

SLANDER SUIT

Reaches Across Border

WHEN an alleged slander about an Ontario resident has been broadcast from a radio station in the U. S., the trial for damages should be heard in Ontario where the plaintiff lives, Chief Justice McRuer of Ontario ruled at Toronto on Feb. 19. The action sets a precedent.

Clifford Jenner, a Toronto broker-dealer, is seeking damages from Sun Oil Co. Ltd., a Canadian firm, Sun Oil Co. Ltd. of New Jersey, and also from Ray Henle and Ned Brooks, American radio announcers and WBN Buffalo.

Mr. Jenner claims that defamatory statements were made about him in broadcasts on an NBC network broadcast last March 12, 13 and 14, and these were heard by Ontario residents. An application for a writ of summons for serving out of Ontario on the U. S. defendants was issued last July. Chief Justice McRuer on Feb. 19 dismissed an application to have this order set aside.

The writs have already been served, but since this is not a criminal action there can be no extradition. In civil cases where Americans are defendants, judgments can be collected only if there are assets in Canada. It is understood that there will be an appeal from the decision.

Chief Justice McRuer stated that "the matter to be decided is of great importance not only to those concerned in radio broadcasting but to everyone within Ontario who wishes to protect his good name from attacks made from abroad by means of radio broadcasting . . . I have come to the conclusion that there are fundamental and common sense principles which govern the present case. Radio broadcasts are made for the purpose of being heard. The program here in question was put on the air for advertising purposes."

He stated he considered it a startling proposition to say that a person could "utter defamatory matter which is heard in a Canadian province and not be said to have published a slander in the province in which it is heard and understood."

BMI Honors WNYC

WNYC, municipal station of New York City, has been cited by Broadcast Music Inc. "for service in music to the community" in presenting its annual American Music Festival and for "outstanding achievement in fostering and presenting the music of American composers."

REACHES 93,217 RADIO FAMILIES **WEEK POUGHKEEPSIE**
 REPRESENTED BY **EVERETT McKINNEY, INC.**



EXCHANGING congratulations are (l to r): Robert J. McAndrews, who has been named commercial manager, KBIG Avalon, Calif., and J. Norman Nelson, newly appointed managing director, Southern California Broadcasters Assn. Mr. Nelson succeeded Mr. McAndrews in the SCBA post.

FCDA CHANGES

Two Are Promoted

TWO appointments and one promotion within the Audio-Visual Division of the Federal Civil Defense Administration were revealed last week by Jesse Butcher, division chief.

Steve McCormick, former presidential announcer for MBS, was appointed deputy assistant to Mr. Butcher. Mr. McCormick had been serving as chief of FCDA's radio section. He was succeeded by Chester Spurgeon, formerly with National Production Authority and the Dept. of Defense.

Second appointment was that of Rodney B. Radford, formerly film director and assistant to the president of Byron Inc., film production firm. He becomes assistant chief of FCDA's motion picture section under Howard Johnson. Mr. Radford has been active with government agencies.

Mr. Spurgeon joins FCDA from NPA's radio-TV section and before that was a consultant for the radio-TV branch of the Defense Dept.'s Office of Public Information. Previously he was a radio producer for CBS on the West Coast and assistant to Fletcher Wiley, *Housewives Protective League*.

PULSE INC. EXPANSION

Six New City Reports Due

A TOTAL of 65 markets will be served by The Pulse Inc. when that organization releases audience reports shortly for six additional cities: Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Toledo, Providence and San Diego.

Announcing its expansion plans Tuesday, Pulse also claimed more station subscribers than any competitive service in the markets it covers, with a total of 236 radio or television stations purchasing the service during 1951.

KNIGHTS FIRM

Buys Doolittle FM Div.

ACQUISITION of the FM Monitor Division of Doolittle Radio Inc. by the James Knights Co., Sandwich, Ill., has been announced by Leon Faber, president of the Knights firm, which manufactures electronic equipment.

James Knights Co. has begun production of the Doolittle "JK" monitor, with manufacturing addition now known as the Electronics Product Division. E. H. Aberdeen, vice president of Knights, was named sales director. Sales policies of Doolittle will be pursued in monitor sales and distribution, he announced.

Manufacturing equipment and sales department, located at Doolittle's Chicago plant, is being moved to the Knights plant at Sandwich, 50 miles west of Chicago.

Anthony F. Walberg

FUNERAL services were conducted Thursday in Cincinnati for Anthony F. (Tony) Walberg, 33, pianist, accordionist and arranger at WLS Chicago who was killed the previous Sunday in a head-on automobile collision near Berwyn, Ill. A member of the Captain Stubby and the Buccaneers team, Mr. Walberg starred on the *National Barn Dance*. Survivors includes his wife, Ruby; a son, William, 11, and a daughter, Antonette, 8.

Feature of Week

(Continued from page 18)

could be in the midst of some dull, routine business and be considering switching back to the studio programs when a delegate in the back of row would stand up, make a motion, and throw the convention into a turmoil."

WKY-TV was as well equipped as could be expected to cope with technical problems. It used a mobile unit and staff of 11—director, audio and video engineers, three cameramen, two newscasters, a production assistant and relay tower engineer.

Although the convention was an all-day affair, early business was routine until 1 p.m. when WKY-TV picked up the proceedings for a brief moment. More extensive coverage was telecast from 2:30-3:30 p.m., 3:45-4:40 p.m. and concluded 5:30-5:45 p.m.

WKY-TV recommends to other stations considering similar state convention coverage that they make sure delegations are seated alphabetically. This will save "considerable effort" in locating speakers during roll call votes, WKY-TV says.

Considerable interest in the Oklahoma GOP state convention impelled WKY-TV to telecast the proceedings, though the expected fight between Taft and Eisenhower supporters never really materialized, Mr. Rogers commented.

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