

Transfer Week

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are major radio properties which have been in operation over 25 years. WCCO was started by the Washburn Crosby Co. as a 500 w outlet in 1925, with studios in the Oak Grove Hotel. Originally the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Assn. and the St. Paul Civic Assn. shared ownership but dropped out in 1926.

WTCN was launched in 1925 as WRHM. It operates on 1280 kc with 5 kw day and 1 kw night. WTCN-TV operates on Channel 4 with effective radiated power of 17.9 kw visual and 9.2 kw aural, programming from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. WCCO operates with 50 kw on 830 kc.

Approval of the KOTV (TV) Tulsa transfer application gives control of 85% of that station to J. D. Wrather Jr. and his mother, Mrs. Mazie Wrather, for \$1,629,000. Mr. Wrather is an independent oil operator and also has produced some motion pictures. He is married to motion picture actress Bonita Granville. He maintains business headquarters in Dallas, but his home is in West Los Angeles, Calif. Retaining her present 15% interest in the TV outlet is Helen M. Alvarez, who also is general manager of the station.

The KTOK Oklahoma City, Okla., transfer gives four Texas radio and newspaper men their first station in another state. Buying the 5 kw station on 1000 kc are Wendell Mayes, president and major stockholder in KBWD Brownwood, Tex., and KNOW Austin, and 25% owner of KFDA Amarillo; C. C. Woodson, 95% owner of Brownwood (Tex) Bulletin and other Texas and Florida newspapers; Charles B. Jordan, vice president and general manager of the Texas State Network and vice president of KABC San Antonio, KFJZ Fort Worth, KIRO McAllen and WACO Waco and 25% owner of KFDA, and Gene L. Cagle, 34% owner and president of Texas State Network and KABC, KFJZ, KRIO and WACO and 25% owner of KFDA.

SAG-FPA PARLEY

May Sign Pact This Week
SCREEN ACTORS GUILD and the Film Producers Assn. of New York Inc. had reached no agreement on a new contract by the end of the week after three negotiation sessions at the Algonquin Hotel. SAG Executive Secretary Florence Martson said another meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow (Tuesday).

Mrs. Martson emphasized that "no serious disagreement" exists between the association and the union and added that a contract similar to the one negotiated with Hollywood producers [B•T, July 14] may be signed by the end of this week. The contract will cover actors in theatrical and television films, Mrs. Martson said, and will apply to some 800 persons regularly employed in the New York area.



FINAL negotiations for full ownership of WAPO Chattanooga by Ramon G. Patterson (c) are completed with Ray V. Hamilton (l), partner, Blackburn-Hamilton, station brokerage firm, and Mr. Patterson's sister, Mrs. Louise P. Pursley. Mr. Patterson, heretofore half-owner, bought the remaining half-interest from Mrs. Pursley, reportedly for \$165,000. Mrs. Pursley owns WKAB Mobile, Ala.

540 KC CASE FCC Receives Comments On Band Proposal

TWO endorsements and one warning were filed with the FCC by the July 28 deadline for comments on the proposal to add 540 kc to the standard broadcasting band [B•T, June 23].

Supporting the Commission's proposition to make 540 kc a Class II frequency, with power range from 250 w to 50 kw, were Midland Broadcasting Co. (KMBC Kansas City) and NARTB [CLOSED CIRCUIT, July 28].

Admonition that the Commission use care in assignments on 540 kc was made by the National Federation of American Shipping.

Midland "strongly endorses" the Commission's proposal, its comments filed last week said. It called attention to its long continued interest in the addition of 540 kc to the standard broadcast band, and stated it was prepared to file an application for the use of that frequency at the appropriate time "to provide a broadcast service to the extensive rural areas of Kansas and adjacent states."

Midland, which also operates KFRM on 550 kc daytime only with 5 kw directional at Concordia has pending an application for special service authority to operate on 540 kc there. KFRM now duplicates KMBC programs.

Two weeks ago, NARTB gave full support to the Commission's proposal.

Warning, sounded by the shipping federation, suggested that care be taken in the assignments of station, and the powers permitted to stations on 540 kc. It recommended that other precautions be taken as well because the frequency is close to 500 kc, international distress frequency.

Commission's proposal followed the assignment of 540 kc to the broadcast band at the 1947 Atlantic City treaty meeting, and the establishment of that frequency as a Canadian clear in the latest NARBA revision. The channel has been used with 50 kw by CBK

FCC Receives Comments On Band Proposal

★ Watrous, Saskatchewan (Canada) since 1938. In 1948, Mexico notified NARBA countries that XEWA planned to use the frequency at San Luis Potosi with 150 kw, but it is not believed the station even began to reach that power.

The Commission's proposal noted that 540 kc is near the 500 kc international distress frequency, but observed that marine services have been on notice since 1947 that 540 kc was to be allocated to the broadcast band—now ranging from 550 kc to 1600 kc.

The Commission also pointed out that recommended standards for auto-alarms used on shipboard were made more rigid under the terms of the Safety of Life at Sea Convention, which becomes operative in November.

Auto-alarms are devices which sound a call when a signal is received on 500 kc.

License Procedure

TO SIMPLIFY paper work for itself and stations, FCC last week announced an administrative change in its temporary processing procedure by amending Sec. 1.384 of its rules. Henceforth, a station's license will continue in effect after its expiration date providing the licensee has pending before the Commission a timely application for renewal. The expired license would continue in effect until FCC took action on the renewal request. This change, in conformity with the Administrative Procedure Act, precludes the necessity of the Commission to issue frequent temporary extensions of license until renewal action is taken.

CBS Rate Showdown

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to retain more revenue locally.

On Aug. 12 the committee will report to the full affiliates convention in closed session, without the presence of CBS executives, who will be asked to stand by for an appearance if the group desires it.

Members of the affiliates committee attending Tuesday's meeting were: Mr. Storer; Victor A. Sholis, WHAS Louisville; John Patt, Goodwill Stations; John E. Fetzer, WKZO Kalamazoo; I. R. Lounsbury, WGR Buffalo (also chairman of the Columbia Affiliates Advisory Committee); Kenyon Brown, KWFT Wichita Falls, Tex.; Saul Haas, KIRO Seattle; Ray Herndon, KRRH Houston; William B. Quarton, WMT Cedar Rapids. Hulbert Taft, WKRC Cincinnati, tenth member, is in Europe.

CBS was represented at the meeting by Frank Stanton, CBS president; Joseph H. Ream, executive vice president (who retired last Friday); Richard S. Salant, vice president and general executive; Adrian Murphy, president, CBS Radio network; Herbert V. Akerberg, CBS stations relations vice president.

NEW 45 RPM

RCA Victor Plans

NEW longer playing 45 rpm record will be issued soon, RCA Victor announced last week at the end of the National Assn. of Music Merchants convention in New York. Selections and prices of the extended playing records will be announced Aug. 15 at RCA Victor distributor and dealer meetings.

The new records will permit the playing of longer selections on each side of the 45 rpm discs and will reduce the number of records in album collections, it was said.

Paul A. Barkmeier, vice president in charge of RCA Victor's record department, said the new records are the same size as the present ones. They also use the same speed and turntable as at present, he said. They will play up to eight minutes per side, he explained. Present 45 rpm records play about 2½ minutes on the average, although some run to 7 minutes.

Columbia Records spokesman, whose company pioneered the long playing 33½ rpm record, said that if the public responds favorably to the new RCA Victor 45 rpm record, Columbia will bring out a similar record.

Diathermy Amendment

AN FCC amendment effective Aug. 4 deletes necessity of a completely shielded room or space for diathermy equipment, radiation of which interferes with radio and TV communication, and requires only sufficient shielding to limit radiation to a maximum of 15 microvolts per meter at distance of 1,000 ft. from equipment.