

white, but merely varying shades of gray."

Examiner Donahue continues, "We believe that KCRA's showing of close and unbroken identity with the Sacramento community, plus its record of improvement of technical facilities, betokens an insurance of a stable, continuous and progressive service that Sacramento Broadcasters (KXOA) does not match and that this consideration outweighs Sacramento Broadcasters' showing of superior management skill."

Past programming of neither KCRA nor KXOA was considered by the examiner since he found both by and large met the public interest.

Ewing C. Kelly, KCRA president-general manager, told B•T he contemplates a late summer commencement for the ch. 3 station upon final ruling by FCC. While the application specifies NBC affiliation, he asserted negotiations have not been completed. National representative will be Meeker Tv.

At Tulsa, Examiner Annie Neal Huntting recommended grant of ch. 2 to Central Plains Enterprises following dismissal of the competitive application of Oil Capital Television Corp. Certain Oil Capital stockholders receive option to purchase 15% interest in the tv venture. Oil Capital also is reimbursed \$50,000 for its expenses.

Central Plains is composed of KRMG principals Sen. Robert E. Kerr (D-Okla.) and D. A. McGee, plus KVOO's W. G. Skelly. KRMG is being sold to the Altus, Okla., *Times-Democrat* to meet FCC's duopoly rule. Sale has been protested, however, by KFMJ Tulsa on the ground the newspaper's KWHW Altus overlaps with KRMG [B•T, Dec. 21, 1953].

At Daytona Beach, the initial ruling by Examiner Claire W. Hardy favoring ch. 2 for WMFJ was made possible by the dismissal of

the competitive application of WNDB there [B•T, June 7]. W. Wright Esch, WMFJ owner, hopes to get on the air before July 1 of next year and expects to use RCA equipment. Joseph H. McGillvra Inc. is representative for WMFJ.

Examiner H. Gifford Irion recommended grant of Henderson ch. 2 to Southwestern Pub. Co. after competitor KRAM Las Vegas withdrew in favor of prosecution of a bid in which it is associated for ch. 13 at Las Vegas, Desert Tv Co.

Donald W. Reynolds, president of Southwestern Pub. Co., said it is hoped to be on the air at Henderson before the end of the year "interconnected with color facilities. RCA equipment was specified in our application." Studios would be located in both Henderson and Las Vegas, he said.

### No Date Set to Consider Doerfer FCC Nomination

THE SENATE Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee has not yet set a date for a confirmation hearing on the nomination of John C. Doerfer, Wisconsin Republican, for a new term of seven years as an FCC member. The nomination was announced by the White House a week ago Friday [AT DEADLINE, June 7].

While no official word has come from Commerce Committee Chairman John W. Bricker (R-Ohio), it was expected the committee may sandwich in the hearing sometime next week. The committee has slated its regular executive session a week from this Wednesday. The nomination possibly could be heard that day.

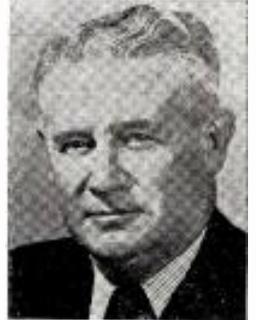
Usual procedure is for the nominee to ap-

pear before the Senators to answer any questions. If there is any opposition to the nomination, and in Comr. Doerfer's case none has been expressed to this date, the opposition's testimony is heard.

The silence on a date for the nomination hearing added to that already surrounding the FCC chairmanship. Presidential appointment of a chairman does not need Senate confirmation.

### Sen. Hunt to Retire From Political Races

SEN. LESTER C. HUNT (D-Wyo.), member of the Senate Communications Subcommittee and a veteran member of the Senate Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee, is on record as saying, "I shall never again be a candidate for an elective office."



SEN. HUNT

The Senator, who has been in bad health, made this statement in a letter to J. J. Hickey, Wyoming Democratic chairman. Sen. Hunt, elected to the U. S. Senate in 1948 and a former governor of the state, is 61 and has been undergoing treatment in Bethesda (Md.) Naval Hospital.

The Wyoming legislator, who had planned to run for re-election this fall, said: "I am compelled to withdraw my announcement as a candidate . . . It has been a very distinct honor to serve my state in various elective capacities for now nearly 22 years."

Sen. Hunt's withdrawal would make this the third change expected on the Senate Commerce Committee by next year. Sen. Dwight Griswold (R-Neb.) died this year and Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-Colo.) has his sights on the Colorado governorship.

### 'Red Channels' Suit Dropped

LIBEL suit for \$150,000 brought by radio and television actor Joe Julian against the publishers of *Red Channels* has been dismissed in New York State Supreme Court. Mr. Julian had alleged that his income had decreased from about \$18,000 a year before the reference to him appeared in *Red Channels* to about \$1,524.07 last year. The defense motion to dismiss was based on a warning in the publication that "some liberals and innocent people" might have been mentioned in the listings.

### Asks Ch. 9 for Elmira

ELMIRA Television, comprised of John S. Booth and Thompson K. Cassel and operator of ch. 24 WTVE (TV) Elmira, N. Y., petitioned FCC last week to allocate ch. 9 there. Earlier, ch. 18 WECT (TV) Elmira suspended operation. Elmira Television told FCC the addition of ch. 9 would not affect any other community or station.

### Carthage Relay Approved

TO EXTEND interstate network tv service to ch. 7 WCNY-TV Carthage, N. Y., new and modified radio relay facilities were granted by FCC last week to American Telephone & Telegraph Co. Long Lines Div. Cost of project is \$240,000. WCNY-TV plans commencement in September with ABC and CBS shows.

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