation plan (Vol. 2, No. 29), with only a month to go (June 30), apparently hasn't attracted applications as expected. Last minute may see a flurry, but so far only 4 (all AMers) have requested the frozen frequencies (Vol. 3, No. 17).

Broadcast call letter pinch (which had many broadcasters sweating out combinations not in use) has eased; Commission this week got 1,000 new call sets (in both W's and K's) back from Army.

John McNeil, ex-manager of ABC's WJZ, New York, this week took over managership of DuMont's WABD, post formerly held by Sam Cuff, now with Allied Stores Corp.'s "Television Caravan" (Vol. 3, No. 16).

Extra copies of our AM Directory No. 1 are still available to subscribers at \$10 each, the weekly addenda (1-A, 1-B, 1-C so far) at \$1 each. We also have some more embossed binders, \$2.10.

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June 7, 1947

AND STILL MORE NEW STATIONS: Like it or not, the rate of new AM station grants continues swift -- 22 more this week (see AM Directory 1-D), or 36 altogether since our AM Directory No. 1, dated May 1. In other words, adding these 36 to the AM Directory's 1,712, we now have 1,748 licensed or authorized AM stations in the United States. And applications for new AM stations continue apace: 42 since May 1, bringing total pending to nearly 750. By contrast, here's the FM box-score to date: licensees, 48; CPs, 562; conditionals, 240; applications, 174; and among CPs and conditionals, 172 hold STAs for interim operation.

REPORT ON TV; YANKEE RE-FILES: Yankee Network re-applied for TV in Boston this week, second to stipulate GE equipment. First TV transmitter sold by GE goes to Chicago Tribune's WGNA, which has just signed contracts for more than \$300,000 worth of equipment, including 5 kw Type TT-6-B -- called by GE the "highest powered television transmitter made today" -- plus RCA mobile equipment.

Next commercial TV outlet to take air will be NBC's WNBW, Washington, now testing, scheduled to open officially June 27 with local studio programs plus 6-9 hours from New York weekly; its mobile unit will be ready in July, film studio by Aug. 1. Meanwhile, DuMont's WTTG, Washington, announced speeded-up schedule of locals and remotes: baseball, starting June 13; racing from nearby tracks, September; Navy football games from Baltimore, etc.

Yankee seeks Channel No. 7 (174-180 mc), one of 3 still due Boston; only other pending applicant there is Paramount's New England Theatres Inc., with Westinghouse (WBZ) and Raytheon (Waltham) the grantees to date. Yankee says it will spend \$280,250 on installation. Chicago Tribune installation will test by Oct. 1, goes into commercial operation Jan. 1, 1948, includes "newly developed items not yet announced to trade," says Carl J. Meyers, engineering chief. He promises good signal within radius of 45 miles from Tribune Tower transmitter.

Note: Yankee application adds one more under "Applications Pending" part of your TV Directory (Supplement No. 18-C). You'll be up-to-date if you include it, along with Gimbels (WIP) application for Philadelphia (Vol. 3, No. 18), noting also that Tarzian application, Bloomington, Ind., has been granted (Vol. 3, No. 19).

MORE FM MODELS, NEW TV SETS: Chicago music merchant's convention this week proved one thing certain: henceforth, very few console model radios will be without FM. Even more exciting to FMers is prospect of more and more table models with FM, heightened this week by Philco's 482, embracing FM-AM-SW, push-button tuning, 8 tubes plus rectifier, built-in triple aerial. It's priced at \$149.50, is Philco's first 1948 model to be shown, called by company finest it has ever produced. This week also, Sentinel announced \$64.95 AM-FM table model to be on market next month. Thus two major producers are added to list of those now making table models with FM: Zenith, Stromberg, Stewart-Warner, Pilot, Emerson, Bendix, RCA.

As for TV receivers, that low-priced Sears Roebuck console we mentioned recently (Vol. 3, No. 13) will be coming out of Colonial (Sylvania) factory by

August. Sears' merchandise-wise radio director, A. T. Chameroy, told us so this week. It will include AM-FM, sell for "about \$300," lowest yet for such a unit. DuMont's first low-priced teleaset, table model TV with FM, is due this fall, priced around \$450; in \$800 range, DuMont is readying TV-AM-FM-SW-phono console to compete with RCA's and GE's. Motorola announced this week its advent into TV set field with its "Golden View" receiver for fall 1947 delivery, and Belmont (Raytheon) next week puts limited quantity of its table model, with 7-inch screen, on market, \$250.

"TELEVISION IS REALLY HERE": Hollywood likes superlatives, sometimes delivers, often is far behind reality -- as witness fact so few movie interests are in TV (see TV Directory, Supplement No. 18-C) and so little attention is apparently being paid TV by the movie bigwigs (Vol. 3, No. 17, 18). But TV operators and planners will welcome announcement by substantial short-subject film producer Jerry Fairbanks Inc. in page ad in June 4 "Variety." Firm promises to help fill TV's greatest vacuum, top quality programs, by producing reasonably priced films especially for TV; plans mystery and comedy series this year, 3 more next year. These should offer happy respite from ancient, hashed-over travel and industrial films that seem to be best that TV can wangle to date.

Handsome is as handsome does, and Jerry Fairbanks Inc., admitting it can't make all the subject matter TV needs, says it hopes other film producers will enter this wide-open field. But even so it cannot refrain from tall talk from Hollywood's Olympian heights: "There's been entirely too much blue-sky talk about television -- too many exaggerated statements -- too many extravagant claims. But, television is really here. Four hundred thousand sets will be built and sold this year [only 25,355 thru April, by official count; Vol. 3, No. 15, 21] and almost 40 stations will be operating by January, 1948" [we'll settle for a half dozen in addition to today's 11, as we said in Vol. 3, No. 19].

There are some other bright rays, in addition to the welcome advent of Jerry Fairbanks into field RKO Television has also skimmed. It's reported that 20th Century-Fox as well as Warners is now interesting itself in theater TV (Paramount's interest has never flagged, and it did not withdraw from station field). And DuMont's WABD, New York, has signed up three 15-minute sponsored programs to plug the film "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." This led "Variety" to observe that deal is "evidence that the film companies are gradually lowering the barriers currently in effect against any form of cooperation with the video industry."

* * * *

Shot-in-the-arm for large-screen TV (Vol. 3, No. 18) is John M. Cage's video projector exhibited for first time Thursday in Newark's Hour Glass Restaurant. Custom-built for \$3,600, set uses commercial TV receiver with 10-inch Rauland metalized tube having input of 60,000 volts. Patented Viewlex lens magnifies images to 6x8 ft or larger. Detail issaid to be equivalent to 16 mm film. Screen is 16 ft from oscilloscope. Cage heads Cage Projects Inc., 393 Grove St., Upper Montclair, N.J., reports he will produce 100 more sets for hotels, bars, and restaurants, is planning to show sets to movie people soon.

COAXIAL COMPOUNDS TV COSTS: Any way you figure it, use of coaxial cable for inter-city TV is going to cost a lot -- so much, in fact, that it may prove greatest impetus yet to radio relay. Having permitted no-cost use of New York-Philadelphia-Washington coaxial for an experimental period, AT&T this week filed proposed schedule of TV rates with FCC to go into effect Aug. 1. It came virtually on eve of June 9 conference on inter-city relay methods for TV (Vol. 3, No. 20, 22), at which GE, Philco, Raytheon, Western Union, perhaps others, are expected to tell how they can do the job via radio only.

Big AT&T won't be any more popular with revenue-poor TV than it was with broadcasting in early days of networks and remotes. It's expected to explain that the rates are arbitrary as yet, based on limited experience; that, depending on improvements and use, they're bound to come down. But telecasters look forward to them with less than enthusiasm. It would cost a Washington station, for example,

more than \$10,000 per month for an 8-hour-per-day hookup with New York -- that is, until Philadelphia, Baltimore and other way-point customers tap into line and bear their share. DuMont's WTTG, Washington, is already preparing to hedge against new cost burden with minimum inter-city, maximum local service.

Rates are based on circuit miles, cover one-way video transmission only, apply to wire, radio or combination of both, path approximately 3 mc wide. Sound channel is separately charged, at prevailing audio rates of \$6 per airline mile per month for Class A channel (100-5,000 cps), \$9 for Class AA (50-8,000 cps). Inter-connections with any other circuits are forbidden, which has decided implications for STLs and remote pickups.

These are the rates: Monthly (8 hours per day, 7 days per week) -- \$40 per circuit mile, \$2 per additional hour; \$750 per station connection to line, \$50 per additional hour. Occasional service -- \$1.25 per circuit mile for first hour, \$.3125 per additional 15 minutes; \$250 per station connection, plus \$15 per hour or fraction thereof. Circuit mileages are set as follows: New York-Washington, 237 miles; New York-Baltimore, 194; New York-Philadelphia, 96; Philadelphia-Washington, 141; Philadelphia-Baltimore, 98; Washington-Baltimore, 43.

WHY THE FM DOLDRUMS? June 12 FCC meeting, with spark-plug Chairman Denny due in from Atlantic City, ought to do something to current peculiar FM hiatus. In last month, a mere 3 stations have asked for and were granted STAs and only 11 conditional grants were made (see Supplements No. 50 to 50-H). Most hoped for is final action on reallocation plan (Vol. 3, Nos. 19, 20). "How can we order equipment," many ask, "when we don't know what our frequencies are?"

Another thing Commission will have to take up is what to do about channel reservation which ends June 30. It's unlikely reservation will be extended, since most of its onetime ardent proponents (Senate Small Business Committee, veterans' groups, cooperatives, unions) seem to have forgotten all about it. Next question, then, is how best to utilize new channels provided by reallocation and end of reservation. Reallocation alone will permit immediate grant of some 20 applications and quick issuance of decisions involving 35-plus. As for reserved channels, FCC can either pull them into the hearings and grant more contestants or make decisions final and allow denyees to apply for newly unfrozen frequencies.

As to why more aren't going on the air with STAs, there are several quite important non-FCC reasons: (1) Full equipment, in many cases, is so near delivery it doesn't pay to set up interim operation; (2) AM broadcasters are busy improving AM facilities, choosing new sites, building new towers, etc., and since so many are putting FM antennas on AM towers, FM must wait.

SOMETHING NEW BEING ADDED: Built-in clocks, bars, shelves -- these are common-places among post-war radios. But Ansley's electric piano, called Dynatone, is now offered with an AM-FM-SW-phono unit built in, to sell for about \$1,200. And a Paris Fair report to "Retailing" tells of a French radio receiver with a built-in movie projector, a 30x12-inch glass frame in the set itself serving as screen. Another late wrinkle is Sears Roebuck's projected addition of FM to its \$199.50 AM-phono-wire recorder console now being released in East, made for its brand-name by Colonial. New and bigger job will include clock selector for recording radio programs, for later playback, when listener can't be home to hear actual broadcast.

HOW TO BUILD AN FM NETWORK: Regional groupings of stations linked by wire or radio relay, each group tying into a larger hookup -- that's the operation plan of Continental Network, FM's first chain which resumed Wednesday. Basic hookup is Everett Dillard's WASH, Washington, and Maj. Armstrong's W2XMN, Alpine, N. J., for which they buy lines Wednesdays, 7:30-7:45 p.m. (Dona Mason, singer), 8-8:30 p.m. (Army Band), Thursdays 9-10 p.m. (Army Air Forces Band and talent). To those seeking to join this hookup, Dillard's advice is: Get a regional group of FM stations together so they can exchange programs via landlines, relays, etc. This is what 8 New York FM stations have done to form Empire State Network; there are also nuclei

for more such in 4 already tied up in New England, 3 in Pennsylvania, others talking about doing same in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois. Empire State Network already has aired own origination -- Rochester U's famed symphony orchestra. Nearest station in regional groups have been joining Continental off air from Alpine. It's a slow but economical buildup for which Dillard and his enthusiastic WASH crew have high hopes.

THE CASE OF DAYTIME SKYWAVE: There's daytime skywave, all right -- even FCC's engineers admitted it in testimony (by Engineer E. F. Vandivere) and in an exhaustive study submitted at hearings this week. What Commission now must decide is whether there's enough of it and whether it's stable enough to warrant changing present AM standards; also to what extent daytime stations really interfere with dominant stations. That's sum of highly technical 3-day hearing, at which Clear Channel Broadcasting Service's Jack DeWitt carried ball nearly two full days, defending data from attacks by counsel for some daytimers. If new daytime standards are invoked, some daytime and limited time stations on clears might conceivably have to be removed, besides curbing Commission's present "generosity" in making such grants.

SIGHT AND SOUND

There's still hope Senator White won't insist on June 17 date for hearings on his radio bill (Vol. 3, No. 21, 22), despite his turndown of NAB President Justin Miller's request for postponement. NAB's legislative committee, meeting this week, doubted industry case could be ready in time; it will be spearheaded by Judge Miller and Gen. Counsel Don Petty. FCC witnesses will be led by Chairman Denny, Asst. Gen. Counsel Plotkin. Senator White told us Friday he thinks one week of hearings enough, intends to try for legislation this summer, certainly before he retires from Senate next year (he has announced he won't run again.) Two new subcommittee members are Indiana Republican Capehart and Washington Democrat Magnusson. On House side, Rep. Howell's subcommittee meets next week to fix hearing date.

Unusual case of a State Legislature passing a resolution protesting possibility of a station grant occurred May 27 when Democratic Rhode Island House of Representatives charged FM applicant *Providence Journal-Bulletin* with unfair editorial treatment. Politically inspired resolution was forwarded to FCC, claimed station construction had been approved in face of veterans' housing shortage.

FM means 5,000 new stations, let alone better reception, etc., and that means "more program competition, easier access to the microphone by minority groups, and a curb to many radio excesses." Thus Harland Manchester, *Reader's Digest* staffman, in July issue of the magazine "47," which presumably means reprint soon in *Reader's Digest*.

FMA's Bill Bailey told National Assn. of Music Merchants what's what about FM, how they can merchandise it, in Chicago speech Thursday—best he's yet made, one you should read (if you're trying to push FM locally) and get your local radio dealers to read. Write him for copy, or we'll get it for you.

CBS evidently wants Washington FM outlet pretty badly. First, it withdrew Minneapolis application to keep down to 6 limit; now, with proposed grant for Boston under its belt, it decided to drop St. Louis CP, concentrate on prosecution of D. C. application.

An FM timebuyers' guide, first of its kind, will be published in July by *FM Business Magazine*, 36 Central Park South, New York City. It will list commercial stations, rates, coverage maps, etc., along with lists of sponsors and types of programs they are using.

Two books on TV — "Television Techniques" by TV consultant Hoyland Bettinger, and "The Future of Television" by RCA's Orrin Dunlap, both published by Harper & Bros.—are latest in growing list of video volumes that should be in every TVers' library. Bettinger's book is written for those who know TV fundamentals, from producer's point of view. Chapter on pictorial composition, illustrated by author's line drawings, make it valuable to general readers. Dunlap's book is revision of 1942 issue, written in easy, simple style for popular readers. TVers will be interested especially in chapters on "Television and the Movies" and "The Outlook for Sound Broadcasting."

"Small broadcaster, get over your inferiority!" That's the admonition of *New Bedford* (Mass.) *Standard-Times* FM station WFMR, in inaugurating atomic energy series based on *Christian Science Monitor* articles. Says station's Edward L. Merritt Jr.: "The idea of sticking to one's own corner, while the networks and the big boys pick up the real stories, may be cheap, but good stories, simply presented, don't have to be expensive."

Industry forces descended en masse (RMA, NAB, FMA) upon the House Ways & Means Committee during Friday hearing, in effort to get excise tax removed from radio. Arguments generally: tax elimination offers only chance of cheaper radios, would give impetus to growth of TV and FM; tax is hard to administer and provides very small fraction (1.5%) of total excise revenue.

Broadcast equipment is now part of Raytheon's Commercial Products Division, all centered in main plants at Waltham, Mass., with Ray C. Ellis, v.p. in charge; Frank S. Horning, sales manager; William A. Gray, asst. sales manager; John H. Beedle, production manager; David D. Coffin, chief engineer; James N. Nye, engineer in charge.

Top salary in radio is David Sarnoff's as RCA president—\$132,703 for 1946, as reported this week to SEC. RCA Victor's Frank Folsom got \$75,460, NBC's Niles Trammell, \$30,460. For CBS salaries, see Vol. 3, No. 6.

Clear channel hearings, scheduled two weeks ago for July 7 (Vol. 3, No. 20), have again been postponed—this time to Sept. 17. Attorney Louis Caldwell has been under doctor's orders to "take it easy" this summer.

First big deal of newly formed Keith Kiggins & Co., 527 Lexington Ave., New York City, resulted in Gov. Mon Wallgren's purchase of George Storer's 8¼% interest in 50 kw KIRO, Seattle, Wash.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

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FCC SHOTS THE WORKS IN FM: Full FCC really sailed into FM this week, and while March of Time cameras recorded Chairman Denny and colleagues in action: (1) It finalized the reallocation plan, as published in Supplement No. 52 herewith. (2) This gave it happy opportunity to make flock of grants (33 CPs, 15 conditionals, 8 STAs, etc., as shown in Supplement No. 50-I herewith) without finally denying anyone. (3) Licensees, CP holders and conditionals with STAs were assigned new channels, which we'll report in our next quarterly FM Directory as soon as our printer can get it out. (4) It announced end of channel reservation -- so now anyone, including hearing deneyees, may apply immediately for the 110 channels to be available after June 30.

For good measure, FCC issued proposed decision on Bridgeport, set hot New York situation for oral argument June 27, disposed of Springfield, Mass., Indianapolis, Atlanta, San Diego docket cases; it also issued 19 CPs for AM stations, including final decisions (AM Directory addenda 1-E herewith).

Big reason for delay (since mid-April) of FM reallocation was Commission's indecision regarding 400 kc and 600 kc separation. Standards as finally adopted leave interference ratios for those separations to be determined when adequate data is available. Actual reissuance of CPs and licenses stipulating new frequencies is yet to be done; but all are expected to have new channels by Oct. 1. Rules and engineering standards are amended as proposed in our Supplement No. 51-A, only change being an explanation of 400 and 600 kc separation situation. At early date, we'll republish complete rules and standards incorporating all changes.

HOW TO OPERATE INTERCITY TV: Aside from perceptible sense of shock at high rates proposed for coaxial service (Vol. 3, No. 23), most striking impression carried away from FCC's crowded (150 TVers attending) June 9 conference on intercity relays for TV was this: Nobody but AT&T, Western Union and, on limited but low-cost regional scale, DuMont, actually offered to provide intercity network facilities. As for NBC, CBS and ABC, who have hopes but no definitive plans yet for network TV, they made it plain they don't intend to operate their own networking systems, expect common carriers to handle linkage.

Status and prospective status of AT&T's coaxial and radio relays (note Albuquerque, N.M., only TV city not embraced) is most vividly shown on map herewith. reproduced from one introduced by H. H. Nance, long lines chief engineer. Western Union's J. Z. Millar submitted sketch of proposed microwave relay network (covering 22 of 36 cities now having TV licenses or CPs), suggested it would lease facilities on common carrier basis, told about New York-Philadelphia link WU has operated since 1945, said this could be tied into New York-Pittsburgh-Washington. But he could give no date forecasts because of uncertainty of equipment deliveries.

DuMont's Dr. T. T. Goldsmith, though indicating preference for common carrier operation if rates were right, offered plan for an industry-owned, cooperative radio relay system to link 8 cities in 5 jumps: New York, Trenton, Philadelphia, Reading, Lancaster, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington. He said rate need only be

\$5 per hour per station, capital cost only \$211,000, whole setup built in 9 months. Hints of telecasters' cooperative were heard, too, with possibly Chicago Tribune-New York News (both TV grantees with plenty of capital) taking lead -- as former did in setting up MBS.

Raytheon's Lawrence Apsey reported on New York-Boston microwave operations of last 2 years, promised New York-Chicago and Los Angeles-San Francisco radio relays after 6-12 more months for engineering. But he was hesitant about inviting TVers to use facilities (should FCC okay commercial operation) because he questions whether TV can reach \$1-\$1.5 billion business deemed necessary to support 4 networks. So he would not offer dates, rates, etc., as yet.

Both GE and Philco described their relay operations (Vol. 3, No. 17, 20). GE's C. A. Priest said company plans to extend New York-Schenectady link to Syracuse, Rochester, other upstate cities (presumably, with GE installing more stations of its own); GE would prefer, he said, to operate links privately but will turn them over to a common carrier if FCC requires. Philco's Dave Smith deprecated coaxial's present 3 mc bandwidth (while TV puts out 4 mc), said he thought AT&T charges far out of line compared to radio relay, told about Philco's own New York-Philadelphia relay, said his company is primarily interested in manufacturing equipment. Paramount's Paul Raibourn also spoke of "strain" created by AT&T rates, pleaded for continuance of WBKB's relay experiments (Vol. 3, No. 20).

On AT&T's part, Rate Engineer J. P. Judy expressed conviction video rates will probably come down as technical improvements are made, utilization goes up. Plied with questions at FCC conference this week, he said: (1) Radio relay facilities, which everyone admitted were much less expensive to install and maintain than coaxial cable, would be charged for at same rate proposed for land cable. (2) Station connection charges (\$750 per station) would be billed each month, even though installation was permanent. (3) Interconnection between AT&T facilities and those of another system would not be permitted, unless telephone company had no facility available between the two points concerned -- for example, Chicago-Minneapolis link would have to be paid on a mileage basis for cable loop from Chicago through St. Louis-Kansas City-Omaha-Des Moines-Minneapolis, even though two cities might be linked directly on another system. (4) If more broadcasters wanted intercity links than telephone company had channels available, a local TV committee might be set up to allocate usage of system.

FCC's Chief Engineer George Sterling, who conducted hearing flanked by his TV aide Curt Plummer, made it clear decision whether intercity radio relay links for TV will be made common carrier, TV only, or both, must await final policy on 1,000-13,000 mc allocation proposals (Vol. 3, No. 6), probably after current International Telecommunications Conference. But he did indicate Commission might permit interim operation of intercity TV relays on commercial basis before then if need is shown.

THE LATEST IN TV RECEIVERS: Big TV set production news of the week: RCA out with lowest-priced console yet, \$450 plus \$65 for antenna, installation, warranty. Philco lets Philadelphia have first of its heretofore secret table models, fixes price at \$395 plus \$45; Philco also disclosed limited production under way on its console, to sell around \$800. All are TV-only. And, emphasizing trend to bigger sets at lower prices, Stewart-Warner fixes prices on its "Videorama" console, 10-inch tube, including AM, at \$675 (T-711 Moderne) and \$695 (T-712 Georgian), plus tax plus \$64 installation and service.

RCA console is known as 630-TCS, has 10-inch tube, 12-inch speaker, automatic station selector, is now being shipped to dealers. Philco table set (Model 48-1000) has unusually brilliant, sharp, clear, steady picture on 10-inch tube. It was unveiled before Philadelphia dealers a few weeks ago (Vol. 3, No. 21), and they ordered 2,000 forthwith -- so, for present, sales will be limited to that city. Philco console (Model 2500) has projection screen framing 15x20-inch pictures, will be shown in few weeks. Philco told stockholders this week it estimates 8,500,000 homes in areas already having TV service, promised sets in other cities soon.

'QUADRILINE' FOR HIGH-POWER FM: High-powered FM, which broadcasters now recognize as all-important, can now be achieved without strain and pain, said REL in Thursday demonstration in New York of its new 10 kw "Quadriline" transmitter. Said Maj. Armstrong, boon friend of REL's recently named new president, C. M. Runyon, companion of his early experiments: "This unit will sparkplug FM into high power this summer." Company says secret lies in new 4 anode tetrode tube circuit, invented by James A. Day and Mal Jennings, which eliminates "costly and inefficient" block building technique of adding amplifiers to get more power. REL promises "substantial number" of units before year's end.

TROUBLE HEAPED UPON TROUBLE: That old bugbear, interference, apparently has TV in its grip. Anyone hearing the evidence at FCC's June 10-11 engineering conference might well be pardoned if he threw up his hands and exclaimed, pessimistically: "What's the use!" For there's no doubt TV will suffer impossible interference from services supposed to share its channels. There's already trouble (harmonics) from the "hams" and from diathermy and industrial heating devices. On its part, TV signals are bothering air navigation.

No solution came out of confab -- rather, conferees left with feeling best thing FCC Chief Engineer George Sterling can do is call his TV staffers into meeting with RTPB's TV committee and other interested engineers, work out plan, submit it for FCC approval, then hold hearings on individual proposals. It was apparent no simple solution will overcome all objections, satisfy all comers (taxis, buses, trucks, phone companies, police, government agencies). Also made plain was fact TV interests will resist stoutly any attempt to deprive them of any present channels -- sharing services had suggested taking away Channels No. 1 and 2 (44-50, 54-60 mc).

TV's position, as taken by NBC's Ray Guy (speaking for TBA) and Philco's F. J. Bingley was this: (1) Sharing with other services is out of question. (2) TV needs more channels, will "oppose to utmost" any loss of channels -- this seconded by DuMont's T. T. Goldsmith, who spoke up for 10 more channels in 108-174 mc band. (3) TV might live with sharing services if granted higher powers -- this suggested by RCA's Dr. George Beers, eliciting comment by FCC's Curt Plummer that Commission had thought of that solution but wondered about economic effect on small city telecasters. (4) Space exists in loosely-used government wavelengths for other services, either on full or sharing basis -- this point vigorously presented by Ray Guy. (5) From public service standpoint, TV claims outweigh those of any other services except safety of life.

THE RMA LOOKS AT FM AND TV: "Normal" is the word for today's radio manufacturing industry -- and as evidence RMA's retiring president, R. C. Cosgrove (Crosley), at Chicago convention this week, cited overproduction, unbalanced inventories, price cutting, leader models! Current production is at rate of 18,000,000 units per year (including auto radios, export models, etc.), probably will end up 15,000,000, same as last year's record total, he said, in concluding third term and yielding presidency to Sylvania's Max F. Balcom.

Highlights of convention from FM and TV points of view: (1) Just about all manufacturers concur most consoles henceforth will include FM, more and more table models coming. (2) Leaders estimate about 2,000,000 FM sets this year, 250,000 TVs. (3) Megacycle markings for receiver dials recommended instead of FCC channel numbers. (4) RMA's statistical services on production to be expanded, may include periodical figures on FM-TV set distribution by markets, much in demand.

TV highlighted address by RCA's David Sarnoff, again manifesting his unflagging faith in video arts and industry. He said, among other things:

The future of radio: "What the ultimate effect [of TV] will be upon the balance sheet and income statement of an established radio manufacturer or broadcaster will depend upon his courage, wisdom and action. 'The blacksmith, who remained at the anvil, found that his forge went out, but the blacksmith who turned his shop into a garage prospered...While I foresee the ultimate fusion of sound

broadcasting with TV, this...will take many years to achieve...Indeed, the time may come when an important broadcast program that we cannot see will seem as strange as a movie we cannot hear."

To prospective telecasters: "The belief that a local TV station cannot be erected and operated without a large investment is wrong. TV programming can be started by local stations, in a small way, with a minimum of facilities, and expanded as receiving sets and commercial sponsors increase...The argument that TV must offer a continuous flow of Hollywood extravaganzas is also false. The great attraction of TV is timeliness. Many of its programs are seen as they happen; they are both entertainment and news."

SIGHT AND SOUND

Two of Chicago's 3 remaining TV channels will be filed for soon — by *Chicago Times* (not now in radio) and by *Chicago News-Wrigley-Atlass* owned Johnson Kennedy Corp. (WIND). Latter once was applicant, withdrew during color controversy. Others are rumored eyeing TV in Chicago, and it's hard to believe CBS will allow itself to be counted out there, as in Washington, Los Angeles.

Philadelphia Inquirer's Walter Annenberg, who has earmarked \$2,000,000 for TV, hopes to get WFIL-TV on air this fall, on Thursday announced purchase of big Philadelphia Arena (capacity, 10,000) at 46th and Market Sts., to house TV studio, control room, general offices. It will continue as sports center, with WFIL-TV carrying events. Ken Stowman, WFIL's director of TV, was made v.p. of operating corporation, WFIL Manager Roger Clipp, secy.

After mulling 30 kc AM separation idea since March oral argument (Vol. 3, No. 10), FCC decided (in order issued June 10 as Public Notice 9188) it wouldn't allow stations in same city to be spaced only 30 kc apart. It figured problems of internal and external modulation and receiver selectivity were still too great to allow relaxation of standards. Standards as amended: 30 kc separation allowed where 25 mv/m contours don't overlap; 20 kc and 10 kc separation where 25 mv/m of one station doesn't overlap 2 mv/m of another.

Legalities of daytime skywave cases (Vol. 3, No. 22, 23) were argued for two days in U. S. Court of Appeals this week, attorneys literally sweating out pros and cons of Clear's contention they (WCKY, Cincinnati; WJR, Detroit) should have been heard before any daytime grants were made on their channels. Five-judge court seemed particularly interested in "due process" aspects of case; gave hearing status of major case by permitting arguments to run beyond normal 30 minutes per side. Decision, if for Clear's, may mean radical change in FCC's procedures.

FCC gets \$6,040,000 for next fiscal year, cut from \$7,300,000 requested, recommended in Independent Offices appropriation reported by House Appropriations Committee. It looks now like no staff cuts will be necessary. Feeling among FCC officials is that sum, although less than asked for, is moral victory compared with huge bites economy-minded GOP Congress has taken out of others.

First radio cases in which law firm of Arnold, Fortas & Porter is participating, since ex-FCC Chairman Paul Porter (recently OPA Administrator and special envoy to Greece) became partner, involve applications of Gimbels (WIP) for TV in Philadelphia, appearance for Mason-Dixon Group (Steinmans) for ruling on overlap.

Another postponement of 28-hour-per-week minimum program rule is in sight for TV. FCC hasn't been able to get to last TBA request for graduated scale of minimum hours (Vol. 3, No. 12), but feels video broadcasters shouldn't be forced into too heavy schedules just yet.

Harried industry leaders are burning midnight oil whipping up their cases on White Bill (Vol. 3, No. 22, 23), Senator White having refused again to postpone June 17 subcommittee hearings. FCC Chairman Denny leads off witnesses, then Frank Roberson as legislative chairman, FCC Bar Assn. NAB's lineup: Justin Miller, A. D. Willard, Don Petty, Robert Richards, Frank Pellegrin, Harold Fair and broadcasters J. Harold Ryan, Fort Industry Co. (legislative committee chairman); Campbell Arnoux, WTAR; Harry Bannister, WWJ; Fred Weber, WDSU; Don Elias, WWNC; Wylie Harris, WJDX. Then FMA, then networks, alphabetically. Plan is for hearing to start 10 a.m. Tuesday in Senate Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee room in Capitol, run mornings and afternoons through Saturday a.m., resume Monday, conclude by June 25. House subcommittee (Rep. Harris Ellsworth, part owner of KRNR, Roseburg, Ore., now a member) decided Friday to await Senate hearings before proceeding with Wolverton Bill.

Appointment of 11 FCC hearing examiners, including capable Mrs. Fanny Neyman Litvin as first woman examiner, leaves several important broadcast jobs open. AM, renewals, review (formerly hearing) sections will need new chiefs. Other examiners appointed so far: Jack Blume, Jay Bond, Joseph Brenner, James Cunningham, Walter Emery, Robert Hudson, Hugh Hutchison, J. Fred Johnson Jr., Edward Kenehan, Leo Resnick. While shuffling is going on, it might not be a bad idea if FCC turned TV over to its keen young FM attorneys who've sweated out FM's many growing pains.

Mightiest radio voice in the hemisphere is Mexico City's XEW, which just jumped from 100 kw to 250 kw on 900 kc (AM Supplement No. 1-E herewith). It's hard to say what rank it holds in the world, since Russians are believed to have stations approaching 1,000 kw. U. S. remains only nation with statutory limitation on power.

Add large screen TV gadgets: Kellard Co. Inc., 108 Fulton St., New York City, is selling 12-inch magnifying glass, mounted on a specially constructed frame which can be attached to any TV receiver to enlarge video image to 10 or 12 inches as desired. Company sells lens, tested and approved by RCA, for \$100.

MBS board elected Lew Weiss (Don Lee) chairman at Chicago meeting Thursday, succeeding Alfred J. McCosker (WOR), retiring, whose place on board is taken by WOR's engineering v.p., Jack Poppele. Ted Streibert (WOR) elected vice chairman. All other officers reelected.

KFI, Los Angeles, request for change in TV channel assignment (it got No. 9, wanted No. 4, now assigned to NBC) was turned down by FCC this week.

We were wrong in reporting NBC President Niles Trammell's 1946 salary as \$30,460 (Vol. 3, No. 23); it was \$90,460. Typographical error!

CBS, too, has lifted ban on transcriptions, has ruled that repeats for West coast may now be carried on discs.

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and FM Reports

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June 21, 1947

STATUS OF FM RECAPITULATED: We'll have our quarterly FM directory for you next week, giving new channel assignments and consolidating everything in Supplements No. 50 and pink addenda Nos. 50-A to 50-J. We're using a new format, making mechanics of keeping it up to date much simpler. Perusing our data, it's readily apparent FCC's job in cleaning up backlog is just about wound up -- 48 licenses, 603 CPs, 249 conditionals. Only some 50 applications can be granted without hearing. Rest of ungranted applications, about 90, are involved in hearings.

This week, besides routine grants (Supplement No. 50-J herewith), Chicago decision was made final, Philadelphia decision proposed. Former was as shown in Supplement No. 50, except that WAIT was permitted to apply for reserved channel. In Philadelphia, Unity (ILGWU), WHAT, Franklin Bestg. Co. were favored: Patrick Stanton (WJMJ-CP) continued in hearing; WDAS dismissed without prejudice. Grant to Unity is its sixth; only other outfit with 6 is Westinghouse. These hearings remain to be decided: Cleveland-Akron and Dayton-Springfield (both due soon), Baltimore, Mansfield, Los Angeles.

Regarding end of reservation (Vol. 3, No. 24), we detect no wind as yet of a heavy demand for newly available frequencies. However, New York can expect at least one -- from National Cooperative Federation.

MR. WAKEFIELD AND MR. JONES: Lots of political byplay, some of it reminiscent of "good old days" of radio regulation under Hoover and Roosevelt, lay behind President Truman's surprise withdrawal Wednesday of FCC Comr. Ray C. Wakefield's renomination, replacing him with a down-the-line Republican, 40-year-old Congressman Robert Franklin Jones, of Lima, O. Not only radio but political circles buzzed with reports which, when checked and winnowed, amounted to this:

President Truman has been bedevilled lately with complaints about certain FCC decisions, notably one in which NAB's Bob Bartley, nephew of ex-Speaker Sam Rayburn, had application for new station in Houston turned down, largely on grounds of non-local residence; another in which it proposes to reject new Cincinnati station sought by group headed by Leonard Reinsch, White House radio advisor, now head of Gov. Cox radio stations in Ohio and Florida; and another in which it has failed to grant new station in Rochester, N. Y. sought by ex-secy of the Senate Leslie Biffle and associates.

Rayburn's boiling anger, in particular, spilled over to GOP Speaker Joe Martin, thence to GOP policy makers who saw chance to put their own man in key position to be groomed for FCC chairmanship when, as one of them put it to us, "we take over next year." Though personally popular Mr. Wakefield had endorsement of whole California Republican delegation in Congress, plus Senator Downey and Rep. Lea, the Republican leadership has looked at him askance as too New Dealish. Speaker Martin knew Rep. Jones wanted the job, arranged the appointment via Rayburn. Now in his fifth term in Congress, Jones has never been identified with radio legislation, has made quite a party record on appropriations (slashing mercilessly), is

highly regarded on Capitol Hill for ability, aggressiveness, forthrightness. A lawyer, he's minority stockholder in company holding CP for FM in Lima, applicant also for AM in hearing case in which decision has been so long delayed that one lawyer observed Mr. Jones' first effort will probably be to speed up Commission (maybe also get it requisite appropriation and staff!). Onetime stockholder in same firm (not now) is Ed Cooper, special aide to Senate Interstate Commerce Committee under both ex-Senator Wheeler and present Chairman White.

Taken wholly unaware, obviously disappointed, Comr. Wakefield has apparently been made "fall guy" not so much because of his FCC voting record but merely because his term happens to expire at time when feeling against FCC is running high in breasts of certain politicians. What Truman Administration hopes to gain out of a stauncher GOP appointee is big puzzle; there's probably a quid pro quo somewhere -- though certainly Truman owes nothing to Ohio Senators Taft and Bricker. Jones confirmation by GOP-controlled Senate is foregone certainty. Whether this latest by-play means end of merit and career appointments (FCC now has 4 such out of 7), your guess is as good as our. Next term to expire is Comr. Durr's, June 30, 1948.

LATEST ON TV-FM SET OUTPUT: TV set production up, FM down -- that's the statistical story for May, according to RMA. But, then, month's production as whole was down considerably, totaling only 1,316,373 sets, as against April's 1,759,723.

TV total was 8,690, including 5,646 table models, 1,706 consoles (92 with projection-screens), 1,338 console combinations with AM-FM-phono (131 projection screens). This compares with April total of 7,026. Thus, with 18,329 for first 1947 quarter, first 5 months this year have brought forth only 34,045 TV sets, which means altogether about 50,000 sets now in hands of U.S. public.

FM total was 84,507, broken down as follows: table models, 12,423; consoles with AM-FM-phono, 68,471; AM-FM only consoles, 3,001; converters, 612. April total was 112,256, largest so far (Vol. 3, No. 21), so that cumulative postwar FM set output to date is 550,424.

SLIM PROSPECT FOR CHEAPER FMs: Cheaper FM receivers as result of FCC's reallocation (Vol. 3, No. 24; Supplement No. 52), are too much to hope for, say FCC and consulting engineers we've queried. Yet GE's receiver expert, R. B. Dome, was quoted in June 18 New York Herald Tribune as saying costs could be cut by reduction of tuned circuits from 8 to about 4. This would mean fewer components, smaller chassis and cabinets. But skeptics point out that 400 and 600 kc separation hasn't been completely done away with, hence selectivity demands remain high.

Conversion of FM stations to new frequencies seems to be going along at good clip, seldom requiring more than new crystal and transmitter retuning. Those who asked for new channels, even before reallocation was finalized, came out ahead for FCC didn't disappoint anyone. Crystal-swapping is also speeding up changeover. Incidentally, reallocation plan (Supplement No. 52) is still definitely a tentative one; changes in Boston area have already been made (Supplement No. 50-J).

AGAIN, FM vs. TV FOR LOW BAND: There isn't a Chinaman's chance this Congress will concern itself with radio allocations, usually left to FCC, but that didn't deter Zenith's zealous Gene McDonald from circulating among all members of Congress his June 18 letter to Senator Tobey (R-N.H.), with enclosure of letter to FCC Chairman Charles Denny, asking TV be moved above 500 mc and FM be given back its old 50 mc band. Letters urged support of Lemke Bill (H.J. Res. 78), came while Senator White was conducting hearings on radio, none of which Senator Tobey has attended. At hearings FMA's Bill Bailey also asked Congress to legislate 20 to 30 more FM channels "below and contiguous to 88 mc," which is where TV holds forth. Presumably, Maj. Armstrong will ask same thing when he testifies next week. Bailey also asked longer license period for FM (5 years). Licenses for 17-year periods will be asked for TV by consultant Richard Hubbell when he testifies next week, on plea that this will lend stability, attract more capital.

IMBROGLIO ON CAPITOL HILL: There will be no radio legislation this session of Congress, despite Senator White's hasty hearings this week and next. Leaders are pushing for mid-July adjournment of Congress, which hardly gives House committee time to do adequate job on Wolverton edition of White Bill. So action, if any, will come next year -- that is, if agreement on any measure can be reached. As things looked after this week's hearings, industry and the few Senators attending hearings are poles apart on what admittedly is a loosely drawn, unsatisfactory bill.

They clashed head-on on application of First Amendment (guaranteeing freedom of speech, press, etc.) to broadcasting. Organized and individual broadcasters insist it applies, demand same freedom for radio that press enjoys, asked relief from FCC interference with programs and business operations, bitterly assailed Blue Book. Conservative Senator White, Maine Yankee and co-author of present radio law, took a different view -- and evidently his colleagues agreed with him: "If you people are basing your argument on that point," he remarked, "you are indulging in dreams. Congress won't stand for it."

High points of this week's hearings were the utterly contrasting appearances of FCC Chairman Denny and NAB President Miller. The former -- youthful, self-assured, well-versed -- obviously made good impression, though critical of many of same aspects of bill broadcasters oppose. Judge Miller, presenting long and learned legal disquisition, got off to bad start by assuming didactic manner (he was formerly a professor), and thus was forced to spend most of his time arguing and parrying with plainly unconvinced, even unfriendly Senators. It wasn't until network presidents (ABC's Woods, CBS's Stanton, MBS's Kobak) and individual industry spokesmen (WTIC's Morency, WTAR's Arnoux, WWJ's Bannister, et al) took witness stand, plumping for same tenets of freedom, that acrimonious atmosphere cleared.

But Senator White, unconvinced, reiterated: "The Federal government has a right, maybe it's a restrictive right, to peak at your programs to determine whether you are operating in the public interest. You're wasting your time to tell us otherwise." He was manifestly upholding FCC's policy of scrutinizing "over-all" program structures, rejecting arguments paralleling radio with press.

Sometimes wearying of legal semantics, Senators needled Judge Miller unmercifully ruffled him often, aroused him at one juncture to exclaim, "I've had to keep busy defending broadcasters [against "unwarranted criticisms"] -- that's why I'm on the defensive in this testimony." As for his 50-page statement, it's well worth reading and study, can be obtained from NAB; your trade press will doubtless carry fuller summaries of it and the other testimony than this space permits.

Judge Miller's cavalier treatment was talk of the week in radio circles. Network and station executives present took position, as one put it, "It's time someone slugged it out in Congress for us." Washington radio attorneys took varying views on Miller's legal arguments, one saying: "It's a wonderful brief for the Supreme Court, but not here." An FCC executive remarked: "Denny was good, but Miller's the best witness we had." A veteran newspaperman observed he had never seen a committee of Congress so antagonistic to an industry leader. All of which argues for a more diplomatic approach before Wolverton committee in House; it's likely to have just as many diverse (and hard to "talk down to") political personalities as those who sat at Senate hearings: Republican Senators White, Maine; Moore, Oklahoma; Capehart, Indiana -- Democratic Senators McFarland, Arizona; Johnson, Colorado; Magnuson, Washington.

WHO'S ADVERTISING VIA TV? Not counting the nice lineup of accounts with which Detroit News' WWJ-TV started (Vol. 3, No. 21), those TV stations active commercially had 44 advertisers -- 39 regulars, 5 one-shots during May, according to Television Magazine. Lineup of accounts: WNBT, New York (NBC) -- Benrus, Botany, Borden, Bristol-Myers, Bulova, Elgin, Gaines Dog Food, Gillette, Gulf, Kelvinator, Kraft, LaFrance and Satina, RCA Victor, Standard Oil (Esso), Swift, U.S. Rubber. WCBS-TV, New York (CBS) -- Brunswick-Balke-Collender, Elgin, Ford, Gulf, Post Cereals. WABD, New York (Du Mont) -- Alexander Smith, American Stores, Bache & Co., A. Good-

man & Sons, Keystone, King of the Sea, Longines Wittnauer, Moquin Wines, Mueller's Macaroni, Pepsi-Cola, Perry Blouse Co., U.S. Rubber, Wanamakers, Westinghouse. WPTZ, Philadelphia (Philco) -- Atlantic Refining, Gimbel's, Philco Distributors, Sears Roebuck. WBKB, Chicago (Balaban & Katz-Paramount) -- Botany, Commonwealth Edison, Elgin, The Fair Store, Ford. KSD-TV, St. Louis (Post-Dispatch) -- Botany, Griesedieck Brewery, Hyde Park Brewery, Purity Bakers. KTLA, Los Angeles (Paramount) -- Botany, Elgin, and (June 23) first sponsorship by TV-alert U. S. Rubber Co. on Pacific Coast, Walcott-Maxim fights at Gilmore Stadium, with Joe Louis in exhibition bout with Mexican heavyweight champ Francisco de la Cruz.

SIGHT AND SOUND

In that AT&T coaxial-radio relay map we sent you last week, did you notice it had link indicated (1950-51) for Bloomington, Ill., whereas it should have been for Bloomington, Ind., where Sarkes Tarzian holds CP? It's so rare for Bell engineers to make such an error that we didn't notice it, nor did FCC and other engineers at hearing where map was introduced (Vol. 3, No. 24), until called to our attention by Merrill Lindsay, the broadcaster-publisher of Decatur, Ill.

Sooner or later, FCC must decide whether, or when, to lump AM and FM together in deciding what "equitable distribution of facilities" means. Attorney Eliot Lovett contends they should be added—and now. At recent oral argument, he protested that AM grant in Allentown, Pa., rather than to Easton Publishing Co. in Easton, would give disproportionate facilities. This would be true, he said, even if you crossed off FMs who were duplicating AM.

Problem of linking studios and isolated FM transmitters may be eased, suggests consulting engineer John Barron, by utilization of available power lines ("wired radio") to carry a high-fidelity radio frequency signal to sites. System's advantages over radio STL, says Barron, are relief from capital investment and operating worries. He sees nothing difficult in the idea, since basic principles have long been used for related communications; he's proposed it for grantees in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area whose sites are all in Wolf Hill section.

Studio Image Orthicon for TV was announced this week by RCA. Camera utilizes Image Orthicon's low light level sensitivity, adds Orthicon's resolution and contrast characteristics to make it answer to TV operators' prayer. RCA says camera will operate at 100-200 ft candles, reduce lighting (and concurrent air conditioning system) requirements about 90%. Camera, supported on dolly, is larger than portable IO now in use for remotes, has 4 lenses on rotary turret, houses all circuits necessary to operate.

Zenith promises succor to educational FM broadcasters who complain no one is making FM sets for classroom use. Company says that by fall it will be producing table FM-AM sets in \$60 class, tailor-made for schools, to be sold directly to educators. Meanwhile, National Assn. of Educational Broadcasters continues to urge its own ranks into FM; June 2 issue of lively *NAEB Newsletter* carries article "Setting Up the FM Station," by U of Kentucky's Elmer Sulzer, who says schools can build 250-watt for \$10,000 by cutting corners.

Continued shakeup of FCC attorneys finds Edward Kenehan and Walter Emery dropping newly acquired examiner jobs and becoming chiefs of AM and Renewals, respectively. Bernard Kotcen moves up to chief of Review; Bernard Strassburg to chief of Domestic Wire (Common Carrier); Robert Alford heads Motions; Benito Gaguine, chief of Emergency, Experimental and Miscellaneous (Safety & Special Services).

Philco's board Chairman Larry Gubb enthusiastically declaims that TV will eventually top the radio business—one of biggest, smartest merchandisers in radio thus seconding the consistent predictions of big rival RCA's David Sarnoff. He told Philco distributors so at Atlantic City this week, also confirming that company's TV set distribution will be confined to Philadelphia area rest of year (Vol. 3, No. 23) while necessary know-how is gained in installation and merchandising. But Philco sets will be shown to New York dealers Monday, June 23. Mr. Gubb also pointed out only hope for cheaper radios is advanced research and engineering, since there's little or no prospect of lower wage and material costs.

FM adapter to sell for "under \$30" is due soon from unnamed major set maker (believed to be Pilot), according to Friday's *New York Times*. Gadget can be connected to standard receivers to bring in "all" existing FM stations. Out in St. Louis, Effem Radio Products Co., 3028 Locust St., is reported selling an FM converter (6x7x8 inches) for \$29.95. Best radius claimed is 10 miles.

Telicon's Intra-Video master TV antenna system was unveiled in New York Thursday, found by reporters to feed receivers "with standard fidelity" from several telecasts. It's hoped system may be answer to apartment house owners' objections to TV antennas. Costs range from \$40 to \$100 per outlet. Meanwhile, RCA has own system under test, expects to demonstrate it in near future. It covers 530 kc to 18 mc for AM reception; 88 mc to 216 mc for FM and TV. U. S. Television is reported running lab tests of its master antenna system, which includes separate antennas for AM, FM, and TV.

Transmitter sales first quarter of 1947 amounted to: FM, \$1,832,822 ordered, \$948,812 delivered; AM, \$1,191,360 ordered, \$1,135,868 delivered; AM-FM studio equipment, \$1,015,210 ordered, \$756,322 delivered; AM-FM antenna equipment, \$1,000,670 ordered, \$176,947 delivered. Figures for 1946 were listed in Vol. 3, No. 11.

Less than 100 AM applications remain unprocessed as of this week, according to chipper FCC staffmen. Engineers and attorneys are now working on applications filed May 2 and thereafter; all applications filed previously (with some exceptions) have either been granted or set for hearing. There is a large backlog of daytime AM applications for Class 1-A and 1-B channels which have been placed in files, pending outcome of daytime skywave hearings (Vol. 3, No. 22, 23, 24).

FMA's Bill Bailey, appearing as witness Wednesday before Senator White's committee, which he has covered for years as a reporter, disclosed FMA has 166 members—136 of them broadcasters (of whom 77 also operate AM stations), 16 receiver manufacturers, 4 consulting engineers, 4 attorneys, 2 trade journals, 2 transcription firms, 1 news wire service, 1 radio distributor. FMA board meets June 26 to plan convention, meets RMA on promotion next day.

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June 28, 1947

NEW FM DIRECTORY COMING: Our new FM Directory, running 24 pages, is now in galley proofs, will be up-to-date as of July 1, will be mailed to you next week. It's in somewhat different format, grouping all licensees, CPs, conditionals, applicants, together under their respective cities -- symbols designating status of each.

Included in FM Directory are just-announced channel assignments for Class A conditional grants. Practice of issuing frequencies with conditionals, started by FCC this week, stems from nature of new allocation plan (Supp. 52), which intersperses Class A and B frequencies. FCC says procedure is designed to give prospective applicants an idea whether there's room for them, emphasizes that after June 30 all applicants must specify channels desired.

DON'T WRITE, TELEWISE! Offshoot of TV, "Ultrafax" amounts to speed-of-light facsimile, promises to revolutionize communications industry, will be demonstrated at RCA Princeton labs in August. It was first disclosed by NBC's Niles Trammell at this week's Senate hearing on White Bill -- to underscore affinity between radio and press, emphasize need of same freedom for former that Constitution guarantees latter. Its potentialities stagger the imagination. Indeed, Western Union has already ordered equipment to utilize with intercity microwave links it has projected (Vol. 3, No. 24).

Trammell told Senators it's now practical -- a sort of "radio-mail system which will surpass radio telegraphy, wire telegraphy, cables and air mail in speed of operation. "Here," he added, "television is used for communications instead of entertainment." As many as a million words per minute, or twenty 50,000-word novels, can be transmitted from New York to San Francisco in 60 seconds. Each page of printed matter (letter, check, photograph, newspaper, magazine) is treated like frame of a video picture. TV camera scans message, it's transmitted, then photographed at terminal directly off face of receiver tube, then put through high-speed development process that permits instant facsimile. Same microwaves can handle telegraphy, telephony, AM, FM, TV. "Ultrafax" is primarily a communications tool, but RCA says principle is adaptable for home use, might prove ultimate in home fax.

YOUNG MAN GOING SOMEWHERE: FCC Chairman Charles Denny is maintaining discreet silence, but it's our guess his disillusioning experience with Comr. Wakefield's failure of reappointment (Vol. 3, No. 25) will impel him to resign well before end of his term, July 1, 1951, possibly even before next year's elections. He was obviously as surprised and chagrined as Wakefield over the peculiar turn of events that is catapulting Ohio Republican Congressman Robert Franklin Jones into the job. And the bland assertion by a GOP topkick, that now the Republicans can groom their own man for chairman when "we take over next year," certainly doesn't conduce to Mr. Denny's happiness and peace of mind.

So we predict it's going to take some doing on President Truman's part, if he's minded to do the doing, to keep Denny on the job through November, 1948 -- what with numerous private opportunities awaiting the young FCC chairman, plus a

natural inclination to get out while he's at top. Denny of course, has been somewhat spoiled by kudos heaped upon his regime -- or at least, perhaps, deluded by fact that his own and 3 other appointments had been distinctly on merit or career basis. Still the mystery is what political payoff the Truman Administration gets in selecting a down-the-line Republican (very capable, of Taft school) as against a liberal Republican like Wakefield. Columnists Drew Pearson, Peter Edson, Marquis Childs all speculated on the curious turn of events -- but none had answer.

* * * * *

Drew Pearson got courteous hearing but didn't get very far in Senate subcommittee hearing Friday, at which he appeared in lone opposition to Rep. Jones -- charging him with membership in Black Legion, his father with being organizer for Ku Klux Klan, his political background as being identified with Gerald L. K. Smith, Father Coughlin, other rabble rousers. All of which Jones promptly labeled as "unmitigated lies," obviously impressing committee (Brewster, Me.; Capehart, Ind.; Johnson, Colo.). Parade of House and Senate members attested to Jones' popularity and ability, seemed to assure his early confirmation unless Pearson can produce documentary evidence. Senate usually doesn't turn down member of Congress.

STIRRING THE TV CAULDRON: No sooner did RCA-NBC engineers get NBC's Washington WNBW formally under way Friday (along with WRC-FM), than facilities chief Ray Guy dispatched 2 of his crack installers to Los Angeles and Chicago to begin work on TV stations there at once -- hopeful of getting them on air by early next year. NBC can't hurry, for it must take its turn along with others in getting RCA equipment deliveries. But it isn't stalling, either. John Seibert leaves Monday to engineer NBC's Los Angeles job, Fred Everett Chicago. This week, incidentally, Chicago's WIND applied for TV there, as forecast (Vol. 3, No. 24), asked for Channel No. 2, estimated installation cost at \$211,500.

Friday inaugural ceremonies at Wardman Park Hotel were noteworthy for bigwigs attending, even more so to outsiders for first glimpse of RCA's 648-PTK set, large screen (15x20 inches) projection model due to be formally unveiled in August. It includes AM and FM, will probably sell around \$1,200. Big picture still lacks brightness and clarity of 10-inch tube, but RCA is said to have some light-control tricks up its sleeve it isn't showing yet.

WNBW now goes on regular schedule, giving capital 2 TV outlets, also giving TV set sales shot in arm. It's the eleventh commercial station in U.S. (Supp. 18-C). DuMont's WTTG went off air Friday after 5-minute message by Manager Arries welcoming rival, suggesting viewers tune to its No. 4 channel. Keen competition is now seen as WTTG has signed Senator's home games, sponsored by Lacy's radio stores. WNBW will carry coaxial shows from New York Fridays, Sundays, Mondays, but will specialize on local events, carry films as soon as equipment is ready.

WHISTLING THROUGH THEIR TEETH: Senator White's "quickie" bill hasn't a ghost of a chance this session of Congress -- indeed, it's doubtful now whether House subcommittee will even get around to its companion piece, the Wolverton Bill, before July 26 adjournment. Next session, White is confident he can put through legislation. Others aren't so sure, since fundamental issue (freedom of speech) is unresolved. Senator White insists upon, NAB rejects, FCC's right to some sort of program review.

Senators are obviously unconvinced by industry argument for what Senator White calls "same liberty as press and corner grocer." He says, "Radio exists by grace of Congress," which radio spokesmen deny. Intense industry opposition, not too politic on surface, led the Maine GOP majority leader to exclaim at one juncture, indicating intensity of his exasperation: "Until I introduced this bill, I was considered a conservative, a reactionary. But now I'm a wild-eyed radical."

Industry master minds are convinced they made good case, though admittedly not a very good impression (Vol. 3, No. 25), in laying "freedom of radio" issue squarely before Senate. Some make no bones about counting now on GOP leaders like Taft, Dewey, Brown, Carroll Freece, et al, to make pre-election commitments to support legislation they want.

We could be wrong, but our honest opinion is there isn't much chance of NAB President Miller's theories (and the networks') prevailing in Congress -- not for long time, at least. They're whistling through their teeth in giving out that their Washington appearances were all to the good, evidenced by curious unanimity of favorable trade press comment. Hardly anyone we've talked with among Washington radio law fraternity seems to go along with NAB tactics of demanding a full loaf now. On the other hand, radio lawyers themselves have contributed little if anything toward proposed legislation; for most part, they have little to do with NAB.

White's hearings wound up Friday after another week's parade of witnesses, including NBC's Niles Trammell, taking same stand as other network chiefs; FM's Maj. Armstrong, asserting FM is answer to scarcity theory of frequencies, except that FCC has not assigned enough channels; Asheville newspaper-radio man Don Elias, calling radio the "electronic printing press," hence entitled to let public not FCC regulate its output; Montana broadcaster Ed Craney, confidante of ex-Senator Wheeler, taking issue with both NAB and FCC positions, denying Judge Miller spoke for whole industry, offering (in not too rhetorical fashion) suggestions of his own; various temperance interests (WCTU, etc.); and others with axes to grind.

LOOKS LIKE FM'S BIG BREAK: Live-wire little FMA sees FM's great opportunity, its emancipation from Petrillo's shackles, in Supreme Court's decision upholding Lea Act (full text in Supp. 35-B herewith). Even a layman's reading of decision, along with anti-featherbedding provisions of Taft-Hartley Act, would seem to spell end of Jimmy Petrillo's made-work edicts -- particularly as they affect FM, and TV, too.

FMA counsel took view AM-FM duplication of musical programs is now permissible. Board arranged with network presidents for July 21 meeting with committee (Gordon Gray, Bill Bailey, Leonard Marks). Networks are proceeding cautiously, won't commit selves as yet though spokesmen point out that existing contracts with union aren't negatived by court's decision. NAB had nothing to say about Lea Act decision, but issued a 13-point "factual analysis" of Taft-Hartley Bill's effect on broadcasters, fixed July 21 date for meeting of its Employe-Employer Relations Committee, cautioned broadcasters "to operate under the terms of their existing contracts and new contracts should be entered into very cautiously."

An apparently not so cocky Jimmy Petrillo took decision in good grace, said he'd "bow to its dictates," now faces trial in WAAF test case. He's also scheduled to testify July 7 at House Labor subcommittee probe of AFM practices. Chairman is GOP Rep. Kearns (Pa.), himself an AFM card holder, who's been threatened with expulsion if he leads kid orchestra July 4 at Interlochen, Mich., which he says he'll do if he can get away. When Petrillo banned Interlochen amateur camp orchestra on network several years ago, unless union standbys were employed, then kicked its Dr. Joseph Maddy out of AFM, that started music czar's battles with Congress and courts.

PHILCO'S TV MEASURES UP: Philco has made good its promise of something new, important and excellent in TV sets. Its table model No. 1000 (with 10-inch tube for direct-viewing) and its Micro-Lens console projection set No. 2500 (framing 15x20-inch images reflected from 4-inch tube) should go over big -- they're that good. From where we sit, it looks as though the TV manufacturing field, from now on, is not merely a matter of who's going into it but who's offering newest improvements.

No. 1000 is priced at \$395 plus \$45 installation and warranty; No. 2500 costs \$795 plus \$85. Another set, No. 700 (with 7-inch direct-viewing tube), is due out in about month, probably will be priced to compete with RCA's similar model costing \$250. All are TV-only. Philadelphia, Trenton and New York area get first output. Other cities with TV stations have been promised none as yet. Production line calls for 250,000 sets in 1948.

Sets tune in only 8 of country's 13 channels (7 being maximum allocated any city), can be adjusted locally. Images are noteworthy mainly for brightness and clarity, stemming from light controls and lens and mirror system hitherto secret (Vol. 3, No. 5, 7, 21). It's all detailed in colorful 22-page brochure, same

size as big images, which you can get on request from Philco Corp., Philadelphia. To us, ceremonious shindig at New York's Waldorf-Astoria last Monday, at which company unveiled TV sets along with rest of its line (38 models), was also significant for one particular remark by v.p. James Carmine. He predicted TV will become a "billion dollar business," eventually will "surpass the automobile business."

With RCA's, GE's and Stewart-Warner's console and Crosley's table sets out (all with 10-inch tube), with DuMont promising a table model shortly, with Sears Roebuck going into low-price field (Vol. 3, No. 23, 24), it looks like real competition in TV, especially for now dominant, pioneering RCA. RCA's Model 648PTK, also with 15x20-inch projection screen, is promised "within 60 days." It will include AM and FM, which Philco set does not.

STILL MORE FM TUNERS: Pilot is out this week with its 5-tube, \$29.95 "Pilotuner." And Edwards FM Radio Corp., 168 Washington St., New York City, announced an 8-tube job, price unstated. Significantly, both are slanting their promotion at dealers with bulging AM inventories, idea being that tuners will move them. Radio Tuning Devices, Stamford, Conn., says its FM tuner will be ready in 30 days. Bendix also brought forth something new -- its "FactoMeter." Instrument, not intended for home use, amounts to an AM-FM set with signal strength meter. Costing \$124.95, unit is designed to serve broadcasters, dealers, servicemen, in demonstrating FM and in finding best place for receiver in room.

SIGHT AND SOUND

TV-enthusiastic Ford Motor Co., now sponsoring Brooklyn Dodgers and Madison Square Garden sports on WCBS-TV, also half of Chicago Cubs games on WBKB, July 2 starts weekly sports telecast from Los Angeles Olympic Stadium over Paramount's KTLA, its first entry into West Coast TV. George Shupert for KTLA handled account with J. Walter Thompson Co.

FMA has fixed Sept. 11-12 convention date, in either New York or Washington, or just ahead of NAB Atlantic City convention, Sept. 15-18. Closer coordination of NAB with FMA is seen in appointment this week of Leonard Asch, WBCA, Schenectady FM independent, as chairman of NAB's FM executive committee; he succeeds Walter Damm, WTMJ-FM, who stays on committee. This week, also, NAB's FM Dept. chief Bob Bartley resigned, successor to be named next week.

Simplified FCC broadcast application forms won't have any radical changes in them, may make it easier for everyone by requiring same basic information for AM, FM, TV. Only difference will be in engineering data called for and inclusion of "Blue Book" program analysis forms in AM applications. Commission proposes to put them into effect after considering any objections. Deadline is July 21. If there are objections, oral argument will be scheduled. Copies of new forms are available at Commission.

Rumors purporting to link AFRA with plans to crack down on FM, a la Petrillo, are denied by George Heller, executive secy. He writes us: "We have officially taken the position by contract and practice that it would be wise to await a more full development in the industry before we establish any definite policy covering this field."

Suit against ASCAP by Justice Dept. doesn't touch radio directly, but breaking up of cross-licensing agreement with foreign composers' associations will permit direct negotiations instead of conducting them through ASCAP, as at present. Resignation of ASCAP from international association augurs for consent decree.

Philco's new line includes 3 AM-FM table models—Model 472, \$79.95 (\$84.50 in ivory); the 475, \$129.95; the 432, \$149.95. Ten other table models have no FM. Nine console models, or all in high brackets, include FM.

RMA liaison committee members told FMA committee Friday manufacturers will be in FM with both feet by autumn—though many plants will shut down entirely for several weeks for summer vacations. So be prepared for seasonal-only drop in set production. And, FMers were told, more and more small FM sets will be forthcoming if ways can be found to knock production costs down. "Manufacturers will make anything that will sell," Crosley's Cosgrove told FMA officials, "and if you can show me how to make a cheap FM set, I'll put one out tomorrow." RMA officials also called for FM program improvement, said there was still great need for public education on FM.

NAB's Freedom of Expression conference didn't accomplish anything concrete at initial meeting Thursday, but NAB officials feel unanimity on idea of permanent committee may bear fruit in near future. Idea is to set up permanent council that will fight any and all attempts to squelch free speech rights of any media of communications—radio, books, newspapers, magazines, motion pictures. Skittishness of ANPA President David W. Howe (who recalled broadcasters' neutrality when radio-newspaper ownership controversy was at height) kept meeting from doing anything specific. It was agreed that conferees would report back to their boards of directors.

FCC is making headway in FM hearings—finalizing Boston Friday (as proposed, Vol. 3, No. 20) and hearing New York oral argument Friday. It could save itself one complication by finalizing latter case Monday, since 5 reserved channels will be available after then and denycs might raise an Ashbacker kick.

What makes TV tick is splendidly told pictorially in double-spread with 17 photos in May 25 rotogravure section of *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, reporting on current activities of its KSD-TV. June 22 spread on "Tall Tower Job" tells how city's tallest structure (454 ft. KSD-TV tower) is being erected.

Subscribers may still obtain extra copies of our AM Directory No. 1, including all weekly addenda to date, at \$10 per set. Extra copies of our July 1 FM Directory (Supp. No. 53) will be available at \$2.50 each.