

# 4,000 CONVENE FOR NARTB SESSIONS

## Radio-tv focuses on its problems at 35th conclave in Chicago

NARTB'S 2,000 members, and another 2,000 staff executives and representatives of service and supply industries were taking their problems to Chicago at the weekend for the 35th annual broadcasters' convention. The site this year is the Conrad Hilton Hotel; the official dates Sun., April 7-Thurs., April 11.

As sometimes happens at these affairs, the dominant topic of conversation is expected to be a non-NARTB matter—the all-industry music meeting scheduled Thursday morning.

The five-day schedule is split into two main conferences, management and engineering. The Sunday lineup included dozens of planned and impromptu meetings and parties, including ABC-TV and MBS affiliates sessions (see condensed agenda, page 34). CBS-TV started off the meetings Friday with a two-day tv affiliates conference (story, page 36) and Daytime Broadcasters Assn., which met Saturday (story page 39).

### Gruenther Speaks Tuesday

Formal Management Conference programming starts Tuesday morning when Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, president of the American National Red Cross, will deliver the principal address, discussing public service functions of broadcasting. Former President Herbert Hoover will be honored with the 1957 Keynote Award for Distinguished Service to broadcasting. The award will be accepted for Mr. Hoover by C. M. Jansky Jr., pioneer radio engineer who took part in early regulatory conferences when Mr. Hoover was Secretary of Commerce.

Engineering Conference programming starts today (Monday) and will run through Thursday, with several joint management-engineering events scheduled, including the annual FCC roundtable in which Commission members will participate. An engineering feature will be the appearance at today's luncheon of Axel G. Jensen, chief of visual and acoustics research, Bell Telephone Labs. The engineering sessions will feature papers on a wide range of technical topics, including use of automatic gear to keep transmitter logs [B•T, April 1].

Today's (Monday) events include three important industry meetings under NARTB sponsorship—fm membership meeting 1:30-3:30 p.m.; television film panel, 2-3 p.m., and labor management clinic, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

The music contract meeting Thursday morning draws its interest from the fact that ASCAP television contracts expire at the end of 1957 and radio contracts expire at the end of 1958 [B•T, April 1].

Non-NARTB members have been invited to the music contract meeting with indications that about 30 of them would join the association's tv members in discussing ways of meeting the copyright problem. Dwight M. Martin, WAFB-TV Baton Rouge, La., will be introduced to the meeting by

NARTB President Harold E. Fellows and will review the history of past ASCAP tv negotiations.

Mr. Martin will review the three preliminary meetings held by the music copyright ad hoc committee and present its recommendations. He will also tell about the NARTB Tv Board's recommendations that non-members and members join in working out the music problem.

Discussion from the floor is expected, with a chance that an interim chairman will be named. Procedure has not been planned. Developments will await decision of the delegates.

About 250 NARTB tv members are expected at the meeting, with one accredited

any case, the Commissioners have historically given frank answers to pointed questions, and the session is considered one of the best items on the convention agenda.

FCC Chairman McConaughy will give his views on broadcast matters in his Tuesday luncheon address. Since the address will be broadcast on radio and tv [B•T, April 1], it is believed he will shift from an amongst-ourselves type of address to subjects of general public interest.

President Fellows will address the Wednesday luncheon, giving his annual report to the membership. The Thursday luncheon speaker will be Arch N. Booth, executive vice president, U. S. Chamber of Commerce. He will discuss "People, Products and Progress: 1975."

Final event of the convention will be a tv business session Thursday at 4 p.m. Four new members of the Tv Board will be elected from a list of nearly 50 certified member station executives. The four directors whose terms expire are Board Chairman Campbell Arnoux, WTAR-TV Norfolk, Va.; Vice Chairman Kenneth L. Carter, WAAM (TV) Baltimore; William Fay, WROC-TV Rochester, and Ward L. Quaal, WGN-TV Chicago.

A group of new directors will take their Radio Board posts at the convention. They are Thomas C. Bostic, KIMA Yakima, Wash.; Ray Eppel, KORN Mitchell, S. D.; Hugh M. Smith, WCOV Montgomery, Ala.; Todd Storz, KOWH Omaha; Donald W. Thornburgh, WCAU Philadelphia; Harold Hough, WBAP Fort Worth; Daniel W. Kops, WAVZ New Haven; J. R. (Ray) Livesay, WLBH Mattoon, Ill.; J. G. (Gil) Paltridge, KROW Oakland, Calif., and Ben Strouse, WWDC Washington. These new members will be joined by the following re-elected directors: Robert T. Mason, WMRN Marion, Ohio; William Holm, WLPO LaSalle, Ill.; Alex Keese, WFAA Dallas; J. Frank Jarman, WDNC Durham, N. C.; William C. Grove, KFBC Cheyenne, Wyo.; Merrill Lindsay, WSOY-FM Decatur, Ill., and John M. Outler, WSB Atlanta, Radio Board chairman.

An addition to the week's schedule was announced Wednesday by Clair R. McCollough, Steinman Stations, president of Radio Pioneers. Mr. McCollough disclosed that Frank J. Starzel, general manager of the Associated Press, will address the dinner, scheduled Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., in the Waldorf Room of the Conrad Hilton. Mr. Starzel has just returned from Johannesburg where he attended ceremonies opening an exchange of news between AP and South Africa Press Assn.

Judge Justin Miller, former NARTB board chairman, will receive a plaque at the dinner in recognition of his efforts on

*Text continues on page 36  
(Convention Agenda pages 34-5)*



NARTB's annual keynote award will be accepted on behalf of former President Hoover by C. M. Jansky Jr., chairman of the board of Jansky & Bailey. Mr. Hoover was advised by doctors not to attend the industry's Chicago convention. Mr. Jansky will accept the award at the opening of formal convention proceedings Tuesday morning. He was active in early radio regulation when Mr. Hoover supervised the young medium in his role as Secretary of Commerce.

representative designated from each station. Non-members are eligible to attend after payment of a \$5 registration fee.

While fee-tv isn't given formal billing on the program, it's likely to come up during the FCC roundtable Wednesday morning. This projected medium is getting a going-over inside the Commission meeting room in Washington and it is a lively topic in Capitol Hill committees.

The FCC panel often clears a lot of cloudy regulatory air and sometimes leaves diverting issues in a state of suspension. In