

Election Results

RESULTS OF the New York AFRA local board election held Nov. 26, announced last week, were: William P. Adams, Edward Begley, Alan Bunce, Clayton Collyer, Staats Cotsworth, Eric Dressler, Minerva Pious, Luis Van Rooten, Ned Wever, representing actors; Frank Gallop, Ben Grauer, Edward J. Herlihy, Tom Shirley, Dwight Weist, representing announcers; Irene Beasley, Gordon Cross, Travis Johnson, Felix Knight, Alex McKee, Margaret Speaks, Leonard Stokes, for the singers; Gene Rayburn, representing independent station staff announcers; Jack Amrhein, representing sound effects.

WKBW-WGR SEPARATED; BACON GETS NEW POST

TWO OF Buffalo's pioneer stations—WGR and WKBW—were formally divorced last Monday with the transfer of the former station to Leo J. Fitzpatrick-I. R. Lounsberry ownership. The transfer approved by the FCC last month at a figure of \$750,000, resulted from the anti-duopoly rule. WKBW, 50,000 WABC affiliate, remains under ownership of Buffalo Bestg. Corp.



Mr. Bacon

Coincident with the separation, H. W. Deyo, BBC president, announced the appointment of John A. Bacon, sales manager of both stations for the past decade, as vice president and general manager of WKBW. Mr. Bacon has not yet completed staff reorganization but will announce executive appointments shortly. A national representative also will be named probably this week.

Mr. Fitzpatrick, former vice president and general manager of WJR Detroit, is the majority stockholder of the CBS affiliate WGR. Mr. Lounsberry, co-founder and executive vice president of the BBC stations until the duopoly separation, is executive vice president and directing head of the new WGR Broadcasting Co., and is Mr. Fitzpatrick's partner. Free & Peters Inc., national station representative which had represented both stations for 15 years, will continue for WGR alone, under a new contract executed last Tuesday with H. Preston Peters, president.

Addresses Radio Council

MRS. DORIS CORWITH, of NBC's public service department, Dec. 2 discussed responsibility of radio listener and broadcaster, each to the other, at third annual meeting of Saginaw, Mich., Radio Council.

AFRA Negotiations Are Suspended

Sustaining Wage Scale Reported Reason For Halt

AFRA-NETWORK labor negotiations, after more than nine weeks, halted Thursday night in what was authoritatively described as a "temporary suspension."

AFRA officials walked out of negotiations at 6:13 p.m. Thursday. Neither they nor the network executives would officially disclose the reason for the break-down, but a responsible source reported that the walk-out may have been precipitated by a dispute over wage scales in the sustaining program code which had been under discussion.

AFRA was mum about its plans, but it was thought that the union leaders may intend to present a report on the state of negotiations to the AFRA executive board and seek instructions on future methods of procedure. There were no indications, however, as to when or if the executive board would meet to consider the problem.

Some Agreement

Before negotiations were suspended, the union and the industry were said to have reached agreements on several points which had been at issue. It was not known whether the new turn of events would influence any of those agreements.

One point which had been at least tentatively settled, it was said, concerned wage rises in the commercial program code. BROADCASTING learned Tuesday that the networks had proposed an overall 20% increase on the AFRA national commercial code which applies to salaries of actors, singers and announcers.

BROADCASTING also learned that the problem of contract duration had been solved by the negotiators. Terms of the contract will extend over a period of two years with the expiration date set for Oct. 31, 1948. However, a clause was inserted giving AFRA the right to cancel the contract (on 10 days' advance notice) after Nov. 1, 1947, with the privilege of reinstatement or retermination. It was understood, however, that AFRA had extended a "gentlemen's agreement" not to terminate the contract on any date after Nov. 1, 1947, without first securing a majority "strike vote" from its membership in each of its locals in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and San Francisco.

Composition and function of the "fact finding" industry labor committee also was clarified in last week's earlier discussions [BROADCASTING, Dec. 2]. The committee will include four representatives of the four networks, four AFRA members from its national headquarters, four representatives from the independent stations to be appointed by President Justin Miller

of the NAB, and four representatives of AFRA locals throughout the country to be appointed by the national board of AFRA.

Disc Identity

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Section 3.407 as set forth in the order of May 29, 1946, and having considered the briefs and oral argument in the above-entitled cause.

IT IS ORDERED, That Section 3.407 and 3.285 BE AMENDED to read as follows:

Mechanical records—Each program broadcast which consists in whole or in part of one or more mechanical reproductions shall be announced in the manner and to the extent set out below.

(a) Each such program of longer duration than 30 minutes, consisting in whole or in part of one or more mechanical reproductions, shall be identified by appropriate announcement at the beginning of the program, at each 30-minute interval and at the conclusion of the program; Provided, however, that the identifying announcement at each 30-minute interval is not required in case of a mechanical reproduction consisting of a continuous uninterrupted speech, play, religious service, symphony concert, or operatic production of longer than 30 minutes.

(b) Each such program of a longer duration than 5 minutes and in excess of 30 minutes, consisting in whole or in part of one or more mechanical reproductions, shall be identified by an appropriate announcement at the beginning and end of the program.

(c) Each such program of 5 minutes or less, consisting in whole or in part of mechanical reproductions, shall be identified by appropriate announcement immediately preceding the use thereof; Provided, however, that each such program of one minute or less need not be announced as such.

(d) In case a mechanical reproduction is used for background music, sound effects, station identification, program identification (theme music of short duration) or identification of the sponsorship of the program proper, no announcement of the mechanical reproduction is required.

(e) The exact form of identifying announcement is not prescribed, but the language shall be clear and in terms commonly used and understood. A licensee shall not attempt affirmatively to create the impression that any program being broadcast by mechanical reproduction consists of live talent.

Program Quiz Is Omitted From Hearing on Don Lee

PROGRAM service quiz portion has been deleted from the forthcoming inquiry into network practices of Don Lee Broadcasting System, according to order adopted last week by FCC amending certain of the hearing issues. The Commission will concentrate on determining whether or not the rule (Sec. 3.104) limiting time optioned from affiliates for network programs has been violated.

Originally termed an unprecedented action on the part of the FCC [BROADCASTING, Feb. 25], such inquiry centers on renewal hearing of KGB San Diego, KDB Santa Barbara, KFRC San Francisco and KHJ and KHJ-FM Los Angeles, all licensed to Don Lee. Hearing is set for Jan. 14. Also deleted in the amended order is issue of whether or not applicant is legally, technically, financially and otherwise qualified to operate stations.

The committee will serve as a "fact finding" group on AFRA-network differences which would include "unfair stations" disputes. It will not have the power to act as an arbitrator in any of the disputes but will make recommendations to the industry and AFRA, after investigation.

Out-of-town network principals present at the week-long negotiations were: from the West Coast, Lewis Allen Weiss, Don Lee Broadcasting System; Sidney Strotz, NBC; Don Thornburgh, CBS; Frank Samuels, and Don Tatum, ABC; from Chicago: Glenn X. Snyder, WLS; James Stirtion, ABC; Frank Falkner, CBS, and Jules Herbeuveaux, NBC.

Indications that the present breach may not be irreparable was seen in the "on-schedule" departure of many of these executives for their home bases.

GB Radio Freedom Is Cited by Winant

Great Britain's BBC Experience Used to Illustrate Talk

JOHN G. WINANT, former U. S. Ambassador to Great Britain, last week said that freedom of radio information exists in Britain despite "conditions approaching governmental monopoly."

Speaking at a dinner of Survey Assoc. held at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York, Mr. Winant, now U. S. Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council, specifically referred to Great Britain's experience with the BBC. He said that freedom of information under government monopoly was possible "provided that people believe in such freedom and limit the power of monopoly by the political controls of democracy."

Mr. Winant explained that "we should not accept such conditions but progress toward a freer flow of information can be made in spite of them. The struggle to extend the rights of people to know can be won in the long run only by combining constructive action in this broader sense with attacks upon specific barriers like censorship and monopoly. The whole cause could be lost if we dissipate our strength in ideological arguments."

WINS Denied SSA

CROSLLEY outlet in New York, WINS, last week was denied by FCC its application for a two month special service authorization for unlimited time operation on 1010 kc with 10 kw nighttime, and 50 kw to local sunset, employing directional fulltime. WINS is assigned 10 kw fulltime on 1010 kc, holds construction permit for 50 kw and last month received modification thereof for extension of completion date to Jan. 24. CP was originally granted in 1942.