

to Class II stations, we feel that public interest requires that the Commission reopen the record and get full information before attempting to decide the matter on incomplete information supplied by the Commission staff," it continues.

Mr. Cullum observed the interference to Class III stations "is not likely to be so severe" while Class IV stations are not protected from skywave interference during nighttime hours and the daytime skywave interference to them never exceeds that at night.

Mr. Cullum explains that "during the hours before sunrise and after sunset when the interfering stations are either off the air or operating with their nighttime directional antenna patterns, stations are protected from interference."

He notes FCC's proposal "would allow excessive daytime skywave interference to occur at sunrise and at sunset. This situation is most unsatisfactory in that a station which is enjoying wide-spread coverage during the daytime hours has its extensive area limited in the late afternoon hours to a rather small area. Then, at sundown, the station suddenly receives additional protection and its coverage area is extended once more. A similar condition in reverse exists in the early morning hours."

Mr. Cullum states "a more practical arrangement would be one which would allow the daytime skywave interference to build up from the normally protected daytime contour to the normally protected nighttime contour of the station, at which time, the interfering station would either sign off, reduce power, or change its mode of operation to its nighttime pattern in order to provide reasonable protection to other stations."

"Under this arrangement," the Cullum re-

port explains, "two Class I-B stations, designed to protect one another, would change simultaneously from their daytime mode of operation to their nighttime mode of operation. The change would occur at a time such that the daytime skywave interference would not exceed 0.5 mv/m. The change-over time would be related to sunset at the midpoint which could be obtained from suitable curves or tables."

The same principle could be applied to Class II stations which are normally protected to the 0.5 mv/m contour during the day and 2.5 mv/m at night, Mr. Cullum says. Under FCC's proposal, he points out, the interference level to Class II stations from a 50 kw outlet 500 miles distant could be as high as 14.5 mv/m at 1500 kc to 5.0 mv/m at 500 kc.

To make his simultaneous-change plan work for Class II outlet, he explains, it would be desirable to change the operating facilities of some Class II stations. But these could be afforded priority under the present freeze in Docket 8333, he indicates.

Mr. Cullum in conclusion says his firm "does not believe that any proposal should be adopted by the Commission until determinations have been made as to the areas that would gain or lose service."

NBS Radio Research Funds

THE National Bureau of Standards would get \$2.2 million for "radio propagation and standards" research for fiscal 1955 under a report released last week by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

This permits an increase of \$500,000 (including NBS administration and construction of laboratories and other research) over the House recommendation. Total recommendation for NBS is \$6,615,000.

Shreveport Tv Wins; Other Proposed Grants

Recommended victor would take over facilities of now-operating KSLA (TV). FCC examiners rule on five initial grants during week.

LACK of radio facilities, as well as better proposed tv programming, facilities and staff commitments are the key factors which persuaded FCC Hearing Examiner Fanny N. Litvin to recommend that ch. 12 at Shreveport, La., should go to Shreveport Television Co., comprised of local theatre, oil and real estate businessmen.

In a 73-page initial decision issued last week, Mrs. Litvin holds that non-broadcaster Shreveport Television Co. is to be preferred over competitors KRMD Shreveport and Southland Television Co.

If the initial decision is upheld, Shreveport Television Co. will take over the ownership of KSLA (TV), now operating on ch. 12 in Shreveport. Station is operating under a temporary grant pending the outcome of the Shreveport ch. 12 hearing [B•T, Aug. 31, Sept. 21, 1953].

In other initial decisions last week, FCC hearing examiners recommended grants for the following: ch. 3 at Sacramento, Calif., to KCRA (proposing to deny KXOA); ch. 2 at Tulsa, Okla., to Central Plains Enterprises Inc.; ch. 2 at Daytona Beach, Fla., to WMFJ, and ch. 2 at Henderson, Nev., to Southwestern Pub. Co. (KPSA-AM-TV Ft. Smith, Ark.).

Both Shreveport Tv Co. and KRMD are to be preferred, Mrs. Litvin declared, on the basis of local residence and participation and integration of ownership and management. Shreveport is preferred, however, on the factors of programming, facilities and staff and on diversification of the media of communications.

Owners Listed

Shreveport Television Co. is owned by Don George, who owns six motion picture theatres in the Shreveport area; Ben Beckham Jr. and Henry E. Linam, oilmen, and Carter Henderson, real estate.

KRMD principal owner, T. B. Lanford, also is 33-1/3% owner of KLPC-AM-TV Lake Charles, La.; 47.2% owner of KALB-AM-TV Alexandria, La.; 23% owner of WSLI Jackson, Miss., and 88% owner of KRRV Sherman, Tex.

Southland principals own KCIJ Shreveport and WMRY and WCKG (TV) New Orleans.

Initial decision becomes final in 40 days unless exceptions are taken by the unsuccessful applicants. They have 20 days to file exceptions.

KSLA (TV), now operating on ch. 12 with 11.5 kw from a 270 ft. antenna above average terrain, is licensed to Interim Television Corp. It is owned equally by the three applicants under an agreement which provides that the successful applicant in the hearing buys out the other two. It began commercial operation Jan. 1, and is affiliated with all four networks.

In the Sacramento ch. 3 ruling, Examiner Thomas H. Donahue concludes that "with the slight assistance of its proposed longer broadcast day, KCRA's superior proposal concerning technical matters and personnel allocation counterbalance the superior showing of [KXOA] on assessment of the community's program needs. Thus, the case turns on considerations of stability versus skill, and it is clear that under the facts here those concepts are not black or

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